

# A Day in the Life Of the U.S. Army in Europe: Advancing America's Interests

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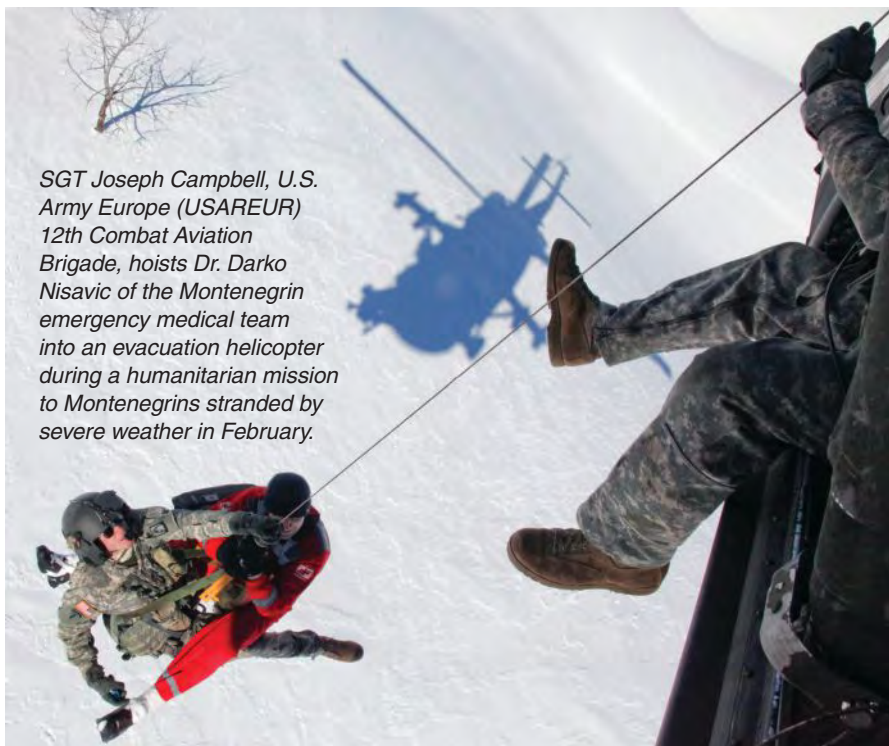
**A**s the sun rises above U.S. Army bases in Germany and Italy, soldiers form up to begin another day moving America's strategic interests forward. Further afield, U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) soldiers start work in forward locations from Norway to Israel, Nigeria to Afghanistan, fighting insurgents, fueling vehicles and manning radars. On any given day, USAREUR soldiers support seven combatant commands (COCOM) across the world as America seeks to prevent conflicts,

shape the global environment with our international partners and win any contemporary fight.

USAREUR's mission is to train, prepare and provide forces globally for unified land operations, but it also has significant



*Paratroopers from (left to right) the U.S. Army, Canada, the United Kingdom, Belarus, Poland and Ukraine participated in Rapid Trident 2011, a multinational exercise in Yavoriv, Ukraine.*



*SGT Joseph Campbell, U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, hoists Dr. Darko Nisavic of the Montenegrin emergency medical team into an evacuation helicopter during a humanitarian mission to Montenegrins stranded by severe weather in February.*

requirements as an Army service component command in a land-centric theater. USAREUR directly supports U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command (AFRICOM) with forces and is executive agent for the European theater's military functions. In this capacity, USAREUR also supports U.S. Central Command, U.S. Special Operations Command, U.S. Transportation Command, U.S. Cyber Command and U.S. Strategic Command while strengthening alliances and improving the quality of life of soldiers, families and the civilian workforce—all in a day's work.

In USAREUR, America's interests are secured by highly capable soldiers and formations operating with European allies. How they fulfill the Army's role and expand our nation's strategic reach on a daily basis is USAREUR's story.

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Trudging through the gravel on the way to his vehicle, the specialist from the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team stares out at the incredible Afghan scenery surrounding his outpost. Briefly thinking of his home station in Italy, he shifts focus to today's NATO observer/mentor/liaison



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team-support mission. Linking up with the NATO team, he notes Hungarian and French uniforms, and it reminds him of his predeployment training in Germany. He remembers those uniforms and the heavily accented English of his European comrades who trained alongside him at the Joint Multinational Training Center (JMTC).

Thousands of miles away in Hohenfels, Germany, an Italian captain on the Grizzly Observer/Controller team conducts an after action review for a Bulgarian infantry company. The Bulgarians, like so many of USAREUR's partners, are preparing to rotate into their nation's 600-man combat force in Afghanistan and are at the JMTC for their pre-mission training. As they listen to the Italian officer explain proper patrol techniques, they look around and see their American, Polish and Slovenian counterparts listening, too.

Across post, JMTC planners are executing the plans for the next Decisive Action Training Exercise, scheduled for October 2012. Featuring combat formations from nine partner nations, the exercise will challenge the 2nd Cavalry Regiment (Stryker) as the leader of a multinational force in a hybrid threat environment.

These examples show how the missions providing globally available combat troops and building partner capacity merge. The specialist in Afghanistan trained with American and multinational troops, many of whom are on his flank in Afghanistan. Today, of more than 45,000 non-U.S. forces in the International Security Assistance Force, more than 43,000, or 95 percent, come from one of USAREUR's 51 theater nations. The specialist benefitted from his multinational experience before deploying, the capacity of his foreign comrades improved, and greater interoperability undoubtedly saved lives and improved mission effectiveness.

**W**hile the fight in Afghanistan continues, USAREUR responds to other crises. In March 2011, the 66th Military Intelligence (MI) Brigade and 19th Battlefield Coordination Detachment (BCD) deployed specialists to support AFRICOM's Libyan contingency: Operation Odyssey Dawn. In an air-dominated campaign, these soldiers formed the core of intelligence and targeting for the force and later continued as the core of the eventual NATO force. Since then, the 66th MI Brigade instituted a program to develop NATO's intelligence processes, and the 19th BCD continues to contribute to developing NATO's airspace control doctrine, along with myriad other missions.

USAREUR's 5th Signal Command is addressing global cyber challenges while providing the backbone for strategic communications between deployed forces and the

United States. Having designed the U.S. Army's model for the Joint Enterprise Network, part of the Secretary of Defense's Joint Information Environment, the "5th SIG" is America's cutting-edge cyber warfare force.

Already partnered with multinational experts, 5th SIG's cyber initiatives include expanding simulated cyber threats during U.S. and multinational training exercises and changing attitudes towards cyber warfare from a parochial signal community function to an operational reality. The corresponding increase in American and partner-cyber capability is essential to America's strategic future.

Building partner capacity isn't limited to tactical and operational processes. After 70 years of operating with European allies, USAREUR understands quality leadership is just as important. As evidenced by the multinational support in Afghanistan, USAREUR continues helping its most reliable partners simultaneously achieve improved competency while reassuring them of America's commitment.

In Posnan, Poland, a staff sergeant from USAREUR's JMTC graduates from the Polish Warrior Leader's Course. The first American to attend, this NCO represents 12 years of developing an NCO education system with one of our strongest military partners. Through cooperation with USAREUR, Poland established one of Europe's best NCO education systems; now we share in their success. The dramatic increase in Poland's leadership capacity demonstrates the power of sharing America's bounty of military experience with others.

Beyond training with allies and building partner NCO Corps, USAREUR contributes to the success and capabilities of senior leaders throughout the theater. In July, USAREUR conducted the first-ever Combined Force Land Component Commander Course outside of Carlisle, Pa., with the major-

ity of participants coming from allies. This seminal event—when senior colonels and brigadier generals from 19 European nations were joined by one U.S. Air Force and two U.S. Army generals in Grafenwoehr—contributes to the Mission Command capability of future coalition forces.

America's strategy goes beyond winning today and tomorrow; it prioritizes deterrence and sustaining the strategic access that supports tomorrow's contingencies. Two USAREUR units—the 21st Theater Sustainment Command (TSC) and the 10th Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC)—are vital to deterrence and ensuring strategic access.

Through its missile defense policy, America works closely with European partners to deter and potentially defeat regional ballistic missile threats. The 10th AAMDC



*Clockwise from above, V Corp's mission rehearsal exercise, Exercise Unified Endeavor 12-2, is under way at the JMTC's Grafenwoehr (Germany) Training Area. A U.S. observer controller with 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team confers with his Polish counterpart during the allies' engagement with opposing forces at USAREUR's Joint Multinational Training Command's (JMTC) Full Spectrum Training Environment in Germany. PFC Dewey So of USAREUR's 172nd Infantry Brigade endures winter storm blasts in Paktika Province, Afghanistan, in January.*





*SSG Tomasz Bartoszyn (right) stands at attention beside Csm. Andrzej Wojtusik of the Polish Land Forces during a graduation ceremony at the Polish Land Forces NCO Academy in Poznan, Poland, last December. SSG Bartoszyn is the first U.S. soldier to graduate from the Polish NCO Academy.*

spans the breadth of missile defense from Patriot systems deployed to Poland to operating Europe's Missile Defense command and control from Israel to Norway.

On a remote mountaintop in Turkey, a young private from Georgia wakes up to start her shift as a generator mechanic. On her first overseas deployment, this soldier maintains a 10th AAMDC radar installation, protecting American interests from ballistic missile threats. Struggling through the thick blanket of snow and sheltering her face from the wind, she tends to her business, proud to be a vital part of the President's directive to get this radar site into operation—quickly!

A few hundred miles north in Romania, a young sergeant from the 21st TSC walks through the cargo bay of a C-17, passing carefully assembled equipment pallets secured for the trip forward to Afghanistan. Mihail Kogălniceanu Airfield, known as M-K, is operated by the 21st TSC and is the most critical link in America's Northern Distribution Network to Afghanistan. Currently sustaining operations in Afghanistan, the airfield is America's most reliable strategic access point for movement in and out of Eurasia and the Middle East.

Like the rest of USAREUR, the 21st TSC is strategically placed. Soldiers of this organization are an ocean closer to Africa, the Middle East and flashpoints in Europe, and like USAREUR, this unit is positioned to use the infrastructure to launch materiel and forces by air and land across multiple COCOMs. As our young soldiers work in Turkey and Romania, their comrades from the 21st TSC provide military police support to U.S. Special Operations Com-

mand in Africa, deliver official mail to U.S. embassies in Berlin and Ankara, and provide disaster relief in Montenegro. The 21st TSC's 15,000 personnel work every day within three separate combatant commands, enabling America's operations in multiple countries.

Enabling the theater's critical lift capability is the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, whose forces are spread from their home station in Ansbach, Germany, to bases across Afghanistan. Pilots who recently delivered humanitarian aid to villages tucked into southern Europe's most rugged mountains in Montenegro, Kosovo and Croatia likened their experiences and the terrain to what they are now facing during their current deployments to Afghanistan. During humanitarian relief operations and operational reinforcement to the Balkans and the Caucasus, a more critical similarity with the Afghan operations emerged: the hope and gratitude on the faces of those visited by America's benevolence and our Army's professional soldiers.

USAREUR's story goes far deeper than the vignettes used here to depict its immense mission. As the haunting notes of Taps ring out from Baumholder to Vicenza, and as the sun sets on USAREUR soldiers in Afghanistan, Malawi and Israel, American security interests have been advanced, one soldier at a time. USAREUR—the U.S. Army's forward strategic force—is shaping tomorrow's global coalitions, preventing future conflicts through presence and actions, and preparing to win those future conflicts by sustaining America's strategic access to the world. ★



*U.S. Army New Jersey National Guard and Albanian soldiers assess the terrain during medical evacuation training of the NATO International Security Assistance Force Observer/Mentor/Liaison team at the Joint Multinational Training Center in Hohenfels, Germany.*