

140 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

MISSION

The 140th Civil Engineer Squadron (CES) is a 99 member Squadron that is tasked with a dual mission to provide follow-on Prime Base Engineering Emergency Forces (BEEF) in support of State, National and Worldwide emergencies, as well as to support the day-to-day operations and maintenance of the base facilities and infrastructure. The squadron is responsible for planning, programming, designing and managing construction projects for the various facilities and locations throughout the Colorado Air National Guard area of responsibility. As part of that mission, the men and women of the squadron identify, define and validate maintenance repair and construction requirements for two Geographically Separated Units as well as Buckley Air Force Base itself. The 140th Civil Engineer Squadron is also responsible for the 140th Wing Environmental, Emergency Management and Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) functions.

Deploy worldwide to support aircraft operations at any deployed base, providing force bed down, operations and maintenance support, fire protection, crash rescue, Chemical Biological and Nuclear (NBC) attack warning and detection, Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Base Recovery After Attack (BRAAT), including Airfield Damage and Repair (ADR) duties during wartime operations.

LINEAGE

140 Civil Engineering Squadron
Redesignated 140 Civil Engineer Squadron

STATIONS

Buckley AFB, CO

ASSIGNMENTS

140 Mission Support Group

COMMANDERS

Maj Gilmore
LTC Duncan
Maj Bedker

Maj Lightholt
Cpt Bowling
Cpt Gustafson
Maj Renton
LTC Sheehan
Maj Jack A. Rychecky
LTC Thomas Stanley, #2001
LTC Phillip Landeros

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The lessons of the Vietnam call-up demanded a new role for the combat support mission of civil engineering. To, avoid depleting home station support upon activation, the Colorado Air National Guard separated wartime civil engineering forces from the 140 Combat Support Squadron, creating in September 1969 a new unit — the 140th Civil Engineering Flight. Until Maj Gilmore arrived in January 1970, MSgt Walter Aiberhasky acted as commander.

Because of USAF tasking in 1977, most of the Colorado ANG spent its annual field training at various locations. The 140 CES deployed to Whiteman AFB, Mo., where they supported a base construction program. In another small deployment, the 140th Communications Flight sent 29 people to Baden- Solingen, West Germany, as part of a specialized unit to assist in a communications set-up for numerous European theater exercises. The 120th Weather Flight furnished weather support at Gulfport, Miss. Members of the 140 WSSF received training at Canon AFB, N.M.

Of the original 35 members, only then Amn. Chris Barnes (now a chief master sergeant with-the 240th CEF) remains at Buckley ANG Base. For its first drill in October 1969, the flight met in Building 38 with an .open-ranks inspection and close-order drill conducted outside building 504. Since that initial UTA the ranks of the unit have swelled as the mission has become more challenging. Originally the flight was tasked to merge with other civil engineering units, set up a

bare base in theater and provide self-defense and fire suppression. With the implementation of Prime BEEF (Base Engineering Emergency Force) in 1974, the unit's responsibilities increased to include bomb damage repair, rapid runway repair and base denial, all in support of the 140th TFW combat role. To fulfill the tasking, the unit grew to 72 members, then 85,97 and in 1989, the squadron will gain a services section and increase in size to 157 personnel. Accompanying this growth was the designation of the flight as a squadron in 1983. UTAs are now held in the civil engineer shops at buildings 711,719 and 720.

Short-notice worldwide mobility coupled with a capability to accomplish almost any mission associated with construction has been fundamental to the Prime BEEF concept. Training has consisted of various out-of-state and out-of-country active duty deployments during which construction projects were completed within tight schedules. The number of plaques hanging on the squadron walls testifies to the professionalism and skill with which the unit has consistently overcome material shortages, equipment problems and design errors to complete its assignments.

Kulis ANGB, AK: Erect modular dormitory

Nellis AFB, NV; Wartime engineering training

Davis-Monthan AFB, AZ: Level aircraft parking area

Ramey AFB, PR: Rehab barracks and install BAK-12

Buckley ANGB, CO: Integrate with civilian forces

Fort Hood, TX; Augment base fire department

Tyndall AFB, FL; Wartime engineering training

Whiteman AFB, MO: Construct fire training pit and gas storage building

Elmendorf AFB, AK: Construct parking lot and rehab VOQ

Howard AFB, Panama: Rehab Airmen's club, raze post office, enhance airfield drainage and construct fire station addition

Fairchild AFB, WA: Convert ANG warehouse area and build LOX storage bldg.

Great Falls IAP, MT: Rehab hangar crypto area and CE shops

McGhee Tyson ANGB, TN: Raze building, install radio tower foundation, improve ramp and relamp base, Rehab VAQ

Eglin AFB, FL: RRR training Base recovery after attack training

Hickam AFB, HI: Remodel dining facility, PACAF HQ and base gym, convert rec. center and install concrete slabs

Camp Ripley, MN: Repair roofs and construct biathlon range

Palmerola AB, Honduras: Support "JTF Bravo" with construction of a customs building and improvements to post office, base electrical systems and showers

USAF Unit Histories

Created: 19 Feb 2021

Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.