

# Army Acquisition Reform Newsletter



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## Contingency Contracting for Task Force Hawk

The United States Army Contracting Command Europe (USACCE) deployed one contracting team, comprised of four contracting personnel and six finance personnel. The senior Contracting Officer was designated Officer-In-Charge (OIC). The OIC and a Class A Agent deployed with the initial elements of TF Hawk. It has been a strong finance and contracting team effort from the beginning. The common word heard throughout the TF was "the quality of life improvements would not be where they are today without the support our Contingency Contracting Officers (CCO) provided. During the month of April the CCOs in Albania contracted for more than \$600K for TF Hawk support. The following are a few examples of support: Upon arrival, the CCOs began the initial efforts to haul in gravel for both roadways and unit area support. They continue to handle the unit level requirements such as building up areas for the Ammunition Supply Point (ASP), the Forward Area Refueling Point (FARP), and the clam shells, local vehicle access areas, etc. To facilitate access to the base and to ensure the trucks arrive at the priority location, a CCO rides the lead truck of each delivery. **Water Wells:** The CCOs contracted locally for water wells to be drilled. The wells were essential to establish shower points and potable water for mess hall operations. The troops received their first shower after being on the ground 30 days.

**Port-a-lets:** Our CCOs found port-a-lets in Italy, contracted for and put in place 176 units and associated "waste removal truck" support. When the waste removal truck was short of crew support, our CCOs joined in and pumped toilets clean. When the mud was too much for the waste removal trucks, the CCOs coordinated for bulldozers to pull the trucks. When conditions worsened and the trucks just could not reach the toilets, they procured hip waders, hired local personnel, and carried some of the full port-a-lets to the waste removal trucks. **Kawasaki Mules:** These vehicles, while resembling a modified golf cart, negotiate the mud well. Units initially identified a requirement for 20 with trailers. CCOs leveraged the central region contracting assets and located the required quantity in Germany, however, most were secured in a German Customs bonded warehouse. CCOs used our German employees and pulled out all the stops with the German Customs and obtained release of them in days versus the normal weeks. **Sandbag Factory:** When a local trucker lost his gravel truck due to a road shoulder cave in, the CCO put him to work filling sand bags. Paying him (and his employees) only seven cents per filled sandbag, CCOs are capitalizing on cheap local labor and avoiding troop labor.

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