

201st RED HORSE SQUADRON



MISSION

The unit's mission is to directly support Combat Airpower and provide Commanders' in Charge (CINCs), Federal and State authorities a flexible, well-rounded, heavy construction and repair capability anytime, anywhere to accomplish engineering support for beddown of weapons systems and the installation of critical utility and support systems required to initiate and sustain operations, especially in austere, bare-base environments. Capabilities include engineering design, aircraft arresting system installation, airfield lighting, water well drilling, concrete batch plant and concrete mobile operations, quarry operations, asphalt plant operations, demolition, material testing, bomb damage repair and automatic building machine operations. This unit is manned, equipped and trained to operate in remote, hostile locations as an independent, self-sustaining unit. It supports the full spectrum of contingencies from general war and regional/low intensity conflicts to natural disasters and other contingencies.

Because the 201st RED HORSE is a combat-ready unit, great emphasis is placed on training. Personnel are trained in their individual Air Force specialties, personal survival skills, as well as in areas that support activities necessary to fulfill the special requirements of the unit's mission. The unit has deployed members to locations around the world to support Department of Defense projects and domestic action programs. Recently, RED HORSE members deployed to Haiti, Honduras, Korea, Guatemala, Columbia, Germany, Alaska, Canada, North Carolina, Florida, and Tennessee where they constructed roads, field camps, schools, buildings, water well systems and runway extensions. Unit tasks include deployments to England, Italy, California, New Mexico, along with some local civic action projects.

The 201st is a 235-member, highly mobile, rapidly deployable, self-supporting construction team with one-third of its personnel in the vertical construction trades, one-third heavy equipment operators and one-third support function personnel.

LINEAGE

201st RED HORSE FLIGHT established, 14 Sep 1971
Redesignated RED HORSE Squadron

STATIONS

Harrisburg, PA
Fort Indiantown Gap, PA

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

LTC H. Dewey Perkins

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM



MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

Within Pennsylvania, the 201st RED HORSE has been consistently involved in construction projects to support local communities. In the past five years, 30 suspected "crack" houses in various cities have been demolished and over 50 others sealed in support of the federal drug interdiction program. Additionally, an average of three domestic action projects, such as ball

fields or parking lots, are completed each year for local communities. The most recent local civic action projects were the construction of the Schuylkill County Vietnam Veterans Memorial, two ball fields in Schuylkill county, two ball fields in South Hanover Township in Dauphin county and construction of Line Stabilization systems to improve water quality. The unit has also provided assistance to the governor four of the last five years during declared state emergencies, including emergency snow removal, stranded vehicle recovery from our interstate highways, transporting road salt from New York to various state storage facilities throughout Pennsylvania, flood debris cleanup and flood remediation projects. Many members of the 201st RED HORSE continually volunteer to participate in local activities such as parades and fairs, displaying the unit's commitment to our great country and commonwealth.

In addition to the RED HORSE mission, the 201st operates three schools at Fort Indiantown Gap: (1) The Regional Equipment Operator Training Site (REOTS) that has been in official operation since 1 October 1989. Six Hundred and Forty Air Force, Air Force Reserve, and the Air National Guard Equipment Operators are provided with the unique opportunity to train in the operation of specific RRR heavy equipment, (excavator, crawler tractor, 4 CY loader, and grader), not normally available at their home station. The second school (Specialty Training Site) Utilities type engineer specialty training on a variety of war time tasks and a special emphasis on bare base beddown equipment. The POLRURK (Petroleum, Oil and Lubrications Rapid Utility Repair Kit), Minimum Airfields Arresting System (MAAS), Emergency Airfields Lighting System (EALS), Reverse Osmosis Water Purification Unit (ROWPU), Field shower units and the concrete saw are some of the specialty equipment now available for this specialized training. The unit also operated a field training site that instructs field feeding, billeting, laundry and mortuary to over 260 students in a year

The 200th and the 201st deployed to Camp Snoop, Qatar, for three months in 2000 to take on more than a dozen construction projects.

In 2002, the combined squadron completed a rotation at Al Udeid AB, Qatar, to perform construction projects throughout Southwest Asia in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. It marked the first time an entire reserve component RED HORSE squadron was tasked and partially mobilized to support a major wartime operation and functioned as a full RED HORSE squadron, rather than just augmenting active duty operations or backfilling open positions. Of special note, the Expeditionary 200th/201st RHS completely rebuilt the runway and the Air Force Village at Bagram AB Afghanistan, and was one of the first units to conduct airfield repair work at night using night vision goggles. Using the hub and spoke concept, they performed work at 13 main operating bases in 10 different countries in Southwest Asia during their 180-day tour, involving over \$14.5 million in construction material procurement and heavy equipment rental.

In the fall of 1971 there was a dramatic change in the 193rd Civil Engineering Flight when part of the unit was converted into a Red Horse flight and based at Indiantown Gap Military

Reservation. With LTC Clarence L. "Scoop" Withers as commander, many 193rd TEW Group members transferred to the new unit.

Formally known as the 201st Civil Engineering Flight, it was to be a highly mobile, rapid repair outfit capable of moving personnel and heavy earth moving equipment to any part of the world within 72 hours. Its equipment inventory included graders, bulldozers, and heavy trucks.

The Red Horse unit concept was to be placed at 29 guard and reserve locations throughout the United States. Red Horse is actually an acronym for rapid engineer deployable, heavy operations repair squadrons, engineers.

Air Force Lineage and Honors

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Sources

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