

190 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

190 Civil Engineering Squadron
190 Civil Engineer Squadron

STATIONS

Topeka, KS

ASSIGNMENTS

190 Mission Support Group

COMMANDERS

LTC Raymond P. Rawe
LTC Mark Green

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The new fire-crash station at Forbes Field has been completed and is now "the newest and best fire station in the Air Guard," according to fire chief TSgt Michael Smith. The \$539,000 building,

containing almost 10,000 square feet, will be the only fire station for Forbes. Manpower and equipment for the station will be provided on a cooperative basis by the Air Guard, Army Guard and Metropolitan Topeka Airport Authority (MTAA). The station will be the combined operations center for fire and security protection of the MTAA. When there are military flying activities in progress, supplemental manning will be provided by the Army or Air Guard. Sgt Smith said he has 21 Air Guardsmen on duty with authorizations for 21 more, or a total roster of 42. There are also 25 Air technicians and 10 Army technician augmentees trained as "volunteer firemen" in case they are needed in an emergency. The nerve center of the new station is the alarm-communications room. Equipped with complete radio and telephone service, the com-room can remotely control lights, doors and intercoms throughout the building. In case of a late-night emergency, lights can be turned on remotely in the bunk rooms, kitchen, break room, hallway and apparatus parking area. The intercom can be patched-in to the radio communications so the firemen will already know where they are going. Fire hose washing and drying equipment will be installed to reduce the out of service time for used hose. It can take a full day to wash, dry and repack a 1,000 foot truck-load of hose. With the hose machine, the wash and dry time will be reduced to about one hour. Clean and dry storage of the hose is necessary to prevent it from rotting. The water tanks in the fire trucks can be filled from overhead piping in the apparatus room. One equipment bay has been designed to accommodate the newest P-15 military fire truck. The 14 foot high by 10 by 45 foot vehicle has a quick response capability as well as large fire-fighting capacity on-scene. Separate living quarters are provided for both male and female firefighters on extended shifts. There are bunks and locker space for seven men and three women. Bunker gear (aluminized protective fire suits) will be shared by firemen according to their sizes. This will reduce the expense of equipping each fireman as long as they are not on the same shift. A fully-equipped kitchen with seating area for 12 will permit the on-duty personnel to prepare their own meals. "I've seen some of these collectively-cooked meals turn out some pretty good food," Sergeant Smith said. Also in the station is a recreation/ training room. (early 1980s)

The 190th Civil Engineering Squadron has had a very full and productive 1992. The year started off quickly when 45 maintenance personnel deployed to the Combat Readiness Training Center in Gulfport, Miss. in January. Crews completed work on classroom construction, remodeling of the new VIP quarters, work and training on the barrier systems, and work for equipment operators at the bombing range at Camp Shelby. Prime BEEF training was also completed during the deployment. The adjutant general visited us during the trip to view our work. April saw 12 firefighters deploy to Alconbury, England, where they supported daily local flying, conducted building inspections in support of the host base, and completed required annual proficiency training. In September, 12 firefighters deployed to Eglin AFB, Fla., for Base Recovery After Attack Training (BRAAT). BRAAT allows engineering and services personnel the opportunity to train in an environment that simulates wartime conditions that can be expected in overseas theatres. It provides personnel the opportunity for hands-on experience on equipment and facilities that are not available anywhere else in the continental United States. Civil engineering was instrumental in completing a number of projects, including repair of the aircraft parking ramp. Other projects completed include replacing the water distribution system, construction in various buildings, modifying the Central Security Control, installing an

auto fire reporting system, and constructing parking lots and painting, among others. Civil engineering also assisted the Army National Guard in pre-construction of the new National Guard Museum, providing site development and equipment operator support. Our involvement is not limited to local activities. Unit members supported and worked at the Childrens' Miracle Network and the annual Jerry Lewis Labor Day Telethon for Muscular Dystrophy. It was a busy year - a very productive year for the Civil Engineering Squadron.

The 190th Civil Engineering Flight deployed 35 members to Iraq, departing on May 7, 2005. Their job was to maintain military facilities in the Iraqi theater, providing electrical work, heating and air conditioning maintenance, airport lighting, and other tasks. Four members also deployed to Qatar to provide base maintenance.

2010 - PORT-AU-PRINCE, Haiti (AFNS) -- The bright clothing, smiles and conversation could be taking place in any hospital lobby in the world. Patients are being admitted, treated and released. But a flurry of French and the grinding whirl of a helicopter nearby reveal the reality that this is Haiti. A brutal sun burns over the tent, while the floor is dust and rock. The patients survived Haiti's Jan. 12 earthquake. They've been flown from the USNS Comfort, the Navy's 1,000-bed floating hospital that has been deployed here. A handful of Navy translators are helping survivors to find rides back to their families. Sailors aboard the Comfort are working at their full operational capacity. Officials say it would take 100 more such ships to treat all of the estimated injured people in Haiti. Meanwhile, civil engineers from the Kansas Air National Guard are expanding one of the medical triage facilities in Port-au-Prince by assembling an expeditionary medical support hospital. About 40 members of the 190th Civil Engineering Squadron from Topeka, Kan., and five members of the 184th Civil Engineering Squadron from Wichita, Kan., deployed to Haiti to build infrastructure for sustained humanitarian operations. Many of the Guardsmen were training at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, when the earthquake struck Haiti. The units deployed to Haiti about two weeks later. The deployment is scheduled to last about four months. With the hospital in place, medics will be able to ease the workload on the Comfort by performing minor surgery and 24-hour medical operations without transporting patients to the ship. The guardsmen are also building a helicopter landing pad to help transport severely injured patients to and from the Comfort. "If there's minor surgery (the patients) can get it here instead of the ship," said Navy Lt. Cmdr. Robert Propes, the liaison officer for the Comfort. By the end of January, the engineers had set up air-conditioned tents. They plan to eventually provide showers and latrines. There is an informal consensus at the Port-au-Prince airport that the Kansas Air National Guard members are already heroes for bringing those facilities.

After a hot, dusty day of clearing debris, building tents and doing jobs they've trained for years to perform, civil engineers from the 190th Air Refueling Wing stopped for dinner with other members of the 24th Expeditionary Civil Engineering Squadron. Lt. Col. Mark Green, commander of the civil engineers in Kansas as well as the 121-person squadron in Haiti, joined his Airmen. The civil engineers hadn't had a day off since they arrived in Haiti. Their weariness was apparent, even under a stunning blood-red sunset. They pulled apart their MREs. Green paused and said slowly, "It's been continuous, one long day since we've gotten here." Their

accomplishments in Haiti are not unfamiliar. After the town of Greensburg was flattened by a tornado a few years ago, Kansas guardsmen were there, with a humanitarian mission, to clear the roads and set up Expeditionary Medical Support. "Having set up EMEDS in Greensburg, we hit the ground in Haiti better prepared," said Master Sgt. Casey Batterton, who is a structures supervisor from the 190th ARW who served in both locations. "We did mock set ups, a lot of training, but Greensburg was the first real world situation for us to use EMEDS," recalled Master Sgt. Brian Wohletz. Now, the current mission for the 190th ARW is also humanitarian. Wohletz described the perspective he's gained from helping in both the United States and Haiti, "I feel fortunate to have a part in helping people who need it." Construction has several elements-heavy equipment, power production, and many others - and it takes planning to coordinate all of those specialties. Greensburg also gave the civil engineers a realistic expectation of how quickly they could begin operations in Haiti. The medical team who took over EMEDS spent (Continued on two days setting up one tent before CE arrived. The Kansas Guardsmen set up a functional EMEDS in a matter of hours. The team was more thoroughly self-sufficient in Haiti. They had to provide their own power, their own water. There was no home improvement store they could drive to if they forgot supplies. Master Sgt. Carren Christianson, from the 190th ARW, described building EMEDS in Haiti. As her team had finished, the medical commander approached them and declared, "Do you realize what you've just done? You've built a hospital." Green is proud of the adaptability of his Airmen, "They've learned how to better evolve into a productive team," he said. "It's rewarding to me, as a commander, to see how well they respond. We've proven we're not only valuable for domestic response, but also international."

Kansas Air Guard Civil Engineers have New Home: Members of the Kansas Air National Guard's 190th Civil Engineering Squadron at Forbes Field in Topeka have moved into their new 14,690 square-foot facility at the southeast corner of the base. The new building gives the squadron 3,000 additional square feet of floor space compared to its precious work areas, allowing room for the unit's previously separated administrative and maintenance functions under one roof. "Efficiency and workflow are a lot better now," said SSgt. Paul Harper, engineering technician with the unit. The facility's construction began 12 months ago. The facility has features like a full kitchen and training room with 10 desktop computers. It utilizes ground-source heat and cooling systems that base officials expect will reduce energy costs. Friday October 22, 2010

The 190th Civil Engineering Squadron completed an \$8 million state-of-the-art Operations and Training facility and commenced construction on a \$7 million renovation project to Hangar 662, the unit's three-bay KC-135 hangar.

The 190th Civil Engineering Squadron continues construction on the \$7.5 million renovation project on the current Squadron Operations Facility, turning this "Cold War" relic into a two-story state of the art facility 2010

Thirty-seven members of the 190th Civil Engineering Squadron deployed to Armenia in support of the National Guard State Partnership Program. The CES personnel built a new Expeditionary Medical Support System warehouse, rewired a kindergarten and installed air conditioners at

the Armenian Air Institute. Conducted Force Protection Condition exercises testing terrorist response to base attack; numerous exercises testing defenses to WMD/infiltration/bombs; conduct comprehensive IRAM program and incorporate exercises to ensure vigilance.2010

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 12 Oct 2010
Updated:

Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.