

22nd special tactics squadron

The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron: Air Force Special Operations at the Cutting Edge

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Introduction: The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron (STS) stands as a vital component of Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC), representing the pinnacle of airpower integration within the special operations arena. This article will delve into the history, missions, capabilities, and significance of the 22nd STS, highlighting its crucial role in global operations and its unique contributions to national security. Understanding the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron is crucial for grasping the complexities of modern special operations and the evolving nature of warfare.

History of the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron: The lineage of the 22nd STS traces back to the early days of air-ground coordination during World War II. Its predecessors, various Tactical Air Control Parties (TACPs) and Combat Control Teams (CCTs), demonstrated the critical need for specialized airmen capable of operating deep within hostile territory to direct air strikes and coordinate close air support. The evolution of the 22nd STS reflects the continuous adaptation to the changing demands of the battlefield. From its involvement in Vietnam, where its members faced perilous conditions guiding air strikes and rescuing downed pilots, to its current deployments in global hotspots, the 22nd STS has consistently demonstrated exceptional courage and proficiency. The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron has played key roles in various conflicts, earning a reputation for excellence and contributing significantly to mission success. Its history is filled with tales of bravery, innovation, and unwavering commitment to the mission.

Missions and Capabilities of the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron: The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron is a multifaceted unit, encompassing several critical special warfare specialties. These include:

Combat Control (CCT): CCT operators are responsible for establishing and operating airfields in austere environments, controlling air traffic, and providing precision air-ground coordination. The 22nd STS's CCTs are masters of precision strike capabilities, ensuring effective employment of airpower in complex operational environments. Their skills in advanced navigation, communications, and air traffic control are vital for the success of numerous special operations missions.

Tactical Air Control Party (TACP): TACP airmen work closely with ground forces, providing critical air support coordination and battlefield awareness. They act as the crucial link between ground commanders and air assets, ensuring the timely and accurate delivery of airpower. The 22nd STS's TACP operators are trained to operate in high-intensity combat environments, calling in air strikes with pinpoint accuracy.

Pararescue (PJ): The 22nd STS also incorporates Pararescue personnel, highly skilled in combat medical treatment, search and rescue, and specialized rescue techniques. These highly-trained medics operate in the most challenging environments, providing life-saving medical care under duress. They are crucial in recovering downed airmen and other personnel in hostile territory.

This combination of specialties within the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron creates a unique synergy, enabling the unit to perform a wide range of missions, including:

Direct Action: Participating in offensive operations, capturing high-value targets, and disrupting enemy activities.

Special Reconnaissance: Gathering critical intelligence in hostile territories, providing real-time situational awareness.

Personnel Recovery: Conducting complex rescue operations to recover downed airmen or other personnel.

Combat Search and Rescue (CSAR): Coordinating and executing complex rescue missions in high-threat environments.

Significance and Relevance of the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron: The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron's significance lies in its ability to seamlessly integrate airpower into the complex environment of special operations. Their expertise in precision targeting, air traffic control, and close air support is critical to the success of numerous missions. The 22nd STS's contributions extend beyond direct combat operations; their actions often influence strategic decision-making and shape the overall course of operations. The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron operates at the cutting edge of military technology and tactical innovation, constantly adapting to evolving threats and operational challenges. Their expertise and experience are invaluable assets to the U.S. military and its allies.

Conclusion: The 22nd Special Tactics Squadron stands as a testament to the effectiveness of highly specialized airpower integration within the special operations community. Its history, diverse capabilities,

and pivotal role in numerous conflicts solidify its importance to national security. Understanding the 22nd STS provides crucial insight into the evolving landscape of modern warfare and the critical role of special operations forces in achieving strategic objectives. The dedication and skill of the airmen of the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron continue to make significant contributions to global security.

FAQs:

1. What is the selection process for the 22nd Special Tactics Squadron? The selection process is extremely rigorous, involving multiple phases of physical and mental testing, as well as rigorous evaluations of skills and character.
1. What type of training do 22nd STS members undergo? Training is extensive and demanding, encompassing specialized skills in their respective career fields (CCT, TACP, PJ), along with advanced combat skills, survival training, and language skills.
1. What are the deployment rates for the 22nd STS? Deployment rates are high, reflecting the constant demand for their expertise in global hotspots.
1. What types of equipment does the 22nd STS use? The 22nd STS employs state-of-the-art communications equipment, advanced weaponry, and specialized gear tailored to their diverse missions.
1. What are the career progression opportunities within the 22nd STS? Members can advance within their specialized career field, potentially reaching senior leadership positions within AFSOC.
1. What is the relationship between the 22nd STS and other special operations units? The 22nd STS works closely with numerous special operations units, both within AFSOC and other branches of the military, integrating seamlessly into joint operations.

1. How does the 22nd STS contribute to intelligence gathering? The specialized skills of CCT and TACP members allow for exceptional intelligence gathering during reconnaissance and direct action missions.
1. What role does technology play in the 22nd STS's operations? Technology is critical, enabling precision targeting, enhanced communication, and superior situational awareness.
1. What are the long-term implications of the 22nd STS's role in modern warfare? The 22nd STS's expertise in precision airpower and integrated special operations will continue to be vital in future conflicts.

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22nd special tactics squadron: USAF Special Tactics Teams Jason Porterfield, 2008-08-15 Presents a look at the United States Air Force special tactics teams, including information on their beginnings, assignments, successful missions, equipment, and how to join.

22nd special tactics squadron: Special Operations Association , 2006-01-31

22nd special tactics squadron: *Brothers in Berets* Forrest L. Marion, 2018 The Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) special tactics community is a small, tight-knit brotherhood of proficient and committed warriors, consisting of special tactics officers and combat controllers, combat rescue officers and pararescuemen, and officer and enlisted special operations weathermen. These warriors have consistently proven themselves to be an invaluable force multiplier throughout history in conflicts around the world. This is their story.--Provided by publisher.

22nd special tactics squadron: *Cct-The Eye of the Storm* Gene Adcock, 2012-10-31 Almost as soon as the second hijacked 767 struck the south tower of the world trade center, Air Force Combat Controllers began to report to their bases and pack their gear. Spread around the world in special tactics squadrons, these airmen would provide the lightly armed U.S. Army Special Forces teams with a number of capabilities that would turn them into world-class killing machines. John D. Gresham Author, Air Force Combat Controllers at War Afghanistan 2001 These single Americans had the power to conjure lightning bolts out of the sky.....what happened in Afghanistan is one of the most extraordinary stories in military history. Mark Bowden Author, Blackhawk Down Somalia, 1999 Individually, they are specially selected, specially trained, and, in support of special operations, almost daily bring American airpower to bear on our nations enemies. Indeed, they are very remarkable warriors, and this book will help many understand why so many of us hold our Combat Controllers in such incredibly high regard. Dr. James G. Roche Secretary of the United

States Air Force 2001 - 2005 if you asked what tool of the trade would be the very last they would leave behind, you might be surprised at the answer. You would likely hear that it is not a tool that makes one nervous when it isn't there, but rather a capability that is not organic to a troop of Delta Operators or Navy SEALs. Just because you are the best of the best does not mean you are the best at everything. Any Delta operator can vouch for the capabilities of the air force combat controllers, and very rarely goes on a hit without the men who wear the scarlet berets. Dalton Fury Delta Force Commander, Tora Bora, December 2001 Author, Kill Bin Laden - 2008

22nd special tactics squadron: Special Force Alastair MacKenzie, 2011-10-30 The exploits of the British Army's elite 22nd Special Air Service Regiment - the regiment of the SAS that forms part of the Regular army - are shrouded in mystery and myths abound about its members. But what is the truth behind the public facade of clinical professionalism? How has such a small regiment attracted so many weighty legends? And what is the purpose of the SAS in the 21st century? Special Force provides an original and unusually critical overview of the activities of the SAS from the Malayan Emergency of 1950 to the present day. In the context of a detailed and often controversial analysis of the post-war activities of the Regiment, MacKenzie establishes that the Regiment's almost legendary professional competence is often not backed up by reality. Far from being part of a structured deployment of strategic military assets, MacKenzie argues that the use of the SAS in recent years has been primarily driven by the 'entrepreneurial' actions of a few SAS commanding officers. Special Force not only offers a revelatory history of the SAS in the modern period, it is also a disturbing expose of the truth behind the myth. It will be essential reading for anyone with an interest in the British military - past, present and future.

22nd special tactics squadron: Apollo's Warriors Michael E. Haas, 1998-05 Presenting a fascinating insider's view of U.S.A.F. special operations, this volume brings to life the critical contributions these forces have made to the exercise of air & space power. Focusing in particular on the period between the Korean War & the Indochina wars of 1950-1979, the accounts of numerous missions are profusely illustrated with photos & maps. Includes a discussion of AF operations in Europe during WWII, as well as profiles of Air Commandos who performed above & beyond the call of duty. Reflects on the need for financial & political support for restoration of the forces. Bibliography. Extensive photos & maps. Charts & tables.

22nd special tactics squadron: U.S. Air Force Special Tactics Combat Control School Heritage Foundation, 2022-11-08 The CCT - The Eye of the Storm-series chronicles the exploits of Air Force Special Warfare, Combat Control Teams (CCT). It is told in the form of short stories; many etched by a cocktail of blood, sweat and tears. The Combat Control story began in the de facto Volume I with the appearance of the first CCTs; i.e., command and control teams cobbled together by the WWII U.S. Army Air Force (USAAF) for Operation Varsity. The CCT story continued in Volume II, detailing the 21st Century fight in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). Included are two humanitarian missions; operations of epic proportion in Haiti and Japan. In this third volume subtitled - Medal of Honor (MOH) - the CCT story is expanded, incorporating the two previously self-published volumes and adding hundreds of new stories from around the globe. But, with a concentration on operations in southwest Asia; including Afghanistan; now America's longest war. This volume is an all-inclusive compilation presented as a single, premium publication. The diversity of feature stories, subjects and styles present a well-rounded, unbiased look at the CCT's view at "the eye of the storm." Each published PA reporter and volunteer contributor has a by-line in the book. Thanks to all for their remarkable journalistic work. The book is expected to engage a wider-ranging audience of American and allied military elements, families, historians and enthusiasts. More importantly, Medal of Honor celebrates the first-ever award of the Air Force Medal of Honor to a Combat Control patriot and hero. On April 20, 2018 after more than fifteen years technical review and Air Staff deliberation the Medal of Honor for TSgt John Chapman was approved by President Donald Trump. The MOH award ceremonies and associated events are covered in detail near the end of this book. In preparing CCT - The Eye of the Storm - Medal of Honor, the goal was to collect stories from hundreds of sources, written by an even larger band of

vetted professionals selected to observe, record and report truths about military units in action. In my mind the U.S. Government Public Affairs Offices were the perfect choice. For that reason, you will find hundreds of PA-generated stories used herein. Through our collective efforts we have published a fair and accurate chronical of USAF Combat Control Team's stories; exploiting the public domain and declassified accounts. This is a documentary of Air Force Combat Control Teams operating at The Eye of the Storm. Subtitled Medal of Honor; it is the most in-depth CCT history ever published.

22nd special tactics squadron: *The Elite* Leigh Neville, 2019-11-28 Using rare and previously unpublished images from around the world, *The Elite: The A-Z of Modern Special Operations Forces* is the ultimate guide to the secretive world of modern special operations forces. It sends the reader back in time to operations such as Eagle Claw in Iran and the recapture of the Iranian Embassy in London and then forward to recent operations against al-Shabaab and Islamic State. Entries also detail units ranging from the New Zealand SAS Group to the Polish GROM, and key individuals from Iraq counter-terrorism strategist General Stanley McChrystal to Victoria Cross recipient SASR Corporal Mark Donaldson. Answering questions such as how much the latest four-tube night vision goggles worn by the SEALs in Zero Dark Thirty cost, which pistol is most widely employed by special operators around the world and why, and if SOF still use HALO jumps, this book is the definitive single-source guide to the world's elite special forces.

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22nd special tactics squadron: United States Special Operations Forces Posture Statement U.S. Special Operations Command, 2003

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22nd special tactics squadron: *Special Operations Forces in Iraq* Leigh Neville, 2011-03-15 The companion volume to *Elite 163: Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan*, Leigh Neville now turns his expert analysis to the Special Operations Forces (SOF) of the US and Coalition allies serving in Iraq since 2003. Filled with recently declassified material, first hand accounts, and unique photographs, this book offers a rare look at the largest mobilisation of Special Forces in recent history. Examining in detail the US Delta Force, the British SAS, Australian and Canadian Special Forces as well as CIA and MI6 operational units, this book provides a crucial study of their skills and

success in Iraq, from the Battle of Debecka to storming the safe house of Uday Hussein. In a controversial war that has been plagued by high fatalities and military blunders, this book highlights the successes enjoyed by Special Forces Operatives.

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22nd special tactics squadron: The 90-Day Bodyweight Challenge for Men Mark Lauren, Julian Galinski, 2016-02-22 The 90-Day Bodyweight Challenge for Men is one of the most efficient and successful fitness plans of our time. You can finally achieve your fitness goals and make lasting positive change in your life with this step-by-step program. Millions of people across around the globe train using Mark Lauren's proven formula, which harnesses the power of your own body via bodyweight resistance. There's no need for fancy equipment or expensive gym memberships. With this book, you can work out any time, any place. This new intensive program is even easier to follow and specially designed to give you maximum results in just three months. You don't need to research exercises and put together a training plan by yourself: each day, The 90-Day Bodyweight Challenge for Men tells you exactly what to do. It also provides you with a tailored diet plan and lifestyle tips from fitness guru and bestselling author Mark Lauren. Now it's up to you! In just 90 days, you will be astonished at the difference bodyweight training, proper nutrition, and a winning attitude can make to your body and your life.

22nd special tactics squadron: Army Officer's Guide , 2023-10-17 The Army Officer's Guide is the crown jewel of Stackpole's military reference line. First published in 1930, this guide has been continuously revised since then and has become the gold-standard reference for the U.S. Army's officer corps, especially the new second lieutenants commissioned into the army out of West Point and ROTC programs. This edition has been thoroughly revised and updated with the latest information on leadership, training, military justice, promotions, benefits, counseling soldiers, physical fitness, regulations, and much more—everything the officer needs to know in order to do his job well, to advance his career, to navigate the military, and to guide his soldiers on and off the battlefield. Topics include How to train, lead, and counsel troops effectively Tips on how to move along your career as an NCO by continuing education, training, and professional development Information about all the regulations NCOs need to be aware of in carrying out their jobs And much, much more . . . Stackpole has been guiding military officers and soldiers for more than 80 years. Our guides still offer the best advice in the business—better than any other book, better than the internet.

22nd special tactics squadron: The Praetorian STARShip : the untold story of the Combat Talon , 2001 Jerry Thigpen's study on the history of the Combat Talon is the first effort to tell the story of this wonderfully capable machine. This weapons system has performed virtually every imaginable tactical event in the spectrum of conflict and by any measure is the most versatile C-130 derivative ever produced. First modified and sent to Southeast Asia (SEA) in 1966 to replace theater unconventional warfare (UW) assets that were limited in both lift capability and speed the Talon I quickly adapted to theater UW tasking including infiltration and resupply and psychological warfare operations into North Vietnam. After spending four years in SEA and maturing into a highly respected UW weapons system the Joint Chief of Staff (JCS) chose the Combat Talon to lead the night low-level raid on the North Vietnamese prison camp at Son Tay. Despite the outcome of the operation the Talon I cemented its reputation as the weapons system of choice for long-range clandestine operations. In the period following the Vietnam War United States Air Force (USAF) special operations gradually lost its political and financial support which was graphically demonstrated in the failed Desert One mission into Iran. Thanks to congressional supporters like Earl Hutto of Florida and Dan Daniel of Virginia funds for aircraft upgrades and military construction projects materialized to meet the ever-increasing threat to our nation. Under the

leadership of such committed hard-driven officers as Brenci Uttaro Ferkes Meller and Thigpen the crew force became the most disciplined in our Air Force. It was capable of penetrating hostile airspace at night in a low-level mountainous environment covertly to execute any number of unconventional warfare missions.

22nd special tactics squadron: *The Mobility Forum* , 2001

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22nd special tactics squadron: *Asia Pacific Defense Forum* , 2000

22nd special tactics squadron: *Strong and Lean* Mark Lauren, Joshua Clark, 2021-10-26 *Strong and Lean*--Mark Lauren's follow-up to his bestselling book--*You Are Your Own Gym*--uses two decades of unparalleled experience to accomplish what most people thought impossible: The ability to immediately begin your workout wherever you are--from living rooms to hotel rooms to yards--and finish 9 minutes later. In the age of isolation, a great workout plan that doesn't require any gym equipment is invaluable. Lauren provides a regimen that will help you achieve a stronger, leaner body in only a few weeks. *Strong and Lean* features a philosophy backed by Lauren's intense personal experiences--ones that speak to every man and woman--along with his military experience. With Mark Lauren's workout, you can now achieve your most muscular and lean body with an incredibly small sacrifice of time.

22nd special tactics squadron: *Air Force and Space Digest* , 1995

22nd special tactics squadron: *No Room for Error* John T. Carney, Benjamin F. Schemmer, 2002 Part memoir and part history. *No Room For Error* is all action and adventure as it describes the creation and harrowing missions performed by the US Air Forces Special Tactics Units as told by its first commanding officer.

22nd special tactics squadron: *U.S. Air Force Special Operations* Jeremy Roberts, 2004-05-01 Discusses the history of the Air Force special forces, as well as the organization's training program and what life is like in these specialized units.

22nd special tactics squadron: *No Room for Error* Col. John T. Carney, Benjamin F. Schemmer, 2003-09-30 "John Carney is one of the few heroes I have." -LT. COL. L. H. "BUCKY" BURRUSS, USA (Ret.) Founding member and Deputy Commander of Delta Force When the U.S. Air Force decided to create an elite "special tactics" team in the late 1970s to work in conjunction with special-operations forces combating terrorists and hijackers and defusing explosive international emergencies, John T. Carney was the man they turned to. Since then Carney and the U.S. Air Force Special Tactical units have circled the world on sensitive clandestine missions. They have operated behind enemy lines gathering vital intelligence. They have combated terrorists and overthrown dangerous dictators. They have suffered many times the casualty rate of America's conventional forces. But they have gotten the job done--most recently in stunning victories in the war on terrorism in Afghanistan, which Carney calls "America's first special-operations war." Now, for the first time, Colonel Carney lifts the veil of secrecy and reveals what really goes on inside the special-operations forces that are at the forefront of contemporary warfare. Part memoir, part military history, *No Room for Error* reveals how Carney, after a decade of military service, was handpicked to organize a small, under-funded, classified ad hoc unit known as Brand X, which even his boss knew very little about. Here Carney recounts the challenging missions: the secret reconnaissance in the desert of

north-central Iran during the hostage crisis; the simple rescue operation in Grenada that turned into a prolonged bloody struggle. With Operation Just Cause in Panama, the Special Tactical units scored a major success, as they took down the corrupt regime of General Noriega with lightning speed. Desert Storm was another triumph, with Carney's team carrying out vital search-and-rescue missions as well as helping to hunt down mobile Scud missiles deep inside Iraq. Now with the war on terrorism in Afghanistan, special operations have come into their own, and Carney includes a chapter detailing exactly how the Air Force Special Tactics d.c. units have spearheaded the successful campaign against the Taliban and Al Qaeda. Gripping in its battle scenes, eye-opening in its revelations, No Room for Error is the first insider's account of how special operations are changing the way modern wars are fought. Col. John T. Carney is an airman America can be proud of, and he has written an absolutely superb book.

22nd special tactics squadron: US Special Operations Forces in Action Thomas K. Adams, 1998-06-01 Armies in the 1990s are commonly involved in low-level, ill-defined, politically charged, messy situations known collectively as unconventional warfare. Thomas Adams argues for a shift in expectations with a greater willingness to accept lengthy commitments and incremental progress.

22nd special tactics squadron: Counterinsurgency, Security Forces, and the Identification Problem Daniel L. Magruder, Jr, 2017-07-28 This book presents a theory and empirical evidence for how security forces can identify militant suspects during counterinsurgency operations. A major oversight on the part of academics and practitioners has been to ignore the critical antecedent issue common to persuasion and coercion counterinsurgency (COIN) approaches: distinguishing friend from foe. This book proposes that the behaviour of security forces influences the likelihood of militant identification during a COIN campaign, and argues that security forces must respect civilian safety in order to create a credible commitment to facilitate collaboration with a population. This distinction is important as conventional wisdom has wrongly assumed that the presence of security forces confers control over terrain or influence over a population. Collaboration between civilian and government actors is the key observable indicator of support in COIN. Paradoxically, this theory accounts for why and how increased risk to government forces in the short term actually improves civilian security in the long run. Counterinsurgency, Security Forces, and the Identification Problem draws on three case studies: the Huk Rebellion in the Philippines post-World War II; Marines Corps' experiences in Vietnam through the Combined Action Program; and Special Operations activities in Iraq after 2003. For military practitioners, the work illustrates the critical precursor to establishing security during counterinsurgency operations. The book also examines the role and limits of modern technology in solving the identification problem. This book will be of interest to students of counterinsurgency, military history, strategic studies, US foreign policy, and security studies in general.

22nd special tactics squadron: Combat Squadrons of the Air Force; World War II. United States. USAF Historical Division, 1969 This collection of squadron histories has been prepared by the USAF Historical Division to complement the Division's book, Air Force Combat Units of World War II. The 1,226 units covered by this volume are the combat (tactical) squadrons that were active between 7 December 1941 and 2 September 1945. Each squadron is traced from its beginning through 5 March 1963, the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the 1st Aero (later Bombardment) Squadron, the first Army unit to be equipped with aircraft for tactical operations. For each squadron there is a statement of the official lineage and data on the unit's assignments, stations, aircraft and missiles, operations, service streamers, campaign participation, decorations, and emblem.

22nd special tactics squadron: Special Warfare , 1989

22nd special tactics squadron: Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan Leigh Neville, 2011-05-03 Intelligence specialist Leigh Neville identifies, describes and illustrates the Special Operations Forces (SOF) of the British, American and other Coalition forces committed to the 'War on Terror' in Afghanistan since 2001, providing a fascinating insight into specific operations detailing weapons, equipment and experiences in combat. With a surprising amount of recently

declassified material from government departments that are yet to be published in the mass media, this is a ground-breaking analysis of the largest mobilization of Special Forces in recent history. With extensive first-hand accounts providing an eyewitness perspective of the fighting on the ground and including information on the British SAS, the US Delta Force, Australian and Canadian special forces as well as MI6 and CIA operational units, this book provides a crucial study of their skills and successes amidst the Afghan mountains.

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