

183D WING NEWS



183D Wing, Illinois Air National Guard, 3101 J. David Jones Parkway, Springfield, IL, 62707

217th Engineering Installation Squadron Plays Major Role In Large Scale Infrastructure Project

The 217th Engineering Installation Squadron (EIS) located at the 183d Wing, Abraham Lincoln Capital Airport, Springfield, IL is participating with 21 EIS personnel in the installation of communications infrastructure within the United States Strategic Command (USSTRATCOM) new Command & Control Facility (C2F) at Offutt Air Force Base, Nebraska.

Since 2012, they have been part of an Engineering Installation (EI) team comprised of 15 Air National Guard (ANG) and 1 Air Force Active Duty (AFAD) EI units across the country. The \$1.2 billion dollar facility measured at approximately 1 million square feet will have Inside Plant (ISP) high speed copper and fiber optic networks installed, terminated and tested by specialized Airman trained/certified in critical network cabling specifications.

In addition; they engineered, and are in the process of installing all critical Outside Plant (OSP) fiber optics and copper circuits to provide redundancy for National security critical nuclear deterrence mission systems.

The 251st Cyberspace Engineer Installation Group (CEIG), Springfield Ohio, and the 253rd Cyberspace Engineering Installations Group, Otis ANGB, Massachusetts, manages all active ANG EI projects, supporting contingency and non-contingency missions worldwide. They have been successful in allocating resources in by far, the largest EI community effort while maintaining its readiness posture.

USSTRATCOM estimates a \$250 million cost avoidance. This cost savings is a direct result of the EI Teams flexibility and versatility in assuming

additional ISP/OSP projects; members possessing an active security clearance which eliminates the need for expensive security escorts; and contract/design modification change order fees. These qualities of the EI Team allow the customer the most viable and cost efficient option to completing this project.

As noted in the Offutt Air Force Base Newsletter:

“Once this work is complete, the facility will have a redundant, secure fiber and copper information technology systems backbone. This will not only enhance the Command’s nuclear deterrence capabilities, but will provide a modern enterprise network capable of supporting 16 other presidentially assigned missions and tasks. USSTRATCOM will also be able to provide reliable retransmission capabilities to U.S. Air Force Global Strike Command and other strategic forces.”

