



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
DSN 370-8934/6647 Tel.: 06221-57-8934/6647

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1st ID's 3rd Brigade Combat Team draws down to set conditions for STRYKER Stationing

HEIDELBERG, Germany-- To set the conditions for stationing a Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Vilseck, Germany, the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, now stationed there, will reduce to cadre strength beginning in summer 2005. Included in the 3rd BCT are a field artillery battalion and an engineer company in Bamberg, Germany and two company-sized units from the 1st Infantry Division, stationed in Wuerzburg and Kitzingen, Germany.

The effective deployment of Stryker in and out of Germany remains one of the highest priorities as USAREUR proceeds with transformation plans. The command will be working over the coming months to secure all requisite agreements for the brigade's effective movement within Europe.

Approximately 2,900 Soldiers and 3,990 family members will be directly affected by this action. Six U.S. civilians and no local national employees work directly for the tactical units of 3rd Brigade Combat Team. Garrison support requirements will be evaluated as it becomes clearer what support is needed between the departure of the 3rd BCT and the arrival of the Stryker Brigade, and may make appropriate adjustments that would affect garrison personnel.

USAREUR will comply with all standard notification procedures, should there be a requirement for such actions. The incoming Stryker Brigade will be eventually manned with about 3,900 Soldiers, as well as about 20 Department of the Army civilian employees and 100 contractor personnel.

These changes are part of the President's overall plan to transform the military to create a more mobile, agile and expeditionary joint force in the face of the threats posed by the Global War on Terrorism.

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A fundamental part of this plan is to station U.S. forces around the globe to be best able to respond to the threats of the new security environment. USAREUR's end-state footprint will be strategic in scope and global in reach, ensuring that the desired capabilities are at locations that enable us to engage rapidly and with great flexibility.

USAREUR remains committed to its European allies, including Germany. The forward stationing of a Stryker Brigade Combat Team in Europe demonstrates continuing U.S. commitment to NATO and parallels NATO's own transformation to a more mobile, agile and expeditionary force.

The units of the 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, that will be reduced to cadre because of this action are:

- Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (88 Soldiers, 6 DA civilians, Vilseck)
- 2-2 Infantry Battalion (702 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Vilseck)
- 1-63 Armor Battalion (497 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Vilseck)
- 2-63 Armor Battalion (495 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Vilseck)
- 1-6 Field Artillery Battalion (483 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Warner Barracks, Bamberg; 103 Soldiers, Vilseck)
- 201 Forward Support Battalion (433 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Vilseck)
- F Troop / 4th Cavalry (Brigade Recon Troop) (49 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Vilseck)
- A Company, 101st Military Intelligence Battalion (62 Soldiers, Leighton Barracks, Wuerzburg)
- B Company, 121st Signal Battalion (140 Soldiers, Larson Barracks, Kitzingen)
- A Company, 82nd Engineer Battalion (part of 82nd Engineer Battalion, remainder of 82nd Engineer Battalion will convert to 173rd Brigade Combat Team's Brigade Troops Battalion) (92 Soldiers, 0 civilians, Bamberg).