

## Active Component Division and Brigade Combat Team Stationing and Flagging Designations

I think that you will see—albeit a complex set of chess moves in a way—you will see that these restationing decisions truly **ensure that our Soldiers and their families remain at the center of all that we do** [emphasis added], especially from the point of view of reducing stress on the force . . . and making more predictable force rotation and permanent changes of station for our families.

Raymond F. DuBois  
Special Assistant to the Secretary of the Army  
Pentagon Press Briefing, 27 July 2005

### INTRODUCTION

On 27 July 2005 the United States Army announced the stationing and flagging designation plan for the active component divisions and brigade combat teams (BCTs). The new posture brings the Army from a Cold War footprint to a new presence that is better suited to the 21st century security environment. This plan ties directly into the Army's three major transformational processes: the Army Modular Force Initiative, the Integrated Global Presence and Basing Strategy (IGPBS) and the 2005 round of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC).



Modularity is the move to a brigade-centric structure; the stationing plan describes where the divisions and BCTs will be stationed and how they will be designated.

The plan also defines where the 50,000 Soldiers returning from Europe and Asia (as part of IGPBS) will be positioned in the continental United States (CONUS). This plan is complementary to the Department of Defense's recommendations to the BRAC Commission in May 2005. In the absence of BRAC, the Army would have still positioned the divisions and BCTs in the same fashion.

### THE ARMY AS A MODULAR FORCE

The stationing plan lays out the footprint of the 21st century Army Modular Force, a larger, more flexible, more powerful and more rapidly deployable force built around the brigade combat team. A BCT is a stand-alone, self-sufficient and standardized tactical force of between 3,500 and 4,000 Soldiers who are organized the way they fight. The number of Soldiers in a BCT depends on the brigade type (Infantry, Heavy or Stryker). Each

BCT can serve as an interchangeable part to be combined with other BCTs or elements of the Joint Force. There will eventually be an increase from 33 to at least 43 (and possibly 48) BCTs in the active component and 77 to 82 overall in the force.

The Army's Modular Force increases the combat power of the active component by 30 percent and the overall pool of warfighting forces by 60 percent. The new design will help the Army transform into a campaign-quality force with joint and expeditionary capabilities. Not only is modularity a major step forward for the Army, it adds stability to the lives of Soldiers and their families thanks to longer dwell times at home station.

*more . . .*



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## Active Brigade Combat Teams Posture

- Fort Benning, Georgia – 1 Brigade Combat Team
- Fort Bliss, Texas – 4 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Bragg, North Carolina – 4 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Campbell, Kentucky – 4 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Carson, Colorado – 4 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Drum, New York – 3 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Hood, Texas – 5 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Irwin, California (NTC) – 1 Brigade Combat Team
- Fort Knox, Kentucky – 1 Brigade Combat Team
- Fort Lewis, Washington – 3 Brigade Combat Teams (Stryker)
- Fort Polk, Louisiana (JRTC) – 1 Brigade Combat Team
- Fort Richardson, Alaska – 1 Brigade Combat Team
- Fort Riley, Kansas – 3 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Stewart, Georgia – 3 Brigade Combat Teams
- Fort Wainwright, Alaska – 1 Brigade Combat Team (Stryker)
- Schofield Barracks, Hawaii – 2 Brigade Combat Teams (Stryker)
- Germany – 1 Brigade Combat Team (Stryker)
- Italy – 1 Brigade Combat Team
- Korea – 1 Brigade Combat Team

## Installation Realignment in Germany

The Army plans to return the following installations to the host nation in FY 2007, after the FY 2006 unit actions are complete:

- Harvey Barracks, Kitzingen
- Kitzingen Family Housing
- Kitzingen Training Area
- Larson Ba racks, Kitzingen
- Schwanberg Defense Communications System Site, Kitzingen
- Faulenberg Kaserne, Wuerzburg
- Wuerzburg Training Areas
- Giebelstadt A my Airfield
- Giebelstadt Dependent Youth Activities Camp
- Giebelstadt Tactical Defense Facility
- Breitsol Communications Station, Wuerzburg

In addition, the Army will retain the following facilities until they are no longer needed and eventually return them at a date to be determined:

- Leighton Barracks, Wuerzburg
- Wuerzburg Hospital, Wuerzburg

The Army Modular Force Initiative is the Army's most important transformational initiative for one reason: it involves the total redesign of the Operational Army into a standardized, stand-alone, larger, more powerful, more flexible and more rapidly deployable force that will enable the Army to change the way it fights and the way it operates.

Dr. Francis J. Harvey, Secretary of the Army  
General Membership Meeting  
AUSA Central Texas-Fort Hood Chapter  
21 June 2005

## STATIONING AND FLAGGING DESIGNATIONS

The locations of divisions and BCTs were based on existing and potential capacities, available training space, and current locations of similar and supporting units. The BCTs follow division and brigade naming conventions; the Army is doing its best to preserve its historic heraldry and lineage in this plan.

The two major recommendations include the return of the 1st Infantry Division (IID) to Fort Riley, Kansas, and the relocation of the 1st Armored Division (IAD) to Fort Bliss, Texas. Some 20,000 Soldiers will be arriving at Fort Bliss (two brigades from Germany, one from Fort Riley and one new BCT). Fort Riley will be home to three of the IID's four BCTs, an increase for the post of 9,400 Soldiers; the IID's 4th Brigade will reside at Fort Knox, Kentucky. The IID will return in Fiscal Year (FY) 2006;



the return date for the IAD is still under review. In Europe and Asia, U.S. Army presence will be much reduced, with one BCT each remaining in Italy, Germany and Korea.

The Department of Defense will return 11 Army bases to Germany in FY 2007. Two other bases are identified for return to Germany in the following years. These installation returns are scheduled as part of plans for the IID headquarters' return to the United States with its divisional flag in the summer of 2006. Additionally, the IID's subordinate units, as well as selected

V Corps and U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) units, will return to the United States, inactivate entirely, convert or be reassigned in Europe to support Army transformation in FY 2006.

This plan includes restationing, reflagging and repatching. Some formations will be reflagged, as the Army tries to maintain the unit heraldry and lineage of some of its most famous combat formations. Some formations will be restationed as they leave Iraq, including the 2d Brigade of the 2d Infantry Division, which will not be returning to Korea. Some Soldiers will leave one installation, become part of a different unit and consequently change the unit patches on their left arms. **This stationing and flagging plan attempts to achieve unit integrity by locating the headquarters and BCTs of a respective division at the same post.** The plan also distributes a balanced mix of BCT variants (Infantry, Heavy and Stryker) around the world.

## IMPLICATIONS FOR THE SOLDIER AND THE ARMY

BCTs are more strategically responsive across the entire range of military operations required by the 21st century security environment. Furthermore, because of standardization, a Heavy brigade of, for example, the 3d Infantry Division will be exactly the same as any other Heavy brigade, thus aiding in planning, logistics and maintenance for operational readiness. The Infantry, Heavy and Stryker types of BCTs are a bridge to the future—the Future Combat Systems-equipped BCT.

Modularity creates cohesive units with improved training environments and more predictable deployment rotations. These interchangeable parts allow BCTs of different divisions to be deployed together, thus reducing stress on the infrastructure and enhancing the readiness, training and preparation processes. This plan situates BCTs close to transportation infrastructure, increases access to national training centers and allows for enhanced teaming with the Army National Guard. Stabilization and predictability improve quality of life for Army families (to include employment opportunities for spouses) by allowing them to remain at the same installation for four to five years.

These restationing and reflagging designations for the divisions and BCTs will position them to meet the threats of the 21st century and help the Army to fulfill its promise of "attaining a quality of life for Soldiers and their families that matches the quality of their service." Army transformation revolves around the modular BCT, and this plan articulates how the BCTs will be arranged and where they will be based. **As the Army is increased in size by 30,000 and brings more than 50,000 Soldiers and their families home from Europe and the Pacific, it is executing a well thought-out, synchronized and phased basing plan that has the well-being of Soldiers and their families as a top priority as well as posturing itself to better support its strategic commitments, including ongoing operations in support of the Global War on Terrorism.**

More information on the BCT stationing and flagging designations and a printer-friendly map are available online at [www.army.mil/modularforces/](http://www.army.mil/modularforces/).