



News Release

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1AD OIF Deployment and Force Structure Changes

HEIDELBERG, Germany — The Department of Defense announced today the 1st Armored Division headquarters will deploy in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Germany's "Old Ironsides" headquarters last served in Iraq in September 2004.

Additionally, U.S. Army, Europe will convert, inactivate and relocate numerous 1st Armored Division units within Germany in Fiscal Year 2007 to accelerate the Army's modular conversion and support the Department of Defense's overall plan to increase strategic responsiveness in the face of threats posed by the Global War on Terrorism.

The 1st Armored Division will use the military specialties and equipment from inactivating units to build special staff cells, such as intelligence, engineer, and artillery, which are organic to the division staff as part of Army modularity.

Inactivating units are:

Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1AD Artillery Brigade, Baumholder
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1AD Engineer Brigade, Giessen
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 501st Military Intelligence Battalion,
Wackernheim

Target Acquisition Battery, 1st Battalion, 94th Field Artillery Regiment, Idar-Oberstein
526th Engineer Platoon (Topo), Wiesbaden
518th Engineer Platoon, (Topo), Wiesbaden

Converting units are:

1st Armored Division headquarters, Wiesbaden, to a modified modular division
Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 141st Signal Battalion, Wiesbaden, to 1st AD
Special Troops Battalion with the 146th Signal Network Operations Support Company

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As previously announced, B Company, 501st Military Intelligence Battalion, will relocate from Wiesbaden to Baumholder, and A Company and C Company, 501st Military - Intelligence Battalion will inactivate in fiscal year 2007. Also as previously announced, A Company, 141st Signal Battalion will inactivate and B Company, 141st Signal Battalion, will relocate from Wiesbaden to Baumholder and convert to the 598th Signal Support Company.

The target acquisition battery personnel will be assigned to the field artillery battalions to support the 2nd Brigade, 1st Armored Division and 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (upon their redeployment from Operation Iraqi Freedom). The division will complete full modular transformation within the next two to three years, as the Army directs.

As a result of these actions, there will be a reduction of approximately 145 Soldiers, 230 family members, two U.S. civilian employees and two local national civilian employees in Germany. Numbers reflect the total personnel associated with the units and organizations in this announcement. The impact on both military and civilian personnel will vary, based on the disposition of their units and the status of individual Soldiers and employees. Also, the number of Soldiers reflects authorized positions, while the number of civilians is actual strength.