241st CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

LINEAGE
241st Civil Engineering Flight established and received Federal recognition 12 Jan 1980
241st Civil Engineer Squadron

STATIONS
Camp Murray, WA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS
Maj Jay Armstrong, Jr., #1984

HONORS
Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS
The 241 CE provides Engineering and Facility Support to the 252 CMBTCG and 4 squadrons, the flight is tasked as a Prime Beef Team (CF-2) with a mobility mission on support of SAC. Logistics support comes from 141 AREFW. In addition to the Camp Murray Operations, the flight also support its' operating location at Yakima, WA.

January 1, 1980, the 241st Civil Engineering Flight, at 73 authorized personnel, was activated

at Camp Murray, Tacoma, WA, with an operating location in Yakima, WA. The 241st Civil Engineering Flight was attached to Headquarters, 252nd Combat Communications Group for administrative support, training, operational control, and logistical support but militarily assigned to the 141st Air Refueling Wing, Fairchild AFB, WA, under Strategic Air Command (SAC). The 241st Civil Engineering Plight started with a nucleus at Camp Murray and immediately began recruiting in Yakima. The squadron experienced immediate success with top quality NCO's and by transferring in a large number of Army National Guard personnel. At this point the unit was divided with 25-30 personnel in Yakima and about 40 at Camp Murray. Effective July 1,1985, the National Guard Bureau re-designated the 241st Civil Engineering Flight to the 241st Civil Engineering Squadron. In October 1985, the Yakima detachment was closed and all members began drilling at Camp Murray. In 1992, Strategic Air Command was deactivated and the 241st Civil Engineer Squadron remained assigned to the 141st Air Refueling Wing, but under Air Mobility Command (AMC). In September 1992, the National Guard Bureau notified the commander informally that the unit would be deactivated as a result of no wartime tasking to support aircraft. On June 20,1993, an official message was received rescinding the unit's mission. In November 1993, after much involvement and lobbying by squadron and state leaders, official correspondence was received indicating that the 241st Civil Engineer Squadron did have a viable mission and would be kept to support the State of Washington and the United States Air Force. The Squadron had their command alignment changed from the 252nd Combat Communications Group to HQ, Washington Air National Guard on March 1,1998. Around this time, the 241st was no longer militarily attached to the 141st Air Refueling Wing but remained an AMC-gained unit, The 241st Civil Engineer Squadron won the Adjutant General's Trophy and was awarded WA ANG Unit Citation Ribbons in 1986 and 1990. In 1990 the unit was awarded the Air Force Outstanding Unit Award as part of the 141st Air Refueling Wing. The Squadron has deployed to Europe, South America, the Pacific Rim, and numerous locations in the United States. The 241st CES is ready to mobilize and deploy on short notice to provide engineer forces to support regional conflict missions at contingency operating locations, aerial ports, en-route bases or critical CONUS bases. Its abilities include support for pre-attack, trans-attack, post attack and passive defense measures. The 241st is able to provide force-beddown, sustainment of facilities and utilities, and base recovery.

Since the flights beginning it has deployed to the 262 CMBTCS, Bellingham WA., and accomplished a number of construction and repair projects in 1981. In 1982 the flight deployed to March AFB, CA. and renovated a Liquid Fuels Laboratory. In 1983 deployed to Eglin AFB, FL for Rapid Runway Repair (RRR) Training and Tyndall AFB, FL for various construction projects.

Growth of the flight has increased from 73 to 93 to 103 authorized personnel and has received individual and flight recognition for support of Air and Army National Guard Facilities, community projects, the 23 TASS CELTIC ECHO 81 Exercise, and mission support from the Strategic Air Command.

The 241st Civil Engineer Squadron recently returned from Norway having participated in WarANG 98, a training exercise involving rapid runway repair, Norwegian style. Meanwhile, other members are currently deployed to Otis Air National Guard Base near Falmouth, MS,

building the required infrastructure for fiber optic cable installation. In addition, unit personnel will be deploying to Tyndall AFB, FL, later this summer to participate in Silver Flag 98, for additional wartime training. The 241st Civil Engineering Squadron, headquartered at Camp Murray, Tacoma WA, participated in an overseas tour to Rygge Main Air Station, near Oslo, Norway, to learn the latest techniques regarding Reparable Airfield Operating Strip Operations (RAOS). The two-week deployment from 9-23 May entailed learning the Norwegian Armed Forces method of repairing damaged airfields as a result of a hostile attack. Forty-three Washington Guard members formed into teams that utilized a mixture of different Air Force Specialty Codes (AFSC), working together on runway repair projects, following the Norwegian model. During the second week, 241st CES personnel were involved in a variety of repair projects including building a concrete pad for hydrazine storage, a new roof for a storage building, constructing a carport, and converting an aircraft parking area to a concrete surface for a liquid oxygen plant. "It was a great opportunity for training. It helped us tremendously in our command and control. It was a real pleasure working with our hosts as they are very organized", said Maj Mark Ausman, Base Civil Engineer. Currently, the squadron has nearly a dozen Guardsmen deployed to Otis ANGB, near Falmouth MS for a two week period. They are helping to install the infrastructure required for the installation of fiber optic cable throughout the base. This entails installing underground conduits and concrete vaults to help facilitate the installation of the fiber cable. A second installation team will rotate in during the latter part of July. From 30 Aug to 5 Sept, another group of squadron members will participate in Silver Flag 98 at Tyndall AFB, FL, for additional wartime tasking and training. Deployed personnel will receive Base Recovery After Attack Training (BRAAT) which includes rapid runway repair training, together with other civil engineer responsibilities such as expedient repair of electrical, structural, sewer, and water systems.

Thirty-six members of the 241st Civil Engineer Squadron, headquartered at Camp Murray, Tacoma WA, deployed to Kadena Air Base in Okinawa recently to provide construction support to Detachment 1, Pacific Air Forces Civil Engineer Squadron (PACAF CES), the cadre who run the Silver Flag Exercise Training Site. During their 2 weeks in Japan, the engineers of the 241st completed ten projects and started an additional two projects at the training site to provide future classes with better training facilities. Silver Flag is an exercise run once every two years for active duty Air Force civil engineers, and every three years for their reserve component counterparts. It provides an opportunity for airmen in each of the civil engineering specialties to gets hands-on training on contingency equipment. The training started with a 'force bed-down' exercise where the unit set up their own tent city, and culminated in a 'contingency readiness' exercise, during which the individual students come together as units and react to missions given by the cadre. Kadena Air Base is host to one of three Silver Flag sites worldwide, and provides valuable train-up to CE and Services units preparing to deploy in support of the Air Expeditionary Force. To provide this training, the site needs to maintain quality facilities. The projects that the 241st CES built included replacing a pavilion roof that was torn off by a recent typhoon, installing a new roof and siding on the 'smokehouse' used for firefighter training, pouring eight different concrete pads for training equipment sites, enlarging a conference room, enclosing a 16 ft by 32 ft storage shed, and re-building a rappelling tower. The projects provided a great opportunity to train on carpentry, use of heavy equipment and to hone concrete skills. There was also an opportunity for some individuals to cross-train on jobs apart from their usual duties. The cadre of Detachment 1, PACAF CES provided outstanding support throughout the deployment. They planned the projects well in advance, met the unit

when they arrived over the weekend, and had the majority of the materials and tools required pre-positioned at the work site so the 241st could get straight to work. It is the nature of the National Guard that any time lost to travel and preparation equates directly to lost training time. The cadre's prior planning and resourcing maximized training time. This, in turn, allowed the Guardsmen to complete more projects for them, making the deployment mutually beneficial. After hours, the Guardsmen explored the island of Okinawa. Okinawa is located almost 1000 miles south of Tokyo, and is the largest island south of the main Japanese islands. It is centrally located between most of the major Asian port cities, and has a rich heritage of international maritime trade. Because of its strategic location, it was the site of one of the largest and most important battles of World War II, as it was the last defense before the Japanese mainland. Most of the unit had the opportunity to tour some of these battlefields, as well as some of the local castles and temples. All in all, it was an excellent deployment.

Thirty six members of the 241st Civil Engineer (CE) Squadron deployed to Kadena Air Base in Okinawa to provide construction support to Det 1 , Pacific Air Forces Civil Engineer Squadron (PACAF CES), the cadre who run the Silver Flag Exercise Site. From May, the engineers of the 241st completed ten projects and started an additional two projects at the training site to provide future classes with better training facilities. The Silver Flag Exercise runs once every two years for active duty and every three years for reserve component civil engineers. Here airmen in each of the civil engineering specialties get hands-on training on contingency equipment. The week-long training starts with the engineers setting up their own tent city, and culminates in a contingency readiness exercise where the individual students come together as units and react to missions given by the cadre. Kadena Air Base is host to one of three Silver Flag sites worldwide, and provides valuable train-up to CE and Services units preparing to deploy in support of the Air Expeditionary Force. The site needs quality facilities to provide this training. The projects that the 241st CES worked on include replacing a pavilion roof that was torn off by the last typhoon, installing a new roof and siding on the smoker iuse used for fire Uaintng, pouring eight different concrete pads for training equipment sites, enlarging a conference room, enclosing a 16 ft by 32 ft storage shed, and rebuilding a rappelling lower. These projects provided a opportunity to train on carpentry, use heavy equipment and hone concrete skills, and gave some individuals a chance for cross training. The cadre of Det 1. PACAF CES provided outstanding support throughout the deployment. They planned the projects well in advance, met the unit when it arrived over the weekend, and had 90% of the materials and tools on site so they could get right to work. Air National Guard Civil Engineers are most constrained by time and airlift. The cadre's prior planning and resourcing maximized training time, and allowed the unit to complete more projects, making the deployment mutually beneficial. After hours, unit members explored the island of Okinawa which is located almost 1000 miles south of Tokyo, and is the largest island south of the main Japanese islands. It is centrally located between most of the major Asian port cities, and has a rich heritage of international maritime trade. Because of its strategic location, it was the site of one of the largest and most important battles of World War II, as it was the last defense before the Japanese mainland. Most of the unit had the opportunity to tour some of these battlefields, us well as some of the local castles and temples.

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