



News Release

HQ U.S. ARMY EUROPE & 7TH ARMY
Office of the Chief of Public Affairs
Unit 29351 APO AE 09014
Postfach 10 43 21 69033 Heidelberg
Tel.: 06221-57-6647/5816

January 10, 2008
Release No. 20080101

Dagger brigade relocation

HEIDELBERG, Germany – U.S. Army Europe officials have directed the relocation of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team, known as the Dagger Brigade, from Schweinfurt to Grafenwoehr, beginning in early 2008, to capitalize on years of planning and construction that are now coming to fruition at Grafenwoehr, USAREUR's premier training area.

Following the Dagger Brigade's recent deployment, the USAREUR commanding general, Gen. David McKiernan directed an analysis of relocating the brigade to Grafenwoehr. Upon review, he decided to move the brigade so that those soldiers would have immediate access to the largest and best training facilities in Europe.

“Support for the Global War on Terror is our number one priority and I believe that relocating the 2/1 ID takes advantage of the absolute best brigade combat team facilities we have anywhere in Europe for this unit to reset, train and prepare for future missions. This is the right thing to do, McKiernan stated. “We have known for years that Grafenwoehr would be one of our main operating bases and we have planned accordingly. In looking across my forces, the Dagger Brigade is the unit that will benefit the most from being next to the training area and I want these Soldiers and their families to be able to take advantage of the new housing and facilities coming on-line in Grafenwoehr.

The move will begin this month (January 2008) in order to take advantage of the normal personnel assignment cycle. Usually, about 60% of a unit changes duty station after redeployment and starting the move now impacts the fewest number of Soldiers and families by allowing incoming personnel to be assigned directly to Grafenwoehr.

(contd.)

2-2-2

The first elements scheduled to move from Schweinfurt are:

Headquarters Company, 2/1ID

1st Battalion, 26th Infantry

1st Battalion, 77th Armor

504th Military Intelligence Company

57th Signal Company

E Troop, 4th Cavalry

2 Maintenance support teams from the 299th Forward Support Battalion

The following Dagger Brigade units will relocate from Schweinfurt to Grafenwoehr as additional space is available within the next two years:

1st Battalion, 18th Infantry

1st Battalion, 7th Artillery

9th Engineer Battalion

The remainder of the 299th Forward Support Battalion

Additionally, as a result of this decision, the 15th Engineer Battalion will activate in Schweinfurt, during FY 08, as opposed to Grafenwoehr as was previously announced in September 2007. This change has minimal impact on personnel since the unit has not yet been established. Units involved are:

15th Engineer Battalion Headquarters

500th Engineer Company

902nd Engineer Company

534th Engineer detachment

USAREUR remains grateful for the outstanding support our Soldiers and family members continue to receive in both communities.