

56 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON



MISSION

LINEAGE

Squadron "C," 56 Airdrome Group designated, 28 Jul 1947

Organized, 15 Aug 1947

Discontinued, 1 Aug 1948

56 Installations Squadron, Fighter, Jet constituted, 14 Jun 1948

Activated, 1 Aug 1948

Redesignated 56 Installations Squadron, 20 Jan 1950

Inactivated, 6 Feb 1952

Redesignated 56 Civil Engineering Squadron and activated, 28 Dec 1960

Organized, 1 Feb 1961

Discontinued and inactivated, 1 Jan 1964

Activated, 16 Mar 1967

Organized, 8 Apr 1967

Squadron "C," 56th Airdrome Group and 56 Civil Engineering Squadron consolidated, 3 Oct 1984. Consolidated organization designated 56 Civil Engineering Squadron.

Inactivated, 4 Jan 1994

Redesignated 56 Civil Engineer Squadron, 21 Mar 1994

STATIONS

Selfridge Field (later, Air Force Base), Michigan, 15 Aug 1947-6 Feb 1952

K.I. Sawyer AFB, MI, 1 Feb 1961-1 Jan 1964

Nakhon Phanom Royal Thai Air Force Base, Thailand, 8 Apr 1967-30 Jun 1975

MacDill AFB, FL, 30 Jun 1975-4 Jan 1994
Luke AFB, AZ, 1 Apr 1994

ASSIGNMENTS

56 Airdrome Group, 15 Aug 1947-31 Jul 1948.
56 Air Base Group, 1 Aug 1948-6 Feb 1952
56 Air Base (later, 56 Combat Support) Group, 1 Feb 1961-1 Jan 1964
56 Combat Support (later, 56 Support) Group, 8 Apr 1967-4 Jan 1994
56 Support (later, 56 Mission Support) Group, 1 Apr 1994

COMMANDERS

Unknown, 1 Aug 1948-20 Jan 1950
Unknown, 20 Jan 1950
Lt Col Richard J. Coffee, 26 Mar 1951
Cpt Tom E. Leretilley, Aug 1951
Lt Col D.C. Oldershaw, 1 Feb 1961
Cpt Wayne V. Jorgensen, Jul 1961
Maj James F. Klentzman, 4 Dec 1961
Lt Col H.W. Pollock, 31 Mar 1962-30 Sep 1963
Unknown, 1 Oct 1963-1 Jan 1964
Maj Robert K. Jones, 8 Apr 1967
Lt Col Sydney E. Key, 26 Apr 1967
Maj Edmund H. Keranen, 20 Nov 1967
Lt Col Sydney E. Key, 6 Feb 1968
Lt Col John G. Rice, 31 Mar 1968
Maj Joe G. Winslow, 17 Nov 1968
Lt Col George R. Grube, 31 Mar 1969
Lt Col Ray C. Rawlston, 31 Dec 1969
Lt Col Harry H. Magazu, 30 Jun 1970
Lt Col John P. Turner, 30 Sep 1970
Maj Paul M. Richter, 30 Sep 1971
Lt Col Aaron A. Powers, Jr., 30 Jun 1972
Maj Milton D. Rindahl, 31 Mar 1973
Lt Col Terrance E. Hobbs, 13 Jul 1973
Lt Col Ernest E. Walkup, 15 Jul 1974
Lt Col Donald L. Spurrier, 30 Jun 1975
Lt Col Vincent E. Delvecchio, 30 Jun 1975
Lt Col David P. Gibbs, 24 Jun 1977
Col Walter F. Tatum, Jr., 2 Oct 1978
Col Earle R. Cole, 11 Jul 1983
Col Robert L. Bell, 12 Jun 1985
Lt Col Gary C. Gibson, 16 Mar 1988
Col Walter L. Gray, 15 Aug 1988
Lt Col Scott L. Smith, 10 Oct 1990

Lt Col Jeffrey L. Tyley, Jul 1992-4 Jan 1994
Lt Col Steven A. Bitler, 1 Apr 1994
Lt Col Raymond E. Dinsmore, 19 Jun 1995
Maj Joseph Lacatus, 2 Jun 1997
Lt Col Steven E. Heorn, 30 Jul 1997
Lt Col David C. Brewer, 13 Jul 1999
Lt Col John R. Lohr, 3 Jul 2001
Lt Col John P. Dewine, 6 Jun 2003
Lt Col Douglas M. Hammer, 17 Jun 2005
Lt Col Anthony R. Ramage, 11 Jun 2007
Lt Col John D. Thomas, 2 Jul 2009
Lt Col Chad B. Bondurant, 8 Jul 2011

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Vietnam

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II 1967-1968

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III 1968-1969

Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV 1968-1969

Tet 1969 Counteroffensive 1969

Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969 1969

Vietnam Winter/Spring 1970 1969-1970

Sanctuary Counteroffensive 1970

Southwest Monsoon 1970

Commando Hunt V 1970-1971

Commando Hunt VI 1971

Commando Hunt VII 1971-1972

Vietnam Cease Fire 1972-1973

Commando Hunt VI 1971

Commando Hunt VII 1971-1972

Vietnam Cease Fire 1972-1973

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

Presidential Unit Citations

1 Nov 1968-1 May 1969

1 Oct 1969-30 Apr 1970

1 Apr 1972-22 Feb 1973

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device

1 Jun 1970-31 May 1971

1 Dec 1971-29 Feb 1972

23 Feb 1973-28 Feb 1974

24 Jan-2 May 1975

1 Jan 1977-1 Jan 1979

1 Oct 1979-30 Sep 1980

1 Jul 1980-31 May 1982

1 Jun 1984-31 May 1986

1 May 1987-30 Apr 1989

1 May 1989-30 Apr 1990

1 May 1990-30 Apr 1991

1 Jul 1994-30 Jun 1996

1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998

1 Jul 1998-30 Jun 2000

1 Jul 2001-30 Jun 2003

1 Jun Jul 2003-30 Jun 2005

1 Jul 2005-30 Jun 2006

1 Jul 2006-30 Jun 2007

1 Jul 2007-30 Jun 2008

1 Jul 2008-30 Jun 2009

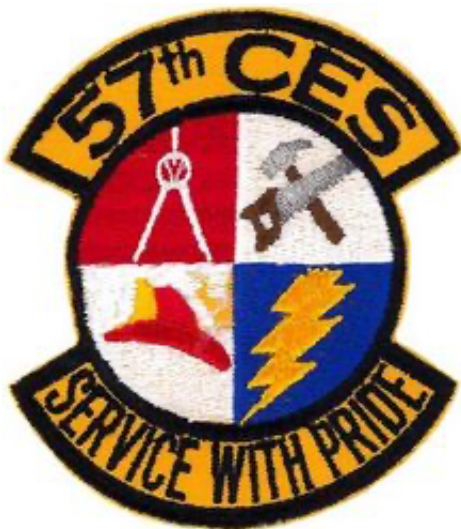
1 Jul 2009-30 Jun 2010

1 Jul 2010-30 Jun 2011

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

8 Apr 1967-28 Jan 1973

EMBLEM



56 Civil Engineering Squadron patch

56 Civil Engineer Squadron emblem: On a disc per bend Or and Azure, emerging in front of a keystone outlined Tenné, voided of the field, an armed knight in prospect Proper garnished Sable, plumed Gules, on sinister arm a shield blazoned: "Tenné a chevron Azure, edged Or, thereon a lightning flash chevron-wise of the last, all within a narrow border Blue. Attached above the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "DRAGONSLAYERS" in Blue letters. Attached below the disc, a Yellow scroll edged with a narrow Blue border and inscribed "56TH CIVIL ENGINEER SQ" in Blue letters. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine blue and Air Force 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 knight with sword down represents the support provided by the Squadron to its parent wing by preparing it for battle. The shield is reminiscent of the coat of arms of the parent wing and reflects the unit's contribution to a worldwide defense deployment capability. (Approved, 30 Oct 2003)

MOTTO

Dragonslayers

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

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Sources

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

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