



**Oregon National Guard  
Gowen Field Training Center, ID  
June 6, 2005 – June 22, 2005**

When the Oregon National Guard needed temporary facilities for their training exercises at Gowen Training Field in Idaho, Mahaffey Fabric Structures quickly “mobilized” into action. Located about 14 miles from Boise, Idaho, the Gowen Field Training Center occupies a large territory, most of which is desert. With an almost constant wind, and dry, dusty conditions, set-up of the shelters proved to be a challenge. Our crews also had to avoid environmentally sensitive areas, and watch out for “locals” such as rattlesnakes!



**Desert Landscape at Gowen Field  
Training Center, ID**

The field training was to take place at four different sites within the Gowen Field Training Center. The three Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) and one Maneuver Area Training Equipment Site (MATES) were approximately 10 to 12 miles from one another. Moving heavy equipment from one site to the next over rough terrain was both difficult and time consuming, as there were no paved roads in these remote locations. It often took an hour or more to drive an all-terrain forklift from one location to the next!

As with every customer, timing was of the utmost importance to the Oregon National Guard. Training exercises were set to begin on the 6<sup>th</sup> of July, so Mahaffey crews arrived on May 20<sup>th</sup> to begin installation of what would eventually result in over 100,000sqft of structures in the Idaho desert. Due to extreme conditions and the remote location, scheduling additional time was prudent, however it proved to be unnecessary. Despite battling continual winds that at times gusted to near 30mph, and long treks to each site, our crews managed to finish two days ahead of schedule.

The shelters that we erected were as follows:

- (8) 60’x150’ temporary barracks
- (1) 60’x90’ temporary barracks
- (3) 50’x82’ temporary barracks (females)
- (1) 40’x66’ Tactical Operations Center (TOC)
- (3) 33’x82’ Dining Facilities (DFAC)



**Temporary Barracks  
Gowen Field Training Center, ID**



**Realistic Scenario Training at  
Gowen Field in Idaho**

The structures were divided between the four sites. At each site we provided barracks and dining facilities, with the exception of the MATES site. No DFAC was erected at MATES, as there was an existing building on site that was utilized for that purpose. In addition, Mahaffey provided chairs, tables, lighting, modular wood flooring, fire extinguishers, and a stand-by person that remained on-site throughout the maneuvers. When all four sites were completed, our crews had erected a total of 100,458sqft of temporary shelters, and the Oregon National Guard had the structures necessary to begin their realistic training exercises without expending their manpower installing, maintaining, dismantling, or cleaning them.



**Remote Forward Operating Base  
Gowen Field Training Center, ID**