



Written by Lee Roberts

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CREECH AIR FORCE BASE, Nev. – Several U.S. Army Corps of Engineers construction projects here are building up the mission capabilities of the 432d Wing, which is charged with the important mission of remotely flying the MQ-1 Predator and MQ-9 Reaper aircraft on worldwide missions.

These aircraft systems provide combatant commanders with real-time reconnaissance, surveillance, and precision attack against fixed and time-critical targets.

In support of the men and women who perform these critical jobs at Creech, the Corps' Los Angeles District is constructing a new wing headquarters that will house the command staff, and dining facility centrally located to the Airmen who work around the clock in support of freedom everywhere.

According to Roger Miller, a Corps' construction representative at Creech who is familiar with both building projects, the new wing headquarters is a state-of-the-art facility that will encompass 22,000 square feet of space, more than doubling the space currently being occupied by the unit.



Roger Miller (Left), construction representative for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Los Angeles District at the Creech Air Force Base, Nev., Project Office, and Troy Fish, superintendent of Cobblestone Construction Company, inspect underground power lines March 2, 2010 where the new wing headquarters is being constructed. (USACE Photo by Lee Roberts)



A U.S. Army Corps of Engineers contracted construction crew builds the new dining facility at Creech Air Force Base, Nev., March 2, 2010. (USACE Photo by Lee Roberts)

“Right now the contractors are finishing up the under-slab utilities,” Miller explained about the job’s progress. “Once they do that, they will place the concrete.”

The wing headquarters building construction began in December 2009 and is set for completion in October 2010. The job is currently about 15 percent complete.

When the headquarters is finished, a unique feature of the new single-level building will be an MQ-1 Predator that will be suspended in the lobby area. “It’s going to be a very nice facility,” Miller noted.

The new dining facility is also underway and will increase the current feeding capability from 400 to 1,200 per sitting. “It’s going to create a better quality of life for the Airmen working at the base and provide

this service closer to the work sites they are at,” said Miller.

Cobblestone Construction Company, the contractor on both projects, is set to begin assembling the main structure of the dining facility in several weeks. The contractor plans to lift four prebuilt sections of the roof right onto the building.

The dining facility construction began in September 2009 and is set for completion in July 2010. The job is currently about 20 percent complete.

Rob Caskie, Arizona and Nevada deputy area engineer, and project engineer at Creech, sings high praises for his staff at the project office. He said the staff is supporting the important missions for the 432d despite the fact that about half of the personnel assigned have either transferred or are currently deployed to Afghanistan.

“It’s difficult to overcome,” Caskie said. “You lose a lot of experience. You disrupt the office’s continuity. We’ve been hit hard, but we’ve got a great group of people here and at Nellis Air Force Base who have stood up to get through this period.”

To be able to provide these buildings in support of the wing’s mission and the Airmen who support it is something Caskie said the entire team takes pride in.

“We seem to do well as a team and we try to excel and take care of the customer,” Caskie said.

(For more information about Creech Air Force Base and its mission, go to <http://www.creech.af.mil/>)



A contractor places concrete to strengthen the walls of the new dining hall. (USACE Photo by Lee Roberts)