

For Immediate Release
U.S. Army Corps of Engineers
Alaska District, P.O. Box 6898
Elmendorf Air Force Base, AK 99506-6898
(Contact persons and phones at end of release)
April 16, 2002

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers awards contract to construct Alaska Missile Defense Test Facilities

Anchorage, Alaska (April 16, 2002.) Today, the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) awarded a construction contract to Fluor Alaska, Incorporated for test bed facilities that will be used to validate the U.S. Ground-Based Midcourse Missile Defense (GMD) operational concept. The GMD is an element of the multi-level Ballistic Missile Defense System. The contract contains basic requirements and various options that could amount to \$250 million in construction, or possibly more, if all items are executed.

The contract covers ground-based midcourse validation of the operational concept test bed facilities at Ft. Greely, Alaska and Eareckson Air Force Station (AFS) on Shemya Island, Alaska. The Corps' Alaska District, headquartered in Anchorage, will supervise the construction. The project will be incrementally funded over a maximum of three years and includes amounts allotted for optional construction of a similar nature at other unidentified sites. There are no optional years written in the contract, which was awarded by the Corps's Engineering and Support Center (Huntsville, Alabama) contracting office.

The GMD being developed is intended to defend the entire United States during the midcourse segment of a hostile missile's attack. The test bed facilities that will be constructed under this contract at the Fort Greely and Shemya installations will allow validation of potential activities associated with the GMD operational concept by testing the interoperability of the GMD components in a realistic environment. These testbed facilities will also assist in the validation of the GMD operational concept by validating activities such as construction techniques, operational procedures, installation, checkout, assembly and maintenance. The new GMD test facility will cover about 260 acres at Fort Greely and a small area at Eareckson AFS.

The Corps of Engineers has been assigned major responsibilities in the design, contracting, and construction of the test phase facilities. The Alaska District of the Corps will manage the construction through an on-site resident engineer office at Fort Greely, which is located about 95 miles southeast of Fairbanks (and 400 miles northeast of Anchorage,) and at Eareckson AFS, which is about 1,500 miles west of Anchorage at the tip of the Aleutian Island chain.

Fluor Alaska, Inc., and their subcontractors, will provide several hundred personnel at the high point of the Fort Greely construction activity. The government's intent is to provide a maximum opportunity for Alaska firms and qualified Alaskans to be employed in this construction project.

Construction is a phased process anticipated to begin in June at Fort Greely and be completed during 2004. Construction season for this area is usually April - October due to cold weather conditions. The expectation is for the contractor to have the exterior of four buildings completed by October 2002, as specified in the contract. With the

outside finished, construction can continue inside the buildings until the next spring. The facility should be fully operational in October 2004.

The detailed specifications for construction materials required for the project may be found in the solicitation. Details of the program and the solicitation are on the Corps' Huntsville website which can be accessed on the Internet at www.hnd.usace.army.mil and then clicking on the button "doing business with us."

The Missile Defense Agency, formerly the Ballistic Missile Defense Organization, earlier selected the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers as its agent for facilities design and construction for this portion of the GMD program. The official charter between the organizations was signed Dec. 15, 1998. Along with the Alaska District as the construction manager, the U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville, Alabama, is acting as the Corps' GMD Program Manager.

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Media Notes:

Queries made directly to the contractor: The contractor will not respond to media queries about details of the contract and the process of selection. Calls to their office will be referred to the Corps of Engineers Public Affairs Office, U.S. Army Engineering and Support Center, Huntsville (phone and e-mail below). Inquiry about details of the construction phase will be referred to the Alaska District (phone and email below.)

Contact for media queries on the contract and the contract award process is:

Public Affairs Office, Huntsville Center, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Phone 256-895-1691 or 1692 (Dan Coberly or Karen Roberts.)
dan.coberly@usace.army.mil <<mailto:dan.coberly@usace.army.mil>>

Contact for media queries related to actual site construction: Public Affairs Office, Alaska District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers. Phone 907-753-2520 (John Killoran or Pat Richardson.) E-mail:
john.p.killoran@poa02.usace.army.mil, or
Patricia.I.Richardson@poa02.usace.army.mil

TO CONTACT THE CONTRACTOR: Persons interested in subcontracting or employment, or other business with the contractor may call:

**Fluor Alaska, Incorporated
Phone number is 864-281-8341.**