

190 SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

190 Security Police Flight
190 Security Forces Squadron

STATIONS

Topeka, KS

ASSIGNMENTS

190 Mission Support Group

COMMANDERS

Maj Arthur E. Schaaf, Jr.
Cpt Wendi Mason, #2012

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

On Aug. 10, 1990, the 190th Security Police deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield. Upon arrival at Jeddah, Saudi Arabia, the Coyote Cops immediately set up security posts on the perimeter of the rapidly-growing parking ramp. The first duty shift lasted 12 hours. Transportation and lodging was a total disaster during the first four days. The cops averaged over 20 hours per day on duty or in transit. During the entire deployment, despite having to acclimate themselves to the harsh desert environment, they never failed to relieve the watch on time. That fact drew comment more than once from commanders and medical staff of the regular forces. Soon the scope of air operations grew to an unprecedented scale. The number of regular and reserve forces available to augment the Coyote Cops was insufficient to meet the task. Eventually, flight line security was abandoned altogether in favor of a security barrier similar in concept to that used by the Royal Saudi Air Force. This task was better suited to the air base ground defense-trained regular forces security police. The 190th contingent moved from the Atallah Rest House, a hotel on the shore of the Red Sea, to the Armaska compound in town. Here the Coyote Cops assumed responsibility for security on the compound under the command of 1st Lt. Nawat of the Royal Saudi Army. This was a new type of security tasking for them and probably the first time that American National Guardsmen were under the command of a foreign military officer. The job was boring, but no one took it lightly. Each remembered the news films from Beirut. During their stay at Armaska, the Coyote Cops appropriated office furniture, equipment, cabinets and a good treatment table for the Armaska clinic, to the surprise of the medical staff who had been working out of boxes and using a stretcher for a treatment table. Outside the compound, the Saudi Army maneuvered their security forces continuously. While their exposed forces moved constantly in small four-wheel drive vehicles and were lightly armed, their heavy automatic weapons were strategically placed and carefully concealed, moving from one position to another at random and under cover of darkness. Despite their relative lack of combat experience, the Royal Saudi Army appeared to be a force to be considered seriously. They were highly trained and very disciplined. Their basic training and career specialty training is done in Saudi Arabia. Regardless of the individual career field, all of their personnel receive advanced infantry training in Pakistan under the tutelage of some of the toughest warriors in the business. Two weeks into the deployment, some of the Coyote Cops-rotated back to Forbes. Within days, the rejuvenated contingent was again reassigned. Additional regular forces security police personnel had arrived and relieved the Coyote Cops at Armaska. Their next assignment was compound security at the newer larger, and more heavily populated Lockheed compound. Due to the immense size of the complex, patrolling at night required the use of night-vision equipment and vehicles. The final "Bag Drag" order came down on Sept. 13. The fatigued-but still motivated group, after having stood 12-hour shifts for nearly 35 days, were ordered to stand down. Having been relieved of duty by yet another group of regular forces, the Coyote Cops had one last day to raid the Souks (stores) in town and pack for the trip back to Forbes. It had been a unique experience and one that proved the 190th Security Police are ready, willing, and able to accomplish their mission. The 190th Security Police Flight was recently tasked with providing security for F-16 Falcons belonging to the 184th Tactical Fighter Group, Wichita, Kans. On Dec. 14, the 184th TFG deployed to Gulfport, Miss., with nine F-16 aircraft for a week of combat exercises over the Gulf region. Six of the 190th Security Police were sent to McConnell Air Force Base, and then flew to Gulfport with the 184th. They

were assigned to bolster security by performing duties related to flight line security. 190th members participating included Tech. Sgt. James Steele. Staff Sgt. Sean Casper, Staff Sgt. Gary Filkins, Sgt. Jeff Marks, Sgt. Steve Tremblay, and Sgt. Mike Lowe. Members from the 184th were Tech Sgt. Vince Bagby and Airman John Carper. Bagby didn't get to stay long. Within hours of our arrival, he returned to Wichita for the premature birth of his daughter. Unfortunately, he missed the birth by 15 minutes.) Steel became the ranking NCO upon Bagby's departure. He aligned a schedule with teams working 12-hour shifts and tried to enable everyone a little time off. The return to McConnell Air Force Base was very significant. The aircraft ferrying us home, the Memphis Belle, was a C-130A Hercules. It was the last C-130A flying in the U.S. Air Force's inventory and was on its last flight before heading to the scrap yard. This trip marked the last cargo and personnel to be carried on the aircraft — on any C-130A.

Seventeen members of the 190th Air Refueling Wing Security Forces returned to Forbes Field, Topeka, on June 7, 2006 following a six month deployment to Afghanistan. While there, they worked jointly with Army, Navy, and Marine counterparts and were responsible for the security and care of hundreds of enemy combatants. They also participated in Mobile Training Teams, which traveled to forward operating bases to train soldiers in the field on the proper handling and care of enemy combatants. A third role was to assist the government of Afghanistan in preparing for prosecution of criminals within their legal system.

Eighteen members of the 190th Security Forces Squadron deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, for a six-month tour in 2011. The airmen were responsible for the safety and security of more than 35,000 personnel, 22 kilometers of perimeter fence line and \$3.6 billion worth of United States and coalition aircraft on the busiest runway in the entire Afghan theater of operations. During their deployment, the airmen responded to numerous indirect fire attacks and conducted post-attack reconnaissance and battle damage assessments.2010

2012 A group of deployed Security Forces members safely returned from Afghanistan in mid-October. The 18 Airmen provided security at Bagram Airfield and their responsibilities included supervising the automated security system, guarding gates and runways and responding to incidents. Originally, their tasking would have taken them off-base. They began training for outside-the-wire missions. During predeployment training, however, the group was re-tasked to secure Bagram Airfield. "Everyone wants outside the wire adventures," said Master Sergeant Mark Peterson, who said some of his Airmen were disappointed to have a change in mission. "But they maintained a good attitude and that goes a long way." Staff Sergeant Brian Beatty still got the chance to put his training to use while on a routine patrol on the runway at Bagram. He was driving when there was a sudden rocket attack. A rocket exploded about 20 feet from his vehicle and hit an aircraft. Beatty pulled his truck around and gave emergency medical treatment to another staff sergeant by pulling a tourniquet on his gashed leg and dressing his neck wound.

Beatty said the staff sergeant had just been promoted that day. They found his new rank had fallen off his uniform and was lying, covered in blood, on the ground. With Beatty's help, the staff sergeant was able to get quick medical treatment and was doing fine. "He didn't hesitate," said Master Sergeant Brett Higginbotham, the senior enlisted security forces member on the

deployment, of Beatty's performance during the deployment. "It's the type of thing I'd expect from any of them, we did stellar work." Higginbotham explained that in Afghanistan, particularly in the security forces career field, accidents and disciplinary actions can be common.

However, none of the members of the 190th ARW Security Forces Squadron were hurt or reprimanded. "No one got in trouble. We had professionalism, we stayed motivated and did phenomenal work," Higginbotham added. "To come out without anybody getting hurt, I couldn't be happier." The deployment was not what they had originally planned on, but it was a job well done.

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Sources

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