

Vehicles continue rolling into new home at Benning

By BEN WRIGHT

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About a third of the vehicles belonging to the Army's 81st Regional Support Command's 43rd Equipment Concentration Site at Fort Gillem have been parked at Fort Benning, as the unit is preparing for its move here.

Fort Benning is the new home for 3,154 vehicles from Fort Gillem after the 2005 Base Realignment and Closure Commission closed the post in Forest Park, Ga.

The staff of 101 employees may start moving into the new facility by mid-July.

During the month of February when the move started, 302 pieces of wheeled vehicles were moved to Fort Benning, said Derek McCrea, who has help coordinate the relocation.

No vehicles will be moved this month but 742 vehicles will be moved to the post in April, McCrea said.

"We are on track," he said.

As the vehicles are moved on post, construction continues on a 50,000-square-foot maintenance facility and 150,000-square-foot warehouse at Harmony Church.

The construction is not expected to be complete until the end of June. Vehicles from Fort Gillem are stored at the 11th Engineer motor pool on post.

The 43rd Equipment Concentration Site serves seven southeastern states and 120 units. In addition to maintaining trucks and trailers, the staff includes communication and arms specialists to repair M-16s and other weapons.

In July, the last 319 trucks will arrive with tents, weapons, communications and other equipment. "The trucks that are coming are carrying equipment that is going inside the warehouse," McCrea said.