



Paraglide

DA Honors Public Safety Business Center For ‘Creative Approach’ To Force Protection

by Lucille Anne Newman

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Fort Bragg’s Public Safety Business Center was awarded the Headquarters Department of the Army Best Anti-Terrorism Program Installation Award by Lt Gen John R. Vines, commanding general, XVIII Airborne Corps, on Monday at Corps Headquarters.

“This award is a recognition of excellence for the creative ways of approaching things,” said Vines.

“The collective community of Fort Bragg has done a great job two years in a row, (and this) is recognition for their great work.”

Some of the programs implemented to increase security included use of technology across Fort Bragg, especially at the Access Control Points.

“Some of the technology (in use) is the vehicle X-ray scanning system at the Knox Street and Longstreet (Road) Access Control Points allowing us to X-ray the contents of (shipping vehicles) for contraband and explosives,” said Reid Gantt, Chief of Security Intelligence and Fort Bragg Anti-Terrorism Officer, Public Safety Business Center.

Gantt said the X-ray scanning system can search large cargo trucks without interfering with the flow of traffic.

He added that the Public Safety Business Center is working on ways to speed up access with improvements to the “new Access Control Points, (which) will give the ability to get people on to post faster.”

Gantt said with the help of joint exercises such as Orbit Comet the post is able to test its skill to perform crisis action and consequence management effectively.

Orbit Comet is a biannual anti-terrorism exercise. The exercise involves role players in simulated hostage situations, bioterrorism threats and cyber-terrorist attacks.

“I really don’t have a way to compare us to other installations. There have been a lot of actions taken here at Fort Bragg and most importantly our exercise programs. We’re ahead of most installations with our joint-exercise program,” he said.

Gantt added that a week ago the first weather center was installed on top of the Soldier Support Center that will employ a sensor able to detect chemical and biological elements.

“It will be online (for units) to view the weather and wet- bulb temperatures on Fort Bragg,” he said. “And we’ve been working with Oakridge National Labs on the chemical and biological sensors.”

During the ceremony, Vines encouraged the Public Safety Business Center staff to continue finding innovative ways to improve security.

“What we need to continue doing is (looking) for ways to use technology to make sure we’re more secure,” Vines said, “to educate the Soldiers and their family, to inform them and quickly synchronize (Fort Bragg) through technology (and) continue not only winning awards but to continue doing great work.”