3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division "Iron Brigade" Fort Carson, Colorado

Media Kit



3rd ABCT, 4th ID, Public Affairs Team August 2017

For more information about the units and Soldiers of Atlantic Resolve contact the Mission Command Element Public Affairs Office at +49 (0) 1520 6535535, DSN: (314) 524-8651, or email at <u>brent.m.williams4.mil@mail.mil</u>.

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For more information and coverage of the Iron Brigade (articles, videos, B-roll, still images), please visit our pages below.

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division home page <u>http://www.carson.army.mil/4id/unit-pages/3abct.html</u>

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division social media Facebook: <u>https://www.facebook.com/3BCT4ID</u> Twitter: <u>https://www.twitter.com/3ABCT4ID</u> Instagram: <u>https://www.instagram.com/3ABCT4ID</u>

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division DVIDS pages <u>http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/3BCT-4ID</u> <u>https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/7mpad</u>

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division Flickr page <u>https://www.flickr.com/photos/ironbrigade/</u>



3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division 6791 Utah Beach Drive (Bldg. 2132) Fort Carson, Colorado 80913

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team (3 ABCT) Leadership

COLONEL MICHAEL J. SIMMERING, BRIGADE COMMANDER

Colonel Michael J. Simmering was commissioned as an Armor Officer in May 1993 following graduation from the United States Military Academy at West Point, New York.

His previous assignments include Deputy Commander/Chief of Staff for the Joint Readiness Training Center & Fort Polk (2016-2017); Commander, 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, Fort Benning, Georgia (2015-2016); Deputy Command Center Director, United States Northern Command (2014-2015); Division G3, 4th Infantry Division and Fort Carson, Colorado (2012-2013);



Commander, 1st Combined Arms Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division (2009-2012), with duty in the Arghandab Valley, Khandahar Province, Afghanistan (2011-2012); Deputy Chief of Staff, 4th Infantry Division (2008-2009); Regimental Executive Officer, 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment (ACR), Fort Hood, Texas (2007-2008), with duty in Mosul, Iraq (2007); Regimental S3 (Operations), 3rd ACR, Fort Carson, Colorado and later at Fort Hood, Texas (2006-2007); S3 (Operations), 2nd Squadron, 3rd ACR, Fort Carson (2005-2006), with duty in Tal Afar, Iraq (2005-2006); Chief of Plans, 3rd ACR (2004-2005); Observer/Controller (Grizzly Team) at the Combat Maneuver Training Center in Hohenfels, Germany (2001-2003); Assistant S3 and later Company Commander for B Company, 1st Battalion, 67th Armor Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas (1999-2001), Operations Officer, G3 (Force Modernization) III Corps & Fort Hood (1998); Tank Platoon Leader, Scout Platoon Leader, Company Executive Officer, and Assistant S-3 for 1st Squadron, 3rd ACR, at Fort Bliss, Texas (1994-1995) and later at Fort Carson (1996-1997).

Col. Simmering's military education includes the Armor Officer Basic Course and Armor Officer Advanced Course (Fort Knox, Kentucky), Command and General Staff College (2004), and the Joint Advanced Warfighting School, National Defense University (2014). He holds a bachelor's degree in Engineering Management from the U.S. Military Academy as well as master's degrees from Kansas State University and the National Defense University.

Col. Simmering's awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit (1OLC), Bronze Star (1 OLC), Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Army Meritorious Service Medal (4 OLC), the Parachutist's Badge, Air Assault Badge, and the Combat Action Badge.

Col. Simmering and his wife, Erikka, have four children, Andrew, Eva, Aaron and Ashley.

3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team (3 ABCT) Leadership

CSM SAMUEL C. RAPP, BRIGADE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Command Sgt. Maj. Samuel C. Rapp, a native of Choctaw, Oklahoma, entered the Army in August 1994.

Command Sgt. Maj Rapp completed M1 Abrams Armor Crewman One Station Unit Training at Fort Knox, Kentucky, and has been assigned to 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 3rd Infantry Division, and 2nd Battalion, 63rd Armor Regiment, 3rd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, in Vilseck, Germany; 1st Squadron, 12th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas; 2nd Battalion, 37th Armor Regiment, 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Armored Division, Friedberg,



Germany; 7th Army Noncommissioned Officers' Academy, Grafenwoehr, Germany; 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia; operations sergeant major for the 5th Squadron, 15th Cavalry Regiment, 194th Armored Brigade, at Fort Benning, Georgia; and as the command sergeant major for 5th Squadron, 1st Cavalry Regiment, 1st Brigade, 25th Infantry Division at Fort Wainwright, Alaska.

His operational deployments include one in support of Operation Able Sentry in Macedonia, one in support of the stabilization force in Bosnia-Herzegovinia, one in support of Joint Task Force East Romania, two in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and one in support of Operation Enduring Freedom-Afghanistan.

Command Sgt. Maj. Rapp has served in every Non-Commissioned Officer leadership position from tank gunner to command sergeant major. His military education includes all courses in the Noncommissioned Officer Education System realm, culminating with Class 63 of the Sergeants Major Course; Battle Staff NCO Course, Small Group Instructor Training Course, Total Army Instructor Training Course, Master Fitness Trainer Course, and Modern Army Combatives Level I and II.

Command Sgt. Maj. Rapp's awards and decorations include: the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with Valor Device, Army Achievement Medal, Meritorious Unit Commendation, Army Good Conduct Medal, National Defense Service Medal, Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal, Iraq Campaign Medal, GWOT Service Medal, Afghanistan Service Medal, NCO Professional Development Ribbon, Combat Action Badge and German Marksmanship Badge (Schutzenschnur-Gold). He is a member of the Sergeant Audie Murphy Club, Honorary Member of the Sergeant Morales Club, Draper Armor Leadership Awardee, and recipient of the Order of Saint George Bronze Medallion.

Command Sgt. Maj. Rapp is married to Leonora Rapp of Wernberg-Koblitz, Germany, and they have three children, Anthony, Johnny and Allison.

"Iron Brigade" Operation Atlantic Resolve Mission

The 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division is the regionally allocated heavy brigade for Europe. In January 2017 the brigade deployed to support U.S. Army Europe and participate in Atlantic Resolve. Deploying the Iron Brigade, including all its heavy equipment, to train with allies and partners and demonstrate the capabilities of an armored brigade combat team is a challenging mission. In the year leading up to deployment, Iron Soldiers aggressively trained for this mission – including seven total weeks of field training at our home station of Fort Carson, Colorado, and the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California – and we are proud to be the brigade chosen to continue the armored presence in Europe. The 3/4 ABCT's deployment in January marked the beginning of a continuous U.S. armored brigade presence in Europe. These "heel-to-toe" rotations, made possible by the European Reassurance Initiative, are a strong signal of the United States' ironclad commitment to strengthening the defensive and deterrent capabilities of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization alliance.

A visual summary of our Atlantic Resolve mission can be seen at: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=DCsY89HIEpA&t=3s

"Iron Brigade" Overall Mission

When at our home station of Fort Carson, Colorado, the Iron Brigade conducts decisiveaction training in order to achieve and maintain proficiency in offensive and defensive Unified Land Operations. The brigade progressively trains from the company level through the brigade level – performing in scaled, modular formations or as part of a larger force – to enable collective readiness in preparation for any contingency operation worldwide. Prior to deploying in support of Atlantic Resolve, the brigade culminated its collective training progression through a final home-station exercise, Iron Strike 16, from July 5-21, 2016. The Iron Brigade then executed a deploymentvalidating rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin, California, from Aug. 21, 2016, to Sept. 20, 2016. The training returned the ABCT's focus to combatting a traditional near-peer adversary vs. the counter-insurgent fighting seen over the last decade and a half during the Global War on Terror.

"Iron Brigade" Command Priorities

Iron Soldiers focus first and foremost on the B-A-S-I-C-S as the foundation to ensure our unit truly is "Iron Strong." The B-A-S-I-C-S consist of:

- Be professional and disciplined. The Army Values are not negotiable.
- Always prioritize ... it is a leader's responsibility to accept risk and prioritize.
- Stay physically fit and mentally prepared for combat.
- Initiative within intent is a prerequisite for success.
- Communication and trust must flow up, down and across the chain of command.
- **S**afeguard our Soldiers and Families 24/7.

While the B-A-S-I-C-S set the foundation for our Brigade, four major areas drive our efforts to achieve the levels of readiness our Nation will require of us to accomplish our assigned missions:

<u>Train for the Mission</u>: Regardless of our location, ensuring the entire formation is properly trained represents the single greatest contributor to mission success. This Brigade's training methodology will emulate the critical collective task approach – a focused training approach that allows for mastery of what we must be able to execute when called to fight.

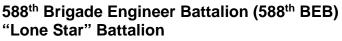
<u>Sustain Personnel & Equipment Readiness to the Highest Standards</u>: The most important aspect of sustaining readiness is maintaining our ability to deploy Soldiers. Leaders and Soldiers must make every effort to contribute to the overall readiness of the team. Soldier and equipment readiness and maintenance is 1) trained, 2) occurs before, during and after training, and is 3) everyone's responsibility.

<u>Lead Soldiers & Develop Leaders</u>: The future of our Army rests solely on the ability of today's leaders to guide their Soldiers and develop those same Soldiers into future leaders of the force. The expertise and judgment of junior leaders makes the difference between good and great units.

<u>Care for Soldiers and Families</u>: First, ensuring that Soldiers are trained and prepared to execute the mission is the greatest expression of care a leader can exhibit. Second, every leader will demonstrate and build a nurturing, team-focused environment, including families, to ensure each Soldier is free to do his/her job. Caring matters.

"Iron Brigade" Units





"The 588th Brigade Engineer Battalion deploys and provides mobility, communications, intelligence, and security support to enable 3rd ABCT's full-spectrum operations."



1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment (1st Bn., 8th Inf. Regt.) "Fighting Eagles"

"The 1st Bn., 8th Inf. Reg., is a combined-arms battalion manned with M1A2 Abrams tanks and M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles maintaining combat readiness to deploy, fight, and win in any theater of operation."



1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment (1st Bn., 66th Armor Regt.) "Iron Knights"

"The 1st Bn., 66th Armor Reg., is a combined-arms battalion manned with M1A2 Abrams tanks and M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles maintaining combat readiness to deploy, fight, and win in any theater of operation."



1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment (1st Bn., 68th Armor Regt.) "Silver Lions"

"The 1st Bn., 68th Armor Reg., is a combined-arms battalion manned with M1A2 Abrams tanks and M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicles maintaining combat readiness to deploy, fight, and win in any theater of operation."



4th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment (4th Sqdrn., 10th Cav. Regt.) "Black Jacks"

"Black Jack Squadron conducts reconnaissance and surveillance in support of the development of the 3rd ABCT's situational awareness and knowledge in the area of operations."



3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery Regiment (3rd Bn., 29th FA Regt.) "Pacesetters"

"The 3rd Bn., 29th FA Regt., provides timely and accurate lethal indirectfire support for the 3rd ABCT, along with synchronizing the effects of nonlethal fires for the Commander in support of any worldwide deployment or contingency operation. On order, the Pacesetters are prepared to operate as a motorized maneuver battalion, combining both maneuver and traditional fire support against any enemy on the modern battlefield."



64th Brigade Support Battalion (64th BSB) "Mountaineers"

"The 64th BSB deploys with the 3rd ABCT to provide a singular, responsive, multifunctional source of combat service support."

"Iron Brigade" Atlantic Resolve Rotation Fact Sheet

<u>3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team</u>, 4th Infantry Division Overview:

- Kicked off continuous, nine-month rotations of U.S.-based Armored Brigade Combat Teams to Europe scheduled into the foreseeable future as part of Atlantic Resolve
- Enhances deterrence capabilities, increases ability to respond to potential crises, and defends our Allies and partners in the European community
- Remains under U.S. Army Europe command. We are NOT part of NATO's new Enhanced Forward Presence battle groups, however our combined operations will provide a persistent presence throughout eastern Europe to deter aggression
- Focuses on strengthening capabilities and sustaining readiness through bilateral and multinational training and exercises with NATO allies and partners
- Arrived with our full set of armor equipment Jan. 6, 2017, from Fort Carson, Colorado
- Approximately 3,500 Soldiers, 87 tanks, 144 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, 18 Paladin self-propelled artillery (450 tracked vehicles, 900 wheeled vehicles, 650 trailers total)

Purpose:

- The armor rotational brigade makes good on our commitment to the U.S.-European strategic partnership.
- This rotational force, deploying with its full complement of equipment, puts U.S. armor back into Europe on a *continuous* basis for the first time since 2013.
- The forward presence of U.S. Soldiers is the bedrock of our country's ability to assure Allies, deter adversaries and posture to act quickly if deterrence fails.
- The rotational forces conduct exercises across the theater during the course of ninemonth rotations, routinely demonstrating speed of assembly and massing for training events.
- 3/4 ABCT trains with Allies and partners, ultimately leading to greater interoperability the ability to shoot, move, and communicate together in response to a crisis.
- The Iron Brigade will demonstrate its lethality and ability to operate with Allies during multinational exercises like Spring Storm in Estonia, Saber Guardian 17 in the Black Sea region, and Combined Resolve VIII and IX in Germany during summer 2017.

"Iron Brigade" Atlantic Resolve Rotation Fact Sheet

<u>3rd ABCT Atlantic Resolve Accomplishments (Jan. 6 – July 14):</u>

- Equipment arrived at Bremerhaven, Germany, Jan. 6, 2017, and moved by rail, commercial line-haul and military convoy to Poland, consolidating at Drawsko Pomorskie, Skwierzyna, Swietoszow, Boleslawiec, and Zagan training areas.
- Transportation included 3 sea vessels, approximately 35 trains, 100 vehicles for the movement of 2,800 pieces of equipment from Germany to Poland.
- Within 10 days of the first pieces of equipment being offloaded from the ships in Germany, Iron Brigade tank and Bradley Fighting Vehicle units were firing live ammunition rounds down range during training in Poland, demonstrating the ability to quickly move and assemble Soldiers and equipment to be ready to fight if needed.
- A 40-vehicle tactical convoy drove a distance of 930 km from the port of Bremerhaven, Germany, to reach Zagan, Poland on Jan. 12, 2017 the brigade's first ground movement across national borders.
- Iron Brigade units have traveled a total of 20,300 km (12,610 miles) via rail, sea, and air from Fort Carson, Colorado, and through 12 NATO Allied and partner nations, demonstrating U.S. Army Europe's freedom of movement throughout central and eastern Europe.
- The brigade has completed large-scale movements (battalion-sized or larger) nine times since arriving to Europe. This includes assembling the entire brigade in Poland upon arrival; moving three combined-arms battalions from Poland to Germany, the Baltics and Black Sea region; moving the brigade headquarters and 3+ battalions from Poland to Germany for Combined Resolve VIII in April; relocating the brigade headquarters and 5 of 7 battalions to Romania, Bulgaria and Hungary for Saber Guardian in June/July; and returning those battalions from the Black Sea region to Germany and Poland. These movements demonstrate U.S. Army Europe's ability to facilitate the quick assembly of forces to deter aggression.
- The 64th Brigade Support Battalion is on pace to move more than 27,000 parts (as big as tank engines) from its supply support activity (SSA) at Grafenwoehr, Germany, to locations as far as Estonia and Bulgaria. That's 2 1/2 times greater than the BSB's normal output back home and exceeds all other U.S. Army SSA production.
- Since January, more than 250 logistical convoys covering 116,000 km (72,000 miles) have been efficiently and safely conducted to demonstrate the brigade's ability to self-sustain itself over a 2,500-km area of operations equivalent to the entire U.S. East Coast (from Maine to Key West, Florida). The BSB safely

completed their longest movement, from western Poland to Lithuania (1,875 km round trip), 20 times.

- All 212 M1A2 Abrams tank and M2A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle crews, plus all 18 M109A6 Paladin crews, have fully qualified 288 times during gunnery tables in Europe, with crews notching 208 distinguished or superior qualification scores. All of our maneuver companies will complete a combined arms live fire exercise confronting a dynamic, near-peer threat in day and night scenarios by August.
- The Iron Brigade has conducted 19 Emergency Deployment Readiness Exercises (EDRE), further building our collective ability to "fight tonight," if the need ever arises. The Brigade command post has "jumped" (changed locations) six times and can move without notices in under an hour.
- The Iron Brigade has fired nearly 1 million rounds of ammunition from tanks and artillery to small arms – on a daily basis during training since conducting our first live fire range in Poland on Jan. 16. Tank and Bradley crews have performed more than 2,800 hours of simulator training, making us arguably the most proficient, lethal and ready unit in the U.S. Army.
- Iron Brigade units have conducted 72 community engagements and 83 training events with Allied counterparts, emphasizing our priority to not only train hard with host-nation counterparts but to show we genuinely care about the communities around which we operate. This includes participating in clean-up days in Poland, planting trees on Earth Day in Estonia, visiting orphanages in Lithuania and schools to teach children English (multiple countries), and Soldiers spending their personal time participating in charitable events (Baltics and Black Sea region).
- Our Shadow unmanned aerial systems operators have integrated into every collective live-fire training event we've conducted, logging 292 flight hours. The Shadow platoon performed their first ever hasty landing on a dirt road on May 16 at Grafenwoehr Training Area; 588th BEB Engineers built another hasty landing strip during a flight of a Shadow during the Combined Resolve VIII combat training center rotation at Hohenfels Training Area, Germany. These hasty operations demonstrated the Iron Brigade's enablers can fight a "deep fight" while staying just as mobile as the brigade's combined-arms battalions in a combat situation.
- Our team has completed eight hasty brigade-level command post jumps to different locations – we can move command nodes without notice in less than 45 minutes – as we continuously test our agility and ability to respond rapidly to any incident.
- Soldiers of the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment, were featured in a Hyundai Super Bowl commercial viewed by an estimated 111 million people watching the

game live and an additional 26 million people on YouTube. The ad shows the personal sacrifices Iron Soldiers make on a daily basis to preserve the European way of life and can be seen at <u>https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=P7n-GxJBw1k</u>

<u>3rd ABCT Participation in Combined Resolve VIII (Apr. 19 – Jun. 16):</u>

• Combined Resolve VIII was a 7th Army Training Command (7ATC), U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) directed exercise at the Hohenfels and Grafenwoehr

training areas in southeastern Germany. The exercise included more than 3,400 participants from 10 nations: Albania, Finland, Hungary, Kosovo, Lithuania, Macedonia, Romania, Slovenia, Ukraine, and the United States. It consisted of three phases: a Combined Arms Live-Fire Exercise (CALFEX) by 3/4 ABCT at GTA from Apr. 18-25; a Command Post Exercise (CPX) by 3/4 ABCT with staff from the Romanian 811th



Infantry Battalion from May 15-17 at GTA; with the exercise then moving to HTA for a two-week combat training center (CTC) rotation.

- The CTC rotation was 3/4 ABCT's first opportunity to lead a multinational task force (TF Iron) of 3,100 ground and aviation forces from seven nations: Albania, Finland, Hungary, Kosovo, Romania, Ukraine, and the U.S.
- Among the highlights from the rotation, TF Iron conducted:
 - 9 consecutive days in an immersive, full-spectrum fight vs. a near-peer threat. The multinational brigade was challenged by a conventional opposition force of equal or greater strength in every domain and warfighting function, including a robust cyber capability, social media, unmanned aircraft, special operating forces, air defense, radars and comprehensive indirect fires.
 - 24 total joint area attacks in nine days, featuring coordinated efforts by front-line tank and mechanized infantry units, reconnaissance and surveillance, indirect artillery fires, helicopter close-air support, unmanned aircraft and special operating forces.
 - 3 days straight defending urban areas in which TF Iron did not allow a single breach
 - 7 objectives seized in 48 hours during a coordinated counter-attack
 - 12 brigade-level command post "jumps," moving the task force headquarters around the battlefield to avoid detection and further demonstrating our mobility goes well beyond our armored maneuver units
 - 7,000 artillery rounds fired, where the brigade emphasized winning the "deep fight" as much as front-line combat

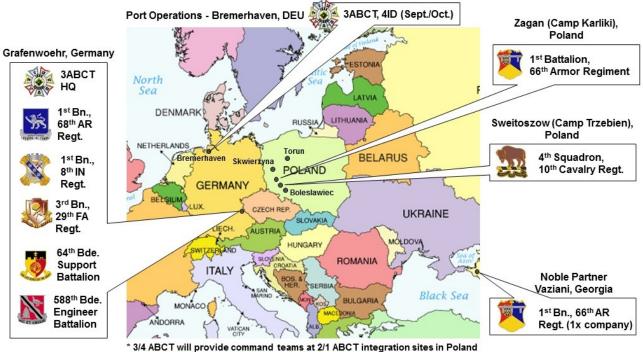
- Destroyed 150 tanks, 200 fighting vehicles, 17 artillery a division's worth of armor – in nine days
- Tank crews demonstrated superb marksmanship and lethality. As examples, one crew recorded a "kill" of an enemy tank from 3,000 meters away; another crew took out 10 tanks in just a couple minutes from their own disabled tank.

<u>3rd ABCT Locations</u>: Beginning in February 2017, the Iron Brigade's seven battalions disbursed across the region from their original integration sites in Poland. Units will continue to move around central and eastern Europe for multinational exercises and to demonstrate the ability to quickly mass and freely move through NATO-supporting states. Current locations are as follows:

- Brigade headquarters; <u>1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment</u>; <u>3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery Regiment</u>; <u>4th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment</u>; <u>588th Brigade Engineer Battalion</u>; and <u>64th Brigade Support Battalion</u> completed the U.S. Army Europe-led **Combined Resolve VIII** multinational exercise at Hohenfels Training Area, Germany, on June 16. These units immediately relocated to the Black Sea Region to participate in USAREUR's **Saber Guardian 17** series of multinational exercises, the largest training event in Europe this year. Following completion of SG17 in late July, these units relocated to the following locations in Germany and Poland:
 - The <u>Brigade headquarters</u>, <u>3-29 Field Artillery</u>, <u>588th BEB</u> and <u>64th BSB</u> rotated back to Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, from Cincu Joint National Training Area, Romania, where it completed **Getica Saber** with the host nation, Armenia, Croatia, Montenegro, Ukraine and other U.S. artillery and aviation units.
 - <u>1-66 Armor (minus one company) has relocated to Zagan (Camp Karliki),</u> Poland, from Romania, after also participating in Getica Saber.
 - <u>4-10 Cavalry</u> has relocated to Swietoszow (Camp Trzebien), Poland, from Varpalota Training Area, Hungary. In Hungary, the Black Jack Squadron joined its Apache Troop, which was already stationed in Hungary, for the multinational exercise **Brave Warrior 17**. BW17 and Getica Saber were part of the USAREUR umbrella of 18 multinational exercises being held in the Black Sea Region as part of Saber Guardian 17.
- <u>1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment</u>, rotated to Grafenwoehr Training Area in late July from Bulgaria, following the completion of two more Saber Guardian 17 exercises, **Eagle Sentinel** and **Peace Sentinel**. The Fighting Eagles Battalion was in the Black Sea Region since February working alongside NATO Allies in Romania and Bulgaria as the combined-arms battalion providing a deterrent presence in support of Atlantic Resolve-South.
- <u>1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment</u>, relocated from the Baltic nations of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania in early June to make way for NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence battle groups. The Silver Lions rotated to Grafenwoehr Training Area,

Germany, to conduct gunnery qualifications in preparation for participation in a live-fire exercise as part of the USAREUR-led multinational exercise **Combined Resolve IX** in August. <u>1-8 Infantry</u> also will participate as a key front-line unit.

- In mid-July, <u>Company B, 1-66 Armor</u>, was transported by sea vessel across the Black Sea to Poti, Georgia. From the port, its equipment moved to Vaziani Training Area to participate in exercise **Noble Partner 17**.
- Starting in September, the Iron Brigade will begin a handover with 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division ("Dagger Brigade"), which will serve as the next ABCT to rotate to Europe as the Regionally Allocated Force for Operation Atlantic Resolve. The 3/4 ABCT units in Germany and Poland will conduct equipment maintenance and final preparation for a return to Fort Carson, Colorado, during this transition period. Port operations will occur at the port of Bremerhaven, Germany.
- The official transfer of authority to 2/1 ABCT is expected in late September. As part of the transition, the Iron Brigade is sending command teams to each of the five integration sites in Poland for the Dagger Brigade Torun, Skwierzyna, Zagan, Sweitoszow and Boleslawiec. The Iron Brigade will ensure a successful handoff with the Dagger Brigade of the Atlantic Resolve mission to ensure that the presence of a U.S. Army ABCT that is "ready to fight" remains continuous.



3/4 ABCT will provide command teams at 2/1 ABCT integration sites in Poland (Torun, Skwierzyna, Zagan, Sweitoszow, Boleslawiec) to assist in transition

U.S. Army Europe Atlantic Resolve Fact Sheet

Armored and Aviation brigade rotations overview

- Nine-month rotations scheduled into the foreseeable future
- Enhances the deterrence capabilities, increases ability to respond to potential crises and defend our allies and partners in the European community
- Remains under U.S. command (not NATO)
- Focuses on strengthening capabilities and sustaining readiness through bilateral and multinational training and exercises

4th Infantry Division, Mission Command Element:

- Based in Poznan, Poland; regionally aligned division headquarters for Europe
- Oversees rotational units, tactical headquarters for U.S. land forces
- Provides U.S. Army Europe a division-level command and control capability

10th Combat Aviation Brigade:

- Began arriving Feb. 12, 2017, from Fort Drum, New York, with approximately 10 Chinooks, 50 Blackhawks and 1,800 Soldiers
- Headquartered in Illesheim, Germany, with forward positioned aircraft in task forces in Latvia, Romania, and Poland
- An aviation battalion from Fort Bliss, Texas, is attached to the 10th CAB task force with approximately 400 Soldiers and 24 Apaches
- Black Sea persistent and continuous presence
- Continued investment in the training and mission command capabilities at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria, and Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, Romania

Army Prepositioned Stock

- Started assembling in September 2016, most of the equipment comes from across the Army, some was once European Activity Set
- Equipment and ammunition required to support armored division-sized force, can also be drawn for training and exercises
- Reduces deployment times, improves deterrence capabilities and provides additional combat power for contingency operations
- Locations: Eygelshoven, Netherlands; Zutendaal, Belgium; Miesau and Dülmen, Germany; and discussions ongoing for a site in Poland

Enhanced Forward Presence

- Separate and distinct from U.S. Army Europe rotational forces
- Will fall under NATO operational control
- Contributes to the alliance's deterrence and defense capabilities
- U.S. is the framework nation for the Poland-based eFP Battle Group
- In April 2017, 2nd Squadron, 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment moved from Vilseck, Germany, to Orzysz, Poland, and includes United Kingdom and Romanian forces

For more information visit <u>www.eur.army.mil/AtlanticResolve</u>

4th Infantry Division & Fort Carson, Colorado, Fact Sheet

4th Infantry Division is a modular division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado. It is composed of four organic infantry and armored brigade combat teams and one combat aviation brigade.

The 4th Infantry Division's official nickname, "Ivy" is a play on words of the Roman numeral IV or 4. Ivy leaves symbolize tenacity and fidelity, which are the basis of the division's motto: "Steadfast and Loyal." The second nickname, "Iron Horse," has been adopted to underscore the speed and power of the division and its soldiers.

Fort Carson is a U.S. Army installation located near Colorado Springs, Colorado. It is located between Pueblo, Colorado (approximately 40 miles to the south) and Denver, Colorado (approximately 75 miles to the north).

Fort Carson is approximately 137,000 acres in size and also includes Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, which is an additional 236,000 acres in size.

Fort Carson contains and cares for more than 26,000 active-duty military, 42,000 family members, 6,300 Army civilians and 47,000 local military retirees. It additionally has five schools located on the installation that provide for the educational needs of more than 3,800 children.

4th Infantry Division History

The 4th Infantry Division is the preeminent team of combat-focused Soldiers, Families, and supporting community members achieving excellence in the support of each other and the Army's mission.

As the Army's only balanced division with the combination of armor, light, and Stryker infantry, the 4th Inf. Div. is the most versatile division in the United States Army providing options to joint force commanders consistent with today's Army Operating Concept.

On December 10, 1917, the same year that America entered World War I, the 4th Division, American Expeditionary Forces, was organized at Camp Greene, North Carolina to begin its long tradition of service to the Nation. Filled with draftees, the 4th Div., whose insignia had been adopted by its first commanding general, Major General George H. Cameron, became known as the "Ivy" Division. Its insignia consisted of four green ivy leaves on a khaki background. The division also derived its numerical designation from the Roman numeral IV; hence the nickname, "Ivy" Division. The division's motto, "Steadfast and Loyal," has described the Iron Horse Soldier for nearly 100 years.

By June 1918, the entire division had arrived in France, and before entering combat in July for the Aisne-Marne Offensive, the 4th fought with distinction across France and

received great praise for their heroic efforts during St. Mariel and the Muese-Argonne campaigns. With the Armistice signed on Nov. 11, the division moved to serve both the French and British sectors as well as all Corps in the American sector and was the first to crack the Hindenburg Line.

The 4th Infantry Division was reactivated in June 1940 and began training immediately for war. Sent to England in January 1944 for amphibious training prior to D-Day, the Ivy Division was first ashore, landing at Utah Beach on June 6, 1944. After a successful landing and breakout from Normandy, the 4th pushed into France and liberated Paris. The division then moved to Luxembourg where the 4th Inf. Div. became the first U.S. Soldiers to breach the Siegfried line and enter Germany. The 4th moved north to face the enemy in the bloody Hurtgen Forest and after weeks of brutal combat returned to Luxembourg for action in the Battle of the Bulge. The 4th Inf. Div. halted the enemy advance in December, gained the offensive and attacked across the Rhine and into eastern Germany during the spring of 1945.

The Fighting Fourth was again called into action in the fall of 1965 and sent to Vietnam. The division was given a large area of the Central Highlands to control and a base camp was soon established at Pleiku. During the next four years, the 4th Inf. Div. engaged the enemy in brutal combat, conducting search and destroy missions and constant patrols to defend their assigned territory. They eliminated enemy incursions moving from the Ho Chi Minh Trail thru Cambodia and Laos. When the division departed Vietnam in late 1970, it had earned 11 campaign streamers and 12 Soldiers had earned the Medal of Honor.

The 4th Inf. Div. returned to combat in 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and would deploy multiple times during the next eight years. After arriving in April 2003, the division established Task Force Iron Horse at Tikrit and engaged the enemy north of Baghdad. In December 2003, the 4th along with special operations forces captured Saddam Hussein. The 4th Inf. Div. Headquarters returned in both 2005 and 2007 to command Multi-National Division-Baghdad and the division's brigade combat teams also made multiple deployments in support of the war. During their service in Iraq, Iron Horse Soldiers would balance aggressive operations to eliminate threats with massive rebuilding projects and sophisticated training programs. The Iron Horse Division deployed, serving as the command for MND-North in support of Operation New Dawn, in 2010.

The Al Qaeda attacks of September 11, 2001 resulted in a swift and unified action to destroy those responsible. The U.S. Army invaded Afghanistan in 2001 to search for and destroy al Qaeda, its sympathizers and its leader Osama Bin Laden. The action became known as Operation Enduring Freedom and focused on eliminating the Taliban organization which supported al Qaeda and practiced domestic terrorism against the people of Afghanistan. As the war evolved U.S. and NATO forces increased in number to also provide necessary security training and infrastructure development for a free and democratic Afghanistan.

The Iron Horse Division cased its colors again, June 24, 2013, symbolizing the beginning of the Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion's one-year deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The division deployed part of its headquarters to support NATO's International Security Assistance Force Regional Command-South in its mission to support and enable Afghanistan's National Security Forces to conduct security operations and create the necessary conditions to promote economic development and governance in the Kandahar, Zabul, Uruzgan and Daykundi provinces.

After returning from their deployment to Regional Command-South, Afghanistan, the 4th Inf. Div. received the Army's Regionally Allocated Forces mission in Europe. Arriving in Europe Feb. 13, 2015, the 4th Inf. Div. Mission Command Element serves as an intermediate headquarters for U.S. Army Europe, operating in support of Atlantic Resolve.

The 4th Inf. Div. headquarters is the first division-level headquarters to deploy to Europe as part of the regionally allocated forces concept. The MCE is a headquarters element tailored to provide mission command for all U.S. ground forces participating in Atlantic Resolve, and oversees continuous, enhanced multinational training and security cooperation activities with allies and partners in Eastern Europe, to include countries of Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Germany.

The 4th Inf. Div. has earned 22 campaign streamers for participation in World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. Since World War I, 21 Soldiers were awarded the nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor. Staff Sgt. Clinton L. Romesha and Staff Sgt. Ty Michael Carter are two recent Soldiers to receive the nation's highest military award for extraordinary gallantry and selfless actions during the Battle of Kamdesh at Combat Outpost Keating, Afghanistan, on Oct. 3, 2009. Capt. Florent A. Groberg was the latest Iron Horse Soldier to receive the Medal of Honor from the President, Nov. 12, 2015.



3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team ("Iron Brigade") History

The 3rd Brigade is celebrating its centennial year of service. It was constituted Nov. 19, 1917, in the Regular Army as Headquarters, 8th Infantry Brigade, as an element of the 4th Infantry Division. It was organized in December 1917 at Camp Greene, N.C. The Brigade has been reorganized and redesignated several times over the years. Finally, on Dec. 15, 1970, it was activated at Fort Carson, Colorado, as 3rd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division.

When the Division Headquarters moved to Fort Hood, Texas, in 1995, the brigade remained at Fort Carson and was redesignated as the 3rd Brigade Combat Team (3rd BCT). In May 2006 the brigade completed its transformation to the Army's modular design.

The brigade has received numerous campaign participation credits, including Aisne-Marne and Meuse-Argonne during World War I; Counteroffensive, Phases II-VI, and Tet Counteroffensive in Vietnam; and Operation Iraqi Freedom I of the War on Terrorism, to name a few. A few of its more prestigious decorations include the Presidential Unit Citation, the Valorous Unit Award, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class.

The 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team is comprised of nearly 4,200 Soldiers including: 4th Squadron, 10th Cavalry Regiment; the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment; the 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment; the 1st Battalion, 68th Armor Regiment; the 3rd Battalion, 29th Field Artillery Regiment; the 588th Brigade Engineer Battalion; and the 64th Brigade Support Battalion.

The 3rd ABCT deployed four times in a span of seven years in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom – from 2003-2004, 2005-2006, 2007-2008 – and later, Operation New Dawn from 2010-2011. In Iraq, the brigade's mission included several key areas: neutralizing the anti-Iraqi forces, building a capable Iraqi Security Force, legitimizing a responsive government, and putting Iraqis in the lead. During the latter half of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the beginning of Operation New Dawn, from March 2010-2011, the 3rd BCT had the mission to serve as an advise-and-assist brigade responsible for advising, training, and assisting Iraqi Security Forces. During that deployment, the brigade provided training and assistance to Iraqi security forces while simultaneously assisting the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT) in helping the Iraqi government rebuild its civil capacity and infrastructure. While there, the brigade fell under the command of the 1st Infantry Division and the 36th Infantry Division in the southern four provinces of Iraq.

Along with its organic elements, the brigade partnered with two Iraqi Army Divisions, 10th IA Division and 14th IA Division; 4th Region DBE with the 9th, 10th, and 14th Brigades; three ports of entry, one each at Safwan, AI Sheeb, and Shalamcheh; one Federal Police Brigade; the Iraqi Highway Police in Dhi Qar Province; and Iraqi police with four separate provincial directors of police. The brigade also partnered with four

PRT, responsible for securing movement, assessing projects and managing commanders' emergency response funds.

The brigade's units worked with their partners diligently, training, mentoring and providing enablers when needed to assist the Iraqis to develop an effective and lethal security force capable of defeating the anti-Iraqi forces and supporting the elected government. The 3rd ABCT returned to Fort Carson in March 2011.

The 3rd ABCT sent more than 300 of its officers and senior noncommissioned officers in April and May 2012 on a nine-month deployment to the southern provinces of Afghanistan to help mentor and train Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). While supporting their deployed leadership, the remaining "Iron Brigade" Soldiers, NCOs and officers continue to train and prepare to maintain combat readiness to fulfill any future mission requirements.

The 3rd ABCT deployed to Kuwait in February 2015 for a nine-month mission under Operation Spartan Shield. OSS is part of a longstanding bilateral defense relationship between the United States and the Persian Gulf region, with the U.S. maintaining a brigade in the region routinely since the first Gulf War in 1991. While deployed, 3rd ABCT conducted security operations as well as multinational and joint exercises aimed at helping to build the capacity of partner nations in the region.



An M1A2 tank crew with 1st Battalion, 66th Armor Regiment, competes in the Strong Europe Tank Challenge at Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, May 8, 2017. The Strong Europe Tank Challenge tested crew capabilities, promoted interoperability, and provided an environment for sharing tactics, techniques and procedures among the six competing nations.

Iron Brigade Vehicles

For additional information, please see http://www.army.mil/factfiles/



M1A2 Abrams – The M1A2 Abrams tank closes with and destroys enemy forces on the integrated battlefield using mobility, firepower, and shock effect. There are three variants in service: M1, M1A1 and M1A2. The 120mm main

gun on the M1A1 and M1A2, combined with the powerful 1,500 hp turbine engine and special armor, make the Abrams tank and its four-man crew particularly suitable for attacking or defending against large concentrations of heavy armor forces on a highly lethal battlefield. The Abrams moves at a maximum speed of 68 kilometers per hour and has a range of 425 kilometers. The M1 also is armed with a 7.62mm M240 coaxial machine gun and .50 caliber M2 machine gun.



M2A3/M3A3 Bradley Fighting Vehicle – The Bradley Fighting Vehicle provides protected transport of an infantry squad on the battlefield and overwatching fires to support the dismounted infantry. It is employed to suppress and defeat enemy tanks, reconnaissance vehicles, infantry fighting vehicles, armored personnel carriers, bunkers,

dismounted infantry and attack helicoptors; and performs cavalry scout and other essential missions in the 21st century, such as the Bradley-equipped fire support and Stinger teams. The infantry version, the M2A3, is used most often to close with the enemy by means of fire and maneuver. The primary tasks performed by the cavalry version, the M3A3, as part of a troop and/or squadron are reconnaissance, security and flank guard missions. The Bradley Fighting Vehicle is equipped by a three-man crew with a 25mm M242 chain gun, TOW anti-tank missile, and 7.62mm M240C machine gun. Its top speed is 65 kilometers per hour with a range of 485 kilometers.



Paladin – The Paladin M109A6 howitzer is the most technologically-advanced self-propelled cannon system in the U.S. Army. The fire-control system is fully automated, providing accurate position location, azimuth reference

and on-board ballistic solutions of fire missions. The Paladin can operate independently – while on the move, it can receive a fire mission, compute firing data, select and take up its firing position, automatically unlock and point its cannon, fire and move out, all with no external technical assistance. Firing the first round from the move in under 60 seconds, a "shoot and scoot" capability protects the four-man crew from counterbattery fire. The Paladin's 155mm M284 cannon, fitted with an M182 gun mount, has a firing range of between 24 km and 30 km. The Paladin achieves a maximum firing rate of up to eight rounds a minute or three rounds in 15 seconds, and a sustained firing rate of one round every three minutes. Highly mobile, the Paladin can move at a speed of up to 56 kilometers per hour



HMMWV (High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle) – A light, highly mobile, diesel-powered, four-wheel-drive vehicle equipped with an automatic transmission. Based on the M998 chassis, using common components and kits, the HMMWV vehicles include 11 variants. All HMMWVs are

designed for use over all types of roads, in all weather conditions and are extremely effective in the most difficult terrain.



Stryker – To fulfill an immediate requirement in the Army's current transformation process to equip a strategically deployable (C-17/C-5) and operationally deployable (C-130) brigade capable of rapid movement anywhere on the globe in a combat ready configuration. The armored wheeled vehicle is designed to enable the Stryker Brigade Combat

Team (SBCT) to maneuver more easily in close and urban terrain while providing protection in open terrain. There are approximately nine variations of the vehicle.



Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT) – Transport capabilities for re-supply of combat vehicles and weapons systems. This vehicle family is rapidly deployable and is designed to operate in any climatic condition where

military operations are expected to occur. The HEMTT is the backbone of U.S. Army logistics. Standard features include front and rear tow eyes, blackout lights, 24-volt electrical system, and rear pintle hook for towing trailers and artillery.



Palletized Load System (PLS) – Perform line haul, local haul, unit resupply, and other missions in the tactical environment to support modernized and highly mobile combat units. Rapid movement of combat configured loads

of ammunition and all classes of supply, shelters and containers.



Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV) – Fills the Army's medium tactical-vehicle requirement for unit mobility and unit resupply, and transportation of equipment and personnel. It is rapidly deployable worldwide and operates

on primary and secondary roads, trails, and cross-country terrain, in all climatic conditions. Commonality of parts across truck chassis variants significantly reduces the logistics burden and operating and support costs.

The **M88 Recovery Vehicle** – The M88 is one of the largest armored recovery vehicles (ARV) currently in use by the U.S. military. There are currently three variants, the *M88*, *M88A1* and *M88A2* HERCULES (Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lifting Extraction System). The design of this vehicle was based on the chassis and parts of the automotive component of the M48 Patton and M60 Patton tanks. The original M88 was introduced in 1961, M88A1 in 1977, with the current M88A2 introduced in 1997.

"Iron Brigade" Weapons

For additional information, please see http://www.army.mil/factfiles/



M-4 Carbine – A compact version of the M16A2 rifle, with a collapsible stock, a flat-top upper receiver accessory rail and a detachable handle/rear aperture site assembly. The M4 enables a soldier operating in close quarters to

engage targets at extended range with accurate, lethal fire.

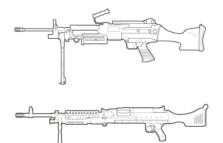


M-9 Pistol – A semi-automatic, single-action / doubleaction pistol. The M9 is the primary sidearm of The U.S. military, replacing the .45 caliber model M1911A1. The M9 has a 15-round staggered magazine with a reversible magazine release button that can be positioned for either right- or left-handed shooters.



M203/M203A1 Grenade Launcher – The M203 grenade launcher is a single-shot weapon designed for use with the M16 series rifle and fires a 40mm grenade. The M203A1 grenade launcher is a single-shot weapon

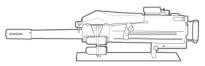
designed for use with the M4 series carbine and also fires a 40mm grenade. Both have a leaf sight and quadrant site. The M203 is also being used as the delivery system for a growing array of less-than-lethal munitions.



M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon – A lightweight, gasoperated, one-man-portable automatic weapon capable of delivering a large volume of effective fire at ranges up to 800 meters. Two M249s are issued per infantry squad.

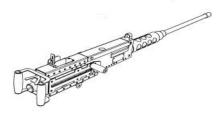
M-240B Machine Gun – This is a ground-mounted, gasoperated, crew-served machine gun. This reliable 7.62mm machine gun delivers more energy to the target

than the smaller caliber M-249 SAW. It is being issued to infantry, armor, combat engineer, special force/rangers, and selected field artillery units that require medium support fires.



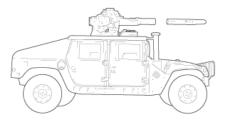
MK19-3 – This is a self-powered, air-cooled, belt-fed, blowback-operated weapon designed to deliver decisive firepower against enemy personnel and lightly armored

vehicles. It replaces the M2 heavy machine guns in selected units and will be the primary suppressive weapon for combat support and combat service support units. The MK19-3 can be mounted on the HMMWV, M113 family of vehicles, 5-ton trucks, and selected M88A1 recovery vehicles.



M-2 .50 Caliber Machine Gun – The M2 is a belt-fed, recoil-operated, air-cooled, crew-served machine gun. The gun is capable of single shot, as well as automatic fire, and operates on the short recoil principle. It can be used to defend against low-flying hostile aircraft, support the infantryman in both attack and defense, destroy lightly armored vehicles, provide protection for

motor movements, vehicle parks and train bivouacs, and reconnaissance by fire on suspected enemy positions.



TOW – The TOW (Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire command-link guided) Missile System consists of a tripod, traversing unit, missile guidance set, launch tube, optical sight, battery assembly and any of five missile variations. The TOW system is mounted on various platforms including the Bradley Fighting Vehicle, the improved TOW vehicle, the Humvee and the AH-1F

Cobra helicopter. In addition, it can be operated in a dismounted ground mode. The TOW is guided to its target merely by the gunner keeping the cross-hairs on the target.



Javelin – The first "fire-and-forget" shoulder-fired antitank missile now fielded to the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps, replacing Dragon. Javelin's unique topattack flight mode, superior self-guiding tracking system and advanced warhead design allows it to defeat all known tanks out to ranges of 2500m.