



Corps Ranger at
Superbowl Page 5

Zebulon Pike
Page 10 & 11

Nashville Employee
helps Page 13

Corps Builds Two Kirtland Facilities

Corps completes Kirtland simulation facility

By Kelsey Seeger, USACE Public Affairs



Photo by Bruce Hill, Jr., USACE Public Affairs

A U.S. Air Force project in partnership with the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, this HC-130P Simulation Facility at Kirtland Air Force Base was completed in December 2007. The facility design was a shared effort performed by both Mobile and Albuquerque Districts. The Mobile District was the project lead on design and overall project management.

The construction for the HC-130P Simulation Facility on Kirtland Air Force Base in Albuquerque finished mid December 2007.

Construction for the facility began April 2006.

Both the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Albuquerque District and Mobile District helped contribute to the completion of the project.

“This building was built to house the HC-130 simulator... to simulate how the aircraft behaves before the pilots fly in the real one,” said Connie Runyan, U.S. Army

Corps of Engineers Program Manager at the Kirtland Air Force Base Resident Field Office.

According to Runyan, the facility cost just over five million dollars. The contractor for the facility was AJAC Enterprises, Inc.

“The Mobile District was the lead on this project on design and overall project management...The facility design was a shared effort performed by both Mobile and Albuquerque Districts,” said Todd Rastorfer, U.S. Army

more Corps Builds on page 7

Corps Build... *continued from cover*

Corps of Engineers Project Engineer at the Kirtland Air Force Base Resident Field Office.

The Mobile District faced some difficulty in coming up with a design for the facility due to the uncertainty of certain components.

“Designing for simulator facilities are usually a challenge. There were lots of players and all of the facility requirements are not readily available... All of the specific requirements for the simulator to be installed in this facility were not known at the time the facility was designed. When the design started it was not known whether the simulator would have a hydraulic or electric motion simulator,” said David Strain, the Project Manager and Air Force Team Leader for the Military Project Management Branch for the Mobile District.

“I feel good about this facility. I believe it has the largest simulator bay at Kirtland and will allow for full motion of the simulator in the simulator bay. It will provide the user with years of use in an integrated



Photo by Bruce Hill, Jr., USACE Public Affairs

A contracted construction worker lays mortar during the summer construction of a north side wall for the HC-130P Simulation Facility at Kirtland Air Force Base in 2007. The facility is now complete and will allow pilots to practice various flying scenarios prior to performing similar maneuvers in a real airplane.

training facility,” Strain said.

“Actually I think it is a great facility. It will help the 58th SOW (Special Operations Wing) accomplish their mission which is the whole idea

behind doing that certain thing,” Runyan said.

This facility also represents a successful cooperative effort between the Albuquerque and Mobile Districts.

“The staff at the Corps of Engineer’s Kirtland Resident Engineer Office was great to work with during construction. They helped identify most problems early in the construction process so they could be worked out before it was critical to the construction schedule,” said Strain.

“The Contractor, AJAC Enterprises, Inc., did a great job of coordinating, managing and executing the contract as well as openly communicating progress with the rest of the project delivery team on a weekly basis,” said Rastorfer. “It (the overall project experience) gives you a good feeling to know that your minor contributions were an important link in the

chain to further the Air Force’s mission in securing our homeland.”

Kirtland gains C-130 Corrosion Control Facility

The C-130 Corrosion Control Facility time at Kirtland Air Force Base was designed in October 2006. Construction began in March 2007 and it was expected to be completed in late May 2008, but due to several modifications the original construction completion date was changed.

Despite the changes however,

the Corps’ now expects to finish on the original schedule.

“We are fast catching up,” said Connie Runyan, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Program Manager at the Kirtland Air Force Base Resident Field Office.

This new facility is a one story building that is a 30,400-square-foot corrosion control facility.

Within this new facility there will be an aircraft paint bay, a paint mixing room, a composite repair room, a support equipment preparation bay and paint booth, a paint storage room, and a plastic media blasting room according to Burns and McDonnell, the company con-

more Corps Builds on page 9



Photo Illustration by Bruce Hill, Jr., USACE Public Affairs

Pictured is the new Corrosion Control Facility as it was being erected on Kirtland Air Force Base in the fall of 2007. It is today nearly complete and soon to be available for the 58th Special Operations Wing to touch-up, repair coatings and perform other corrosion control activities on their assigned aircraft, which include the C-130 and CV 22 Osprey aircraft, and MH 60 Pave Hawk, MH-53 Pave Low, and UH-1H Huey helicopters.

tracted to build the structure.

“The facility is needed to provide the 58th Special Operations Wing a facility for touch-up, repair of coatings and other corrosion control activities on their assigned aircraft, including the C-130, CV 22 Osprey, MH 60 Pave Hawk, MH-53 Pave Low, and UH-1H Huey... This facility will provide them the air system and filtration to meet the environmental requirements, and the safety equipment and breathing apparatus to protect the airmen who work on the aircrafts,” said Joan Coffing, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Project Engineer and Contracting Officer’s Representative at the Kirtland Air Force Base Resident Field Office.

The reason why this facility is

being built is due in part to the fact that “they do not have a facility which meets the environmental and safety requirements for painting aircraft and so they are forced to do touch up painting outdoors when the weather permits or take the aircraft to another base for work to be done elsewhere,” said Coffing.

While this project is slightly behind schedule, Runyan stated that she thinks this delay will be minimized due to Coffing’s presence on the project.

“We have one of the best program engineer’s on this project,” said Runyan about Coffing.

She also commented about how she believes the Corps will minimize the time that they will be behind schedule because of the

good relationship Coffing has with Burns and McDonnell.

“They have formed a good bond with each other,” she said.

Coffing too in her own words is happy with the individuals the Corps is working with to complete this project.

“As with any major construction project, there are always opportunities to learn new things and to meet and work with new people, and I have enjoyed working with the using agency, the base representatives and the team for Burns and McDonnell. This project is proceeding smoothly, and I think it will result in a facility that the user will be very happy with,” Coffing said.



Quote of the quarter

“Life, an age to the miserable, and a moment to the happy.”

- Francis Bacon