

USO BAGRAM EAST Q AND A

1. Why did the USO decide to build USO Bagram East?

A: In order to meet the needs of our forward deployed troops, the USO decided to build a second, larger center on the opposite side of Bagram Airfield. In 2005 the USO opened the Pat Tillman Memorial USO at Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. The center averages 20,000 visits a month and with less than 2,000 square feet the center cannot continue to accommodate the large amount of permanent party soldiers currently stationed at Bagram. The new center will offer the same connectivity and core services as the Pat Tillman Memorial USO, but the large size and capacity will allow for expanded events and activities.

2. Considering the troop drawdown, was this center needed?

A: The USO is always asking who needs us most. And although all U.S. troops have been withdrawn from Iraq, we still have troops in Afghanistan and they still need our support. USO centers serve as a home away from home for our men and women in uniform. At a USO center, they can find a place to rest their head, get a bite to eat, watch a movie or connect with a loved one via the phone, email and on some occasions Skype. Bagram Airfield is currently home to 30,000 permanent party military personnel and it also serves as the central meeting and transient point for flights in and out of Afghanistan.

3. How many USO centers are currently in Afghanistan?

A: USO Bagram East is the second center serving the men and women of Bagram Airfield in Afghanistan. The Pat Tillman Memorial USO built in 2005 and is located adjacent to the PAX terminal. USO Bagram East is the ninth USO Center supporting our nation's deployed troops in all of Afghanistan.

4. What makes USO Bagram East different and similar to other USO centers in the region?

A: USO Bagram East was designed, like all of our USO Centers, to meet the needs of the men and women it serves. Our centers located at forward operating bases tend to be smaller, but still provide the essential connectivity services that USO centers are known for. USO Bagram East was modeled after our larger centers located in Kandahar and Camp Marmal. Designed to provide a touch of home and connectivity to a large number of troops daily, USO Bagram East also has the space to accommodate large scale activities and events.

5. What will the center have to offer troops?

A: The center is open 22 hours a day, 365 days a year. It is 8,500 square feet and will serve as a home away from home for troops. In addition to offering a place to rest, get something to eat or drink, the center also has three United Through Reading

rooms, where service members can record themselves reading a book to their child and then have that book shipped by the USO, to their loved one, back in the U.S., free of charge. USO Bagram East also offers a music room, library/quiet room, 40-seat movie theater, coffee bar and card playing area. In addition, the Center provides signature USO programs and services such as 19 computer stations with free internet connections for troops to connect with family back home, free wifi, 18 private phone stations enable service members to call home for free.

6. Who funded the new center?

A: USO Bagram East was funded with support from our corporate partners and the generous support of the American people. The USO is the way America says thank you to our troops.