

Post tests improved Mass Notification System

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Post tests newly improved External Mass Notification System



Tom Vinette, installation anti-terrorism officer, speaks into the microphone of the post's external Mass Notification System. The number of speakers around post was more than doubled recently to ensure that everyone can be notified in the event of a weather-related or other type of emergency. Photo by Spc. Jennifer Rick.

December 3, 2008 – As the size of the post grows, efforts in preparation and emergency readiness must also be increased.

In the event of severe weather or other emergency situations, people on all areas of the installation can be notified via the Mass Notification

System, explained Tom Vinette, installation anti-terrorism officer. The system consists of eight strategically placed speakers that are controlled from the Installation Operations Center.

"We needed to be able to talk to the people on post," Vinette said. "If there's a severe weather issue, such as a quickly approaching tornado, we can get on the speaker and tell people they need to take shelter immediately."

"Improving the system ties into our efforts in being StormReady," said Jill Smith, Chemical, Biological, Radiological, Nuclear and Explosive Operations Specialist. "We need to have an efficient external system to alert the people on Carlisle Barracks of emergencies, mostly weather-related."

The system previously consisted of three speakers, located at both water towers on post and on Brooke Avenue. Five new speakers have been added and are currently being tested. They are located at the Army Heritage and Education Center trail, the Golf Course Club House area, next to the Strike Zone Bowling Center,

adjacent to Barracks Crossing and near the Royal American Circle.

This speaker is located next to Collins Hall, behind the Strike Zone Bowling Center. Eight of these speakers are located around the installation, the golf course, and the Army Heritage and Education Center trail to alert personnel in the event of an emergency. Photo by Spc. Jennifer Rick.



The system is capable of playing both tones and voice messages, and can also be programmed to play other things such as Reveille and The Star Spangled Banner.

The watch officer at the IOC handles the system during the day, if the need arises. After hours, it can be turned on and run from the Department of Emergency Services police station.

"Warning capability is imperative for our Soldiers, families, civilian employees and visitors to Carlisle Barracks," said Vinette.

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