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USAREUR discusses key issues with senior European leaders

HEIDELBERG, Germany— Forty-nine foreign awardees of the U.S. Legion of Merit met and participated in frank and open discussions with U.S. Army Europe leaders during the 29th Annual Legion of Merit Conference at Patrick Henry Village here Nov. 19.

The conference attendees, senior active and retired officers from Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, and Slovenia, including two 4-star and ten 3-star generals, discussed USAREUR's Theater Security Cooperation activities, the situation in Afghanistan, and USAREUR's mission, operations and transformation. The overarching theme was "Building capacity to enhance trans-Atlantic security."

During the conference, the host, Maj. Gen. Byron S. Bagby, USAREUR Chief of Staff, presented the Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) to French Maj. Gen. (Retired) Jean-Jacques Scellos. Scellos served as the Chief, French Military Mission-NATO in Heidelberg from August 2006 to August 2008.

The purpose of the annual conference is to gain a different perspective on key issues from experienced leaders and to sustain and strengthen our relationships with our allies.

Follow this link for more information about the Legion of Merit. http://www.tioh.hqda.pentagon.mil/Awards/LOM1.html

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About us: The U.S. Army in Europe, with NATO and other coalition partners from throughout its 51-country area of responsibility, trains for, conducts, and supports contingency operations. Headquartered in Heidelberg, Germany, USAREUR has forces throughout Germany as well as in Italy, Belgium, the Netherlands, Bulgaria, and Romania, and in Afghanistan and Iraq.