

927 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON

MISSION

Unit maintains worldwide capability to conduct emergency disaster engineering response actions and civil engineering functions at main and bare base locations. Provides combat support to operational forces under hostile conditions in the areas of force beddown for mobilized personnel, disaster preparedness, security operations, rapid runway repair, crash rescue and structural fire protection and expedient base facility restoration.

LINEAGE

927 Civil Engineering Flight constituted, 19 Jun 1969

Activated in the Reserve, 25 Oct 1969

Redesignated 927 Civil Engineering Squadron, 15 Nov 1978

Redesignated 927 Civil Engineer Squadron, 1 Mar 1994

STATIONS

Selfridge AFB (later, ANGB), MI, 25 Oct 1969

ASSIGNMENTS

927 Tactical Air Support (later, 927 Tactical Airlift; 927 Airlift; 927 Air Refueling) Group, 25 Oct 1969

927 Support Group, 1 Aug 1992

COMMANDERS

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Air Force Outstanding Unit Award

1 Nov 1978-31 Oct 1980

EMBLEM

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

A choice assignment went to members of the 911th Civil Engineering Fit., Greater Pittsburgh IAP, Pa., and the 927th Civil Engineering Fit., Selfridge ANGB, Mich., last year when they received orders to fly to Torrejon Air Base, near Madrid, Spain for their annual training. Flying nonstop from Pittsburgh in a C-141, the Reservists landed at Torrejon at 6 a.m., arriving within 20 minutes of the scheduled time. Considering the planning and organization that went into transporting the group, along with their special tools and standard gear, and the many other components that had to be integrated, the Commanding Officer, Lt. Col. Ernest Dirrig, was justifiably proud of the accomplishment. At Torrejon, the 911th was met by Maj. Paul Carroll, who was in charge of coordinating the work planned for the period. The 911th CEF, composed of four officers and 84 enlisted personnel, is a Category A combat ready Reserve unit—one of 35 similar units based throughout the United States with the objective of gaining in-depth experience in the civil engineering field in the event of a call-up in a national emergency. Most of the participants work in the same or similar jobs in civilian life and as Lt. Col. Dirrig states, on an average are older, more mature individuals than in the active force. There are plumbers, carpenters, painters, electricians, heavy equipment operators, firefighters, and other trades as well as engineers, planners, designers, cost accounting clerks, typists, and the first sergeant, MSgt. James Phillips—a complete unit, ready to go into the field. The 911th personnel were integrated immediately into the system, with members being assigned to their own specialties, whether the paint shop, carpenter shop, fire department, real property, or the flight line. Torrejon's CE motto of "Ready, Willing and Able" applies to the Reserve units as well. All members of the 911th were greatly impressed with being able to work on a large base such as Torrejon with such varied responsibilities. As one member put it: "Now I can see what my portion of a job is in relation to the whole. Now I feel I'm getting the entire picture." The 911th departed Torrejon on May 28, overlapping by one day the arrival of the 927th CEF from Selfridge. Maj. Louis M. Berra, commander of the 927th and his unit took over immediately, continuing projects begun by the 911th and taking on new jobs. According to Lt. Col. William Randall, base civil engineer, "The assistance provided by these two outstanding Reserve units has definitely made a major impact on maintenance and repair efforts at Torrejon. We have received many favorable comments from virtually all organizations on the base concerning the professional capabilities displayed by these Air Force Reserve units."

USAF Unit Histories
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Sources
Air Force Historical Research Agency. U.S. Air Force. Maxwell AFB, AL.