# **439 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON**



# **MISSION**

### LINEAGE

439 Civil Engineering Squadron

### **STATIONS**

Westover ARB, MA

### **ASSIGNMENTS**

439 Mission Support Group

# **COMMANDERS**

Lt Col Paul E. Goliber Lt Col Trenton Holden

# **HONORS**

**Service Streamers** 

**Campaign Streamers** 

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers** 

### **Decorations**

# **EMBLEM**

Blue and yellow are the Air Force colors. Blue alludes to the sky, the primary theater of Air Force

operations. Yellow refers to the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel. The disc with gridlines alludes to a globe and signifies the worldwide engineering capabilities of the unit. The eagle indicates the mobility of Air Force Prime BEEF/RIBS Engineering teams. The runway, bulldozer and transom reflect the expertise of Squadron personnel in performing all facets of engineering

#### **MOTTO**

#### **NICKNAME**

#### **OPERATIONS**

Forty-three members of the 439th Civil Engineering Squadron deployed across the United States to help Native Americans living in New Mexico and California. Squadron members spent two weeks on a New Mexico Navajo reservation building homes and a new road into the San Pasqual Indian Reservation near San Diego, Calif. "We built two full homes from the ground up, including all the electrical wiring and plumbing. Some of the officers also helped design larger four bedroom homes," said Master Sgt. James M. Serra, 439th CES structures superintendent. Civil Engineers who went to San Pasqual Indian Reservation built a road to serve as a second way in and out of the reservation.

Senior Master Sgt. Clayton Hanright, supervisor of heavy equipment operations, said that a fire in 2003 ravaged the reservation which had only one road at the time. The new road will serve as a second point of access into the reservation and will help prevent such devastation from happening again, he said. Sergeant Hanright said the project was part of Innovative Readiness Training that involves joint branches of the military. This allows the military a training opportunity and the communities to receive improvements. The Southwest Indian Foundation provided the facilities and material for the homes. The foundation then gives the completed homes to families in need. Westover CES members also built homes during a deployment in 2003.2007

The process of gassing up planes at Westover Air Reserve Base, Mass., is about to undergo a big improvement, thanks to a \$24.5 million project to build a new fuel hydrant system. The project was funded by the Defense Logistics Agency. The military construction contract was awarded by the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, New England District. The Corps of Engineers will manage and supervise the project, which will be accomplished by Structural Associates Inc. of East Syracuse, N.Y. "We've been working with the same fueling infrastructure that has been here since the days of the Strategic Air Command when B-52s were flying out of Westover" said Col. Steven Vautrain, 439th Airlift Wing commander. "A C-5 can hold 323,000 pounds of fuel. This new system is going to greatly increase our ability to deliver that fuel to aircraft as quickly and safely as possible, which is absolutely mission essential."

"This project is going to totally replace the C-5 fuel hydrant system and support infrastructure on the ramp," said Capt. Brett Bailey, 439th Civil Engineer Squadron. He also serves as a civilian with base civil engineering as chief of design. "The project will construct a pressurized hydrant fuel system with 14 hydrant outlets and two 210,000-pound above-ground fuel storage tanks," Bailey said "Work will include modifying the existing pump house; constructing new truck fill

stands, a hydrant hose truck checkout and a product recovery system; and modifying the existing transfer pipeline.

Upgrading this system will be a huge benefit to the 439th AW in continuing to meet its mission." Upgrading the existing fueling infrastructure on the aircraft parking ramp is no small feat and comes with a huge coordination effort involving many Westover organizations. "With the project scheduled to start in September and take about two years to complete, that impacts a lot of operations and requires close coordination with many agencies here on base," Bailey said. "CE, Corps of Engineers, aircraft maintenance, airfield management, security forces and fuels are all tirelessly working to ensure the project goes smoothly. We're going to be conducting an elephant ballet out there for two years, and we have a world-class team doing it." 2013

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USAF Unit Histories Created: 4 Sep 2010 Updated: 30 May 2023

Sources

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