

507 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

MISSION

LINEAGE

507 Civil Engineering Squadron constituted and activated, 28 Dec 1960

Organized, 1 Feb 1961

Inactivated, 30 Sep 1968

507 Civil Engineering Flight constituted, 4 May 1972

Activated in the Reserve, 20 May 1972

Inactivated, 15 Nov 1978

507 Civil Engineering Squadron activated in the Reserve, 15 Nov 1978

507 Civil Engineering Squadron and 507 Civil Engineering Flight consolidated, 3 Oct 1984

Redesignated 507 Civil Engineering Squadron, 1 Mar 1994

Redesignated 507 Civil Engineer Squadron

STATIONS

Kincheloe AFB, MI, 1 Feb 1961-30 Sep 1968

Tinker AFB, OK, 20 May 1972

ASSIGNMENTS

507 Air Base (later, 507 Combat Support) Group, 1 Feb 1961-30 Sep 1968

507 Tactical Fighter Group, 20 May 1972

507 Combat Support Squadron, 25 Mar 1973

507 Tactical Fighter (later, 507 Fighter) Group, 1 Feb 1977

507 Support Group, (later, 507 Mission Support Group) 1 Aug 1992

COMMANDERS

Lt Col Renee Lane, 2005

Lt Col Ernest Goodman, Jun 2005

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards

1 Jun 1966-1 Jun 1968

1 Jan-31 Dec 1978

1 Jul 1985-1 Jul 1986

1 Jul 1987-31 Aug 1989

1 Jan 1992-31 Dec 1993

1 Jan 1994-31 Jul 1995

1 Aug 1996-31 Jul 1998

1 Aug 2008- 31 July 2010

Air Force Meritorious Unit Award

11 Sep 2001-30 Jun 2004

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

When talking to the members of the 507 Civil Engineer Squadron upon their return from St. Vincente, El Salvador, it seemed unanimous — they will always remember the smiling, happy faces of the kids, and the community's show of gratitude. "To say the community graciously appreciated the school is an understatement to say the least they overwhelmed the 507th CES members with their gratitude," said Maj. Doug Benton, 507th CES Deployment Officer in Charge. "The school construction project at La Esperanza provided meaningful training for the 507th CES troops as well as gave the members a sincere sense of pride for what they did for the people of El Salvador."

The civil engineers were part of the annually-sponsored U.S. Southern Command New Horizons exercises. The 507 participated in this year's Joint Task Force Para Los Ninos (for the children) in El Salvador. "This year's exercises provide excellent opportunities for U.S. and El Salvadoran personnel to refine engineering and medical skills while helping improve the quality of life for the people of El Salvador," said Major Benton. "We constructed a school consisting of three classrooms, an administrator's office and a nine-stall latrine in the community of La Esperanza near the San Vincente, El Salvador Base Camp - a community struggling in the aftermath of a recent earthquake, civil war and difficult economic conditions. The school will support about 400 students in the community." Deployed from Feb. 11 to May 7, 54 members from the 507 CES worked in six two-week rotations to construct the three-classroom school with nine-stall latrine,

including five members who remained in El Salvador until May 21, to wrap up minor details at the school and assist with breaking down the base camp at San Vicente.

The squadron members also donated and shipped approximately \$250 worth of school supplies to the children at the school. And deployed members purchased various toys for the children's playground. Also several other smaller projects were performed on the existing school across the street from the 507s project which included repair of a water tower and pouring several concrete slabs. Also from the 507 Air Refueling Wing at the San Vicente base camp were members of the 507th Services Flight. "We had 10 personnel there from Feb. 26 to Mar. 26. They provided meals from both "A" rations (real food) and Unitized Group Rations (UGRs)," said Senior Master Sgt. Terry Tunender, 507th Services Flight (ART).

"Senior Master Sgt. Clyde Hankins was the team leader who did all sorts of extra stuff to make even the UGRs palatable. He made the supply runs into town and, for example, he bought real parmesan cheese for the UGR spaghetti; that went over big with the troops." "In spite of the language barrier, an extraordinarily rich and positive relationship was built between the La Esperanza community and the 507th CES," said Major Benton, "in addition to unprecedented good will in the San Vicente area and surrounding community." When viewing the photos taken by the 507th members who rotated to El Salvador, it appeared unanimous - smiling faces captured to last a lifetime. 2005

USAF Unit Histories
Created: 12 Mar 2021
Updated:

Sources

Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.
The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.
Air Force News. Air Force Public Affairs Agency.