

DETERRING

Story and Photos by
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With 46 gates currently in the construction phase, Europe District is taking an active role in the Access Control Point Equipment Program.

The ACPEP provides Army bases throughout the world the access control point equipment needed to help deter terrorist attacks.

The program is managed by the Huntsville Engineering and Support Center, while individual districts do the on-site work, said John Grigg, program manager for the Access Control Point Equipment Program at Huntsville Engineering and Support Center.



▲ John Grigg, Access Control Point Equipment Program, Huntsville Engineering and Support Center (left), performs a quality assurance check on an active barrier with Jonathan Koch, formerly with Europe District's Installation Support Branch.

“The way we’re conducting the program is a new concept for the Corps. Because of the worldwide scope and relatively short planning and execution schedule, the most efficient strategy was to centralize the program management but to decentralize the execution,” he said.

This program was started as a direct result to the terrorist attacks of Sept. 11, 2001, said Grigg.

The equipment comes from the Army Materiel Developer for Force Protection Systems as part of the ACPEP, which is designed to help bases meet the Department of Defense’s unified facilities criteria standards.

The goal is to improve physical security and personnel safety at Army installation access control points worldwide and is sponsored by the Office of the Provost Marshal General. The OPMG has tasked the Corps as the construction agent to help meet the ACPEP goal.

And these equipment upgrades aren’t only being done in Europe, but wherever there is an Army presence.

“We’re a 24-7 operation,” said Grigg. “We have teams from Korea to Kuwait.”

Placing the equipment challenged the Europe District team, but they were up for it.

“Europe is unique because of the limited space. We have to have extra safety regimes to compensate for that,” said Steven Richards, project manager for Europe District. Many posts in the United States have the luxury of long access roads through the post, but space is a valued commodity in Europe. Here, it is meters versus miles.

Of the original 350 installations that were surveyed for the ACPEP, 292 require equipment or the infrastructure to support the equipment, said Grigg. And 70 percent of all funds for OCONUS are going to Europe District.

So far, \$19 million has been spent on these

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deterrents, said Richards.
Installations also catch a



▲ A German construction contractor smooths out mortar on the roof of what will become a guard building at one of the newest access control points in Europe.

monetary break because the ACPEP funds the equipment.

But, to receive the equipment, installations have to install the proper infrastructure, which includes electricity, roads and rejection lanes.

“We can build the ACP and furnish the equipment if

they (garrisons) are willing to work on the infrastructure,” said Richards.

And if an installation decides to put in an ACP, the Corps will work with the customer so the infrastructure and the ACP match.

“Each installation’s equipment is tailored to them to meet their needs and follow the guidelines we have,” said Richards.

Equipment includes ballistic-rated guard booths, drop arms, active barriers, lane cameras and various other security measures.

For Richards, the goal of this program is to place equipment strategically to stop terrorists and give full security to installation residents and workers.

“We’re doing this for protection,” he said.

► Fritz Ligday (right) from Europe District briefs Maj. Eric Rannow (left, center), assistant product manager for Product Manager, Force Protection Systems at Fort Belvoir, Va., while George Van Cook (left) and Steven Richards from Europe District, stand by.

