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U.S. ARMY CORPS OF ENGINEERS

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For Immediate Release:
May 13, 2012

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Afghan police open district headquarters in Farah

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD—The Afghan Uniform Police opened a new district headquarters in Farah May 10.

The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Afghanistan Engineer District-South contracted for and oversaw construction of the headquarters. The facility was the sixth Afghan Uniform Police district headquarters that the South District has completed in 2012.

Farah Provincial Governor, Mohammad Akyam Akhpul Wak, presided over the opening ceremony, thanking the international coalition for their efforts to increase security in Farah province, and charging the Afghan police with responsibility to protect the local people.

Col. Ghoos Mohammad Malyar of the Afghan Uniform Police reinforced the presence and professionalism of the police in the minds of the populace.



Farah Provincial Governor Mohammad Wak speaks at the turn-over ceremony. (USACE photo, Mark Ray)

“It is great to turn over another headquarters to the Afghan police,” said Air Force Col. Ben Wham, South District commander. “These facilities enable the Afghan authorities to provide security at the local level, and better protect the people of this district.”

The \$2.1 million Farah police district headquarters supports 60 Afghan police officers and was constructed on a large police compound that remained in use during construction. The facility includes barracks, offices, a kitchen and dining area, armory and jail cells, as well as a self-contained well, water distribution system and power generators.

A highlight of the project was the ability of the South District Farah Resident Office, the Combined Security Transition Command-Afghanistan, which funded the project, the Afghan Uniformed Police and their mentors to work together to ensure the final product met police requirements, Wham said.

Noting that the district modified the project at the request of the local police authorities to add a second entry control point to the facility, Wham praised the Farah resident office, the Afghan project engineer and quality assurance representatives for producing a “very high quality facility.”



Italian Col. Francesco Paolo D'iani, commander of coalition forces in Farah province (left) and Italian Capt. Lucca (center, first name unknown), mentor to the Afghan National Police in Farah, speak with South District commander Col. Ben Wham and USACE Transatlantic Division commander Michael Eyre before the opening ceremony of the Farah Afghan Uniform Police district headquarters. (USACE photo, Mark Ray)

“They overcame the challenges of working on an occupied site, and maintained a very aggressive safety program,” Wham said. “I would also like to recognize the great members of our Farah Resident Office, who got this project back on track and kept it to schedule. Our Afghan project engineer and quality assurance representatives provided very effective oversight. The entire team worked hard, followed USACE processes, and delivered an excellent facility.”

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