

1 SPECIAL OPERATIONS GROUP



MISSION

The 1 Special Operations Group is one of four groups assigned to the 1 Special Operations Wing. The group plans, prepares, and executes special operations, foreign internal defense, and security assistance worldwide in support of theater commanders. The 1 SOG also manages Air Force Special Operations Command's formal school for AC-130H/Us and MC-130E/H qualification and is the lead organization for distributive mission operations.

In order to accomplish its special operations mission, the group employs more than 70 fixed- and rotary-wing aircraft to provide day or night, all-weather access to hostile and/or denied airspace. More than 1,400 people are assigned to the group. There are 10 squadrons within the group with one at a geographically separated location:

- 1 Special Operations Support Squadron
- 4 Special Operations Squadron, AC-130U
- 6 Special Operations Squadron, MI-8, C-130E, AN-26, C-47
- 8 Special Operations Squadron, CV-22
- 9 Special Operations Squadron, MC-130P
- 15 Special Operations Squadron, MC-130H
- 16 Special Operations Squadron, AC-130H
- 19 Special Operations Squadron, Formal Training
- 20 Special Operations Squadron, MH-53J/M/P
- 319 Special Operations Squadron, U-28A

LINEAGE

1 Special Operations Group established, 21 Sep 1992

Activated, 22 Sep 1992
Redesignated 16 Operations Group, 1 Oct 1993
Redesignated 1 Special Operations Group, 16 Nov 2006

STATIONS

Hurlburt Field, FL, 22 Sep 1992

ASSIGNMENTS

1 Special Operations (later, 16 Special Operations then back to 1 Special Operations)
Wing, 22 Sep 1992

COMMANDERS

Col Norton A. Schwartz, 22 Sep 1992
Col Jack R. Holbein Jr., 14 May 1993
Col Gary W. Heckman, 6 Sep 1994
Col Richard L. Comer, 28 Jun 1996
Col James B. Connors, 25 Apr 1997
Col Donald C. Wurster, 4 Sep 1997
Col Lyle M. Koenig, 5 Jun 1998
Col Robert G. Leonik, 24 Jan 2000
Col Thomas R. O'Boyle, 27 Jun 2002
Col Brian H. Greenshields, 6 Oct 2003
Col Mark B. Alsid, 6 Jul 2005
Col Dennis Pannell, 19 Jul 2007
Col Shawn Cameron

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Gallant Unit Citation
6 Oct 2001-30 May 2003

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device
1 Jun 1997-31 May 1999
1 Jul 2003-1 Jun 2005
1 Sep 2006-30 Jun 2007

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
22 Sep 1992-15 Apr 1994

1 Jun 1995-31 May 1997
1 Jul 1999-30 Jun 2001
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003
1 Sep 2004-31 Aug 2006

EMBLEM

The emblem of the 1 Special Operations Group is that of the 1 Special Operations Wing with the group designation in the scroll. It is symbolic of the organization's history and mission. The blue background represents the sky and the United States Air Force. The 13 red and white stripes stand for the nation's original 13 colonies, the first American force to engage in war to defend freedom. The silver dagger is winged to indicate the 1 Special Operations Wing brings force through the air. A golden lamp of knowledge reflects the wing's civic action role and indicates that members of the 1 Special Operations Wing serve as teachers, as well as warriors, in helping our allies determine their own way of life and form of government.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

Created: 19 Nov 2010

Updated: 6 Oct 2013

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA