

422 SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



MISSION

The 422 Security Forces Squadron mission defends all personnel and resources of the 422nd Air Base Group to enable intelligence, communications and Global Strike Operations in support of U.S., NATO and mission partner objectives worldwide.

LINEAGE

1127 Military Police Company (Aviation) constituted, 12 Dec 1942
Activated, 1 Jan 1943
Redesignated 1127 Military Police Company, Aviation, 11 Jul 1944
Redesignated 422 Air Police Squadron, 12 Mar 1949
Inactivated, 15 Mar 1958
Redesignated 422 Security Police Squadron, 12 Oct 1984
Redesignated 422 Security Forces Squadron, 22 Mar 2005
Activated, 12 May 2005

STATIONS

Brookley Field, AL, 1 Jan-17 May 1943
Port Moresby, New Guinea, 23 Jun 1943
Dobodura, New Guinea, 29 Jul 1943
Finschaffen, New Guinea, 13 Apr 1944
Aitape, New Guinea, 1 May 1944
Biak, Netherlands East Indies, 12 Jun 1944
Leyte, Philippine Islands, 24 Oct 1944
Mindoro, Philippine Islands, 22 Jan 1945
Floridablanca, Luzon, Philippine Islands, 27 Apr 1945
Fort Stotsenburg, Luzon, Philippine Islands, 15 May 1945
Hamasaki, Okinawa, 9 Jul 1945
Irumagawa, Japan, 2 Oct 1945

Tokyo, Japan, 13 Jan 1946
Nagoya (later, Nagoya AB), Japan, 20 May 1946
Komaki AB, Japan, 7 Mar 1955-15 Mar 1958
RAF Croughton, England, 12 May 2005

ASSIGNMENTS

III Air Service Area Command, 1 Jan 1943
Fifth Air Force, 23 Jun 1943
V Air Service Area Command, 15 Aug 1944
Fifth Air Force, 3 Nov 1944
314 Air Division, 1 Dec 1950
Japan Air Defense Force, 1 Mar 1952
Fifth Air Force, 1 Sep 1954
6101 Air Base Wing, 15 May 1955
6101 Air Base Group, 1 Aug 1955-15 Mar 1958
422 Air Base Group, 12 May 2005

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Korean Service

Campaign Streamers

World War II
New Guinea
Leyte
Luzon

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a disc Azure, a 13th Century knight armed with a lance all Proper, plumed Gules, bearing a shield quartered Or and of the last, mounted on a steed charging in mid-gallop Sable, saddled of the like and reined of the second, all within a narrow border Yellow. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "PATRONUS VALLO AMICUS" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "422D SECURITY FORCES SQ" in Yellow letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The knight and steed represent the unit's determined and steadfast security posture, charging forward to protect the defenseless. The scarlet plume, reins and quadrants of the shield

symbolize the blood of all police officers who have fallen in the line of duty. The shield represents the unit's strong defensive posture. (Approved, 30 Dec 2005)

MOTTO

PATRONUS VALLO AMICUS--Protector, Defender, Friend

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

RAF Croughton is at the forefront of innovation, helping create the most effective defenders in the Air Force. The 422nd Security Forces Squadron has been selected to undergo a six-month trial in a complete revitalization of the squadron. "Security forces senior leaders recognized the need to overhaul security forces squadrons," said Senior Master Sgt. Nicholas Whitney, 422nd SFS Defense Force Sustainment Flight superintendent. "We needed to capitalize on utilization of our resources and support operational function. Basically, aligning the forces for optimal performance."

Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. David L. Goldfein commissioned this idea under the Year of the Defender initiative to focus on training readiness, modernizing the force enterprise-wide and improving quality of life with eight-hour shifts. Squadron of the Future began at RAF Croughton Sept. 1, concentrating on providing defenders with more training opportunities, protected time off, and reorganizing the unit structure into a leaner, more efficient system.

"The biggest takeaway for me is the decentralized command relationship for the master sergeants, ... the (noncommissioned officer) tier and down," said Capt. Alexander Parsons, 422nd SFS operations officer. "It is really empowering those in junior-leadership levels to make decisions at the tactical level. Whereas in a traditional chain-of-command hierarchy, the decisions are elevated and made at a higher level. That is not the focus here. I want my Airmen and my NCOs to be empowered to make those decisions even at the lowest level possible. That frees up the senior leadership within the squadron to focus more on the strategic, operational and longer-term objectives."

For 18 years, Air Force security forces squadrons followed the U.S. Army doctrine of separating the squadron into sections, S1 through S5: Commander Support Staff (S1), Intelligence Flight (S2), Operations and Training Flight (S3), Logistics and Resources Flight (S4), and Installation Security, Plans and Programs (S5). The new test program has removed these classifications and restructured the squadron to be more effective with streamlined communication transitioning to a three-system operations flight, a sustainment flight and command support staff.

With the implementation of Squadron of the Future, the biggest quality-of-life improvement is that off-duty time is secured. "We started this back in September and we have not once brought anyone in from protected time off," Whitney said. "When the flight is on their protected time off, no one in the unit is allowed to bring someone in unless the commander approves it. It is equivalent to crew rest." Defenders at RAF Croughton also increased their monthly training days from four to six. Likewise, trainers work alongside defenders to assist in training needs.

"Previously when we had to go to training, people generally drag their feet," said Tech. Sgt. Corey Southard, 422nd SFS noncommissioned officer in charge of training. "Now you have a trainer embedded amongst your flight. People are more receptive to it. They have someone with

them who's their trainer. It's twofold – the quicker they train you, the quicker you get out or go off to bigger and better things.” The Squadron of the Future concept is being tested at 14 different security forces squadrons across the Air Force, at least one in each major command. Monthly conference calls with senior leaders bring Airmen together to talk about the progress and give feedback.

“Our senior leaders at the headquarters level are really taking care of the defenders out on the ground,” Whitney said. “In 18 years, this is a whole new change, but it's a change for the right reasons. It is making us a more lethal career field by giving us more time to do training. That's a lot of time not only to take care of our annual training plan requirements, but it also allows us to focus on the things that may be specific to RAF Croughton. It's making us more lethal defenders, because you never know when the next threat's going to come.” RAF Croughton is the only test base in U.S. Air Forces in Europe – Air Forces Africa. 2020

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE UNIT HISTORIES

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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.