



SECFOR Inauguration Parade - Chief of Air Force: Air Marshal Geoff Brown AO - Thursday 4 July 2013

Officer Commanding 395 Expeditionary Combat Support Wing, GPCAPT Peter Davis, Commanding Officers Security Forces Squadrons, officers and airmen of the Security Forces, family members, invited guests, ladies and gentlemen.

Today is indeed a historic day. One that I hope you will recall with pride and a sense of ownership. You are part of a new era for Air Force. In your career you will witness evolutionary changes in the delivery of air power.

Many of you have witnessed the introduction of the C-17A and have seen the arrival of the KC-30A. You have heard the sound of Super Hornets above Amberley our new premier strike platform.

You are part of an enterprise that will be bringing into service the P-8 Poseidon, our next generation maritime surveillance and response platform, a new ISR Unmanned Air System and of course the Joint Strike Fighter. Each of these advanced weapon systems enhances the level of air power.

But one of the most significant changes they bring is our approach to security. Security can no longer be viewed as a collection of functions. It is a continuum that spans the spectrum of needs. These needs range from physical security of our bases in peace time through to the protection of our deployed capabilities during times of conflict

We need a security force whose activities are integrated. They must be capable of meeting the full range of current security needs of the Air Force. We need a force able to respond to the challenges and complexity expected of the future. We are looking at a new paradigm for our security forces, driven by the requirement to be capable of delivering protection across the entire security continuum.

And as I stand here today and look out across this parade I see men and women who are the tip of the sword. You are the team who will secure our capabilities, through both peace and conflict; at home and when deployed.

I am proud to be here today to mark the formal establishment of three Security Forces Squadrons. These squadrons comprise personnel currently in the SECPOL, ADG, ABP and EOD mustering. You represent the new age of security forces within Air Force.

This new structure will provide coherency, standardisation, and flexibility to our security organisation. It will deliver responsiveness across the continuum of security tasks; from domestic security through to war fighting.

The creation of these three new SECFOR Squadrons has been achieved by renaming the two Air Field Defence Squadrons, and standing up a third. The historical links to these Squadrons and the role of the Airfield Defence Guard are important for Air Force History.

However the change in role and function of these Squadrons is significant. The transition from our current organisation into the new SECFOR structure represents significant structural

change. Change that Air Force security and ground defence families have not witnessed since Vietnam. The establishment of these Squadrons is only part of the development of new Security Forces organisation.

Today also marks the disbandment of the Security Police Mustering. But it also sees the creation of two new musterings, Air Force Security and Air Force Police. Each trade element in a SECFOR Squadron delivers flexible, adaptable and agile responses to the needs of Air Force. The SECFOR organisation combines all of these capabilities. Under 395 ECSW, the organisation's focus will be primarily on meeting all concurrent security requirements.

The creation of the SECFOR Squadrons is the first step in developing a cohesive and focused Security organisation. Within the SECFOR SQN, each mustering will require additional training. The mature SECFOR organisation will require an officer category capable of operating across the full continuum of security tasks. The GRDEF and SECPOL officer categories will be merged into a single specialisation – the Security Force Officer.

I challenge you each of you here today to ensure that the synergies achieved by the creation of the SECFOR SQN are not compromised by traditional stove pipes. This will require you to respect the past and strive for continued excellence in your specialist fields.

You will need the agility to think and act wisely in your response to the many challenges that will come your way. I have full confidence in you, your commanders and the SECFOR organisation to meet the new security challenges.

The opportunity is now yours to write a new chapter of Air Force's history.

Thank you