



News from Congressman Mike Simpson



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Mountain Home Air Force Base Receives \$20 Million for Logistics Readiness Center

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Idaho Congressman Mike Simpson, a member of the House Appropriations Committee, has secured funding for the new Logistics Readiness Center and the Civil Engineering Maintenance Complex in Mountain Home Air Force Base (MHAFB). Simpson secured the funding as part of a final year-end appropriations bill funding several federal departments and agencies.

“We owe it to our military men and women to provide facilities that are not only safe and efficient, but are state of the art. The facilities at Mountain Home were built during WWII and many are condemned. These need to be replaced and this funding will help make this happens,” said Simpson.

The bill contains \$20 million for a new Logistics Readiness Center at MHAFB. The existing Logistics Supply is a condemned 53-year old wooden structure beyond economical repair. The building is evacuated and now 60% of base supply functions operate from temporary spaces across base, creating significant delays in troop and equipment mobilization.

The new Logistics Readiness Center will provide command and control for all materials in-bound and outbound, including freight processing, packing, crating, pallet buildup shop, as well as provide bulk and bin storage. The facility will also support secure storage, an armory, and have administrative areas.

The bill also contains \$690,000 for planning and design of a new Civil Engineering Maintenance Complex at MHAFB. The civil engineer functions are currently dispersed among 10 WWII-era wood-frame and Korean War-era facilities. Wood frame facilities have a RAC 2 due to failing roof structures and weakened concrete foundations that have contributed to failing floors and trusses, thus presenting a significant risk to squadron members who work in the facilities.

“It is unacceptable to have unsafe structures on our military base. Our gunfighters are currently operating in buildings with fire safety deficiencies, and must be evacuated during heavy snowfall or high winds,” said Simpson. “I’m extremely pleased that funding to provide much needed upgrades to base facilities is included in this FY2010 appropriations legislation.”

The legislation is expected to be passed by the House and Senate over the next two weeks and then be sent to the President for his signature.

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