

931 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

931 Civil Engineering Flight constituted, 19 Jun 1969
Activated in the Reserve, 25 Oct 1969
Redesignated 931 Civil Engineering Squadron, 15 Nov 1978
Inactivated, 1 Jul 1987
Redesignated 931 Civil Engineer Squadron, 9 Sep 1994
Activated in the Reserve, 1 Oct 1994

STATIONS

Bakalar AFB, IN, 25 Oct 1969
Grissom AFB, IN, 15 Jan 1970-1 Jul 1987
McConnell AFB, KS, 1 Oct 1994

Bakalar AFB, IN
Grissom AFB, IN, 15 Jan 1970
McConnell AFB, KS

ASSIGNMENTS

931 Tactical Air Support (later, 931 Special Operations; 931 Tactical Fighter) Group, 25 Oct 1969
434 Tactical Fighter Wing, 1 Jul 1975
931 Air Refueling Group, 1 Jul 1978-1 Jul 1987
442 Support Group, 1 Oct 1994
931 Air Refueling Group, 1 Jan 1995

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Kimberly Thompson

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jul 1978-31 Dec 1979

1 May 1985-31 Aug 1986

1 Nov 1995-31 Oct 1997

1 Nov 1997-31 Oct 1999

EMBLEM



Per fess and per pale Sable, Azure and Vert. Issuant from base a runway in perspective Argent with centerline of the First. In sinister chief a bezant in sinister flank with an increscent Or overall a divider erect Gris winged of the Fifth detailed of the First, all within a diminished bordure Black. Attached above the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "931ST CIVIL ENGINEER SQ" in Black letters. Attached below the disc a White scroll edged with a narrow Black border and inscribed "PARAVI NIL EXCEDI" in Black letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** 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. A winged compass, symbolic of the engineering profession, is centered on the disc and represents the unit's affiliation with military engineers who came before, as well as, the unit's worldwide mobile capability and global reach. The green fields broken by a runway stretching to infinity, represents the soil of this nation, in that of our allies and the unit's mission of rapid runway repair. The sun

and moon in the upper right quadrant reflects the 24-hour mission readiness of the unit.
(Approved, 2 Jun 2000)

MOTTO

PARAVI NIL EXCEDI--Equaled Not Exceeded

OPERATIONS

Members of the 931st Civil Engineer Squadron have returned from supporting the Global War on Terrorism. Eight civil engineer Airmen returned from Iraq on Jan 19 to a warm 931st Air Refueling Group welcome at Mid-continent Airport in Wichita, Kan. The deployed Airmen supported building and rebuilding efforts around Iraq. Master Sergeants Jeff Kilian and Melvin "Rusty" Kurtz were assigned to the 506th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron. Master Sgt. Kilian was assigned to the structures shop and Master Sgt. Kurtz to the welding shop. Sergeant Kilian's team was kept quite busy. "We (the structures shop) became involved with a major remodel of existing facilities for the moving of the Kirkuk Headquarters facility," said Sergeant Kirkuk Air Base, Iraq Kilian.

The structures shop took on a large scale project. "This involved over a dozen functions and with no facility large enough to handle moving all of the functions in one move, nearly a dozen buildings had to be remodeled," added Sergeant Kilian. The project, nearing completion was passed on to the next rotation of expeditionary civil engineer Airmen. "After four months the complete move was still not finished and spilled over into AEF 5/6," stated Sergeant Kilian.

The structures Airman was also called upon to open some safes. "I personally was involved with the opening of five safes with lost combinations, which saved the government more than \$20,000," said Sergeant Kilian. Master Sgt. Kurtz and Tech. Sgt. Dustin Munroe of the 507th CES were tasked to improve the design of a metal box, but did more than that. "Sergeant Kurtz and Tech. Sgt. Dustin Munroe improved the design of an external robot security container that they were asked to replicate for the Joint Explosive Rapid Response Vehicles," said Capt. William Frost, 506th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Flight Commander.

Sergeants Kurtz and Munroe weren't willing to settle. "They were unsatisfied with the design and not willing to build an inferior product," said Capt. Frost. The EOD flight weren't the only ones impressed with the design. The duo also will receive the Army Commendation Medal for their work on the project. "The design was approved by the JERRV manufacturer and is being appraised for theater wide asset modification," said the Captain. TSgt Steven G. Tracy was the Noncommissioned Officer in charge of the barrier Maintenance Section. "I helped provide mission essential aircraft arresting system capability at the primary divert base in Iraq," said Sergeant Tracy.

Appreciation for 931 CES Airmen was shown at home and abroad. "Not everyone can deploy, but when you do, you represent the best this unit and our country have to offer; the Citizen Airman, the selfless sacrifice of the everyday American citizen taking up arms to support our country in its time of need," said Col. Clayton Childs, 931st ARG Commander. "For this reason, each and every deployer has my greatest respect and admiration. 2007

When the commander of the 931st Civil Engineer Squadron packed his bags for deployment he only packed one hat but found himself wearing many at his deployed location. While deployed to Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan, Lt. Col. Kimberly Thompson fulfilled five different roles during his assignment with the 755th Expeditionary Mission Support Group. Before departing on his deployment Lt. Col. Thompson spent some time with the Army down at Fort Sill, Okla. completing a 30 day Combat Skills Training course. "It was great training," said the colonel. "I was sent there to see how the Army did things. The weather cooperated nicely for the CST class with the temperature (high) only dropping below 100 degrees on four of the 30 days. "It was hot there, we had 10 consecutive days when the temperature reached 110 degrees," said Lt. Col. Thompson. "It was good preparation for my deployment." As the colonel sat on the tarmac and prepared for departure to the Area of Responsibility he thought about the coming months. "I knew I was going to have a lot of hats and knew it wasn't going to be just an Air force mission," said the colonel. "I went there prepared for seven day work weeks working 14 hours per day." The colonel was presented with a lot of responsibilities, which began on September 23, the day the 931st CES commander arrived at Bagram Air Base. Lt. Col. Thompson was named Commander of the 755th Expeditionary Civil Engineer Squadron. "This was actually an add-on to the original tasking," said the colonel. Being a newly formed squadron, Lt. Col. Thompson had the honor of being the units' first commander. "I really wanted to get the unit off to a good start," said Colonel Thompson A squadron patch was created along with other things bearing the new image. We had a squadron patch created and some coins made over there as well," he said. The colonel also had other titles and duties, serving as the Air Force Facility Engineer Team chief, Director of Public Works for the U.S. Army's 23rd Area Support Group, Senior Engineer Liaison for the Corps of Engineers in the Afghanistan engineer district, fire marshal and also served as the senior engineer on station. "I wore a lot of hats," said Colonel Thompson. April 3 rolled around and it was time to put the 'hats' back on the rack and head home. As Lt. Col. Thompson waited to begin his journey back to the United States, he thought to himself 'there's no place like home.'

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.