



**US Army Corps
of Engineers
Fort Worth District**

News Release

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\$69.9 million BRAC project to create new research laboratory on Fort Sam Houston

FORT WORTH, Texas – The latest project awarded as part of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) construction program in San Antonio will provide a facility that consolidates Air Force and Navy bio-effects research at one location on Fort Sam Houston. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Fort Worth District has given a \$69.9 million contract to Skanska USA Building, Inc. for construction of the Tri-Service Research Laboratory, which will be located north of Brooke Army Medical Center. Skanska will oversee the project through its San Antonio office. The company's headquarters are located in Parsippany, New Jersey.

The Tri-Service Research Laboratory is a 181,000 square foot facility that will house Air Force and Navy research programs that address the health and safety effects of exposure to a variety of stressors. These programs currently operate in a collection of buildings located at Brooks City Base in San Antonio. The new facility on Fort Sam Houston is scheduled for completion in the spring of 2011.

The Corps of Engineers has also awarded a related \$367,000 contract for installation of the ducts and cabling necessary to provide voice and data communications to the laboratory facility. This contract went to Blackhawk Ventures, LLC, which is based in San Antonio.

These contracts are among 30 contracts worth more than \$700 million that are scheduled to be awarded for BRAC and other military construction projects in San Antonio by the end of fiscal year 2009, which runs through September 30. They come in addition to the \$1.2 billion in BRAC and BRAC-related construction contracts that were awarded in fiscal year 2008. The prime contractors that have received BRAC contracts are hiring many subcontractors from the San Antonio area to help complete their projects.

The peak of construction activity for the San Antonio BRAC program is anticipated late this summer, when more than 2,200 construction workers are expected to be spread across various project sites.

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About BRAC in San Antonio: The San Antonio BRAC construction program will provide the facilities to accommodate thousands of military personnel, federal employees, and military missions that are moving to and within the city as a result of the 2005 BRAC process. Construction work is scheduled to take place across San Antonio at Fort Sam Houston, Camp Bullis, Lackland and Randolph Air Force Bases through September 2011. The program involves building and renovating as many as 78 major facilities that amount to more than six million square feet of space. The total cost of BRAC construction is projected to exceed \$2 billion. The BRAC projects, however, are part of a larger, ongoing military construction program in San Antonio, which encompasses more than \$3 billion of projects that represent as much as 10 million square feet of space.

Representatives of the Army Corps of Engineers are working on the San Antonio BRAC construction program as members of the Joint Program Management Office (JPMO), which is overseeing project design and construction. The JPMO is a joint military service entity that represents a partnership between the Corps, the Air Force Center for Engineering and the Environment (AFCEE), and the Naval Facilities Engineering Command (NAVFAC), and is supported by private sector contractors.

About the Fort Worth District: The Fort Worth District, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers was established in 1950. The District is responsible for water resources development in two-thirds of Texas, and military design and construction in Texas and parts of Louisiana and New Mexico. Visit the Fort Worth District web site at: www.swf.usace.army.mil.