

720 SPECIAL TACTICS GROUP

720TH SPECIAL TACTICS GROUP: A DEEP DIVE INTO AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS

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SUMMARY: THIS ARTICLE PROVIDES A COMPREHENSIVE OVERVIEW OF THE 720TH SPECIAL TACTICS GROUP (720 STG), ITS DIVERSE MISSION SETS, OPERATIONAL METHODOLOGIES, AND THE HIGHLY SPECIALIZED TRAINING REQUIRED OF ITS PERSONNEL. WE WILL DELVE INTO THE ROLES OF COMBAT CONTROLLERS, PARARESCUEMEN, SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE AIRMEN, AND THE UNIQUE CAPABILITIES THEY BRING TO BEAR IN SUPPORT OF JOINT SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES GLOBALLY. THE PIECE EMPHASIZES THE GROUP'S ADAPTABILITY, TECHNOLOGICAL INTEGRATION, AND CRUCIAL CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE SUCCESS OF NUMEROUS SPECIAL OPERATIONS MISSIONS.

H1: UNDERSTANDING THE 720TH SPECIAL TACTICS GROUP (720 STG)

THE 720TH SPECIAL TACTICS GROUP IS A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMAND (AFSOC), RENOWNED FOR ITS UNIQUE BLEND OF HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SKILLS AND UNCONVENTIONAL WARFARE EXPERTISE. UNLIKE TRADITIONAL AIR FORCE UNITS, THE 720 STG OPERATES IN DIRECT SUPPORT OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES ON THE GROUND, OFTEN IN HOSTILE AND UNPREDICTABLE ENVIRONMENTS. THEIR MISSION IS MULTIFACETED AND DEMANDING, REQUIRING AN EXTRAORDINARY LEVEL OF TRAINING, ADAPTABILITY, AND COURAGE.

H2: THE CORE SPECIALITIES OF THE 720 STG

THE 720 STG IS COMPOSED OF SEVERAL DISTINCT YET INTERCONNECTED SPECIAL WARFARE CAREER FIELDS:

COMBAT CONTROLLERS (CCTs): THE BACKBONE OF 720 STG OPERATIONS, CCTs ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR ESTABLISHING AND MANAGING AIRFIELDS IN AUSTERE LOCATIONS, OFTEN UNDER ENEMY FIRE. THEY CONTROL AIR TRAFFIC, COORDINATE AIR STRIKES, AND PROVIDE PRECISION TARGETING DATA, ENSURING THE TIMELY ARRIVAL OF CRUCIAL AIR SUPPORT FOR GROUND FORCES. THEIR SKILLS ENCOMPASS AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL, JUMPMaster QUALIFICATIONS, ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS, AND CLOSE-QUARTERS COMBAT. THE 720TH STG LEVERAGES THE CCT'S EXPERTISE TO FACILITATE RAPID INSERTION AND EXTRACTION OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS, A CRITICAL COMPONENT OF SUCCESS IN MANY SCENARIOS.

PARARESCUEMEN (PJs): THE ELITE COMBAT MEDICS OF AFSOC, PJs ARE TRAINED TO PROVIDE LIFE-SAVING MEDICAL CARE IN THE MOST CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES. THEIR CAPABILITIES EXTEND FAR BEYOND BASIC MEDICAL TREATMENT, ENCOMPASSING ADVANCED TRAUMA CARE, BATTLEFIELD SURGERY, AND RESCUE OPERATIONS IN HOSTILE TERRITORIES. WORKING CLOSELY WITH CCTs, PJs ENSURE THE SURVIVABILITY OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS PERSONNEL DURING HIGH-RISK MISSIONS. THE 720 STG RELIES ON THE PJs' MEDICAL EXPERTISE AND COMBAT SKILLS TO INCREASE THE EFFECTIVENESS AND RESILIENCE OF THE OVERALL TEAM.

SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE (SR): THESE HIGHLY TRAINED AIRMEN ARE RESPONSIBLE FOR COLLECTING CRITICAL INTELLIGENCE IN DENIED AREAS, OFTEN FAR AHEAD OF THE MAIN FORCE. EMPLOYING ADVANCED SURVEILLANCE TECHNIQUES, RECONNAISSANCE, AND DIRECT ACTION CAPABILITIES, SR AIRMEN PROVIDE CRITICAL INFORMATION THAT INFORMS OPERATIONAL PLANNING AND

ENHANCES MISSION SUCCESS. THEIR DISCREET OPERATIONS ENSURE THE 720 STG MAINTAINS A VITAL SITUATIONAL AWARENESS EDGE IN COMPLEX ENVIRONMENTS.

H3: OPERATIONAL METHODOLOGIES AND APPROACHES OF THE 720 STG

THE 720 STG'S OPERATIONAL METHODOLOGIES ARE CHARACTERIZED BY THEIR ADAPTABILITY AND RESPONSIVENESS TO EVOLVING CIRCUMSTANCES. THEIR ABILITY TO SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATE WITH OTHER SPECIAL OPERATIONS FORCES IS PARAMOUNT. SOME KEY APPROACHES INCLUDE:

DIRECT ACTION: THE 720 STG IS CAPABLE OF ENGAGING IN DIRECT COMBAT OPERATIONS, OFTEN IN CLOSE COORDINATION WITH OTHER SPECIAL OPERATIONS UNITS. CCTs AND SR AIRMEN BRING THEIR UNIQUE SKILLS TO BEAR IN THESE HIGH-RISK MISSIONS.

SPECIAL RECONNAISSANCE: GATHERING INTELLIGENCE IS A CORNERSTONE OF THE 720 STG'S CAPABILITIES. SR AIRMEN UTILIZE STEALTH AND ADVANCED TECHNOLOGY TO COLLECT VITAL INFORMATION, PROVIDING COMMANDERS WITH A CRITICAL DECISION-MAKING ADVANTAGE.

AIRBORNE OPERATIONS: THE 720 STG RELIES HEAVILY ON AIRBORNE INSERTION AND EXTRACTION TECHNIQUES, USING VARIOUS AIRCRAFT AND METHODS TO DEPLOY AND RECOVER PERSONNEL SWIFTLY AND EFFICIENTLY. THEIR EXPERTISE IN HIGH-ALTITUDE, LOW-OPENING (HALO) JUMPS AND OTHER SPECIALIZED AIR INSERTION TECHNIQUES IS CRUCIAL FOR OPERATING IN HOSTILE ENVIRONMENTS.

PRECISION AIR SUPPORT: THROUGH THEIR MASTERY OF AIR TRAFFIC CONTROL AND CLOSE AIR SUPPORT COORDINATION, CCTs ARE PIVOTAL IN PROVIDING CRUCIAL AIR SUPPORT TO GROUND FORCES, ENSURING TIMELY AND ACCURATE DELIVERY OF AIRPOWER.

COMBAT SEARCH AND RESCUE (CSAR): PJs ARE AT THE FOREFRONT OF CSAR OPERATIONS, WORKING IN CONJUNCTION WITH OTHER RESCUE FORCES TO LOCATE, EXTRACT, AND PROVIDE MEDICAL CARE TO DOWNED AIRCREWS AND OTHER PERSONNEL IN HOSTILE OR INACCESSIBLE AREAS.

H4: TECHNOLOGICAL INTEGRATION AND ADVANCED CAPABILITIES

THE 720 STG IS AT THE FOREFRONT OF ADOPTING AND INTEGRATING CUTTING-EDGE TECHNOLOGY TO ENHANCE THEIR OPERATIONAL CAPABILITIES. THIS INCLUDES ADVANCED COMMUNICATIONS SYSTEMS, SOPHISTICATED SURVEILLANCE EQUIPMENT, AND PRECISION-GUIDED MUNITIONS COORDINATION. THE EFFECTIVE INTEGRATION OF THESE TECHNOLOGIES ENSURES THAT THE 720 STG MAINTAINS A COMPETITIVE EDGE IN THE EVOLVING LANDSCAPE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS WARFARE. THE 720 STG CONSISTENTLY ADAPTS TO THE MOST MODERN TECHNOLOGIES, ENSURING CONTINUED MISSION SUCCESS.

H5: TRAINING AND SELECTION OF 720 STG PERSONNEL

BECOMING A MEMBER OF THE 720 STG REQUIRES AN EXTRAORDINARY LEVEL OF PHYSICAL AND MENTAL FORTITUDE. THE RIGOROUS SELECTION PROCESS AND DEMANDING TRAINING PROGRAM ARE DESIGNED TO WEED OUT ALL BUT THE MOST HIGHLY QUALIFIED AND DETERMINED INDIVIDUALS. YEARS OF INTENSE TRAINING ARE REQUIRED TO MASTER THE SPECIFIC SKILLS NECESSARY FOR EACH CAREER FIELD. THE PROGRAM EMPHASIZES TEAMWORK, ADAPTABILITY, AND PROBLEM-SOLVING UNDER IMMENSE PRESSURE. THE 720 STG'S RIGOROUS TRAINING REGIMEN PRODUCES SOME OF THE MOST CAPABLE SPECIAL OPERATIONS PERSONNEL IN THE WORLD.

H6: THE 720TH STG'S CONTRIBUTION TO GLOBAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS

THE 720TH STG HAS PLAYED A VITAL ROLE IN COUNTLESS SPECIAL OPERATIONS MISSIONS AROUND THE WORLD, DEMONSTRATING ITS UNIQUE CAPABILITIES AND ADAPTABILITY IN DIVERSE OPERATIONAL ENVIRONMENTS. THEIR CONTRIBUTIONS HAVE BEEN INSTRUMENTAL IN ACHIEVING STRATEGIC OBJECTIVES AND SECURING CRUCIAL VICTORIES IN CHALLENGING CIRCUMSTANCES. THE 720 STG'S CONSISTENT SUCCESS HIGHLIGHTS THE IMPORTANCE OF ITS HIGHLY SPECIALIZED SKILLS AND THE VALUE OF ITS UNIQUE CONTRIBUTIONS TO THE OVERALL SUCCESS OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS.

CONCLUSION:

THE 720TH SPECIAL TACTICS GROUP STANDS AS A TESTAMENT TO THE DEDICATION, SKILL, AND COURAGE OF ITS AIRMEN. THEIR UNIQUE CAPABILITIES AND UNWAVERING COMMITMENT TO MISSION SUCCESS MAKE THEM AN INVALUABLE ASSET TO THE GLOBAL SPECIAL OPERATIONS COMMUNITY. THE 720 STG'S CONTINUAL EVOLUTION AND ADAPTATION ENSURE ITS CONTINUED RELEVANCE AND EFFECTIVENESS IN THE EVER-CHANGING WORLD OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS WARFARE.

FAQs:

1. WHAT IS THE DIFFERENCE BETWEEN A CCT AND A PJ? CCTs FOCUS ON CONTROLLING AIR TRAFFIC AND COORDINATING AIR STRIKES, WHILE PJs ARE COMBAT MEDICS SPECIALIZING IN RESCUE AND MEDICAL CARE.
1. WHAT TYPE OF AIRCRAFT DOES THE 720 STG TYPICALLY USE? THEY UTILIZE A VARIETY OF AIRCRAFT DEPENDING ON THE MISSION, INCLUDING MC-130J COMMANDO II, CV-22 OSPREY, AND HH-60 PAVE HAWK HELICOPTERS.
1. WHAT IS THE SELECTION PROCESS LIKE FOR THE 720 STG? IT'S EXTREMELY RIGOROUS, INVOLVING PHYSICAL AND MENTAL CHALLENGES DESIGNED TO TEST CANDIDATES' RESILIENCE AND ABILITIES.
1. HOW LONG IS THE TRAINING FOR EACH SPECIALTY WITHIN THE 720 STG? TRAINING VARIES BY SPECIALTY BUT GENERALLY TAKES SEVERAL YEARS TO COMPLETE.
1. WHAT TYPES OF WEAPONS AND EQUIPMENT DOES THE 720 STG USE? THEY UTILIZE A WIDE RANGE OF WEAPONRY AND EQUIPMENT TAILORED TO THEIR SPECIFIC MISSION REQUIREMENTS.
1. WHERE ARE THE 720 STG'S OPERATIONAL AREAS? THE 720 STG OPERATES GLOBALLY, SUPPORTING SPECIAL OPERATIONS MISSIONS WHEREVER NEEDED.
1. WHAT ARE SOME OF THE NOTABLE MISSIONS THE 720 STG HAS PARTICIPATED IN? DUE TO THE SENSITIVE NATURE OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS, SPECIFIC MISSION DETAILS ARE OFTEN CLASSIFIED.
1. HOW DOES THE 720 STG INTEGRATE WITH OTHER BRANCHES OF THE MILITARY? THEY SEAMLESSLY INTEGRATE WITH OTHER BRANCHES, PARTICULARLY ARMY SPECIAL FORCES, NAVY SEALs, AND MARINE RAIDERS.
1. WHAT IS THE FUTURE OF THE 720 STG? THE 720 STG IS CONTINUALLY ADAPTING AND EVOLVING TO MEET THE CHALLENGES OF FUTURE CONFLICTS, EMBRACING NEW TECHNOLOGIES AND TRAINING METHODS.

RELATED ARTICLES:

1. "THE EVOLUTION OF THE COMBAT CONTROLLER: FROM WWII TO MODERN WARFARE": TRACES THE HISTORY AND DEVELOPMENT OF THE CCT ROLE WITHIN THE 720TH STG AND ITS PREDECESSORS.
1. "PARARESCUEMEN: THE UNSUNG HEROES OF SPECIAL OPERATIONS": FOCUSES ON THE PJs WITHIN THE 720 STG, HIGHLIGHTING THEIR MEDICAL EXPERTISE AND RESCUE CAPABILITIES.
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1. "THE TECHNOLOGY OF MODERN SPECIAL OPERATIONS": EXPLORES THE TECHNOLOGICAL ADVANCEMENTS THAT SUPPORT THE 720 STG'S CAPABILITIES.
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1. "CASE STUDIES IN 720TH STG OPERATIONS (DECLASSIFIED)": PRESENTS PUBLICLY AVAILABLE ACCOUNTS OF SUCCESSFUL 720 STG MISSIONS.
1. "THE PSYCHOLOGICAL RESILIENCE OF SPECIAL TACTICS AIRMEN": EXPLORES THE MENTAL AND EMOTIONAL CHALLENGES FACED BY 720 STG PERSONNEL.
1. "THE FUTURE OF SPECIAL WARFARE: ADAPTING TO THE EVOLVING BATTLEFIELD": DISCUSSES FUTURE CHALLENGES AND POTENTIAL ADAPTATIONS FOR THE 720 STG IN THE YEARS TO COME.

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.

720 special tactics group: *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.

720 special tactics group: *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.

720 special tactics group: *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.

720 special tactics group: *Air Force Magazine* , 2008

720 special tactics group: *The Reporter's Military Directory 2003* Col Phil Johnson, 2003-03 The Reporter's Military Directory is a handy reference and guide for news reporters, military public affairs offices and student journalists. It lists over 1,300 U.S. military public affairs offices in the United States and around the world, and includes a special Air Force section. The book eliminates the need to travel the maze of government links, websites and red tape to get to the right Air Force, Army, Navy or Marine public affairs office to obtain news story sources and facts. All listings are categorized by state or country, and include the address and phone number of each public affairs office.

720 special tactics group: *Blood Warriors* Col. Michael Lee Lanning, 2007-12-18 Rangers, Green Berets, SEALs, Delta Force, LRRPs, Force Recon— and the struggle of the best and the bravest to keep America free They're some of the toughest and most highly trained fighting men in

the world—going where no ordinary soldier would go and doing what no ordinary soldier would dare. Outnumbered and outgunned, operating in small teams of five or six-deep in enemy territory far from help, they rely on their wits, their skills, and each other to get out alive. *Blood Warriors* is a penetrating, no-holds-barred account of the training, missions, and history of the military elites who mold America's most dangerous and highly skilled warriors . . . from the navy's SEALs and the Marine Corps' Force Reconnaissance to the U.S. Army's Delta Force, Rangers, and Special Forces. Here's an in-depth look at each unit's methods and standards: what's required and what it takes to survive and succeed. Whether gathering intelligence, capturing prisoners, executing raids and ambushes, or just creating havoc in enemy territory, these men know that death is their constant companion—and one small misstep could mean body bags for everyone. Maybe that's why America calls them heroes.

720 special tactics group: *Resource Utilization and Development* Shri Kamal Sharma, 1992 The relationship between resources and development is the pivot around which the present study revolves. Focussing on the process of resource creation and utilization it emphasizes the need of equitable development integrating local needs, resources, people and functions. The resource exploitation and their utilization are two independent economic activities influenced by different algorithms and usually have manifested in core-periphery relationship. Reviews the persistent problems of economic development in perspective of exploitation of natural resources with the objective to provide some clues for occurrence and persistence of regional disparities and for suggesting a development model synchronising both the resource management and environmental protection.

720 special tactics group: *Air Force and Space Digest* , 1995

720 special tactics group: *Lords of Darkness* COL Billy R. Wood, 2011-08-18 Prior to 1979, you probably hadn't heard of counterterrorism or Special Operations. Even so, special warriors have been around since Moses sent Joshua to spy out the land of Canaan. In 1986, Colonel Billy R. Wood served as the operations officer of the newly organized 45th Aviation Battalion (Special Operations). This unit was highly classified. The special operations training and missions carried out by the team were conducted in secret, and members couldn't even tell their wives and families where they were going. These soldiers were called the Lords of Darkness. Prior to its formation, much was written about the failed hostage rescue mission in Iran. The Pentagon leadership implied, Whatever the costs, whatever we do, we can never have another Desert One. Secret exercises were conducted with modified aircraft and soon-to-be-skilled night flyers of Task Force 160, today known as Night Stalkers. What you didn't read about was the other US Army Special Operations Aviation Battalionan Army National Guard unit. Highly classified and therefore less known, it was a mirror image special aviation unit. You didn't realize they existed because you weren't supposed to know. These teachers, businessmen, lawyers, salesman, citizen soldiers, and traditional guardsmen were called the Lords of Darkness of the Oklahoma Army National Guard. The night belonged to them and their hearts belonged to aviation.

720 special tactics group: *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.

720 special tactics group: *United States Special Operations Forces Posture Statement* U.S.

Special Operations Command,

720 special tactics group: *The Mammoth Book of Inside the Elite Forces* Nigel Cawthorne, 2012-03-01 The most comprehensive and up-to-date guide to American and British special forces, covering all aspects of their equipment, training and deployment in the Iraq age of warfare. It takes a special kind of person to join the Special Forces and those to pass the stringent entrance requirements are subjected to the most rigorous training. They're trained to be super-fit, taught to survive in the most adverse conditions, and turned into killing machines. This book reveals what makes these men tick, and everything you need to know to become one of them. It covers all the types of training required - for fitness, combat, survival, navigation, communication, infiltration, interrogation, extraction and evasion. And it details the full array of weapons used, from small arms and knives to explosives and air back-up. Also included are full listings of all the units - including the SAS, Green Berets, SBS, Navy SEALs, Delta Force, Army Rangers - and their deployment in present-day conflicts such as Desert Storm, Somalia, Afghanistan, Iraq and anti-terrorist operations.

720 special tactics group: *The Complete Idiot's Guide to the U.S. Special Ops Forces* Marc Cerasini, 2002 A guide to the face of modern US warfare in the 21st century. The US Special Operations Forces will be at the forefront of every battle that the US will wage against the war on terrorism.

720 special tactics group: Black Ops and Other Special Missions of the U.S. Air Force Combat Control Team Phillip Ryan, 2012-12-15 First In, Last Out, is the motto of the U.S. Air Force Combat Control Team, and this elite group certainly lives by that slogan. Readers get a captivating look into this lesser-known branch of the special forces. Additionally, as-told-by accounts of clandestine missions offer a window into what it's really like to be the first ones in and the last ones out of war zones.

720 special tactics group: *U. S. Special Operations Forces (SOF)* Andrew Feickert, 2010-11 Contents: (1) Background: Command Structures and Components; Special Operations Forces in the Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine, and Joint; NATO Special Operations; (2) Current Organizational and Budgetary Issues: 2010 Quadrennial Defense Review Report SOF-Related Directives; 2010 USSOCOM Posture Statement; (3) Afghanistan-Related Issues; A Change of Command Relationship for U.S. SOF; U.S. SOF Direct Action Against Afghan Insurgents; Training Village Security Forces; (4) Issues for Congress: Are Current Command Relationships and Rules of Engagement Having a Detrimental Impact on Special Operations in Afghanistan?; Are We Making the Best Use of SOF in Afghanistan?

720 special tactics group: *United States Special Operations Forces 1996 Posture Statement* H. Allen Holmes, Henry H. Shelton, 1998-05

720 special tactics group: Dictionary of the Modern United States Military S.F. Tomajczyk, 2008-02-11 Warspeak, the language of the military, can be for many civilians and for members of differing services an unintelligible hodgepodge of acronyms, slang terms and field operation expressions. Few laypersons may know that the Five F's is a derogatory expression, though Army, Navy, Marine, Air Force, Coast Guard and others know or can infer that chairborn commandos are administrative and support personnel. The more than 15,000 entries in this comprehensive dictionary provide an inside look at the United States military. Weapons systems, governmental agencies, electronic warfare, medical terms, military infrastructure, communications, satellites and intelligence systems are among the topics covered in-depth. Also detailed are the acronyms and slang terms used by the soldiers in the field. The work provides numerous cross references for ease of use, along with a bibliography of over 2,200 sources.

720 special tactics group: Observer , 1998

720 special tactics group: Air Force Address Directory United States. Department of the Air Force, 1993

720 special tactics group: Special Operations Forces John M. Collins, 1994 In this volume, John Collins speaks with the authority of one who was literally present at the birth of the low intensity conflict era. His long-term, intimate, and direct contact with the esoteric world of special

operations has few parallels. Their roots go back in time and history considerably farther, but today's Special Operations Forces are largely products of the past three decades. Their development has been in response to the pressures of world-wide situations perceived to bear upon or which actually do affect American strategic interests. The use of raw military power may not provide solutions to the complex problems involved and may even be counter-productive. Special Operations forces, uniquely suited to fill the quasi-military gap, require the highest degree of professional competence in the application of the classical principles of war. This is a big order. It is difficult in a few words to pay John Collins the tribute he deserves for continuing efforts to educate both the Congress and the U.S. Armed Forces concerning the capabilities and limitations of special operations and the forces they involve. This latest addition to his carefully researched studies combines history, philosophy, factual data, and reference materials in a single document that should be on the desks of civilian and military leaders whose responsibilities relate in any way to special operations.

720 special tactics group: United States Special Operations Command History, 2007

720 special tactics group: Military Construction Appropriations for 2003 United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations. Subcommittee on Military Construction Appropriations, 2002

720 special tactics group: Boots on the Ground Dick Camp, 2012 Immediately following 9/11, the United States needed to strike back . . . but against whom? In the eyes of the intelligence community, the aerial attack on the World Trade Center and Washington, D.C., bore all the signs of an al-Qaeda operation. This was soon verified by al-Qaeda itself, as Osama bin Laden claimed credit. America quickly targeted al-Qaeda and the Taliban regime in Afghanistan that was providing them sanctuary. Central Command, responsible for the Middle East, including Afghanistan, outlined three options: strike back with cruise missiles, strike back with cruise missiles and manned bombers, or complement aerial attacks with American ground forces: "boots on the ground." President George W. Bush wanted direct action, so American ground forces, supported by American airpower and cruise missiles, became the order of the day. Initially, the boots were worn by CIA covert operatives and U.S. Army Special Forces teams, the famed Green Berets. Bush authorized the CIA an additional \$1 billion to drive al-Qaeda and the Taliban from power. On 17 September 2001, Bush authorized the CIA to engage al-Qaeda and other terrorist organizations anywhere in the world and assassinate individuals designated as terrorists. It was the broadest and most lethal authority in the agency's history. The CIA deployed teams across Afghanistan to work with the Northern Alliance and U.S. Army Special Forces. The results were immediate and positive. The Northern Alliance had the Taliban and al-Qaeda on the run with a remarkable combination of "horse soldiers" and high-tech U.S. airpower called in by American special operations forces. Late in November, U.S. Marine Corps Task Force 58 seized an airstrip southwest of the Taliban stronghold of Kandahar in the longest amphibious raid in history, 450 miles from the sea. In early December, Kandahar fell to forces loyal to Hamid Karzai, who would later become president of Afghanistan. It was the last remaining Taliban stronghold in the country. Al-Qaeda and Taliban leadership fled. Acclaimed military historian Dick Camp details this remarkable campaign for Afghanistan. He also provides a comprehensive history of the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan and the Red Army's unsuccessful occupation of the country, which led to the rise of the Afghani mujahideen and anti-Soviet foreign fighters under al-Qaeda, as well as the subsequent rise of the Taliban.

720 special tactics group: No Room for Error Col. John T. Carney, Benjamin F. Schemmer, 2007-12-18 "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.

720 special tactics group: 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.

720 special tactics group: Military Construction Appropriations for 2002 United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations. Subcommittee on Military Construction
Appropriations, 2001

720 special tactics group: Military Construction Appropriations for 2002: Justification of the budget estimates, Navy and Marine Corps United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations. Subcommittee on Military Construction
Appropriations, 2001

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