

# **12 FAH-8 H-600 TECHNICAL SECURITY ENHANCEMENTS AT RESIDENCES**

## **12 FAH-8 H-610 ALARM SYSTEMS**

*(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)*

### **12 FAH-8 H-611 GENERAL**

*(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)*

a. For posts at certain threat ratings (see 12 FAH-6, *Security Standards*), alarm systems may be included as part of the Residential Security Program (RSP). All alarm systems requested by a post must have a Bureau of Diplomatic Security (DS) device approval per 12 FAH-6 H-412.3 prior to consideration for purchase and installation.

b. When installed, alarm systems perform the following functions. They:

- (1) Detect break-ins;
- (2) Warn occupants of intruder(s); and

(3) When linked to a central alarm monitoring system (CAMS), they report intrusions to a central location that will initiate a mobile patrol and/or react unit response.

c. An alarm system serves no purpose unless occupants are trained on the operation of the alarm system and it is consistently utilized.

### **12 FAH-8 H-612 BASIC ALARM SYSTEM**

*(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)*

a. An alarm system consists of the sensors (i.e., door contacts, panic switches, pressure mats, ultrasonic detectors, passive infra-red, microwave, passive glass break detectors, etc.), and a control panel that monitors the sensors and transmits certain activities to an alarm device.

b. Residential alarm systems are either hardwired or use radio frequency (RF) transmitters. A recommendation as to which system to use is made by the RSO, but funding approval remains with DS/CIS/PSP/FPD. A wired system (wires between the sensors and the monitor) is generally more reliable and maintenance free than a RF transmitter link. RF systems are more expensive, however, they can be transferred from one dwelling to another more easily and at less expense than a hardwired system.

c. The alarm can be a bell, siren, flashing light or any combination of these devices. The alarm usually annunciates on the inside and/or outside of the residence being protected. An alarm system can also make the intrusion known at another location by means of an automatic telephone dialer, wired connection or by radio transmission to a central monitoring location, i.e., CAMS.

d. DS/CIS/PSP/FPD must approve all alarm systems prior to procurement. A detailed narrative of post's projected procurement and installation plan is required before approval will be granted.

d. Any alarm system considered should have the following features:

(1) The capability of operating on the local electrical current and have a battery backup;

(2) Be relatively easy to install, operate and trouble-shoot;

(3) A time delay feature to allow the occupant to arm or disarm the system without activating the alarm;

(4) Be capable of being wired for duress switches. Panic switches may be portable or can be installed where desired, i.e., safehaven, bedroom, etc.; and

(5) A control panel capable of placement in a convenient location, normally near the primary entry door.

## **12 FAH-8 H-613 CENTRAL ALARM MONITORING SYSTEM (CAMS)**

*(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)*

At posts with a high or critical threat rating for political violence or crime, a CAMS may be considered in lieu of a static guard. The use of a CAMS is normally supported by a mobile patrol or react unit. See 12 FAH-6 H-113.10(n), *Residential Security (Political Violence)*, 12 FAH-6 H-413.3, *Residential Security (Crime)*, and 12 FAH-6 H-521.1, *Security Assessment for CAMS*, for further information.

# 12 FAH-8 H-614 SECURITY ASSESSMENTS FOR CAMS

(TL:RSP-01; 11-01-2001)

a. The following factors are used to assess the viability of a CAMS installation:

(1) **Threat analysis**—Identify the specific nature of the threat, criminal and/or terrorist;

(2) **Assets**—Identify all assets;

(3) **Countermeasures**—Identify procedural, technical, and human countermeasures to the CAMS, and then identify the effectiveness as well as the vulnerabilities for each of the countermeasures;

(4) **Practicality**—To assess the practicality of a CAMS, obtain answers to the following questions:

(a) Do local entities have the technical infrastructure to utilize technical measures such as CAMS?

(b) Must posts utilize phone lines or RF signals?

(c) If phones are unreliable, will the geographic terrain allow a CAMS to operate using a RF signal?

(d) Will the host government grant approval for a RF signal?

(e) Are qualified personnel who are capable of operating the system locally available to the post? and

(f) Are fuel supplies and maintenance for vehicles available and reliable?

(5) **Cost analysis:**

(a) Compute and compare costs for each countermeasure from (3) above;

(b) Include costs for:

- Vehicles (procurement, maintenance, and fuel);
- Alarms (procurement, installation, and maintenance); and
- Guards (to monitor alarms and provide a react capability).

b. Upon completing this assessment and after approval by the EAC and COM, post should advise DS/CIS/PSP/FPD of its overall conclusions. Should the Department and the post not concur in the best method or system to counter the threat, the matter will be referred to the Overseas Security Policy Board (OSPB) for disposition. DS/CIS/PSP/FPD can provide further guidance upon request.

**12 FAH-8 H-615 THROUGH H-619  
UNASSIGNED**