

120 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

120 Civil Engineering Squadron
Redesignated 120 Civil Engineer Squadron

STATIONS

Great Falls, MT

ASSIGNMENTS

120 Mission Support Group

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

A new Medical/Dining facility was approved in 1994 and construction of the 22,000 square foot building began on September 1. It was programmed to be completed within 12 months. On December 1, the fire department building was accepted for occupation and guard/city fire crews moved into the new 19,000 square foot facility. Touted as the largest in the state, the fire station was the first in the US to be funded through three separate sources. The National Guard dedi-

cated \$700,000 toward its construction while the Federal Aviation Administration contributed \$1,215,000 and the Great Falls Airport Authority funded \$290,000.

The unit's civil engineering squadron deployed to Howard AFB, Panama from January 28 through February 11. Then a contingent from the communications flight spent February 10-27 at Anderson AFB, Guam.

Conversion to the F-102 meant that the unit no longer had a nuclear weapons tasking, a change that by 1967 saw the loss of 35 full-time positions in security, weapons, and the fire department. The Security Police flight lost 24 positions while the fire department saw the elimination of ten of its 11 full time positions. This impacted not only the 120th but also the city's airport fire protection. The 120th would have only one fire fighter on duty from 0800 to 1630 Monday through Friday. Great Falls made plans to train their firemen on the ANG's fire equipment and other unit members were cross-trained to serve as standby fire crews.

Six new buildings were constructed in 1967. Four single aircraft alert shelters were built along with a crew alert facility. The sixth was a new 17,200 sq.ft. home for the armament and electronics shops, engine shop, and flight simulator.

Construction began early in the year on new missile storage and assembly facilities. The facilities consisted of two earth covered storage bunkers and a concrete assembly building.

A landmark agreement between the Montana Air National Guard and the Great Falls International Airport Authority provided for 24-hour crash-fire coverage. Executed in March 1974, the agreement called for use of the 120th's Fire Station and equipment, augmented by additional equipment and personnel provided by the Airport Authority. The Airport Authority initially provided a quick response truck and three firefighters.

120 Civil Engineer Squadron to become engineer associate unit at Malmstrom Air Force Base Mt, first in Air Force to combine active duty and National Guard personnel in Red Horse (Rapid Engineer Deployable Heavy Operational Repair Squadron Engineer) unit

Air Force Unit Histories

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Sources

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