

168 SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

168 Security Forces Squadron

STATIONS

Eielson AFB, AK

ASSIGNMENTS

168 Mission Support Group

COMMANDERS

LTC Jeff Elliot, #2011

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a disc per bend sinister Azure and Or, a griffin rampant Smoke holding in the dexter paw a battle axe bend sinister wise of the last and the sinister paw on top of a world globe divided bend sinister wise Argent and Sable, a lightning bolt Gules projecting from the griffin's mouth

to dexter, all within a narrow border Gray. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Gray border and inscribed "VIGILIA VIRTUS VIRESIUM" in Gray letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Gray border and inscribed "168TH SECURITY FORCES SQUADRON" in Gray letters. 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 mythical griffin represents the unit's strength, bravery, vigilance and courage. The globe pertains to the unit's mission of global engagement. The lightning bolt pertains to the projection of military force.

MOTTO

VIGILIA VIRTUS VIRESIUM

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

More than 30 Guardsmen from the Alaska Air National Guard's 168th Air Refueling Wing, based out of Eielson Air Force Base, provided security near Baghdad International Airport from October to December. The Guard members from the 168th SFS joined with 25 other security forces squadrons to provide security, law and order and ensure a successful transition during the U.S. military drawdown, according to LTC Jeff Elliot, 168th SFS commander who also assumed command of the 447th Expeditionary SFS upon deployment to Iraq. "This is no small feat, given the scope and scale of all the things that must be done to make the transfer of ownership not just successful, but safe," Elliot said. "And these defenders have risen to the challenge by going above and beyond what has been asked of them." While deployed, members from the 168th SFS also participated in a monthly "Good Neighbor Program," which takes donated food and clothing from the air base and distributes them to local Iraqi children and families. "They put their lives on the line every day," Elliot said. "We are safe and sleep well because these defenders are willing to give of themselves to protect other. 2011

USAF 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.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.

Unit yearbook. *Alaska Air National Guard, The 40th Anniversary, 40 Years and Still Going Strong, 1952-1992.*