

Competition entries stream in at deadline

by Mary Beth Thompson
Baltimore District Public Affairs Office

All but a comparative handful of submissions flooded in Sept. 10 and 11, just in time to meet the entry deadline for the Pentagon Memorial competition.

Over 1,000 proposals for the memorial that will be built on the grounds of the Pentagon to honor those who were killed there Sept. 11, 2001, were received.

The entries poured in via courier, common carrier and the U.S. Postal Service. Many people brought their entries in person, including at least two who flew in

from other cities to make sure their proposal arrived on Sept. 11.

“One man drove 17 hours straight to deliver his,” said Clayton Meadows, logistics manager for Security Storage Company of Washington, the contractor that received the entries for the Corps. Meadows also described a college-age couple who hugged and danced outside the fence after their entry was handed over.

“They acted as though they had won the whole thing,” he said. “They were that happy just to have it accepted.”

Security Storage employees spent the next couple of weeks

unpacking, labeling and logging the massive influx.

“We’ve said from the start of this project last fall that people want to be involved,” said Carol Anderson-Austra, Pentagon Memorial project manager. “Every inquiry, every registration, every proposal we’ve received is an expression of caring. Each honors the victims of the horrendous events of 9-11.”

The competition was open to everyone worldwide and drew broad interest from the outset. Over 2,500 individuals or teams registered for the competition from all 50 states, the District of Columbia, Puerto Rico and over 50 other countries across the globe.

Based on the experiences of other similar competitions, the project team had predicted that about one-third to one-half of the registrants would submit entries. Reality matched expectation. The number of entries is about 40 percent of the number of registrants.

“We believe that the volume of entries received ranks among the largest seen for this type of competition,” Anderson-Austra said. “It’s more typical to see the number of entries range from a few dozen to a few hundred submissions.

“We know we have our work cut out for us, and we are looking forward to it,” Anderson-Austra said.

Family members of the victims



Security Storage employee Richard Langley receives an entry from a United Parcel Service delivery man for the Pentagon Memorial competition. All entries were due at the contractor’s Dulles, Va., facility by 5 p.m. Sept. 11.

Photo by Clayton Meadows, Security Storage Company of Washington



Entries arrive enmass

Continued from reverse

were invited to the National Building Museum for a preview in late September. They have an opportunity to see the entries and offer comments before the proposals are judged.

All submissions that meet the competition requirements will be judged by a jury of professional experts, Washington dignitaries and a family member. The jury will choose up to five finalists. Announcement of the finalists is scheduled for mid-October.

The finalists will receive a stipend to help defray the costs of further developing their concepts. A final judging will take place in December, and a winner selected.

The Department of Defense



Hundreds of parcels containing submissions for the Pentagon Memorial competition await unpackaging, labeling and logging.

Photo by Clayton Meadows, Security Storage Company of Washington

intends to construct the winning proposal on the grounds of the Pentagon near the point of impact.

Project information is available at <http://pentagonmemorial.nab.usace.army.mil>. Competition information can be found at <http://memorialcompetition.pentagon.mil>.

Staying in touch

Please contact us:

√ to notify of postal or email address changes;

√ to add other family members, loved ones and friends to the distribution list for the Pentagon Memorial;

√ to provide your comments and feedback.

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