

Automated Sniper Field Fire Range at Fort Campbell ready for action

Provided by the Ft. Campbell Resident Office



The newly constructed Automated Sniper Field Fire Range at Fort Campbell will use the latest technology to teach soldiers long-range shooting.

“The training provided at this range will provide soldiers with the understanding and methods needed for making long shots accurately and without hesitation,” according to Mike Mazuk, Installation Range Officer. The targets range in distance from 100 to 800 meters.

The project, designed by the Louisville District Corps of Engineers, included the construction of four buildings, twenty-four moving targets, sixteen pop-up targets and upgrades to the site and three existing structures. The \$1.5 million project was completed by R.L. Alvarez Construction of Clarksville, Tenn., in April 2012.

“The quality of the workmanship was outstanding,” said Mickey Clinard, Senior Quality Assurance Representative. The site work proved a challenge because the site was very susceptible to wet weather and several unexploded ordnances were discovered. “Despite these obstacles, Alvarez Construction demonstrated aggressive schedule management that resulted in the project being turned-over to the Fort Campbell Directorate of Public Works this spring, almost a month ahead of schedule. Another monumental achievement for the project was logging more than 12,000 man hours with no accidents.

The Fort Campbell team feels this project is a good example of the benefits of partnering. “The contractor’s Quality Control team and the Corps’ Quality Assurance team communicated effectively and solved problems at the appropriate level. The end users and distant members of the Project Delivery Team were available when needed. Particularly useful assistance was provided by Mike Mazuk, Tim Wanke and Michael Simmons of Fort Campbell Range Control and Isaiah Weilbaker of the Louisville District Civil Section. This type of cooperation allowed the contractor to maintain momentum,” said Robert Moody, Project Engineer.

Harold O’Daniel, a former Range Master at Fort Campbell, was instrumental in bringing this construction project to fruition. His effort culminated in the range being upgraded with new buildings and a new target system. Because of his enormous contributions in the preparation

and target design layout for this range, range control has and always will refer to this facility as the Harold O'Daniel Range 46 Complex.

The range, which is located on Range 46, was first used in the 1940's when the post was known as Camp Campbell and served as a wartime training camp. In 1955, the 101st Airborne Division was transferred from Fort Jackson, South Carolina to Fort Campbell. Over the years, hundreds of thousands of soldiers have passed through Fort Campbell, many training on Range 46.

Project Delivery Team:

Jeremiah Nichols, P.E. - Project Manager
Isaiah Weilbaker - Project Engineer/Architect
Robert Moody - Project Engineer
Alex Morris - Office Engineer
Michael Clinard - Senior Construction Representative
Jenny Sewell - Contract Management Assistant
James Keatts - Electrical Construction Representative
Joe Hodge - Mechanical Construction Representative
Don Calbert - Environmental Construction Representative

Construction Delivery Team:

Ron Alvarez - Owner/Senior Project Manager
Renaee Alvarez - Chief Financial Officer
Jill Thibault - Project Manager/QC
James Staples - Superintendent/SSHO
Katie Slachciak - Administrative Assistant