

56th Security Forces Squadron

Lineage.

Designated Squadron "B," 56th Airdrome Group
on 28 July 1947.

Activated on 15 August 1947.

Discontinued on 1 August 1948.

Consolidated (12 October 1984) with the 56th Air
Police Squadron, Fighter, Jet, which was
constituted on 14 June 1948.

Activated on 1 August 1948.

Redesignated 56th Air Police Squadron on
20 January 1950.

Inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Activated on 15 February 1963.

Organized on 1 April 1963.

Discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 January 1964.¹

Redesignated 56th Security Police Squadron, and activated, on 16 March 1967.

Organized on 8 April 1967.²

Inactivated on 4 January 1994.³

Activated on 1 April 1994.⁴

Redesignated 56th Security Forces Squadron on 1 July 1997.⁵



Honors.

Campaign Streamers.

Vietnam

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II [1967-1968]

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III [1968]⁶

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV [1968-1969]

Tet 1969 Counteroffensive [1969]

Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 [1969]

¹ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963 and SAC SO G-82, 25 September 1963

² PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

³ ACC SO GB-18, 30 December 1993

⁴ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

⁵ AETC SO G-97-28, 17 June 1997

⁶ PACAF SO G-184, 30 July 1969

Honors. (Continued)

Campaign Streamers. (Continued)

Vietnam (Continued)

Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 [1969-1970]⁷
Sanctuary Counteroffensive [1970]
Southwest Monsoon [1970]⁸
Commando Hunt V [1970-1971]⁹
Commando Hunt VI [1971]¹⁰
Commando Hunt VII [1971-1972]¹¹
Vietnam Cease Fire [1972-1973]¹²

Decorations.

Presidential Unit Citations

Southeast Asia 1 November 1968-1 May 1969¹³
Southeast Asia 1 October 1969-30 April 1970¹⁴
Southeast Asia 1 April 1972-22 February 1973.

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 June 1970-31 May 1971 with Combat "V" Device¹⁵
1 December 1971-29 February 1972 with Combat "V" Device¹⁶
23 February 1973-28 February 1974 with Combat "V" Device¹⁷
24 January 1975-2 May 1975 with Combat "V" Device¹⁸
1 January 1977-1 January 1979¹⁹
1 July 1980-31 May 1982²⁰

⁷ PACAF SO G-352, 14 June 1971

⁸ PACAF SO GB-0019, 31 January 1974

⁹ PACAF SO GB-0022, 31 January 1974

¹⁰ PACAF SO GB-0025, 31 January 1974

¹¹ PACAF SO GB-0027, 31 January 1974

¹² PACAF SO GB-0187, 15 July 1974

¹³ DAF SO GB-552/1970

¹⁴ DAF SO GB-352, 14 June 1971

¹⁵ DAF SO GB-703, 9 November 1971

¹⁶ DAF SO GB-553, 31 July 1973

¹⁷ DAF SO GB-600, 17 July 1975

¹⁸ DAF SO GB-623, 10 August 1976

¹⁹ DAF SO GB-719, 30 November 1979

²⁰ DAF SO GB-117, 22 February 1983

Decorations. (Continued)

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)

1 June 1984-31 May 1986²¹
1 May 1987-30 April 1989²²
1 May 1989-30 April 1990²³
1 May 1990-30 April 1991²⁴
1 July 1994-30 June 1996²⁵
1 July 1996-30 June 1998²⁶
1 July 1998-30 June 2000²⁷
1 July 2001-30 June 2003²⁸
[1 July] 2003-30 June 2005²⁹
1 July 2005-30 June 2006³⁰
1 July 2006-30 June 2007³¹
1 July 2007-30 June 2008³²
1 July 2008-30 June 2009³³
1 July 2009-30 June 2010³⁴
1 July 2010-30 June 2011³⁵
1 July 2011-30 June 2012³⁶
1 July 2012-30 June 2013³⁷

²¹ DAF SO GB-275/1987

²² TAC SO GA-053, 29 August 1989

²³ TAC SO GA-048, 16 August 1990

²⁴ TAC SO GA-069, 26 September 1991

²⁵ AETC SO GA-18, 15 November 1996

²⁶ AETC SO GA-12, 9 November 1998

²⁷ AETC SO GA-9, 8 December 2000

²⁸ AETC SO GA-55, 29 April 2004

²⁹ AETC SO GA-0052, 22 June 2006

³⁰ AETC SO GA-045, 8 May 2007

³¹ AETC SO G-054, 28 February 2008

³² AETC SO G-071, 3 April 2009

³³ AETC SO G-025, 11 March 2010

³⁴ AETC SO G-086, 9 May 2011

³⁵ AETC SO G-171, 17 April 2012

³⁶ AETC SO G-036, 1 March 2013

³⁷ AETC SO G-017, 1 February 2014

Decorations. (Continued)

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award (Continued)

1 July 2013-30 June 2014³⁸

1 July 2014-30 June 2015³⁹

1 July 2015-30 June 2016⁴⁰

1 July 2016-30 June 2017⁴¹

1 July 2017-30 June 2018⁴²

1 July 2018-30 June 2019⁴³

Special Honors.

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm: 8 April 1967-28 January 1973.

Assignments. 56th Airdrome Group, 15 August 1947-1 August 1948. 56th Air Base Group, 1 August 1948-6 February 1952. 56th Air Base (later, 56th Combat Support) Group, 15 February 1963-1 January 1964.⁴⁴ 56th Combat Support (later, 56th Support) Group, 8 April 1967⁴⁵-4 January 1994. 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support) Group on 1 April 1994-.⁴⁶

Stations. Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 August 1947-6 February 1952. K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, 1 April 1963-1 January 1964.⁴⁷ Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 April 1967⁴⁸-30 June 1975. MacDill Air Force Base, Florida, 30 June 1975-4 January 1994. Luke Air Force Base, Arizona, 1 April 1994-.⁴⁹

Aircraft. None.

³⁸ AETC SO G-029, 8 January 2015

³⁹ AETC SO G-006, 14 October 2016

⁴⁰ AETC SO G-022, 22 March 2017

⁴¹ AETC SO G-015, 19 Dec 2017

⁴² AETC SO G-057, 20 May 2019

⁴³ AETC SO G-013, 18 Dec 2019

⁴⁴ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963 and SAC SO G-82, 25 September 1963

⁴⁵ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁴⁶ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994; AETC SO G-02-20, 23 June 2002

⁴⁷ AFOMO 90n, 16 September 1963 and SAC SO G-82, 25 September 1963

⁴⁸ PACAF SO G-41, 8 March 1967

⁴⁹ AETC SO G-34, 25 March 1994

Emblem. Approved on 13 August 1979. Redrawn 12 June 2019. Requires redraw by TIOH.

Blazon. On a disc Azure, an Eastern Diamondback Rattlesnake coiled Proper, eyes and fangs Or, emitting a lightning bolt bend sinisterwise from its mouth of the last; all within a narrow border Yellow.

Attached above the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed “READY TO STRIKE” in Yellow letters.

Attached below the disc, a Blue scroll edged with a narrow Yellow border and inscribed “56TH SECURITY FORCES SQ” in Yellow letters.

Motto. Ready to Strike.

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. Representing the Squadron, the rattlesnake is poised, ready to defend its territory, and will strike when threatened. The lightning bolt refers to the unit’s motto, “READY TO STRIKE,” and signifies the Squadron’s lightning fast ability to immediately mobilize and deploy anywhere in the world.

Commanders.

Squadron "B," 56th Airdrome Group [15 August 1947-1 August 1948]

Unknown 15 August 1947-1 August 1948

56th Air Police Squadron, Fighter, Jet [1 August 1948-20 January 1950]

Unknown 1 August 1948-20 January 1950

56th Air Police Squadron [20 January 1950-6 February 1952;

1 April 1963-1 January 1964]

Unknown 20 January 1950-6 February 1952

Maj Eugene A. Lamar 1 April 1963-1 January 1964

Commanders. (Continued)

**56th Security Police Squadron [8 April 1967-4 January 1994;
1 April 1994-1 July 1997]**

Capt Ralph N. Dunlap	8 April 1967
1st Lt John W. Ross	bef 8 June 1967
Capt Paul N. Scheidel	bef 15 August 1967
1st Lt Charles Sprunk	bef 15 October 1967
Capt Paul N. Scheidel	bef 15 January 1968
Maj Melvin N. Toloso	bef November 1968
Maj Robert V. Jones	bef 30 June 1969
Lt Col William D. Raven	bef 30 September 1969
Maj Gerald R. Frank	bef 30 September 1970
Maj Renwick F. Mottley	bef 30 September 1971
Maj James S. Barger	bef 31 March 1972
Maj Joseph W. Wilson	bef 30 June 1972
Maj Thomas J. Murphy	bef 31 December 1972
Maj Gary G. Allison	bef 31 March 1973
Lt Col Billie M. Downer	1 May 1973
Maj George T. Harper	15 March 1974
Maj Lewis A. Elam	bef 31 March 1974
Maj George T. Harper	bef 30 September 1974
Capt Charles J. Heubusch	bef 30 June 1975
Lt Col Billie M. Downer	30 June 1975
Unknown	1 September 1976
Capt (later, Maj) Robert F. Picinus	8 September 1976
Capt James M. Randel	17 January 1977 ⁵⁰
Maj Kenneth R. Anderson	2 February 1977 ⁵¹
Lt Col William B. Driggers, Jr.	1 September 1978
Maj Karl J. Woelz	4 August 1979
Maj Carl E. Gunderson	12 December 1980
Lt Col James L. Hendrickson	14 October 1983
Lt Col Sydney W. Griffin	14 February 1986 ⁵²
Maj Jonnie L. Wright	14 November 1988
Capt John W. Probst	12 July 1990
Lt Col David H. Donatelli	30 August 1990
Maj J. Karen Fiedor	28 June 1993-4 January 1994
Maj Edward N. Addison	1 April 1994 ⁵³
Maj Eugene V. Morabito	29 May 1996-1 July 1997. ⁵⁴

⁵⁰ 56 CSG SO G-2, 17 January 1977

⁵¹ 56 CSG SO G-7, 2 February 1977

⁵² 56 CSG SO G-19, 13 February 1986

⁵³ [58 SG SO G-01, 7 July 1993

⁵⁴ 56 SG SO GA-04, 20 May 1996

Commanders. (Continued)

56th Security Forces Squadron [1 July 1997-.]

Maj Eugene V. Morabito	1 July 1997
Capt Heidi L. Scheppers	1 May 1998 ⁵⁵
Lt Col Allen J. Jamerson	1 July 1998 ⁵⁶ [Brigadier General]
Maj Tracey M. Meck	5 July 2000 ⁵⁷
Maj Michael D. Ross, Sr.	23 May 2002 ⁵⁸
Maj Stephen R. Mezhir	14 June 2004 ⁵⁹
Capt L.D. Harper	19 October 2006 ⁶⁰
Lt Col Stephen R. Mezhir	16 May 2007 ⁶¹
Maj Christopher J. DeGuelle	13 July 2007 ⁶²
Lt Col Michael J. Borders, Jr.	13 June 2008 ⁶³
Maj Gerald C. Mulhollen, Jr.	14 June 2010 ⁶⁴
Maj Sean R. Gibbs	6 July 2012 ⁶⁵
Capt Andrew M. Stolten	6 September 2014 ⁶⁶
Maj Scott A. Haselden	12 February 2015 ⁶⁷
Lt Col Brian S. Loveless	12 July 2017 ⁶⁸
Maj Kimberly J. Guest	5 June 2019-Present. ⁶⁹

Narrative.

The 56th Security Forces Squadron's lineage makes it one of the oldest units in the wing. Designated Squadron "B," 56th Airdrome Group on 28 July 1947. It was activated on 15 August 1947 at Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, and assigned to the 56th Airdrome Group. On 1 August 1948, the unit was discontinued.

⁵⁵ 56 SFS SO GA-08, 27 April 1998

⁵⁶ 56 SFS SO GA-09, 29 June 1998

⁵⁷ 56 SFS SO GA-002, 13 September 2000

⁵⁸ 56 SFS SO GA-001, 2 July 2002

⁵⁹ 56 SFS SO SFS-004, 25 June 2004

⁶⁰ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-01, 19 October 2006

⁶¹ 56 MSG SO MSG-07-01, 19 October 2006

⁶² 56 MSG SO MSG-07-09, 3 July 2007

⁶³ 56 SFS SO G-021, 15 May 2008

⁶⁴ 56 MSG SO G-015, 14 June 2010

⁶⁵ 56 FW SO G-024, 3 July 2012

⁶⁶ 56 MSG SO G-33-14, 21 August 2014

⁶⁷ 56 MSG SO GS-01-15, 15 January 2015

⁶⁸ 56 MSG SO G-24-17, 10 July 2017

⁶⁹ 56 MSG SO G-19-026, 29 May 2019

It was replaced with the 56th Air Police Squadron, Fighter, Jet, which was constituted on 14 June 1948. On 12 October 1984, the two were consolidated. Activated on 1 August 1948, it was assigned to the 56th Air Base Group. On 20 January 1950, the squadron was redesignated the 56th Air Police Squadron. It inactivated on 6 February 1952.

Reactivated on 15 February 1963, it was organized on 1 April 1963 at K.I. Sawyer Air Force Base, Michigan, under the 56th Air Base (later, 56th Combat Support) Group. The squadron was discontinued, and inactivated, on 1 January 1964.

On 16 March 1967, the unit was redesignated and activated as the 56th Security Police Squadron. On 8 April 1967, it was organized at Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, and assigned to the 56th Combat Support (later, 56th Support) Group. While in Thailand, the squadron earned 12 Campaign Streamers, 3 Presidential Unit Citations, 5 Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device, and a Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm. It also took part in the recovery mission for the crew of the SS Mayaguez.

At an unknown date, the unit was reassigned to Tactical Air Command, but rejoined the 56th Tactical Fighter (later, 56th Tactical Training; later, 56th Fighter) Wing on 30 June 1975 at MacDill AFB, Florida. It was inactivated on 4 January 1994.

On 1 April 1994, the unit was reactivated at Luke AFB, Arizona, under the 56th Support (later, 56th Mission Support) Group. On 1 July 1997, it was redesignated as the 56th Security Forces Squadron. Today it provides premier security, law enforcement and force protection for the Luke community while preparing for expeditionary requirements.

Locally Updated on 20 February 2020

Locally Updated by Rick Griset