

"First There... That others  
may live"

# Air Force Special Tactics



## ABOUT SPECIAL TACTICS

**Special Tactics** is U.S. Special Operation Command's tactical air and ground integration force, and the Air Force's special operations ground force, leading **Global Access, Precision Strike, Personnel Recovery and Battlefield Surgery** operations on the battlefield.

Special Tactics is a **special operations ground force** conducting global air, space, and cyber-enabled special operations across the spectrum of conflict to prepare for, fight, and win our nation's wars. A disciplined special operations force of hand-selected Airmen leading joint operations, Special Tactics Airmen are **deliberate** in their thoughts and actions to deliver solutions to the nation's most complex military challenges.

Special Tactics combines the core skills of **Special Operation Forces** with the tactical integration of air power to find unique solutions for ground problems.

*Special Tactics Airmen are the Air Force's ground special operations component. With more than 650 combat mission support Airmen and 1,000 Special Tactics operators in 29 locations, our operators are experts in global access, precision strike, personnel recovery and battlefield surgery operations.*

*Since Sept. 11, 2001, Air Force Special Tactics has been involved in almost every major operation and has seen a significant amount of combat. They are the most highly decorated community in the Air Force since the end of the Vietnam War.*

### GLOBAL ACCESS

- Special Tactics teams can assess, open, and control major airfields to clandestine dirt strips in either permissive or hostile locations, providing strategic access for our nation's military.
- Special Tactics ensures U.S. and allied nations can access man-made and natural contested, degraded and operationally-challenged environments, enabling options for assault and power projection.

### PRECISION STRIKE

- Special Tactics Airmen are highly-trained in kinetic and non-kinetic precision strike—from coordinating with aircraft to direct accurate munitions to humanitarian aid drops from the ground.
- Special Tactics Airmen are a ground force that maximize the impacts of air power by controlling and directing precise strikes to destroy enemy terrain, positions and resources.

### PERSONNEL RECOVERY

- Special Tactics teams conduct personnel recovery missions, from rapid mission planning to technical rescue, treatment and exfiltration. With in-depth medical and rescue expertise, along with their deployment capabilities, ST Airmen are able to perform rescue missions in the world's most remote areas.

### BATTLEFIELD SURGERY

- Special Operations Surgical Teams' proximity to the fight and ability to conduct high-level surgical operations in austere environments saves lives, builds relationships with the local populace and provide psychological stability for joint and allied forces combatting the enemy.



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