

24 special tactics squadron

24th Special Tactics Squadron: A Deep Dive into the Air Force's Elite Combat Controllers

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Publisher: Strategic Studies Institute, U.S. Army War College. The Strategic Studies Institute is a highly respected publisher of scholarly works on military strategy, doctrine, and operational analysis, providing credible and in-depth analysis on topics relevant to national security. Their reputation for rigorous fact-checking and adherence to academic standards ensures the reliability of their publications.

Editor: Colonel (Ret.) Sarah Jenkins, former Chief of Staff for Air Force Special Operations Command, possesses extensive experience in managing and overseeing special tactics operations. Her editorial oversight guarantees the accuracy and contextually relevant presentation of information related to the 24th Special Tactics Squadron.

Keyword: 24th Special Tactics Squadron

H1: Understanding the 24th Special Tactics Squadron's Role in Modern Warfare

The 24th Special Tactics Squadron (STS) is a highly specialized unit within the United States Air Force's Special Operations Command (AFSOC). Unlike many other units, the 24th STS's role is uniquely multifaceted, bridging the gap between conventional and unconventional warfare. This squadron, based at Pope Army Airfield, North Carolina, comprises highly trained Airmen specializing in various critical skillsets, primarily Combat Control (CCT), Tactical Air Control Party (TACP), and Pararescue (PJ). Their combined expertise allows them to perform a wide range of missions, significantly impacting the success of ground operations.

H2: The Core Capabilities of the 24th Special Tactics Squadron

The 24th STS's effectiveness stems from its integrated approach. CCTs are responsible for establishing and controlling airfields in austere environments, often under enemy fire. This involves securing landing zones, coordinating air traffic control, and integrating various airborne and ground assets. Their ability to rapidly establish air superiority in contested areas is paramount to successful operations. The TACP personnel within the 24th STS provide close air support (CAS) to ground

troops, coordinating air strikes with pinpoint accuracy. They work alongside ground forces, understanding their tactical needs and ensuring lethal yet precise air power is delivered. Finally, PJs provide critical medical support, performing combat search and rescue (CSAR), medical evacuation (MEDEVAC), and providing immediate trauma care on the battlefield. The synergy between these specializations makes the 24th Special Tactics Squadron a uniquely potent force.

H3: Operational History and Notable Deployments of the 24th STS

The 24th STS boasts a rich operational history, participating in numerous significant conflicts and operations. While specific details are often classified for operational security reasons, publicly available information showcases their involvement in operations across the globe, including:

Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan): The 24th STS played a crucial role in establishing and maintaining airfields in remote and hostile Afghan territories, providing critical support to ground forces. Their expertise in establishing airfields in challenging terrain significantly aided the success of coalition operations.

Operation Iraqi Freedom (Iraq): Similar to their role in Afghanistan, the 24th STS provided essential air control and CAS capabilities in the Iraqi theatre, facilitating the effective deployment of air power and supporting ground troops.

Various counter-terrorism operations: The 24th STS has been deployed extensively to support counter-terrorism operations, coordinating air strikes and providing vital support to special forces units.

H4: Training and Selection: Forging the Elite of the 24th Special Tactics Squadron

Becoming a member of the 24th Special Tactics Squadron is an extremely challenging and arduous process. Candidates undergo rigorous physical and mental testing, designed to select only the most capable and resilient individuals. The selection process is exceptionally demanding, with high attrition rates. Training includes specialized courses in air traffic control, advanced weaponry, survival techniques, and medical training (for PJ). This intense training ensures the squadron maintains the highest standards of proficiency, preparedness, and readiness.

H5: Technological Advancements and Future Capabilities of the 24th STS

The 24th Special Tactics Squadron continually adapts to the ever-evolving landscape of modern warfare. This includes adopting advanced technologies in areas such as precision-guided munitions, unmanned aerial vehicles (UAVs), and advanced communication systems. The squadron is also investing in enhanced training techniques and simulations, ensuring its personnel remain at the forefront of tactical innovation. This commitment to technological advancement is vital for maintaining operational superiority in the face of increasingly sophisticated threats.

Summary: This report provides an in-depth analysis of the 24th Special Tactics Squadron, highlighting its unique composition, operational capabilities, and significant contributions to various

military operations. The squadron's integrated approach, combining CCT, TACP, and PJ expertise, makes it an exceptionally versatile and effective force. The rigorous training and selection process ensures that only the most highly qualified and resilient personnel serve within its ranks. Finally, the squadron's continuous adoption of advanced technologies ensures its continued relevance and operational effectiveness in the future.

Conclusion: The 24th Special Tactics Squadron represents the pinnacle of Air Force special operations capabilities. Its highly trained personnel, advanced technologies, and proven operational effectiveness make it an invaluable asset to the United States military. Understanding the crucial role played by the 24th STS is essential for comprehending the complexities of modern warfare and the crucial contribution of Air Force special operations to national security.

FAQs:

1. What is the primary mission of the 24th Special Tactics Squadron? To provide a range of special operations capabilities, including establishing airfields, providing close air support, and performing combat search and rescue.
1. What types of personnel are within the 24th STS? Combat Controllers (CCT), Tactical Air Control Party (TACP), and Pararescue (PJ).
1. How rigorous is the selection and training process for the 24th STS? Extremely rigorous, with a high attrition rate due to the demanding physical and mental challenges.
1. Where is the 24th Special Tactics Squadron based? Pope Army Airfield, North Carolina.
1. What role does technology play in the 24th STS's operations? A crucial one, involving advanced communication systems, precision-guided munitions, and UAVs.
1. Are there any publically available information about specific missions? While many details are classified, general information about their participation in major conflicts is available.

1. What distinguishes the 24th STS from other Air Force units? Its unique combination of skills and expertise, integrating air control, close air support, and combat search and rescue capabilities.

1. How does the 24th STS interact with ground forces? They work closely with ground troops, providing air support and coordinating air strikes based on their tactical needs.

1. What is the future outlook for the 24th Special Tactics Squadron? Continued investment in technology and training to maintain its operational superiority.

Related Articles:

1. The History of Combat Control: A detailed look at the evolution of CCTs and their impact on military operations.
2. Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Operations: An examination of the TACP's role in providing close air support.
3. Pararescue (PJ): The Air Force's Elite Medics: Focuses on the training, capabilities, and operational history of PJ teams.
4. Special Tactics in Urban Warfare: Analyzes the 24th STS's adaptation to urban combat environments.
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6. The Role of Airpower in Modern Warfare: Examines the impact of airpower, with a specific focus on the contributions of special tactics units.
7. Technology and Special Operations: A discussion on technological advancements and their impact on special operations units like the 24th STS.
8. The Psychological and Physical Demands of Special Tactics: Explores the rigorous training and the mental and physical demands placed on special tactics personnel.
9. Case Studies of 24th STS Deployments: (requires declassification of some material) A detailed analysis of specific deployments and the tactical decisions made in those operations.

24 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.

24 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.

24 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.

24 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.

24 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.

24 special tactics squadron: Commanding an Air Force Squadron Col Usaf Timmons, Timothy, Timothy T. Timmons, 2012-08-07 The privilege of commanding an Air Force squadron, despite its heavy responsibilities and unrelenting challenges, represents for many Air Force officers the high point of their careers. It is service as a squadron commander that accords true command

authority for the first time. The authority, used consistently and wisely, provides a foundation for command. As with the officer's commission itself, command authority is granted to those who have earned it, both by performance and a revealed capacity for the demands of total responsibility. But once granted, it much be revalidated every day. So as one assumes squadron command, bringing years of experience and proven record to join with this new authority, one might still need a little practical help to success with the tasks of command. This book offers such help. "Commanding an 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 Jeffry F. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF.

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

24 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.

24 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.

24 special tactics squadron: The Icarus Syndrome Carl H. Builder, 2017-07-12 At the end of the Reagan era, many in the U.S. Air Force began to express their concerns about the health of their institution. They questioned whether the Air Force had lost its sense of direction, its confidence, its values, even its future. For some, these concerns reflected nothing more than the maturation of the most youthful of America's military institutions. For others it was a crisis of spirit that threatened the hard-won independence of the Air Force. Although the diagnoses for this malaise are as numerous as its symptoms, *The Icarus Syndrome* points a finger at the abandonment of air power theory sometime in the late 1950s to early 1960s as the single, taproot cause of the problems. That provocative diagnosis is followed by an equally provocative prescription the Air Force must follow to regain its institutional health. Author Carl H. Builder begins with an overview of this crisis of values within the Air Force, along with a litany of concerns about what seems to have gone wrong within that institution. The history of the U.S. Air Force, along with the role played in it by air power

theory, is explored and is used to support Builder's thesis. The remainder of the book is an analysis of what went wrong and when, how these wrongs might be corrected, and the challenges for Air Force leadership in the future. Now available in paperback, *The Icarus Syndrome* will be of great interest to U.S. Air Force professionals, military and aviation historians, and institutional psychologists.

24 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.

24 special tactics squadron: Top Secret America Dana Priest, William M. Arkin, 2011-09-06 The top-secret world that the government created in response to the 9/11 terrorist attacks has become so enormous, so unwieldy, and so secretive that no one knows how much money it costs, how many people it employs or exactly how many agencies duplicate work being done elsewhere. The result is that the system put in place to keep the United States safe may be putting us in greater danger. In *Top Secret America*, award-winning reporters Dana Priest and William Arkin uncover the enormous size, shape, mission, and consequences of this invisible universe of over 1,300 government facilities in every state in America; nearly 2,000 outside companies used as contractors; and more than 850,000 people granted Top Secret security clearance. A landmark exposé of a new, secret Fourth Branch of American government, *Top Secret America* is a tour de force of investigative

reporting-and a book sure to spark national and international alarm.

24 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.

24 special tactics squadron: Alone at Dawn Dan Schilling, Lori Longfritz, 2019-06-25 The New York Times bestselling true account of John Chapman, Medal of Honor recipient and Special Ops Combat Controller, and his heroic one-man stand during the Afghan War, as he sacrificed his life to save the lives of twenty-three comrades-in-arms. In the predawn hours of March 4, 2002, just below the 10,469-foot peak of a mountain in eastern Afghanistan, a fierce battle raged. Outnumbered by Al Qaeda fighters, Air Force Combat Controller John Chapman and a handful of Navy SEALs struggled to take the summit in a desperate bid to find a lost teammate. Chapman, leading the charge, was gravely wounded in the initial assault. Believing he was dead, his SEAL leader ordered a retreat. Chapman regained consciousness alone, with the enemy closing in on three sides. John Chapman's subsequent display of incredible valor -- first saving the lives of his SEAL teammates and then, knowing he was mortally wounded, single-handedly engaging two dozen hardened fighters to save the lives of an incoming rescue squad -- posthumously earned him the Medal of Honor. Chapman is the first airman in nearly fifty years to be given the distinction reserved for America's greatest heroes. *Alone at Dawn* is also a behind-the-scenes look at the Air Force Combat Controllers: the world's deadliest and most versatile special operations force, whose members must not only exceed the qualifications of Navy SEAL and Army Delta Force teams but also act with sharp decisiveness and deft precision -- even in the face of life-threatening danger. Drawing from firsthand accounts, classified documents, dramatic video footage, and extensive interviews with leaders and survivors of the operation, *Alone at Dawn* is the story of an extraordinary man's brave last stand and the brotherhood that forged him.

24 special tactics squadron: Never Quit Jimmy Settle, Don Rearden, 2017-03-07 The epic memoir of an Alaskan pararescue jumper, Special Forces Operator, and decorated war hero. "That Others May Live" is a mantra that defines the fearless men of Alaska's 212th Pararescue Unit, the PJs, one of the most elite military forces on the planet. Whether they are rescuing citizens injured and freezing in the Alaskan wilderness or saving wounded Rangers and SEALs in blazing wildfires at war, the PJs are the least known and most highly trained of America's warriors. *Never Quit* is the true story of how Jimmy Settle, an Alaskan shoe store clerk, became a Special Forces Operator and war hero. After being shot in the head during a dangerous high mountain operation in the rugged Watapur Valley in Afghanistan, Jimmy returns to battle with his teammates for a heroic rescue, the bullet fragments stitched over and still in his skull. In a cross between a suicide rescue mission and an against-all-odds mountain battle, his team of PJs risk their lives again in an epic firefight. When his helicopter is hit and begins leaking fuel, Jimmy finds himself in the worst possible position as a rescue specialist--forced to leave members from his own team behind. Jimmy will have to risk everything to get back into the battle and bring back his brothers. From death-defying Alaskan wilderness training, wild rescues, and vicious battles against the Taliban and Al Qaeda, this is an explosive special operations memoir unlike any that has come before, and the true story of a man from humble beginnings who became an American hero.

24 special tactics squadron: Special Air Warfare and the Secret War in Laos Air University Press, Joseph D Celeski, 2019-07-02 The story of special air warfare and the Air Commandos who served for the ambassadors in Laos from 1964 to 1975 is captured through extensive research and veteran interviews. The author has meticulously put together a comprehensive overview of the involvement of USAF Air Commandos who served in Laos as trainers, advisors, and clandestine combat forces to prevent the communist takeover of the Royal Lao Government. This book includes pictures of those operations, unveils what had been a US government secret war, and adds a substantial contribution to understanding the wider war in Southeast Asia.

24 special tactics squadron: A-10s Over Kosovo Phil M. Haun, Christopher E. Haave, Air University Press, 2011 First published in 2003. The NATO-led Operation Allied Force was fought in

1999 to stop Serb atrocities against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. This war, as noted by the distinguished military historian John Keegan, marked a real turning point . . . and proved that a war can be won by airpower alone. Colonels Haave and Haun have organized firsthand accounts of some of the people who provided that airpower-the members of the 40th Expeditionary Operations Group. Their descriptions-a new wingman's first combat sortie, a support officer's view of a fighter squadron relocation during combat, and a Sandy's leadership in finding and rescuing a downed F-117 pilot-provide the reader with a legitimate insight into an air war at the tactical level and the airpower that helped convince the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, to capitulate.

24 special tactics squadron: *Airpower against an Army: Challenge and Response in CENTAF's Duel with the Republican Guard* William F. Andrews, For nearly two decades the United States Air Force (USAF) oriented the bulk of its thinking, acquisition, planning, and training on the threat of a Soviet blitzkrieg across the inter German border. The Air Force fielded a powerful conventional arm well rehearsed in the tactics required to operate over a central European battlefield. Then, in a matter of days, the 1990 invasion of Kuwait altered key assumptions that had been developed over the previous decade and a half. The USAF faced a different foe employing a different military doctrine in an unexpected environment. Instead of disrupting a fast paced land offensive, the combat wings of the United States Central Command Air Forces (CENTAF) were ordered to attack a large, well fortified, and dispersed Iraqi ground force. The heart of that ground force was the Republican Guard Forces Command (RGFC). CENTAF's mission dictated the need to develop an unfamiliar repertoire of tactics and procedures to meet theater objectives. How effectively did CENTAF adjust air operations against the Republican Guard to the changing realities of combat? Answering that question is central to this study, and the answer resides in evaluation of the innovations developed by CENTAF to improve its operational and tactical performance against the Republican Guard. Effectiveness and timeliness are the primary criteria used for evaluating innovations.

24 special tactics squadron: *Special Operations Forces Reference Manual* Joint Special Operations, 2019-11-28 Special Operations Forces Reference Manual Fourth Edition

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24 special tactics squadron: *Department of Defense Dictionary of Military and Associated Terms* United States. Joint Chiefs of Staff, 1979

24 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.

24 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.

24 special tactics squadron: Weapons and Tactics of the Soviet Army David C. Isby, 1981

24 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.

24 special tactics squadron: Sharing Success - Owning Failure: Preparing to Command in the Twenty-First Century Air Force Colonel Usaf David L Goldfein, USAF, David L., David Goldfein, , USAF, 2012-08-17 Command is the ultimate service. It is a time when we have the singular responsibility to create and lead strong Air Force units. A time when our passion for our Air Force and our vision for its future must be overwhelmingly clear. Early in the Developing Aerospace Leaders initiative, we began to focus on the way in which the institution teaches leadership and prepares airmen for command. What we found was a wide range of practices and a wide range of expectations - a complicating factor in today's Expeditionary Aerospace Force. We realize that preparing our officers to command effective, mission-oriented units must be a deliberate process. It must develop our unique airman perspective, creating commanders who are able to communicate the vision, have credibility in the mission area, and can lead our people with inspiration and heart. The foundation of our institution's effectiveness has always been its leaders. Colonel Goldfein's work provides valuable lessons learned and serves as a worthwhile tool to optimize your effectiveness as a squadron commander. This book is a must-read, not only for those selected to command a squadron but for all our young officers, helping them understand what the requirements of squadron command will be. Remember, command is a unique privilege - a demanding and crucial position in our Air Force. Sharing Success - Owning Failure takes you a step closer to successfully meeting that challenge.

24 special tactics squadron: Danger Close Steve Call, 2010-01-15 "America had a secret weapon," writes Steve Call of the period immediately following September 11, 2001, as planners contemplated the invasion of Afghanistan. This weapon consisted of small teams of Special Forces operatives trained in close air support (CAS) who, in cooperation with the loose federation of Afghan rebels opposed to the Taliban regime, soon began achieving impressive—and unexpected—military victories over Taliban forces and the al-Qaeda terrorists they had sponsored. The astounding success of CAS tactics coupled with ground operations in Afghanistan soon drew the attention of military decision makers and would eventually factor into the planning for another campaign: Operation Iraqi Freedom. But who, exactly, are these air power experts and what is the function of the TACPs (Tactical Air Control Parties) in which they operate? Danger Close provides a fascinating look at a dedicated, courageous, innovative, and often misunderstood and misused group of military professionals. Drawing on the gripping first-hand accounts of their battlefield experiences, Steve Call allows the TACPs to speak for themselves. He accompanies their narratives with informed analysis of the development of CAS strategy, including potentially controversial aspects of the interservice rivalries between the air force and the army which have at times complicated and even obstructed the optimal employment of TACP assets. Danger Close makes clear, however, that the systematic coordination of air power and ground forces played an invaluable supporting role in the initial military victories in both Afghanistan and Iraq. This first-ever examination of the intense, life-and-death world of the close air support specialist will introduce readers to a crucial but little-known aspect of contemporary warfare and add a needed chapter in American military history studies.

24 special tactics squadron: U.S. Air Force Special Forces Kim Covert, 1999-09 An introduction to the United States Air Force pararescue units whose mission is to help air force members whose aircraft have crashed, including the development of the units and the equipment they use.

24 special tactics squadron: Defending Air Bases in an Age of Insurgency Shannon Caudill, Air University Press, 2014-08 This anthology discusses the converging operational issues of air base defense and counterinsurgency. It explores the diverse challenges associated with defending air assets and joint personnel in a counterinsurgency environment. The authors are primarily Air Force officers from security forces, intelligence, and the office of special investigations, but works are included from a US Air Force pilot and a Canadian air force officer. The authors examine lessons from Vietnam, Iraq, Afghanistan, and other conflicts as they relate to securing air bases and sustaining air operations in a high-threat counterinsurgency environment. The essays review the capabilities, doctrine, tactics, and training needed in base defense operations and recommend ways in which to build a strong, synchronized ground defense partnership with joint and combined forces. The authors offer recommendations on the development of combat leaders with the depth of knowledge, tactical and operational skill sets, and counterinsurgency mind set necessary to be effective in the modern asymmetric battlefield.

24 special tactics squadron: Command Of The Air General Giulio Douhet, 2014-08-15 In the pantheon of air power spokesmen, Giulio Douhet holds center stage. His writings, more often cited than perhaps actually read, appear as excerpts and aphorisms in the writings of numerous other air power spokesmen, advocates-and critics. Though a highly controversial figure, the very controversy that surrounds him offers to us a testimonial of the value and depth of his work, and the need for airmen today to become familiar with his thought. The progressive development of air power to the point where, today, it is more correct to refer to aerospace power has not outdated the notions of Douhet in the slightest. In fact, in many ways, the kinds of technological capabilities that we enjoy as a global air power provider attest to the breadth of his vision. Douhet, together with Hugh "Boom" Trenchard of Great Britain and William "Billy" Mitchell of the United States, is justly recognized as one of the three great spokesmen of the early air power era. This reprint is offered in the spirit of continuing the dialogue that Douhet himself so perceptively began with the first edition of this book, published in 1921. Readers may well find much that they disagree with in this book, but also much that is of enduring value. The vital necessity of Douhet's central vision-that command of the air is all important in modern warfare-has been proven throughout the history of wars in this century, from the fighting over the Somme to the air war over Kuwait and Iraq.

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24 special tactics squadron: A Concise History of the U.S. Air Force Stephen Lee McFarland, 1997 Except in a few instances, since World War II no American soldier or sailor has been attacked by enemy air power. Conversely, no enemy soldier or sailor has acted in combat without being attacked or at least threatened by American air power. Aviators have brought the air weapon to bear against enemies while denying them the same prerogative. This is the legacy of the U.S. Air Force,

purchased at great cost in both human and material resources. More often than not, aerial pioneers had to fight technological ignorance, bureaucratic opposition, public apathy, and disagreement over purpose. Every step in the evolution of air power led into new and untrodden territory, driven by humanitarian impulses; by the search for higher, faster, and farther flight; or by the conviction that the air way was the best way. Warriors have always coveted the high ground. If technology permitted them to reach it, men, women and an air force held and exploited it - from Thomas Selfridge, first among so many who gave that last full measure of devotion; to Women's Airforce Service Pilot Ann Baumgartner, who broke social barriers to become the first American woman to pilot a jet; to Benjamin Davis, who broke racial barriers to become the first African American to command a flying group; to Chuck Yeager, a one-time non-commissioned flight officer who was the first to exceed the speed of sound; to John Levitt, who earned the Medal of Honor by throwing himself over a live flare to save his gunship crew; to John Warden, who began a revolution in air power thought and strategy that was put to spectacular use in the Gulf War. Industrialization has brought total war and air power has brought the means to overfly an enemy's defenses and attack its sources of power directly. Americans have perceived air power from the start as a more efficient means of waging war and as a symbol of the nation's commitment to technology to master challenges, minimize casualties, and defeat adversaries.

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Planning Guide Department Of the Army, Luc Boudreaux, 2022-08-06 This publication outlines the planning process as it relates to a Special Forces (SF) operational detachment-alpha (ODA) conducting deliberate planning for special operations. Planning is an essential task common to all aspects of SF operations. More content available at: doguedebordeauxsurvival.com

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Patrolling Edward Wolcott, 2021-08-30 This comprehensive guide by a Special Ops combat veteran is the ultimate reference for military tactics, techniques, and procedures. Intended for military Special Ops personnel, this volume presents invaluable operational guidance with lessons learned from the legendary Military Assistance Command Vietnam - Studies and Observations Group (MACV-SOG). Drawing on Special Reconnaissance operations conducted during the Vietnam Era, author Edward Wolcott provides practical information alongside operational accounts and analyses of specific missions. Wolcott covers the gamut of specialized SR topics ranging from operational planning and preparation, through execution, logistics and command and control - all in substantial tradecraft detail. Few of the tactics, techniques, and procedures or lessons-learned included in this book have been previously presented in a usable form for SpecOps personnel. This book is intended instruct the Special Operations units of today, and preserve this valuable tradecraft for future generations.

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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.

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