

820 BASE DEFENSE GROUP



MISSION

LINEAGE

82 Combat Security Police Wing established and activated, 5 Mar 1968

Organized, 8 Mar 1968

Inactivated, 31 Dec 1969

Disestablished, 15 Jun 1983

Reestablished and redesignated 820 Security Forces Group and activated, 17 Mar 1997

Redesignated 820 Base Defense Group, 30 Sep 2010

STATIONS

Fairchild AFB, WA, 8 Mar 1968

Ft Campbell, KY, 15 Aug 1968-31 Dec 1969

Lackland AFB, TX, 17 Mar 1997

Moody AFB, GA, 14 Mar 2001

ASSIGNMENTS

Tactical Air Command, 8 Mar 1968

Ninth Air Force, 15 Aug-31 Dec 1969

Air Force Security Forces Center, 17 Mar 1997

Ninth Air Force, 14 Mar 2001

347 Rescue Wing, 18 Aug 2006

23 Wing, 1 Oct 2006

93 Air Ground Operations Wing, 25 Jan 2008

COMMANDERS

LTC Larry Buckingham

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award with Combat "V" Device
1 Jun 2002-31 May 2003

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

8 Mar-31 Aug 1968

17 Mar 1997-30 Sep 1998

1 Oct 1998-30 Sep 2000

1 Jun 2004-31 May 2006

25 Jan 2008-31 May 2009

EMBLEM



82 Combat Security Police Wing emblem

820 Base Defense Group emblem: On a shield per bend Celeste and Azure, a disc countercharged charged with two crossed runways of the last, overall a falcon volant fesswise Argent, eye and wing tips Silver Gray, talons and claws Or, detailed Gold Brown, all within a diminished bordure of the fifth. Attached below the shield, a White scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed "820TH BASE DEFENSE GROUP" in Blue 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 crossed runways denote air base operations. The falcon symbolizes courage, fierce determination, tenacity and swiftness, characteristics displayed by unit personnel. The combination of the falcon superimposed on the globe and the crossed runways symbolize the

Group's worldwide deployment capabilities and mission. (Approved, 20 Oct 1969)

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The 820th Security Forces Group (SFG), commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Larry Buckingham, was activated on 17 March 1997 at Lackland AFB, TX. The 820th was specifically designed to deploy to a location with the initial deployment of forces, set up defenses, turn the mission over to follow-on forces within 90 days, and redeploy to home base to wait for their next tasking. To provide this capability the 820th could draw on seven 48-person security flights from seven different commands based at Westover ARB, MA (AFRC), McGuire AFB, NJ (AMC), Eglin AFB, FL (AFMC), Lackland AFB, TX (AETC), El Paso ANGB, TX, Davis Monthan AFB, AZ (ACC), and Vandenberg AFB, CA (AFSPC). The group was designed to be multifunctional, therefore only half of its 68 headquarters manpower authorizations were Security Forces; the remainder came from fields such as Office of Special Investigation, intelligence, communications, logistics, transportation, and explosive ordnance disposal. The 820th moved to Moody AFB, GA, in 2000 and stood up three permanent squadrons, the 822nd, 823rd, and 824th Security Forces Squadrons. Within the group are the 820th Combat Operations Squadron, and the 822nd, 823rd and 824th Base Defense Squadrons.

The 820th Security Forces Group at Moody AFB, Ga., has been renamed the 820th Base Defense Group to better represent the unit's mission: high-risk force protection and integrated base defense for expeditionary air forces. "This unit is special because it's the only one in the Air Force designed and equipped to complete these missions," said Col. John Horner, commander of Moody's 93rd Air Ground Operations Wing, the group's parent organization. Chief of Staff Gen. Norton Schwartz directed the name change to take effect on Oct. 1. The group is composed not only of security forces, but also 11 other USAF specialty codes. "Each specialist is trained to not only operate the equipment that deals with their job, but are fully trained in combat if the need arises," said Col. Randall Richert, 820th BDG commander. Tuesday October 12, 2010

Three decades after security police first donned berets, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. Ronald R. Fogleman approved July 10 a uniform cloth flash for Air Force security forces headgear. The emblem of a falcon swooping down on its prey replaces individual major command metal crests now worn by security police on the current dark blue berets adopted in the mid-1970s. New flashes should be issued by November.

Light-blue security police berets were authorized in 1966 for Operation Safe Side combat security police assigned to the 1041st Security Police Squadron (Test) in Vietnam. Affixed was the unit's emblem, a falcon. This unit evolved into the 82nd Combat Security Police Wing in 1968, assigned to Fairchild Air Force Base, Washington and later Fort Campbell, Ky. The wing was assigned a worldwide deployment mission to provide base defense for Air Force contingencies. Wing members also wore the light-blue beret with a cloth flash. The wing emblem consisted of a falcon

above runways superimposed on a globe that represented the wing mission. The unit was inactivated in December 1968.

In March 1997, the 82 CSPW was reactivated and redesignated the 820th Security Forces Group. It provides world wide first-in protection for Air Force contingencies. The 820 SFG also adopted the heraldry of the 82nd CSPW.

Safe Side Base security requirements emphasized by the Tet attacks in February resulted in the activation of the 82d Combat Security Police Wing and the 821st Combat Security Police Squadron. Following procedures already established in 1966 and 1967 by the Safe Side test unit (the 1041st Security Police Squadron), the 821st deployed TOY to Phan Rang Air Base in April after training at Schofield Barracks. Since personnel spaces could not be made available for a PCS move, the newly-trained 822 CSPA replaced the 821 CSPA when that unit's 179-day TOY tour expired. At the end of the year, efforts were still being made to acquire PCS personnel spaces for the unit. 1968

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.