



Courtesy of RED HORSE

The 250-foot bridge, renovated by Camp Lemonier's Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron, provides a safe crossing of a nearby river to Gode, Ethiopia for residents and livestock. RED HORSE completed renovations without disrupting traffic.

RED HORSE Squadron bridges gap in small Ethiopian village

CPL. JEFF M. NAGAN
THE HORN COURIER

Thanks to the work of less than 10 service-members from Combined Joint Task Force - Horn of Africa, the residents of a small community in southeast Ethiopia can now cross a nearby river safely.

Airmen with the 823rd Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron completed renovations Oct. 10 to a bridge in Gode, Ethiopia, which was in desperate need of repair, said Air Force Master Sgt. David A. Crocker, operations chief and acting first sergeant, 823rd Expeditionary RED HORSE Squadron.

"The boards on the bridge were gapped, rotted and worn," Crocker said. "Livestock were getting caught between the boards, and it was becoming a hazard to cross."

On Oct. 4, the 823rd Expeditionary RED

HORSE Squadron started work removing and replacing each of the 429 boards, which make up the surface of the more than 250-foot bridge.

"They went down there with the intentions of giving 100 percent," Crocker said. "They were able to replace the bridge without disrupting traffic."

Since the bridge is the only route people can take the cross the river in Gode, the engineers replaced one board at a time to ensure people could continue using the bridge throughout the construction process, Crocker said.

"The people now have a safe passage across the bridge," Crocker said. "There was passage before, but it was unsafe. The people are very thankful. It was something that need-



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RED HORSE completed renovations of the bridge in seven days.

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Photo by:
Cpl. Jeff M. Nagan

Petty Officer 3rd Class Cary K. Oneal, ordnance technician, PATRON Detachment, repairs a pressurized chute of the P-3 Orion Wednesday.

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