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The Stewardship I Army Europe and AF) Integrated Tra Management pro annually and repo and accomplishm components.

The report covers January 1 to Dece

For further inform electronic version previous reports, Facebook page:

https://srp.usareu

www.7atc.army.mi

Email: usarmy.bavaria.7at

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OUR MISSION



Mission Statement: U.S. Army Europe and Africa provides ready, combat-credible land forces to deter, and, if necessary, defeat aggression from any potential adversary in Europe and Africa. To achieve this, U.S. Army Europe and Africa sets the essential conditions necessary, and is prepared to serve as a Combined Joint Force Land Component Command, to fight and win across the full spectrum of military operations from contingency response to large-scale, ground combat operations.



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Mission Statement: 7th Army Training Command enables the Soldiers and Civilians of the 7th ATC HQ, JMSC, TSAE, and CATC to focus on their mission to provide lethal formations (U.S. and allies) to a Land Component Commander to fight a near peer adversary.

THE CROWN JEWELS OF U.S. ARMY EUROPE



HOHENFELS **TRAINING AREA**

The Grafenwoehr Training Area (GTA) is the U.S. Army's largest and most sophisticated permanent training area in Europe.

The 7th ATC's GTA provides the highest quality ranges, maneuver areas, other training facilities, training assistance and support to U.S., Joint and Multinational commands, enabling them to safely achieve and sustain live-fire qualification gunnery standards and to hone their skills to win in any operating environment.

Hohenfels Training Area (HTA) is the largest USAREUR-AF maneuver training area and headquarters to the Joint Multinational Readiness Center (JMRC).

JMRC is the only Army Combat Training Center outside the continental U.S. HTA is 163 km², has 1,345 buildings for training, 319 km of roads, numerous cross-country trails, and one short take-off / landing airfield.

7TH ARMY TRAINING COMMAND (7TH ATC)

7th Army Training Command

The 7th Army Training Command (7th ATC) resources the training readiness for all of USAREUR-AF's assigned and allocated forces throughout the United States European Command (EUCOM) area of operations with the following organizations:



Joint Multinational

Readiness Center





Training Support

Activity Europe

Combined Arms Training Center

International Special Training Center

Grafenwoehr Training Area

7th ATC, headquartered at Tower Barracks in Grafenwoehr Germany, exercises Training and Readiness Authority (TRA) over three active brigades.

Simulation Center

C<u>ă</u>tc



2nd Cavalry Regiment (2nd CR)

12th Combat Aviation Brigade (12th CAB)

41st Field Artillery Brigade (41st FAB)



Introducing V Corps

"The activation of an additional Corps headquarters provides the needed level of command and control focused on synchronizing U.S. Army, allied, and partner nation tactical formations operating in Europe. It will enhance U.S. Army Europe and U.S. European Command as they work alongside allies and partners to promote regional stability and security." Gen. James McConville, Chief of Staff of the Army.



DEFENDER-Europe 21

For more information about DEFENDER-Europe 21 see page 7.



LETTER FROM THE COMMANDER

I am honored to present the 2021 Environmental Stewardship Report on behalf of the 7th Army Training Command (7th ATC). In the following pages, we present a comprehensive description of how the U.S. Army and our partners protect and sustain the environment in the host nation lands on which we train.

As a military organization, our number one priority is the readiness of our Soldiers and equipment to meet the missions and demands of our nation. We can only achieve that by working in concert with our partners to preserve the land on which we train throughout Europe and Africa. Working with our NATO allies and partners, 7th ATC balances protecting and conserving the environment with training.

Specifically, in the 396-square kilometers of land on which we train in Germany, we work closely with the Bundesforst, government organizations, and local communities. As the largest and most advanced live-fire training facility in Europe, it is also home to hundreds of plant, animal, and insect species that thrive throughout the forest, fields, lakes and biodiverse regions of the training area. In order to be good stewards of the environment and achieve military readiness, we must work together.

Our team collaborates with range officers, organization personnel, trainers, environmental technical staff, natural and cultural resource managers, as well as our host communities. Leading this effort for us is Training Support Activity Europe (TSAE), which provides state-of-the art training support and visual information capability as well as the Sustainable Range Program, including the Integrated Training Area Management and Range and Training Land Program. TSAE maximizes the capability, availability and accessibility of ranges and training land to support doctrinal training, mobilization, and deployments.

Our military training areas throughout the 7th ATC footprint are islands of biodiversity, protected from traffic infrastructure, agricultural fertilizers, and pesticides. Our military training creates natural disturbances, and the offset time between exercises creates habitats that support biodiversity and are preserved from high traffic to the military use. Ultimately, our training effectiveness relies on the biodiversity of the land, water, and air.

For over seventy years, we've worked together with our civil partners to protect the host nation lands on which we train, and we look forward to continuing this work for generations to come.

Joseph E. Hilbert Brigadier General, U.S. Army Commanding

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WHO WE ARE



U.S. Army Europe and Africa

USAREUR-AF Mission

On November 10 2020, the U.S. Army announced the consolidation of U.S. Army Europe and U.S. Army Africa into one Army Service Component Command (ASCC). This transformation improves the Army's ability to meet African and European strategic and operational objectives outlined in the National Defense Strategy by consolidating ASCC functions under one four-star headquarters in Wiesbaden, Germany. Only well-postured, modernized, and interoperable strategic land power can deter competitors and defeat adversaries. U.S. Army Europe and Africa (USAREUR-AF) forces are strategically positioned across our 104-country area of responsibility to deter aggression and assure our allies and partners of the U.S. commitment to peace and stability in Europe and Africa. There are approximately 73,000 U.S. Army personnel assigned and deployed throughout Europe and Africa.

facebook.com/USArmyEURAF/



As we stand up the V Corps forward command post in Poznan we look forward to strengthening that relationship as we work together to build readiness and enhance interoperability between our militaries and those of our allies and partners.

Lt. Gen. John. Kolasheski, V Corps Commanding General

7th Army Training Command

7th ATC Mission

The 7th Army Training Command (7th ATC) is the U.S. Army's largest overseas training command, setting the training environment and resourcing live and virtual training for all U.S. Army forces stationed and deployed in Europe, as well as select U.S. European Command, allied and partner units. 7th ATC provides and projects ready, combat credible forces to U.S. Army Europe and U.S. European Command while testing and strengthening interoperability with allies and partners to support theater operations and drive readiness within NATO.

- Readiness is our #1 priority. We deliver ready, trained, and equipped forces for operational demands.
- » 7th ATC provides resource training readiness for all of USAREUR-AF's assigned and allocated forces throughout the EUCOM area of operations.
- » We lead the Army in developing ally and partner nation interoperability, providing the Army with an active learning, near peer environment to press modernization initiatives.
- We operate a unique Combat Training Center (CTC) that focuses on interoperability and training Brigade Combat Teams to fight and win when called upon.

facebook.com/7thATC/



Training Support Activity Europe

TSAE Mission

The Training Support Activity Europe (TSAE) provides home-station, expeditionary, rotational, and contingency training support across the USAREUR-AF's Command Areas of Responsibility in order to build readiness and increase interoperability of all U.S. assigned, attached, regionally aligned forces, our multinational partners, and allies. On behalf of 7th ATC and U.S. Army, TSAE manages the Training Support System management process and the theater Visual Information program.

facebook.com/ TrainingSupportActivityEurope/



Sustainable Range Program

SRP Mission

The Sustainable Range Program (SRP) is the Army's overall approach for improving the way in which it designs, manages, and uses its ranges to ensure long-term sustainability.

facebook.com/USAREUR.SRP/



Integrated Training Area Management

ITAM Mission

Integrated Training Area Management (ITAM) is a management and decision-making process that integrates training and other mission requirements for land use with sound natural resource management practices.

ITAM is a core program within the Army's SRP under the direction of the Chief, Training Support Systems Division, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G–3/5/7.

ITAM:

- » Develops methods to maintain natural environments that are resilient and resistant to military use
- Provides capabilities to establish training land conditions and monitors training lands (Range and Training Land Assessment)
- » Provides an awareness program for land users (Sustainable Range Awareness)
- » Provides the means to apply training loads to land capabilities, resulting in land management that ensures that training does not stop due to noncompliance with environmental laws (Training Requirement Integration and Geographic Information System)
- » Sustains the Army's live training capability (Land Rehabilitation and Maintenance)





Lines of Effort



Provide a training support procedure that integrates training requirements with management TRI

Characterize and monitor an installation's natural resources, geospatially and temporally RTLA

Implement preventive and corrective land repair projects that ensure availability, accessibility and capability of training lands (LRAM)

Promote visibility of environmentally sensitive issues and instill a stewardship ethic among unit commanders, ground troops and neighboring SRA communities

Provide accurate, complete and standardized spatial data. GIS data and products adhere to Federal, DoD and Army spatial data standards GIS



STRONGER TOGETHER

Farke Airfield, Albania. 2nd LT Mehanja, pilot with the 1-131st Aviation Regiment and the first female Albanian pilot, 2nd LT Murati.

DEFENDER-Europe 21 promoted interoperability between NATO allies and partner nations.

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MEHANJA

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DEFENDER-Europe

DEFENDER-Europe is the annual large-scale U.S. Armyled, multinational, joint exercise designed to build readiness and interoperability between U.S., NATO and partner militaries. This year's exercise:

 Focused on building operational readiness and interoperability with a greater number of NATO allies and partners over a wider area of operations



- » Was defensive in nature and focused on responding to crisis if necessary
- » Demonstrated that the U.S. commitment to NATO is iron clad
- Integrated approximately 28,000 multinational forces from 26 nations to conduct nearly simultaneous operations across more than 30 training areas in 12 countries
- » Included strict COVID prevention and mitigation measures, such as pre-deployment COVID testing and quarantining
- » Had significant involvement of the U.S. Air Force and U.S. Navy
- » Utilized key ground and maritime routes bridging Europe, Asia and Africa
- Exercised new high-end capabilities such as the new U.S. Army Security Force Assistance Brigades, air and missile defense assets and the recently reactivated V Corps
- » Demonstrated our ability to serve as a strategic security partner in the western Balkans and Black Sea regions while sustaining our abilities in northern Europe, the Caucasus, Ukraine and Africa



TRAINING REQUIREMENTS INTEGRATION (TRI) IN PRACTICE

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The Training Requirements Integration

(TRI) component of ITAM provides a decision support capability based on the integration of training requirements, land conditions, range facilities, and environmental regulations. TRI involves collaboration between military units, range officers, organization personnel, trainers, environmental technical staff, natural and cultural resource managers, as well as local communities:

- Facilitate decision-making concerning land use planning and management that meets training requirements, regulatory compliance and conservation measures
- Analyze training impacts to support effective land management procedures
- Develop land use strategies that consider the impacts of military operations on natural resources and environmentally-sensitive lands

Military training areas across USAREUR-AF provide innovative and multinational training opportunities to train in a realistic arena, while at the same time supporting high biodiversity for threatened and endangered species. By bringing together military and environmental stakeholders, TRI ensures the military training mission can be conducted while providing sound environmental and natural resource stewardship.

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Environmental Compensation

The completion of the Bergheim Church Bat Sanctuary shows the important partnership between multiple German and U.S. agencies to achieve mutually desired outcomes. This multifaceted project is a great example of environmental protection, cultural resource preservation and cooperation with the military mission of the 7th ATC. It also ensures the enduring military mission of JMRC in Hohenfels.



North Macedonia Site Visit

The ITAM program conducted a Mil to Mil event working with the North Macedonian Range officers on how to implement geospatial processes into their decision making for range and training land management.

The event portrayed the importance of technological excellence in developing sustainable practices for military training requirements.

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RANGE AND TRAINING LAND ASSESSMENT (RTLA)



RTLA Survey

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A condition status assessment within military training areas identifies specific problems and concerns for training land sustainability.

The purpose of the condition status assessments is to collect current data to identify problem areas and provide recommendations for corrective action.

The RTLA assessments provide an operational understanding of military requirements, while developing best practices in protecting natural and cultural resources within military training areas.







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Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area (DPTA) Banners

Throughout the world, ITAM supports military training areas to provide critical habitat for threatened and endangered species. The contiguous, diverse ecosystem of DPTA hosts species that cannot be found anywhere else in Europe. ITAM promotes public awareness through outreach materials that illustrate the unique environmental preservation found on DPTA. This promotion effort highlights the ecological importance of military training land and the tangible results of excellence in environmental stewardship.

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Flood Model -**Hohenfels**

ITAM is currently developing a 2D "rain on grid" flood model covering the training area. The model will use high resolution LiDAR terrain data, installed stormwater structure data, and soil and vegetation data to assess the flood and watershed conditions within the training area. Modeling outputs will test the installed stormwater management system, identify problem locations for flooding, and give recommendations for improvement.

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Environmental

Environmental Stewardshi

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Awareness

DECADE OF ITAM INVESTMENT





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\$4,702,000







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\$5,316,538





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\$4,467,334





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LAND REHABILITATION AND MAINTENANCE (LRAM) PROJECT CATALOG

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JMRC Hohenfels Maneuver Corridor Understory Vegetation Removal

Sustainment of military maneuver corridors at HTA was required to improve and provide realistic training scenarios within rugged valley areas. ITAM personnel identified areas of dense forest and exposed bedrock that would have prevented maneuver training and reclaimed these areas with help from partners. This project ensured German Federal Forest Law and Natura 2000 directives were met in improving additional maneuver training space to meet current and future military demands.

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Radar Site 5

Range Operations and ITAM coordinated the development of a new radar site east of Bunker Drop Zone in GTA. ITAM and Range Operations determined the new location which will provide radar capabilities for artillery operations.





Velburg-Nord Revier

Trail stabilization is critical to the success of military movements within HTA. Proper trail configuration mitigates environmental degradation and ensures critical access for military training and natural resource sustainment.

No Name Valley Encroaching Vegetation Removal

Vegetation removal within No Name Valley, located in HTA, enhanced military operations within an area which was becoming choked due to vegetation encroachment. ITAM developed a solution for how to maximize efforts to open land for future missions with forestry.



Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area (DPTA) Watercross and Erosion Control

ITAM in cooperation with DPTA Range Operations developed multiple low water crossings for the purpose of preventing heavy erosion of the riverbeds and protection of downstream sedimentation. This project provided updates to access trails and installation of single layered, steel-reinforced fiber concrete pads for stream stabilization. This project provided DPTA operations with the ability to move heavy armor vehicles across low lying areas between northern and southern maneuver corridors.





GEOGRAPHIC INFORMATION SYSTEMS (GIS)

NATO STANAG 3833 Support

The ITAM program is the only geospatial office focusing exclusively on training area mapping. Over the past several years, the ITAM Regional Support Center (RSC) has supported and guided NATO partners in the creation of NATO STANAG 3833 compliant maps. This combined effort with our Allies has led to nearly 50 STANAG 3833 compliant Military Installation Maps (MIMs).

Developing mapping standards across the USAREUR-AF footprint ensures that soldiers from different nations fighting alongside each other are operating off the same map.

The ITAM program became the custodian to STANAG 3833 in 2020. Since becoming custodians, the RSC has worked to bring the symbology forward by addressing new military developments and contributing as members of the Defense Geospatial Information Working Group (DGIWG).

Current initiatives are addressing missing features such as Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) landing strips and new weapon systems' fire positions. These updates promote accuracy on NATO MIMs and enhances effectiveness for the warfighter mission.

PORTUGAL

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FINLAND

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Hazard Mitigation

Hazardous conditions along the western edge of GTA are hidden by dense vegetation. Terrain elevation models derived from LiDAR has allowed identification of disused mining pits/shafts and landslide scars/risk areas even below the dense tree canopy. Subsequently these areas can be avoided by at-risk training activities and mitigation methods implemented appropriately.

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Cultural Site

Hidden sites of cultural significance become clearly visible when viewed on LiDAR derived terrain elevation models. Historical buildings, cellars and old agricultural landforms can be effectively identified, managed, and protected.

Man-made Structures

Man-made landforms and structures, such as this quarry site in Grafenwoehr, can be mapped in 3D at sub-meter resolution. This allows development of detailed plans for environmental recovery and/or future repurposing of the site.

Range Planning

The real world is three dimensional and so effective range plans must work in three dimensions and include visibility analysis to determine effectiveness of the design. Range planning for an inverted range was carried out with terrain and surface models derived from LiDAR, allowing visibility with and without vegetation to be assessed before any groundwork began.

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SUSTAINABLE RANGE AWARENESS

ifying res of the

pean Wolf

Sustainability is everyone's responsibility. The Sustainable Range Awareness (SRA) program performs outreach to the community (military and host nation neighbors) to promote the visibility of environmentally sensitive issues. SRA among unit commanders and ground troops helps to reduce avoidable environmental impacts on training lands by providing information on land use constraints.

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Mission

49 (0)9641-70-526-4294 öhr ITAM Range Opr

Pocket Card "Wo

Wets and Services

U.S. ARMY EUROPE AND AFRICA SUSTAINABLE RANGE PROG

MAPS AND GEOSPATIAL SUPPORT OR USAREUR-AF TRAINING AREAS



Bundesforst

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Integrated Training Area Management STEWARDSHIP REPORT 2020









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Bundesforst

After the dissolution of the village in 1938, the church, which was in danger of collapsing, was blown up in 1972 and has since fallen into disrepair.

Die Kirche Bergheim ist ein Kulturdenkmal am nordöstlichen Rand des Truppenübungsplatzes Hohenfels. Den ältesten erhaltenen Teil bildet das Kirchenschiff, ein romanischer Wehrbau aus dem Jahre 1091. In gotischer Zeit wurde die Kirche im Osten durch eine Apsis erweitert, im 18. Jh. erfolgte der Ausbau zu einer barocken Kirche.

Nach Auflösung der Ortschaft im Jahr 1938 wurde die einsturzgefährdete Kirche 1972 gesprengt und verfiel seitdem.





Bundesforst

Site works





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WHO NEEDS WHAT









Mapper Mobile App



IOS

Dist





Soldier's Field Card Mobile App



IOS

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105 Commanders / Organization Managers

Commanders, Directors and Program Managers



7th ATC Overview Training Support Map



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Planners

G3/S3, Master Gunners, Safety, Range and Training Area Managers, SRP Personnel, Garrison Planners, Environmental Officers and SMEs



10,000s

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TAP IN

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The Tool for Training Planners

TAP IN is a "Google Maps®" style Common Access Card (CAC) enabled NIPR net web application that allows users to explore and discover training resources throughout EUCOM, AFRICOM, PACOM and select CONUS locations.

Giving you access to the latest information on international training sites, their size, capabilities and availability.







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4,093

Resource Library Documents:

- » Digital Soldier's Field Cards
- » Range Surface Danger Zones
- Standard Operating Procedures
- Training After Action Reviews
- Host Nation Policies and Regulations
- » Unmanned Aerial Vehicle (UAV) Regulation

1,755 Live-fire ranges and maneuver areas in

EUCOM / AFRICOM

1,376

Live-fire ranges and maneuver areas in CONUS

» FT Bragg FT Campbell

FT Carson

- » FT Hood » Pinon Canyon » FT Riley
- - » FT Stewart
 - 435 **Training Sites**

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Visit: https://tapin.eur.army.mil/ or search 7th ATC TAP IN



Soldiers trained

at GTA all other TSAE locations

167,876 236,576

8,003,356

7,085,600

Rounds fired

at GTA all other TSAE locations

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2021 TAP IN Statistics

39,628 TAP IN visits

3,419 SRP portal web visits

2021 Mobile App Download Statistics

1,369 Total <u>downloads</u>

1,046 Soldier's Field Cards 179 Army Range Mapper Mobile

144 Environmental Guide

2021 GIS Support Statistics

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76,216 Field Cards Printed

23,740 Maps Printed

432 GIS Data Requests 413

Custom Maps Authored

129 Technical GIS Requests

110

Imagery / Elevation Datasets Acquired

SOPs and BMPs written

25

North Sea

DEFENDER EUROPE 21 EXERCISE SUPPORT

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8,850

Total maps printed for DEFENDER-Europe 21 Plus (DE 21 Plus) (including 1,900 country overview maps)

13,300 Total field cards produced for DE 21 Plus

*Maps produced for each location

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EXERCISE SERIES 2021



Combined Resolve XV (February 2021):

Approximately 4,700 participants from 10 ally and partner nations participated in Combined Resolve XV at the U.S. Army's Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels Training Areas, Feb. 1- Mar. 5, 2021, including troops from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Georgia, Italy, Kosovo, Lithuania, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Slovenia and the United States.

The exercise focused on strengthening interoperability with multinational partners.

African Lion (June 2021):

More than 7,000 troops from nine countries participated in the exercise – U.S. Africa Command's largest annual exercise. The exercise demonstrated the winning combat capabilities of the U.S. and African partners and regional allies while enhancing strategic readiness to respond to contingencies around the globe.

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Dynamic Front 21 (May & September 2021):

Exercise Dynamic Front 21 is a multinational exercise conducted by the U.S. Army in Europe that is designed to improve allied and partner nation ability to deliver long-range fire capabilities. 2021's exercise took place in two phases with the first phase held May 3 - 21, 2021 in both GTA, Germany and Torun Training Area, Poland. The second phase held Sept 5 - 20, 2021 in Polatli Training Area, Turkey.

DYNAMIC FRONT



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FOREST STEWARDSHIP



Our sincere thanks to Philipp Kollbrand on his retirement

Philipp Kollbrand was born on June 21, 1956 in Kürmreuth on the southern border of the Grafenwoehr military training area. Mr. Kollbrand is a third generation forester who has continued his family's legacy of managing forest resources within military training areas.

After finishing school, he began an apprenticeship as a forestry worker at the Grafenwoehr Federal Forestry Office on October 1, 1971. In secondary school, partly in evening classes, Mr. Kollbrand acquired the advanced technical college entrance qualification. This was followed by 15 months of basic military service in the German Armed Forces with the 3rd Hunter Battalion 113 in the Nordgaukaserne in Cham.

In succession, he finished a four year course of study in forestry at the Weihenstephan University of Applied Sciences. After completing his studies, he returned to the Federal Forestry Office in Grafenwoehr.

On October 1, 1981, Mr. Kollbrand began his oneyear preparatory service for the senior forestry service at the Tanzfleck forestry office. His first forest district appointment was to the Tennenlohe Federal Forestry Office, working in the Fuchsstein district near Amberg. The properties he was in charge of included various training areas of the German Federal Armed Forces, the Federal Border Guard in the central Upper Palatinate, which included the Freihöls Training Area of the U.S. Army as well as the U.S. Möhlkaserne in Amberg, which was dissolved at the beginning of 1992 due to the withdrawal of U.S. troops. German Army troop reductions also led to a reorganization of the Federal Forestry Administration. The Fuchsstein forest district was therefore dissolved in 1998 and Mr. Kollbrand was assigned to the Dietldorf district in the Hohenfels Federal Forestry Office.

After almost four years in this district, due to a further reorganization, he was finally assigned the responsibility for the Ransbach forest district in today's Hohenfels Federal Forestry Office as of March 01, 2002.

Mr. Kollbrand has dedicated over 20 years of his long career to supporting the JMRC and ITAM. His open minded approach to balancing military requirements and "green services" has resulted in excellent forest district management and optimal training for the U.S. Army.



Philipp Kollbrand



ENVIRONMENTAL MANAGEMENT



Large Bird Populations Soar at Military Training Areas in Germany

Long term military training, savvy land management practices, and no agricultural use or human development have preserved an oasis of different habitats within military training areas. In Bavaria, these characteristics have made GTA an attractive home for large bird species like the white-tailed eagle and osprey. Decades-long successful breeding within the training area has made the GTA the core of the recolonization of these species in Bavaria.

Western osprey (Pandion haliaetus)

- » Populations declined in the 1950s and 1960s due to egg collection, hunting and the use of pesticides.
- » GTA provides ample freshwater habitats to support food supply (99% fish) and breeding habitats, large open spaces near water for nesting sites, and the opportunity for reoccurring nesting sites due to little to no human development.
- In the late 1980s, osprey could be regularly observed at GTA and in 1992 the first successful brood occurred. Slowly, and over time, additional mating pairs and their subsequent offspring started to inhabit the training area and adjacent land. In 2021, nearly 30 years later, it is estimated that there are 20 osprey pairs in Bavaria with GTA being an essential stepping stone for the re-establishment.

White-tailed eagle (Haliaeetus albicilla)

- » Populations plummeted in the 1960s due to overhunting, pesticides, and habitat loss.
- » GTA provides ample food supply, mature forests, and little to no human disturbance for raising their young.
- First documented successful reproduction in the region occurred in 2001 in the GTA. Environmental monitoring was conducted by ITAM partners at the USAG Bavaria. Environmental Division and the Bundesforst in 2021 suggest that there are at least 20 white-tailed eagles residing within the GTA. In recent years, two to four pairs have been breeding at GTA, "protected" by the surface danger zones of the live-fire ranges (access restrictions ensure undisturbed nesting and breeding activities).





BIODIVERSITY AND DEFENSE

ITAM manages more than 2,833,000 acres of land in Europe. Many of these training areas lie within and contribute to mammalian biodiversity hotspots across Europe. The diversity of habitats, protections, and lack of human disturbances within training areas provide vital habitat to vulnerable and endangered mammal species. For instance, the training area in Koren, Bulgaria, offers critical habitat for the vulnerable Marbled polecat (*Vormela peregusna*) and Long-fingered bat (*Myotis capaccinii*) as well as the endangered Roach's mouse-tailed dormouse (*Myomimus roachi*).

Military training areas play an essential role in the protection and maintenance of biodiversity in Europe. In many cases, some or all of the training areas are protected to help conserve and maintain species richness and habitat diversity. These protections, the unique effects of military training, and the lack of disturbances like human development and agriculture found in military training areas have created large swathes of distinct habitats that, in some cases, are among the most critical sites for biodiversity in their country.



Military Training Areas (MTA) Number of Mammals within MTA

CZECH

REPUBLIC

LOVENIA

CROATIA

RUSSIAN

POLAND

SLOVAKIA

HUNG

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FEDERATION



GERMANY

LIECHTENSTEIN

SWITZERLAND

European bison -Bison bonasus

IUNC Status: Vulnerable

Europe's largest grazing land mammal was declared extinct in the early 20th century and reintroduced in Poland during the 1920s. Today, this vulnerable species has expanded its range into the training area at Drawsko Pomorskie, Poland. With large areas of diverse grasslands and few road crossings, Drawsko Pomorskie provides attractive habitat to this freeranging mammal.

BOSNIAAND

IERZEGOVINA



The Bechstein's bat is specialized for inhabiting forests. This vulnerable insectivore needs extensive woodlands and prefers to hunt in well-established deciduous forest canopies. The undisturbed woodlands within the training areas in Germany, Poland, Bulgaria, Hungary, and the Ukraine provide vast forests with older trees that these flying mammals prefer.

Many bat species are able to survive and flourish because military training keeps the valleys and the wood lines open providing critical forage habitats.

NGARY

ESTRONIA

LITHUANIA

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LATVIA

Eurasian otter - *Lutra lutra* IUNC Status: **Near Threatened**

An incredible swimmer, the Eurasian otter needs clean, clear, shallow rivers rich in fish and naturally overgrown riparian zones to thrive. Agriculture, human development, road strikes, and overfishing have led to a decline in suitable otter habitats across Europe, causing populations of the near-threatened species to disappear locally. The protections within training areas do not allow or greatly minimize these activities, which helps this aquatic mammal to thrive in more than 20 different training areas across Europe.

ROMANIA

BULGARIA

MOLDOVA

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2022 INITIATIVES

Sustainable Range Program (SRP)

The Sustainable Range Program (SRP) Workshop will be held at GTA in May 2022.

This event hosts diverse, multi-national range professionals and experts from throughout Europe and the U.S. Topics include program updates to GIS technical training and live training support.

The SRP Workshop is a critical consortium for bringing together the stakeholders who ensure mission requirements are reflected in range capabilities. The collaborative exercises and knowledge sharing enhances readiness and accurate planning for future needs and requirements throughout USAREUR-AF.



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Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area (DPTA) Working Group

In cooperation with our partners, ITAM will establish a working group to facilitate and optimize training capabilities at Drawsko Pomorskie Training Area (DPTA).

The working group will focus on addressing issues and developing projects that sustain current and future missions through enhanced training opportunities for multi-national forces and the promotion of environmental stewardship.



Defender Europe 22

USAREUR-AF conducts DEFENDER-Europe 22 in southeastern Europe and Estonia in order to demonstrate the United States Army's ability to rapidly deploy a large combatcredible force to the EUCOM area of responsibility.



FY 2022 European Deterrence Initiative

The Fiscal Year (FY) 2022 European Deterrence Initiative (EDI) continues to provide support for rotational force

deployments, infrastructure investments, and deliver the right capabilities in key locations throughout Europe (i.e. Air Force-European Contingency Air Operations Sets (ECAOS), Army Prepositioned Stocks (APS)).

EDI provides one of the primary funding sources for the EUCOM, and its Service Components, to continue the posture adjustments made in response to the European security environment.



NATO enhanced forward presence

As part of NATO's strengthened deterrence and defence posture, allies agreed at the 2016 Summit in Warsaw to enhance NATO's military presence in the eastern part of the Alliance.

NATO's enhanced forward presence is defensive, proportionate, and in line with international commitments. It represents a significant commitment by allies and is a tangible reminder that an attack on one is an attack on all.



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For further information or copies of this Stewardship Report, please contact the ITAM office: +49 9641 70 569 0366 or e-mail: usarmy.bavaria.7atc.list.usareur-srp@army.mil

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