

The Army's Contribution to ICE ART '97

by: *Rachael Bernudez*

Long before sculptors arrive to compete in the World Ice Championships, the US Army Corps works on their yearly ice castle design. Twenty-five men dedicate two and a half weeks sawing, stacking, and binding large ice blocks into the towers that mark the entrance of the Ice Park. The US Army Corps has designed the entrance to the Ice Park since 1991. Ever since that first castle construction, people expect to see this structure each year.

For the third year in a row, the 47th Engineers along with the cutting team from the Charlie 41st Engineers of Ft. Wainwright joined to create the awe inspiring design admired by visitors to the Ice Park. This year's design is based on the engineer crest. The completed castle is made up of three towers, two interior walls, and two major doorways for an entrance and an exit. At completion Lieutenant Chris Thompson, head of the castle project, estimates the towers to stand at twenty feet.

Over two hundred blocks of ice were needed to complete the design. The castle consists of two block sizes: the 3'x3' weigh about 800 pounds and the 2'x4' weighing over one thousand pounds each. To achieve the round shape of the towers the large blocks were cut at 45 degree angles into smaller blocks. □

41ST ENGINEERS

SSG Zacher, SGT Beesley, SPC Davis, SPC StoneKing, PFC Tinkham, PVT2 Gordon, PVT2 Jackson, PVT Henry, PVT2 Searls, PVT Beaubrun, PVT2 Reed, PVT2 Towell, PVT2 LaFortune, PVT2 Sampson

47TH ENGINEERS

Lt. Thompson, SSG Crandall, GT Powell, Vang, SPC Partenach, PFC Ballinger, PFC Napier, SSG Kwon, SGT Velnit, SPC Roberts, SPC Keaton, PFC Richardson, PV2 Graves, PVT Vargas, SSG Kendrick, SGT Street-Crosby, OFC Aguirre, PV2 Hutchinson, PVT Seelock, PVT Howard, SGT Zielinski, SPC Valcin, SPC Salmons, SPC Audrey



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