The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was born on the battlefield of the American Revolution at Bunker Hill, and Soldiers and Civilians have been among the first to respond ever since. As a U.S. Army major command, the Corps of Engineers plays a vital role in national defense by providing engineering, construction and environmental management services for the Army, Air Force, other government agencies and foreign governments.

Wilmington District’s team members are at the forefront in the Corps’ mission to coordinate and manage a variety of multi-million dollar projects in Afghanistan from the construction of roads, bridges and schools to medical clinics, hospitals and irrigation systems. In Iraq, our team members were responsible for rebuilding critical infrastructure, and providing essential services such as electricity and water.

The Wilmington District is committed to protecting human health and the environment and improving public safety by cleaning up environmental contamination at former military properties. Through the Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) Program, the Wilmington District manages environmental restoration and clean-up activities at numerous sites in North Carolina.

Wilmington District team members support the U.S. Army Special Operations Command and Joint Special Operations Command at Fort Bragg, and the U.S. Army at the Military Ocean Terminal at Sunny Point, the largest ammunition distribution facility in the nation, and the Army’s primary East Coast deep-water port.

The Wilmington District upgraded the information management building, supply, warehouse and maintenance facilities in Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point (MOTSU) administrative area as well as the north wharf operations building as part of a larger military construction project at the largest ammunition distribution facility in the nation, and the Army’s primary East Coast deep-water port.
The Wilmington District is broadening its predominant civil works mission and embracing a new military mission supporting the U.S. Army Special Operations Command (USASOC) at Fort Bragg. Over the next 10 years, the District will work with a full matrix team that includes the Savannah and Huntsville Districts on 15 military projects ranging from barracks to a brigade headquarters facility.

“USASOC is the Army component of the Special Operations Combatant Command,” said Wilmington District Commander Col. Steven Baker. “The Army is by far the largest component of the Special Operations Command, and the Wilmington District’s role in providing military construction support to this command, along with the Joint Special Operations Command which is the Joint Component of SOCOM at Fort Bragg, is the main effort during this period of transition for our team.”

Baker said that USASOC and JSOC are exacting customers with demanding missions. Special Operations forces represent the cutting edge of irregular warfare, and they remain some of the nation’s most important defense assets, particularly with regard to counter-insurgency and counter-terrorism operations. He said while many think these forces are simply the “snake-eaters” of the military, they include other more broadly specialized forces such as Psychological Operations, Civil Affairs, and Sustainment.


Contractors working for the Wilmington District discovered and detonated four 81 millimeter HE mortar rounds at the former site of Camp Butner, N.C. The contractors, USA Environmental, discovered the mortars as part of the ongoing Camp Butner Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) project to locate and remove unexploded ordinance. The Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) funds the cleanup of FUDS sites like Camp Butner, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the DoD agency assigned to get the job done.

Oscar Panano-Santana provides construction Quality Assurance training for Afghan contractors. Panano-Santana deployed from the Wilmington District’s Special Operations Command Resident Office at Fort Bragg to the Corps’ Afghanistan Engineer District-North based in Kabul.

Contract explosive ordnance experts search for unexploded ordnance or UXO near a home on the former Camp Butner about 30 miles north of Raleigh. Camp Butner was a World War II training area that still contains UXO and other debris.

Contractors discovered and detonated four 81 millimeter HE mortar rounds at the former site of Camp Butner, N.C. USA Environmental discovered the mortars as part of the ongoing Camp Butner Formerly Used Defense Sites (FUDS) project to locate and remove unexploded ordnance. The Department of Defense Environmental Restoration Program (DERP) funds the cleanup of FUDS sites like Camp Butner, and the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers is the DoD agency assigned to get the job done.

South Atlantic Division Commander Maj. Gen. Todd Semonite, left, and Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point Commander, Col. Mark Hagan, get briefed by Project Engineer Rolando Serrano on the Center Wharf Expansion Project at Sunny Point.

The Wilmington District was responsible for executing the contract calling for major rail line upgrades at the Military Ocean Terminal Sunny Point. The installation’s complex network of rail lines are used to transport munitions between the wharves and dispersed storage areas designed for safety. The improved rail lines accommodate the larger cars needed for containers and ensure more efficient handling.

The District became the lead for these projects, which include other more broadly specialized forces such as Psychological Operations, Civil Affairs, and Sustainment.