

Corps of Engineers mission in Iraq and Afghanistan

The Global War on Terror requires now more than ever that the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers be able to fulfill its wartime mission of providing full spectrum engineering and construction management support to American forces. The Corps deploys capabilities developed in peace- time in water resources development, environment, infrastructure, and disaster response to meet national and international mission requirements during contingency operations. In January 2004, USACE established a new provisional division in Baghdad. The Gulf Region Division (GRD) has three districts in Mosul (North), Baghdad (Central) and Basra (South). The division manages construction, administers contract work, and supports oil and electrical infrastructure projects. A separate district office, the Afghanistan Engineer District (AED) was established to oversee the work in Afghanistan. Currently, USACE has about 500 military and civilian employees in Iraq and Afghanistan. There is still much to do. There is a continuous need for volunteers with vital skills and experience in program management, contracting, administrative support, engineering, construction, budget and auditing, human resources and logistics. To date, approximately 2,000 Corps personnel have deployed in support of The Global War on Terror. Seattle District has had almost 30 people who have returned from Iraq and Afghanistan deployments, more than 30 currently deployed, and more preparing to go in the near future.

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