

901 CIVIL ENGINEERING SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

901 Civil Engineering Flight constituted, 19 Jun 1969

Activated in the Reserve and organized, 25 Oct 1969

Redesignated 901 Civil Engineering Squadron, 15 Nov 1978

Inactivated, 1 Oct 1981

Activated in the Reserve, 8 Nov 1983

STATIONS

Laurence G. Hanscom Field, MA, 25 Oct 1969

Westover AFB, MA, 17 Sep 1973-1 Oct 1981

Peterson AFB, CO, 8 Nov 1983

ASSIGNMENTS

901 Military (later, 901st Tactical) Airlift Group, 25 Oct 1969

439 Combat Support Group, 1 Apr 1974-1 Oct 1981

901 Tactical Airlift Group, 8 Nov 1983

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

12 Dec 1971-9 Apr 1972

1 Jan 1975-31 Dec 1976

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS



901 CEF complete demolition of buildings dating from World War II at Keesler AFB, MS. (USAF photo)

The 901st Civil Engineering Flight (CEF), under the command of Major Maurice E. Bilodeau spent the summer encampment in near 100 degree heat at Keesler AFB, Biloxi, Mississippi.

The 901st CEF, a "Prime Beef" (Base Emergency Engineering Forces - means they're ready for world-wide deployment with two hour's notice) flight had three missions to complete, including the completion of a large (80'x20'x20') lumber storage depot for the 3380th, a regular Air Force CEF based at Keesler; total demolition and rubble disposal of seven large WWII vintage structures, and the total razing of the Base Commander's ten-room home, damaged during Hurricane Camille. The final mission involved the installation of more than 80 partitions and finishing work required to utilize rest rooms in a Base training facility.

After leaving Hanscom and prior to landing at Keesler, the CEF deployed some 25 firefighting personnel augmenting regular Air Force Firefighters at Minot AFB, Minot S. D.

The day following their two-day journey to the south, construction on the lumber storage depot started. The storage area required the erection of a supporting structure for a second floor, laying 2"x12" flooring, framing and sheathing three sides of the structure, building two weatherproof office/storage areas, a heavy-duty stairway to the second floor and installing siding on the building with asbestos shingles.

The 901st CEF "road and grounds" crew totally razed the Base Commander's home in five hours. "The base photo team was called out to get "before and after" photos, said Maj. Bilodeau proudly, but the "prime beefers" worked so fast that the photo team arrived in time to get only "after" photos Utilization of heavy equipment and hard work by well-trained personnel proved

too much for seven large buildings; all were torn down and removed within a few days, readying the areas for construction of new facilities. The CEF closed out the two week tour by installing partitions in all rest rooms of a Base training building.

This involved securing more than 80 partitions to concrete floors and walls.

"Everyone worked hard and we accomplished a great deal, but our guys did get some time off, most were able to go to New Orleans briefly to see the city and sample much of the fantastic sea food served in this area," said CMSgt. George O. Moore, NCOIC of the Flight. He also indicated that all active duty personnel were continually impressed with our skill, speed, enthusiasm and professionalism.

USAF UNIT HISTORIES

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Sources

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