

23rd special tactics squadron

The 23rd Special Tactics Squadron: A Deep Dive into Air Force Special Operations

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Summary: This article provides a comprehensive overview of the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron (23 STS), a highly decorated unit within Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC). It explores the squadron's history, missions, operational capabilities, personnel, and significant contributions to national security. The article delves into the unique roles played by its specialized personnel, including Combat Controllers, Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Airmen, Pararescuemen (PJs), and Special Reconnaissance (SR) operators. It highlights the 23rd STS's consistent deployment to high-risk environments and its crucial role in supporting joint special operations forces worldwide. The article emphasizes the squadron's rigorous training standards, cutting-edge technology, and unwavering commitment to excellence. Finally, it discusses the future of the 23rd STS and its ongoing evolution to meet the evolving demands of modern warfare.

The 23rd Special Tactics Squadron: Guardians of the Battlefield

The 23rd Special Tactics Squadron (23 STS) stands as a testament to the unwavering dedication and exceptional capabilities of Air Force Special Operations Command. This elite squadron, a cornerstone of AFSOC's operational reach, embodies the spirit of innovation and tactical prowess. Understanding the 23rd STS requires a deep dive into its rich history, diverse missions, and the highly specialized personnel who

comprise its ranks.

A Legacy of Excellence: The History of the 23rd STS

The lineage of the 23rd STS traces back to a long and storied history within Air Force special operations. While the specific formation date of the squadron in its current form may vary depending on the historical context examined, the unit's core mission – providing critical airpower integration and tactical control on the battlefield – has remained consistent throughout its various iterations. The squadron has participated in numerous conflicts, showcasing its adaptable nature and unwavering commitment to mission success. From the early days of the Cold War to the Global War on Terror, the 23rd STS has consistently proven itself capable of adapting to evolving threats and operating effectively in diverse operational environments.

Operational Capabilities and Missions of the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron

The 23rd STS is not a monolithic entity; it's a diverse collection of highly specialized personnel operating under a single banner. These individuals are the backbone of the squadron's effectiveness:

Combat Controllers (CCTs): These Airmen are highly trained in air traffic control, close air support (CAS), and direct action operations. They are responsible for establishing and maintaining airfields in austere environments, coordinating air strikes, and providing essential communications links. Their expertise is crucial for effective airpower integration in complex and dynamic battlespaces. The 23rd STS boasts some of the most experienced and highly decorated CCTs in the Air Force.

Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Airmen: Working closely alongside ground troops, TACP Airmen provide critical air support coordination. They are masters of battlefield management, utilizing advanced technology to guide air strikes with pinpoint accuracy, ensuring the protection of friendly forces while maximizing the impact on enemy targets. The 23rd STS TACP Airmen consistently demonstrate superior skills in a high-stakes environment.

Pararescuemen (PJs): These highly skilled combat medics are experts in search and rescue operations in hostile territories. They provide emergency medical care in the most challenging conditions, often under direct enemy fire. PJs attached to the 23rd STS are exceptionally trained to work in tandem with other special operations forces, extracting wounded personnel and providing life-saving medical interventions.

Special Reconnaissance (SR) Operators: These highly trained intelligence specialists collect vital information in hostile environments. Operating covertly, they provide crucial intelligence that informs critical decision-making at the highest levels, ensuring operational effectiveness and minimizing risk to friendly forces. Their expertise is essential for understanding the enemy's capabilities and intentions.

The combined expertise of these professionals makes the 23rd STS a truly versatile and powerful force. Its missions range from direct action raids to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief, highlighting the

breadth of its capabilities and commitment to national security.

Personnel and Training: Forging Elite Warriors

The personnel of the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron are handpicked from the best and brightest within the Air Force. They undergo rigorous selection and training processes, pushing them to their physical and mental limits. The training regime is designed to build resilience, adaptability, and the ability to operate effectively under immense pressure. This grueling process ensures that only the most dedicated and capable individuals earn the right to wear the 23rd STS patch.

The 23rd STS and the Future of Air Force Special Operations

The 23rd Special Tactics Squadron continues to evolve, adapting its tactics, technology, and training to meet the ever-changing demands of modern warfare. The squadron is at the forefront of incorporating new technologies and developing innovative tactics, ensuring that it remains a leading force in Air Force special operations. The future of the 23rd STS is bright, and its contributions to national security will undoubtedly continue to be significant for years to come.

Conclusion:

The 23rd Special Tactics Squadron is a vital component of Air Force Special Operations Command, consistently demonstrating exceptional capabilities and unwavering dedication. Its highly trained personnel, diverse missions, and commitment to excellence solidify its position as a cornerstone of national security. The squadron's legacy of success is a testament to the courage, skill, and unwavering commitment of its members, ensuring its continued relevance and impact in the years to come.

FAQs:

1. What are the primary missions of the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron? The primary missions include close air support coordination, airbase establishment, combat search and rescue, special reconnaissance, and direct action.
1. What types of personnel serve in the 23rd STS? Combat Controllers, Tactical Air Control Party Airmen, Pararescuemen, and Special Reconnaissance operators.

1. What is the selection process like for the 23rd STS? It's highly competitive and involves rigorous physical and mental assessments, as well as extensive background checks.
1. What kind of training do 23rd STS members undergo? Extensive training in survival, evasion, resistance, and escape (SERE), combat skills, specialized tactical skills related to their specific career field, and advanced weapons systems.
1. Where is the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron based? The specific location is classified for operational security reasons.
1. What role does the 23rd STS play in joint special operations? They are integral to joint operations, providing critical air support and specialized capabilities to other special operations forces.
1. What are some of the notable deployments of the 23rd STS? Due to operational security, specific deployments are not publicly released.
1. What types of equipment does the 23rd STS utilize? They utilize advanced communications systems, precision-guided munitions, and other state-of-the-art equipment tailored to their mission requirements.
1. How can I learn more about the 23rd Special Tactics Squadron? Further research can be conducted through official Air Force websites and publications, though much of the detailed information is classified.

Related Articles:

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23rd special tactics squadron: CCT-The Eye of the Storm Gene Adcock, 2012-10-24 Volume II is 438 pages in length and contains interviews, anecdotes and descriptions of missions by Air Force Combat Controllers. GWOT stands for Global War on Terrorism.

23rd 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.

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23rd special tactics squadron: Relentless Strike Sean Naylor, 2015-09-01 The New York Times Bestseller and Winner of the 2015 Army Historical Foundation Distinguished Writing Award for Unit History. Since the attacks of September 11, one organization has been at the forefront of America's military response. Its efforts turned the tide against al-Qaida in Iraq, killed Bin Laden and Zarqawi, rescued Captain Phillips and captured Saddam Hussein. Its commander can direct cruise missile strikes from nuclear submarines and conduct special operations raids anywhere in the world. Relentless Strike tells the inside story of Joint Special Operations Command, the secret military organization that during the past decade has revolutionized counterterrorism, seamlessly fusing intelligence and operational skills to conduct missions that hit the headlines, and those that have remained in the shadows-until now. Because JSOC includes the military's most storied special operations units-Delta Force, SEAL Team 6, the 75th Ranger Regiment-as well as America's most secret aviation and intelligence units, this is their story, too. Relentless Strike reveals tension-drenched meetings in war rooms from the Pentagon to Iraq and special operations battles from the cabin of an MH-60 Black Hawk to the driver's seat of Delta Force's Pinzgauer vehicles as they approach their targets. Through exclusive interviews, reporter Sean Naylor uses his unique access to reveal how an organization designed in the 1980s for a very limited mission set transformed itself after 9/11 to become the military's premier weapon in the war against terrorism and how it continues to evolve today.

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Caliphate—an independent nation-state administered by an extreme and cruel form of Islamic law—and was spreading like a newly evolved virus. Soon, a massive and devastating U.S. military response had unfolded. Hear the ground truth on the senior military and political interactions that shaped America's war against ISIS, a war unprecedented in both its methodology and its application of modern military technology. Enter the world of the Strike Cell, secretive operations centers where America's greatest enemies are hunted and killed day and night. Plunge into the realm of the Special Operations JTAC, American warfighters with the highest enemy kill counts on the battlefield. And gain the wisdom of a cumulative half-century of military experience as Dana Pittard and Wes Bryant lay out the path to a sustained victory over ISIS. For more information about the book, visit www.huntingthecaliphate.com.

23rd 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.

23rd 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.

23rd 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.

23rd 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.

23rd special tactics squadron: Deadly Blue Fred PUSHIES, 2009-10-14 The story of any military operation revolves not just around strategies and equipment, but around people. Now for the first time, readers will get an intimate look at the people behind CAS—Close Air Support. Their work is both delicate and deadly, their actions rooted in months of planning and executed with split-second timing. Acting as a bridge between special ops ground troops and lethal air power, CAS demands a skill set unparalleled even among the most elite military forces. But just as important is the mindset, dedication, and daring of a very special brand of Airman. They include: • Advance teams that create airfields and landing strips—from nothing • The combat controllers that coordinated airstrikes and support during the hunt for Osama bin Laden in Tora Bora • Special tactics teams who work closely with Joint Special Operations Task Forces Military enthusiasts, history buffs, and readers inspired by stories of exceptional bravery and patriotism will all be drawn to the heroes of Deadly Blue, the Air Force Special Operations Command that orchestrates and executes these critical missions.

23rd special tactics squadron: United States Special Operations Forces Posture Statement U.S. Special Operations Command, 2003

23rd 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.

23rd special tactics squadron: United States Special Operations Forces 1996 Posture Statement H. Allen Holmes, Henry H. Shelton, 1998-05

23rd special tactics squadron: Air Force Combat Units of World War II Maurer Maurer, 1961

23rd special tactics squadron: Special Operations Forces in Iraq Leigh Neville, 2011-05-03 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.

23rd special tactics squadron: Special Operations Success James D. Kiras, 2024-10-24
Special Operations Success establishes a new benchmark in military theory in this deeply analytic and innovative work. It answers several pressing questions: How successful have American special operations been over the past quarter-century? Are special forces fated to cycles of expansion and misuse? Will special forces invariably exceed the authorities granted to them because of they are? Is a general theory of special operations feasible given the range of activities and conditions that fall under the category? Kiras' work is based on two decades of practical, teaching, and consulting experience within different special operations communities, and its analysis and conclusions are designed to inform practitioners, policymakers, educators, and the general public. The book develops a framework, in the form of a theory comprising capabilities and control, for the comprehensively evaluating special operations success, and is divided into three parts: Part I lays the foundation for a general theory of special operations, Part II explores the two component parts of theory, capabilities and control, and Part III uses various aspects of the theory, depending on available information, to assess the success of special operations over a twenty-year period in the United Kingdom, South Africa, and the United States.

23rd 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.

23rd special tactics squadron: Not a Good Day to Die Sean Naylor, 2005-03-01
Award-winning combat journalist Sean Naylor reveals a firsthand account of the largest battle fought by American military forces in Afghanistan in an attempt to destroy al-Qaeda and Taliban forces. At dawn on March 2, 2002, America's first major battle of the 21st century began. Over 200 soldiers of the 101st Airborne and 10th Mountain Division flew into Afghanistan's Shah-i-Kot Valley—and into the mouth of a buzz saw. They were about to pay a bloody price for strategic, high-level miscalculations that underestimated the enemy's strength and willingness to fight. Naylor, an eyewitness to the battle, details the failures of military intelligence and planning, while vividly

portraying the astonishing heroism of these young, untested US soldiers. Denied the extra support with which they trained, these troops nevertheless proved their worth in brutal combat and prevented an American military disaster.

23rd special tactics squadron: Army Techniques Publication ATP 3-21.8 Infantry Platoon and Squad April 2016 United States Government US Army, CREATESPACE INDEPENDENT PUB, 2016-05-23 This publication, Army Techniques Publication ATP 3-21.8 Infantry Platoon and Squad April 2016, provides the doctrinal framework for all Infantry platoons and squads. It provides techniques for employment of Infantry platoons and squads in conducting decisive actions. The principle audiences for ATP 3-21.8 are commanders, staffs, and leaders who are responsible for planning, preparing, executing, and assessing operations of the Infantry platoon and squad. It serves as an authoritative reference for personnel developing doctrine materiel and force structure, institutional and unit training, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for Infantry platoon and squad operations. Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-21.8 encompasses techniques for the Infantry platoons and squads of the Infantry, Stryker, and Armored brigade combat teams (I, S, and ABCTs). It replaces Field Manual (FM) 3-21.8, published in March 2007, Army Tactics Techniques, and Procedures (ATTP) 3-21.71, published in November 2010, and ATTP 3-21.9, published in December 2010. ATP 3-21.8 provides doctrinal guidance; describes relationships within the platoon and squad; defines organizational roles and functions, capabilities, limitations; and lay outs the responsibilities for platoons and squads during unified land operations. The Infantry platoon and squad is an all-weather, all-terrain unit. Against this backdrop, the Infantry platoon and squad must be ready to adapt to various levels of conflict and peace in various environments. This requires bold, aggressive, resourceful, and adaptive leaders- leaders of character, competence and commitment - who are willing to accept known risks to accomplish the mission. Infantry leaders must use their initiative and make rapid decisions to take advantage of unexpected opportunities. This publication addresses the significant changes in Army doctrinal terminology, concepts, and constructs and proven tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs): Chapter 1 - Organization Chapter 2 - Offense Chapter 3 - Defense Chapter 4 - Stability Chapter 5 - Movement Chapter 6 - Patrols and Patrolling Chapter 7 - Sustainment Appendix A describes the process of troop leading procedures (TLPs). Appendix B describes direct fire planning and control. Appendix C describes indirect fire support planning. Appendix D addresses security. Appendix E describes vehicle employment considerations. Appendix F addresses machine gun employment. Appendix G describes and addresses shoulder-launched munitions (SLMs) and close combat missile systems (CCMS). Appendix H describes obstacle reduction and employment. Appendix I covers chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) operations. Appendix J describes 14 selected battle drills for both the Bradley and Stryker. ATP 3-21.8 applies to the active Army, the U.S. Army National Guard, Army National Guard of the U.S., and the U.S. Army Reserve unless otherwise stated. It is designed for platoon, squad and company level chains of command, company grade officers, senior and junior noncommissioned officers (NCOs), U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) institutions and components, and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

23rd special tactics squadron: Airman , 1998

23rd 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.

23rd special tactics squadron: All Roads Lead to Baghdad Charles Harry Briscoe, 2006 By Charles H. Briscoe, et al. Tells the story of Iraqi Freedom, the second Army Special Operations (ASO) campaign in America's Global War on Terrorism. Shows how the ASO supported a US-led conventional air and ground offensive to collapse the regime of Saddam Hussein and capture Baghdad. Includes bibliographical references.

23rd special tactics squadron: Visual Friendlies, Tally Target: How Close Air Support in the War on Terror Changed the Way America Made War Ethan Brown, 2024-11-30 "Brown has taken an incredibly complex subject and made it accessible and readable, all while retaining the gravity of history and the sheer intensity of these battlefields. Airpower became a fundamental warfighting tool in the Global War on Terror, and its success depended on the community of JTACs whose experiences populate this important work. They are the unsung heroes of the post-9/11 wars America needs to meet." — David L. Goldfein, General (Ret.), USAF, 21st Chief of Staff With a new century and a new enemy came a new kind of war: low intensity and civilian-dominated, blending austere rural and dense urban environments alike. Into this new kind of war, the American military launched two invasions against terrorist networks and military rivals, relying on airpower—close air support (CAS)—at a scale never before seen in combat. The Global War on Terror was the "CAS war." Forward Air Controllers were on the front lines from the very first moments of the war, directing airstrikes against enemies in their safe havens, safeguarding friendly forces and civilians alike to their utmost, and achieving unprecedented success with limited resources. This volume captures the heroic accounts of the first Tactical Air Control Party (TACPs) in Afghanistan and Iraq, and how Close Air Support fundamentally reshaped the American war machine in the first five years of the War on Terror.

23rd special tactics squadron: Air Mobility Command's Global Reach , 1994

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23rd special tactics squadron: When it Mattered Most Samuel Ward Casscells, 2009

23rd special tactics squadron: When it Mattered Most Samuel Ward Casscells (III), 2009 Lists military medical personnel who lost their lives in Iraq and Afghanistan. Includes a biography, portrait and family photos for each soldier listed.

23rd special tactics squadron: Shadow Warriors Mir Bahmanyar, 2011-09-20 No American military unit can claim as colorful and volatile a history as the Rangers, who have led the way in America's wars for well over 300 years. This book traces the Rangers from the time of Robert Rogers during the French-Indian War of the 18th century to the most recent combat operations in Iraq. With a focus on today's Army Rangers, who combine the rugged individualism of American frontiersmen with the finely honed ability to operate as a close-knit team, wreaking havoc behind enemy lines, this fascinating volume incorporates many first-hand accounts of dramatic Ranger actions by the combatants themselves.

23rd special tactics squadron: Weapon of Choice: The Operations of U.S. Army Special Forces in Afghanistan United States Department of Defense, Combat Studies Institute, 2023-11-29 Within the pages of 'Weapon of Choice: The Operations of U.S. Army Special Forces in Afghanistan,' readers are invited into the multifaceted world of military operations, strategy, and the raw human elements at play in modern warfare. This anthology, through a series of detailed narratives, analyses, and firsthand accounts, explores the broad spectrum of activities undertaken by the U.S. Army Special Forces. It does so by weaving together diverse literary styles from rigorous academic research to compelling narrative storytelling thereby highlighting the complexity and multifarious aspects of military operations in a war-torn region. The depth and diversity of the content underscore the significance of unconventional warfare tactics in the global arena. The collection stands out for its comprehensive coverage of the subject, presented from a variety of perspectives. The contributors, hailing from the United States Department of Defense and the Combat Studies Institute, bring with them a wealth of knowledge and experience. Their backgrounds a blend of military expertise, academic prowess, and firsthand involvement in Afghan operations provide a rich foundation for the anthology. Collectively, their contributions not only align with but also

significantly contribute to the discourse on military strategy, counterinsurgency, and international relations. This anthology draws from historical contexts, operational strategies, and the personal experiences of those who served, offering readers a multidimensional understanding of the challenges and innovativeness of U.S. Army Special Forces. 'Weapon of Choice' serves as a crucial compendium for scholars, military enthusiasts, and anyone keen on understanding the intricacies of military operations and strategy. It offers an unparalleled opportunity to engage with the perspectives, analyses, and real-life scenarios that have shaped the course of conflicts. By delving into this collection, readers gain access to a treasure trove of insights and experiences, making it an indispensable resource for fostering a deeper understanding of contemporary warfare and strategic thinking.

23rd special tactics squadron: Weapon of Choice: The Operations of U.S. Army Special Forces in Afghanistan Combat Studies Institute, United States Department of Defense, 2018-03-21 This eBook edition of *Weapon of Choice: The Operations of U.S. Army Special Forces in Afghanistan* has been formatted to the highest digital standards and adjusted for readability on all devices. *Weapon of Choice* presents a history of the U.S. Army special operations forces in Afghanistan from 11 September 2001 to 15 May 2002, during America's global war on terrorism. The purpose of the book is not to resolve Army special operations doctrinal issues, to clarify or update military definitions, or to be the definitive history of the continuing unconventional war in Afghanistan. The purpose is to demonstrate how the war to drive the Taliban from power, help Afghan people, and assist the Afghan Interim Authority (AIA) rebuild the country afterward was successfully accomplished by majors, captains, warrant officers, and sergeants on tactical teams and aircrews at the lowest levels. Contents: Prelude to Terror Awakening the Giant Subdue Without Fighting Developing the SOF Campaign Top Draft Choices Committed to Middle East Exercises Civil Affairs to Islamabad, Pakistan Site Coordination With the Uzbeks at Karshi Kanabad Uncorking the Bottled Airlift Toppling the Taliban in Afghanistan, 19 October-7 December 2001 Jumping Into the Dark Showing American Power Look, We Have to Get the Special Forces Teams Into Afghanistan! On Horseback With Dostum A Bump and Missiles in the Abyss 500 Afghans Can Die, But Not One American Can Be Injured Al-Qaeda Uprising—Qala-i-Jangi The Karzai Way to Kandahar The Campaign in Transition, 8 December 2001-28 February 2002 Old Glory Flies Again in Kabul Taking Down al-Qaeda at the Mir Wais Hospital Politics, War, and Rapport End of Mission—Aerial Resupply in Afghanistan The New War Entering the Valley D-Day ANACONDA From the Viewpoint of Force Multipliers Good Morrrrning, Afghannnnistan Driving the Taliban From Power Transition and Combat Operations

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Air Force Squadron” brings unique and welcome material to a subject other books have addressed. It is rich in practical, useful, down-to-earth advice from officers who have recently experienced squadron command. The author does not quote regulations, parrot doctrine, or paraphrase the abstractions that lace the pages of so many books about leadership. Nor does he puff throughout the manuscript about how he did it. Rather, he presents a digest of practical wisdom based on real-world experience drawn from the reflection of many former commanders from any different types of units. He addresses all Air Force squadron commanders, rated and nonrated, in all sorts of missions worldwide. Please also see a follow up to this book entitled “Commanding an Air Force Squadron in the Twenty-First Century (2003)” by Jeffrey F. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF.

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23rd special tactics squadron: Weapon of Choice , 2003 The purpose of this book is to share Army special operations soldier stories with the general American public to show them what various elements accomplished during the war to drive the Taliban from power and to destroy al-Qaeda and Taliban strongholds in Afghanistan as part of the global war on terrorism. The purpose of the book is not to resolve Army special operations doctrinal issues, to clarify or update military definitions, or to be the 'definitive' history of the continuing unconventional war in Afghanistan. The purpose is to demonstrate how the war to drive the Taliban from power, help the Afghan people, and assist the Afghan Interim Authority (AIA) rebuild the country afterward was successfully accomplished by majors, captains, warrant officers, and sergeants on tactical teams and aircrews at the lowest levels ... This historical project is not intended to be the definitive study of the war in Afghanistan. It is a 'snapshot' of the war from 11 September 2001 until the middle of May 2002--Page xv.

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