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**BY ORDER OF THE
SECRETARY OF THE AIR FORCE**

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SECURITY

SECURITY FORCES HISTORY AND ORGANIZATION

Initial Publication

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This is the initial publication of Air Force Manual 31-201, Volume 1. This guide acquaints Air Force Security Forces members with a broad general knowledge of their career field and the Security Forces mission. It is not written as a directive, but serves to instill esprit de corps and make them knowledgeable of the history and traditions unique to the career field and appreciate the many successful Security Forces accomplishments that have occurred through time. This publication is not intended to be all-inclusive or directive in nature and does not include Department of Defense requirements. The manual addresses some of the basic skills and knowledge needed to succeed in Security Forces. Air National Guard units will use this manual as guidance. Send comments and suggested improvements via AF FM 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*, through channels to: HQ AFSFC/SFOP, 1517 Billy Mitchell Blvd, Lackland AFB, TX 78236-0119

SUMMARY OF REVISIONS: This is the initial publication of AFMAN 31-201, Vol 1.

DRAFT**Chapter 1****OUR HISTORY****2.1. Security Forces History (World War II to Korea).**

2.1.1. The invention of the aircraft and its subsequent military use, required a protective force to guard the aircraft and defend the people who fly and fight. In 1921, Airpower Pioneer Italian General Giulio Douhet said *"It is easier and more effective to destroy the enemy's aerial power by destroying his nests and eggs on the ground than to hunt his flying birds in the air."* The United States Air Force Security Forces evolved from the forces primarily charged with the ground defense of airpower. Each SF member is part of a proud history that pre-dates the United States Air Force itself and is responsible for carrying our proud combat heritage forward. In 1943, as result of the reorganization of the War Department, The Chief of Staff of the **Army Air Corps**, General Henry H. "Hap" Arnold, established the Office of the Air Provost Marshal. **Military Police (MP) Companies** were formed and named **Army Air Corps Base Security Battalions**. This marked the first great milestone in the history of our career field. These battalions were racially segregated units made up of African Americans, much like the famed Tuskegee Airmen. However, due to the geographic factors entry of the United States after the allies lost much of Europe and resulting manner in which Army Air Corps aircraft were based during this war, these units saw very little combat.

2.1.2. **The National Security Act of 1947** established the Department of Defense as well as establishing the United States Air Force as a separate military service. Military police units serving with the Army Air Corps were transferred to the new Air Force. On 2 January 1948, General order No. 1, HQ USAF designated these units and the individuals serving under them as **"Air Police"** and established the Air Provost Marshall.

2.1.3. The late 1940s and 1950s saw SF members begin to establish their own identity and begin to take on career field and Air Force specific tasks. During the late 1940's, Air Provost Marshall duties were established in separate military occupational specialties or career specialties assembled in a career field. But, unlike the Army Corps concept, there was no centrally directed organization or centrally prescribed method of operation. Staffing and organizational requirements were established according to local conditions. The guidelines, issued by HQ USAF, established broad policies, but did not set specific standards or security requirements.

2.1.4. **In the initial stages of the Korean War**, American and South Korean forces were ill prepared and were forced to fall back hurriedly in the face of the communist onslaught. In the initial stages of the war, most airpower was

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provided from bases in Japan, however, as in-country air bases were established, some found themselves being overrun when the forward edge of the battle area was breached. In many instances, **Air Police** were the only armed force on the base and had the career field was rapidly expanded from 10,000 to 39,000 personnel. With this expansion was a rush to equip the career field with infantry weapons such as armored cars and machine guns rather than the police-centric weapons on hand. However, guerilla attacks on air bases did not materialize because the approximately 35,000 North Korean guerillas largely ignored air bases as key targets. These experiences led to the decision that the Air Force needed to develop a more extensive base defense capability by concentrating on the training of Air Police who would, in turn, train other members of the Air Force.

2.1.5. Along with this expansion in weaponry came a need to expand and standardize **Air Police training**; accordingly, the first Air Police school was established at Tyndall on 1 September 1950 AFB, Florida. In 1952, the Air Force Council approved the development of an air base defense capability to be placed under the direction of the Air Provost Marshal. As a result, the Air Police school was transferred to Parks AFB, California and re-designated as the "Air Base Defense School". The base defense training effort was continued 1956, when it became evident the program as envisioned was not making much headway. On 13 October 1956, Air Police training was transferred to Lackland AFB, Texas, where it became Security Police training and continues there to this day as the Security Forces Academy.

Figure 1.1 Air Police Guardmount during the 1950's

Figure 1.2 Security Force Historical Timeline, 1947-1959

Internal Security Act of 1947

Created USAF as separate service.

MP units within Army Air Force

Are transferred to USAF.

1025 APS activated to

protect President's aircraft.

Sep 47

Jul 51

Jan 48

Jul 57

Career field name changed
from MP to Air Police (AP).

Air Police assume control of military
working dog training for all of DoD.

2.1.6. During the 1950's, the growing emphasis on massive nuclear retaliation gave rise to the present mission concept of providing security to nuclear weapons systems. This led to the formation of protective standards whereas before, individual commanders solely decided the utilization of the base police. In 1960

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the name “Air Provost Marshal” was dropped in favor of ‘Director of Security and Law Enforcement,’ a title precisely reflecting the actual responsibilities involved in the job.

2.2. Security Forces History (Vietnam).

2.2.1. The Vietnam War saw enormous developments in the area of air base defense since the enemy recognized the only way to stop American airpower was to attack it on the ground. Accordingly, there were 475 ground attacks on USAF operating locations in Vietnam from 1964 to 1973 resulting in: 75 US aircraft destroyed, 898 damaged, 155 US killed in action, and 1,702 wounded in action. There were an additional 18 attacks on air bases in Southeast Asia outside of Vietnam.

2.2.2. This heightened threat to air bases and pointed out the need, under insurgent or limited war conditions, for revised thinking. Specifically a “whole base” protective system was needed, rather than one centered solely on weapons systems. There were no front lines, no clearly defined battle zones, and no safe “rear areas”. The North Vietnamese targeted air bases on a regular basis and destroyed a large number of aircraft. In December 1965, the Commander of US forces in Vietnam directed all services be responsible for defending their own bases to ensure combat forces were freed up for offensive operations.

2.2.3. **SSgt Terrance Jensen** became the first Air Policeman killed in action in Vietnam on 1 July 1965. He had been supervising flightline security at Da Nang AB and was checking on troops who were working isolated posts that night. When SSgt Jensen and a sentry were surprised by a small force of saboteurs, he only had enough time to shout a few instructions at the frightened sentry and fire a few rounds at the intruders before he was cut down by superior fire power. Air Police leadership had been promoting the use of canine teams and felt the tragedy might have been avoided had they been authorized to utilize canines. Approximately two weeks later, 40 canine teams were shipped to Vietnam as part of a test program called “Top Dog [45]”.

Figure 1.3 Vietnam era handler and his MWD on patrol

2.2.4. **In 1966, the name of the career field was changed to “Security Police”.** This term was considered descriptive, concise, and uniformly applicable; it combined the two main mission elements - police and security functions. In addition, the career field was given the Air Force Specialty Code (AFSC) 811XX designation. This AFSC remained until 1997 when three distinct career fields were merged to become **Security Forces**, with a new career designator of 3POX1.

2.2.5. In response to the increasing threats to USAF operating locations in Vietnam, **Operation SAFESIDE** was initiated in 1967. These Security Police

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personnel were given light infantry training and organized like an Army Infantry Battalion to bolster protection of selected air bases by rotating into theater TDY as required. This unit was inactivated after Vietnam due to budget cuts, but is the unit the **820th Security Force Group** traces its heritage to.

2.2.6. One of the most notable events of the Vietnam War occurred in the early morning hours of 31 January 1968, the **Tet Offensive**. During this traditional ceasefire in honor of a Vietnamese holiday, the Viet Cong and elements of the North Vietnamese Army hope to seize key areas and installations in South Vietnam and foster a general uprising against the United States backed government of the Republic of Vietnam (South Vietnam).

2.2.6.1. At **Tan Son Nhut Air Base**, the home of 377th Tactical Fighter Wing, 7th Air Force Headquarters, and Military Assistance Command, Vietnam Headquarters, the enemy committed one sapper and four infantry battalions (2,665 troops) to seize the air base and neutralize the command and control of U.S. Forces in Vietnam. The defenders were tipped off to a possible attack, however, due to an early attack by the enemy and reports of enemy infiltrators, but not an attack of this magnitude. In the ensuing battle, Air Force Security Police were augmented by Air Force and Army personnel to block the enemy, while and the 3rd Squadron of the 4th Cavalry Regiment troop swept the outside of the installation.

2.2.6.2. Stories of heroism abound in this action, perhaps most notably the actions of **SSgt Louis Fischer's** fire team at **Bunker 051**. This position was the key to the defense of the installation and despite withering enemy fire, SSgt Fisher's fire team continued to pour grazing fire into the advancing enemy and gave the blocking force under the command of the squadron operations officer, Major Carl Bender, time to form an effective defense. Despite support from U.S. Army helicopter gunships and advancing SPS quick reaction teams to relieve the bunker, SSgt Fischer's fire team was overrun by the enemy, fighting till the last man. One airman, **Sgt Alonzo Coggins**, survived, but was mistaken for dead by the enemy. For their heroism SSgt Fischer's team were awarded the **Silver Star posthumously**, while many other heroes of Tan San Nhut were also recognized, to include **Major Bender** who also was awarded the Silver Star for organizing and rallying the base's second line of defense and personally killing eight enemy soldiers all despite being hit repeatedly by enemy fire, resulting in 54 separate wounds. During the fight for the base, over 157 enemy were killed inside the installation and over 350 more outside the base. The 377th SPS lost 4 members and suffered 11 injured.

2.2.6.3. At **Bien Hoa Air Base**, the home of 3rd Tactical Fighter Wing, the enemy committed two infantry battalions and one reinforced rifle company. At **Bunker 10**, the cornerstone of the base defenses, **Captain Reginald Maisey**, the 3 SPS Operations Officer, rallied the defenders

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and reinforced the position. Thankfully, the bunker held the against the enemy even after being surrounded by the enemy, allowing **SSgt William (Pete) Piazza** to continue to call in reports of enemy movement after Capt Maisey was killed by a rocket propelled grenade. According to the 3 SPS Commander, Lt Col Kent Miller, the defenders would have likely been overwhelmed if it was not for the timely and accurate support by Army helicopter gun ships which mercilessly punished the enemy. Again, stories of heroism abound from Bien Hoa, most notably **Capt Maisey** who was awarded the **Air Force Cross** posthumously and **SSgt Piazza** who was awarded the **Silver Star** for their actions that ensured Bunker 10 remained in U.S. hands.

Figure 1.4 Security Forces Historical Timeline, 1960s

Operation SAFESIDE begins with activation of the 1041st Security Strike Force Test Squadron to provide a unit trained in infantry tactics and special weapons.

Career field name changes from AP to Security Police (SP).

Jul 66

Jul 67

Dec 66

Mar 68

The 1041st deploys to Vietnam for six months to test its effectiveness. They return and are re-designated the 82nd Combat Security Police Wing.

The 82nd Combat SPW deploys to Vietnam for additional support in the wake of the Tet Offensive.

2.3. Security Forces History (Military Working Dogs). People have used dogs to protect themselves and property since prehistoric times. Military forces have used trained dogs the world over since the first military units were organized. From these ancient beginnings, the military working dog (MWD) has progressed to a highly sophisticated and versatile extension of one's own senses. Over 30,000 thousand dogs have served in the US military in harms way and are responsible for saving thousands of lives. In 1958, the responsibility to train sentry dogs was taken over from the US Army, and the sentry dog training branch of the Department of Security Police was established at Lackland AFB, Texas where it remains to this day as the DoD Dog School. The Dog School is responsible for procuring all dogs for the DoD, and training dogs and handlers for all braches of the military.

2.3.1. While stories of MWD teams are also are rich with heroism, the most famous of these is **MWD Nemo and his handler** in Vietnam. In the predawn hours of 4 December 1966, Tan Son Nhut AB Republic of Vietnam was attacked by a large force of Viet Cong (VC) commando raiders. The raiders used a single avenue of approach through friendly force positions outside the base perimeter. Once inside

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the base, the raiders divided into small groups to attack their targets. Several sentry dogs stationed on the perimeter gave the initial alert and warning almost simultaneously. As a result of this early warning, the 377th [Security] Police Squadron was able to successfully repel the attack after 7 long hours of fighting. By the time the battle was over, 13 Viet Cong and one Security Policeman who was trying to save his supervisor were dead, and one canine handler was wounded. Many of the remaining VC took refuge in vegetation, wells, and local graveyards to wait out the opportunity to escape and/or attack again.

2.3.2. **Around 1900 hrs, "Nemo" a MWD, alerted his handler A2C Robert A. Thorneburg** to the presence of VC who had avoided earlier detection. During the attack, a bullet caught Thorneburg on his shoulder and Nemo was hit in the muzzle area, but not before killing at least one Vietcong. Ignoring his serious head wound, the 85 pound dog threw himself at the VC guerillas who had opened fire. Nemo's ferocious defense bought Thorneburg the time he needed to call upon back up forces and the enemy was neutralized. By the time the Security Police Quick Reaction Team (QRT) reached the injured pair, Nemo had crawled across his master protectively and snarled at friend or enemy who dared approach. Finally, the QRT members were able to carry Thorneburg and Nemo out to safety where they received emergency treatment. They both recuperated although Nemo lost the use of one eye and was permanently disfigured. Nemo was credited with saving his handler's life and preventing further destruction of life and property. On 23 June 1967, HQ USAF directed Nemo be returned to Lackland AFB, Texas as the first sentry dog officially retired from military service. Nemo was only one of the many dogs who served, and continue to serve, faithfully and honorably in the United States Air Force.

Figure 1.6 Nemo and A2C Thorneburg after their ordeal in 1966

Figure 1.7 Security Forces Historical Timeline, 1970s and 1980s

| | | | |
|---|---|--|--|
| The career field is split into law enforcement and security specialties to improve professionalism. | First general officer is assigned as Air Force Chief of Security Police. Air Force Office of Security Police is established in Washington DC. | The Air Force Office of Security Police relocates to Kirtland AFB, New Mexico. | Small Arms Maintenance Training Unit (SAMTU) changed to Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM). |
| Mar 71 | Mar 75 | Oct 78 | Sep 81 |
| Nov 71 | Nov 76 | | Feb 85 |
| Women enter the Law Enforcement specialty for the first time. | 100 women enter security specialty training to begin an 18-month test. After the test period, they are allowed to retrain or separate. | The security specialty is opened to active duty women on a permanent basis. | |

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2.4.1. In March 1971, the enlisted career field was divided into two separate specialties, security and law enforcement. This concept provided specialized training and the use of specific abilities. This resulted in the establishment of Security Police as a “Category A” career field for formal training requirements. This important career field milestone meant all Security Police personnel received formal training before being assigned to a unit. The split was also made to improve the professionalism of the law enforcement and nuclear security forces and allow for the expertise maturation needed to perform both specialties.

2.4.2. Another milestone was reached in November of 1971, when 12 Air Force women entered formal Law Enforcement specialist training at the Security Police academy at Lackland AFB, Texas. In November of 1976, 100 female volunteers were selected for security specialist training in a test to determine the suitability of employing women in “combat” related jobs. The graduating women were assigned to security duties at stateside and overseas bases; however, the program was phased out after a short period.

Figure 1.5 First Women Graduates of the Security Police Law Enforcement Class in 1971

2.4.3. The shift commander program was introduced into the career field in 1975. The purpose of the program is to provide continuous support by a Security Forces commissioned officer to Security Forces on duty. The shift commander is responsible for making critical decisions and judgments in situations during the tour of duty, and is a visible Security Forces authority to the base at all times.

Figure 1.8 Security Forces Historical Timeline, 1990s

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|--|
| Air Force Chief of Security Police relocates to Washington DC. | Air Force Directorate of Security Forces est. | Air Force Security Police Agency deactivates and HQ Air Force Security Forces Center (AFSFC) stands up. | All Security Police units re-designated Security Forces units. | HQ AFSFC relocates to Lackland AFB. |
| Feb 91 | Jan 97 | Mar 97 | Jul 97 | Nov 97 |
| Apr 91 | Oct 92 | Mar 97 | Jun 97 | Oct 97 |
| AF Office of Security Police is redesignated as HQ AF Security Police Agency. | AFSPA assumes responsibility for AF Corrections and Return to Duty Program. | 820 th Security Forces Group stands up at Lackland AFB. | Force Protection Battlelab stands up at Lackland AFB. | Security Forces and Combat Arms Training and Maintenance (CATM) career fields merge. |

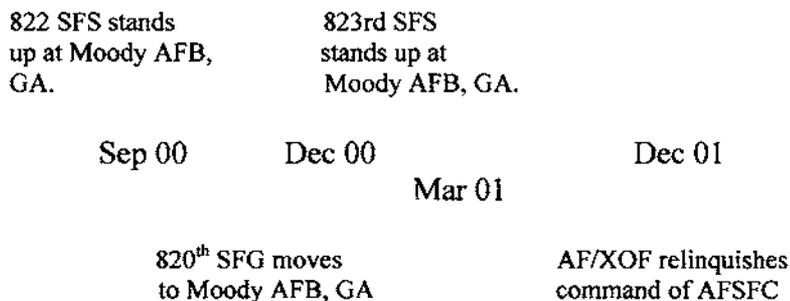
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2.4.4. In January 1985, the Security Specialist career field was re-opened to women and in February 1985, the first female security specialist entered the career field since 1976. Women presently serve in Security Forces throughout the full spectrum of jobs within the career field, to include Security Forces Managers and MAJCOM directors.

2.4.5. The 1990s pointed out the need for a highly trained and mobile expeditionary force capable of deploying anywhere at anytime to defend Air Force personnel and resources. Operation DESERT STORM found Security Police involved in war on a large scale on foreign soil for the first time since the Vietnam conflict. The new theme became, “Global Reach, Global Power”. Incidents such as the Khobar Towers and USS Cole bombings brought about urgency to change the focus of the career field.

2.4.6. Many of the **Operation SAFESIDE concepts from the 1960s were brought back and combined with today’s technology**. One fundamental difference was added to the **SAFESIDE concept—Force Protection**. Force Protection is a responsibility of all Air Force personnel, not just Security Forces. Through innovative concepts such as Integrated Base Defense (IBD), further emphasis is placed on the fact that every airman is a sensor and force protection is everyone’s responsibility - See first, understand first, act first. In addition, policy decisions from the Air Force Security Forces Center and research from the Force Protection Battlelab are combined with the operational, first-in capability of the **820th Security Forces Group** to create a tailored force protection capability in any location and in any situation.

Figure 1.9 Security Forces Historical Timeline, 2000s



2.4.7. The Security Forces career field has been shaped by many events and people too numerous to mention in detail in this manual. Those who have gone before us have been cited for bravery on duty and off. They have given their lives to defend their fellow airmen and the American people. They have constantly proven themselves ready for any challenge, anytime. There are several excellent

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publications that provide details on some of these events, but not all. Some of our fellow airmen will only be remembered by their comrades, but they live on in us. however, that go into more specifics.

2.4.8. Some of these publications are:

2.4.8.1. *Snakes in the Eagles Nest, A History of Ground Attacks on Air Bases* by Alan Vick

2.4.8.2. *Check Six Begins on the Ground, Responding to the Evolving Ground Threat to U.S. Air Force Bases* by David A. Shlapak and Alan Vick

2.4.8.3. *War Dogs, A History of Loyalty and Heroism* by Michael G. Lemish

2.4.8.4. *The Battle for Saigon: Tet 1968* by Keith W. Nolan,

2.4.8.5. *Air Base Defense in The Republic of Vietnam* by Roger P. Fox.

2.4.8.6. Another excellent source of history is the Security Police Museum at Lackland AFB, Texas which continues to chronicle Security Forces achievements throughout the world.

DRAFT**Chapter 2****OUR PROFESSION**

2.1. The Security Forces Mission. *The mission of Air Force Security Forces is to provide the United States Air Force with a secure operating in any location and in any situation.* Every airman, enlisted and officer must be extremely knowledgeable and fit to fight so America's Air Force can be employed against our nation's enemies wherever they are. SF members are all members of a team, be it a fire team, a squad, a flight, etc. The failure of any one person to fulfill their responsibility to the mission can have potentially devastating consequences for the team and the Air Force mission.

2.2. Duties and Responsibilities. The Security Forces (SF) Career Field performs a variety of duties, and although we, as SF members, are not singularly responsible for force protection but we are the Air forces primary active defense in this area. SF duties require the use of force, up to and including deadly force. SF duties play an important role in maintaining combat capability through the functions of air base defense, installation security (nuclear, conventional weapons systems, and resources protection), law enforcement, military working dog activities, corrections, combat arms, industrial security, personnel security, and information security. SF participate in contingency operations and are routinely deployed to hostile environments around the world where United States national security interests are threatened. We are a critical part of the Expeditionary Air Force and exist to enable the projection of United States Air and Space power. Security Forces operate across the full spectrum of conflict, from peacekeeping and humanitarian relief operations to small-scale contingencies and major theater wars.

2.3. The Security Forces Creed. Unique to the SF career field, the Security Forces Creed is a promise to the United States, the Air Force, individual SF members and all those who came before. It is a promise to honor the past, protect the present and secure the future. It is a promise to be ready to act and to live the ideals that will guide the actions of Security Forces members.

Figure 2.1 Security Forces Creed

I am a security force member. I hold allegiance to my country, devotion to duty and personal integrity above all. I wear my shield of authority with dignity and restraint and promote by example high standards of conduct, appearance, courtesy and performance. I seek no favor because of my position. I perform my duties in a firm, courteous and impartial manner, irrespective of a person's color, race, religion, national origin or sex. I strive to merit the respect of my fellow airmen and all with whom I come in contact.

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2.4. Security Forces Culture. The Security Forces concept permits expanded roles and missions in addition to the police function. Changes in threats and world events make Force Protection the primary SF mission. Force Protection entails the use of police, air base defense and weapon systems skills among others, to provide the best protection of Air Force personnel and resources. The Air Force expects, and the nature of the mission demands, that SF personnel are “first in” and “fit to fight” when they arrive to a duty location. Consequently, it was deemed the SF career field needed a symbol of the commitment to and focus on the wartime mission of ground defense in addition to the traditional symbol, the Security Police shield. The Defensor Fortis emblem and motto are descriptive of the career field direction and present a strong visible symbol of the force protection commitment to the Air Force and the general public.

2.4.1. The Security Forces career field performs law enforcement and security functions, both force protection missions. When members are performing law enforcement functions, they are referred to as “Security Police”. The retention of the word “Police” when performing these types of functions is important because it more accurately reflects the uniqueness of the law enforcement mission, and reinforces the bond with fellow police forces the world over. In addition, the word “Police” is more readily recognized by the public, which is why it’s still on our police shield, and reflected in the way we mark our patrol cars. When members are performing security functions, they are referred to as Security Forces members.

2.5. The Security Forces Uniform. Security Forces members have long worn uniform items to distinguish them from other career fields. There are and have been a number of reasons for this. Personnel need to readily identify SF members in crisis situations as a symbol of authority, trust and responsibility. Their unique appearance has the effect of providing a deterrent to those who may seek to violate the law, damage and steal property or harm others. More recently however, the distinctive uniform, specifically the beret with the Defensor Fortis Flash, identifies SF members as an elite group of Air Force personnel charged with the primary responsibility of protecting the Air Force on the ground. The uniform presents a strong visible symbol of a force protection commitment to the Air Force and general public. Established appearance standards instill in the public, a confidence in SF abilities. A failure to maintain pressed uniforms and highly polished boots and/or failing to properly wear the beret or Security Police shield erodes the public’s confidence in SF abilities and cannot be tolerated. The following timeline identifies some of the milestones in the evolution of the SF uniform.

DRAFT**Figure 2.2 Security Forces Historical Timeline, Uniform Development**

The MP Brassard is carried over from the Army Air Force for use by Air Force MPs.

After a two year test period, the first Air Police Shield was issued to the career field replacing the Brassard.

Defensor Fortis Flash replaces the MAJCOM crest on the beret.

1947

1959

1997

1956

1975

White hat is authorized as official headgear for Air Police.

The qualification badge is authorized for wear. The beret with MAJCOM crest replaces the white hat and fatigue cap.

2.5.1. Defensor Fortis Emblem. “Defenders” are members of all Air Force specialties serving in Security Forces units worldwide. Their mission—force protection. Their motto—Defensor Fortis or Defender of the Force. Their symbol—the Falcon over crossed runways (Figure 1.11), is derived from the heraldry of the Vietnam era Operation SAFESIDE 1041st Security Police Squadron (Test) which evolved into the 82nd Combat Security Police Wing. The wing’s mission to provide the Air Force with worldwide ground defense capability is the model for modern Security Forces operations and the use of its heraldry is appropriate and significant. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow refers to the sun and excellence required of Security Forces members. The runways represent all bases and Air Force operations. The falcon, with talons alert, is swooping in on its prey symbolizing force protection.

Figure 2.1 Security Forces Career Field Emblem

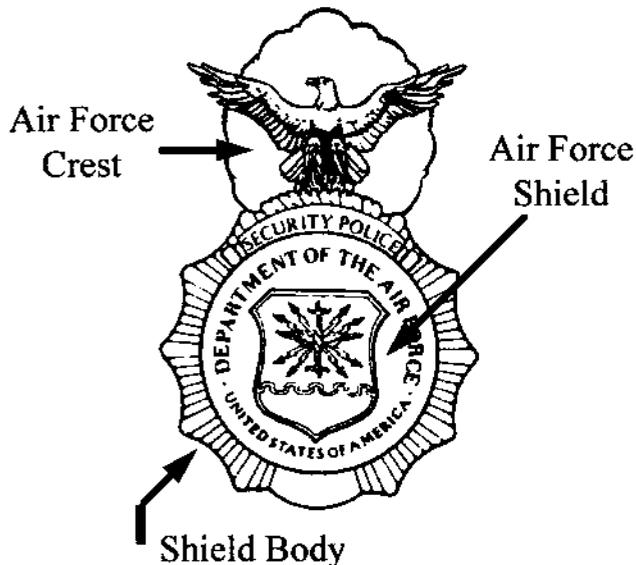
2.5.2. Display the Defensor Fortis emblem wherever it will enhance the image of Security Forces. Use it in place of the Security Police shield to represent the career field except where the subject is police specific. Personnel may use both emblems together where doing so enhances the career field image.

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2.5.3. The Security Police Shield. Security Forces members wear a distinctive uniform so we are quickly identified as the authority figures we are. The shield (Figure 1.12) and beret (discussed later) denote authority within the Air Force and SF members must wear them with pride, dignity and restraint. Installation chiefs of Security Forces must retrieve the shield and beret from members relieved of duty for reasons of misconduct.

2.5.3.1. In 1959 the first official Air Police Shield was issued to Air Provost Marshall, Brig Gen R.F. Burnham, by Vice Chief of Staff, USAF, General Curtis E. LeMay. The shield actually started out as a Military Police/Air Police brassard, but repeated requests by the Air Police to Headquarters Air Force finally resulted in the Air Force approving the first trial issue of the shield in 1957. Mr. Thomas H. Jones who also was the creator of many WWII awards and the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Arlington National Cemetery did this first tentative design. Instead of a conventional police badge design, which most police units use today, the Security Police Shield is unique in shape. The shield was later incorporated into a cloth design in the 1970's for use with the fatigue uniform and later on was used for the Battle Dress Uniform. Leather name tags with the embossed shield were used during the early 1990's but, were later phased out. The leather tag with shield however, is still used on the Security Police Blue cold weather jacket and the SP brassard is now available through normal Air Force supply channels.

2.5.3.2. The current shield was adopted in 1966. The Air Force crest surmounts the shield and consists of three elements. The eagle represents the United States and its airpower, overlaid on the billowing cloud representing the new sky faced by the newest branch of service, the US Air Force. The final element of the crest is the wreath consisting of six twists of metal: in color, these are the alternating blue and silver colors of the Air Force. The Air Force shield lies at the center of the Security Forces and also consists of three portions. The background is divided horizontally into originally white over blue and additionally, divided by a nebulous line representing clouds. The final element is the winged frames and lightning bolts of the Air Force representing striking power through the use of aerospace power. The shield body is a stylized warrior's shield representing the protection Security Forces provide to Air Force members and resources.

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2.5.4. Security Forces Brassard. Although largely replaced by the Security Police Shield, the Brassard is still authorized for wear under certain circumstances. When worn by SF members, it is worn with the shield, not in place of it. Wear the Brassard on the left arm with the top pinned to the seam between the shoulder and the arm. Wear of the Brassard is authorized under various circumstances including, but not limited to, the following:

- 2.5.4.1. When authorized by the installation commander.
- 2.5.4.2. In overseas areas where the host nation government recognizes it.
- 2.5.4.3. By SF augmentees in lieu of issuing the Security Police Shield

2.5.5. The Security Forces Beret. Probably no symbol identifies SF members more than the beret with flash. The flash is symbolic of the SF mission and must be worn properly.

2.5.5.1. The beret is worn by positioning the headband straight across the forehead, 1 inch above the eyebrows. Drape the top over the right ear and the stiffener. Align the flash over the left eye. Adjust the ribbon for comfort, tie it in a knot and tuck it inside or cut it off.

2.5.5.2. Proper wear of the beret includes keeping it clean and serviceable. The beret and flash must be cleaned regularly and replaced when no longer serviceable.

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2.5.5.3. The beret WILL NOT be worn when performing base details such as picking up trash. Security Forces members performing details should wear the battle dress uniform (BDU) patrol cap.

2.5.5.4. The Security Forces beret is only worn by 31PX, 3PXXX and may be worn by resource augmentation duty (READY) personnel performing SF duties upon the discretion of the installation commander.

2.6. Security Forces General Orders. Security Forces duties and responsibilities can vary greatly from one location to another, but the General Orders overarch the whole spectrum of the duties we do and serve as an important guide while in the performance of those duties. The number of posts, limits of those posts and responsibilities of those posts are determined “locally,” however, the basic General Orders remain the same. They are:

2.6.1. *I will take charge of my post and protect personnel and property for which I am responsible until properly relieved.* SF members have been entrusted with the protection of personnel and resources and as such will not leave nor abandon any post. They will stay within post limits until proper relief has been obtained. This is true regardless of how long you have been posted there and what the conditions may be. In the event an extenuating circumstance should occur, the second General Order below provides further guidance

2.6.2. *I will report all violations of orders I am entrusted to enforce and will call my superior in any case not covered by instructions.* SF members have the authority to apprehend anyone violating those orders. If any situation arises that is not covered by written instructions, contact your superiors for guidance. If SF members cannot contact superiors, they must exercise discretion and act according to their training, best judgment and common sense.

2.6.3. *I will sound the alarm in case of disorder or emergency.* SF members must report any event threatening the security of the installation or endangering life or property. They must also take reasonable actions to save life and property and lessen danger.

2.5. The Code of Conduct. The Code of Conduct is a guide for actions during war and as prisoners of war. It is acceptance of responsibility for actions honorable to the United States. The Code of Conduct is applicable to all military personnel regardless of duty position or branch of service. There are however, special provisions for applying these articles if captured by terrorists. In our role as the primary defenders of the force, we stand a greater risk of coming in contact with the enemy than most other career fields. As such, the code of conduct should be taken to heart and has proven a source of guidance during the most difficult times.

2.5.1. *Article I– “I am an American, fighting in the forces which guard my country and our way of life. I am prepared to give my life in their defense.”*

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2.5.2. *Article II – “I will never surrender of my own free will. If in command, I will never surrender the members of my command while they still have the means to resist.”*

2.5.3. *Article III – “If I am captured, I will continue to resist by all means available. I will make every effort to escape and aid others to escape. I will accept neither parole nor special favors from the enemy.”*

2.5.4. *Article IV – “If I become a prisoner of war, I will keep faith with my fellow prisoners. I will give no information or take part in any action which might be harmful to my comrades. If I am senior, I will take command. If not, I will obey the lawful orders of those appointed over me and will back them up in any way.”*

2.5.5. *Article V – “When questioned, should I become a prisoner of war, I am required to give name, rank, service number and date of birth. I will evade answering further questions to the utmost of my ability. I will make no oral or written statements disloyal to my country or its allies or harmful to their cause.”*

2.5.6. *Article VI – “I will never forget that I am an American, fighting for freedom, responsible for my actions and dedicated to the principles that made my country free. I will trust in my God and in the United States of America.”*