

**20 NOVEMBER 2025**

**Personnel**

**AMC SECURITY FORCES ORDER OF  
THE BAYONET**



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**RELEASABILITY:** There are no releasability restrictions on this publication.

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OPR: HQ AMC/A4SM

Certified by: HQ AMC/A4S  
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Supersedes: AMCPAM36-2801, 30 August 2018

Pages: 6

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This pamphlet implements DAFMAN 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*. It is an informational guide for Security Forces to nominate persons for the Order of the Bayonet and provides guidance on approval and presentation of the award. It applies to all Air Mobility Command (AMC) active duty, gained Air National Guard (ANG), and Associate Air Force Reserve units. It does not apply to any units under United States Space Force. This pamphlet may not be supplemented or further implemented/extended. Ensure that all records created as a result of processes prescribed in this publication are maintained in accordance with AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, and disposed of in accordance with Air Force Records Information Management System Records Disposition Schedule. Refer recommended changes and questions about this publication to the Office of Primary Responsibility (OPR) using DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*; route the DAF Form 847s from the field through the appropriate functional's chain of command.

**SUMMARY OF CHANGES**

This pamphlet provides minor revisions and therefore does not require a complete review. This version further clarifies the nomination process, the required number of ceremonial formation participants and their required uniform.

1.	History of the Order of the Bayonet: .....	2
2.	Procedures for Nomination: .....	2
Figure 1.	Address .....	2

3.	Representative Ceremony: .....	3
4.	Description of the Order of the Bayonet Award: .....	4
<b>Attachment 1—GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION</b>		<b>5</b>
<b>Attachment 2—ORDER OF THE BAYONET CITATION (EXAMPLE)</b>		<b>6</b>

## 1. History of the Order of the Bayonet:

1.1. The bayonet is a close-in defensive weapon used as a last resort to prevent being overrun by an attacker. The primary wartime mission of the Security Forces is defending air bases and the resources they contain. The Security Forces must defeat the enemy close-in to be successful; therefore, the bayonet is symbolic of the Security Forces mission.

1.2. The AMC Order of the Bayonet was established in 1981 to recognize those who have made significant contributions to security, training and both the air and ground defense of AMC Installations. The order originally had two classes; *commander* (for those whose contributions have been highly significant and affect major programs) and *defender* (for others making major contributions). A third class, *support*, was added in 1995.

1.2.1. **COMMANDER CLASS:** Nominees must be assigned against an "A" prefix or "C" billet with a minimum grade of O-3. Candidates must have a record of continuous, direct involvement in security and/or base defense matters. Nominees should clearly be leaders in all areas.

1.2.2. **DEFENDER CLASS:** Nominees must have clearly been leaders in security and base defense throughout their careers. Nominations should highlight specific achievements across a broad spectrum which have significantly impacted personnel and programs. Nominees may currently be in staff or unit leadership positions, should be at least the grade of E-6 (any rank for a specific heroic act), and a person who has continuously led and trained troops.

1.2.3. **SUPPORT CLASS:** Nominees in this category may be any rank, any occupation, military or civilian. This category is created to recognize the particular efforts of those who have helped defenders train, prepare for, and conduct contingency and wartime tasks.

## 2. Procedures for Nomination:

2.1. Any AMC or AMC gained ANG or Associate Air Force Reserve Command (AFRC) personnel may nominate a person or persons to be inducted into the AMC Order of the Bayonet. Nominations should be in letter format, clearly identifying the qualifying significant contributions to AMC. Nominations should include a citation ([Attachment 2](#)). E-mail nominations to the AMC/A4 A4S Security Forces Division org box at [amc.a7s@us.af.mil](mailto:amc.a7s@us.af.mil) or send hard copy nominations to:

### Figure 1. Address

<p>HQ AMC/A4SM          Bldg 1625          310 W. Martin St.          Scott AFB IL 62225-5011</p>
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2.2. All AMC Security Forces Senior Enlisted Leaders and the AMC/SFM will review submissions; nominations must be approved by two thirds majority for final consideration. The AMC Chief of Security Forces is the final approving authority for all submissions.

2.3. If approved, the nominator is responsible for arranging an appropriate ceremony.

### 3. Representative Ceremony: (if manpower is available)

3.1. The ceremonial formation forms with either one 44-member flight or two 13-member squads facing the presentation area.

3.2. The bayonet detail (consisting of the presenter and four guards) forms between flights (or squads) facing the presentation area.

3.3. The commander of troops is in front of the formation facing the troops and bayonet detail.

3.4. The escort detail (consisting of two persons) is with the recipient in a location out of view of the presentation area. **Note:** All participants (except the recipient) are dressed in the current OCP uniform with web belts. Flight or squad members, four-person bayonet detail, and escorts are armed with M-4 rifles with bayonets fixed, unsheathed, and the bayonet scabbard fixed to the right side of the web belt. The commander of troops, flight or squad leaders, narrator for the Order of the Bayonet, and the person presenting the order have the bayonet sheathed and fixed to the right side of the web belt.

3.5. The commander of troops commands: "Group, attention," then does an about face and faces the presentation area.

3.6. The commander of troops commands: "Escort detail, front and center."

3.7. The escort detail enters flanking recipient, takes position, and faces the commander of troops and the formation.

3.8. The commander of troops commands: "Present arms." The recipient returns salute.

3.9. The commander of troops commands: "Order arms," then "parade rest."

3.10. The narrator describes the Order of the Bayonet.

3.11. The commander of troops orders: "Group, attention; bayonet detail." The commander makes a left flanking movement to get out of the way of the bayonet detail, stops when clear of the first flight, and faces forward.

3.12. The bayonet detail comes forward and stops in front of the recipient.

3.13. The bayonet detail commander commands: "Present arms," then "center move."

3.14. The bayonet detail executes left and right faces as does the escort detail, so they are forming a rectangle around the detail commander and the recipient.

3.15. The narrator reads the citation to accompany the award of the Order of the Bayonet.

3.16. Upon completion of the citation, the presenter steps forward, presents the award, and steps backward. Then, the bayonet detail commander commands: "Ready front."

3.17. The bayonet detail faces (left and right) to the front again.

3.18. The escort detail faces the bayonet detail.

3.19. The detail commander salutes and commands: "Port arms," then "about face" and "forward march." Upon reaching its original position, the commander commands: "Detail, halt," then "about face."

3.20. Upon departure of the bayonet detail, the commander of troops resumes the original position in front of the recipient, facing honor flights/squads and the bayonet detail, then asks the recipient to make comments.

3.21. At the conclusion of the recipient's comments, the commander of troops orders "Present arms," then does an about face and salutes as a mark of honor and a highlight of every ceremony.

3.22. The commander of troops does an about face and orders: "Order arms," then does an about face resuming the original position in front of the recipient.

3.23. The escort detail and the recipient make a left face and march out of the presentation area.

3.24. The commander of troops does an about face and orders: "flight/squad leaders, dismiss your flights/squads."

3.25. The narrator informs spectators: "This concludes the ceremony." **Note:** The above description is a typical ceremony. It may be modified for presentation inside a building to meet space requirements or availability of Security Forces personnel. However, a bayonet detail, consisting of a person to present the award, and four bayonet guards are always included in the ceremony.

#### 4. Description of the Order of the Bayonet Award:

4.1. The bayonet is enclosed in a 21 by 17-inch shadow box. The top engraving plate is 12 by 1 1/2 inches and the bottom engraving plate is 12 by 4 1/2 inches.

4.1.1. **Commander Class:** Background in the shadow box is black velvet; the chrome plated bayonet is mounted between the engraved plates.

4.1.2. **Defender Class:** Background is the current OCP uniform; the bayonet is regular, blued, mounted between the engraved plates.

4.1.3. **Support Class:** Background is dark blue velvet; the bayonet is regular, blued, mounted between the engraved plates.

ANTHONY D. BABCOCK, Brig Gen, USAF  
Director of Logistics, Engineering and Force  
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**Attachment 1**

**GLOSSARY OF REFERENCES AND SUPPORTING INFORMATION**

***References***

AFI 33-322, *Records Management and Information Governance Program*, 23 March 2020

DAFMAN 36-2806, *Military Awards: Criteria and Procedures*, 27 October 2022

***Prescribed Forms***

None

***Adopted Forms***

DAF Form 847, *Recommendation for Change of Publication*

***Abbreviations and Acronyms***

**AFRC**—Air Force Reserve Command

**AMC**—Air Mobility Command

**ANG**—Air National Guard

**OCP**—Operation Camouflage Pattern

**OPR**—Office of Primary Responsibility

## Attachment 2

## ORDER OF THE BAYONET CITATION (EXAMPLE)

Table A2.1. Order of the Bayonet Citation (Example).

**EXAMPLE****CITATION TO ACCOMPANY THE AWARD  
THE ORDER OF THE BAYONET  
(COMMANDER, DEFENDER, SUPPORT) CLASS  
(RANK) (NAME)**

**During (his/her) tenure as (state duty position/title), (name) displayed dedicated and sincere support for the security and (air/ground) defense mission withing Air Mobility Command. Recognizing deficiencies in security capabilities, (he/she) provided personal guidance and directed acquisition of resources which resulted in Air Mobility Command defenders becoming the best equipped and trained security and base defense force in the United States Air Force. (Name's) association with Security Forces men and women through unit visits; participation in Security Forces conferences, overall level of functional subject matter expertise, and overdrive to support the warfighter have earned (her or him) all defenders' highest loyalty and respect. The men and women of Air Mobility Command's Security Forces salute (rank and name) by bestowing upon (him/her) our highest symbol of honor "The Order of the Bayonet."**