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40 YEARS

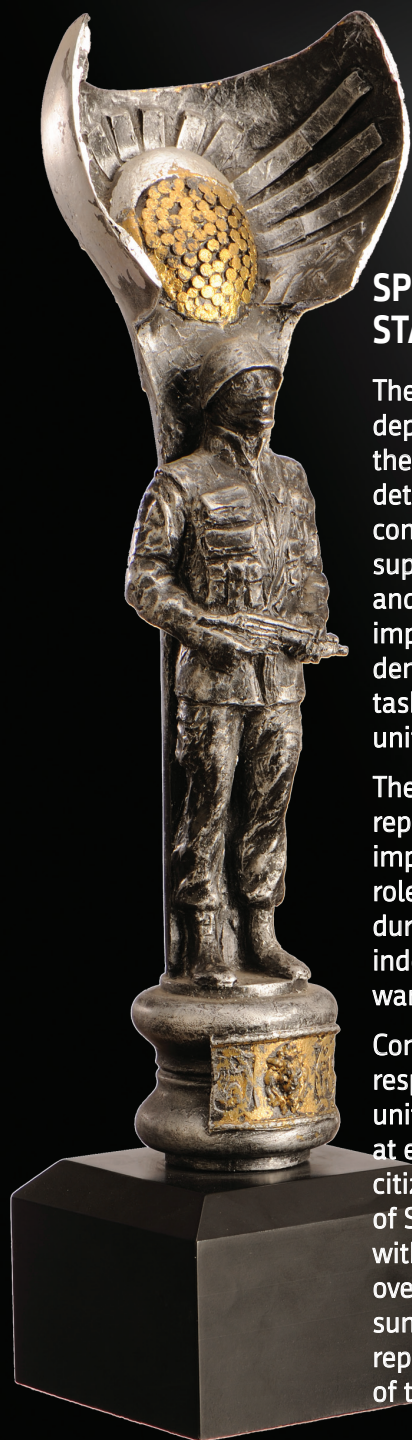
SPECIAL UNIT

SPECIAL UNIT'S STATUE

The statue symbolically depicts a member of the Special Unit, its determination, self-confidence, strength, supreme competence and willingness to implement the most demanding security tasks, while acting as a uniform group.

The Prince's Stone represents the importance and the role played by the unit during the struggle for independence and the war for Slovenia.

Constant readiness and responsibility of the unit's members, aimed at ensuring the safety of citizens of the Republic of Slovenia, are depicted with an open crown edge over the moon and tiny suns, which symbolically represent the members of this unit.



SPECIAL UNIT

Special Unit of the Police Specialities Directorate is a tactical police unit in charge of counter-terrorism operations and the implementation of the most demanding police tasks, such as arresting perpetrators of the most severe criminal acts, tasks in the area of anti-bomb protection, protection of highest national and foreign government representatives, escorting valuable or hazardous shipments, carrying out tasks in case of natural or other disasters etc. The unit performs its tasks at any time throughout the country, simultaneously in multiple locations, also independently from other services of the police, whom otherwise provides with all due support.

Police special forces emerged in the early 70-ies along with the appearance and expansion of terrorist activities and organizations that ordinary police units with their level of skills, inappropriate tactics and equipment were unable to effectively resist. Many aircraft hijacking, capture and massacre of a part of the Israeli sports team at the Olympics in Munich in 1972, kidnapping and murder of Aldo Moro, Italian Prime Minister, in 1978 in Italy, bomb attacks on diplomatic-consular missions of some countries indicated that terrorism is dangerous and organized form of action executed by individuals or groups on different (mainly political) basis, who do not agree with the established social systems and the existing distribution of power in society.

Special Unit of the Slovenian police with the official name »Special Unit« was established on 1st March 1973 and is today the top trained police unit, which with its mobility, adapted operational tactics and modern equipment is able to solve the most demanding security tasks. Its members are trained to perform the highest risk level tasks, while tending to provide a high level of security to possibly innocent, potential suspects and their own security. »Trained to help, but also for striking and sharpness!« has been the unit's slogan since 1990.

On the developmental path, determined mainly with different internal organizational integration within the Ministry of the Interior and the Police and its renaming, the unit's fundamental task remained unchanged. Its members cooperate with other police units and authorities in the execution of the most demanding security tasks or actions and various trainings.

Special Unit is a combination of the best police officers, modern weapons, specialist equipment and material resources, which enables it to perform its tasks professionally. The unit often plays the role of »last defence line« when there is no other way to deal with the worst situations in which people's lives are undoubtedly at risk. Therefore, maintaining the unit's high operational level is a guarantee that a serious crime and terrorism in Slovenia will never prevail.

MILESTONES IN THE UNIT'S DEVELOPMENT

- 1973 Establishment of Militia corps within the militia inspectorate of the Republic Inspectorate for Internal Affairs in constant composition; due to hostile action performed by "Phoenix" and political migration forecasts that the number of the group members shall increase, the then president of the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia issues a command for founding special units aimed at combating terrorism in all republics of the former Yugoslavia.
- 1977 Establishment of Protective militia unit, within which Militia corps for specific tasks along with the troop for specific tasks was organized as the predecessor of today's Special Unit. The period up to 1990 was marked by the search for a suitable organizational structure and by shifting personnel within the Protective militia unit.
- 1990 Establishment of Special Unit of the Ministry of the Interior becoming an independent organizational unit within the ministry, which reports directly to the minister. This period was marked by preparatory activities for the independence of the Republic of Slovenia.
- 1991 Active involvement in the War for Independence, affirming already gained trust in the unit.
- 2000 Following reorganization of the Ministry of the Interior and the Police, Special Unit becomes internal organizational unit of the General Police Directorate.
- 2010 Based on reorganization of the General Police Directorate, Police Specialities Directorate is founded, incorporating Special Unit, Security and Protection Centre, Air Support Unit and Operation and Communication Centre.