



## **“I am an American. I am a New Yorker. I had to do something.”**

Fernando Bautista - Field Force Engineer

After witnessing the World Trade Center collapse, Fernando Bautista was stranded. Covered in dust, and with an injured ankle, he spent half a day limping back to his home in Astoria, Queens. He became restless over the following year and needed a change. The U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District was the answer.



Two months after his arrival to Germany, he volunteered to join the Forward Engineering Support Team in Iraq. Although he did not take up arms directly in the fight against terrorism, Bautista has made a difference. Civilian engineers are actively supporting those in combat. For more on their valuable contributions see “Filling the Void” on page 17.