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# TRAINING JOURNAL

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF TRAINING EXCELLENCE

THE GRAFENWOEHR  
100 YEAR LEGACY  
OF BIODIVERSITY

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GRAFENWOEHR:  
THEN, NOW AND  
IN THE FUTURE

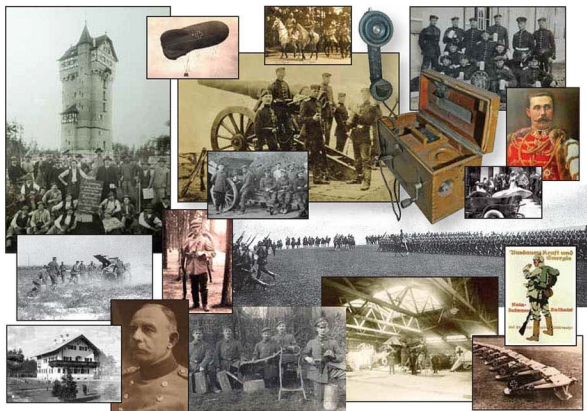
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**A Visual History of the  
GRAFENWOEHR TRAINING AREA  
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A VISUAL HISTORY  
OF THE GRAFENWOEHR  
TRAINING AREA  
WITH AN INTRODUCTION  
BY COL. CHRIS SOBEL,  
COMMANDER, U.S. ARMY  
GARRISON GRAFENWOEHR

GRAFENWOEHR  
FROM 1966 TO 2010;  
A GERMAN CIVILIAN'S  
PERSPECTIVE  
BY DANIEL MAKLE,  
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| 1910  | 1911  | 1912   | 1913  | 1914  | 1915  | 1916   | 1917   | 1918  | 1919  |
|---|---|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>Grafenwoehr's first Commander, General Oskar Menzel arrives at the new training area. General Menzel begins the first of many internal improvements and lays-out ranges and fields of fire for testing artillery and areas for infantry maneuvers.</p> <p>Establishment of the Bavarian Military Forest Office at Grafenwoehr.</p> <p>The iconic Grafenwoehr water tower is completed.</p> | <p>By January 1911, more than 10,000 Bavarian soldiers are training at the GTA.</p> <p>The typical Bavarian Infantry Soldier was 18 years old, literate, and from a long tradition of military service.</p> <p>He wore a heavy grey jacket, and wood pants, utility and arming belt and leather boots. Around his neck, he wore a signal flashlight, which was considered a "modern" addition to his kit.</p> <p>His pointed helmet is an allied propaganda icon by the end of World War I.</p> | <p>Bavarian Army Headquarters, based in Munich authorizes training with a new and modern weapon, the machine gun.</p> <p>Other "modern" weapons introduced at the training area during this time are Ballistons and C-type biplanes to assist with observation and fire-direction.</p> | <p>By 1913, the Grafenwoehr airfield, named Airfield "Hammernmünd" is a fully operational facility for the new science of military aeronautics.</p> <p>April - Grafenwoehr hosts one of the largest military exercises prior to World War I, with more than 12,000 soldiers, 540 officers, 1,000 horses, 60 machine guns and 16 aircraft taking part.</p> | <p>June - Archduke Ferdinand of Austria is murdered by an assassin in Sarajevo. Within weeks, all European powers begin mobilization.</p> <p>July - World War I begins.</p> <p>Grafenwoehr becomes a major Prisoner of War (POW) camp.</p> <p>The prisoners create an enduring legacy. They establish a military cemetery for soldiers of all nations at Grafenwoehr.</p> | <p>In early 1915 a second general officer, General Ferdinand Hocheder is assigned to the training area as Commander of POWs. The POW population at Grafenwoehr, by the end of 1915, is more than 15,000 men.</p> <p>Hocheder is a conscientious and honorable warden.</p> <p>The prisoners at Grafenwoehr were healthy, active and productive. The POWs built places of worship, created sculptures and drawings, staged theatricals, formed concert bands and even established their own bakery.</p> | <p>January - Trench warfare leads to stalemate and carnage as the Allies - Great Britain, France, Russia and the Central Powers - Germany, the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires incur huge casualties everyday with no advantage for the attacker.</p> <p>June - General John J. Pershing and the first troops of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) arrive in France. In September AEF soldiers are assigned to the trenches; the tide turns in favor of the Allies as AEF troops attack along the western front. It would take 28 years and another world war before U.S. forces would finally arrive at the gates of Grafenwoehr.</p> | <p>April - The U.S. Declares war on Germany.</p> <p>June - General John J. Pershing and the first troops of the American Expeditionary Force (AEF) arrive in France. In September AEF soldiers are assigned to the trenches; the tide turns in favor of the Allies as AEF troops attack along the western front. It would take 28 years and another world war before U.S. forces would finally arrive at the gates of Grafenwoehr.</p> | <p>April - The POW camp at the training area is closed. During the war the training area detained soldiers of all Allied nations, but larger numbers of French, Russians and Romanians.</p> <p>May thru October - WWI brought uncertainty, civil unrest, and revolution in Germany.</p> <p>The Kaiser abdicates.</p> <p>In November a Republic is proclaimed in Berlin. On November 11 an Armistice is signed in Compiegne, France, and a ceasefire is declared, effectively ending the war.</p> <p>The Grafenwoehr Training Area is converted into a demobilization point.</p> | <p>June - The Treaty of Versailles limits the German army to 100,000 men and officers. Because of drastic military cuts in spending the existence and future of the Grafenwoehr Training Area falls into speculation.</p> <p>The total Allied casualties by the end of the war top 22 million, or 52 percent of all soldiers mobilized.</p> <p>The Central Powers - Germany and Austria - fighting on two fronts east and west, sustained more than 37 million casualties, about 66 percent of all forces mobilized. Later, all combatant soldiers of the war would come to be known cumulatively thereafter and forever, as "The Lost Generation."</p> |

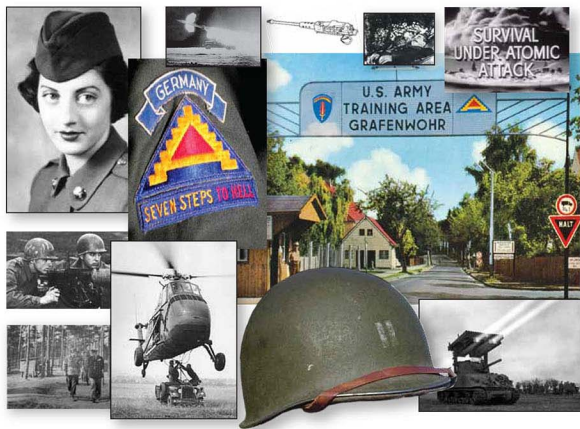








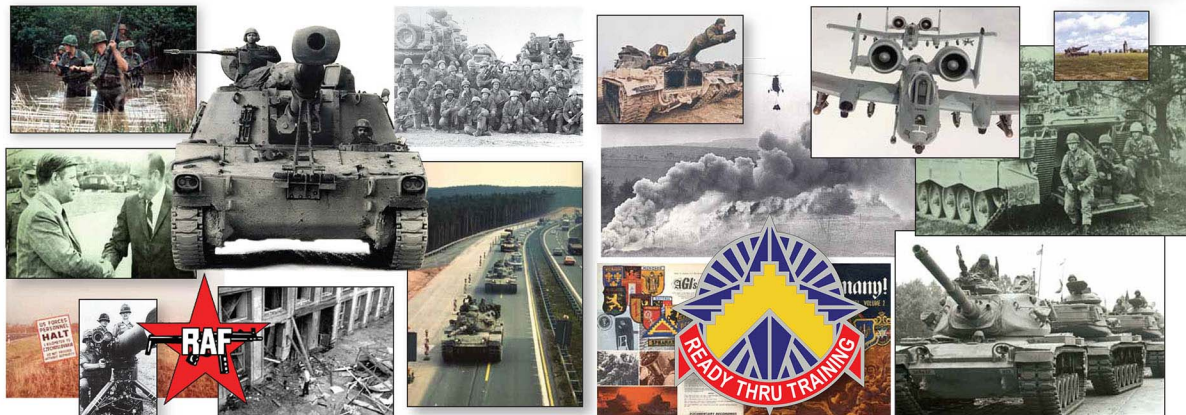
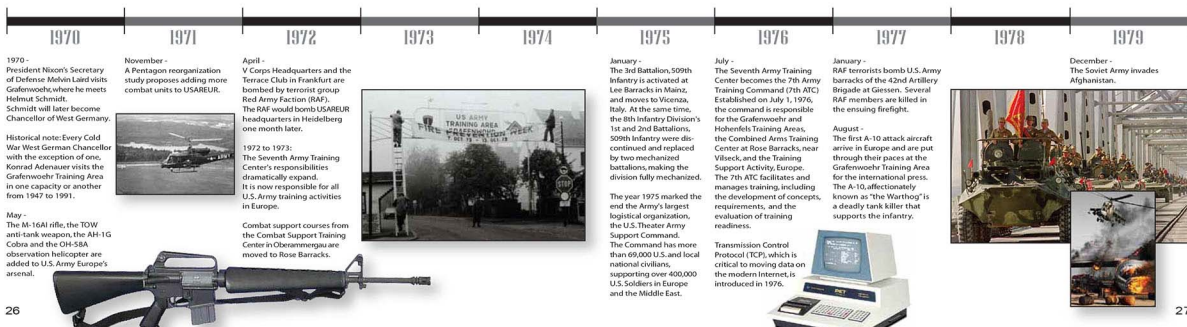




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| 1950  | 1951  | 1952 | 1953   | 1954   | 1955   | 1956   | 1957   | 1958  | 1959   |
|---|---|------|--|--|--|--|--|---|--|
| <p><b>May</b> - General Dwight D. Eisenhower visits the GTA in his final weeks as NATO Commander.</p> <p>One month later, he returns to the U.S. to campaign for President.</p> <p><b>June</b> - The Korean War begins as Communist forces invade South Korea.</p> <p><b>November</b> - The U.S. Seventh Army, deactivated in 1947, is reactivated.</p> | <p><b>January</b> - V and VII Corps arrive in Europe and are assigned to Seventh Army.</p> <p>From 1950 to 1953 large construction projects change the face of the Training Area. The Barracks "Tunisia," "Cheb," "Kaserne," and Camps Aachen, Algers and Normandy are added. These facilities combined are capable of housing more than 42,000 troops.</p> <p>Developed in the early 1950s, the Honest John Rocket, the first U.S. battlefield close-support nuclear weapon was fired with weighed dummy warheads.</p> |      | <p><b>March</b> - U.S. General Secretary and Premier Joseph Stalin dies.</p> | <p><b>January</b> - U.S. Soldiers at the GTA are regularly shown government training films at the local movie theater throughout the Cold War years.</p> | <p><b>May</b> - The Soviet Union creates The Warsaw Pact, a military-treaty organization of eight nations initiated and sponsored by the Soviets. It is the Communist bloc counter to NATO.</p> <p><b>November</b> - The German Bundeswehr is officially established. West Germany joins NATO.</p> | <p><b>July</b> - West Germany introduces conscription, and activates the Bundeswehr (German Armed Forces).</p> <p>One month later, the first German Bundeswehr soldiers arrive and are billeted at Camp Normandy at GTA.</p> <p>Although early plans for the Bundeswehr called for separate bases, the U.S. establishes a co-use agreement for Camps Alger and Normandy for joint training and maneuvers.</p> <p><b>October</b> - The Soviet Union invades Hungary occupying the capital, Budapest, following Hungary's decision to withdraw from the Warsaw Pact. Hungarian resistance is crushed by Soviet troops and tanks.</p> | <p><b>January</b> - U.S. Forces across central Europe, including those stationed in France, are using the Grafenwohr Training Area by this time.</p> <p><b>August</b> - Bundeswehr tanks and soldiers take to the Grafenwohr Ranges.</p> | <p><b>November</b> - Pres. Elvis Presley, the King of Rock &amp; Roll, visits Grafenwohr for six weeks of winter training with his unit.</p> <p>1958 through 1959 - A newly remodeled Grafenwohr Post becomes the headquarters of the Seventh Army Training Center.</p> <p>In addition to the Grafenwohr Training Area, the Hohenfels Training Area is consolidated under the command.</p> <p>The Seventh Army Training Center becomes the largest training complex in Germany.</p> <p>Rose Barracks becomes the home of the Seventh Army Combined Arms School.</p> | <p><b>January</b> - U.S. Soldiers at the GTA are regularly shown government training films at the local movie theater throughout the Cold War years.</p> |











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| 1980   | 1981  | 1982  | 1983  | 1984   | 1985   | 1986  | 1987  | 1988   | 1989   |
|--|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|--|--|
| <p>November - Operation "Real Train" begins at the Hohenfels Training Area. Participating M60A3 Tanks are the most advanced of the M60 series, but are later replaced by the M1 Abrams in 1984.</p>  | <p>From 1981 to 1983, the U.S. Army extends and enlarges Rose Barracks, the southern tip of the Grafenwoehr Training Area. The total cost of renovations and enlargement exceeds one billion U.S. dollars.</p> <p>September - The Red Army faction (RAF) carry out an unsuccessful rocket propelled grenade attack against the car carrying the U.S. Army's West German Commander Frederick J. Kroesen in Heidelberg.</p>  | <p>From the July 1982 Spearhead magazine: "An eight-inch howitzer from the 1st Bn., 40th Field Artillery fires from underneath its camo at the Grafenwoehr Training Area before rumbling down the range road to another firing point."</p>  | <p>First M270 and M270 Multiple Launch Rocket System is fired at Grafenwoehr.</p> <p>The M270 is a mobile unit, well-suited for the shoot-and-scoot tactic. It can fire its rockets rapidly, and quickly move away to avoid returning counter-battery fire.</p>  | <p>1984 - 1985: The first M1A1 Tanks arrive for trials at Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels.</p>  | <p>August - Major upgrades are completed at Grafenwoehr facilities, and the ranges are renumbered.</p> <p>SIMNET, a wide area network with vehicle simulators and displays for real-time distributed combat simulation is released for testing in 1985, by the Defense Advanced Research Projects Agency.</p> <p>SIMNET is subsequently fielded in 1987 and was used for training until successor programs came online in the 1990s.</p>  | <p>April - The nuclear reactor at Chernobyl in the Soviet Union melts-down and explodes releasing a cloud of radioactivity into the atmosphere over eastern Europe and Scandinavia.</p>  | <p>July - Soviet Forces withdraw from Afghanistan. Civil war erupts among tribesmen and multiple rival factions seeking control of the country.</p>  | <p>The Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTC) is activated at Hohenfels. The CMTC mission is to provide realistic combined arms training for U.S. Army Europe, and Seventh Army's maneuver battalion task forces in force-on-force exercises.</p> <p>The USAREUR Soldier in the mid 1980s was many things. More than any other institution, the Army had become America's great melting pot. As a member of an all-volunteer Army the Soldiers assigned to U.S. Army Europe experienced cohesion, teamwork and esprit de corps in picturesque Europe, and by 1987 the Army's recruitment slogan, "Be All You Can Be" was an open invitation to talent from every part of the country, and to individuals from every social or ethnic background.</p> | <p>November - Freedom Prevails: After weeks of civil unrest East German government announces its citizens will be allowed to visit West Berlin, causing a flood of East Germans to the west, and bringing about the fall of the Berlin Wall, more than a quarter century after it was erected.</p>  |


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| 1990   | 1991  | 1992  | 1993  | 1994  | 1995  | 1996   | 1997   | 1998  | 1999  |
|--|---|---|---|---|---|--|--|---|---|
| <p>January - Communist governments fall in Bulgaria, Czechoslovakia, and Romania, signalling the end of the Soviet empire in Europe. Latvia and Estonia declare independence five months later.</p> <p>January - "Centurion Shield," the last REFORGER is hosted 60 miles west of Grafenwohr.</p> <p>August - Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait. The U.S. responds with Operation Desert Shield. Seventh Army Training Command begins training units for deployment. VII Corps deploys to the region in Nov. where it plays a key role in the "100 Hour War" that liberates Kuwait in February 1991.</p> | <p>February - Operation Desert Storm begins. In one week, the U.S. led coalition pushes Iraqi forces out of Kuwait and across the border into Iraq, where the coalition halts 150 miles south of Baghdad.</p> <p>June - Yugoslavia begins to break apart. The Dayton Accords end the ethnic war, five years later, in December 1995.</p> <p>August - The Seventh U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy relocates and becomes a tenant unit of the GTA.</p> <p>December - Soviet Premier Gorbachev announces the break-up of the Soviet Union.</p> | <p>U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) begins reducing forces in Germany, closing facilities and communities.</p> <p>Area Support Teams in Amberg and Birlbach are closed as part of the USAREUR-wide draw down.</p> | <p>July - NATO's Allied Land Forces Central Europe becomes operational at U.S. Army Europe's headquarters in Heidelberg with a staff of seven nations: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Kingdom and the United States. The troops of these armies become regular fixtures on the on GTA ranges in years to come.</p> <p>September - In an unusual statistical milestone, for the first time in U.S. history, Army retirees out-number active-duty personnel because of radical downsizing of the U.S. Army.</p> | <p>April - The 263rd Base Support Battalion inactivates and returned to the German government.</p> <p>October - 7th Army Training Center hosts the largest, most technologically complex, joint and combined computer-assisted training exercise in the U.S. Army to date, ATLANTIC RESOLVE 94, which replaces the annual REFORGER exercises.</p> | <p>October - The Nuremberg AST at Merrill Barracks is closed and returned to the German government.</p> <p>December - To enforce a peaceful resolution to the on-going conflict in the Balkans, 20,000 American soldiers deploy to Bosnia for Operation Joint Endeavor. In the first three months, the U.S. Air Force flies 3,000 missions, more than 15,000 troops, and delivers more than 30,100 tons of cargo. Many of the combat and support elements are trained, then airlifted from the GTA directly to the Balkans.</p> | <p>January - 7th ATC participates in Task Force Eagle peace support certification operations prior to their departure for the Operation Joint Endeavor.</p> <p>June - NATO deploys Kosovo Force (KFOR) to promote stability in the Balkans. USAREUR Task Force Falcon deploys as the main element of the Multinational Brigade.</p> <p>September - After years of civil war Kabul and Afghanistan fall to the Taliban.</p> | <p>1997 - 2000: The draw-down forces the closure of many USAREUR bases in Germany. With few exceptions the bases are turned over to the German government.</p> <p>Planning begins for the construction of a Multi-Purpose Range Complex at the Grafenwohr Training Area.</p> | <p>March - Operation Allied Force, NATO combat operations against Serbia, commence. USAREUR deploys Task Force Hawk to Albania in support of the operation.</p> <p>May - The GTA Range 117 modernization and expansion project is completed to meet the new gunnery requirements of the M1A2 Tank.</p> <p>Likewise, Range 204 is completed to meet the standards of the Operation Desert Storm Bradley Fighting Vehicle.</p> <p>Fielding of the new M109A6 Paladin Howitzer and German Howitzer 2000 results in new procedures and firing areas to allow realistic training with new artillery systems.</p> | <p>March - Operation Allied Force, NATO combat operations against Serbia, commence. USAREUR deploys Task Force Hawk to Albania in support of the operation.</p> <p>May - The GTA Range 117 modernization and expansion project is completed to meet the new gunnery requirements of the M1A2 Tank.</p> <p>Likewise, Range 204 is completed to meet the standards of the Operation Desert Storm Bradley Fighting Vehicle.</p> <p>Fielding of the new M109A6 Paladin Howitzer and German Howitzer 2000 results in new procedures and firing areas to allow realistic training with new artillery systems.</p> |




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