



EIE EXPRESS

The Monthly eNewsletter for USACE Europe District's *Engineering in Europe* Magazine

AROUND EUROPE

Issue 69, August 2015

US to build day care centers in Serbia



BELGRADE, Serbia – After years of planning, U.S. and Serbian officials joined local community members earlier this summer to break ground on a 4,300-square-foot disabled day care center funded through European

Command's humanitarian-assistance program.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District will manage the project, which is being constructed in conjunction with a second disabled day care facility in the southeastern town of Pirot. Both centers are set for completion early next year.

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Cadets get peek at Army engineer life

STUTTGART, Germany – Army cadets Melissa Hersey and Patrick Richardson recently finished up a summer stint at Europe District's Stuttgart Resident Office as part of the Cadet District Engineer Program.



The pair supported completion of the Stuttgart elementary and high school construction project near Panzer Kaserne in Boeblingen. Before departing, they wrote about some of the things they experienced at the district.

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Schools set for sustainability milestone



BOEBLINGEN, Germany – It'll be anything but a typical first day of school for Stuttgart elementary and high school students, parents and educators Sept. 2. Walking onto campus for the first time, they will see

new playgrounds, sports fields and facilities. But it's what they won't see that may be most exciting.

The schools are on track to earn the first U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification for Department of Defense schools in Europe.

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Commander's Corner

Security is everyone's responsibility



We live and work in a great environment and have many opportunities to travel on both leave and TDY assignments to dream destinations around Europe. Fortunately, the threat of crime in Germany and most places on the Continent is relatively low. In light of recent events, however, we can never grow complacent or drop our guard when it comes to threats.

Three Americans and a Briton were hailed as heroes for subduing a would-be terrorist Aug. 21 on a high-speed train carrying 500 passengers from Amsterdam to Paris, preventing mass bloodshed. Although not easily recognized, Europe has endured a trail of violence over the past decade. In March 2011, a young man who had become radicalized carried out a "lone wolf" attack on an Air Force bus at Frankfurt Airport that killed two airmen and wounded two others. Additionally, coordinated bombings by Islamic extremists in July 2005 in the London Underground and aboard a double-decker bus left 52 people dead and more than 700 wounded. As Antiterrorism Awareness Month draws to a close, these cases underscore that security is everyone's responsibility.

In order to enhance Europe District's readiness, we will stage our first-ever Active Shooter/Shelter-in-Place exercise at the Amelia Earhart Center in September. The district's Security Office will conduct rehearsals for all personnel to demonstrate proper procedures for protecting themselves in the event of an actual incident.

We are all busy with the great work our district does throughout Europe and Africa, but there are those who seek to harm us because they oppose the freedoms we enjoy and our way of life. It is imperative we stay vigilant and aware of our surroundings. We all have a responsibility to report anything – external or internal – that doesn't seem right or could pose a threat. The Security Office is always ready to help and evaluate any activity you consider suspicious.

Furthermore, protecting information is essential to our team's safety. Although most of what we do in Europe District is unclassified, we have countless projects that could make us targets for collection. Keeping Operations Security in mind and discussing projects with only those who have a need to know will go a long way to safeguarding sensitive and proprietary information.

Your safety and security are top priorities. Together, all of us can ensure we continue to work in a safe environment, while protecting our workforce and the mission.

Army Strong ... Building Strong!

COL Matt Tyler

Congratulations to our recent Heroes of the District: John Rice, Lindsey Wetzel, Wesley Lemarr and Aislinn Staaby.

SPOTLIGHT on the Central Europe Area Office



The district's Central Europe Area Office is responsible for work in Kaiserslautern, Germany, its home base, as well as Ramstein, Stuttgart and Benelux, the union of Belgium, the Netherlands and Luxembourg.

The Central Europe Area Office, one of five area offices in the Engineering and Construction Division, is busy executing the largest volume of projects in the district. It's placed \$177 million in construction in the current fiscal year.

The team's mission is to support its resident offices through contracting actions, field assistance and logistics support.

The area office is collocated with the Kaiserslautern Resident Office. Much of the resident office workload is focused on Job Order Contracting and Multiple Award Task Order Contracts for the Directorate of Public Works at U.S. Army Garrison Rheinland-Pfalz. Personnel handle projects in Baumholder, Landstuhl, Kaiserslautern, Sembach, Gruenstadt and Germersheim while also overseeing preparation work for the Rhine Ordnance Barracks Medical Center Replacement, which will replace the Army's Landstuhl Regional Medical Center and Ramstein Air Base Clinic within the next decade.

A major area office project wrapping up in September is the Stuttgart elementary and high school complex in Boeblingen. The elementary school will accommodate 610 children, while 650 students will be able to enroll at the high school level. Both schools feature new playgrounds, sports fields and upgraded information technology throughout the buildings. The schools are also sustainable and on track to earn the first U.S. Green Building Council Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design certification for Department of Defense schools in Europe.

In addition to new military construction, the staff stays busy with numerous renovation projects. Several of those jobs are part of the European Infrastructure Consolidation effort and include new barracks with a dining facility at ROBMCR and townhomes at Smith Barracks in Baumholder.

Team members enjoy what they do, enabling them to be successful in project delivery, according to Martin Rothhaar, a project engineer, who says this is the best job he's ever had.

An assignment in Kaiserslautern represents a unique opportunity for professional and personal development, added Fred Schelby, the newly hired regional program manager.

"Whether it's working with our district teammates, members of the host nation, or exploring the various cultural and historic sites Europe has to offer, it's a rich and rewarding experience," he said.

Catherine Nilsen, the office management assistant, loves to travel and work in Germany, the heart of Europe.

"It gives me easy access to places I'd previously only dreamed of visiting," she said.

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NAU in the News

- **Herald Union: Wiesbaden Middle School, USACE strengthen winning partnership – article**
- **U.S. Embassy Georgia, US military engineers supporting Georgia after June flood – news release**
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Operations Security

Active-shooter events

In an effort to boost readiness, demonstrate proper protection procedures and save lives, Europe District will conduct its first-ever Active Shooter/Shelter-in-Place exercise at the Amelia Earhart Center in September.

When a shooter is in your vicinity, you must be prepared both mentally and physically to deal with the situation. There are three options:

Run — Have an escape route and plan in mind. Leave your belongings behind. Evacuate regardless of whether others agree to follow, but help others escape, if possible. Do not attempt to move the wounded. Prevent others from entering an area where the shooter may be. Keep your hands visible and call for help when you are safe.

Hide — Take cover in an area out of the shooter's view, and lock the door or block entry to your hiding place. Silence your cellphone (including vibrate mode) and remain quiet.

Fight — Fight as a last resort and only when your life is in imminent danger. Attempt to incapacitate the shooter, and act with as much physical aggression as possible. Improvise weapons or throw items at the active shooter. Most of all, commit to your actions — your life depends on it.

In the aftermath of an incident, the first officers to arrive on scene will not stop to help the wounded. Expect rescue teams to follow initial officers. They will treat and remove casualties. Once you have reached a safe location, you will likely be held in that area by law enforcement until the situation is under control, and all witnesses have been identified and questioned.

To learn more about active-shooter events and how to react, contact Europe District security staff at DSN 570-2633/2641/2777.

Comments? Corrections?

Contact the Europe District Public Affairs Office at:

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