



EIE EXPRESS

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

AROUND EUROPE

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US builds schools to shape Togo's future



LOME, Togo – How can children learn in schools where rain enters classrooms and wind tosses notebooks to the floor? They can't, not properly.

In Togo, the elements present constant challenges for faculty and students, not only during rainy season, but also in the dry season when educators worry about brush fires. To combat this issue, the U.S. Embassy in Lomé, AFRICOM and U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District are set to deliver six new schools to the children of Togo in 2014.

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Commander set to depart Europe District

WIESBADEN, Germany – Col. Peter Helmlinger promises a smooth transition while he prepares to exit next month as commander of U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Europe District commander. He only wishes he could be around to see a few major projects become reality. On June 6, he'll turn over the leadership post to Col. Matthew Tyler in a change of command at the Amelia Earhart Center. The ceremony starts at 10 a.m.



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WMS students get peek at engineer life



WIESBADEN, Germany – A group of Wiesbaden Middle School students got a glimpse of engineer life recently while engaging in some hands-on demonstrations during "Take Our Daughters and Sons to Work

Day" at the Amelia Earhart Center.

The annual event is part of Europe District's education and community outreach program, set up in part to share STEM instructional opportunities. About 50 children participated in the visit, including 20 with a parent employed by the district.

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Message from the Commander

Farewell – my thanks to you all



This is my final Commander's Column. I want to thank YOU – the team members, partners and stakeholders of Europe District – for making a difference. As I look back over my three-year command, I am humbled and amazed by our accomplishments. We have and will continue to provide premier engineering support to warfighters across Europe and Africa.

We averaged 1,700 contract actions and \$725 million in construction placement annually, with a diverse and talented workforce of 400 people in nine countries and projects in 35. We helped Installation Management Command-Europe consolidate to seven garrisons by executing MILCON, SRM and environmental projects, including transformation of Wiesbaden as the home of U.S. Army Europe and completion of USACE's first overseas LEED-certified building – the Shalikashvili Mission Command Center. We assisted other services with construction of command and control facilities, including the Ramstein Air Operations Center, NATO Special Operations Headquarters and AFRICOM Joint Operations Center, which is currently under renovation. We are aiding U.S. and NATO security through construction of missile defense facilities in Turkey and Romania and planned work in Poland.

We also started site preparation for the Rhine Ordnance Barracks Medical Center Replacement, which will ensure continued world-class medical care for our troops and families. We are assisting DODEA to recapitalize schools across Europe and incorporate 21st-century education standards. The district delivered extensive facilities for Israeli Defense Forces and has a growing workload of foreign military sales-funded construction to ensure stability in the region. We also completed scores of small humanitarian-assistance projects to promote EUCOM and AFRICOM theater security cooperation objectives.

I want to thank each and every team member who served in Europe District, and our many partners – especially in the Bauamts, Directorates of Public Works and Air Force Civil Engineer Center. You have helped me achieve my vision, where Europe District is one of the best in USACE at project delivery, as measured by customer satisfaction. Team members are proud of their accomplishments, personally make a difference, grow to their full potential and take good care of one another.

July 1 marks the 40th anniversary of EUD. With great pride in our people, accomplishments and history, I will relinquish command to COL Matt Tyler on June 6. I know EUD will be in great hands. The future remains bright for Engineering in Europe.

Building Strong! People, Partners, Projects

COL Pete Helmlinger

District Heroes of the Battle: Sibylle Ballnath, Rudolf Bernd, Andrea Faublas, John Rice, Vince Little, Christine Dye, Fatmir Cehaja, Orlando Ortiz, Andy Buzbee, Kellie Sadler, Steve Ross and Jeff Jackson.

SPOTLIGHT on the TUSEG Resident Office



From left: Francisco Colon, quality assurance engineer; project engineer Orkun Dincer, administrative assistant Nilay Yardimci; Capt. Amara Atella, deputy resident engineer; Resident Engineer Tommy Rose; Charles Truesdell, QA engineer; and project engineer Volkan Tunay.

The U.S. Engineer Group, known on Incirlik Air Base as TUSEG, is the resident office covering Europe District projects in Turkey. Established in the early 1950s, TUSEG has been instrumental in U.S. military construction since then.

The office provides administration and inspection functions for MILCON projects, as well as sustainment, restoration and modernization ventures, throughout Turkey. The team is managing active projects in three locations: the Turkish capital of Ankara, Incirlik (just outside Adana) and a remote site in the country's eastern region. In addition, the office supervises district project offices in Georgia and Bulgaria.

TUSEG staff is constantly coordinating construction efforts with U.S. Army Europe, U.S. Air Forces in Europe and other organizations, including NATO, Department of Defense Dependents Schools-Europe, the Office of Defense Cooperation Turkey, Missile Defense Agency and Turkish air force. Projects being worked for U.S. forces include renovation of 336 military family housing units, the new Consolidated Community Center; installation of a new heating, ventilation and air-conditioning system at the high school on Incirlik; and additional upgrades to the base medical clinic's electrical and mechanical systems.

"In Ankara, we're completing mechanical-system upgrades for ODC-T and construction of an administrative support building," said Resident Engineer Tommy Rose. "In the east, we're constructing a forward operating site that will support a NATO mission."

The TUSEG Resident Office is comprised of a small but effective and dedicated staff — three Army civilians, three local nationals and a U.S. military engineer. Balancing the U.S. government's needs and desires with the skills and abilities of contractors in Turkey presents a unique challenge, Rose said, but the team is always striving to improve security, quality of life and mission capabilities within the country.

Turkey is a vibrant place to work and live. Staff members enjoy the moderate Mediterranean climate, rich cuisine, strong coffee, intriguing historic sites and Turquoise Coast beaches.

The transcontinental nation, which borders southeastern Europe and western Asia, features a diverse cultural heritage with various elements and influences. The Turkish people generally embrace being a "modern" Western state while maintaining traditional religious and historical values.

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NAU in the News

- Aviano Air Base Public Affairs, Elementary students step into STEM — article
- STEM Masters, Brigadier General Kent Savre visits Vicenza — DODDS-Europe newsletter
- B92 Fund, Construction of Safe House begins in Serbia — article

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WATCH: USACE – I am the Corps

Operations Security

Suspicious-activity reporting and iWATCH Army

Threat awareness and suspicious-activity reporting are important elements of our defense against terrorist activities.

Tenant units and activities make up the bulk of Soldiers, civilians, and family members living and working on installations. Antiterrorism officers must endeavor to maximize the availability of these resources at every opportunity. By training and educating all community members, the eyes and ears (“Every Soldier a sensor”) of law enforcement and security forces can be extended.

iWATCH Army is a simple concept similar to a neighborhood watch program. It can be useful across any installation, tenant unit or activity, or operational unit. Common tasks such as providing an iWATCH Army focal point for phoned-in suspicious activity and coordinating with higher headquarters to pass along the information can help ensure the program serves its purpose.

To support iWATCH Army, installations must develop a procedure for reporting suspicious activity not only with law enforcement organizations and higher headquarters, but laterally across the installation to inform tenant units. Immediate reporting procedures and follow-on guidance should be clearly understood and practiced by all tenants and occupants.

Suspicious-activity reporting is a critical step in antiterrorism planning and high on the list of immediate-action drills and exercises, which integrate tenant units and activities.

Comments? Corrections?

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