

188th SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



LINEAGE

188th Security Police Squadron
188th Security Forces Squadron

STATIONS

Ebbing ANGB, Fort Smith, AR

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

CWO John Skinner, 1955
Cpt Leo Faulkner, 1961
Maj Jack Lovett, 1963
Cpt John Smith, 1972-1974
LTC Arvel Acoach, 1972-1992
Maj Stephen Mayner, 1992
Lt Michael Atwell, 2003

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

188th cops supported the 1996 Summer Olympics in Atlanta, Georgia.

188 SFS attended the Silver Flag Alpha Desert Warfare Training Course at Indian Springs, Nevada.

The events of 11 Sep 2001 brought about a change in the world. As a result of the World Wide War on Terrorism the 188 SFS was 100% mobilized. 188 SFS members participated in contingencies on four different continents around the globe.

Emerging world threats brought about increased needs for specially trained forces. 188 SFS members answered that need by devoting many resources, manpower and energy into two new Air Force disciplines. Air Force Sharpshooters became the answer to counter enemy snipers. Their ability to provide long-range enemy engagement became a force multiplier for airfield operations. Security Forces Phoenix Ravens answered the call to counter terrorist assaults on Department of Defense resources that are in transit between military bases and secure areas. The 188 SFS currently has many certified Sharpshooters and Raven's. They are all actively involved as instructors for the ANG.

CAMP DONA ANA, N.M. – Pre-deployment training is a concentrated focus for this remote outpost in the high desert region along the Texas – New Mexico state lines. Approximately 32 members of the 188th Security Forces Squadron were here for three weeks in July honing skills for base defense and convoy security operations in preparation for an upcoming deployment to the Central Command Area of Operations in the middle-east theater. Maj. Carl Alvarez, commander of the 204th Security Forces Squadron at Fort Bliss, TX, which conducts the training as one of four regional training centers for security forces, said “The focus of the training the Airmen receive here is designed to not only reinforce the common training skills for security forces, but also to provide training on some theater-specific tasks they may be asked to perform.” Among the activities conducted during the training are: a variety of live-fire engagements on the range, convoy operations and security measures, individual and small group movements, land navigation, entry control point tactics, IED identification, military operations in urban terrain (MOUT) including close-quarter battle tactics, and law enforcement measures. The arid conditions and desolate location provide excellent training both physically and mentally for the deploying Airmen. In order to get them training and thinking as a cohesive group, all operations from the camp are conducted as if they were already in a forward deployed location, so any training or excursions “outside the fence” are performed in full body armor, helmet and weapons. “The inherent role of Security Forces puts these Airmen outside most hours of the day, so training in this environment ensures they are conditioned for the theater where they will be deployed,” said Alvarez Senior Master Sgt. Kenneth Polk said the 188th Airmen were receiving some good training as well as updated information and tactics for their mission. “We train and

practice a good bit of this on our own during exercises at Ft. Chaffee, but we are training on some things we don't normally do at home that are unique to this mission," said Polk adding, "We're also getting the benefit of information on operations and tactics from some guys who just returned from that location." The 188th Airmen also go a healthy moral injection on Sunday, July 13, 2008, when they were paid a command visit by some friendly faces from Arkansas including Maj. Gen. William Wofford, the adjutant general of the Arkansas National Guard; Brig. Gen. Riley Porter, commander of the Arkansas Air National Guard; Brig. Gen. Dwight Balch, chief of staff of the Arkansas Air Guard; Col. Kevin Wear, commander of the 188th Fighter Wing; Col. Thomas Anderson, vice-commander of the 188th Fighter Wing; and Command Chief Master Sgt. Asa Carter of the 188th Fighter Wing. The command group observed training on several ranges, participated in a convoy security operation, toured the training facilities and encampment, as well as shared an evening meal with the troops where they got feedback from the Airmen themselves on the quality of training being provided Security Forces prior to deployment. "I'm glad to see this training. Some of what they are doing here is exactly the kind of things these guys need. It is all-important that they get it here because they don't have the ability to do some of it at home station," said Wofford. Noting a considerable portion of the training is done under "live-fire" conditions. The Arkansas Airmen are also training with nearly 150 other Security Forces Airmen from Nevada, Virginia, Illinois, Oklahoma, New York and Alabama which will make up the complete package deploying to the Southwest Asia location. They are part of approximately 1,100 Air National Guard security forces which are, or will be, deployed to Southwest Asia this fiscal year.2008

SQUADRON DEPLOYMENTS:

SEMBACH, GERMANY 1992
US OLYMPICS, ATLANTA, GA 1996
SAUDI ARABIA, (OSW) 1997
HAWAII 1999
SAUDI ARABIA, (OSW) 1999
CURACAO, (AEF) 2001
QATAR, (OEF) 2002
RHEIN-MAIN, GERMANY, (OEF) 2002
KYRGYZSTAN, (OEF) 2002
CYPRUS, (OIF) 2003



Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources:

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.