



EIE EXPRESS

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

AROUND EUROPE

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Last 2 Ebola treatment units completed



U.S. and international agencies carrying out Operation United Assistance have wrapped up work on the final two of 10 Ebola treatment units in Liberia, a top engineer with the 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) said Jan. 23.

U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District's Forward Engineer Support Team-Advanced played a part by providing technical expertise to the organizations, military units and humanitarian workers locked in the massive Ebola fight in West Africa.

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Pentagon to consolidate assets in Europe

Europe operations and infrastructure consolidation over the next eight years will include the return of 15 sites to host nations, the Defense Department announced Jan. 8.



The Amelia Earhart Center in Wiesbaden is set for handover to the German government by 2023. Once the new Rhine Ordnance Barracks Medical Center is complete and functions are transferred from Landstuhl Regional Medical Center, Europe District will move into Landstuhl Tower. No workforce reductions are expected.

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Engineers take part in 2014 STEMposium



WIESBADEN, Germany – Europe District welcomed 36 students, representing 23 high schools, for a day of design, engineering and construction activities during the fourth annual Department of Defense

Dependents Schools-Europe STEMposium.

Throughout the weeklong event, students work in teams to confront disasters using science, technology, engineering and math. Last month, they faced an Ebola-outbreak scenario and were challenged to design Ebola treatment units.

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Commander's Corner

Europe District: Fit and fabulous at 40



Happy 2015 to everyone. This new year is filled with promise, opportunities and plenty of challenging work for Europe District. Starting as Europe Division in July 1974, we are fit and fabulous at 40, and have a robust array of programs for the foreseeable future. As we start 2015, it is also fitting to reflect on our recent accomplishments and prepare ourselves for that future.

More than ever before, the U.S. and our closest allies throughout Europe, Africa and Israel called upon Europe District in 2014 for architect, engineering, construction, environmental, and operations and maintenance support. And you all responded with the passion, presence, partnership and perseverance to get the job done. Moreover, your efforts indirectly and, in many cases, directly supported and continue to support programs and projects of significant strategic importance.

Our overall program stayed on pace with previous years, with some programs growing to make up where others contracted a bit. We had record-high quality construction placement in excess of \$610 million across the district in all programs spreading from Belgium to Israel, the Baltics to the Balkans, Eastern Europe to Africa, and at remote sites in Europe, Eurasia and Africa. These projects ranged from large weapon systems to austere and functional humanitarian-assistance ventures, including military housing, medical facilities, missile defense, a combatant command operations center, Defense Department schools, military barracks, communications facilities, child development centers and theater security cooperation.

We are also well postured to support new opportunities as the district workload remains healthy both inside and outside Germany. To meet the complexity of our programs while ensuring we have the most capable workforce, we must strive to truly be at the "top of our game," where everyone makes a strong, positive difference for the district and our many partners. I challenge everyone to know the latest best practices, regulations and policies within their field and always look for smart, innovative methods to be more effective and efficient.

Although I have yet to visit every district office throughout the vast area we cover, please know how proud I am of your dedication and commitment. You all are truly enabling U.S. national security goals abroad and also assisting with the security objectives of many other partner nations. Fasten your seat belts tightly because our pace in 2015 will be even faster!

Army Strong ... Building Strong!

COL Matt Tyler

Congratulations to our recent Heroes of the District: Sharon Thomas, Regine Mueller and Jorge Pachas.

SPOTLIGHT on the Employee Support Office



From left: Marylou Benner, ESO supervisor, and team members Christine Hamovitz, Cathy Brown and Hermann Maurer. *Not pictured:* Monika Boivin, Joan Adams and Rick Baker.

The Employee Support Office is U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District's nerve center for all things tied to personnel, sponsorship and travel.

Based at the organization's headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany, ESO supports the district with human resources-related staffing, recruitment, hiring and manpower management. It processes extensions and manages the "five-year rule" program. The team also provides assistance, answers and information to staffers about living and working in Europe.

If you have a question about your arrival, tour or departure — covering everything from payroll and passports to mandatory training and overseas entitlements — chances are you'll encounter one of these folks.

"It's very gratifying to assist our employees with their PCS [permanent-change-of-station] needs, coming or going," said Christine Hamovitz, an administrative support assistance. "Each individual is unique with their own unique challenges. I'm always happy to make it an easier and more enjoyable move."

Just about everyone at Europe District knows Hermann Maurer, ESO's relocation assistant. He mails welcome packages to new hires, picks them up at Frankfurt Airport, schedules newcomer briefings and acts as host during in-processing week, whether they're assigned to Wiesbaden or en route to other district offices.

This past fall, the ESO staff itself welcomed Joan Adams, another administrative support assistant. She replaced Luz Medeiros, who left for San Antonio with her family. Cathy Brown also returned to the Amelia Earhart Center last year as a workforce support specialist, after a stint with the Civilian Personnel Advisory Center at nearby Mainz-Kastel.

Rick Baker, a former Soldier and longtime federal worker in Germany, is a civilian pay technician by day. In his spare time, he's a scratch bowler who's competed in elite leagues around the country. When the weather warms, he's also frequently found at the Army's Rheinblick Golf Course in the Wiesbaden hills.

Off the clock, Hamovitz and her husband, Arnie, often hit the road.

"We love to travel, and living in Europe has given us so many wonderful adventures," she said. "There is so much within a few hours' drive — culinary walks through the vineyards, Kölner Dom and Kölsch houses, castles, vineyards and pretty little German villages along the Nahe, Rhine and Moselle rivers. ... We're also within a short plane ride to some other great countries, like Italy and Spain.

"We've spent long weekends exploring the history of Pompeii, thrown tomatoes at the La Tomatina Festival in Spain, and celebrated New Year's Eve in Prague and Amsterdam. Every weekend holds the promise of a new adventure."

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NAU in the News

- U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza PAO, Vicenza preps for Net Zero move — article
- PE Magazine, The work of engineers is vital in the fight against Ebola and general infection control — article
- DVIDS, Sembach confinement facility another Europe infrastructure consolidation milestone — article

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WATCH: US military completes final Ebola treatment unit

Operations Security

'Antiterrorism Operations in Field Units'

The Army's antiterrorism awareness theme for the second quarter of fiscal year 2015, which runs through March, is "Antiterrorism Operations in Field Units." The audience includes operational forces as tenant units on Army installations or stand-alone facilities, forces en route to overseas locations and deployed units.

Officials are focused on a number of specific areas this quarter, such as:

- Assessments of field unit antiterrorism readiness.
- Antiterrorism doctrine (ATP 3-37.2 was updated in June).
- Area of responsibility-specific training requirements for forces in transit to overseas missions.
- Pre-deployment vulnerability assessments.
- Awareness and use of products available from Training and Doctrine Command's Intelligence Support Activity (available on the Army Antiterrorism Enterprise Portal, which requires a common access card, or CAC).
- Use of Army Threat Integration Center products, services and resources available to support field units (also on ATEP).
- Identification of antiterrorism best practices and lessons learned from units.

ATEP provides extensive information and resources for the entire community. The Army's Antiterrorism Branch produced several new products to support the quarterly theme.

For more information about antiterrorism awareness and protective measures, contact Otis Hawes, a U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District security specialist, at otis.hawes@usace.army.mil or DSN 570-2633.

Comments? Corrections?

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