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FIFTY YEARS of

Reserve Prime BEEF at the Ready

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Air Force Reserve Command, headquartered at Robins Air Force Base, Ga., has Prime BEEF squadrons, flights and staff augmentation teams postured at 34 different locations across the country, as well as individual mobilization augmentees embedded in active duty Prime BEEF squadrons. These include nine base operating support locations and 25 tenant locations. The AFRC Prime BEEF force structure comprises 3,784 engineers who are supported not only by the command, but also by three numbered air forces, one civil engineer group, the Contingency Equipment Management Facility, located at Grissom Air Reserve Base, Ind., and the Expeditionary Combat Support Training and Certification Center located at Dobbins ARB, Ga.

Implementation of the Air and Space Expeditionary Force Teaming construct has transformed how Air Force Reserve Command engineers are postured to meet combatant commander requirements. AFRC engineers have filled 1,295 deployment taskings since the beginning of fiscal 2012. The transition from tempo bands to a unit-based construct has enabled AFRC to adopt a "location-driven/best-fit" sourcing solution and AFRC engineers to meet a deployed installation's requirements. This ensures team cohesion and facilitates AFRC's ability to fill crucial leadership positions (e.g., commanders and first sergeants) for the first time. AEF Teaming also ensures the 531 Reserve engineers tapped to deploy in 2015-2016 exceed theater-level engineering services requirements.

The Contingency Equipment Management Facility serves as a force enabler for the Reserve engineers. A majority of all AFRC engineer equipment unit type codes, valued at over \$50M, are stored and maintained at the CEMF by a team of professionals, enabling our engineers to focus limited hours on training and skill level proficiency. Additionally, AFRC has partnered with the Air Force Civil Engineer Center's Detachment 1, Tyndall AFB, Fla., for several total force equipment recapitalization efforts to guarantee engineers are properly equipped to meet any contingency requirements.

The ECS-TCC is the Reserve's organic Prime BEEF expeditionary and contingency training platform, offering hands-on skills training to a Total Force audience. The ECS-TCC is staffed with 18 Active Guard Reserve personnel and a civilian scheduler to cover every CE Air Force Specialty Code within the Prime BEEF program, with the exception of Pest Management. The ECS-TCC offers courses in the following areas: MEET — Mission Essential Equipment Training; initial and refresher crane operation; tractor trailer training; Joint Tactical Radio System; material acquisitions; variable incident preparation for EOD responders; driver-operator proficiency certification for firefighters; and special purpose vehicle training, as well as courses designed to provide skill-level upgrade and SORTS-reportable training.



In addition to a robust home station training program, AFRC Prime BEEF units use deployments for training, or DFTs, as vehicles to get necessary hands-on skills training during a Reservist's two-week annual tour. In 2014, Reserve engineers tackled several challenging projects, including beddown support for AFRC's largest joint service accredited exercise; instruction and mentorship at the United States Air Force Academy's Field Engineering and Readiness Laboratory Program; and the construction of a pre-engineered building at Dobbins Air Reserve Base, Ga.

In April and May of 2014, 138 Traditional Reserve and 13 active duty civil engineers deployed to Young Army Assault Strip at Ft. McCoy, Wis., in direct support of Exercise PATRIOT WARRIOR 2014 (see article on p. 20). Engineers provided real world support of incoming airlift assets and construction of a bare base overcoming torrential rains, strong winds and cold temperatures to receive 396 follow-on forces. In addition to accomplishing the exercise's mission requirements, members completed 90 percent of all home station training and many SORTS reportable requirements.

The Academy's FERL Program is a nationally recognized program which provides innovative hands-on education and construction experience. This year the program provided 62 cadets with a solid foundation in a variety of civil engineering topics. Over the program's 15-day period, AFRC members, in concert with active duty and Guard members, gave Cadets more than 1,400 man-hours of mentorship and hands-on training in the fields of engineering assistance, heavy equipment operations, utilities, structures, electrical, and power production. In addition to the FERL program, Reserve Airmen worked at Schriever AFB, Colo. alongside their active duty counterparts to complete a concrete pad for the Outdoor Recreation Office's vehicle parking lot. Airmen tackled a variety of smaller projects including pump replacement

for fire suppression systems; water pump service; road sign replacement; office renovations; HVAC and electrical work orders; and other trouble tickets. Being able to work alongside a Total Force workforce to complete work orders, projects and complete real world training in lieu of computer-based training was extremely valuable.

At Dobbins ARB, Ga., the intense heat and humidity associated with Georgia summers did not hinder Reserve engineers in accomplishing a DFT project to construct a 50-by-100-foot open bay warehouse for the ECS-TCC. The project was a cooperative effort from base to major command levels with 113 Airmen directly participating in site development and construction of the pre-engineered building. Over a 12-week period, the project provided critical skills training for all the Prime BEEF operations personnel and encompassed cradle-to-grave management of design, site development, ground breaking and construction activities leading to the final ribbon cutting. More than 350 yards of select fill was utilized along with 285 yards of concrete poured to set the stage for building erection. For many of the Airmen it was their first deployment and first experience with the obstacles that occur during construction projects. Not only did the project provide skills training it also provided a platform for team building and Total Force integration.

The examples above illustrate the many ways that Reserve Prime BEEF civil engineers remain at the ready for whatever the mission calls for, whenever it calls. The Air Force Reserve Prime BEEF program remains a vital component of the Total Force team.

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(Facing page) Air Force Reservists with the 433rd Civil Engineer Squadron redo the siding, windows and doors of a Morale Welfare and Recreation building on the west side of Fort McCoy, Wisconsin May 3. The CE unit out of Joint Base San Antonio-Lackland arrived here April 26 to bed down a Forward Operating Base in support of Exercise PATRIOT WARRIOR. As the unit moves into the sustainment phase, Airmen helped out with real world projects for the Army. (U.S. Air Force photo by 1st Lt. Denise Haessler)

(This page) Master Sgt. Timothy Harper, 911th Civil Engineer Squadron, waters the ground for a cement pad for a vehicle parking lot at Schriever AFB, Colo. (U.S. Air Force photo/Staff Sgt. Julius Delos Reyes)

