



December 24, 2007

Corps of Engineers in Herat Support Afghan National Police

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Barracks Construction at the Regional Logistics Center northeast of the ISAF Airfield in Herat

Herat, Afghanistan-- The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Afghanistan District's Herat Area Office is overseeing the construction management of the Uniform Police Regional Headquarters, Regional Logistics Center (RLC) and Stand-By Police Battalion located north-east of the ISAF airport in Herat, which is scheduled to be completed May 2008.

The center is one of nearly 300 Afghanistan National Police projects that the Corps of Engineers Afghanistan Engineer District will be building throughout Afghanistan in the next year. However, the Regional Logistics Center is much larger than most ANP projects and will be the headquarters for several Afghan government agencies responsible for security

and logistics in the Herat Province. The massive compound will house 500 personnel with a future growth capacity for up to 700. Once completed, this facility will make it easier for the local Afghan Police Forces to provide security for various agencies and will be a one-stop center for civilians doing business with the Afghan Government in Herat.

The center cost about \$17 million, and is a self-sustaining design-build project that will have its own well, septic and backup generator power system. It will feature dining facilities, storage yards, barracks, toilets, showers, a laundry building, administrative buildings, headquarters buildings, electronic and communications buildings, a weapons facility, a small arms maintenance facility, an ammunition supply point, a vehicle refueling point, vehicle parking, a vehicle maintenance facility, storage and trash points, a Battalion Command Center, and a Soccer Field.

Mr. Thomas Basinger is the Afghanistan Engineer District's Project Engineer and Contracting Officer's Representative for the project, and is the sole point of contact for all contractual actions. The contractor, International Construction Consultation & Support, Ltd., is an Afghan and German partnership company. At peak construction, ICCS plans to employ up to 250 local Afghans per day. According to figures obtained from the Central Bank of Afghanistan, an unskilled laborer on a Corps of Engineers project earns about eight times more than the average per-capita income in Afghanistan. This project is providing jobs for local Afghans, is training local workers in various construction trades and skills, and will make a lasting improvement on the security and stability of the region.

Each month the Corps of Engineers will feature a new project in the Stone Chronicle.