

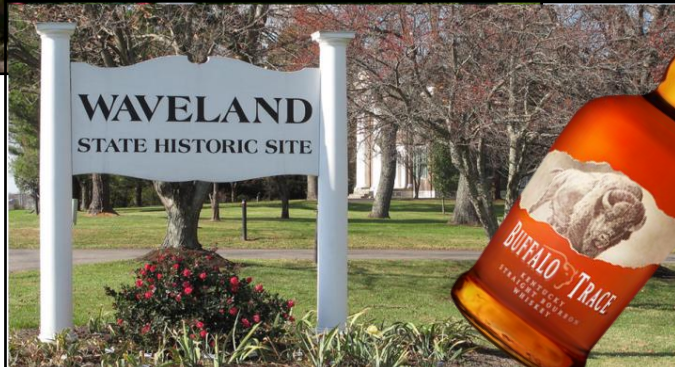


# "THE CHARGING CHARLIE" Prime BEEF and RED HORSE Newsletter



## FEATURED IN THIS ISSUE:

Convention/ Reunion - September 12-16, 2017 - Lexington, KY



This newsletter is dedicated to USAF Military Civil Engineers  
(RED HORSE and Prime BEEF) Past, Present, and Future

**PRESIDENT'S STABLE****April 2017**

Welcome to all the NEW members that have recently joined the Association. If you haven't heard, our 2017 Convention and Reunion will be in Lexington Kentucky, September 12-16, 2017. Most of our time is being spent on planning that Convention and Reunion. Kentucky doesn't have a RED HORSE unit for us to visit so we are planning some other things to do as a group. Check-out the pages of Convention information in this newsletter. We are including a registration form or you can register on line. We are asking for a lot of information, but we need to give estimates of attendees at some of our functions. You will be required to wear your convention name tags at many of our functions so we know you are a part of us and to get the appropriate discounts. Help make it easier for us, get your registration form in early. To be able to guarantee delivery of our challenge coins at the convention we need for everyone to have their reservation and order in by August 1<sup>st</sup>. This will save you the shipping costs associated with purchases through the store.

The Kentucky Bourbon Festival will be happening September 11–17 just north of Lexington. Come early and enjoy those festivities before our convention. As usual we will begin our convention with an ice breaker Tuesday afternoon and early evening. A great opportunity to locate old acquaintances and make new friends. Make sure your dues are paid and join us Wednesday morning for our business meeting. Life membership is the best way to go. We have a couple of important issues. Be there and give us your opinions. At the top of our list will be to update our by-laws. A committee has been working hard on them. The intent of the change is to simplify the by-laws where possible, but in some cases additional clarification is required. The board unanimously agreed on the proposed changes. Another subject, a committee has been looking at is the pros and cons of a possible name change. This also will be brought up during our business meeting. A suggested new name could be the "RED HORSE and Prime BEEF Association". Then we will get a little lighter, with lunch and a tour of the Buffalo Trace Distillery in the afternoon. We go right by the Kentucky Vietnam Veterans Memorial and suggest that you stop there on the way back from the distillery. We have set aside all day Thursday for briefers to make presentations about RED HORSE and Prime BEEF past and present. If we have enough people interested in going to the Waveland museum for a low tea for the morning and lunch, and not listen to the military presentations, they can do that. We will end Thursday with a fabulous Kentucky themed dinner with a great guest speaker. Kentucky is known for its horses so we are planning on spending Friday at the nearby Kentucky Horse Park. We have arranged for a group rate of \$8 per person, \$6 for children for Association members on this day down from the normal rate of \$20. When entering the gates tell the guard you are with group sales for free parking. You need to go to the visitor center wearing your convention name tag to get our special rate tickets. In addition to a museum and several displays they have a full day of presentations and shows. The park has the Bit & Bridle Restaurant that is open until 3 PM for lunch.

There is also an article in this newsletter asking for anyone interested in joining the board of directors at our 2017 Convention election of Board of Directors to let me know. We have enclosed a photo and a short bio of the nominees for the election that we know of so far. We will also have this information in our convention booklet. So if you are interested, but have not let your wishes known, you still have time to be listed in the convention booklet. I want our membership to be able to make an informed decision. The term of the Board of Directors is four (4) years, with half the board up for election at each convention.

My last comment is to remind you that my ear is always available, please contact me with your comments and concerns via email at [randy.eckert@rhamail.org](mailto:randy.eckert@rhamail.org) or by snail mail at 701 Center Drive, Palmyra, PA 17078.

To The Horse  
Randy Eckert, President

The REDHORSE Association is recognized federally by the IRS as a 501(c)19 Veterans Organization, but is not a part of the Department of Defense or any of its components and it has no governmental status.





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Term Expires 2017 \*

**ELECTION OF ASSOCIATION OFFICERS:**

At each biennial convention the general membership elects half of the Board of Directors. Any member in good standing, except honorary members, may run for a position on the Board of Directors. The position of Board of Director is a four year term. The officers of the Board of Directors are elected by the Board of Directors from the Board of Directors elected by the general membership at each biennial convention. All officers of the Association are volunteer positions and are not paid. Each Board member is required to attend at least one meeting of the Board of Directors each calendar year. It is preferred that anyone desiring to hold a Board of Director position submit a brief resume and photo to the President of the Board of Directors prior the biennial convention. You have missed the newsletter but still have time to be included in this year's convention booklet. This enables the Board of Directors to list each nominee in the convention booklet for the general membership to review. The nominations known to date are presented to you in this newsletter. Nominations will also be accepted from the floor, but we want to give our membership the opportunity to know more about you before the election. At this 2017 Convention the Board of Directors will be looking for someone to fill the positions of President, Secretary and Treasurer. President Eckert is having health problems. Paul Sattler plans to continue on with his duties as web master but will not be running for reelection at this year's convention.



### REDHORSE Association Income & Expense

Accrual Basis

January through December 2016

	Jan - Dec 16
<b>Ordinary Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Income</b>	
2015 Convention Raffles	1,450.00
Life Time Memberships	4,275.00
Membership Dues	1,680.00
<b>Sales</b>	
Cap Sales	1,060.00
Coin Sales	2,690.20
Patches	600.00
Pin Sales	226.50
RHA Challenge Coin	110.00
RHA Patches	<u>359.50</u>
<b>Total Sales</b>	5,046.20
<b>Total Income</b>	12,451.20
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
<b>Cost of Goods Sold</b>	
Challenge Coins	2,825.00
Pins	<u>576.88</u>
<b>Total Cost of Goods Sold</b>	3,401.88
<b>Total COGS</b>	3,401.88
<b>Gross Proceeds</b>	9,049.32
<b>Expense</b>	
2015 Convention Expenses	195.00
2015 Golf Expenses	187.17
Bank Service Charges	149.29
Computer Software	640.23
Credit Card Fees	353.59
Licenses and Permits	5.00
Meals & Entertainment	272.06
Office Supplies	397.32
Postage & Shipping	1,231.66
Printing and Reproduction	622.53
Scholarship Prog Payments	500.00
Travel Expenses	1,617.94
Web Site Fees	<u>562.80</u>
<b>Total Expense</b>	6,734.59
<b>Net Ordinary Income</b>	2,314.73
<b>Other Income/Expense</b>	
<b>Other Income</b>	
Contributions	5.00
Interest Income	<u>1.07</u>
<b>Total Other Income</b>	6.07
<b>Net Other Income</b>	<u>6.07</u>
<b>Net Income</b>	<b>\$2,320.80</b>



**The REDHORSE Association's  
Brigadier General William "Tom" Meredith Honor Scholarship Program**

The purpose for this scholarship is to provide financial assistance to REDHORSE Association dues-current members and their immediate families who wish to further their education by attending an institution of higher learning. This scholarship program is supported entirely by funds set aside for the sole purpose of this program. Funds are acquired from donations, contributions and fund raisers.

A candidate is eligible to apply for this scholarship program if:

1. The applicant is an immediate family member of a member in good standing (annual dues are current) of the REDHORSE Association. (Immediate family member is defined as a son, a daughter, step son, step daughter, adopted son, adopted daughter, grandson, granddaughter, spouse and self).
2. Applicant is ONE of the following: a high school graduate, has his or her GED, is a home-schooled student who has successfully completed an equivalent program of study, or is currently enrolled as an undergraduate with at least 2 full semesters until graduation. Qualifying applicants may reapply every year. Prior recipients may reapply, however, the applicant must submit a new application package each year.

Applicants must submit **all required application information by the due date of JUNE 30th**. Qualifying applicants may reapply; however, prior recipients may not reapply.

Applicant **MUST SUBMIT** the following:

1. Application form
2. A letter of reference is preferred but not required.
3. A personal essay of 250 words or less, which should answer "What are your career objectives"? (Typed, double-spaced, on a single sheet of plain paper and attached to the application).
4. Transcript(s) and educational record, including activities and honors.
5. Verification of enrollment in an accredited institution of higher learning.
6. Recent (within past 90 days), color, full body (head to toe) photo, not less than 3" x 5".
7. Recipients signed release of his/her name and photo to the REDHORSE Association for publicity purposes and affirmation that all information provided is complete and accurate.

For more information or an application contact [paul.sattler@rhamail.org](mailto:paul.sattler@rhamail.org) or REDHORSE Association, Scholarship Selection Committee, P O Box 8, Westminster, CO. 80036-0008.

### 2017 Convention Director Nominees

**Don Boone**



I served in the Air National Guard from 1991 to 2002 attaining the position as Support Group Commander. I worked at the Air National Guard Readiness Center from 2006 to 2014 as a GS 13 & 14. I am a member of the REDHORSE Association Board of Directors for 1.5 years.

**John Burkett**



I retired from the Air Force after serving 22 1/2 years. After SCARWAF and the 560<sup>th</sup> RED HORSE I was in the 554th, and 819th RHS's in Vietnam. I served on the REDHORSE Association Board of Directors since its inception.

**Joe Hajik**



I served 25 years Active Duty Dirtboy; 823rd RHS from 87-91, 554th RHS 91-92, 823rd 92-99. 86 CRG/Airborne Engineer 99-02. 366 CES 02-04, 366 CES then ACC Staff 04-07, AFCEA RH PM 07-10. AFCEC RH MEPAK Mgr 2010-present. I have been on the Association Board of Directors since 2016.

**Dan Raske**



I served 4 years on active duty. Nineteen months in the 554th and 555th RED HORSE Sq's in Vietnam in 69 and 71. I served on the Association Board of Directors since its inception.

**50<sup>TH</sup> ANNIVERSARY COMMEMORATIVE COINS:**

These were produced in 2015 to honor the 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Celebration of Prime BEEF and RED HORSE. These coins are still available and can be ordered on line through the REDHORSE Association website [www.rhassn.us](http://www.rhassn.us), RHA Store, Coins/Pins. Examples are shown below.

2015 Coin #1



2015 Coin #2



2017 Coin #1



2017 Coin #2



**The 2017 Coin #1 Concept**

(Front of the coin.)

DaCOIN is in commemoration of over 51 years of Air Force Civil Engineering partnership of PRIME BEEF, RED HORSE and CECOG/ AFCEC.

In August 1965 PRIME BEEF 1 was born and deployed to Vietnam and midway into their deployment they were so successful RED HORSE was born. In January 1966 the 554th and 555th RED HORSE Squadrons graduated from training at Cannon AFB, NM and deployed to Vietnam. At their graduation Major General Curtin talked about establishing a control group to oversee the PRIME BEEF and RED HORSE units. On 1 April, 1966 the Civil Engineering Construction Operations Group (CECOG) was born. CECOG was the control element and PRIME BEEF and RED HORSE were the working elements and the beginning of the partnership.

(Back of the coin)

Here it is 2017 and PRIME BEEF and RED HORSE units are still very active worldwide and the Air Force Civil Engineer Center is very active in controlling them. This is still a bonding three-way partnership that has made the Air Force Civil Engineers a leading Engineering and Construction Force.

Designed by Bruce Swafford

**The 2017 Coin #2 Concept**

The development of Prime BEEF and RED HORSE has been really important and special for the USAF and the men and women who have served in it. This coin proudly shows the two symbols which symbolizes these two Air Force Teams as well as the work they do in and around the Airfield. Although both Prime BEEF and RED HORSE were developed for different roles they can meld together as needed to accomplish any challenge. They really "Can Do", "Have Done" and "Will Do" in the future.

The 2015 coins can be ordered and picked up at the convention. They will remain at the same price of \$10.00 each or \$19.00 for the pair.

The 2017 coins are slightly smaller than the 2015 coins and they can also be ordered and picked up at the convention they will be \$9.00 each or \$17.00 for the pair.

For the best deal order all 4 coins for the fantastic price of \$35.00.





**2017 REDHORSE ASSOCIATION CONVENTION REGISTRATION**  
**12 – 16 September 2017**  
**Clarion Hotel – 1950 Newton Pike**



Make your own hotel reservations by contacting the Clarion Hotel directly at (859) 233-0512. Be sure to mention the REDHORSE Association to get our special room rate of \$90 plus taxes per night. These rates will be available 3 days before and after the convention. Reservations must be made by August 20, 2017 to get these rates. There are some stairs in the hotel, tell them if this will be a problem for you. Tell the hotel when making your reservations if you plan to use their complimentary shuttle transportation to and from the Lexington Bluegrass Airport. A free breakfast is available for all guests. Hotel check in time is after 4:00 pm and check out time is prior to 11:00 am.

Full Name: \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Name Tag: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Spouse/ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Name Tag: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Name of Spouse/ Guest: \_\_\_\_\_ Name for Name Tag: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Address: \_\_\_\_\_ City: \_\_\_\_\_ State: \_\_\_\_\_ Zip: \_\_\_\_\_  
 Phone: \_\_\_\_\_ Email: \_\_\_\_\_

♿ Are you or your guest disabled or require special service? \_\_\_\_\_ Any dietary restrictions? \_\_\_\_\_

**Convention Fees:**

1. Registration fees per person include; Attendee packet, Ice Breaker, Bartenders, First afternoon lunch and tour, Coffee at meeting sessions, Hospitality and Meeting Rooms and other items needed for the event.

Please circle appropriate Registration rates:	Before 1 August	After 1 August	Count	\$
Current RHA members and guests	\$40.00	\$45.00	Count	\$ _____
Nonmembers and guests	\$50.00	\$55.00	Count	\$ _____
Lunch and Distillery tour (Wednesday Afternoon)	Included with registration		Count	_____
Waveland Historic Park- Low Tea (need 20 Persons, leave the hotel at 10AM)	\$25.00	\$25.00	Count	\$ _____
Kentucky Horse Park, Lunch available leaving the hotel at 10AM)	pay at the Visitors Center \$8.00		Count	_____

2. Banquet Meal: \$35.00 per person includes tax and tip. Count \_\_\_\_\_ \$ \_\_\_\_\_  
 An Old Kentucky Buffet (If you are not into Fried Chicken and Ribs note your dietary requirement above)....

**Convention Sponsorships are available:**

Gold- \$200 and Silver- \$100; Demonstrate your organizations values and make a big impression on the RH/PB Veterans, Retirees, Active, USAFR, ANG attendees. Any one desiring to be a sponsor can indicate your sponsorship level and include a check for the appropriate amount with your registration. All sponsorships will be prominently displayed in the hotel and at our meeting sessions. For more information or to provide a special graphic email Dick Aldinger at [famdinger@aol.com](mailto:famdinger@aol.com). One half of the Sponsorship monies go towards the Association Scholarship program.

Sponsorship \$ \_\_\_\_\_

Payment of your 2017 RHA Membership Dues: \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Commemorative Challenge Coins**

- |   |  |   |
|---|--|---|
| a. 2015 General Meredith Coin             | <input type="checkbox"/> Coin at \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 each- coin a. & coin b. for \$19.00  |
| b. 2015 50 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary Coin | <input type="checkbox"/> Coin at \$10.00 | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 each- coin c. & coin d. for \$17.00  |
| c. 2017 #1 Convention Coin                | <input type="checkbox"/> Coin at \$9.00  | <input type="checkbox"/> 1 each- coin a, b, c, & d. for \$35.00 |
| d. 2017 #2 Convention Coin                | <input type="checkbox"/> Coin at \$9.00  |   |
- Total for coins \$ \_\_\_\_\_

**Total payment of \$ \_\_\_\_\_**

**Registration:** A fill in the blank form is available on our web site, [www.rhassn.us](http://www.rhassn.us), to complete, print and mail to us at REDHORSE Association, P O Box 8, Westminster, CO 80036, or e-mail it to us at [admin@redhorseassociation.org](mailto:admin@redhorseassociation.org).

**Payment:** can be made by check and mailed or if you have a PayPal account you can send your payment to the REDHORSE Association at [www.paypal.me/REDHORSEAssociation](http://www.paypal.me/REDHORSEAssociation).





BY CHOICE HOTELS

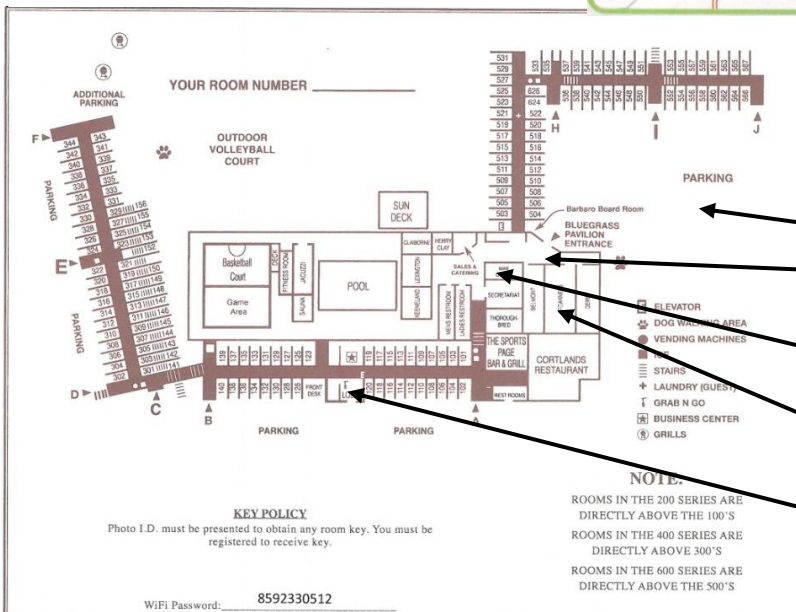
# Clarion Hotel

1950 Newton Pike  
Lexington Kentucky  
859-233-0512

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From I-64/I-75 get off at exit 115. Take route 922 south for less than a mile; the hotel is on the left.



- ← Transportation Pick-Up Point
- ← Association Registration
- ← Hospitality area Man-O-War/ Secretariat/Thoroughbred rooms
- ← Meeting Room Derby/ Preakness
- ← Hotel Registration

Join us in Lexington Kentucky for our 2017 Convention / Reunion

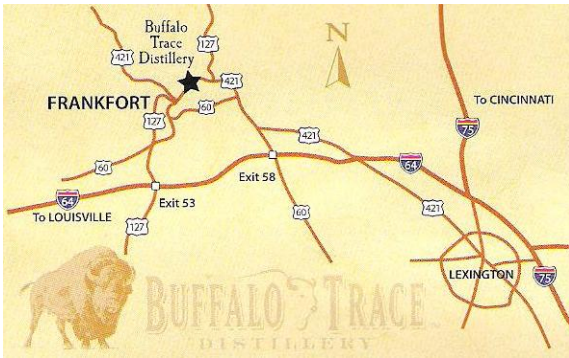


# BUFFALO TRACE™

KENTUCKY  
STRAIGHT BOURBON  
WHISKEY



You must register for this event.



Join us Wednesday for lunch and a tour of the Buffalo Trace Distillery

Get on I-64 west towards Frankfort to exit #58. Turn right at the end of the exit onto US 60 west. Stay on this route for 5 miles. US 60 becomes 421 north and Wilkinson Blvd. The distillery will be on your right. Look for the Buffalo Trace water tower and turn right through the big stone gates.

If you need a ride or can provide someone with a ride please let us know at registration Tuesday.



## Waveland State Historic Site

225 Waveland Museum Lane

Lexington Kentucky

859-272-3611

Thursday

Low Tea

You must be registered for this event. Scheduled for Thursday leaving the hotel at 10:00 AM

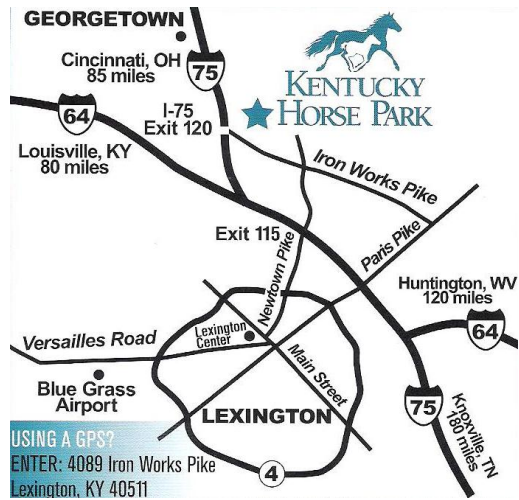
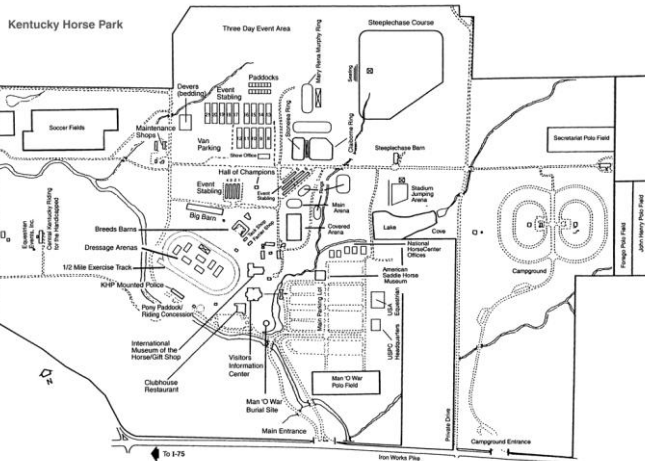


Tea at Waveland includes costumed interpreters serving in the mansion, on fine china. We serve tea, finger savory sandwiches, scones with lemon curd, finger desserts and English trifle followed by a tour of the mansion.



## Kentucky Horse Park

If you registered for this event we will leave the hotel at 10:00 AM Friday. Lunch will be on your own. Upon arrival check the schedule of activities for the times of all the scheduled shows and demonstrations. Fit in a visit to the International Museum of the Horse, the Hall of Champions, the Man O' War Memorial and other areas.



## Kentucky Horse Park

September 15th

### REDHORSE Association Group Discount Rates

Adult Group Rate- \$8.00 - Children Age 6 to 12- \$6.00

Have lunch at your convince at the

**Bit & Bridle Restaurant**



**NEWS ARTICLES**

**AIR FORCE ENGINEERS REPAIR RUNWAY IN IRAQ**

*October 22, 2016 by Army Sgt. 1st Class Robert W. Lemmons IV, Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command – Operation Inherent Resolve.*



*An Air Force C-130J Super Hercules waits to unload logistical supplies in support of the fight for Mosul at Qayyarah West airfield, Iraq, Oct. 22, 2016. This is the second aircraft to land there following completion of repairs to the runway after Da'esh damaged it in an attempt to disrupt Iraqi Security Forces from gaining control of the area. Control of the Qayyarah West airfield has enabled the opening of an air corridor to support operations throughout northern Iraq. A Coalition of over 60 nations has formed to provide assistance and training to Iraqi forces to counter Da'esh, re-establish Iraq's borders, and re-take lost terrain thereby restoring regional stability and security. (Army photo by Spc. Christopher Brecht).*

Baghdad: Three months ago, four Air Force engineers with the 1st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group arrived in northern Iraq to conduct a reconnaissance mission for what would become a historic undertaking. The engineers were informed their task had never been attempted in Iraq.

Their mission: Mitigate runway damage caused by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant.

The 1st ECEG took the mission, and last night, when the telltale cadence of four turboprop engines grew louder and louder, they knew their hard work had paid off.

Over the last two years, ISIL severely damaged the runway at Qayyarah West Airbase; a major strategic airfield in northern Iraq's Ninawa province. ISIL detonated explosives, used an excavator with a hammer attachment, and created deep trenches to damage the runway in several different ways.

Logisticians deployed in support of the Combined Joint Forces Land Component Command – Operation Inherent Resolve are enabling Iraqi forces as they push to retake Mosul. They need larger, fixed-wing aircraft to expeditiously move larger amounts of supplies to the Iraqis, and those aircraft need a proper runway.

In order for a C-130 Hercules cargo plane to land, it requires a runway the length of 33 football fields.

Air Force Maj. Jason Stevens, 1st ECEG officer in charge of the project, detailed the project during its outset.

“We’ll be on the ground for about three weeks to fix the damage,” Stevens said. “It’s been a long time in the planning process. The guys are doing amazing work. They are making excellent progress. We are on schedule and we are moving forward every day.”

During the planning process, the airmen were trained to operate the newly fielded Rapid Airfield Damage Repair System and Super Kit to complete the mission. The kit consists of a comprehensive set of the equipment necessary to quickly repair a damaged air strip.

“The project was practiced and perfected in training, so when boots hit the dusty ground the mission would be in full swing,” said U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. Tyler Charles, one of the engineers on the team.

“We show up, clear the debris out, get all the junk and everything out of there,” Charles said. “Then we dig down, if we have to, until we hit hard surface ground.”

The engineers had to systematically identify damaged areas of the airfield, cut those pieces of concrete out, and then start from scratch from the bare ground up. After that, there is earth tamping and concrete filling and curing -- a process that takes about a day to complete.

Virginia Air National Guard Master Sgt. Reid Burns, the lead noncommissioned officer of the team, realizes that his job is vital to the Iraqi forces on the front lines who need supplies to continue their push toward Mosul.

“Moving up here and opening up this airfield will support the warfighter -- get more beans and bullets on the ground; help the Iraqi army to bring the fight to ISIL.”

A project this large takes a team to complete. The total force concept is played out on the project, bringing together qualified airmen from the Air National Guard, Air Force Reserve and active-duty Air Force.

"It makes me really proud," Burns said of his team. "Especially the Guard, reserve and active duty guys coming together [and] pooling our resources."

As if the task at hand wasn't already difficult enough, the old standby "the enemy always gets a vote" came into play. Airmen had to complete the demanding task under the persistent threat of indirect fire.

"Due to our location and the threat that is here, we are wearing our full kits and our helmets at all times," Stevens said.

This may slow the process down a bit, but did little to discourage the airmen who recognized the value of their mission.

Stevens enjoyed the process and said he saw his team thrive in the face of adversity. "When boiled down, the airmen completed their task a lot faster than ISIL was able to complete theirs," he said.

It took two years for ISIL to damage the airfield beyond what they believed repairable. It took a small team of 1st ECEG engineers three weeks to make it fully operational. Now the Coalition can quickly supply the Iraqi security forces on the front lines of Mosul, enabling the defeat of ISIL.

As the roar of turboprops peaked, the tires of the first Air Force C-130 cargo plane screeched across the runway surface, passing seamlessly over what used to be a stretch of dirt piles, concrete barriers and trenches. Shortly thereafter another aircraft landed, and many more will follow.



Airmen assigned to the 60th Air Mobility Wing complete a concrete taxiway repair at Travis Air Force Base, Calif., Aug. 19, 2016. 1st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group airmen recently used similar techniques on a much larger scale to repair damage caused by Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant terrorists at Qayyarah West Airbase in

northern Iraq's Ninawa province. Air Force photo by Heide Couch.

**PRIME BEEF DAY, OSAN AIR BASE, Republic of Korea --**

November 21, 2016, Stories and graphics by Senior Airman Victor. J. Caputo, 51<sup>st</sup> Fighter Wing Public Affairs



The 51st Civil Engineer Squadron holds Prime BEEF Day every third Thursday of the month to provide the Mongrels an opportunity to train on contingency operations here at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea. Every shop in the 51st CES uses the day to practice their role in how Team Osan would react to emergency situations, from loss of normal power to the base to mortar/bomb attacks on the runway. The training day also serves to showcase how each component of the squadron works together to accomplish their overall goal of supporting, sustaining and repairing the base.



U.S. Air Force Staff Sgt. James Wajda, 51st Civil Engineer Squadron water fuels systems maintenance craftsman, sets up a raw water pump at Osan Air Base, Republic of Korea, Nov. 17, 2016. The pump is used to push water into a filtration system to generate large quantities of drinkable water for the base population.





*U.S. Air Force Senior Airman Jisen Abraham, 51st Civil Engineer Squadron operations facilities power craftsman, coordinates between two teams of Airmen operating both sides of a mobile aircraft arresting system at Osan Air Base. Once the aircraft arresting system cable was extended, Abraham ensured both sides were retracted simultaneously.*



*Airmen from the 51st Civil Engineer Squadron structures flight consolidate a folded fiberglass matt during Prime BEEF Day at Osan Air Base. Folded fiberglass matts are used to help reinforce damaged runways during contingency operations, with the ability to withstand the weight of a landing aircraft without fracturing.*

## SHAPING THE TOTAL FORCE: GUARDSMEN IN THE THEATER

January 04, 2017 AL UDEID Air Base, Qatar, Story and U.S. Air Force Photos by Senior Airman Cynthia Innocenti, 379<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing

During a visit here, Jan. 4, Air National Guard Director Lt. Gen. L. Scott Rice delivered a message of continued resiliency as he expressed his gratitude to members serving in the ANG and encouraged them on the rest of their deployment in the U.S. Central Command area of responsibility.

Guardsmen are employed alongside their active-duty and Reserve counterparts in every part of theater operations and in almost every Air Force specialty.

Within CENTCOM, 2,500 guardsmen make up about 20 percent of Airmen in the theater, while 30 percent of the aircraft being operated belong to the ANG.

“When we fight, we fight together,” said Rice.

Over this past year, the contributions of guardsmen to that fight have been many and varied.

An ANG C-130 Hercules crew and aircraft with the 737th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron were the first to land at Qayyarah West Airfield at the outset of the Mosul offensive in Iraq. Vermont guardsmen with the 134th Expeditionary Fighter Squadron deployed with less than a month’s notice and delivered combat airpower within 15 hours of arrival. The ANG makes up roughly half of Al Udeid’s 340th Air Refueling Squadron in both personnel and aircraft, while the 577th Expeditionary Prime BEEF Squadron of the 1st Expeditionary Civil Engineer Group has a large ANG presence and is responsible for construction projects in eight countries.

## NEW 554TH RHS OFFICIAL EMBLEM

January 27, 2017;

MSgt Daniel B. Luning, USAF, Superintendent, Engineering Flight, 554<sup>th</sup> RED HORSE Squadron, PACAF 554<sup>th</sup> RHS/DES

A requested update to the 554th RH squadron emblem was completed by MSgt Daniel Luning.





**REDHORSE Association**  
PO Box 8 Westminster, CO 80036-0008  
303-650-1215

admin@redhorseassociation.org / www.rhassn.us

**Regular Membership:** Active Duty personnel (to include AFRC and ANG) and Veterans, who are or were assigned to, are or were in support of RED HORSE or Prime Beef units. Spouses, children, parents or guardians of those persons, living or deceased, who are or were members or eligible for membership, shall be eligible.

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Unit _____	From ____/____/____	To ____/____/____	Base _____	Combat tour ____
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**Please indicate your war era service. (For IRS tax exemption purposes)**

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Feb 28, 1961 to May 7, 1975 (Vietnam War)

Aug 24, 1982 to July 31, 1984 (Lebanon/Grenada)

Dec 20, 1989 to Jan 31, 1990 (Panama)

Aug 02, 1990 to today (Gulf War/War on Terrorism)

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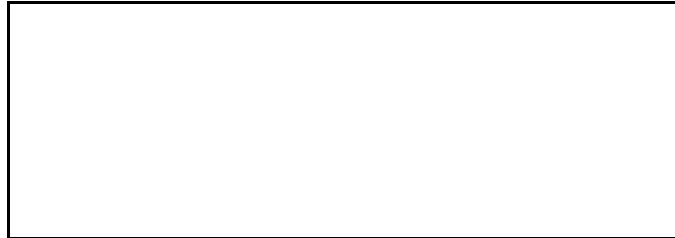
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