

821 EXPEDITIONARY TRAINING SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

821 Expeditionary Training Squadron

STATIONS

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a disc Azure, in chief above seven pillars of stone chevronwise reversed Proper, an open book of knowledge Argent, detailed Sable, bookmarked at the seam Brun, surmounted by a quill pen of the third, highlighted of the second, overall a falcon expanded affronté Proper; all within a narrow Yellow border. Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "BUILDING THE FOUNDATION" in Yellow letters. Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "821ST EXPEDITIONARY TRNG 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 book and quill refer to the Iraqi Air Force's efforts to write a new chapter in their history. The falcon symbolizes strength and nobility and the honorable endeavor of the USAF advisors that will not rest until the mission is complete. The stones represent the foundation of an enduring Iraqi Air Force which the unit is striving to build.

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

821st Expeditionary Training Squadron

Learning the Nuts and Bolts: Airmen with the 821st Expeditionary Training Squadron, a component of the Coalition Air Force Training Team, have begun training members of the fledgling Iraqi Air Force in rudimentary aircraft maintenance at the Iraqi Air Force Training School on the grounds of Taji Air Base. Already an entry-level basic aircraft maintenance course has been designed to cover topics like general aviation, flightline safety, and fundamental aircraft/helicopter system knowledge. The airmen are also teaching, for the first time, an aircraft structural maintenance course, an offshoot of the BAM, to a class of two Iraqi airmen. "This is a work in progress," said MSgt. Joel Little, the lead instructor, of the structures training. He continued, "The most important thing is determining what our Iraqi counterparts need from us so we can tailor the course to their needs." In Air Force technical training schools, aircraft structures training lasts about four months. In contrast, the IqAF course has been scaled down to 26 academic days, based on feedback from senior IqAF officials. Eventually Little, a native of Charlotte, N.C., and his staff will be able to train a cadre of Iraqi instructors to take over teaching the course.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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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.