24th SPECIAL TACTICS SQUADRON

MISSION

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

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

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

Redesignated 24th 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
Fourth Air Force, 21 Oct 1941
24th 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
1720th (later, 720th 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
None

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

NICKNAME

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 tookup 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.

Air Force Order of Battle
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Sources
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.