U.S. Army Europe deputy commanding general Maj. Gen. James C. Boozer (left) uncases the 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command colors in a Jan. 5 ceremony at Rhine Ordnance Barracks in Kaiserslautern, Germany, along with the unit's commander Col. Stephen J. Richmond (center) and the 10th's Command Sgt. Maj. Darrin L. Jeffries. The 10th is the first AAMDC activated outside the continental U.S. (Photo by Todd Oliver)

Event marks redesignation of unit as 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command

By 2nd Lt. Jean P. Tomte, 10th AAMDC Public Affairs

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RHINE ORDNANCE BARRACKS, Kaiserslautern, Germany - Soldiers and families of the 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command gathered here for a redesignation ceremony, Jan. 5.

“This ceremony celebrates the increased capability of one of our most strategically important units in Europe,” said U.S. Army Europe deputy commanding general Maj. Gen. James C. Boozer during the ceremony. “With this ceremony and the activation of the 10th AAMDC, we are able to fulfill a critical role in our U.S. European Command mission.”
Previously known as the 357th Air and Missile Detachment, the unit was activated in October 2007. The 357th AMD-D played an important role in supporting the European Command with ballistic missile defense. The unit also played a critical role in assisting and providing operational support to the 5th Battalion, 7th Air Defense Artillery, allowing them to accomplish critical missions.

“You have just witnessed an age-old military tradition: casing of the colors. With the inactivation and casing of the 357th AMD-D colors so ends another tremendous chapter of U.S. Army Europe air defense history, and with it memories of numerous accomplishments,” said 10th AAMDC commander Col. Stephen Richmond.

The 10th AAMDC is comprised of a headquarters and headquarters battery and the 5-7th ADA, with its five subordinate batteries and headquarters battery.

The formal activation of 10th AAMDC took place Oct. 17, but was not officially recognized until it was redesignated today.