

## 8 SPACE WARNING SQUADRON



### MISSION

The 8 Space Warning Squadron is an associate unit to the 2nd Space Warning Squadron and operates the Space-Based Infrared System (SBIRS), missile-warning weapon system that uses a space-based, infrared satellite surveillance system that detects and reports ballistic missile launches, space launches and nuclear detonations.

### LINEAGE

8 Missile Warning Squadron constituted, 26 Mar 1986  
Activated, 1 Apr 1986  
Redesignated 8 Space Warning Squadron, 15 May 1992  
Inactivated, 30 Sep 1995  
Redesignated 8 Space Operations Squadron, 22 Aug 1997  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Sep 1997  
Inactivated, 1 Oct 1998  
Redesignated 8 Space Warning Squadron, 30 Jul 1999  
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Oct 1999

### STATIONS

El Dorado AFS (later, AS), TX, 1 Apr 1986-30 Sep 1995  
Falcon (later Schriever) AFB, CO, 1 Sep 1997-1 Oct 1998  
Buckley ANGB, CO, 1 Oct 1999

### ASSIGNMENTS

Air Force Space Command, 1 Apr 1986  
1 Space Wing, 8 May 1987  
21 Operations Group, 15 May 1992  
21 Space Wing, 8 Jun-30 Sep 1995  
310 Space Group, 1 Sep 1997-1 Oct 1998  
310 Space Group, 1 Oct 1999

## COMMANDERS

Unkn, 1 Apr-16 Jun 1986

Lt Col John S. Paul, 17 Jun 1986

Unkn, Aug 1989-Jul 1993

Lt Col Timothy J. Kelly, Jul 1993-30 Sep 1995

## HONORS

### Service Streamers

### Campaign Streamers

### Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

### Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Sep 1989-31 Aug 1991

1 Oct 1992-30 Sep 1994

4 Sep 1997-1 Nov 1998

1 Oct 2000-30 Sep 2002

1 Oct 2002-30 Jul 2004

1 Aug 2004-31 Jul 2006

1 Aug 2006-31 Jul 2008

## EMBLEM





On a yellow disc, a blue octagon throughout bearing a yellow spider web, in base centered thereon a scarlet spider, eyes black, facing to base between two flight symbols to left, a four-pointed star to lower right, three stars at top right, and two stars and a small disc in upper left all silver gray; all within a narrow blue border. Attached above the disc a yellow motto scroll inscribed THEY SHALL NOT PASS in blue letters edged with a narrow blue border. Attached below the disc a yellow scroll edged with a narrow blue border. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The Missile Warning System is compared to a spider and its web. The Squadron must be constantly alert and quickly respond to signals of unidentifiable objects within its surveillance fence as the spider does for objects within its web. The octagon and web around the spider symbolize the PAVE PAWS radar array face. This system is a fence/web of radar energy which is transmitted into space for detection purposes. The missiles and satellite indicate the types of objects detected by the unit. The stars and planet reflect the Air Force Space Command, the parent unit. (Approved, 30 Jun 1988)

## **MOTTO**

## **OPERATIONS**

While at Eldorado AS, the unit operated the AN/FPS-115 PAVE PAWS Radar.

Using advanced radar, provided warning of sea-launched or intercontinental ballistic missile attack against the continental United States or southern Canada, 1986-1995.

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DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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### Sources

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

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