







The POW camp at the training

1910

Grafenwoehr's first Commander. By January 1911, more than General Orkar Monael arriver 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 tradition of military service. maneuvers.

Establishment of the Bayarian Military Forest Office at Grafenwoehr.

The iconic Grafenumehr water tower is completed.

On June 30th the first artillery shell Field Howitzer.

is fired at the GTA from a 150 mm

10 000 Bayarian soldiers are training at the GTA.

The typical Bayarian Infantry Soldier was 18 years old literate, and from a long

He wore a heavy grey jacket, and wool pants utility and ammo belt and leather boots Around his neck, he wore a signal flashlight, which was considered a "modern" addition to his kit

His pointed belief is an allied propaganda icon by the end of World War I.

Bayarian Army Headquarters.

based in Munich authorizes training with a new and modern weapon, the machine gun. Other modern weapons

introduced at the training area, during this time are Balloons and C-type biplanes to assist with observation and fire-direction



1913 By 1913, the Grafenwoehr airfield named 'Airfield

Hammergmuend' is a fully operational facility for the new science of military aeronautics

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.



1914

Archduke Ferdinand of Austria is murdered by an assassin in Sarajevo. Within weeks all European powers begin mobilization.

World War I begins.

Grafenwoehr heromes a major Prisoner of War (POW) camp.

The prisoners create an enduring legacy. They establish a military cemetery for soldiers of all nations at Grafenwoehr.

1915

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. Hocheder is a conscientious and honourable

their own bakery.

warden. The prisoners at Grafen-

woody were bealthy active and productive. The POWs built places of worship, created sculptures and drawings staged theatricals formed concert bands and even established

1916

Trench warfare leads to stalemate and carnage as the Allies - Great Britain, France, Russia, and the Central Provers Germany, the Austro-Hungarian and Ottoman Empires incur huge casualties everyday with no advantage for the attacker



1917

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

The U.S. Declares war on

Germany. area is closed. During the war the training area detained soldiers of all Allied nations but larger numbers of French Russians and Romanians. May thru October -

WWI brought uncertainty. civil unrest, and revolution in Germany. The Kaiser abdicates. In November a Republic

April -

is proclaimed in Berlin. On November 11 an Armistice is signed in Compiegne, France, and a ceasefire is declared, effectively ending the war.

The Grafenwoehr Training Area is converted into a demobilization point.

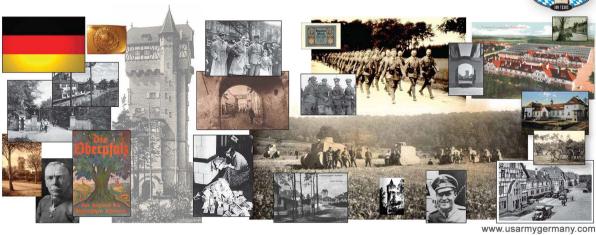
1919 The Treaty of Versailles limits the German army to 100,000 men

and officers. Because of drastic military cuts in spending the evistence and future of the Grafenwoehr Training Area falls into speculation.

The total Allied casualties by the end of the war too 22 million. or 52 percent of all soldiers mobilized.

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 "





1920 Following the German defeat in World War I, and the harsh

terms imposed by the Allies,

the Grafenwoehr Training Area

In fact, so many soldiers left

Grafenwoehr, the local city

government used empty

In spring, a dynamic new

officer taker command of

General Hans von Seeckt.

ther German National Army

He introduces a new sense of

camaraderie in the German

ranks, and begins to train the

army on the lessons-learned

from World War I and promotes

new thinking and new tactics.

to rebuilding the German army.

He sees Grafenwoehr as vital

almost closes for good in 1919.

barracks to house 74 homeless

Innuner.

families.

1921

1922 Seeckt replaces the political

GTA commandant who had

earlier with the WWI veteran

been elected two years

Oberst Fritz Krummel

1923

Due to inflation and currency devaluation a Soldier's pay reaches 2 million Reichsmarks, as the currency loses it's value

By October, Grafenwoehr citizens burn the worthless paper money in their stoves to warm their homes

daily.

Less than 200 miles south of the GTA an attempted coup d'atat the Munich Beer Hall Putsch by the fledgling Nazi Party, led by General Erich Ludendorff and Adolf Hitler. is put-down, after days of

brutal street-fighting.

An early advocate of armored mechanized warfare, and fastmoving mobile armored units. Captain Heinz Guderian evolores the use of tanks in an offensive role at the Grafenwoehr Training Area.

Guderain becomes a familiar figure at the training area. during the next 20 years. His concept of tank warfare, is later published in 1936 under the title "Achtuna! Panzert* a cominal work in modern offensive tank warfare.

> Training activities at the GTA accelerate. Seeckt appoints Oberst Hoffman as the new GTA commander.

1925

Wooden Tanks! Following WWI, the German Army was prohibited from building or training with armored or tracked vehicles, but as early as 1923 the rebuilt German Army began experiments with "simulated" tanks...

made of bailing wire and

pressboard!

Seeckt retires shortly thereafter. His legacy, keeping the most elite soldiers in the ranks when the allied terms of the Versailles Treaty forced the Reichswehr to purge some 20,000 of it's officers in the

1926

In the spring of 1926 General

Hans you Seeckt observes an

entire German Army, with

8.300 troops at the GTA.

more than 600 officers and

In 1926 of the 100,000 men permitted to serve in the army resistance to Hitler, is 40,000 were NCOs, and each of these were regarded as potential officer material.

The Artillery Observation tower at Schwartzenberg Hill, known today as the Bleidorn Tower is complet.

1927 The GTA hosted many young

soldiers through-out the

Reichenau, Majors Heinz

Manstein-Lieutenant Colonel

Frank Halder and Colonel Gord

von Rundstedt, amongst

others - all of whom would

invent, or go on to perfect,

Blitzkrieg, in great part on

the ranges of the GTA.

In 1927 Lieutenant Claus

von Stauffenberg, a key

leader of the German

training on the ranges

of Grafenwoehr.

the strategies and tactics of

Guderian and Erich von

exercise with one-tenth of the decade. Cantain Walther you

In the parliamentary elections of 1928 less than three-percent of Germans

vote for the National Socialist "Nazi" Party.







1929

The world economic crisis at the

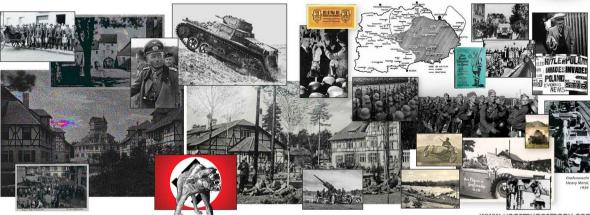
stabilizes the government of the

Weimar Republic Various extreme

political parties emerge from the

end of the decade critically de-





1930 1931

The U.S. Armed Forces was limited in the 1920s and 1930s. following the Great Depression. By 1939 in response to the rise of Nazism and Japanese expansion, the U.S. Army grew considerably, but was not well-equipped or trained forwar

The U.S. Army Air Corps was reorganized in June 1941, as the U.S. Army Air Forces (USAAF), but remained subordinate to ground commanders.

By June 1941, shortly before the United States was drawn into WWII, the Army had grown to nearly 1.5 million.

1932

January -The German government announces it will no longer adhere to the limitations set forth by the Versailles Treaty.

In the summer of 1932. General Heinz Guderian tests his theories of mobility and maneuverability, and the possibilities of coordinated tank maneuvers with infantry

and air power.

1934

1933 Innumer-Hitler is elected Chancellor.

The German National Socialist Party is on the rise

> Bavaria, and all of its military posts, including the Grafen-





1935

February -German President Hindenberg dies. Hitler, as Reich Chancellor, transfers the president's powers commences. to himself and appropriates authority of the German states. March -

Hitler reintroduces mandatory military service in the German Reich and the army is increased from 100 000 to 550,00 troops, and its name is changed from "Reichswehr" to "Wehrmacht." The scope and tempo of training at the GTA grows exponentially.

January -Heavy Artillery firing The second great expansion at the Training Area of Grafenwoehr takes place by order of the War Ministry in Berlin

The GTA doubles by 35,000 acres to the west of the existing camp to accomodate the stupendous growth of the resurgent than 3,500 civilians

are relocated outside the training area. 30,000 German soldiers march into the demilitarized Rhineland border region.

1936

The French back-down in the face or well-trained German troops

1937

GTA. The Stuka is a key

attacks across Furnne

beginning in 1939.

March The German Ju 87, better Hitler occupies Austria. known as the Stuka, a ground attack aircraft and form of aerial artillery is regularly Hitler visits Grafenwaehr participating in tank and infantry manuevers at the

and observes a obstacle breaching exercise. By this time the GTA is second to element in the early success none in rifle and machine-gun of the German Wehrmacht ranges, combat infantry and armor ranges, and possesses an authentic bunker/pillbox system for training overcoming defensive obstacles.

November -

September -Hitler occupies the Czech Sudetenland.

Hitler orders Kristallnacht. an anti-Semitic program of hate and violence against Jews all across Germany.



September -Hitler attacks Poland, while the Soviet Union closes in to occupy large areas of eastern Poland. Britain and France declare war on Germany World War II begins









1940 1941

Blitzkrieg tactics, in part developed and tested at the Grafenwoehr Training Area. anable the Corner Army to defeat and occupy Belgium, Denmark France Greece the Netherlands, Norway and Poland.

The French Army, considered the best in Europe is swept aside and the British Expeditionary Force is routed, narrowly escaping capture at Dunkirk, less than one month after Wehrmacht combat operations begin.

The Battle of Britain begins. In September, sustained Luftwaffe bombing attacks are launched against UK cities.

Hitler invades Russia.

More than 4.5 million Axis troops drive east surrounding and capturing large numbers of Soviet troops on four active fronts. Initial break-throughs prove deceptive as Soviet forces regroup later in the year, and slow or stop Wehrmacht advances into

the Russian interior. December -The United States enters WWII after being attacked by Japanese forces at Pearl

Four days later Hitler. declares war on the

The Spanish "Blue Legion." more than 19 000 Spanish soldiers, many of who are combat veterans of the Spanish Civil War, swear an oath to fight for Germany. They arrive at the GTA for their uniforms, equipment and training prior to leaving for the Russia. Like many foreign troops trained at the

1942

GTA, The Blue Legion will see

action at the Siege of Leningrad

and elsewhere all along the

Russian Front

Regiment "Nordland," three foreign SS Scandinavian units Harbor on December 7th. arrive in Grafenwoehr to form the core of a new SS volunteer Panzer-grenadier division. Volunteers are chiefly from Northern Europe but more than 1.200 Romanians are

added to their strength.

1943 February -The Battle of Stalingrad. which began in July 1942.

ends with the surrender of the German 6th Army. It is a major turning point in the war. At the same time Minister of Armamaents Albert Speer visits the GTA to observe testing on the Normandy beaches of of Germany's heaviest and most powerful tank built to date.

General Heinz Guderian, as Chief Inspector for Panzer Corps, visits Grafenwoehr to evaluate 250 Panther tanks before their denloyment to

The 12,000-man Italian San Marco Division begins training at the GTA.

the eastern fronts.

1944 Mussolini visits the GTA to inspect the San Marco Division and observe its training.

The Longest Day: The largest invasion in history commences France, American, British and Canadian forces establish a beachhead after breaching Hitler's "Fortress Europe." After fierce fighting they drive east to take Paris.

Reichsführer-SS Himmler. overseer of the extermination camps and commander of the Gestapo visits SS units in Grafenwoehr. His speech, delivered in the local theater, promotes loyalty to the regime.

lanuary -The Battle of the Bulge: Hitler sends a quarter of a million troops into the Allied western front, in deadly winter weather. More than 76,000 II S Soldiers are casualties of the onslaught, but win the battle, counterattack and drive on.

1945

In the aftermath of the war. and in the ruins of the main camp, a Prisoner of War Two allied bombing raids collection point is established, while some take place on the town and post, U.S. 3rd Army 8 000 members of the Soldiers fighting their way German SS are sent to through Bayaria arrive to prison in Bernreuth. accept the surrender of

1946

Americans start training at

Grafenwoehr, Tankers attend

courses at the 7th Army Tank

Training Center near Vilseck

Germany, while artillery and

infantry units train at both

training areas.

the GTA and at Wildflecken

Innuani-

the GTA 10 days later. April/May -Hitler commits suicide. The Red Army takes Berlin. Germany surrenders.

1947 U.S. General George Marshall as Secretary of State announces a comprehensive program of American assistance to help rebuild Europe. Germany defeated is divided

by the Allies into four zones. The American zone consists of Rayaria and Hessen. Southern Germany, and the northern portions of the present day state of Baden-Wuerttemberg.

The U.S. Constabulary establishes a training area for the newly activated 370th and 371st Infantry Battalions. The area between Graferwoehr and Vilsack will be used In 1948, the U.S. Tank Training Center HQ is established at Rose Barracks, until war damage at Grafenwoehr is repaired.

April -Soviet coup d'état in NATO is established with a

February -

British forces provide a life-

line of food and fuel to the

beleaguered city, until the

Soviets yield, and lift the

blockade a year later.

The LLS Army officially

unit training.

re-opens Grafenwoehr for

Czechoslovakia. headquarters in Brussels. The organization constitutes The Cold War Begins a system of collective defense The Soviet Union cuts-off whereby its member states land routes to the Allied agree to mutual defense. zones of Berlin, prompting the Berlin Airlift - U.S. and

Formed from the three western zones of occupation and West Berlin The Federal Republic of Germany (FRG) divides from the Soviet sphere of occupation and establishes its canital in Ronn

August -The Soviet Union explodes its first atom bomb.

October The East German Democratic Republic (GDR) is formed and claims as its capital Berlin.





1952



www.usarmygermany.com

1950

General Dwight D. Eisenhower visits the GTA in his final weeks as NATO Commander.

One month later he returns to the U.S. to campaign for President.

The Korean War begins as Communist forces invade

South Koreal November The U.S. Seventh Army, deactivated in 1947

is reactivated.

1951 June -V and VII Corns arrive in Europe and are assigned to Seventh Army.

1951

From 1950 to 1953 large construction projects change the face of the Training Area The Barracks "Tunisia," "Cheb," "Kasserine," and Camps Aachen, Algiers and Normandy are added. Theses facilities combined are capable of housing more than 42,000 troops.

Developed in the early 1950s, first U.S. battlefield, closesupport nuclear weapon was fired with weighted dummy warheads.

Soviet General Secretary and Premier Joseph Stalin dies.

1953



1954 Innuary-U.S. Soldiers at the GTA are regularly shown government

training films at the local movie theater throughout the Cold War years.



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.

1955

November -The German Bundeswehr is officially established. West Germany joins NATO

training and maneuvers.

1956 West Germany introduces conscription, and activates the Bundeswehr (German Armed forces).

January -

Europe, including those

stationed in France, are

using the Grafenwoehr

Bundeswehr tanks and

rafenwoehr Ranges

soldiers take to the

Training Area by this time.

One month later the first German Bundeswehr soldiers arrive and are billeted at Camp Normandy at GTA.

Although early plans for the Bundeswehr called for separate bases, the U.S. establishes a co-use agreement for Camps Algier and Normandy for joint

October 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.

1957 1958 November -U.S. Forces across central

Pvt. Elvis Presley, the King of Rock & Roll, visits Grafenwoehr for six weeks of winter training with his unit.

1958 through 1959 -A newly remodelled Grafenwoehr Post becomes the headquarters of the Seventh Army Training Center. In addition to the Grafenwoehr

Training Area, the Hohenfels Training Area is consolidated The Seventh Army Training

Center becomes the largest training complex in Germany. Rose Barracks becomes

the home of the Seventh Army Combined Arms School,



GRAFENWOHR





1960

February -Fluis Presley returns to Grafenwoehr to train and participate in the NATO exercise "Winter Shield."

Manager involve 60 000 men of the U.S. Army and German Bundeswehr.

Elvis, now a sergeant, shuns exceptional treatment and duty.

In his free time Elvis occasionally visits local taverns in the city of Grafenwoehr, just past the front gate, where he signs countless autographs and patiently sits for photos with his German fans.

1961

August -At midnight, August 12, units of the East German army install barbed-wire fences along the 124 miles of Allied sectors in Berlin.

October -High Noon: Soviet and American tanks face-off at Allied Checkpoint Charlie in Berlin.

October -

photographed in

Grafenwoehr for the

cover of TIME magazine.

Third Armored Division's General Creighton Abrams

televised speech from the Oval Office at the height of the Cuban missile crisis. U.S. and NATO military forces in Europe go to the highest state of alert.

1962

U.S. Army Europe reaches its

peak strength of 277,342

President John F. Kennedy

speaks to the world in a

personnel.

October -

1963

The stone and harhed-wire

barricades that dividing Berlin since 1961 are replaced by a permanent, 18 foot biob wall around Allied sectors that make-up West Berlin.

Communist Party First Secretary (Premier) Nikita Khruschev is deposed by the Russian govern ment as leader of the Soviet Union. Leonid Brezhnev and Alexi

1964

October -

Kosygin assume power over the state



1965

The GTA offers jungle

1966

Beginning in the mid-1960s. January -U.S. Army Europe contributes Charles de Gaulle leader of the French government, to the car in Vietnam, by providing personnel. says he will withdraw military forces from NATO

and counter guerilla training for personnel deploying to Vietnam. end of the year.

Europe and Seventh Army Headquarters merge at Heidelberg in 1967.

1967

President Johnson announces plans to withdraw two divisions Warsaw Pact soldiers, led from Europe.

The United States must vacate its bases in France by the Consequently, U.S. Army

Allies then, Allies now: Bundaswahr Forces walcome United States Army units restationed from France into Germany.

1968 August -

stop political reforms and

freedoms and set-up a

new government more

closely aligned with

Approximately 200 000 The largest NATO Exercise to take place in Europe, the first Exercise REFORGER Ifrom REturn of FORces by the Soviet Union invade Czechoslovakia, for the to GERmanyl begins. second time. The soldiers were sent to About 12 000 Soldiers come from

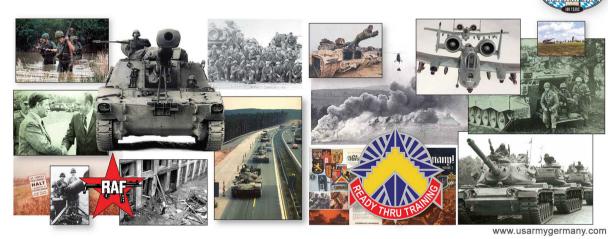
the U.S. to join the 220,000-man, U.S. Seventh Army in West Germany. In addition, 96 F-4 fighter-

1969

bombers attend from Stateside to participate. The Soviet news agency, Izvestia.

describes REFORGER as, "a new western plot directed at increasing tension in Europe " The exercise is hosted in Bavaria at Grafenwoehr, 50 miles from the Czechoslovak border.





1978 1979

President Nivon's Secretary

of Defense Melvin Laint visits Grafenwoehr, where he meets Helmut Schmidt. Schmidt will later become Chancellor of West Germany.

Historical note: Every Cold War West German Chancellor with the exception of one. Konrad Adenauer visits the Grafenwoehr Training Area in one capacity or another from 1947 to 1991.

The M-16Al rifle, the TOW anti-tank weapon, the AH-1G Cobra and the OH-58A observation helicopter are added to U.S. Army Europe's arsenal.

1971 November -A Pentagon reorganization study proposes adding more combat units to USAREUR.

V Corps Headquarters and the Terrace Club in Frankfurt are bombed by terrorist group Red Army Faction (RAF) The RAF would bomb USARFUR headquarters in Heidelberg one month later.

Andi -

1972

1973

1972 to 1973: The Seventh Army Training Center's responsibilities dramatically expand. It is now responsible for all U.S. Army training activities in Europe.

Combat support courses from the Combat Support Training Center in Oberammergau are moved to Rose Barracks.

The 3rd Battalion, 509th by two mechanized division fully mechanized.

1974

Infantry is activated at Lee Barracks in Mainz, and moves to Vicenza Italy. At the same time. the 8th Infantry Division's 1st and 2nd Battalions. 509th Infantry were discontinued and replaced battalions, making the

1975

The year 1975 marked the end the Army's largest logistical organization, the U.S. Theater Army Support Command The Command has more than 69,000 U.S. and local national civilians, supporting over 400,000 U.S. Soldiers in Europe and the Middle East.

lanuary -The Seventh Army Training RAF terrorists bomb U.S. Army Center becomes the 7th Army barracks of the 42nd Artillery Training Command (7th ATC) Brigade at Giessen. Several Established on July 1 1976 RAF members are killed in the command is responsible the ensuing firefight. for the Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas, the Combined Arms Training

1976

Center at Rose Barracks, near

Vilseck, and the Training

Support Activity, Europe

requirements, and the

evaluation of training

Transmission Control

Protocol (TCP), which is

the modern Internet, is

introduced in 1976.

critical to moving data on

readiness.

The 7th ATC facilitates and

manages training including

the development of concepts.

The first A-10 attack aircraft arrive in Europe and are put through their paces at the Grafenwoehr Training Area for the international press. The A-10 affectionately known as "the Warthoo" is a deadly tank killer that supports the infantry.

1977

December -The Soviet Army invades Afghanistan.

















1989

1980

From 1981 to 1993, the Marsanhar Operation "Real Train" begins at the Hohenfels Training Area. Participating M603A Tanks are the most advanced of the M60 series, but are later replaced by the M1 Abrams



IIS 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.

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.



1982

From the July 1982

Spearhead magazine:

from the 1st Bn., 40th

Field Artillery fires from

underneath its camo at

Area before rumbling

another firing point."

the Grafenwoehr Training

down the range road to

Spearhead

First M2/3 and M270 Multiple Launch Bocket System is fired "An eight-inch howitzer at Grafenwoehr

> The M270 is a mobile unit. well-suited for the shoot-andscoot tactic. It can fire its rockets rapidly, and quickly move-away to avoid returning counter-battery fire.

1983





1984

The first M1A1 Tanks arrive

for trials at Grafenwoehr and

1984 - 1985:

Hohenfels.



August -

fielded in 1987, and was used for training until successor programs came online in the 1990s.

1986

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

Scandinacia

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.

1985

Major upgrades are

completed at Grafen-

woehr facilities, and the

ranges are renumbered.

SIMNET is subsequently

1987

Soviet Forces withdraw from Afghanistan, Civil war erupts among tribesmen and multiple rival factions seeking control of the country.

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 evercires

The Combat Maneuver November -Freedom Prevails: After weeks of civil unrest the 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



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.

it was erected









1990

Communist governments fall in Bulgaria Czechoslowakia and Romania, signalling the end of the Soviet empire in Europe, Latvia and Estonia declare independence

five months later "Centurion Shield." the last REFORGER is hosted 60 miles west of Grafenwoehr.

August -Saddam Hussein invades Kuwait. The U.S. responds with Operation Desert Shield. Seventh Army Training Command begins training units for deployment. VII Corps the GTA. deploys to the region in Nov. where it plays a key role in the "100 Hour War" that liberates Kuwait in February 1991.

later, in December 1995. August -The Seventh U.S. Army Noncommissioned Officer Academy relocates and becomes a tenant unit of

1991

Operation Desert Storm

led coalition pushes Iraqi

across the border into Iraq.

150 miles south of Baghdad.

Yugoslavia begins to break

apart. The Dayton Accords

end the ethnic war, five years

where the coalition balts

forces out of Kuwait and

hegins. In one week the U.S.

February -

Soviet Premier Gorbachev announces the break-up of the Soviet Union.

1992 U.S. Army Europe (USAREUR) begins reducing forces in Germany closing facilities and communities.

Area Support Teams in Amherg and Bindlach are

closed as part of the USAREUR-wide draw down

Heidelberg with a staff of seven nations: Belgium, Canada, Denmark, Germany, the Netherlands, the United Vinadom and the Heited States The troops of these armies become regular fixtures on the on GTA ranges in years to come

1993

NATO's Allied Land Forces

Central Europe becomes

Furnne's hearlouarters in

operational at U.S. Army

entember -In an unusual statistical mile stone, for the first time in U.S. history. Army retirees outnumber active-duty personnel because of radical downsizing of the U.S. Army.

1995

1994 The 283rd Base Support Battalion inactivates and the Wildflecken Training Area is returned to the German government.

7th Army Training Center hosts the largest most technologically complex, joint and combined computer-assisted training eversice in the U.S. Army to date, ATLANTIC RESOLVE 94. which replaces the annual REFORGER exercises.

October -The Nuremberg AST at Merrill Barracks is closed and returned to the German government.

December -To enforce a neaceful resolution to the on-going conflict in the Balkans. 20,000 American Soldiers deploy to Bosnia for Operation Joint Endeaugr In the first three months, the U.S. Air Force flies 3,000 missions more than 15 600 troops and dollars 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.

7th ATC participates in Task Force Eagle peace support certification operations prior to their departure for Operation Joint Endeavor. The IMTC maintains an active role in training units deploying to the Balkans as part of Operation Joint Guard, and deployments to Albania.

1996

Macadonia and Korouo for Operation Joint Guardian. NATO deploys Kosovo Force (KFOR) to promote stability in the Balkans, USAREUR's Task Force Falcon deploys as the main element of the Multinational Brigade.

September -After years of civil war Kabul and Afghanistan fall to the Taliban

1997 1997 - 2000: The drawdown forces the closure of many USAREUR bases in Germany. With few exceptions the bases are turned over to the German

gavernment.

Planning begins for the construction of a Multiat the Grafenwoehr Training Area.

Purpose Range Complex



March Operation Allied Force NATO combat operations against Serbia. commence, USAREUR deploys Task Force Hawk to Albania in support of the operation.

1999

The GTA Range 117 modernization and expansion project is complated to meet the new gunnery requirements of the M1A2 Tank.

Likewise Range 204 is completed to most the standards of the Operation Desert Storm Bradley Fighting Vehicle.

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.

NATO turns 50.









Cantomber The Grafenwoehr Training Area is being assessed for nossible closure

It's strategic significance and importance to U.S. Army Europe are discussed at the highest levels of the Pentagon.



field in Pennsylvania. October -In response to the attacks. the United States launches Operation Enduring Freedom (QEF) in Afghanistan.

Status by 10 torresists who

crash four airliners into the

World Trade Center

The Pentagon and a

Contombor

U.S. Army Europe units deploy in support of OEF including SETAF's 173rd Airborne Brigade.



2002

March through April -Operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) begins as the U.S. Army and Marines attack Iraq from bases in Kuwait.

The 173rd Airborne Brigade jumps into Iraq in the largest ombat airdrop since WWII. Ranhdad is captured only 16 days after OIF begins.

The 1st Armored Division deploys to Iraq for a 15-month combat tour.

USAREUR introduces Efficient Basing Grafenwoehr (EBG). The EBG initiative enhances training readiness improves force protection, and provides new or renovated facilities for Soldiers and families.

2004

The first Counter-Improvised Explosive Device training begins at Grafenwoehr

November -Plans are appounced to transform The Combat Maneuver Training Center (CMTC) at Hobenfels into the Joint Multinational Readiness Center. The transformation

will be complete in 2005 After years of study, the U.S. Army unweils a new uniform

dubbed the Army Combat Uniform (ACU), It becomes standard-issue for all deployed troops in the fall of 2005.

2005

3.500 soldiers of the 2nd Rose Barracks begins a \$600 million expansion. Stryker Cavalry Regiment move to Rose Barracks. Sentember -

2006

The influx of

2nd Stryker

Cavalry

Regiment

Caldiage

doubles

the local

population.

more than 3.500

The Seventh Army Training Command changes its name to the Joint Multinational Training Command UMTC). The new name represents it's key role in support NATO and the U.S. European Command's Theater Security Cooperation program.

At that same time, CMTC transforms into the Joint Multipational Readiness Center.

While, the 7th Army NCO Academy is training hundreds of allied and partner nations' noncommissioned officers.

2007

September -GTA is approved for a series of Department of the Army range projects under the Combined Arms MOUTTack Force initiative Construction of an Urban Assault Course. a 260 degree live fire choothouse and an Urban Breach Facility begins, while the GTA live-fire assault building

project is completed. October -United States Africa Command (AFRICOM) is established.

Training with the Shadow Unmanned Aerial System begins at the GTA.



2008 The Joint Multinational Simulation Center opens a

approximately 250 million

Euro annually, American

purchasing power in the

region is approximately

An additional 30 million

Euro per year is spent on

rents by American families.

35 million Euro.

As Grafenwoehr prepares for its centennial, its ranges and state of the art 50.000facilities are fully operational Requare-foot facility for and teeming with U.S. and Multidigital models, simulanational Soldiers training for tions and virtual training. deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan

At this time the JMTC at Grafenwoehr employs close The JMTC's Combined Arms to 3.900 local German Training Center instructs Soldiers Nationals. Current salary from more than 38 countries from and wage payments total around the world. 160 million Euro per year and contracts with local While continuing to support businesses amount to combat operations in Iraq and

Afghanistan, the U.S. Army Europe continues with its most comprehensive transformation since the end of World War II. The GTA continues to adapt and shape itself to meet the needs of the Soldiers preparing for current and future operations.