

BARTILLA NEW ROAD PAVING
COMMANDER'S EMERGENCY RESPONSE PROGRAM
NINEWA GOVERNORATE, IRAQ

SUSTAINMENT ASSESSMENT

SIGIR PA-07-108
OCTOBER 23, 2007

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SPECIAL INSPECTOR GENERAL FOR IRAQ RECONSTRUCTION

October 23, 2007

MEMORANDUM FOR COMMANDING GENERAL, MULTI-NATIONAL FORCES-
IRAQ,
COMMANDER, JOINT CONTRACTING COMMAND-
IRAQ/AFGHANISTAN
COMMANDER, GULF REGION DIVISION, U.S. ARMY
CORPS OF ENGINEERS
DIRECTOR, IRAQ TRANSITION ASSISTANCE OFFICE

SUBJECT: Report on Commander's Emergency Response Program for Bartilla New
Road Paving, Ninewa Governorate, Iraq (Report Number SIGIR PA-07-108)

The Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction is assessing projects funded under the Commander's Emergency Response Program to provide real-time relief and reconstruction information to interested parties to enable appropriate action, when warranted.

We are providing this report for your information and use. It addresses the current status of the Bartilla New Road Paving, Ninewa Governorate, Iraq. The assessment was made to determine whether the project was operating at the capacity stated in the original contract.

This report does not contain any negative findings or recommendations for corrective action. As a result, management comments are not required.

We appreciate the courtesies extended to our staff. If you have any questions please contact Mr. Brian Flynn at brian.flynn@iraq.centcom.mil or at DSN 318-343-9244. For public or congressional queries concerning this report, please contact SIGIR Congressional and Public Affairs at publicaffairs@sigir.mil or at (703) 428-1100.

Stuart W. Bowen, Jr.
Inspector General

Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction

SIGIR PA-07-108

October 23, 2007

Bartilla New Road Paving Commander's Emergency Response Program Ninewa Governorate, Iraq

Synopsis

Introduction. The Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction is assessing projects funded under the Commander's Emergency Response Program to provide real-time relief and reconstruction information to interested parties to enable appropriate action, when warranted.

The objective of the Bartilla New Road Paving project was to construct six new municipal road segments in the town of Bartilla, in the Ninewa Governorate. On 31 August 2006, a firm-fixed-fee contract of \$147,560 for road paving was awarded to a local contractor. The contractor was required to comply with the "Standard Specification for Roads and Bridges," issued by the Iraqi Ministry of Housing and Construction in 1983, as amended.

Project Assessment Objectives. The objective of this project assessment was to determine whether the project was operating at the capacity stated in the original contract. To accomplish the objective, the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction determined whether the project was at full capability or capacity when accepted by the United States government, when transferred to Iraqi operators, and during the site inspection on 19 September 2007.

Conclusions. During the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction's visit to the site, the six municipal road segments operated as fully functioning roads, replacing the existing unpaved dirt roads. The project was adequately designed prior to construction, and the contractor and United States government performed adequate quality management oversight, which enforced the contract terms and ensured construction quality and completeness.

Additionally, a review of the contract file disclosed no sustainability issues associated with the project turnover. The contract did not require any specialized equipment or maintenance manuals.

Recommendations and Management Comments. Our report does not contain any negative findings or recommendations for corrective action. As a result, management comments are not required. However, United States Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region Division reviewed the draft report and offered no additional information or comments.

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Introduction

Objective of the Project Assessment

The Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction (SIGIR) is assessing projects funded under the Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP) to provide real-time relief and reconstruction information to interested parties to enable appropriate action, when warranted. The objective of this project assessment was to determine whether the project was operating at the capacity stated in the original contract. To accomplish the objective, we determined if the project was at full capability or capacity when accepted by the U.S. government, when transferred to Iraqi operators, and during our site inspection on 19 September 2007.

Pre-Site Assessment Background

Contract, Costs and Payments

Contract W917BE-06-C-0041, a firm fixed fee contract in the amount of \$147,560, was awarded on 31 August 2006 to a local contractor.

Based on information provided by the United States Army Corps of Engineers (USACE) Gulf Region North (GRN), the project started in September 2006 and was completed in November 2006. The contract incorporated a warranty clause, which stated that the warranties for all operations and workmanship was for 12 months after acceptance.

Statement of Work and Requirements

The Statement of Work (SOW) was dated 31 August 2006. The SOW required the construction of six new municipal road segments. The road construction was to consist of excavation, sub grade preparation, base construction, drainage, ditching, and concrete paving.

Project Objective, Pre-Construction Description

The objective of this project was to construct six new municipal road segments, located in Mosul, Iraq. The SOW required the contractor to comply with the, "Standard Specification for Roads and Bridges," issued by the Iraqi Ministry of Housing and Construction in 1983, as amended.

The Bartilla New Road Paving project is situated in the town of Bartilla in the Ninewa Governorate of Iraq. The previously existing roadways were unpaved, and the Bartilla New Road Paving project consisted of constructing six new municipal road segments in Bartilla (Figure 1).

The Bartilla road segments were in use by town residents during our site assessment.

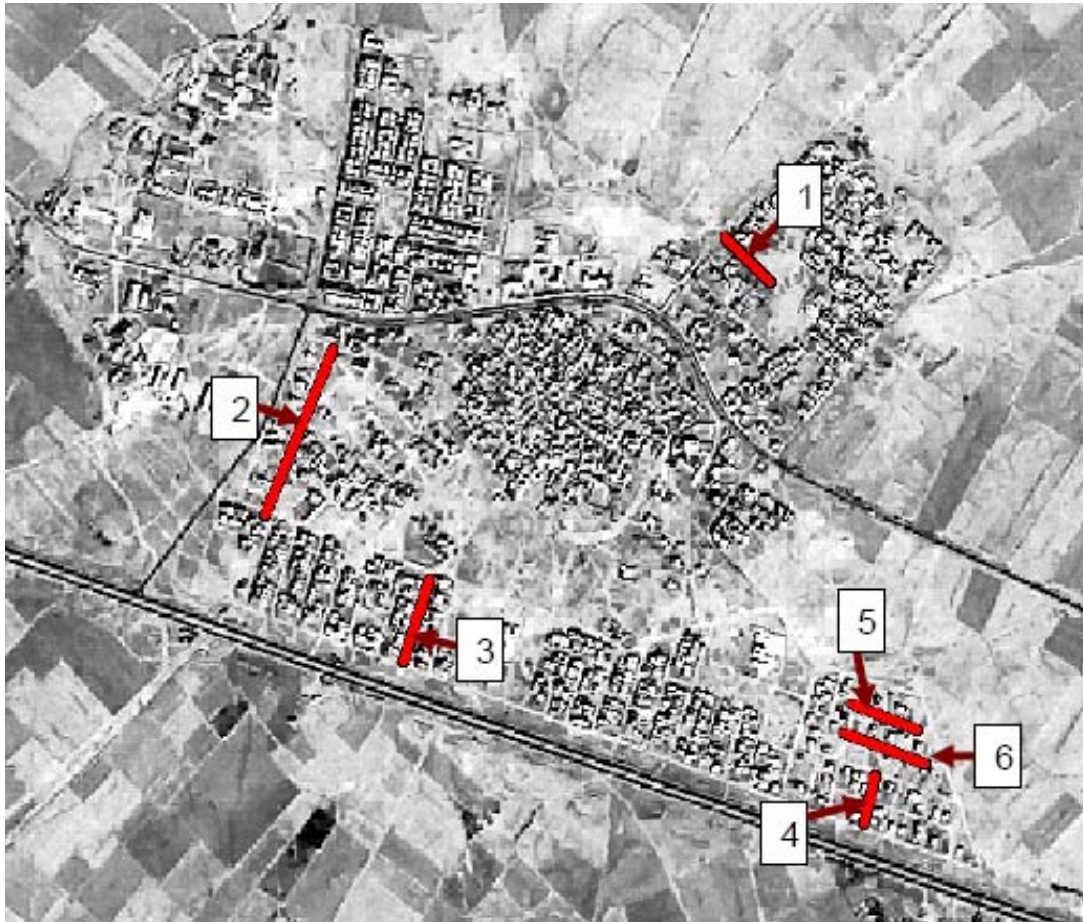


Figure 1. Aerial view of Bartilla and the six new road segments (Figure courtesy of USACE)

Based upon our review of the SOW and the contractor's pre-construction photographs, the construction of the new road segments was well planned and focused on high priority needs. Given the condition of the existing unpaved roads, significant work was required, including: excavation of the six road segments, sub grade preparation, base construction, drainage, ditching, and concrete paving. The paving also focused on leveling, rolling, and laying two sub base layers, constructing side molds, and paving using concrete with expansion joints.

Project Design

The design provided to the assessment team by the USACE GRN contained the architectural and structural drawings for the Bartilla project.

The architectural and structural drawings for the Bartilla road segments included details showing the different thickness levels. These included 20 centimeter (cm) gravel sand mixture, 10 cm thick concrete foundation, 3 cm thick mortar, and 20 cm thick concrete.

Based on our review of the design submittal, it appeared to be fully satisfactory for the new construction work.

Site Progress During Construction

Throughout the road construction project, numerous progress photographs were taken and provided to the assessment team prior to our site visit. We reviewed and subsequently relied on selected photographs to document examples of construction performance completed in accordance with the SOW requirements before the project was turned over to the Government of Iraq in December 2006.

Site Photo 1 documents the existing condition of the roads prior to the construction of the new municipal roads. Site Photo 2 documents the excavation, leveling, and rolling of the sub grade preparation. The aggregate base and pouring of the concrete base are captured in Site Photo 3. Site Photos 4 and 5 document the concrete pour and the leveling of the newly constructed road. Finally, the completion of the newly constructed road and the drainage is shown in Site Photos 6 and 7.



Site Photo 1. Condition of road prior to construction (Photo courtesy of USACE)



Site Photo 2. Road excavation, leveling, and rolling of the sub-grade (Photo courtesy of USACE)



Site Photo 3. Aggregate base and concrete base pour (Photo courtesy of USACE)



Site Photos 4 and 5. Concrete pour and newly constructed road leveling (Photo courtesy of USACE)



Site Photos 6 and 7. Newly constructed road drainage and thickness (Photo courtesy of USACE)

Site Assessment

On 19 September 2007, we performed an on-site assessment of the Bartilla New Road Paving project. We were accompanied by the USACE GRN Engineer. During our site visit, we observed the local community making use of the newly constructed Bartilla roads.

General Observations

All work completed appeared to meet the SOW requirements and the six road segments were functional.

During our site assessment, we observed that the following SOW requirements were completed:

- All rubble and debris had been cleared and removed;
- The sub grade preparation work of leveling, rolling, and laying sub base layers was completed;
- Drainage and ditching was completed; and
- The road segments were constructed.

During our site visit, we did not detect any instances of incomplete or inadequate road construction. The constructed roads were cleared of debris are shown in Site Photo 8. Site Photo 9 documents the road thickness, and the road drainage system is shown in Site Photo10.



Site Photo 8. Newly constructed road cleared of debris.



Site Photo 9. Newly constructed road thickness



Site Photo 10. Newly constructed road drainage

Conclusions

During SIGIR's visit to the site, the six municipal road segments operated as fully functioning roads, replacing the existing unpaved dirt roads. The project was adequately designed prior to construction, and the contractor and U.S. government performed adequate quality management oversight, which enforced the contract terms and ensured construction quality and completeness.

Additionally, a review of the contract file disclosed no sustainability issues associated with the project turnover. The contract did not require any specialized equipment or maintenance manuals.

Recommendations and Management Comments

Our report does not contain any negative findings or recommendations for corrective action. As a result, management comments are not required. However, USACE GRD reviewed the draft report and offered no additional information or comments.

Appendix A. Scope and Methodology

We performed this project assessment in September 2007 in accordance with the Quality Standards for Inspections issued by the President's Council on Integrity and Efficiency. The assessment team included an engineer/inspector and an auditor/inspector.

In performing this Project Assessment we:

- Reviewed contract documentation to include the following: Contract, Contract documentation, and Statement of Work;
- Reviewed the design package (drawings and specifications), quality control reports, construction progress photos, and closeout documentation; and
- Conducted an on-site assessment on 19 September 2007 and documented the results in Mosul, Iraq.

Appendix B. Acronyms

CERP	Commander's Emergency Response Program
cm	Centimeter
GRN	Gulf Region North
SIGIR	Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction
SOW	Statement of Work
USACE	United States Army Corps of Engineers

Appendix C. Report Distribution

Department of State

Secretary of State

Senior Advisor to the Secretary and Coordinator for Iraq

Director of U.S. Foreign Assistance/Administrator, U.S. Agency for
International Development

Director, Office of Iraq Reconstruction

Assistant Secretary for Resource Management/Chief Financial Officer,
Bureau of Resource Management

U.S. Ambassador to Iraq

Director, Iraq Transition Assistance Office

Mission Director-Iraq, U.S. Agency for International Development

Inspector General, Department of State

Department of Defense

Secretary of Defense

Deputy Secretary of Defense

Under Secretary of Defense (Comptroller)/Chief Financial Officer

Deputy Chief Financial Officer

Deputy Comptroller (Program/Budget)

Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense-Middle East, Office of Policy/International
Security Affairs

Inspector General, Department of Defense

Director, Defense Contract Audit Agency

Director, Defense Finance and Accounting Service

Director, Defense Contract Management Agency

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Principal Deputy to the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition,
Logistics, and Technology

Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Army (Policy and Procurement)

Commanding General, Joint Contracting Command-Iraq/Afghanistan

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Financial Management and Comptroller

Chief of Engineers and Commander, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Commanding General, Gulf Region Division

Chief Financial Officer, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers

Auditor General of the Army

U.S. Central Command

Commanding General, Multi-National Force-Iraq

Commanding General, Multi-National Corps-Iraq

Commanding General, Multi-National Security Transition Command-Iraq

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Inspector General, U.S. Agency for International Development
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 Subcommittee on Near Eastern and South and Central Asian Affairs
Senate Committee on Homeland Security and Governmental Affairs
 Subcommittee on Federal Financial Management, Government Information, Federal Services, and International Security
 Subcommittee on Oversight of Government Management, the Federal Workforce, and the District of Columbia
Permanent Subcommittee on Investigations

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 Subcommittee on Defense
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House Committee on Armed Services
 Subcommittee on Oversight and Investigations
House Committee on Oversight and Government Reform
 Subcommittee on Government Management, Organization, and Procurement
 Subcommittee on National Security and Foreign Affairs
House Committee on Foreign Affairs
 Subcommittee on International Organizations, Human Rights, and Oversight
Subcommittee on the Middle East and South Asia

Appendix D. Project Assessment Team Members

The Office of the Assistant Inspector General for Inspections, Office of the Special Inspector General for Iraq Reconstruction, prepared this report. The principal staff members who contributed to the report were:

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