56 OPERATIONS SUPPORT SQUADRON

MISSION

The 56 Operations Support Squadron is responsible for providing support to the 56 Fighter Wing training mission. Functions within the OSS include airfield management, air traffic control, intelligence, flight records, current operations, training, life support, weapons and tactics, plans and mobility, and weather. The 56 OSS provides airfield management services, air traffic control, weather forecasting and warning services, weapons and tactics expertise, aircrew training management, aircrew life support training, intelligence support, operations scheduling, and flight records management for a 10-squadron fighter operations group. Additionally, the OSS operates an intelligence formal training unit for the entire F-16 intelligence community and manages an annual flying hour program of over 50,000 hours and 38,000 sorties.

LINEAGE

56 Airdrome Squadron constituted, 25 Jan 1943
Activated, 1 Feb 1943
Redesignated 56 Airdrome Squadron (Special), 16 Apr 1943
Disbanded, 1 Apr 1944
Reconstituted and redesignated 56 Operations Support Squadron, 28 Oct 1991
Activated, 1 Nov 1991
Inactivated, 4 Jan 1994
Activated, 1 Apr 1994

STATIONS

Grand Island AAF, NE, 1 Feb 1943
Pocatello AAF, ID, 25 Mar 1943

Camp Williams, WI, 3 Apr 1943
Grand Island AAF, NE, 2 May 1943-1 Apr 1944
MacDill AAF, FL, 1 Nov 1991-4 Jan 1994
Luke AFB, AZ, 1 Apr 1994

ASSIGNMENTS
Second Air Force, 1 Feb 1943-1 Apr 1944
56 Operations Group, 1 Nov 1991-20 Jul 1993
56 Operations Group, 1 Apr 1994

COMMANDERS
Lt Col Richard M. Sayers, Jr. 1 Nov 1991-Aug 1993
Lt Col William T. Edwards Aug 1993-4 Jan 1994
Lt Col Thomas K. Mascot 1 Apr 1994
Lt Col Robert M. Parker 4 Aug 1994
Lt Col Bennett M. Bitler 29 Aug 1996
Lt Col Khristian D. Skinner 1 Jul 1998
Lt Col Charles W. Johnson 5 Apr 2000
Lt Col David L. Orr 10 Jul 2001
Lt Col Jeffrey M. Arkell 13 Jun 2002
Lt Col Brian M. Schaaf 15 Jan 2004
Lt Col David J. Julazadeh 13 May 2005
Lt Col Matthew B. Willis 25 Apr 2008
Lt Col William Jones 2 Mar 2009
Lt Col John W. Bosone 6 May 2011
Lt. Col. Jason T. Hokaj

HONORS
Service Streamers
World War II American Theater

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations
Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998
1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 2000
1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003
1 Jun [Jul] 2003-30 Jun 2005
1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2006
1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007

1 Jul 2007-30 Jun 2008
1 Jul 2008-30 Jun 2009
1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2010
1 Jul 2010-30 Jun 2011

EMBLEM

56 Operations Support Squadron emblem   56 Operations Support Squadron emblem

56 Operations Support Squadron emblem: On a disc Azure, a starburst of nine points in nombril sinister rotated to dexter Or, surmounted by an eagle volant issuing from sinister chief Yellow, head feathers Argent, eyed Sable, legged Gold Brown, armed and langued Gules. Issuing from dexter base, a wizard in natural colors habited of the sixth and extending his dexter hand toward the eagle, all within a narrow border Scarlet. Attached above the disc, a White scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed "56 OPERATIONS SPT SQ" in Red letters. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Red border and inscribed with "WIZARDS" in Red 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 golden radiance joining the wizard and the eagle is indicative of the myriad missions the unit performs and is a shining example for others to follow. The eagle's outstretched wing signifies the unit's far-reaching impact. The wizard embodies the wisdom and skill of Air Force leadership. (Approved, 2 October 2001)

MOTTO
WIZARDS

OPERATIONS