

37 CIVIL ENGINEER SQUADRON



MISSION

The 37 Civil Engineer Squadron sets the standard in building, sustaining, and protecting resources at home and abroad. The unit maintains all real property assets on Lackland, Lackland Training Annex, Kelly Field Annex, Camp Bullis and the Air Force's premier medical training and trauma hospital, Wilford Hall Medical Center. The squadron consists of 1,200 personnel with an average annual budget of \$67.5 million dollars to maintain 16 million square foot physical plant with a replacement value of \$4.2 billion dollars encompassing 9,500 acres, 177 miles of road and 2,071 facilities. The squadron provides all engineering, environmental protection, explosive ordnance, fire protection, military housing, operations and maintenance, utilities, disposal, and readiness in support of Lackland.

LINEAGE

37 Installations Squadron constituted, 3 Mar 1953

Activated, 8 Apr 1953

Inactivated, 25 Jun 1953

Redesignated 37 Civil Engineering Squadron, and activated, 21 Feb 1966

Organized, 8 Mar 1966

Inactivated, 31 Mar 1970

Activated, 5 Oct 1989

Inactivated, 8 Jul 1992

Activated, 1 Jul 1993

Redesignated 37 Civil Engineer Squadron, 1 Mar 1994

STATIONS

Clovis AFB, NM, 8 Apr-25 Jun 1953
Qui Nhon Afld, South Vietnam, 8 Mar 1966
Phu Cat AB, South Vietnam, 30 Jan 1967-31 Mar 1970
Tonopah Test Range, NV, 5 Oct 1989-9 Jul 1992
Lackland AFB, TX, 1 Jul 1993

ASSIGNMENTS

COMMANDERS

Maj James L. Wenzel, #1991

HONORS

Service Streamers

Campaign Streamers

Vietnam
Vietnam Air 1966
Vietnam Air Offensive 1966-1967
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase II 1967-1968
Vietnam Air/Ground 1968
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase III 1968
Vietnam Air Offensive, Phase IV 1968-1969
Tet 69/Counteroffensive 1969
Vietnam Summer/Fall 1969
Vietnam Winter/Spring 1969-1970

Armed Forces Expeditionary Streamers

Decorations

Presidential Unit Citation
Southeast Asia, 1 Jul-31 Dec 1968

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards with Combat "V" Device
15 Oct 1966-30 Jun 1967
1 Jul 1967-30 Jun 1968
1 Apr 1969-31 Mar 1970

Air Force Outstanding Unit Awards
16 Mar 1990-15 Mar 1992
1 Jul 1993-28 Feb 1994
1 Mar 1994-30 Jun 1994
1 Jul 1996-30 Jun 1998
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2001
1 Jul 2000-30 Jun 2002

1 Jul 2002-30 Jun 2003

Republic of Vietnam Gallantry Cross with Palm

1 Apr 1966-31 Mar 1970

EMBLEM

On an Ultramarine Blue disc, the Sable knight is positioned guardant at fess point. The Sable armor is caboshed and highlighted with Or. The erect charge reaches vertically to the chief and base positions on the disc. **SIGNIFICANCE:** Ultramarine Blue and Air Force Yellow are used in the design. Blue represents the sky, the primary theater of Air Force operations. Yellow symbolizes the sun and the excellence required of Air Force personnel, "The Best of the Best." The black knight is a symbol of honesty, loyalty, and reliability. The knights are expected to succeed in a mission most are not even aware of, in the hours of darkness and night; our primary time of operation. (Approved, 23 Mar 1990)

The symbol of engineering is the castle. Ordinary kingsmen were "knighted" for outstanding accomplishment. The knight was a symbol of honesty, loyalty, and reliability. They were called upon to accomplish the most difficult tasks. "The Knights" of Civil Engineering have accomplished the most difficult of tasks while being assigned to a classified location working on classified projects. Thus, the engineering squadron was identified as a "black organization," which allowed the terra "Black Knights" to evolve.

MOTTO

OPERATIONS

DEPARTMENT OF THE AIR FORCE ORGANIZATIONAL HISTORIES

Created: 1 Jan 2025

Updated:

Sources

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

The Institute of Heraldry. U.S. Army. Fort Belvoir, VA.

Unit History. *History and Lineage of the F-117A Stealth Fighter; Organizations*. Office of History HQ 37 TFW. Special Study HO-91-2. Dec 1991.