

DE&S makes 'downtime' more comfortable



Among kit supplied . . .

FELTHAM BARRACKS/TOBACCO DOCK

- 1 TDA camp (800 bed spaces)
- 10 Trackway rolls
- 7,400 Camp Cots
- 2,495 Camp cot mattresses
- 7,000 Benches
- 1,000 Aft tables
- 1,000 Freestanding mosquito nets
- 700 TDA mattresses
- 500 Folding chairs

At the ready: a Typhoon in a shelter at RAF Northolt.

Pictures: Mike Bowling

RAF NORTHOLT

- 1 Tented camp (250 bed spaces)
- 4 20m rapid erect shelters
- 1 Rapid erect hangar
- 1 Ammunition store
- 2 Helicopter landing sites
- 7 Trackway rolls
- 2,609sq m of rola trac

Other kit

- 15 Tactical Dog Containers (supplied to 104 SqN, 1 Military Working Dogs used at Catterd TA Centre)
- 2 Bomb damage repair patches, supplied to 32 Regiment Royal Artillery

Logistic Commodities and Services at the Olympics
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Thousands of UK servicemen and women who provided security at the London Olympics spent their evenings and 'downtime' in huge temporary camps, provided at short notice by teams from DE&S.

A fully air-conditioned camp was built at Feltham in south west London by DE&S' Expeditionary Campaign Infrastructure (ECI) team as its major contribution to Operation Olympics. There was also a series of aircraft shelters required to house Typhoon aircraft deployed as part of the security operation at RAF Northolt.

The Temporary Deployed Accommodation for 800 personnel at Feltham was similar to that provided by DE&S in Afghanistan, where there are already 16 such camps in Gereshk, Lashkar Gah and Camp Bastion. It provides fully air-conditioned shelters for regular activities carried out by the military on operations including sleeping accommodation, ablutions, workshops, dining areas, kitchens, offices, storage spaces and fitness areas.

Along with the camp comes all its infrastructure including fuel storage and distribution, power generation, electricity distribution, firefighting equipment, potable and waste water storage, treatment and distribution, and welfare facilities in the shape of kitchens, offices, storage and fitness areas.

The ECI team started planning for the Games last Christmas after the request to provide accommodation for officers, soldiers, aircraft, ammunition and dogs at two London sites, Feltham and RAF Northolt.

Li Col Haw Parker, the team's head of operations, and output manager Richard Artus, worked with the Military Olympic works group to set up the camp - known as TDA Camp 605 - at Feltham. "To set the camp up 104 ISO containers were needed to transport the camp from Bicester to Feltham," said Major Andy Parker, SO2 operations at ECI. "Commercial lorries

were able to carry two containers per vehicle, so that was 52 lorry loads. It took about a week for our contractors Kellogg, Brown and Root to unload the containers at Feltham."

ECI had to make sure that the camp was fully operational - most of the camp was up and running by the end of May - and that there were enough containers to move equipment when needed.

"We had to make sure that, even though we are heavily involved in an upgrade programme for our deployed camps on Operation Herrick, we and our contractors still had the manpower available to support the Olympic task," said Major Parker.

"We used proactive spares support to the deployed camp, authorising KBR to make best use of spares and equipment to ensure that the camp runs at its best to support those troops billeted there."

The team also had to deal with some late demands, thanks to a surge in the number of military personnel deployed to the security operation in July. Feltham would be dealing with another 300 people.

"There were demands for 5,000 camp cots, another 500 chairs, 1,000 mosquito nets for those who were at Tobacco Dock so that personnel could have some privacy, and another 2,195 camp cot mattresses," said Maj Parker. "Most of these last minute requests were authorised and satisfied inside 48 hours."

At RAF Northolt the team's Technical Working Environment section led by John Neelan and Modular Domestic Accommodation led by Dylan Morris was tasked to provide accommodation for 250 people, plus four 20-metre wide aircraft shelters - Rapid Erect Shelters - and an Environmental Conditioned Ammunition Storage Shelter.

These buildings allowed the Typhoons

to be stored and maintained in an environmentally controlled environment. It meant the aircraft could be fully armed and kept ready for any emergency. The shelter could also hold extra ammunition and missiles if the aircraft needed to be re-armed. All the buildings were erected by 5001 Squadron from RAF Wittering.

"We helped ourselves in completing all these tasks by anticipating many of the requirements," said Maj Parker, who continued earlier work by WO1 Gareth Martin.

'The equipment was in the right place, at the right time and in the right condition'

"Output Managers were flexible and able to respond and react, even though we are still supporting Operation Herrick. We were able to quickly identify the requirement, confirm stockholdings and coordinate the required response to transport the capability to site. There was constant communication between us, the Front Line Commands and the users which meant there were constant updates on progress, availability of equipment, and identification of alternatives where necessary."

"Working with our suppliers and manufacturers meant we could amend delivery schedules to meet short notice deadlines while co-ordination between us and Logistic Commodities and Services meant the equipment was at the right place at the right time in the right condition."

Team leader Colonel Doug Gibson said: "While this is not part of our day-to-day business - we are here to support deployed troops on operations - it was good to be able to do our bit for such a successful Olympic Games." The equipment is due to be dismantled by the end of this month.



The temporary camp at Feltham, with its electricity generators in the foreground. Above: DE&S accommodation for the troops at Feltham

