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44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion unfurls its colors at new home in Schweinfurt

By Sandra Wilson

U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt Public Affairs Office

SCHWEINFURT, Germany -- The 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion unfurled its colors in U.S. Army Garrison Schweinfurt's Rose Garden July 31, marking its official relocation from Mannheim.

“Although we’ve been on the ground for a little over a month, it seems like yesterday that the command sergeant major and I arrived to start conducting our day-to-day operations out of the new building,” said Lt. Col. Dwayne Dickens, 44th ESB commander.

The work done to make the move from Mannheim to Schweinfurt has been “awe-inspiring,” said Col. Gerald Miller, 2nd Signal Brigade commander.

Miller said the battalion safely moved 212 pieces of rolling stock and 120 containers, and relocated 105 Soldiers and their families the 150 miles between the two cities.

“In all, the battalion has logged tens of thousands of accident-free miles as part of this move. You should all be proud of what you have accomplished in this very short time period,” Miller said.

In addition to the hard work of the battalion’s Soldiers, Dickens attributed the smooth relocation to the support of the Schweinfurt community.



SANDRA WILSON

Lt. Col Dwayne Dickens, 44th Expeditionary Signal Battalion commander (left), and Command Sgt. Maj. Earl Allen unfurl the battalion's colors at a ceremony marking the relocation of the battalion to Schweinfurt in a ceremony on Ledward Barracks there, July 31.

“It’s because of this outstanding garrison support that 44th was able to hit the ground running and never miss a step,” he said.

The 44th ESB was established in 1944 and headquartered in Mannheim for most of the years since. It has deployed in support of numerous operations over the last two decades, most recently completing a 15-month combat tour in Iraq during 2007 and 2008.

“As the battalion sets down roots here in the community, we’re looking forward to hearing about the positive impact that you will have in the military community and the new bonds of friendship ... in the great city of Schweinfurt,” Miller said.



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