

# **177<sup>th</sup> MEDICAL GROUP**

## **LINEAGE**

177<sup>th</sup> USAF Clinic

## **STATIONS**

Egg Harbor Township (Atlantic City), NJ

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

## **COMMANDERS**

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

From August 1 through 5, Airmen from the 177<sup>th</sup> Medical Group along with 177th Services Flight combined forces with 110th, 115th, 161st and the 162nd Medical Groups for annual training at the Combat Readiness Training Center at Alpena, Mich. The training was geared toward deployment under bare base conditions anywhere in the world. The Guardsmen, who spent their entire deployment in a tent city at Camp Collins, represented a complete cross-section of medical skills present during the deployment. Everyone from physicians and flight surgeons to optometrists, nurses and medical service corps officers joined forces with administrative, medical equipment repair and public health personnel for training in a variety of combat and emergency scenarios. The Airmen received specialized training in the operation of Expeditionary Medical Support (EMEDS) – the Air Force’s new medical and dental field hospital – which

replaces air transportable clinics. EMEDS includes an emergency and operating rooms, x-ray capability and a 25- bed ward. The Airmen trained in disease prevention, combat stress, self aid and buddy care/wound management, litter loading for ambulance and C-130 Hercules aircraft. They also trained with a human patient simulator - a training device that looks like and responds in the same way a person does when a doctor and staff works on it. The training scenarios included emergency and operating rooms, a mass casualty exercise, and a “bug out” -a term many will recognize from the TV series MASH - which means to pull up stakes and relocate operations. The 177th Services Flight Airmen received special recognition in the final report. “The Food Services personnel were considered outstanding by everyone,” stated Col. Patrick D. Aiello, Commander, 161st Medical Group, 161st Air Refueling Wing, Phoenix, Ariz. “They were on time every day, had outstanding attitudes and served great food.” “We truly didn't have a weak link,” summarized Lt. Col. Gerald Iuliucci, 177th Medical Services Corps. “The patient retrieval team members’ response was highly focused. The ER team accomplished the most rapid and efficient throughput of patients. The OR team did more procedures than ever before for this type of exercise. All personnel consistently showed high levels of enthusiasm and professionalism

Airmen from the 177<sup>th</sup> Medical Group deployed to Ramstein Air Base, located near Ramstein-Miesenbach, Germany from July 19 to August 1. The 31 Airmen comprise all the major sections in the Medical group – laboratory, medical logistics, medical technicians, public health, dental, optometry, administration, nursing and flight surgeons. In addition, three members of the 177th Chaplain team deployed to serve the wounded at Landstuhl Army Hospital, which is located near Ramstein. The 177th Airmen served with the 86th Medical Group, which with 854 medical personnel divided among five squadrons is the largest overseas Air Force clinic. It also has the largest Dental Squadron comprised of 52 dentists who attend to more than 51,000 appointments each year. “They got a lot of training that is often hard to come by,” said Col. David J. Mellish, 177th Medical Group commander. “In addition they were working alongside their active-duty counterparts.” The purpose of the deployment was to give the Airmen Readiness Skills Verification training at an overseas medical treatment facility. These include everything from H1N1 screening, patient loading on aeromedical evacuation flights, to biological warfare testing and even K-9 patient handling. During their time at Ramstein, they accomplished more than 80 percent of their RSVs—a rather high accomplishment, given the duration of the deployment. The Garden State Airmen assigned to the Contingency Aerospace Staging Facility were fully integrated with the active duty Airmen and Marines performing aeromedical patient movement duties. The doctors—dental, optometry, pediatrics and family practice saw at least one patient per hour. In addition, 23 medical Airmen—74 percent of the group deployed—donated blood. All in all, a very fulfilling deployment.

The 177th USAF Clinic deployed to USAF Medical Center, Keesler AFB, MS during the period 8 February 1991 to 22 March 1991 due to being activated for Operation Desert Storm. A total of twenty-five Clinic personnel were deployed. The primary purpose of this deployment was a partial mobilization to provide contingency support and backfill personnel deployed from USAFMC Keesler. Clinic personnel were integrated into various sections within the hospital, to include Patient Affairs, Admissions, Orderly Room. Outpatient Records, Emergency Room, Primary Care Clinic, Radiology. Bioenvironmental Environmental Health. Laboratory. Optometry. Flight Medicine. Dental and various nursing wards Oncology. Intensive Care

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Air Force Order of Battle

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Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.