

## 1129 USAF SPECIAL ACTIVITIES SQUADRON



### MISSION

### LINEAGE

1129 USAF Special Activities Squadron

### STATIONS

Groom Lake NV

### ASSIGNMENTS

### COMMANDERS

### HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

### EMBLEM

### MOTTO

### NICKNAME

### OPERATIONS

This unit was established at Groom Dry Lake, Nevada, to operate the A-12 Cygnus aircraft. The base had an Air Force commander and director of flight operations, although the CIA was technically in charge of the Oxcart program. Personnel from both government organizations, together with Skunk Works staff, worked side-by-side to bring the A-12 into operational service.

In addition to the A-12 and A-12B, the Groom Lake operation also flew the McDonnell F-101 Voodoo as a trainer, T-33s, U-3s and helicopters for utility work, a C-130 as a transport and an F-104 for high-speed chase. Refueling support was provided by the 903rd ARS of the 456th Bomb Wing, detached from Beale AFB. The Oxcart squadron was declared operational on 20 November 1965, with four aircraft ready for deployment to Kadena.

After a considerable wait, the orders to deploy came on 17 May 1967. The first aircraft flew to Kadena on 22 May, followed by two more, and all three were declared operational on 29 May. The first of 29 operational sorties was flown on 31 May 1967, and the last on 8 May 1968. The decision to end the det's Black Shield operation was reaffirmed on 16 May, and the aircraft began returning on 9 June, for storage at Palmdale. The final flight, and the end of the 1129th SAS, occurred on 21 June 1968 when aircraft 131 was ferried from Groom Lake to Palmdale

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Air Force Unit Histories

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Sources

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

**Need source for operations narrative.**