



NEWS RELEASE

U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

BUILDING STRONG®

For Immediate Release:
Feb. 22, 2012

Contact:
Dave Melancon
david.a.melancon@usace.army.mil

ANA brigade complex proceeding ahead of schedule

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – Construction work on an Afghan National Army brigade complex in Farah province is proceeding ahead of schedule, according to the project’s chief engineer, Michael Fellenz.

“The contractor is slightly ahead of schedule,” said Fellenz, who is deployed from Buffalo, NY. “Phases I and II of the building pad development is finished. We’re also working a lot of building interiors now.

When complete, the \$63.3 million project will consist of housing, helicopter landing pads, motor pools, maintenance facilities, recreation centers and utilities infrastructure for seven kandaks (battalions) for the ANA 207th Brigade, he said.

Additionally work is progressing on the site’s perimeter walls, guard towers, electrical distribution and sewer systems and a waste water treatment facility, he said.



Workmen walk by a recently erected “arch-span” building on Camp Sayer in Farah province. When complete in January 2013, the \$63.3 million project will consist of housing, helicopter landing pads, motor pools, maintenance facilities, recreation centers and utilities infrastructure for seven kandaks (battalions). (USACE Photo by Michael Fellenz)

The work on the project’s design was completed this month and is now well into the construction phase.

“The contractor’s on-site management team continues to show strong progress toward the project’s completion,” Fellenz said.

Ninety of the project’s 135 buildings will be “arch-span” structures, Fellenz said. Arch-span construction saves time and money because fewer workers are needed for construction, concrete does not need time for curing and the structures arrive pre-painted at the worksite.

Arch-span buildings consist of a concrete foundation and sheets of steel bent to form the sides and roof. A typical structure can be compared to a half circle of steel with end caps and windows added, he said.

-- More --



Several Camp Sayer arch-span buildings stand ready for their end caps and interior work. The structures will be used for barracks, offices and dining facilities seven battalions. (USACE Photo by Michael Fellenz)

ANA brigade complex proceeding ahead of schedule 2-2-2

It is taking about two days to erect a building, Fellenz said. Once the outer shell and end caps are in place, the interior is covered with spray-on insulation. Also, the buildings take about one half the time to construct than traditional brick and mortar structures. They can be turned over to the Afghan Army faster and occupied as soon as they are completed instead of waiting for the entire project to be completed, he explained. Arch-span buildings are adaptable for many uses and are easier to maintain.

Camp Sayer's arch-span buildings will be used for barracks, administrative centers, dining facilities and other purposes, he said.

The project is scheduled for completion in January 2013.

-30-

You can find more news and features about the district on our [homepage](#). You can also follow us on [Facebook](#) and find interesting photos about the district on our [Flickr page](#).