



DEUTSCHER FRIEDENSRAT GERMAN PEACE COUNCIL

Every day war comes from Germany The function of foreign military bases in Germany

by Hans-Peter Richter

Germany is at war. After the recent "collateral damages" in Afghanistan even the German mainstream media report this. The German accountability for war in the whole world starts earlier. It begins when foreign military forces use German territory for making war. This report shows what foreign troops are in Germany and what they do there.

1. US military bases

Today 64.703 US soldiers are in the Federal Republic of Germany, including 49,127 from the army and 14,831 from the Air Force, along with a squadron of US Air Force and the European headquarters of the Marine Corps (1). A main contingent of the army is the V corps in Heidelberg (approx. 33,000 soldiers) under the command of lieutenant general Ricardo S. Sanchez. Because of his involvement in the tortures at Abu Ghuraib prison, Sanchez was replaced as commander-in-chief of the US troops in Iraq (2), but he still serves as commander of the V. Corps in Germany. After the return of the 1st Infantry division in Würzburg (3) to the USA the 1st Armoured Division in Wiesbaden (4) is still subordinated to the corps. It consists of 16,500 soldiers, 159 M1A1 Abrams main battle tanks, 173 M2 Bradley IFV, 36 howitzers M109A6 Paladin, 18 M270 MLRS and 18 helicopters AH-64 Apache.

Today there are 65 locations in Germany used by the US military Forces, the British military use 18 locations and have 23,000 soldiers in Germany. All these soldiers have their home base in Germany, but not all of them are present at any time, because always some military units are in combat. Therefore they are transported to the battlefields. After their turn is over they together with all their weapons return to Germany and are replaced by another military unit (rotation). So there are always gigantic military transports on rails, on the water or in the air. Since 2007 there was more rotation than before but less units return. Only in rare cases they return to the USA rather to another military base in another country. The development goes to the east to the new members of NATO.

1.1 Only few cuts

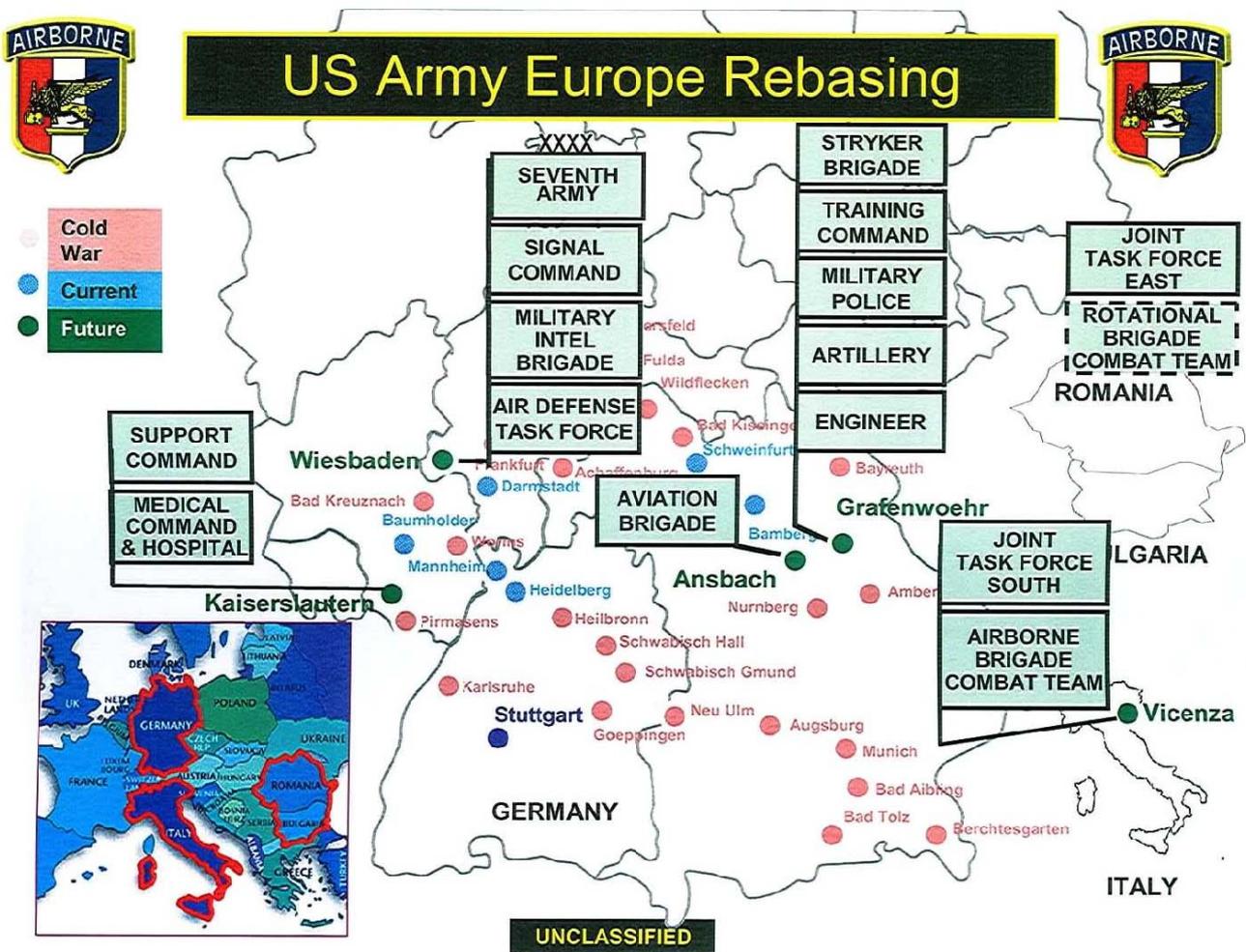
Often the reduction of US military from Germany was announced, but only became real in some cases. In August 2004 US-president George Bush announced a reduction of the armed forces stationed abroad. (5) Thus funds are to be saved, which can be put then into the weapon modernization, in order to increase the rapid intervention ability of the armed forces.

In accordance with the announcement of Bush approximately 45,000 GIs are to be taken off from Europe starting from 2006. But in 2005 it turned out that this affects only 6,100 Soldiers in Germany, additional 11,000 family members and about 1,000 Department of Army civilian and 1,000 host nation positions. (6) The Department of Defense announced July 29 plans for the return of 11 Army bases to Germany in Fiscal 2007. These installation returns are scheduled as part of plans for the 1st Infantry Division headquarters return to the United States in the summer of 2006 (7). In 2007 more reduction and rotation was planned (8). In August 2008 another regrouping and reduction was announced, but for Germany this concerns only 360 soldiers (9).

Now US Minister of defence Gates decided that until 2012/2013 not three, but five brigades stay in Europe, that means not only 28,000 but 42,000. Furthermore the bases of the US Air Force and the Marines in Germany in Ramstein, Spangdahlem and Landstuhl will be enlarged.

Also new fighting units will be deployed e.g. the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment (intervention regiment) in Vilseck near the Army's premier training facility Grafenwöhr. Because the transport of heavy tanks is difficult, the Pentagon developed a smaller tank, which can be easier transported by plane. This is the Stryker.

The extension of the US garrison **Kaiserslautern** to make it a central European logistic base will be continued consequently. Also the army administration for purchasing and managing the treaties with private companies will move to this area in 2009.



This official graphic of the US Army from October 2007 show the changes from the time of the Cold War to today and the future. But it is rather superficial, because the US military presence in Germany is much bigger. See the new list under 1.15.

1.2 Comfortable Accommodation

To get a comprehensive picture of the military infrastructure everything must be included: all military facilities (which are 287 in the fiscal year 2007), all civil facilities (housing, shopping malls, kindergarten, schools, recreations centres, golf places, Burger Kings, own water supply, own telephone net, sports grounds, sports shops, own university, gas stations, car wash places, pizzerias, bus transports, airports, fire brigades, cinemas, fitness centres, bowling, etc.). Since the Euro is so strong, the US soldiers and their families cannot afford so much than in times of the Cold War. Also there were a lot of German landlords. But today many soldiers and their families cannot afford the German rents. Therefore the DoD builds more and more own housing settlements with all the mentioned facilities. So the soldiers and their families must not go outside. E.g. a new huge settlement of this kind is constructed now in Ansbach / Katterbach / Illeshausen.

If you have the comprehensive overview you will find out that the German federal countries Hessen, Rheinland-Pfalz, Baden-Württemberg and Bavaria are full with military bases and the connected infrastructure.

	military	civil	others
army	49,127	8,127	32,778
airforce	14,831	1,250	2,238
together	63,958	9,377	35,016

Approximately 75,000 family members must be added. There are 14 communities.

This figures are taken from the Base Structure Report of the DoD for the fiscal year 2007, they might become 20 % smaller (see above). But as said above this process is slow and up to today the changes in Germany are always smaller than predicted. This is due to the extreme good conditions the US soldiers find in Germany, better than in the USA itself. A sudden removal from abroad to the USA is not possible, because in the USA there are not enough flats and not this comfortable infrastructure. A big part for this is paid from the countries, in which the soldiers are deployed. Eager partners are especially Japan and Germany (see later).

1.3 Germany plays a key role

If you compare the US military bases outside the USA you will see that Germany today has more US-bases and more US-soldiers, than any other country except Iraq and Afghanistan. The US troops and the British never left Germany since 1945. The Base Structure Report 2007 (BSR) of the US Department of Defense (DoD) says on page 6: "The real property portfolio managed by the Department of Defense encompasses a worldwide footprint to include all 50 States, seven U.S. territories, and 39 foreign countries of which the majority of the foreign sites are located in Germany (287 sites), Japan (130 sites) and South Korea (106 sites)." (11)

The German government knows about their outstanding role, which Germany has for making wars. When the US government wanted in 2003 that Germany send troops to Iraq the former German chancellor Schröder refused (by this action he won the election). Nevertheless the German government provided intensive assistance for this war. To proof this assistance the German embassy in Washington (German Information Centre) published a "Fact Sheet: American Bases in Germany" with the address www.germany.info. It is a pity, that this document is not online any more, but the author has it. It shows a map of Germany with the most important US military bases. The text is:

"More than 100,000 military personnel and their families are at home at U.S. bases in Germany.

- Ramstein / Landstuhl / Kaiserslautern Military Community 34,000 personnel and family,
- Grafenwöhr / Hohenfels: 24.500 personell and family,
- Heidelberg: 16.000 Militärangehörige und ihre Familien,
- Spangdahlem: 12.000 personnel and family,
- Schweinfurt: 12.000 personnel and family,
- Stuttgart: 10.800 personnel and family,
- Wiesbaden: 5.500 personnel and family,
- Coleman / Mannheim: 5.000 personnel and family,
- Geilenkirchen: 3.000 personnel and family.

BY THE NUMBERS

Each year, **Germany contributes nearly \$1 billion** to the upkeep of U.S. bases in Germany. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2003) (19)

Ramstein Air Base, the biggest U.S. base in Germany, costs about \$1 billion annually – an **amount equal to Germany's yearly contribution** toward the upkeep of U.S. bases. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2003) (12)

On average, the **other 43 bases cost about \$240 million each** – about the same as a **single F/A-22 fighter jet**. (Council on Foreign Relations, 2003)

With 34,000 American residents, **Kaiserslautern** is the **largest American community** outside the United States. (City of Kaiserslautern, 2003)

Since 1945, some **17 million Americans** have served tours of duty in Germany. Many return time and agains as tourists, (German Foreign Office, 2003)"

(The highlighting is like this in the original.)

By this document you can understand how important Germany is for the USA and for NATO to make wars. In the meantime there are some reorganisations, as mentioned above. Nevertheless Germany is still the most important partner in Europe for making wars. More than 60% of the US troops in Europe are stationed in Germany. **Ramstein** is the biggest US-airbase outside the USA. **Grafenwöhr** is the biggest army training area outside the USA. The current war against Iraq and Afghanistan shows again the strategic importance of the German bases for the logistic, bringing the supply to the gulf from Ramstein and starting the fighter jets from **Spangdahlem**. Both the bases will be extended.

1.4 Army Training Area Grafenwöhr

The Army Training Area Grafenwöhr is located near the village Grafenwöhr in the district Neustadt a.d. Waldnaab (Oberpfalz) and is with 226 km² one of the biggest in the world. Also it is the biggest army training area in Europe, where combat ammunition can be used. Only the army training area in Bergen-Hohne is bigger (284 km²). The training area exists since 1907. During the Nazi times it was extended hugely. Therefore dozens of villages were removed. After the second world war the US military took over and used it as before. From 1979 to 1984 computerized shooting tracks were constructed for 210 million DM. In that times the army training areas was the most modern facility of NATO.

Since 2006 Grafenwöhr has the name "Joint Multinational Command Training Center (JMCTC)". It is now home of the 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment. Nearby the „New Town“ is built, home for the soldiers of the 2nd SBCT. Grafenwöhr is used by the United States Army Europe (USAREUR), the United States Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) and other NATO units. Grafenwöhr also has an own airport mainly for transport planes. There is also a railway track, mainly for the transport of tanks.

Directly before the US invasion into the Iraq in 2003 the US army made a "dress rehearsal" for this on the JMCTC. The US soldiers magazine "Stars and Stripes" reported that under the command of general William Wallace met 1000 officers of the military units, which participated later in the invasion. They exercised the attack on Iraq in a full scale computer simulation. Also high ranking officers of the navy and air force participated and also the chief of the Central Command, General Tommy Franks.

1.5 US Air Base Ramstein

Air Force Gen. Charles F. Wald, deputy of General Jones (EUCOM), interviewed by the Air Force's internal information news service in August 2003, said, "Ramstein was critical to the success of the Operation Enduring Freedom and Operation Iraqi Freedom missions. A lot of airlift aircraft landed at Ramstein" which "has significant infrastructure, and we have a great relationship with the Germans. It makes a lot of sense to keep places like Ramstein and Spangdahlem and **Moron [AB], Spain**, open because they have large ramps that can handle large numbers of aircraft." "One of the things we like about Ramstein, for example, is the footprint of one strategic flight without refueling for an airlifter," Wald said. "You can take off from the States, no refueling, [and] land at Ramstein."



Ramstein from the air (source: Gunther Kopp "Rheinland-Pfalz aus der Luft" published by Philipp von Zabern, Mainz 2007)

1.5.1 The military history of Ramstein (13)

1951-53	US-extension of Airbase Ramstein (ABRst) on a part of the Autobahn A 6
ab 1951	60.000 military persons and their families live in the community Kaiserslautern (KL), "brothel of the nation".
1953	Deployment of the 86th squadron with F 86 fighter-planes
11.14. 1956	A US-jet crashes into the city of KL: 3 deads.
1957	ABRst is the biggest NATO air base.
1974	Extension of ABRst, because the US bases in France were closed.
summer 1981	RAF-bomb attack on the US-headquarter Rst.
01.14. 1981	A US-transport plane crashes above the amunition depot Weilerbach.
1982	1100 patients in the hospital protest against the aircraft noise ut to 114 db.
1983	sit-in before the ABRst.
February 1986	District prefect Tartter: No community is ready anymore to give more space to the Americans.
8. 28.1988	Air show on the ABRst with 300,000 spectators. Crash.-katastrophy causes 70 deads and 400 injuries.
until 1991	16,5 % of all employees in the district work for the Americans.
1994	removal of the fighter planes from ABRst, until 1994 cut of 35.000 (until 1999: 82.000) military and civil jobs in Rheinland-Pfalz, in the region KL 7.000
1994	Deployment of the 86th air transport squadron.
1997-2000	64 fights each day.
End 2004	Start of the construction of the Military Community Center for 158 Mio Euro, e.g. a hotel with 350 beds and a big shopping mall and community center, should be finished in 2006, two years delay.
February 2005	US-nature reserve activist: "In ABRst are 130 nuclear bombs".
08.05.2007	celebration of the completion of the removal of AB Frankfurt to Ramstein/Spangdahlem
2008	Estimated number of flights every day:108

Ramstein is the hub for supply of all US forces in Europe, Africa and the Middle East, Afghanistan and Iraq included. Here you find a huge ammunition depot. From Ramstein as headquarter is communication centre for the commands to the army and the air force in Afghanistan and Iraq. All wounded from this area land in Ramstein and are flied to the USA or are transported into the military hospital Landstuhl. Ramstein is also transit centre for **CIA rendition flights** or terror suspected people.

Today in the US community Kaiserslautern, which includes also Ramstein and Landstuhl live 14,450 military persons, 7,150 US civil employees, altogether with families this are 44,500 persons. This is the biggest military community outside the USA. 5,970 Non-Americans work there also for the US forces.

1.5.2 Ramstein. The Warfighting Headquarters

In Ramstein all the radar dates are collected, analysed and coordinated, taken from air, water and surface. When US-troops from the war theatre in Afghanistan and Iraq ask for help by the Air Force, Ramstein gives the commands to the fighter planes, which are deployed nearby - also to the bombers deployed in Spangdahlem. Also the USAFE Headquarter is responsible that there is always enough supply of bombs and rockets in Europe, Africa and the Middle East. This is brought steadily to the airfields near the war theatre. As happened during Bush's visit in Albania in June 2007 Ramstein commands also units of the US Navy.

In August 2005 the headquarter of the US-Air Base Ramstein was established under the name "Warfighting Headquarters". Today Lt. General Breedlove is the commander. You find details of this in STARS AND STRIPES of 2005, 11. 02. Therefore the 3rd Air Force in **Mildenhall** was dissolved. Together with the 16th Air Force aus Aviano it became the „**16th Air Force Warfighting Headquarters**“. From here now all the units are commanded, which carry out " combat and humanitarian operations". The military newspaper writes: " The command consists of parts of the 3rd Air Force and the 16th Air Force, which previously called Aviano Air Base, Italy, home. The headquarters will include a core of about 650 people and provide around-the-clock command and control support to deployed forces from Germany. About 100 of those airmen will be coming from England and 100 from Aviano. In the past, the Air Force had to scramble staff members from various units to create a command-and-control headquarters for unplanned missions. It could take as long as a week to form a team to provide critical planning.

With the new command, the planning staff is already set up and ready to go, said Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass, director of plans and programs for U.S. Air Forces in Europe headquarters at Ramstein.

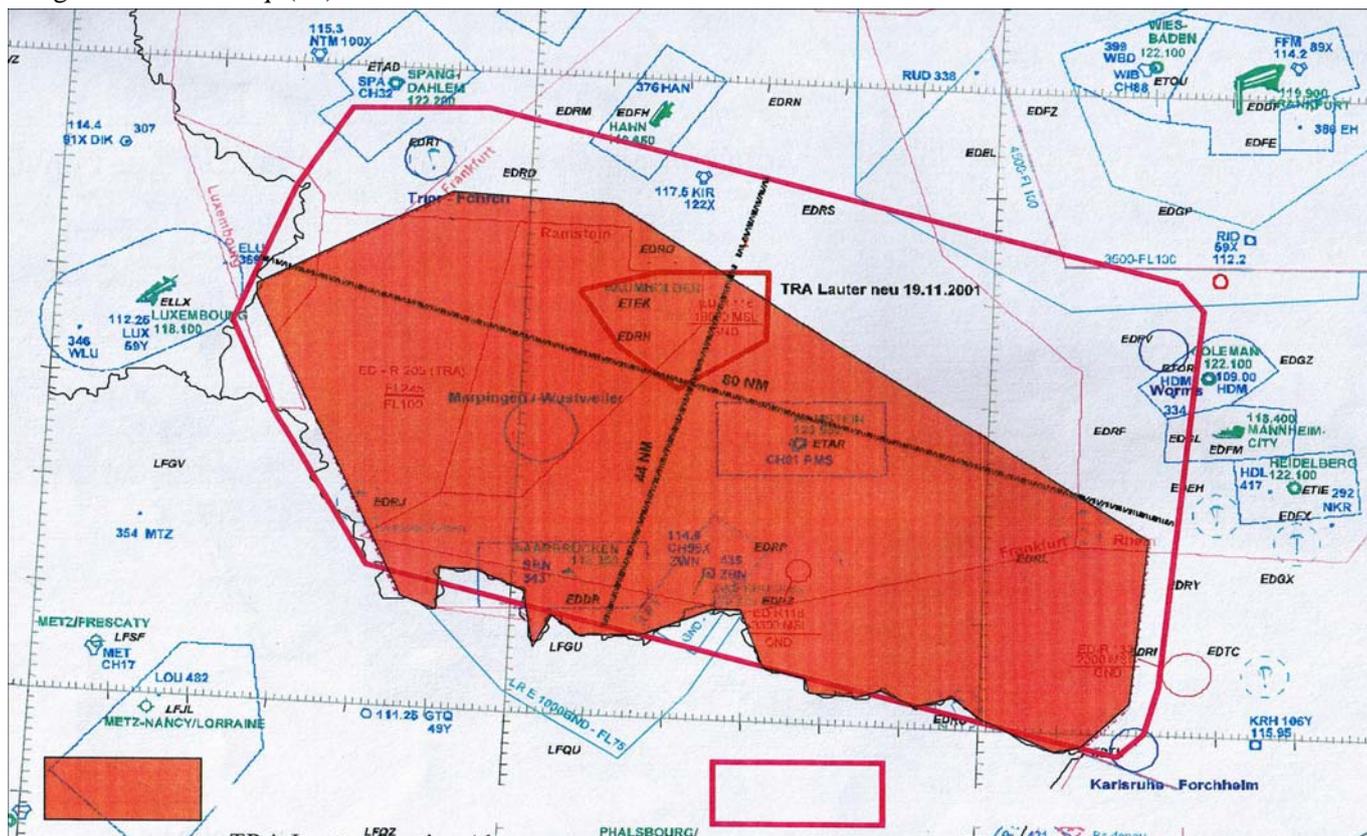
“What we’re trying to do is shorten the process up so the national command authority — the president, the secretary of defense — can look at what we’re doing, what we need to do,” Snodgrass said, “and instead of saying it will take six or seven days, they can say, ‘I want you guys there tonight. I want something to happen in seven hours.’”

This means that the US Air Force has now in Ramstein a headquarter for quick air attacks in Europe, Russia included, in most parts of Africa and Western Asia. The 3rd Air Force serves as a “warfighting headquarters” and have the job of planning combat and humanitarian operations. Lt. Gen. Robert Bishop Jr., who now serves as U.S. Air Forces in Europe vice commander, took over the command.

The command, which was deactivated in 2005 has a new role as part of a reorganization of numbered air forces in Europe, said Brig. Gen. Michael Snodgrass, director of Plans, Programs and Requirements at U.S. Air Forces in Europe (USAFE) headquarters in Germany. It has more than 250 own bomber-, fighter-, transport and tanker-planes and controls also thousands of planes of other commands, which use the airbases of the USAFE. (14)

1.5.3 Ramstein: The biggest US Air Hub in Europe

The US-Air Base Ramstein was not closed after the fatal incident in 1988, in contrary it was extended to the biggest US air hub in Europe with much money, which mostly came from Germany. Only from the ammunition bunkers every month over 900 tons of bombs, rockets and shells, also with depleted uranium (DU), are transported to Afghanistan and Iraq. (15)



This is the training area TRA Lauter

In the year 2008 were ca. 30,000 starts and landings with the very noisy planes C-130 Hercules, C-17 Globemaster, C-5 Galaxy and chartered planes, also with the noisy Antonow AN-124.

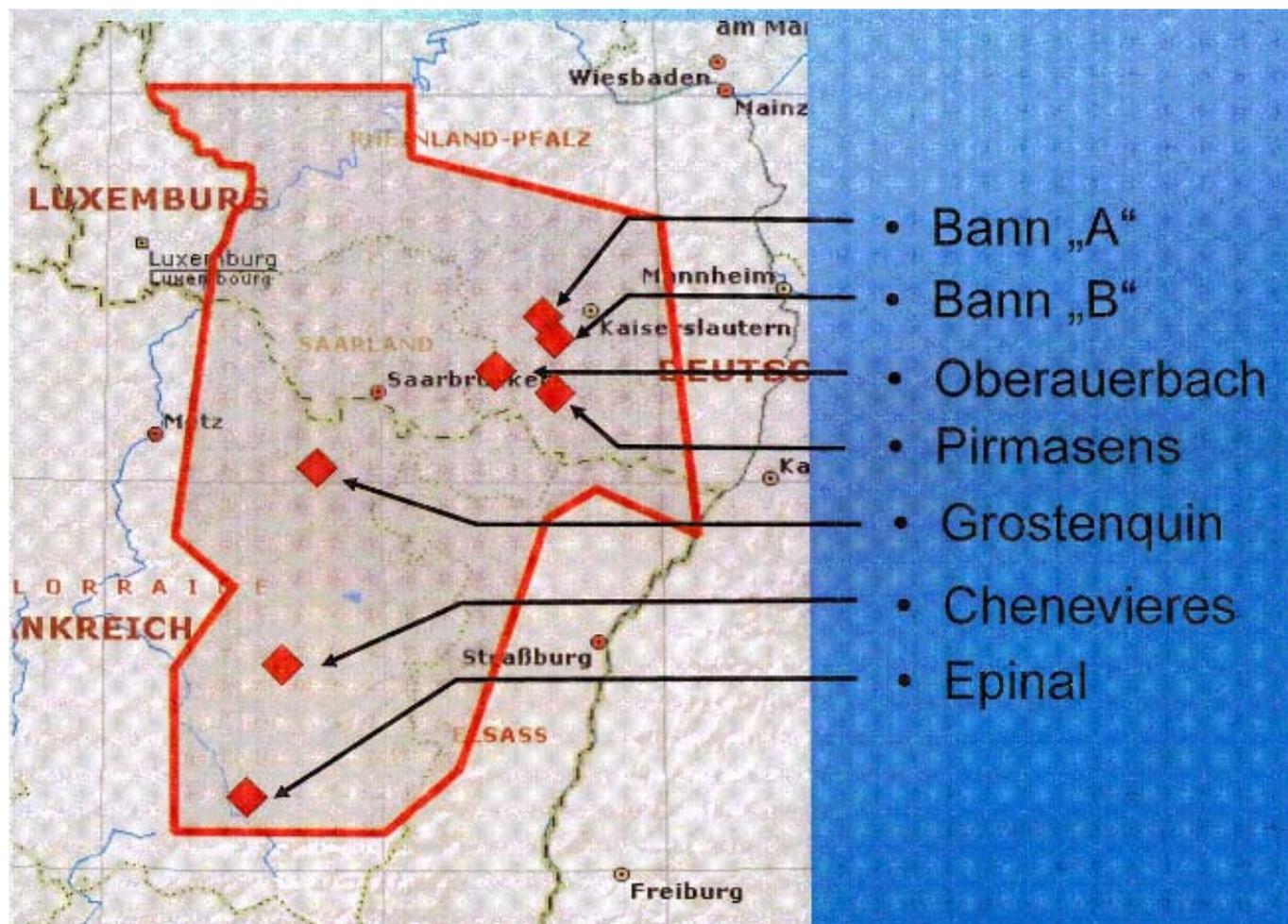
Besides that there are many test flights with repaired oldtimers like the C-130 and the day and night flight exercises of F-16 and A-10 from the air base Spangdahlem, Tornados of the German Bundeswehr from the German base Büchel and jetfighters of other nations, which are invited to common exercises.

The huge area "Temporary Reserved Airspace Lauter" (**TRA Lauter**) is used for the training of airbattles. This area reaches in the northwest up to Luxemburg, Wiesbaden in the northeast, to Karlsruhe in the south and to Metz (France) in the southwest.

Attacks to the ground and against "enemy"-radar stations are exercised on the area **POLYGONEN**. The drumming noise in great heights, and the supersonic bang, which is actually forbidden, and the simulated attacks on hospitals or other significant buildings goes on for hours, and torture the inhabitants of the area Westpfalz and Saarland and chase away the tourists in the woods (Pfälzer Wald).

In March 2008 a new record was set. The members of the U.S. Air Mobility Command (US air freight command) managed to fly 120,000 soldiers in and out to the 27 countries in the Middle East, which belong to the CENTCOM. With this they made a new monthly record; the last was from September 2007, they now had 3% more.

Also in March 2008 41,350,000 tons of freight were flown in the Middle East and the Horn of Africa. By this the old monthly record from December 2007 overtrumped by 7%. Nearly all the military air transports to the war theaters in the Middle East and the bigger engagement in Africa come from Germany. In Afghanistan and Iraq people die every day by weapons and ammunition from depots in Germany. US soldiers, who are deployed here, have exercised their combats on training areas in Bavaria and Rheinland-Pfalz and have already their second or third turn in the wars in the Middle East, coming from Germany. More than 12,000 wounded from the wars in Iraq and Afghanistan were received in the air base. The lightly wounded are brought to the USA, the others with ambulance or helicopter to the military hospital in Landstuhl. Ramstein is the "Biggest, busiest and now 'proven' the BEST" US air base. (16)



The training area POLYGONE

1.5.4 Commands per satellite directly from Washington

At the US military hospital in Landstuhl on the hill called "Kirchberg" in the direction to the autobahn Kaiserslautern/Saarbrücken are several oversize satellite dishes with several meters in diameter. They belong to the Company C of the 53rd Signal Battalion, which consists of about 60 soldiers. By this not much known and remote located satellite communication station of the US Air Force and the US Army they receive their commands directly from Washington and give them to the US bases in Europe, to airfields in the Middle East or to the US troops in Iraq or Afghanistan. Also the informations and demands coming from there are given to the concerned addresses. This indispensable communication centre show the high significance of the US military area Kaiserslautern/Ramstein (17).

1.6 Spangdahlem

From Ramstein start the transport planes, from Spangdahlem the fighter planes. This is the home base for the 52nd Fighter Wing. Its task is to eliminate the air defense of the enemy. Here you find airplanes of the following types: General Dynamics/Lockheed Martin General Dynamics F-16 *Fighting Falcon* newest generation (F-16CJ/D Block 52). The 18 Fairchild-Republic A/OA-10A *Thunderbolt II* („Warthog“) are for the support of the ground forces. These are the notorious planes, which can also shoot with ammunition of depleted uranium (DU). Spangdahlem is part of the *3rd Air Force*. Here work and live ca 5,000 Americans together with 7000 family members. Here work also 800 German employees.

1.7 Landstuhl

The Landstuhl Regional Medical Center (LRMC) is with ca. 2,200 workers the biggest US military hospital outside the USA. It has a helicopter landing pad for the direct transport of heavy woundeds from Ramstein. All heavy wounded and corpses of the war against Iraq and Afghanistan come here.

1.8 Spy Bases

The Satellite-Monitoring-Station in Bad Aibling (BAS) was the first satellite-spy-station in 1968 and was used by the US National Security Agency (NSA) since 1971. 1994 the management of the BAS was turned by the NSA into the U.S. Army Intelligence and Security Command (INSCOM) and became so one of the bases of the U.S. Global Network of Signals Intelligence (SIGINT), especially for electronic listening and monitoring. When European Union made a check of the Echelon-System in 2001 it became clear, that the USA after the Cold War had made industrial espionage here and also with a similar Station in Menwith Hill (UK). By this European companies lost billion of Dollars to the USA. 1993 it was discovered by a photo, taken from a infrared-balloon that the satellite dishes inside the cupola were not directed to East-Europe, as was claimed by the USA, but to the West to the direction of their allies. Therefore the station in Bad Aibling was to be closed in September 2002 and the personage moved to Menwith Hill. But because of 9.11 this was postponed. In 2004 the station was moved to Griesheim.

1.9 Command Relationships

The significant role Germany plays for the war machinery of the USA / NATO can be seen by the graphic. Only the Navy has its headquarter in Italy, all other European Headquarters are in Germany.



Command Relationships



Lions Lead.... All The Way

UNCLASSIFIED

The following US-headquarters are in Germany:

- The HQ for the US forces for the area Europe (US-EUCOM) is in **Stuttgart-Vaihingen** (see 1.10). EUCOM commands:
- the HQ of the US Army Europe (USAREUR) – in **Heidelberg**
- the HQ of the US-Marine Corps Forces Europe (USMARFOREUR) in **Böblingen**,
- the HQ of the Special Operations Command Europe (US-SOCEUR) in **Stuttgart-Vaihingen**
- the HQ of the US Air force Europe (USAFE) in **Ramstein**.

Also the HQ for Africa (US-AFRICOM) is in Germany. Until 2008 the "area of response" for the EUCOM included big parts of Africa. In 2008 the AFRICOM was established. It was planned to have this in Africa, but no African country was ready to take it, so it is still located in Germany in **Stuttgart-Möhringen**.

1.10 EUCOM

The EUCOM commands 112,000 soldiers in 499 bases. This are 64,000 soldiers in Germany, the 6th US fleet in the Mediterranean (14,000 sailors), also 12,000 soldiers in Great Britain, 10,000 in Italy, 2,000 in Turkey, 2,000 in Spain and smaller contingents in Norway, the Netherlands, Belgium, Luxemburg, Portugal and Greece.



Area of Responsibility



Assigned to EUCOM - Deployable World-wide



Lions Lead... All The Way

UNCLASSIFIED

The graphic shows the EUCOM before the establishing of the commands for Africa (AFRICOM). Military actions in African countries are now coordinated in the AFRICOM. EUCOM is still "responsible" for the Middle East.

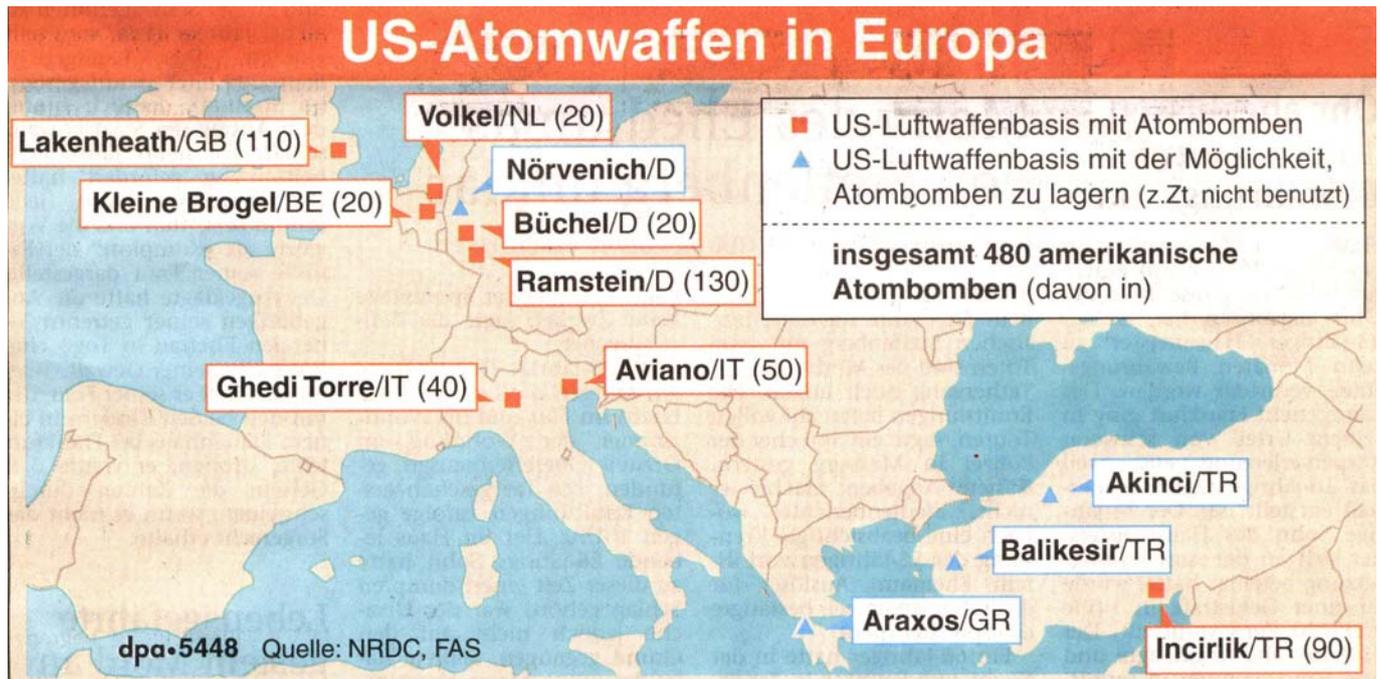
1.11 In Germany are Nuclear Bombs

Germany is by no means a nuclear free zone. In the German airbase in Büchel, near the city of Cochem on the river Mosel the USA still have deployed 20 nuclear bombs of the types B-61-3 and B-61-4 in subterranean bunkers. And this 20 years after the Cold War has ended. The bombs have a variable power between 45 and 170 kilotons and therefore up to 13 times higher power for destruction than the bomb of Hiroshima. The nuclear bombs which have also been in Ramstein and Nörvenich have been removed.

The nuclear bombs are ready for use, when the US president gives the order and after the special code for the security systems has arrived on a separated way of commands. The USA claim to have the right to use their nuclear bombs, deployed in Europe, outside the NATO area for the support of their regional headquarter GENICOM which is "responsible" for the Middle East. Experts estimate, that there are still 240 nuclear bombs in Europe. The graphic shows the status before the nuclear bombs were removed from Ramstein in 2005 and from Lakenheath in July 2008. On the German airbase Büchel US special forces with 50 soldiers guard the nuclear bombs. In case the order comes from Washington they would release the safety catch and fix them under the German Tornado-plane, which the German pilot then has to fly to the designated target. That these nuclear bombs still has to ready for the German Tornados from the 33rd Air Squadron makes no sense, because against whom can they be used? The Tornado has a range of 1853 km. In this range are only NATO allies.

The German government sticks to the nuclear bombs in Germany. On 2008, June 25th the speaker of the government Kossendy blamed the people, who demand the withdrawal they "challenge the status of the Atlantic Alliance", and would "hinder the right of determination" and would have in mind "to weaken the relations between North America and Europe durably".(18)

But the excuse, only the members, which are ready to use the nuclear weapon are included in the consultations of the nuclear planning group is not true. In a letter to Hans-Peter Bartels (member of the German parliament /SPD) the ministry of defense has to admit, that all NATO members can participate, also this countries, which no longer have the "nuclear sharing", that means also Canada, Greece and Turkey.



1.11.1 The Procedure, how to drop Nuclear Bombs is so be trained in the "Kyritz-Ruppiner Heide" (Bombodrom)

In the operation plan of the German ministry for defense for the air-ground-bombing-area Wittstock from 2008, August 28th the "nuclear sharing" is mentioned. The German Tornados coming with the nuclear bombs from Büchel should exercise here how to drop the bomb. Therefore they have to train the "loft-procedure". Due to the operation plan from 2003 the Tornados would come from south and at the training area go down to a low flight level and accelerate up to 1000 km/h. at a short distance to the goal they would go up steeply and release their training bombs. By this loft-procedure the bomb has a longer way, so that the pilot has enough time to escape with his plane from the explosion, that otherwise could destroy his own plane. Until up today the resistance of several citizens initiatives has hindered the German air force to train in Wittstock. They did this exercises mainly in the USA. Many experts thought that this training is no longer possible, because in the next years the Tornados will be replaced by Eurofighters, which cannot drop nuclear bombs. But in the latest operation plan you can read, that for the "nuclear sharing" 85 Tornados will be kept for this task , even after the year 2017.

1.12 Use of civil Airports

Because of the steadily rising numbers of transports to the war theaters and the rotation system the USA use additionally more and more civil airports in Germany. This concerns **Hahn** (near Frankfurt), **Nürnberg** (especially for the base in Grafenwöhr) and **Leipzig** (after the number of transports from Shannon (Ireland) decreased because of the resistance of local people). In Hahn the US military uses planes, which seem to be civil. They have names like "Omni Air Express" or "Evergreen Airlines". Mostly they come from US bases in Dover (Delaware) und Hartfield Jackson in Atlanta. Only in Hahn the number of soldiers brought to the Iraq rose from 74,295 in 2005 to 179,274 in 2006.

Alleine in Hahn stieg die Zahl der in den Irak beförderten SoldatInnen von 74.295 im Jahre 2005 auf 179.274 in 2006.

In the spring 2008 the artists Jan Wenzel and Jan Caspers joined at a project of art, organized by the airport Leipzig. They discovered strange things. They saw soldiers, which entered the planes like civil people making holidays. When they made investigations, it turned out, that this were troop transports. Both discovered planes of "World Airways", which were checked in , remote from the civil counters. They saw US soldiers coming out the plane and disappear behind the facade of an old building. They found out that only in 2007 this were 300,000 soldiers. Every fourth passenger from Leipzig is a US soldier. The Pentagon has nearly privatized all the troop

transports. Since 2006 several hundred thousands US soldiers have used Leipzig as transit station, mostly in the night, because here is no night restriction. The artists designed a mural about this war transports. But this then was forbidden by the manager of the airport (Eric Malitzke). Now this mural is fixed opposite the city hall. This is rather strange, because the mayor of Leipzig is member of the supervisory board of the airport, which is owned by 100% by the city. The artists see the case as scandal, because the military use of East-German airports is forbidden by the unification treaty. The TV station 3sat made a report about this story. (19)

1.13 Environmental Damages as in the case of Ramstein (20)

The marshy grounds in Landstuhl were filled up with concrete in a big area, so one of the natural landscape with their nature reserves disappeared. The last protected animals and plants were "relocated" in 2003, when the airbase was enlarged. Victims of that enlargement were also big areas of wood between the airbase and the neighbour villages. This has risen the noise pollution by warming ups, starts and landing of the planes heavily. The citizen can help themselves by sound insulation windows and special air systems, but they cannot protect themselves against the chemical pollution of the air, all surfaces in open space, in the soil, in the water or the wells. The military planes use the special fuel JP-8. We know from a fact sheet of the producer Chevron, that JP-8 consists poison and stuff, that can produce cancer. JP-8 seeps out from leaky tank equipments into the soil and gets into the ground water under the airbase. JP-8 is also blasted into the air, when a transporter plane is too heavy. It then lies down as oily film everywhere.

A big Galaxy-transporter-plane needs for the start 3,500 tons of fuel. With that amount a Diesel-car, which needs 10 liters per 100 kilometers (km) could run for 35,000 km. This jets have no filter against soot. While the starts and landings on the US airbase Ramstein every year 1,35 billion of exhaust-gas is released. This contains sulphur dioxide, nitrogen oxide, carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, bromine, lead and soot in big numbers. With 5 tons per inhabitant in Kaiserslautern you have the biggest rate in Germany of carbon dioxide, which is the killer of the climate. But the measuring instruments are placed in that way, that the results never go beyond the critical value.

During the exercises above the Polygone-training area often chaff is used for disguising against radar. This are very thin aluminium-coated fibers. This tiny invisible parts can be blown very far and even inhaled. All this poisons from fuels, solvents and cleansers, which are released since decades get into the air, the soil and the ground water and damage plants, animals and humans. Humans are effected twice when this stuff is in the food-chain. Vegetables and fruits from this area and the training areas TRA-Lauter and POLY-GONE are inedible. The natural ground water reservoir under the US airbase Ramstein are poisoned so much by JP-8 and solvents that there drinking water cannot be produced anymore. Even drinking fountains in great distance are endangered already. Due to oversized pumping of the ground water reservoir in the northern valleys of the woods in summer the stretch of water on the surface run dry. Therefore plants and animals are endangered.

Often the terror of the noise of military air exercises keeps on the whole day and sometimes deep in the night. This causes high blood pressure and then to sickness of the heart and the blood circulation. This was proven by a study of the ministry of environment. In the region of Kaiserslautern even little children suffer more from sickness of the skin and the respiratory tract than the average. Also the number of cases of cancer and leukemia of little children is much higher than in similar regions, which don't have such burden.

1.14 The purpose of the bases

Following Joseph Gerson (21) the US bases have 7 purposes:

- To reinforce the status quo: for example the deterrent role of U.S. bases in South Korea, and the intimidating role of many of the U.S. bases in Middle East which are designed to ensure continued U.S. privileged access to, and control of, the region's oil

- To encircle enemies: as was the case with the Soviet Union and China during Cold War and China to this day. This is a role played by U.S. bases in Korea, Japan, Philippines, Australia, Pakistan, Diego Garcia, and in many of the former Soviet Republics of Central Asia

- To serve & reinforce the aircraft carriers, destroyers, nuclear armed submarines and other warships of the U.S. Navy. This includes bases in Okinawa, Yokosuka outside Tokyo, and "visiting forces" and "access" agreements in the Philippines, Singapore, Thailand, and many other countries.

- To train U.S. forces, as was long the case for bombardiers in Vieques and as jungle war fighting and other training which continues in Okinawa.
- To function as jumping off points for U.S. foreign military interventions as: the cases of Okinawa, the Philippines, now Korea with the changing missions of U.S. forces here, Spain, Italy, Honduras, Germany and the new bases in Eastern Europe, Kuwait and likely in Iraq.
- To facilitate C3I: command, control, communications and intelligence, including essential roles in nuclear war fighting, and the use of space for intelligence and warfare as we saw in Afghanistan and Iraq. U.S. bases in Okinawa, Qatar, Australia and even China serve these functions.
- To control the governments of host nations. Japan, Korea (where U.S. military forces were deeply involved in military coups,) Germany, Saudi Arabia, and today's Iraq begin the list.

Chalmers Johnson sees also an economical aspect. By its military power the USA serves the US companies and the weapons industry. This concerns big parts of the US economy, like Kellogg, Brown & Root Company, daughter of the Haliburton Corporation, which build and maintain the wide spread outposts, including the comfortable housing of the uniformed personal, which is well fed and enjoys the recreation centres, the 234 gulf ranges and the ski resort in Garmisch.

In 2007 another purpose of the US bases became public. Using the international network of US bases the CIA can kidnap any person in any country under the pretext to be suspicious being a terrorist and kill him or bring him in any other country for investigation and torture.

The case of the kidnapping of Osama Mustafa Hassan Nasr (Abu Omar) became public. He was kidnapped by 22 CIA agents in February 2003 in the streets of Milano (Italy), was brought to Ramstein and then to Cairo (Egypt), where he was tortured. A Italian judge issued a warrant to arrest this 22 agents, but that was never executed.

The media in Germany reported about "black sites" in Poland and Romania. There are many cases of such CIA transports from Aviano in Italy and Ramstein and Frankfurt to Guantanamo and Afghanistan. In the years 2002, 2003 and 2004 there were more than 85 CIA flights from Frankfurt-Rhine-Main-Airbase. So Germany is not only the military center in northern Europe but also very important for the CIA, which can act without any control.

1.15 List of all US locations from A-Z

Today 65 locations with in Germany are used by the USA for military reasons, in 20 of them no people are living, because they were given up. The Base Structure Report (BSR) of the DoD lists all own and rented buildings and its value.

The army uses	6548 own buildings with	2,462,732.59 m ²
	2317 rented buildings with	895,744.26 m ²
	7656 others with	9,643,827.66 m ²

The estimated value of this real estates, if they have to be erected newly is:
34.621.300.000 \$.

The air force uses	870 own buildings with	652,524.47 m ²
	183 rented buildings with	39,786.75 m ²
	1053 others with	1,998,163.88 m ²

The estimated value of this real estates, if they have to be erected newly is:
8,064,600,000 \$.

Otherwise use are	77 own buildings with	16,271.78 m ²
	48 rented buildings with	21,659.51 m ²
	95 others with	35,362.80 m ²

The estimated value of this real estates, if they have to be erected newly is:
205.800.000 \$.

The no longer used empty buildings are listed up with values in millions of dollar. Here is a big task for our local politicians and experts for conversion.

The estimated value of all real estates is 42,891,700,000 \$. The used areals are additionally 646,82 km².

In the BSR are listed 287 facilities and the type of usage. This is the list from A-Z. You can find the BSR with more details in the internet: www.defenselink.mil/pubs under Reports.(29) (30) (31)

1. Amberg (empty)	23. Geilenkirchen	45. Mainz
2. Ansbach	24. Gelnhausen (empty)	46. Mannheim
3. Aschaffenburg (empty)	25. Germersheim	47. Miesau
4. Babenhausen	26. Geibelstadt	48. Mühlhausen
5. Bad Kissingen (empty)	27. Giessen	49. Neubrück
6. Bad Nauheim	28. Grafenwöhr	50. Oberweis (empty)
7. Bamberg	29. Groß Auheim	51. Oppenheim (empty)
8. Baumholder	30. Grünstadt	52. Pirmasens
9. Bensheim	31. Hanau	53. Prüm (empty)
10. Binsfeld (empty)	32. Heidelberg	54. Ramstein
11. Bitburg (empty)	33. Hochspeyer (empty)	55. Sambach (empty)
12. Bremerhaven	34. Hof	56. Schweinfurt
13. Büchel	35. Hohenfels	Siegenburg siehe Mühlhausen
14. Büdingen	36. Hommertshausen (empty)	57. Spangdahlem
15. Butzbach	37. Idar-Oberstein (empty)	58. Speicher (empty)
16. Darmstadt	38. Illesheim	59. Spesbach (empty)
17. Dautphe (empty)	39. Kaiserslautern	60. Stuttgart
18. Dexheim	40. Kitzingen	61. Vilseck
19. Einsiedlerhof	41. Lampertheim (empty)	62. Wartenberg
20. Frankfurt	42. Landstuhl	63. Weisskirchen (empty)
21. Friedberg	43. Langen (empty)	64. Wiesbaden
22. Garmisch	44. Leimen (empty)	65. Würzburg

2. British Forces in Germany

In Germany are 23,000 British soldiers, 2,000 civil employees and 30,000 members of their families (status from 2006). Until 2014 the number of soldiers is to be reduced to 16,000. Simultaneously the remaining units will be reorganized, because two of the five garrisons will be closed. The garrisons Hohne, Gütersloh and Paderborn remain, Osnabrück and Rhine will be closed. Until 2035 all garrisons will be closed and all troops will be withdrawn.

The British forces run two big army training areas and several garrison training areas, 32 schools, 50 NAAFI shopping centers and 9 cinemas. Since 1979 the weekly magazine "Sixth Sense" is edited in Bielefeld for the soldiers and their families. Two radio programs and a TV station are broadcasted by BFBS. The program BFBS Radio 1 Germany has such strong FM radio transmitters, so it can be heard in big parts of the German federal countries Northrhine-Westfalia and Lower Saxony.

The headquarter of the British forces Germany (BFG) is in **Mönchengladbach-Rheindahlen**

The British forces in Germany have two main commands: The United Kingdom Support Command (Germany), UKSC(G), in **Mönchengladbach** is responsible for the administration and the logistic support for the British units in Germany and the European continent. In Mönchengladbach is also the headquarter of the NATO Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (HQ ARRC).

The second command is in **Herford**, it is the 1st (UK) Armoured Division. It commands the British battle forces in Germany. In Herford is also the BFBS.

The BFG consists of five garrisons:

- 1) **Gütersloh** with units in **Bielefeld**, Gütersloh, Herford and **Lübbecke**
- 2) **Hohne** with units in **Bergen-Hohne**, **Celle** and Bad **Fallingbommel**
- 3) **Osnabrück** with units in **Münster** and Osnabrück
- 4) **Paderborn** with units in **Hameln**, Paderborn and **Sennelager**
- 5) **Rhein** with units in **Dülmen**, **Elmpt**, **Haltern**, Mönchengladbach, Rheindahlen and **Wulfen**

Altogether the BFG use **18 locations** in Germany. The army training area Bergen (also called Bergen-Hohne) in the southern part of the Lüneburg heath is with **284 km²** the biggest army training area in Germany. It was constructed in 1935 by the "Wehrmacht". The British occupation forces took it over at the end of 1945 and have enlarged it constantly. since the 60's the area is also used by the Germany army and the NATO.

Another big army training area under British control is in Senne near Paderborn, it has **116 km²**

3.NATO-Military Bases

The Allied Command Europe Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) is a multinational NATO-corps under the leadership of Great Britain, which today has only a headquarter. The staff is since May 1994 in the Joint Headquarter (JHQ) **Rheindahlen** near Mönchengladbach. Besides Great Britain 6 nations take part in the corps, Germany included.. The HQ ARRC is able to deliver a headquarter for the NATO or EU to lead missions of "crisis intervention".The AARC gets its orders from the Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) in Casteau near Mons in Belgium and is classified as Rapidly Deployable Corps Headquarter, or as High Readiness Force (Land) HQ. Therefore it is able to provide forces for the NATO Quick Reaction Force. Within 5-30 days the headquarter can be deployed and act in all parts of the world.

The NATO **AWACS** planes are deployed in **Geilenkirchen**, also German. The **Airborne Warning and Control System (AWACS)** is a radar system of the USA and other NATO members in the plane, which is used to observe and control the air space and as combat command centre. AWACS is an essential component in every air battle. Without such a system the war planes had to rely on systems on the ground. Several months ago an AWACS plane joined in manoeuvre in the USA and acted as flying headquarter for air battles with jet-fighters, who could use nuclear bombs (22).

4. Other foreign military Bases

France:

Garrisons in **Donaueschingen, Immendingen und Mühlheim (Baden)**, all three are part of the German-French Brigade

The **German-French Brigade** is a binational infantry brigade and has 5,000 soldiers from the French and the German army. The command is in Mühlheim. All troops are stationed in the German federal country Baden-Württemberg. The brigade is part of the chain of commands of the Euro-corps. The German part of the troops are classified as intervention forces; they are not part of a division, but under direct command of the army headquarter. The French part is under the similar French command, Commandement de la force d'action terrestre (CFAT). The Euro-corps is a multinational unit from Germany, France, Belgium, Spain and Luxemburg. It is open to all member of the West European Union (WEU) and to the states associated with the WEU. A brigade of the Polish army is trained by the Euro-corps, which also delivers forces for the Quick Response Forces of the NATO.

Netherlands

2 garrisons in **Münster** as stationing for the German-Netherlands-corps.

4.1 EU-Battle-Groups

With the EU-Battle-Groups the EU wants to strengthen its power militarily. The Battle-Groups consist in multinational units, which can act ad hoc. This means, that in the future even more foreign military units will be active in Germany. Until 2007 13 Battle-Groups should be ready, but this failed so far.

5. The Costs

Important facts about the costs of the US Army are mentioned already under chapter 1.3.

The allied forces in Germany have always taken the majority of their costs for their presence and living into account to Germany. Besides the free use of huge areas for military use also the costs are paid for renovation, new buildings, etc.

To keep the bases in Germany functional 7 billion US-Dollars are spent every year. Germany gives 1.89 billion (27 %) to the USA.

Germany paid also for the 'transformation' cost of the US military footprint in Germany. In the case of Rhine-Main Airbase shift to Ramstein and Spangdahlem: 368 million \$ of the total of 528 million \$. The rest is also funded by NATO, which means Germany bears 70 % of the cost.

When confronted with the argument of the economic benefits of keeping US military bases, these figures can make clear that the cost of having them is often heard by the hosting country. **Germany is actually paying to be an outpost for the military interventions and illegal warfare of the US military.**

6. Also to be mentioned: EU-Military Bases worldwide

NATO and EU follow the example of the USA and have more and more military bases worldwide. The bases of the member countries are at disposal for all members. Today there are 28 French, 29 British, 11 German, 5 Italian and 2 Spanish bases. Germany uses for its warfare in Afghanistan the basis Termez in Uzbekistan and allows all NATO countries to use it also. Other German military bases are in Cyprus, Kenya, Djibuti and Sudan. Soon Germany wants to have a base in Darfur.

See the graphic of all EU-military bases in internet: http://deutscher-friedensrat.de/materialien_005.htm

7. The legal Status

The bases are **de facto extraterritorial areas**. The US-expert Chalmers Johnson wrote: "America's 703 officially acknowledged foreign military enclaves (as of September 30, 2002), although structurally, legally, and conceptually different from colonies, are themselves something like microcolonies in that they are completely beyond the jurisdiction of the occupied nation. The United States virtually always negotiates a "status of forces agreement" (SOFA) with the ostensibly independent "host" nation, including countries whose legal systems are every bit (and perhaps more) sophisticated than our own... (23)

Rachel Cornwell and Andrew Wells, two authorities on status of forces agreements, conclude, "Most SOFAs are written so that national courts cannot exercise legal jurisdiction over U.S. military personnel who commit crimes against local people, except in special cases where the U.S. military authorities agree to transfer jurisdiction."

You can find the legal frame for Germany in the **NATO-Status of forces agreement (SOFA)** from June, 19., 1951. There are **Additional Agreements to SOFA (ZA-NTS)** between Germany, Canada, Great Britain, Netherlands, Belgium and France, which have been modified 1993. There are special agreements for admission and coordination of manoeuvres from March 18. 1994. SOFA can be terminated with a deadline of two years. ZA-NTS is also terminable within a deadline of one year, but only for "important reasons". What this means is not known. Also for three US-German training shooting and bombing ranges there are **administration agreements**, which adapt regulations to the practice of the Bundeswehr. The same happened with three shared UK-German, and one shared range with Belgium, France and Netherlands.

In the **Headquarter Protocol** are the rules for free movements, if the target is a NATO country.

For all these treaties exist **Protocols**, which include that the USA/NATO has to inform the German government about military transports; but this happens only seldom. They include also the provision of the infrastructure of the military bases, but also the **right for inspection** by German authorities, but this also does not happen. Also included are the special rights for private companies (In 2006 this concerned 90 treaties for 1700 employees).

All US soldiers and civil cortege and their families are under US law. The law of the host nation should be considered only.

There is no control of the flights, because they have a **permanent allowance** (Military Diplomatic Clearance), see <http://www.useg.net/useg.html>

All these treaties are terminable. In great parts they are even **illegal**, because they violate the German constitution and the international right. (see later).

The question is if the "allied forces" will obey these regulations, and if not what happens. I remind the incident in 1998 in **Cavalese (Italy)** where a US warplane killed 20 people of an alpine carriage lift while flying at dangerously low (and not permitted) levels. **A US-military tribunal** found the pilots not guilty.

This reflects an experience elsewhere in the world with US bases, violators and criminals will not be punished. They act in this awareness and make the military bases an **outlaw area**. Even worse is that using the military bases means **breaking international law**.

7.1 The Case of Florian Pfaff

The major of the German Army Florian Pfaff denounced to follow the order to support the war against Iraq. The case went thru all instances of courts. In a verdict on June 21, 2005, (BVerwG 2 WD 12.04) the highest administration court in Germany stated that the war against Iraq violated international law. It was a violation of the ban against violence of the Charter of the United Nations. There was neither a UN mandate nor could the USA use the excuse of self defence, which would only have been possible in the case of a direct attack against the USA and only as long the UN took no measures. Neither was the case. The (alleged) enemy's possession of weapons of mass destruction is no reason for war anyway.

The verdict stated that Germany gave aid for the violation of international law and therefore violated international law also, for the following reasons:

- allowing the use of the US and UK military bases on German territory,
- allowing the USA and UK to fly over German territory,
- guarding the US and UK military facilities in Germany,
- participation of German soldiers in AWACS-planes for Turkish air space.

The court stated: "The act of a state allowing that its territory, given for use to another state, is used by this state for an act of aggression is in itself an act of aggression." Germany should have been neutral in the US war against Iraq. This means the following acts are forbidden:

- transport of soldiers
- use of communication
- use of cars, airplanes and rockets.

7.2 Germany was obliged to arrest US soldiers

The court was even more strict: "Troops of conflicting parties, who pass a neutral territory, coming to the neutral territory after the start of the armed conflict are to be arrested. Only officers giving their word of honour not to leave the neutral Territory without permission, can be released.".."The obligation for internment comes from the very meaning of the law of neutrality, because only in this way can it be hindered, that armed conflicts are supported from neutral territory thus leading to an escalation of armed conflicts and including the neutral state. The Federal Republic of Germany was not released from this obligation of international law, in the case of the war, which began on March 20th, 2003, and in which we see severe violations of international law, by being a member of NATO, which includes also the USA and the UK (and other members of the war coalition)."..

"Neither the NATO treaty nor the NATO Status of Forces Agreement nor the additional agreements to SOFA oblige the Federal Republic of Germany to support acts of NATO partners that violate international law or the UN Charter."

"A NATO state that prepares and makes war against international law, violates not only the UN Charter but also article I of the NATO treaty. Therein all NATO states are obliged "in accordance with the statutes of the United Nations to solve every international conflict, in which they take part, with peaceful means, so that the international peace and the security and justice are not endangered and to abstain from every threat or use of violence, which is not in the framework of the goals of the United Nations." "This means also that a war, which is not justified by article 51 of the UN Charter, also cannot represent or justify a 'NATO case of alliance' according to Art. 5 of the NATO treaty."

"A war of aggression by a NATO state, prohibited by the UN Charter, cannot become a war of defence by declaring the 'NATO case of alliance'".

According to the additional agreements to SOFA, the USA and UK have to ask the German government for allowance "if their military planes -outside the framework of NATO- use the German air space or airfields given for their disposal for transport of troops, deployed in the USA or UK, for stopover, refuelling or taking material or weapons on board on their way without NATO mandate to the war theatre outside the NATO area." Therefore the concerned German authorities, especially the German government, have the legal right in a case of conflict to control, if the deployed military forces use the yielded facilities (and the air space above) in every case only for 'duties of defence' according to the additional agreements to SOFA and the NATO treaty, or use or prepare them for other activities." The German government has to start and take "all necessary measures to hinder that actions and support for war in violation of international law are initiated from the territory of the Federal Republic of Germany. One more reason for this is Art. 2 of the treaty, concerning the final regulations about Germany (so called Two-Plus-Four Treaty), which was adopted as part of the framework for German reunification. This was the essential basis for establishment of the German union of states. By this treaty Germany is obliged by international law to take care, "that only peace comes from German territory."

7.3 Secret Agreements are invalid

"This is also valid for the case of secret agreements between the Federal Republic of Germany and the USA and the UK, which are not registered and published by the Secretary of the United Nations in spite of Art. 102 of the UN Charter and which might foresee different arrangements in the case of a military conflict. Independent from the validity of such secret agreements, Art. 103 of the UN Charter, has to be fulfilled strictly. It says: ' In the event of a conflict between the obligations of the Members of the United Nations under the present Charter and their obligations under any other international agreement, their obligations under the present Charter shall prevail.'"

Indeed there seems to be such a secret agreement between the German government and the USA. This was mentioned in a radio broadcast with author Albrecht Müller, who worked in former German governments. He said that at the time of German reunification the US government was very anxious to lose their military bases in Germany. But that Chancellor Kohl made a secret agreement with the USA that they could use their bases for any reasons they wanted at any time. I heard the same from the former member of the German government Oskar Lafontaine at a conference in January 2006 in Berlin. He said that Germany in this sense is not a sovereign country like France.

This explains why the USA was allowed use of its German bases for the illegal war against Iraq.

I agree with the analysis of Chalmers Johnson: Generally international law and the constitution of the host nation is broken by the SOFA and additional agreements. By this agreements the host nations give up their sovereign rights, they give up the control, if their country is misused for violation of the international right or not.

7.4 The Case of Jürgen Rose

In the verdict mentioned above the court does not say directly "against international law" but it uses constantly the formula "severe concerns of violation of the international right". This gave the German government the possibility, to go on with the disposal of the military bases, and to ignore the voluminous legal argumentation of the highest administration court. A spokesman of the government said, that there is no verdict of the highest constitutional court, so as if a law or the international right must be respected by the government only if all single regulations must be confirmed by the highest constitutional court.

This made Jürgen Rose angry. He is lieutenant colonel in the German Army. He aimed to get a verdict of the highest constitutional court. Therefore he wrote an article in the magazine "Ossietzky", which was published on 2006, May, 27th. He wrote:

"That the (German) generals because of their inability could not recognize, what was going on, you can exclude with good reasons... Because you can also exclude stupidity, there remains only a second alternative reason - and this is: opportunism, cowardice, unscrupulousness...(..) Would the German general have only one little spark of sense of honour and consciousness for right and moral, the Inspector General together with the Inspector Generals of the units of the German Army had refused to follow the illegal orders of the German-red-green-government, which were violating our constitution and the international right."

For this a disciplinary action began, which run thru all instances of the military courts. This ended with a punishment. He should pay 750 Euro. Jürgen Rose appealed a decision and the case run thru all civil instances up to the constitutional court. But the constitutional court decided not to accept the case. They made eight pages of explanatory notes, which say:

- the human dignity of the attacked Generals was not violated by the article,
- the concerned critics is no invective (this would be the case when the drastic critics is so strong, that it violates the human dignity and is stronger than the intention to say one's opinion.),
- the complaint has "no general importance for the constitution."

Following this verdict every German citizen is allowed to say:

- **The German Generals who ordered the soldiers to support the War against Iraq, have acted opportunistically, cowardly and unscrupulously,**
- **Would the German general have only one little spark of sense of honour and consciousness for right and moral, the Inspector General together with the Inspector Generals of the units of the German Army had refused to follow the illegal orders of the German government, which were violating our constitution and the international right.**

It may be formally juristically right, that the constitutional court decided that the case has "no general importance for the constitution.", because it had only to decide if Jürgen Rose had the right, to say his opinion, and not to judge if it is true. **But the question is, what else must happen, that the constitutional court decides, if the German government breaks the constitution and the international law?**

In August 2008 the parliamentary party "Die Linke" ordered an **legal expertise**. "Military Bases and military used airports in Germany". It was done by Prof. Dr. Andreas Fischer-Lescano from the Centre for European Legal Politics at the university in Bremen. In this my statements about the legal status are confirmed (see www.linksfraktion.de). Prof. Dr. Fischer-Lescano states especially, that the ban of violence in the international common law is violated. If the German government does not inspect the military bases it does not fulfil their duty to protect the citizen. The citizens can go to court against military bases.

7.5 The legal Status for Stationing Nuclear Bombs

The **NATO treaty** from 1949 regulates the stationing of nuclear bombs. As mentioned above in Germany are still nuclear bombs from the USA. This "nuclear sharing" violates international law. The Non-Proliferation-Treaty (NPT) forbids in article 1 that states, which have nuclear bombs give the control over them to states, which have no nuclear bombs, like Germany. This is valid – as it was defined by the parties of this treaty – for all times and under all conditions, also in wars. Furthermore nuclear bombs are banned by the humanitarian international martial law, because weapons are banned, which do not distinguish between soldiers and not involved civil persons. The humanitarian international martial law is due to article 25 part of the German constitution. The USA have not adopted this law.

The German minister of defense Josef Jung has issued a new version of a manual for the soldiers of the German Army concerning the humanitarian international martial law in combat. In this order from June 2008 is printed on page 5 very clearly: "Especially the use of the following weapons is forbidden for German soldiers in combat: anti-person-mines, nuclear weapons, chemical weapons."

A short version for the pocket of the central service regulation number 15/2 describes the legal situation due to the international law, adopted by Germany. For the first time the minister of defense declares clearly, that German soldiers are not allowed to use nuclear weapons. Before this there was left a backdoor, when it was said, that the international law has to be respected "as far as practically possible". This backdoor is now closed. But it is not clear, what it means for the pilots of the Tornados, which before were allowed to drop nuclear bombs in the frame of a NATO intervention. The pilots now are in trouble. They exercise in peace, what is prohibited in war. That they are not allowed to use nuclear bombs is ordered to them by the ministry of defense. But if there is an order by NATO, they have to decide if they follow this order or not. What would be worse, violating the international law, or refuse the order? So the expert for defense for the Green party Winfried Nachtwei means: "The German government washes its hands of it in advance and by this makes the use of nuclear weapons a private problem for the pilots."

The German governments allows, that act of violation of the international law comes from German territory and by this breaks the international law itself. She orders from German soldiers to train acts, which violate the international law and the constitution. To justify this it speaks of "solidarity with the alliance" and sometimes about "fair burden sharing". But this reason cannot be superior over the international law. The real reasons are questions of power. By defending "German interests" in Afghanistan, Germany shows that it will participate militarily worldwide. It is high time that some members of the German government are taken to account for violating the international law and the constitution constantly.

(1) Department of Defense, Base Structure Report, Fiscal Year 2007 Baseline (A Summary of DoD's Real Property Inventory), Seite DoD-6

(2) www.vcorps.army.mil/leaders/leaders.htm

(3) www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/army/1id.htm

(4) www.globalsecurity.org/military/agency/army/1ad.htm

(5) www.uni-kassel.de/fb10/frieden/regionen/USA/truppen.html

(6) [EUCOM_RELEASE] from 2005, July, 29, by: Yates, Dale W. TSgt <yatesd@EUCOM.MIL>

(7) Additionally to the 1st ID this concerns the units under their command, selected units from the V. Corps of the US Army in Heidelberg. They return to the USA, are dissolved completely or newly arranged for Europe.

- (8) US Army Release No. 20070102 "U.S. Army in Europe units scheduled to deploy", 22. January 2007
- (9) STARS AND STRIPES, 28.08.08 (<http://www.stripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=64226&archive=true>)
- (10) see (1) page ARMY-28 and page AIR FORCE -22
- (11) see (1)
- (12).CFR is the Council on Foreign Relations in the USA. The CFR is a independent US-american centre for foreign studies in New York
- (13).collection Kohlstruck (documents and notices about the Air Base Ramstein, status 2008, April, 5th.)
- (14) www.luftpost-kl.de
- (15) "Kaiserslautern American" from 2007, March 9th
- (16) Press Office of the 435th Air Base Wing, 2008, August, 7th, (<http://www.usafe.af.mil/news/story.asp?id=123108282>)
- (17) STARS AND STRIPES, 2008, April, 5th (<http://www.stripes.com/article.asp?section=104&article=61210&archive=true>)
- (18).DER SPIEGEL 27/2008
- (19) <http://www.3sat.de/3sat.php?http://www.3sat.de/kulturzeit/themen/125114/index.html>
- (20) This chapter is a summary of a speech by Wolfgang Jung (Kaiserslautern) "Auswirkungen von Militärbasen auf die Natur und auf die Menschen, aufgezeigt am Beispiel US-Air Base Ramstein". www.luftpost-kl.de
- (21) Dr. Joseph Gerson: Military Colonialism: Personal and Analytical Perspectives, International Consultation on U.S. Bases, Seoul, Dec. 1 & 2, 2003
- (22) www.luftpost-kl.de
- (23) The number of 703 U.S. military bases located in other people's countries is from the Office of the Deputy Undersecretary of Defense (Installations and Environment), Base Structure Report (A Summary of DoD's Real Property Inventory) (Washington, DC: Department of Defense, 2003), www.defenselink.mil/news/Jun2003/basestructure2003.pdf. The figure for 2001 was 725. For details and analysis of these reports, see Chalmers Johnson, *The Sorrows of Empire* (New York: Metropolitan Books, 2004), pp. 151-60. The figure 703 seriously underestimates the actual number since it omits secret intelligence bases, those disguised by national identities (e.g., Royal Air Force bases in Britain), those omitted in order to avoid embarrassment to foreign governments, and most of the bases in the Balkans, Persian Gulf, and Central Asia acquired in recent American wars.
- (24) Rachel Cornwell and Andrew Wells, "Deploying Insecurity," *Peace Review* 11:3 (1999), p. 410.