

# 24<sup>th</sup> SPECIAL TACTICS SQUADRON



## LINEAGE

Constituted as 24 Air Corps Interceptor Control Squadron on 14 Oct 1941

Activated on 21 Oct 1941

Redesignated as 24 Fighter Control Squadron on 15 May 1942

Disbanded on 31 Mar 1944

Reconstituted, and consolidated (1 Mar 1992) with the 1724 Combat Control Squadron which was designated, and activated, on 1 May 1987

Redesignated 1724 Special Tactics Squadron on 1 Oct 1987

Redesignated 24 Special Tactics Squadron on 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

24 Pursuit Group, 15 Jan 1942 (apparently attached to Fourth Air Force, 15 Jan-7 Jul 1942; IV Fighter Command, 8 Jul-14 Oct 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

## 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 on 22 Jun 1990

## **EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

3 October 1993 to 4 October 1993: United Nations

Operations □ Somalia, Joint Service CSAR specialty team. In connection with military operations against an opposing armed force in Mogadishu, Somalia, 24th Special Tactics Squadron pararescuemen were directed, to a situation where an assault 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. • Air Force Cross awarded to TSgt Timothy A. Wilkinson, Pararescue Technician, the first to be awarded to an enlisted man since the SEA conflict twenty years ago.

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

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Air Force Order of Battle

Created: 19 Nov 2010

Updated:

Sources

## 1724<sup>th</sup> SPECIAL TACTICS SQUADRON



1 Oct 87 The 1720th Special Tactics Group (STGP) was designated and activated at Hurlburt Field, Florida. The 1723d Combat Control Squadron (CCS), 1724th Special Tactics Squadron (STSO), and 1730<sup>th</sup> Pararescue Squadron were all assigned to the 1720th Special Tactics Group.

## **LINEAGE**

## **STATIONS**

Pope AFB, NC