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U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

USACE Building for Troops at Camp Speicher

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TIKRIT, Iraq – A hot meal in a safe environment can be an important morale booster for troops.

Often recognized for its mission to jumpstart infrastructure reconstruction in Iraq, the Corps also supports coalition troops with its building expertise. The US Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region North (GRN) district is on track to complete construction on a new DFAC, or dining facility, at Camp Speicher in Tikrit.

“It will be a full service dining facility when it’s done and it’s the only one in this general area so there is a great need for it,” said Jeff Sedgwick, US Army Corps of Engineers Project Engineer for the site.

The approximately 8.5 million dollar project is in the beginning phases of construction on the exterior walls. The cinder blocks being used are local; they come from a factory in the nearby city of Irbil. Thousands of cinder blocks will be needed in the coming months in order to finish on schedule, meaning building here provides immediate support to the local economy, and the long term benefit of support to coalition forces.

“We anticipate that the new DFAC will be completed by early August. These types of projects directly benefit the troops here on base. It will be used by everybody here. It will serve three meals a day. Construction like this directly impacts the lives of all the troops here,” Sedgwick said.

The US Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region North district was tasked with 1,500 projects in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, at a cost of nearly 2.6 billion dollars. GRN has completed over 1,100 of those projects.



USACE GRN is building this new dining facility on Camp Speicher in Tikrit. The approximately 8.5 million dollar project is slated to be complete in August. (photo by Lana Aziz, USACE GRN Iraqi Public Affairs)



Workers set up for the foundation in the kitchen area of the new DFAC. (photo by Lana Aziz, USACE GRN Iraqi Public Affairs Specialist)