

## 24 SPECIAL TACTICS SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE<sup>1</sup>

24 Air Corps Interceptor Control Squadron constituted, 14 Oct 1941  
Activated, 21 Oct 1941  
Redesignated 24 Fighter Control Squadron, 15 May 1942  
Disbanded, 31 Mar 1944

1724 Combat Control Squadron designated and activated, 1 May 1987  
Redesignated 1724 Special Tactics Squadron, 1 Oct 1987

24 Fighter Control Squadron Reconstituted and consolidated with 1724 Combat Control Squadron, 1 Mar 1992

Redesignated 24 Special Tactics Squadron, 31 Mar 1992

#### STATIONS

Hamilton Field, CA, 21 Oct-6 Dec 1941  
US Army Transport Garfield, 6-10 Dec 1941  
Hamilton Field, CA, 10 Dec 1941  
Berkeley, CA, 7 Oct 1943-31 Mar 1944  
Pope AFB, NC, 1 May 1987

#### ASSIGNMENTS

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<sup>1</sup> Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, Alabama.

Fourth Air Force, 21 Oct 1941  
24 Pursuit Group, 15 Jan 1942  
San Francisco Air Defense (later, San Francisco Fighter) Wing, 15 Oct 1942-31 Mar 1944  
Twenty-Third Air Force, 1 May 1987  
1720 (later, 720 Special Tactics Group, 1 Oct 1987

#### **ATTACHMENTS**

Fourth Air Force, 15 Jan-7 Jul 1942  
IV Fighter Command, 8 Jul-14 Oct 1942

#### **COMMANDERS**

#### **HONORS**

##### **Service Streamers**

World War II American Theater

##### **Campaign Streamers**

##### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

Panama 1989-1990 with Arrowhead

#### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device

18 Dec 1989-16 Jan 1990

16 Aug-7 Nov 1993

1 Sep 2001-31 Aug 2003

Gallant Unit Citation

1 Jan 2006-31 Dec 2007

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

8 Nov 1993-31 Jul 1995

1 Aug 1995-31 Jul 1997

1 Aug 1997-31 Jul 1999

1 Sep 1999-31 Aug 2001

#### **EMBLEM**

Approved, 22 Jun 1990

#### **MOTTO**

#### **OPERATIONS**

In connection with military operations against an opposing armed force in Mogadishu, Somalia, 24th Special Tactics Squadron pararescuemen were directed to a situation where a

helicopter had been downed in a congested urban area. After fast roping from a helicopter and assaulting through heavy enemy small arms fire from three directions, the pararescuemen established a casualty collection point and made their way to the wreckage to conduct an assessment, provide emergency medical treatment to the survivors, and to extract all on board. While freeing these survivors, a pararescueman was wounded and sent to the ground. Ignoring the traumatic effects of the gunshot wound, he treated his own wound, and moved back to the casualty collection point and continued to triage and treat the survivors of the crash. At this time a Ranger element 45 meters from their location was engaged and were suffering casualties in an intense fire fight. A pararescueman, on his own initiative, broke cover and ran through a thick barrage of small arms fire, shrapnel, and RPGs to reach the Ranger position. Once there, he pulled the wounded one by one into the safety of a covered position and began immediate medical treatment of the seriously wounded Rangers. For eighteen hours these pararescuemen rendered emergency medical services to the wounded and repeatedly took up security positions and returned fire to suppress enemy forces. (3 Oct 1993 to 4 Oct 1993)

Air Force Cross awarded to TSgt Timothy A. Wilkinson, Pararescue Technician

Silver Star and Purple Heart awarded to MSgt Scott C. Fales, Pararescue Technician.