

US AIR FORCE SPECIAL OPERATIONS SPECIAL TACTICS FORCES

US Air Force Special Tactics forces consist of special operations combat control teams (SOCCTs), pararescue (PJ) forces, and special operations weather teams (SOWT). The basic unit of employment is the special tactics team (STT), composed of one SOCTT officer, 11 SOCCT enlisted, and six pararescue personnel.

STT CAPABILITIES

- Providing positive control of the terminal objective area aviation environment during special operations forces (SOF) operations.
- Coordinating air/ground operations with ground forces commander.
- Providing VFR and limited IFR air traffic control.
- Siting and operating navigational aids and beacons.
- Providing DZ/LZ selection, assessment, survey, and establishment.
- Providing forward arming and refueling point (FARP) control.
- Providing close air support offensive fire targeting, and spotting for SOF.
- Conducting demolition operations for LZ establishment or follow-on operations.
- Providing emergency medical care, casualty collection, and staging in support of SOF.
- Conducting air-land-sea SOF personnel recovery operations from virtually all
- DOD transport platforms.



- Conducting special reconnaissance operation in support of SOF.
- Participating in joint missions with Army/Navy teams or unilaterally.

STT LIMITATIONS

- Small caliber and short range weapons.
- A standard 18 man STT can support one DZ/LZ for round-the-clock operations for 72 hours or smaller elements can support multiple missions for lesser time.
- Limited supplies require resupply after 72 hours.

STT personnel are qualified in static line and free fall parachuting, SCUBA operations, small team tactics, and inflatable boat operations. STTs can either operate independently or be attached to special forces or SEAL teams as the tactical situation warrants.

SOWTs are available for deployment behind enemy lines to observe and report current weather conditions. The teams are trained to infiltrate by parachute, foot, or watercraft.

