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Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos

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The Strategic Studies Institute has long played an important part in developing strategic recommendations that help formulate U.S. military strategy and national security policy. For most of its existence these national security experts have been housed in Root Hall. The groundbreaking shows that the time has come for a dedicated facility for the researchers and analysts of SSI.

SSI staff members look at a blue print for the new SSI building that is being built. The building is expected to be finished later this year. Photo by Staff Sgt. Corey Baltos.

The official ground breaking for the building was held at the corner of Gibner and Ashburn Road on June 1. The building project is part of

an overall expansion of the Army War College. It compliments a increase in seminar rooms and faculty offices in Root Hall, which will absorb a larger student body as of this summer.

"This project is a reflection of the change and evolution of the war college, said Maj. Gen. Gregg Martin, commandant, Army War College. "As we grow and evolve, SSI optimizes that change. It is only right that we give you your own new facility."

Col. David Anderson, commander of the Baltimore Army corps of Engineers District, which has oversight over the construction project, was on hand for the ceremony.

"We really want to knock this out of the park," he said. "One's contribution to the war fight is not measured by the proximity to the battlefield."

The SSI staff is expected to be working in their new building by the beginning of the new year.

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