RAF LAKENHEATH FOR U.S AIRFORCE





Following the 2001 atrocities of 9/11 when terrorist forces attacked the World Trade Center twin towers and the Pentagon, the security requirements at Military bases worldwide were heightened.

Since 1940 the U.S Air Force has held a presence at RAF Lakenheath. Today the 48th Fighter Wing, also known as the Liberty Wing, at Lakenheath hosts the F-15 Eagle Fighter aircraft which not only sees action in attack missions but also provides operational support to humanitarian missions.

The U.S. Air Force required a service entrance to the base to have weather protection for vehicle searches. Having been briefed that high-sided goods vehicles will require access through the checkpoint, we designed an 11m span structure with a 5m side height.

J & J Carter's Series 200 system was customised on 4m bays with site specific structural calculations. We provided the Air Force with the reaction forces to enable them to design their foundations. Due to military operations at the base; they did not get time to cast in traditional foundations; instead portable concrete runway pads were used to provide the required kentledge.

The structure was erected in two working days, with a very content client, who procured a further three structures from J & J Carter within the same year.