

HOMELAND SECURITY

Center for Complex Operations a Unique Economic Engine

As engines of economic development go, few are as unique as the Camp Atterbury-Muscatatuck Center for Complex Operations (CAMCCO) in Johnson County. It is the integrating headquarters and business office for the Atterbury-Muscatatuck Complex, a sprawling training facility designed to provide the most realistic, contemporary operating environment possible in which to mobilize and train government teams responsible for protecting the homeland and to support the operational testing and evaluation of technologies that support those missions.

The Atterbury-Muscatatuck

Complex consists of Camp Atterbury Joint Maneuver Training Center and Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex (MUTC), both located in south-central Indiana. The Complex is also poised to leverage community and partner resources to meet “customer” needs.

Those customers include active and reserve military training, Marine Corps realistic urban terrain training, Department of State integrated civilian and military training, Department of Defense civilian expeditionary workforce training, civil air patrol, joint unmanned aerial vehicle training and testing, and training for the Indiana State Police and various federal, county and city emergency services departments.

In government-speak, the



Camp Atterbury-Muscatatuck Urban Training Complex

U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Brad Staggs

Civil support team helps Indiana Homeland Security look for mock victims of a 7.7 mock earthquake.



U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Brad Staggs

complex is “a joint, interagency, inter-governmental, multinational and non-governmental training and testing center capable of meeting the national security requirements of the 21st century.”

The MUTC is a secluded, self-contained community, once home to the Muscatatuck State Developmental Center. The 1,000 acre site was turned over to the Indiana National Guard in July of 2005 and since has been continually evolving into a full-immersion contemporary urban training environment.

Those using MUTC have access to a 180-acre reservoir and urban infrastructure with 68 major buildings including a school, hospital, dormitories, light industrial structures, single-family type dwellings, a dining facility and administrative buildings. The training area also includes an extensive underground utility tunnel system and over nine miles of roads and streets.

MUTC is a consortium of governmental, public and private entities that are pooling their unique capabilities to provide the most realistic training experience possible. That training can be tailored to replicate both foreign and domestic scenarios and can be used by various civilian and military organizations.

In its first year of operation the facilities at MUTC were used by over 16,000 people from military, government and private agencies, and training capabili-

ties are continually expanding for future needs.

Larry E. Fagersten is director of community outreach for the Atterbury/Muscatatuck Center for Complex Operations, an executive agency that coordinates activity at Atterbury and Muscatatuck and the continuing development there. “My main role is to work with a lot of the local community economic agencies in and around Camp

Atterbury and Muscatatuck,” he says.

The economic opportunities are substantial. Fagersten says that as the training and development at the Camp Atterbury/Muscatatuck complex continues companies that support those activities will want to locate nearby. “We envision that down the road enclaves will be developed where companies that work with the defense contracting community will have offices, testing facilities and staffs. That’s where we see the economic development activity for Johnson County and the surrounding counties of both Atterbury and Muscatatuck.”

He notes that between the two facilities about 3,300 people work there, plus the people passing through for training. “That will vary depending on what’s going on,” he says. “For instance, right now we have about 2,600 folks on the ground, not necessarily soldiers, because some of the training is for civilian agencies. We have four civilian programs where basically all of the civilians that are deploying to Afghanistan, Iraq or other areas will come through here prior to their deployment.”

The economic spillover from all these activities is not limited to military contractors. Hotels and restaurants have been built in the area to accommodate the people who come for training. “A lot

[See next page](#) ▶



Photo by Michael Maaddox, Camp Atterbury Public Affairs

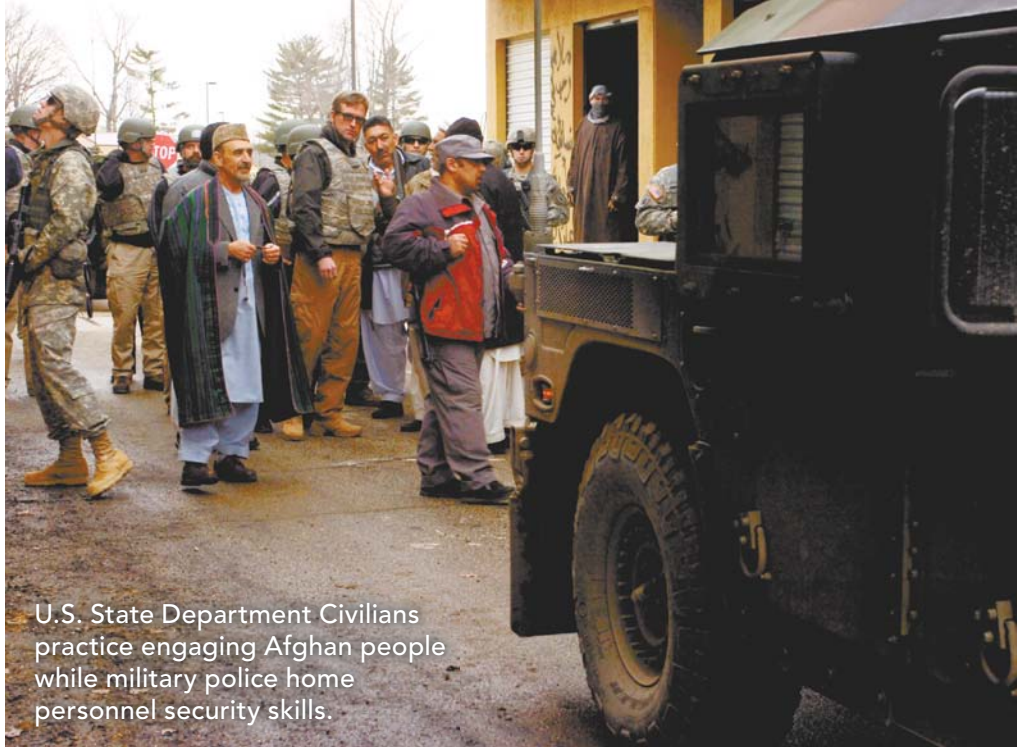
Students and instructors in the Precision Jumpmaster course load up on a C-130.

◀ *Continued from previous page*

of the reason for the development has been because the people coming need places to stay and to eat,” he says. “Each of those training exercises will generate economic activity for the communities around us.”

Fagersten notes that a lot of people have expressed concern that the recent drawdowns in Iraq and Afghanistan will affect Camp Atterbury. “What people don’t realize is that the mobilization activity and the demobilization activity when the soldiers and the units come back is a small portion of what goes on at Atterbury and Muscatatuck,” he says. “We are continuing to build facilities. We have military construction projects in the presidential budget for 2012. So far, every indication is that all that money remains intact and available. Beginning October 1, we will have money to begin construction on what we call


Indiana National Guard photo by Staff Sgt. Matt Scotten



U.S. State Department Civilians practice engaging Afghan people while military police home personnel security skills.

the north side of Camp Atterbury. We picked up 1,400 acres north of Hospital Road for the express purpose of expanding our railhead from one to six lines and for building more troop billeting buildings so we can accommodate more people who will be coming

through for training.”

So it looks like as long as there is a need for the kind of realistic training that only a facility like Camp Atterbury can provide, counties in south central Indiana have an economic engine they can count on. 

“We’ve Got You Covered” at INDY EXEC

The only all-weather Jet Canopy in Indiana



**Premier Executive Service
Solutions Air Charter
Pilot Training Center**

Indianapolis Executive Airport
Where business takes off



317.769.4487 • www.montgomeryaviation.net
11329 East State Road 32 • Zionsville, IN 46077

www.indypartnership.com

COMPETING SMARTER

Expansion and relocation decisions demand careful analysis – tax and regulatory climate, workforce, infrastructure and innovation – all part of the growth equation.

That’s where the Indy Partnership comes in: Providing answers at the speed of business, bringing new economic opportunities to the Indianapolis region.

The Indy Partnership is the voice of a region that’s raising its game and a trusted advisor to businesses looking for the best location to compete.



indypARTNERSHIP