

132 MISSION SUPPORT SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

132 Mission Support Squadron

STATIONS

Des Moines, IA

ASSIGNMENTS

132 Mission Support Group

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

EMBLEM

EMBLEM SIGNIFICANCE

MOTTO

NICKNAME

OPERATIONS

The present 132d Mission Support Squadron began the decade of the 80's as the 132d

Combat Support Squadron. The Combat Support Squadron of 1981 consisted of the following units: Central Base Personnel Office, Social Actions, Base Legal, Base Photo, Disaster Preparedness, Base Services, Base Administration, Chaplain, Law Enforcement, Base Training and Small Arms Section, Public Affairs, and Historian. Ten years later the Squadron has decentralized and been reduced to Consolidated Base Personnel, Social Actions, Base Audiovisual, Disaster Preparedness, and the Command Section. The following areas, while within the support arena, have been functionally reassigned to the Wing: Legal, Public Affairs, Chaplain, and Historian. Law Enforcement and Small Arms are now part of the Security Police Flight. Services is now a separate flight under the Civil Engineering Squadron. Base Administration is now part of the Mission Support Flight.

In 1981, the Combat Support Commander was Lt Col James Pearson. 1981 was the inaugural year for use of chemical warfare gear. All units were issued the gas mask, and intensive training began with the mask. What was the initial mild discomfort wearing the gas mask progressed to the debilitating conditions of the full chemical ensemble. In April 1981, at Gulfport, MS, the mobility capabilities of the 132d were tested in a five-phase ORI. The unit practiced the first requirement for mobility work centers and work stations manned by CBPO personnel and other support functions. The initial program development and extensive records building involved in the personnel processing function was slow and required much practice. Later in the decade, personnel processing was greatly streamlined, and mobility became a way of life for most personnel.

In March, 1982, the unit deployed to Savannah, GA for the first deployment to this site. The Combat Support Squadron was tasked to provide Small Arms, Social Actions, and Disaster Preparedness training. 1982 marked another first with the start of contract quarters in November. Prior to this, personnel who lived outside the commuting distance either paid their own motel bill or resided in the bunk bed barracks in Bldg. 231, presently the Disaster Preparedness Section/Base Training Offices.

In 1982, a support trip to Mountain Home AFB, ID began a decade of tailored Support deployments to active Air Force bases in the U.S. to participate in active duty counterpart training and match unit skills in an active duty environment.

In 1983, Lt Col Philip Hahn assumed command of the Combat Support Squadron

In June 1983, there was another support trip to Mountain Home AFB for AFSC counterpart training.

In 1984, most of the unit emphasis was directed at preparing for and conducting the Operational Readiness Inspection at Volk Field, WI in October of that year. Much effort was expended by all support agencies, both in the conduct of a mini ORE in Des Moines in May and at the ORI. The mobility processing of personnel was very expedient, and bode well for the start of the ORI. However, upon deployment to Volk Field, a very cold, rainy, and foggy period enveloped the exercise area, which eventually canceled the remainder of the

inspection. Even though the evaluation was incomplete, an interim Excellent rating was given.

1985 the Combat Support Squadron had a significant role to play in the Checkered Flag deployment to England in June of that year. Personnel and Services sections were heavily tasked in the mobility and beddown activities associated with this deployment. Extensive chemical threat exercises during the England deployment were excellent training opportunities to practice in-theatre, what was before, a theoretical concept.

In the 1985-1987 time frame, the support functions became actively involved in the procurement, installation, and utilization of computers and associated equipment. This technological explosion and computerization brought about many different support functional changes, and presented many new challenges to all our personnel. The support areas continued to strive for better collection, utilization, and display of data through the balance of the eighties.

1987 the Quad-Deputy organizational structure was adopted by the Air National Guard. This functional change elevated Support services to the Deputy level. In conjunction with this realignment, the Combat Support Squadron became the Mission Support Squadron, and numerous other functional areas were placed under Wing Management. Major Clark became the Mission Support Squadron Commander and the Deputy Commander for Support on Technician status. By 1990, the CBPO had 3 officers and 25 enlisted. Fifteen of these employees are employed full-time.

In January 1989, the UEI resulted in an overall Excellent rating within the Support area. In September, 1989 the unit deployed to Volk Field, Wisconsin to perform an Operational Readiness Exercise.