

## 18 FORCE SUPPORT SQUADRON



### MISSION

#### LINEAGE

18 Food Service Squadron, Fighter, Single-Engine constituted, 10 Aug 1948

Activated, 14 Aug 1948

Redesignated 18 Food Service Squadron, Fighter, Jet, 23 Dec 1949

Redesignated 18 Food Service Squadron, 20 Jan 1950

Inactivated, 1 Oct 1957

18 Services Squadron constituted, 30 Aug 1974

Activated, 30 Sep 1974

18 Food Service Squadron and 18 Services Squadron consolidated, 10 Oct 1984. Consolidated organization designated 18 Services Squadron

Redesignated 18 Morale, Welfare, Recreation and Services Squadron, 1 Jul 1992

Redesignated 18 Services Squadron, 1 Jan 1994

Redesignated 18 Force Support Squadron, 1 May 2008

#### STATIONS

Clark AFB, Philippines, 14 Aug 1948

Pusan AB, South Korea, 1 Dec 1950

Pyongyang East, North Korea, 1 Dec 1950

Suwon AB, South Korea, 1 Dec 1950

Chinhae, South Korea, 9 Dec 1950

Osan-ni, South Korea, 27 Dec 1952

Kadena AB, Japan, 30 Oct 1954-1 Oct 1957

Kadena AB, Japan, 30 Sep 1974

## **ASSIGNMENTS**

18 Air Base Group, 14 Aug 1948-1 Oct 1957

18 Combat Support Group (later, 18 Combat Support Wing; 18 Support Group), 30 Sep 1974

## **COMMANDERS**

## **HONORS**

### **Service Streamers**

### **Campaign Streamers**

Korea

CCF Intervention

First UN Counteroffensive

CCF Spring Offensive

UN Summer-Fall Offensive

Second Korean Winter

Korea Summer-Fall 1952

Third Korean Winter

Korea Summer 1953

Republic of Korea Presidential Unit Citations

1 Dec 1950-31 Jan 1951

1 Feb 1951-31 Mar 1953

### **Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers**

### **Decorations**

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Sep 1978-30 Sep 1979

1 Oct 1979-31 May 1980

1 Jul 1981-31 May 1983

1 Jun 1983-31 May 1984

1 Jun 1984-31 May 1986

1 Jun 1987-31 May 1989

1 Jun 1989-31 May 1991

1 Jun 1991-31 May 1993

1 Jun 1993-31 Aug 1994

1 Sep 1994-31 Aug 1995

1 Sep 1995-31 Aug 1997

1 Oct 2000-30 Sep 2002

1 Oct 2002-30 Sep 2004

## **EMBLEM**

Approved, 9 Nov 1978

## **MOTTO**

## **NICKNAME**

## **OPERATIONS**

It was early September of 1950 that we stormed the Korean beach head with spatula and skillet. Since those turbulent days of last year we've been putting out calcium, calories, and carbohydrates in the most palatable, edible manner that circumstances would permit.

Napoleon's bromide about the military traveling on its stomach never had a more practical application than the trials and tribulations of the 18th Food Service Squadron. Old Timers in the 18th will recall with glistening eye the hardships of dust, mud, snow, sleet, and rain occurring within a twelve hour period.... and they aren't kidding buddy.

Actually at times it seemed like a flashback to World War II days with a menu of corned beef, dehydrated potatoes (oh for the thrill of actually peeling a fresh spud), and the eternal spam. The small trickle of fresh vegetables from Japan's hydroponic farms was miserably inadequate.

Lest this narrative sound too much like a concert of wails, we had our share of laughs and gags. Many of you still remember when a man would hoard such items as canned peaches, pineapples, and other hard-to-get delicacies. They are commonplace at our stateside-quality mess halls today, but it wasn't many months ago that they were enviable luxuries.

Despite the fact that we set up and tore down stoves five times in as many months we still kept plugging or "grubbing" for the chow-conscious 18thers. Maybe our diet was a little monotonous at first, but visits by such personages as General MacArthur, Al Jolson, and Bob Hope made life a little less 'boring.

Of course there was that hectic struggle in October that turned out to be a three-way pull among the U.S. Marines, the North Korean forces, and ourselves. When the dust had finally settled in the Wonsan area, the Halls-of-Montezuma came off the victor. The enemy slunk northward and we once again packed up stoves, rations, captured enemy equipment (souvenir swords, etc) and trekked south to our old base at Pusan.

And so it went. We yo-yo'ed up and down the peninsula with a lot of laughs, a few tears, and plenty of activity. Thanksgiving showed us a lot with all the turkey and trimmings. Somehow Christmas rolled around and we began to feel a sense of stability with permanent structures for mess halls, heated water, and FRESH VEGETABLES!

Now as our second Yuletide on the peninsula is just a few calendar pages away and we have much to be grateful for during our eighteen months in Korea. We've known some wonderful guys, a few not-so-wonderful guys, but in the main we're proud to say that we still HAVE THE BEST DAMN MESS HALLS IN THE FAR EAST!

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USAF Unit Histories  
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Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.  
Unit history. *Truck-busters: 18<sup>th</sup> FBW...its Saga of the Korean Conflict in the Far East*. 1951.