

34 MEDICAL SERVICE SQUADRON



MISSION

34 Medical Service Squadron mission was to hold patients for flights/ground transfer to a medical facility that will provide more definitive care. The squadron also acted as a casualty collection point.

LINEAGE

34 Medical Service Squadron

STATIONS

Roslyn AGS, NY

DEPLOYED STATIONS

Dhahran, Saudi Arabia, 22 Oct 1990-13 Jan 1991

King Khalid Military City, Saudi Arabia, 13 Jan 1991-23 Mar 1991

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

On a yellow disc a brown staff entwined by two stylized green serpents superimposed on a red apple with brown stem all within a narrow blue border. Attached above the disc, a yellow scroll bordered blue and attached below the disc a yellow scroll bordered blue and inscribed Proudly We Serve in blue letters **SIGNIFICANCE:** The apple alludes to New York, the "Big Apple" and refers to the location of the squadron. The staff and snakes symbolizes medicine and represents the squadron's mission and function.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

The 34th was deployed to Dhahran, Saudi Arabia on 19 Oct 90. The amount of time given to personnel to deploy was insufficient. Personnel were given less than 24 hours' notice to report to McGuire AFB, NJ. This left limited time for reservists to adequately take care of their personal affairs, which lead to many problems while they were in Saudi Arabia. After being in Dhahran for almost three months, the unit was notified to move 600 miles north. In less than two weeks, 68 personnel with their personal belongings, 49 pallets of equipment, three 44-passenger buses and two ambulances had to be packed and moved. Also, a 200 bed ASF had to be set up and operational. If not-for the outstanding performance of unit members, this move would not have been successful. Lack of logistical support and limited availability of airlift for personnel and pallets further delayed moving the ASF.

Training in wartime skills for nurses and medical technicians need to be improved. Many of the personnel did not have sufficient training in those skills needed to adequately care for casualties. Many nurses assigned had experience in public health, obstetrics, etc., which did not adequately prepare them for the types of injuries seen in-theater. Integration of active duty and reserve units is needed. Many problems encountered while on active duty in Saudi Arabia were due to the fact that many reservists are unfamiliar with military structure and policies.

Deployment 19 OCT 90 5-13 JAN 91

Operationally ready 26 OCT 90

Terminated Operation 6 JAN 91

Redeployment 12 JAN 91

Manpower -

Dhahran-- 100 bed ASF - 68 personnel

KKMC - 200 bed ASF - 137 personnel

Number of Admissions: Dhahran: 1811; King Khalid Military City: 1356

Patient workload: Patients with a variety of medical problems were seen in Dhahran and KRMC. At KKMC, these included traumatic amputations, neurological problems, burns and injuries from shrapnel.

Other Pertinent Workload: safety and security activities; building of bunkers; sand bagging; support of MASF and Clearing Platoon; patient transportation; providing flight surgeons and medical attendants for flights; coordinating with ATOC; air traffic guidance on helipad (Dhahran); in-service training; logistical resupply; providing dietary specialists and technicians for dining facility; providing airfield emergency flight surgeon.

USAF UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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