## **26 Special Tactics Squadron**

# 26 Special Tactics Squadron: The Silent Professionals of Air Force Special Operations

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Abstract: The 26th Special Tactics Squadron (26 STS) represents a vital element within Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC). This article delves deep into the history, mission, capabilities, and significance of the 26 STS, examining its unique role within the broader context of global special operations. We explore the diverse skill sets of its personnel, including Combat Controllers, Pararescuemen, and Special Reconnaissance operators, and analyze its crucial contributions to numerous high-profile operations.

### The Legacy of the 26th Special Tactics Squadron

The 26th Special Tactics Squadron stands as a testament to the enduring legacy of Air Force Special Operations. Formed [Insert Date of Formation], the 26 STS has consistently pushed the boundaries of airpower integration in complex, high-risk environments. Its history is interwoven with the narratives of numerous pivotal conflicts and operations, demonstrating its adaptability and effectiveness in diverse theaters of operation. The squadron's operational history is marked by bravery, innovation, and a commitment to unwavering excellence in the face of adversity. Understanding the 26 STS necessitates exploring its origins and evolution, which often involved adapting to changing threats and technological advancements.

#### The Diverse Skill Sets of the 26 STS

Unlike many conventional military units, the 26 Special Tactics Squadron boasts a unique blend of highly specialized personnel. Its operators are not simply soldiers; they are highly trained experts in their respective fields, representing the pinnacle of Air Force special operations capabilities. Key personnel within the 26 STS include:

Combat Controllers (CCTs): The backbone of the 26 STS, CCTs are responsible for establishing and maintaining airfields in hostile territories. Their expertise in air traffic control, navigation, and close air support coordination enables rapid deployment and close integration with ground forces. This allows for effective close air support, delivering precision strikes and vital support to special operations teams.

Pararescuemen (PJs): These highly trained medical professionals provide critical combat medical support, often in extremely dangerous environments. PJs are masters of advanced medical techniques, capable of performing life-saving procedures under extreme duress. Their skills extend beyond medical care, encompassing advanced rescue techniques, including high-altitude, low-opening (HALO) jumps and water rescues.

Special Reconnaissance (SR): SR operators within the 26 STS excel in clandestine operations, gathering vital intelligence and conducting reconnaissance missions in hostile territories. Their expertise in stealth, surveillance, and intelligence gathering allows them to provide crucial information that shapes tactical decisions. This often entails working independently or with small teams in austere and perilous environments.

The synergy between these distinct but complementary skillsets is a defining characteristic of the 26 STS, enabling them to undertake exceptionally complex and demanding missions.

## The 26 Special Tactics Squadron in Modern Warfare

The 26th Special Tactics Squadron's contributions extend beyond the historical record, playing a critical role in contemporary conflicts. [Insert Specific examples of recent deployments and missions, ensuring appropriate classification levels are observed. This section should highlight the squadron's adaptability and effectiveness in modern warfare, showcasing specific instances where their unique capabilities proved decisive. Examples could include counterterrorism operations, humanitarian aid missions, and support for allied forces]. The 26 STS's involvement in these operations underscores its enduring relevance in the evolving landscape of global security.

## The Importance of the 26 Special Tactics Squadron

The 26 Special Tactics Squadron represents a critical component of the broader Air Force Special Operations Command and the US military's overall special operations capabilities. Its unique blend of skills and its proven effectiveness in diverse and demanding environments make it an invaluable asset. The contributions of the 26 STS are not only strategically significant but also vital for national

security and the success of numerous operations around the world. The squadron's unwavering commitment to excellence and its ability to adapt to changing threats solidify its place as a critical force multiplier for US special operations.

#### **Conclusion**

The 26th Special Tactics Squadron, with its blend of Combat Controllers, Pararescuemen, and Special Reconnaissance operators, is a vital component of Air Force Special Operations Command. Its history is one of courage, innovation, and unwavering dedication to mission accomplishment, consistently proving its worth in various theatres of operation. The 26 STS embodies the very essence of special operations – adaptability, precision, and a relentless commitment to achieving seemingly impossible objectives. Its continued evolution and contributions will undoubtedly shape the future of airpower integration within special operations for years to come.

#### **FAQs**

- 1. What is the primary mission of the 26th Special Tactics Squadron? The primary mission is to provide airpower integration, combat search and rescue, and special reconnaissance capabilities to joint special operations forces.
- 2. What types of aircraft does the 26 STS typically work with? The 26 STS works with a wide range of aircraft, including fixed-wing aircraft, helicopters, and tiltrotor aircraft, depending on the mission requirements.
- 3. What kind of training do 26 STS personnel undergo? Training is rigorous and extensive, involving specialized instruction in air traffic control, pararescue techniques, combat diving, survival training, and advanced weapons systems.
- 4. Where is the 26th Special Tactics Squadron based? [Insert Location]
- 5. What are the unit's awards and decorations? The 26 STS has received numerous awards and decorations for valor and exceptional service, including [List some examples if available].
- 6. What is the selection process for joining the 26 STS? The selection process is highly competitive and demanding, requiring exceptional physical fitness, mental toughness, and specialized skills.
- 7. What is the size of the 26th Special Tactics Squadron? The exact size is classified information, but it's a sizable unit comprised of several different specialties.
- 8. How does the 26 STS contribute to broader national security objectives? The unit's actions contribute directly to counterterrorism efforts, humanitarian aid, and the overall projection of American power globally.
- 9. What are some of the challenges faced by the 26 STS? Challenges include operating in high-risk environments, maintaining technological superiority, and adapting to evolving threats and operational requirements.

#### Related Articles:

- 1. The History of Air Force Special Tactics: A comprehensive overview of the evolution of Air Force Special Tactics from its inception to the present day.
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- 8. The Psychological Demands of Special Tactics Operations: An in-depth look at the mental and emotional challenges faced by Special Tactics personnel.
- 9. Case Study: [Insert name of a specific operation where the 26 STS played a significant role]: A detailed analysis of a specific mission showcasing the 26 STS's contributions and operational effectiveness.

**26 special tactics squadron:** *Brothers in Berets* Forrest L. Marion, 2018 The Air Force Special Operations Command (AFSOC) special tactics community is a small, tight-knit brotherhood of proficient and committed warriors, consisting of special tactics officers and combat controllers, combat rescue officers and pararescuemen, and officer and enlisted special operations weathermen. These warriors have consistently proven themselves to be an invaluable force multiplier throughout history in conflicts around the world. This is their story.--Provided by publisher.

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26 special tactics squadron: Apollo's Warriors Michael E. Haas, 1998-05 Presenting a fascinating insider's view of U.S.A.F. special operations, this volume brings to life the critical contributions these forces have made to the exercise of air & space power. Focusing in particular on the period between the Korean War & the Indochina wars of 1950-1979, the accounts of numerous missions are profusely illustrated with photos & maps. Includes a discussion of AF operations in Europe during WWII, as well as profiles of Air Commandos who performed above & beyond the call of duty. Reflects on the need for financial & political support for restoration of the forces. Bibliography. Extensive photos & maps. Charts & tables.

**26 special tactics squadron: U.S. Air Force Special Tactics** Combat Control School Heritage Foundation, 2022-11-08 The CCT - The Eye of the Storm-series chronicles the exploits of Air Force Special Warfare, Combat Control Teams (CCT). It is told in the form of short stories; many etched by a cocktail of blood, sweat and tears. The Combat Control story began in the de facto Volume I with the appearance of the first CCTs; i.e., command and control teams cobbled together by the WWII U.S. Army Air Force (USAAF) for Operation Varsity. The CCT story continued in Volume II, detailing the 21st Century fight in the Global War on Terrorism (GWOT). Included are two

humanitarian missions; operations of epic proportion in Haiti and Japan. In this third volume subtitled - Medal of Honor (MOH) - the CCT story is expanded, incorporating the two previously self-published volumes and adding hundreds of new stories from around the globe. But, with a concentration on operations in southwest Asia; including Afghanistan; now America's longest war. This volume is an all-inclusive compilation presented as a single, premium publication. The diversity of feature stories, subjects and styles present a well-rounded, unbiased look at the CCT's view at "the eye of the storm." Each published PA reporter and volunteer contributor has a by-line in the book. Thanks to all for their remarkable journalistic work. The book is expected to engage a wider-ranging audience of American and allied military elements, families, historians and enthusiasts. More importantly, Medal of Honor celebrates the first-ever award of the Air Force Medal of Honor to a Combat Control patriot and hero. On April 20, 2018 after more than fifteen years technical review and Air Staff deliberation the Medal of Honor for TSgt John Chapman was approved by President Donald Trump. The MOH award ceremonies and associated events are covered in detail near the end of this book. In preparing CCT - The Eye of the Storm - Medal of Honor, the goal was to collect stories from hundreds of sources, written by an even larger band of vetted professionals selected to observe, record and report truths about military units in action. In my mind the U.S. Government Public Affairs Offices were the perfect choice. For that reason, you will find hundreds of PA-generated stories used herein. Through our collective efforts we have published a fair and accurate chronical of USAF Combat Control Team's stories; exploiting the public domain and declassified accounts. This is a documentary of Air Force Combat Control Teams operating at The Eye of the Storm. Subtitled Medal of Honor; it is the most in-depth CCT history ever published.

**26 special tactics squadron:** <u>Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies</u> <u>Appropriations for 2016</u> United States. Congress. House. Committee on Appropriations. Subcommittee on Military Construction, Veterans Affairs, and Related Agencies, 2015

26 special tactics squadron: The Praetorian STARShip: the untold story of the Combat Talon, 2001 Jerry Thigpen's study on the history of the Combat Talon is the first effort to tell the story of this wonderfully capable machine. This weapons system has performed virtually every imaginable tactical event in the spectrum of conflict and by any measure is the most versatile C-130 derivative ever produced. First modified and sent to Southeast Asia (SEA) in 1966 to replace theater unconventional warfare (UW) assets that were limited in both lift capability and speed the Talon I quickly adapted to theater UW tasking including infiltration and resupply and psychological warfare operations into North Vietnam. After spending four years in SEA and maturing into a highly respected UW weapons system the Joint Chief of Staff (JCS) chose the Combat Talon to lead the night low-level raid on the North Vietnamese prison camp at Son Tay. Despite the outcome of the operation the Talon I cemented its reputation as the weapons system of choice for long-range clandestine operations. In the period following the Vietnam War United States Air Force (USAF) special operations gradually lost its political and financial support which was graphically demonstrated in the failed Desert One mission into Iran. Thanks to congressional supporters like Earl Hutto of Florida and Dan Daniel of Virginia funds for aircraft upgrades and military construction projects materialized to meet the ever-increasing threat to our nation. Under the leadership of such committed hard-driven officers as Brenci Uttaro Ferkes Meller and Thigpen the crew force became the most disciplined in our Air Force. It was capable of penetrating hostile airspace at night in a low-level mountainous environment covertly to execute any number of unconventional warfare missions.

**26 special tactics squadron:** Special Operations Forces in Iraq Leigh Neville, 2011-03-15 The companion volume to Elite 163: Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan, Leigh Neville now turns his expert analysis to the Special Operations Forces (SOF) of the US and Coalition allies serving in Iraq since 2003. Filled with recently declassified material, first hand accounts, and unique photographs, this book offers a rare look at the largest mobilisation of Special Forces in recent history. Examining in detail the US Delta Force, the British SAS, Australian and Canadian Special

Forces as well as CIA and MI6 operational units, this book provides a crucial study of their skills and success in Iraq, from the Battle of Debecka to storming the safe house of Uday Hussein. In a controversial war that has been plagued by high fatalities and military blunders, this book highlights the successes enjoyed by Special Forces Operatives.

26 special tactics squadron: The Icarus Syndrome Carl H. Builder, 2017-07-12 At the end of the Reagan era, many in the U.S. Air Force began to express their concerns about the health of their institution. They questioned whether the Air Force had lost its sense of direction, its confidence, its values, even its future. For some, these concerns reflected nothing more than the maturation of the most youthful of America's military institutions. For others it was a crisis of spirit that threatened the hard-won independence of the Air Force. Although the diagnoses for this malaise are as numerous as its symptoms, The Icarus Syndrome points a finger at the abandonment of air power theory sometime in the late 1950s to early 1960s as the single, taproot cause of the problems. That provocative diagnosis is followed by an equally provocative prescription the Air Force must follow to regain its institutional health. Author Carl H. Builder begins with an overview of this crisis of values within the Air Force, along with a litany of concerns about what seems to have gone wrong within that institution. The history of the U.S. Air Force, along with the role played in it by air power theory, is explored and is used to support Builder's thesis. The remainder of the book is an analysis of what went wrong and when, how these wrongs might be corrected, and the challenges for Air Force leadership in the future. Now available in paperback, The Icarus Syndrome will be of great interest to U.S. Air Force professionals, military and aviation historians, and institutional psychologists.

26 special tactics squadron: Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan Leigh Neville, 2011-05-03 Intelligence specialist Leigh Neville identifies, describes and illustrates the Special Operations Forces (SOF) of the British, American and other Coalition forces committed to the 'War on Terror' in Afghanistan since 2001, providing a fascinating insight into specific operations detailing weapons, equipment and experiences in combat. With a surprising amount of recently declassified material from government departments that are yet to be published in the mass media, this is a ground-breaking analysis of the largest mobilization of Special Forces in recent history. With extensive first-hand accounts providing an eyewitness perspective of the fighting on the ground and including information on the British SAS, the US Delta Force, Australian and Canadian special forces as well as MI6 and CIA operational units, this book provides a crucial study of their skills and successes amidst the Afghan mountains.

26 special tactics squadron: Combat Squadrons of the Air Force; World War II. United States. USAF Historical Division, 1969 This collection of squadron histories has been prepared by the USAF Historical Division to complement the Division's book, Air Force Combat Units of World War II. The 1,226 units covered by this volume are the combat (tactical) squadrons that were active between 7 December 1941 and 2 September 1945. Each squadron is traced from its beginning through 5 March 1963, the fiftieth anniversary of the organization of the 1st Aero (later Bombardment) Squadron, the first Army unit to be equipped with aircraft for tactical operations. For each squadron there is a statement of the official lineage and data on the unit's assignments, stations, aircraft and missiles, operations, service streamers, campaign participation, decorations, and emblem.

**26 special tactics squadron:** *No Room for Error* John T. Carney, Benjamin F. Schemmer, 2002 Part memoir and part history. No Room For Error is all action and adventure as it describes the creation and harrowing missions performed by the US Air Forces Special Tactics Units as told by its first commanding officer.

**26 special tactics squadron: Air Force Combat Units of World War II** Maurer Maurer, 1961

**26 special tactics squadron: The Elite** Leigh Neville, 2019-11-28 Using rare and previously unpublished images from around the world, The Elite: The A-Z of Modern Special Operations Forces is the ultimate guide to the secretive world of modern special operations forces. It sends the reader back in time to operations such as Eagle Claw in Iran and the recapture of the Iranian Embassy in

London and then forward to recent operations against al-Shabaab and Islamic State. Entries also detail units ranging from the New Zealand SAS Group to the Polish GROM, and key individuals from Iraq counter-terrorism strategist General Stanley McChrystal to Victoria Cross recipient SASR Corporal Mark Donaldson. Answering questions such as how much the latest four-tube night vision goggles worn by the SEALs in Zero Dark Thirty cost, which pistol is most widely employed by special operators around the world and why, and if SOF still use HALO jumps, this book is the definitive single-source guide to the world's elite special forces.

**26 special tactics squadron:** Cct-The Eye of the Storm Gene Adcock, 2012-10-31 Almost as soon as the second hijacked 767 struck the south tower of the world trade center, Air Force Combat Controllers began to report to their bases and pack their gear. Spread around the world in special tactics squadrons, these airmen would provide the lightly armed U.S. Army Special Forces teams with a number of capabilities that would turn them into world-class killing machines. John D. Gresham Author, Air Force Combat Controllers at War Afghanistan 2001 These single Americans had the power to conjure lightning bolts out of the sky...... ....what happened in Afghanistan is one of the most extraordinary stories in military history. Mark Bowden Author, Blackhawk Down Somalia, 1999 Individually, they are specially selected, specially trained, and, in support of special operations, almost daily bring American airpower to bear on our nations enemies. Indeed, they are very remarkable warriors, and this book will help many understand why so many of us hold our Combat Controllers in such incredibly high regard. Dr. James G. Roche Secretary of the United States Air Force 2001 - 2005 if you asked what tool of the trade would be the very last they would leave behind, you might be surprised at the answer. You would likely hear that it is not a tool that makes one nervous when it isnt there, but rather a capability that is not organic to a troop of Delta Operators or Navy SEALs Just because you are the best of the best does not mean you are the best at everything. Any Delta operator can vouch for the capabilities of the air force combat controllers, and very rarely goes on a hit without the men who wear the scarlet berets. Dalton Fury Delta Force Commander, Tora Bora, December 2001 Author, Kill Bin Laden - 2008

**26 special tactics squadron:** Army Techniques Publication Atp 3-21.8 Infantry Platoon and Squad April 2016 United States Government US Army, CREATESPACE INDEPENDENT PUB, 2016-05-23 This publication, Army Techniques Publication ATP 3-21.8 Infantry Platoon and Squad April 2016, provides the doctrinal framework for all Infantry platoons and squads. It provides techniques for employment of Infantry platoons and squads in conducting decisive actions. The principle audiences for ATP 3-21.8 are commanders, staffs, and leaders who are responsible for planning, preparing, executing, and assessing operations of the Infantry platoon and squad. It serves as an authoritative reference for personnel developing doctrine materiel and force structure, institutional and unit training, and standard operating procedures (SOPs) for Infantry platoon and squad operations. Army Techniques Publication (ATP) 3-21.8 encompasses techniques for the Infantry platoons and squads of the Infantry, Stryker, and Armored brigade combat teams (I, S, and ABCTs). It replaces Field Manual (FM) 3-21.8, published in March 2007, Army Tactics Techniques, and Procedures (ATTP) 3-21.71, published in November 2010, and ATTP 3-21.9, published in December 2010. ATP 3-21.8 provides doctrinal guidance; describes relationships within the platoon and squad; defines organizational roles and functions, capabilities, limitations; and lay outs the responsibilities for platoons and squads during unified land operations. The Infantry platoon and squad is an all-weather, all-terrain unit. Against this backdrop, the Infantry platoon and squad must be ready to adapt to various levels of conflict and peace in various environments. This requires bold, aggressive, resourceful, and adaptive leaders-leaders of character, competence and commitmentwho are willing to accept known risks to accomplish the mission. Infantry leaders must use their initiative and make rapid decisions to take advantage of unexpected opportunities. This publication addresses the significant changes in Army doctrinal terminology, concepts, and constructs and proven tactics, techniques, and procedures (TTPs): Chapter 1 - Organization Chapter 2 - Offense Chapter 3 - Defense Chapter 4 - Stability Chapter 5 - Movement Chapter 6 - Patrols and Patrolling Chapter 7 - Sustainment Appendix A describes the process of troop leading procedures (TLPs).

Appendix B describes direct fire planning and control. Appendix C describes indirect fire support planning. Appendix D addresses security. Appendix E describes vehicle employment considerations. Appendix F addresses machine gun employment. Appendix G describes and addresses shoulder-launched munitions (SLMs) and close combat missile systems (CCMS). Appendix H describes obstacle reduction and employment. Appendix I covers chemical, biological, radiological, and nuclear (CBRN) operations. Appendix J describes 14 selected battle drills for both the Bradley and Stryker. ATP 3-21.8 applies to the active Army, the U.S. Army National Guard, Army National Guard of the U.S., and the U.S. Army Reserve unless otherwise stated. It is designed for platoon, squad and company level chains of command, company grade officers, senior and junior noncommissioned officers (NCOs), U.S. Army Training and Doctrine Command (TRADOC) institutions and components, and the U.S. Army Special Operations Command.

26 special tactics squadron: Fly By Knights Roger D. Graham, 2022-08-16 By the time of the Vietnam War, the U.S. military had transitioned to jet aircraft. Yet leaders soon learned prop-driven planes could still play a role in counterinsurgency warfare. World War II-era Douglas B-26 light bombers proved effective in close air support and interdiction, beginning with Operation Farm Gate in 1961. Forty B-26s were remanufactured as improved A-26 attack aircraft, which destroyed hundreds of North Vietnamese supply vehicles on the Ho Chi Minh Trail in 1966-1969. The personal recollections of 37 pilots, navigators, maintenance and armament personnel, and family members, tell the harrowing story of B-26 and A-26 Air Commando Wing combat operations in Vietnam and Laos.

26 special tactics squadron: Not a Good Day to Die Sean Naylor, 2005-03-01 Award-winning combat journalist Sean Naylor reveals a firsthand account of the largest battle fought by American military forces in Afghanistan in an attempt to destroy al-Qaeda and Taliban forces. At dawn on March 2, 2002, America's first major battle of the 21st century began. Over 200 soldiers of the 101st Airborne and 10th Mountain Division flew into Afghanistan's Shah-i-Kot Valley—and into the mouth of a buzz saw. They were about to pay a bloody price for strategic, high-level miscalculations that underestimated the enemy's strength and willingness to fight. Naylor, an eyewitness to the battle, details the failures of military intelligence and planning, while vividly portraying the astonishing heroism of these young, untested US soldiers. Denied the extra support with which they trained, these troops nevertheless proved their worth in brutal combat and prevented an American military disaster.

**26 special tactics squadron:** Humanitarian Intervention Gordon W. Rudd, 2004 **26 special tactics squadron:** Building the Capacity of Partner States Through Security Force Assistance,

26 special tactics squadron: Special Warfare, 1989

26 special tactics squadron: Deadly Blue Fred PUSHIES, 2009-10-14 The story of any military operation revolves not just around strategies and equipment, but around people. Now for the first time, readers will get an intimate look at the people behind CAS—Close Air Support. Their work is both delicate and deadly, their actions rooted in months of planning and executed with split-second timing. Acting as a bridge between special ops ground troops and lethal air power, CAS demands a skill set unparalleled even among the most elite military forces. But just as important is the mindset, dedication, and daring of a very special brand of Airman. They include: • Advance teams that create airfields and landing strips—from nothing • The combat controllers that coordinated airstrikes and support during the hunt for Osama bin Laden in Tora Bora • Special tactics teams who work closely with Joint Special Operations Task Forces Military enthusiasts, history buffs, and readers inspired by stories of exceptional bravery and patriotism will all be drawn to the heroes of Deadly Blue, the Air Force Special Operations Command that orchestrates and executes these critical missions.

**26 special tactics squadron:** Humanitarian Intervention,

**26 special tactics squadron:** Weapon of Choice, 2003 The purpose of this book is to share Army special operations soldier stories with the general American public to show them what various elements accomplished during the war to drive the Taliban from power and to destroy al-Qaeda and

Taliban strongholds in Afghanistan as part of the global war on terrorism. The purpose of the book is not to resolve Army special operations doctrinal issues, to clarify or update military definitions, or to be the 'definitive' history of the continuing unconventional war in Afghanistan. The purpose is to demonstrate how the war to drive the Taliban from power, help the Afghan people, and assist the Afghan Interim Authority (AIA) rebuild the country afterward was successfully accomplished by majors, captains, warrant officers, and sergeants on tactical teams and aircrews at the lowest levels ... This historical project is not intended to be the definitive study of the war in Afghanistan. It is a 'snapshot' of the war from 11 September 2001 until the middle of May 2002--Page xv.

26 special tactics squadron: United States Special Operations Command History , 2007 26 special tactics squadron: U.S. Marines in Afghanistan, 2001-2002 Nathan S. Lowrey, 2011 U.S. Marines in the Global War on Terrorism. Includes a foreword by Charles P. Neimeyer. Describes how America became involved in the Global War on Terrorism, how the Marine Corps struggled to acquire a major role in Operation Enduring Freedom, as well as the actions of Marines and sailors who helped prosecute the air and ground campaigns against the Taliban and Al-Qaeda forces.

26 special tactics squadron: Commanding an Air Force Squadron Col Usaf Timmons, Timothy, Timothy T. Timmons, 2012-08-07 The privilege of commanding an Air Force squadron, despite its heavy responsibilities and unrelenting challenges, represents for many Air Force officers the high point of their careers. It is service as a squadron commander that accords true command authority for the first time. The authority, used consistently and wisely, provides a foundation for command. As with the officer's commission itself, command authority is granted to those who have earned it, both by performance and a revealed capacity for the demands of total responsibility. But once granted, it much be revalidated every day. So as one assumes squadron command, bringing years of experience and proven record to join with this new authority, one might still need a little practical help to success with the tasks of command. This book offers such help. "Commanding an Air Force Squadron" brings unique and welcome material to a subject other books have addressed. It is rich in practical, useful, down-to-earth advice from officers who have recently experienced squadron command. The author does not quote regulations, parrot doctrine, or paraphrase the abstractions that lace the pages of so many books about leadership. Nor does he puff throughout the manuscript about how he did it. Rather, he presents a digest of practical wisdom based on real-world experience drawn from the reflection of many former commanders from any different types of units. He addresses all Air Force squadron commanders, rated and nonrated, in all sorts of missions worldwide. Please also see a follow up to this book entitled "Commanding an Air Force Squadron in the Twenty-First Century (2003)" by Jeffry F. Smith, Lieutenant Colonel, USAF.

**26 special tactics squadron:** *U.S. Air Force Special Operations* Jeremy Roberts, 2004-05-01 Discusses the history of the Air Force special forces, as well as the organization's training program and what life is like in these specialized units.

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**26 special tactics squadron: All Roads Lead to Baghdad** Charles Harry Briscoe, 2006 By Charles H. Briscoe, et al. Tells the story of Iraqi Freedom, the second Army Special Operations (ASO) campaign in America's Global War on Terrorism. Shows how the ASO supported a US-led conventional air and ground offensive to collapse the regime of Saddam Hussein and capture Baghdad. Includes bibliographical references.

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**26 special tactics squadron: A-10s Over Kosovo** Phil M. Haun, Christopher E. Haave, Air University Press, 2011 First published in 2003. The NATO-led Operation Allied Force was fought in 1999 to stop Serb atrocities against ethnic Albanians in Kosovo. This war, as noted by the distinguished military historian John Keegan, marked a real turning point . . . and proved that a war can be won by airpower alone. Colonels Haave and Haun have organized firsthand accounts of some

of the people who provided that airpower-the members of the 40th Expeditionary Operations Group. Their descriptions-a new wingman's first combat sortie, a support officer's view of a fighter squadron relocation during combat, and a Sandy's leadership in finding and rescuing a downed F-117 pilot-provide the reader with a legitimate insight into an air war at the tactical level and the airpower that helped convince the Serbian president, Slobodan Milosevic, to capitulate.

**26 special tactics squadron:** The United States Air Force in Southeast Asia, 1961-1973 Carl Berger, 1977

26 special tactics squadron: Special Operations Patrol Vehicles Leigh Neville, 2011-09-20 The patrol vehicles used by Special Operations Forces in Afghanistan and Iraq vary quite dramatically between the theatres as well as amongst the Coalition members, and have been developed and upgraded to meet the demands of the deployment. Covering all the major Coalition nations, Leigh Neville continues his look at the elite forces deployed in Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, with this analysis of their vehicles. Tracing the evolution of the vehicle types, from their historical precedents, through their designs to their operational developments, he discusses their advantages and disadvantages, along with their tactical employment. From the mine-protected vehicles used to counter the IED threat in Iraq, the use of Strykers as armoured raiding platforms by the US Rangers, to the civilian vehicles adapted for military service by both Coalition troops and Private Military Contractors in the regions, this book uses rare in-theatre photographs and colour artwork to show the variety and inventiveness of the patrol vehicles being used in combat today.

26 special tactics squadron: Enduring the Freedom Sean M. Maloney, 2014-05-14 Within hours of the September 11 attacks, Sean M. Maloney deciphered that Osama bin Laden and al Qaeda were the aggressors behind the despicable act. A war in Afghanistan then was inevitable. As a military historian, Maloney was determined to go there to study and record the events for posterity, if for no other reason than the education of his future students at Canada's Royal Military College. What resulted is an in-depth and up-close look at the planning stages, deployment, and aftermath of Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan. In Enduring the Freedom, Maloney presents a rare on-the-spot view from such important locations as Kabul, Bagram, and Kandahar. He describes the American-led intervention in Afghanistan and the conduct of the war through early 2003, then discusses the events of 2003 from the three locales in detail. Some critics contend that the war in Afghanistan is another Vietnam. Maloney rebuts that appraisal, pointing out that as opposed to the vague language of the Vietnam era, American objectives were clearly stated for Afghanistan. Those objectives were: to destroy al Qaeda's networks, training camps, resources, and communication systems; to destroy any governmental entity providing support or sanctuary to al Qaeda; and to undertake reconstruction efforts to ensure international terrorists can never again use the country as a base. The first objective has more or less been achieved. How to accomplish the last two is still widely debated, and Maloney offers some insightful thoughts and opinions. Finally, he offers educated advice going forward in the hopeful completion of Operation Enduring Freedom.

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