



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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USAREUR announces latest transformation, force structure changes

HEIDELBERG, Germany— In FY 06, US Army, Europe will convert, inactivate and return numerous units to the US as part of the Department of Defense's overall plan to transform the military in order to increase strategic responsiveness and flexibility in the face of the threats posed by the Global War on Terrorism and to support Army transformation.

The command will return the 1st Armored Division Aviation Brigade, Hanau, to the US; set the conditions to establish the Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) from aviation units stationed here; and conduct other unit actions associated with US Army force modernization and bi-annual force structure reviews.

The unit actions will affect approximately 7,200 military positions and some 11,000 family members in Germany. In addition, approximately 40 US and 38 LN civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected by this decision.

1st Armored Division Aviation Brigade

The 1st Armored Division Aviation Brigade, Hanau, Germany, will depart US Army, Europe in FY 06 and return to the US. This return is at the direction of the Department of the Army as part of the Army's conversion of aviation assets worldwide into 11 new CABs. Upon arrival in United States, the brigade's units will become part of the 1st Infantry Division CAB that is forming at Fort Riley, Kansas.

The four units that will return to the U.S. in the summer of 2006 are:

- HHC, 1AD Aviation Brigade, Hanau.
- 2-501st Aviation Battalion, Hanau.
- 127th Division Aviation Support Battalion, Hanau.
- A Company, 3-58th ATS Battalion, Hanau.

A fifth unit, 1-501st returned directly from combat to the United States in July 2004 to transition to Longbow Aircraft. The unit completed its transition to the Longbow Apache helicopters and will remain in the US.

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The 1st Armored Division Aviation Brigade return to the United States will affect approximately 1,200 Soldier positions and 1,800 family members. In addition, 8 US and 13 local national civilian employees will be affected.

Combat Aviation Brigade

The CAB is the standard design for US Army aviation brigades under the modular force plan. Formerly called the Multi-functional Aviation Brigade, the CAB is part of Army transformation.

For the CAB in USAREUR, the plan is to combine remaining V Corps aviation assets to form a single aviation brigade capable of performing all Army aviation missions. USAREUR will accomplish this by maintaining a tailored force with attack and airlift to meet early-entry, rapid reaction, humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions. In addition to the CAB, theater fixed and rotary wing elements will be retained to continue support to the USAREUR & 7th Army, and EUCOM commanders in the future.

These unit transformation actions will affect approximately 3,200 Soldier positions and 4,800 family members. In addition, 22 US and 20 LN civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected by this decision.

The following units will be affected in FY 06, as US Army, Europe sets the conditions to establish the command's CAB in FY 07:

- Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 12th Aviation Brigade in Giebelstadt will inactivate. The IID AVN BDE in Katterbach will redesignate as 12th AVN Bde(CAB) *
- 5-158 AVN Battalion –HHC, A Co and E Co 5-158 will return to the US, B Co, 5-158 AVN Battalion will reorganize under the CAB. The 5-158 battalion flag will remain in Europe as the CAB's General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) at Katterbach *
- 2-1 Aviation Battalion (-) will redesignate as the 5-158 General Support Aviation Battalion (GSAB) as part of the CAB structure *. A Company, 2-1 AVN Battalion returns to the US.
- 601st Division Aviation Support Battalion is reassigned to the new 12th CAB as the 601st Aviation Support Battalion*
- 1-1 AVN (ATTACK) Battalion in Ansbach returned for Longbow transition in April 2005 and will remain in the States*
- 2-6 CAV remains in Illesheim and will redesignate as the 3-159 AVN (ATTACK) BN.
- 3-158 AVN (ASSAULT) BN will move from Giebelstadt to Katterbach and be assigned to the CAB*
- F/159 AVN BN will move from Giebelstadt to USA Garrison Ansbach and will become part of the CAB*
- Elements of B Co, 7-159 AVIM BN will move from Giebelstadt to USAG Ansbach to become part of the CAB. The remainder of 7-159 AVIM BN based in Illesheim will inactivate in FY 07 and contribute assets to the CAB*
- HHC 3-58 Air Traffic Squadron will move from Giebelstadt to Leighton Barracks in Wuerzburg.
- Elements of the 147th Ordnance Company based in Kitzingen will move to Illesheim in FY 06 (elements in other locations will remain in place). The 147th will inactivate in FY07 and contribute personnel spaces and equipment to the CAB.

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Other US Army Force Modernization

These actions include other conversions, inactivations and return of units to the US to restructure US Army, Europe to meet mission requirements in the future.

These force structure changes will affect approximately 2,800 military positions and some 4,200 family members in Germany. In addition, 10 US and 5 LN civilian employees assigned to the units will be affected.

- 1-27 Field Artillery Battalion in Babenhausen will inactivate.
- 6-52 Air Defense Artillery Battalion will incorporate the 549th Maintenance Company (Patriot) and convert to form a single unit which will then return to the US. Both units are in Ansbach.
- 5-7 Air Defense Artillery Battalion will incorporate the 19th Maintenance Company (Patriot) and convert to form a single unit. Both units are based in Hanau.
- As a result of the conversion of 5-7 ADA and 6-52 ADA battalions, two batteries located in Babenhausen will return to the US.
- 94th Engineer Battalion in Vilseck will return to the US.
- 578th Signal Company in Darmstadt will inactivate.
- 377th Heavy Equipment Transport Company - This 96-truck unit is split-based between Mannheim and Grafenwöhr, and both elements will return to the US.
- 71st Missile Maintenance Company in Hanau will inactivate.
- 21st Medical Detachment (Vet) in Hohenfels will inactivate.
- 79th Medical Detachment (Vet) in Chievres, Belgium, will inactivate.
- 560th MP Company (Escort) in Mannheim will inactivate.
- HHD, 510th Personnel Services Battalion in Mannheim will inactivate.
- A Detachment in Hanau and B Detachment in Darmstadt of the 39th Finance Battalion will inactivate.
- 165th Military Intelligence Battalion in Darmstadt will contribute some equipment and personnel to build the 173rd Infantry Brigade Combat Team (Airborne) Brigade Military Intelligence Company. The battalion will inactivate in FY 06.
- 523 Dental Company in Giebelstadt will inactivate.

In addition, the 2d Brigade Combat Team, 1ID will be attached to 1AD in FY 06, as the 1ID(-) returns to the US. This transfer of command and control will not impact personnel.

* Previously announced on July 29, 2005.