

# **116 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON**

## **MISSION**

## **LINEAGE**

116 Civil Engineer Squadron

## **STATIONS**

Robins AFB GA

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

116 Mission Support Group

## **COMMANDERS**

LTC Terry Hughey

Major Mark G. Byrd

## **HONORS**

**Service Streamers**

**Campaign Streamers**

**Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

**Decorations**

## **EMBLEM**

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

The Civil Engineering unit began 17 November 1946 as the 104th Engineer Aviation Company

with Capt Carter B. LeCraw as commander. On 18 February 1947, the 104th Engineer Aviation Company was changed to the 1804th Engineer Aviation Company, still commanded by Capt LeCraw. On 30 September 1950, the 1804th Engineer Aviation Company was activated and ordered to Korea. At the end of the Korean conflict, the 1804th Engineer Aviation Company did not return to the Air National Guard. The 116th Installations Squadron was formed in July 1952 with Capt Thomas H. Baker as commander. In 1961, Capt Theodore W. Alexander was named chief of the Civil Engineering Section.

The Civil Engineering Section was reorganized on 7 December 1969 and federally recognized as the 116th Civil Engineering Flight commanded by Lt Col Theodore W. Alexander with First Sergeant Bob Maloney. This reorganization was part of the establishment of PRIME BEEF teams in the Air Guard. Upon the sudden death of MSgt Maloney, MSgt Tilden P. Whitfield was named First Sergeant. In July 1978, Lt Col Alexander retired and Capt Joseph D. Williams was named commander. During 1980, MSgt Whitfield retired and MSgt Gennaro Cambardella was named First Sergeant.

It was in 1978 that the 116th Civil Engineering Flight was reorganized into a CF-1, Rapid Runway Repair (RRR) Team and a CF-2, Vertical Skills Team with a Support Team attached. In 1979, the 116th Civil Engineering Flight was designated by the AFCEC as the CF-2 Pilot Unit and developed the CF-2 Team Kit and Packing Guide for the entire USAF, USAFR, and ANG.

From the early 1970s the 116th Civil Engineering Flight deployed too many locations to support construction projects of the Air Force and the Air National Guard. Some of these deployments were: Eglin AFB, FL; Little Rock AFB, AR; Rhein Main AB, Germany; Selfridge AFB, MI; Tyndall AFB, FL; Suffolk County ANG Base, NY; Hill AFB, UT; Dougway Proving Grounds, UT; Wildcat Mountain Firing Range, UT; Savannah, Georgia Field Training Site; Volk Field, WI; Salina Firing Range, KS; Ft. Dix, NJ and Ellington AFB, TX.

The command was passed to Major Terry L. Hughey in 1986, upon Lt Col Williams' transfer to the AF Reserves. Under the command of Lt Col Hughey, the 116 CES has enjoyed a period of growth and obtained many worldwide training deployments. With the completion of building 945 at Dobbins ARB in 1987, it marked the first new facility ever occupied by the Unit. With the addition of the Services Flight and Disaster Preparedness in the late 1980's, the unit increased in manning to 108 members, the highest number ever achieved. Worldwide deployments were common in the late 1980's and early 1990's and included Panama, Jamaica, Alaska, Italy, Spain, Germany, Turkey, England and Scotland.

In 1994, the unit transferred from Dobbins ARB, Ga. to Robins AFB, GA as the Wing changed missions from the F-15 to B-1B. This relocation and conversion brought about a sizable increase in the workload of the squadron at a time when the Air Force was downsizing.

Also, in 1997, the unit was downsized to only 70 members. Due to the downsizing, many long-time members chose to retire; steadfast names such as Asherbranner, Cambardella, Hale, Dorsey, Martin, Eddington, Debroux, McCall and others too numerous to mention.

In January 1998, the command was passed onto Major Mark G. Byrd. Major Byrd has continued to lead his personnel through many changes. The Services Flight left the command of CES and was replaced by Explosives Ordnance Disposal. With the advent of the new B-1B mission for the Wing and the new taskings from the Air Expeditionary Force, CES is now playing a major role in the support of these missions.

The civil engineer squadron of the Georgia Air National Guard's 116th Air Control Wing at Robins Air Force Base took delivery of two route-clearance kits that will bolster its ability to respond to disasters in the southeast United States, according to a base release. The kits, which arrived at Robins on June 27, consist of multi-purpose Kubota tractors with buckets, grappling hooks, and brooms, states the release. "During Hurricane Katrina [in 2005], which we responded to, domestic operations found that getting to a location hit by a disaster could be time consuming because of debris," said CMSgt. David Fite, 116th CES superintendent. "Whether its trees on the road, overturned cars, or piles of rubble, this equipment will give us the capability and skill set to clear the way for emergency operations personnel to respond," he said. 2013

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Air Force Lineage and Honors

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