



46TH ENGINEER BATTALION HISTORY

THE 46TH ENGINEER BATTALION HAS A LONG AND PROUD HISTORY. IT WAS CONSTITUTED 7 DECEMBER 1917 AS THE ENGINEER RAILWAYS MAINTENANCE-OF-WAY BATTALION, AND ORGANIZED AT CAMP SHERIDAN, AL IN THE SPRING OF 1918. THE BATTALION SERVED IN FRANCE UNTIL THE END OF WORLD WAR I.

THE BATTALION PROUDLY SERVED IN THE PACIFIC THEATER DURING WORLD WAR II, WHERE IT PARTICIPATED IN THE CAMPAIGNS OF THE EAST INDIES, PAPUA, NEW GUINEA, LEYTE, AND LUZON. AS A RESULT OF THE ENGAGEMENTS, THE UNIT WAS AWARDED THE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION, TWO MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATIONS, AND THE PHILIPPINE PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION.

DURING THE VIETNAM WAR, THE BATTALION WAS CALLED TO ACTION AND WAS ENGAGED IN FOURTEEN CAMPAIGNS INCLUDING COUNTEROFFENSIVES PHASE 1 THROUGH 7, AND THE TET COUNTEROFFENSIVE OF 1969. THE UNIT WAS AWARDED TWO MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATIONS AND THE VIETNAMESE CIVIL ACTION HONOR MEDAL. THE BATTALION SERVED IN VIETNAM FROM 27 SEPTEMBER 1965 TO 1 NOVEMBER 1971.

THE BATTALION WAS STATIONED AT FORT RUCKER, AL UPON THEIR RETURN FROM VIETNAM. IT WAS DEPLOYED TO SOUTHWEST ASIA AND PARTICIPATED IN OPERATIONS DESERT SHIELD AND DESERT STORM FROM OCTOBER OF 1990 TO MARCH OF 1991, EARNING A MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION FOR EXCEPTIONAL PERFORMANCE. AFTER RETURNING TO FORT RUCKER, THE UNIT CONTINUED TO SUPPORT THE INSTALLATION WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY COMPLETING INTENSE CONSTRUCTION MISSIONS IN CENTRAL AMERICA AND COLUMBIA IN SUPPORT OF FUERTOS CAMINOS EXERCISES.

THE BATTALION RELOCATED TO FORT POLK, LA ON 15 SEPTEMBER 1995 WITH B COMPANY REMAINING AT FORT RUCKER. THE BATTALION COMPLETED TWO DEPLOYMENTS IN 1995 IN SUPPORT OF THE UNITED NATIONS' MISSION TO HAITI AND OPERATION BRIGHT STAR IN EGYPT. FROM DECEMBER 1998 TO FEBRUARY 1999 THE BATTALION DEPLOYED AS A BATTALION TASK FORCE TO NICARAGUA TO PROVIDE DISASTER RELIEF FOLLOWING HURRICANE MITCH THAT DEVASTATED MUCH OF THE LOCAL AREA. FROM MAY TO SEPTEMBER OF 2000, THE BATTALION DEPLOYED TO HAITI WITH JOINT TASK FORCE JUSTIENEIN IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION NEW HORIZONS 2000.

FROM 2000 TO 2002, THE BATTALION PARTICIPATED IN NUMEROUS STATE-SIDE DEPLOYMENTS TO INCLUDE DOUGLAS, AZ, SAN DIEGO, CA, BRACKETTVILLE, TX, FORT MONMOUTH, NJ, AND ALASKA. ADDITIONALLY, THE BATTALION DEPLOYED TO BULGARIA IN SUPPORT OF JOINT TASK FORCE SIX AND THE 412TH ENGINEER COMMAND.



IN FEBRUARY 2003, THE BATTALION DEPLOYED TO IRAQ IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM WHERE THEY TACKLED A VARIETY OF CONSTRUCTION PROJECTS IN UMM QASR, IRAQ. SIMULTANEOUSLY, THE 814TH BRIDGING COMPANY DEPLOYED FROM FEBRUARY TO JULY 2003 AND AGAIN IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM FROM OCTOBER 2005 TO OCTOBER 2006. THE BATTALION DEPLOYED JUNE 2008 IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM WITH THE 31ST CONCRETE AND ASPHALT DETACHMENT DEPLOYING TO BOTH OIF AND OEF. THE BATTALION RETURNED HOME IN SEPTEMBER 2009.

IN 2016, THE BATTALION INACTIVATED THE 93RD ENGINEER COMPANY, 22ND SURVEY AND DESIGN DETACHMENT, AND 178TH TECHNICAL RESCUE COMPANY. IT WELCOMED THE 630TH CLEARANCE COMPANY AND 642NS ENGINEER SUPPORT COMPANY. IN THE SUMMER OF 2017, THE BATTALION BID FAREWELL TO THE 814TH MULTIROLE BRIDGE COMPANY AND 630TH CLEARANCE COMPANY AS THEY TRANSITIONED TO KOREA.

IN 2018, THE 573RD CLEARANCE COMPANY DEPLOYED TO AFGHANISTAN IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION FREEDOM SENTINEL. AS WELL, THE 524TH FIRE FIGHTER DETACHMENT DEPLOYED TO ROMANIA IN SUPPORT OF USEUCOM OPERATION ATLANTIC RESOLVE.

IN THE SPRING OF 2019, 46TH ENGINEER BATTALION HHC AND FSC EXECUTED A RAPID DEPLOYMENT TO THE UNITED STATES SOUTHWEST BORDER SUPPORT OF TASK FORCE RUGGED SUPPORTED. THEY PROVIDED MISSION COMMAND AND LOGISTICS SUPPORT IN ADDITION TO EMPLACING 40 MILES OF C-WIRE ALONG THE BORDER.

TODAY, THE 46TH ENGINEER BATTALION CONTINUES TO TRAIN, CERTIFY, AND STANDS READY TO DEPLOY COMBAT AND GENERAL ENGINEER UNITS IN SCALABLE AND TAILORABLE FORCE PACKAGES TO SUPPORT LARGE SCALE COMBAT OPERATION IN THE ARMY, JOINT, OR COMBINED CONTEXT WORLDWIDE. THE BATTALION IS PREPARED TO PROVIDE MISSION COMMAND FOR THEATER TAILORED ENGINEER FORCES AND INTEGRATES ENGINEER CAPABILITIES TO ASSURE MOBILITY, ENHANCE PROTECTION, BUILD PARTNER CAPACITY, AND DEVELOP THEATER INFRASTRUCTURE IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION COMMANDER.