# 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division "Iron Brigade" Fort Carson, Colorado

Media Kit



3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT, 4<sup>th</sup> ID, Public Affairs Team February 2017

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For more information and coverage of the Iron Brigade (articles, videos, B-roll, still images), please visit our pages below.

3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division home page <u>http://www.carson.army.mil/4id/unit-pages/3abct.html</u>

3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Facebook page <u>https://www.facebook.com/3BCT4ID</u>

3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Twitter page <u>https://www.twitter.com/3ABCT4ID</u>

3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division DVIDS pages <u>http://www.dvidshub.net/unit/3BCT-4ID</u> <u>https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/24PCH/</u>

3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Flickr page <u>https://www.flickr.com/photos/ironbrigade/</u>



3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division
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## 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team (3 ABCT) Leadership

## COLONEL CHRISTOPHER R. NORRIE, BRIGADE COMMANDER

Col. Christopher R. Norrie assumed command of the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, Dec. 2, 2015.

He last served as the director of the Chief of Staff of the Army's Coordination Group in Washington, DC (2014-2015).

His previous tours include G3 (Operations), 1st Armored Division; commander, 6th Squadron, 1st U.S. Cavalry (Stryker Reconnaissance Squadron), 1st Brigade, 1st Armored Division (Fort Bliss, Texas); S3 (Operations), 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry



Division with duty in Kirkuk, Iraq (2010); S3 (Operations), 4th Squadron, 9th U.S. Cavalry (Armored Reconnaissance Squadron), 2nd Brigade, 1st Cavalry Division with duty in Baghdad, Iraq (2006-2008); secretary of the general staff, 1st Cavalry Division (Fort Hood, Texas); observer/controller (Cobra Team), National Training Center, Fort Irwin, California; Tank and Headquarters Company commander, 1st Battalion, 8th U.S. Cavalry with duty in Bosnia-Herzegovina; S4 (Logistics), 1st Battalion, 8th U.S. Cavalry (Fort Hood, Texas); Tank Company executive officer, 2nd Battalion, 70th Armor Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Fort Riley, Kansas); aide-de-camp to the deputy commanding general (Maneuver), 1st Infantry Division (Fort Riley, Kansas); and Tank and Scout platoon leader, 4th Battalion, 37th Armor Battalion, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division (Fort Riley, Kansas).

Col. Norrie is a distinguished military graduate of Bucknell University in Lewisburg, Pennsylvania and holds Masters Degrees in Business Administration from Embry-Riddle University and in National Security Strategy from the National War College. He is also a graduate of the U.S. Army Armor Officer Basic Course (Fort Knox, Kentucky), Infantry Officer Advanced Course (Fort Benning, Georgia), and the Command and General Staff College (Fort Leavenworth, Kansas).

His awards and decorations include the Legion of Merit, Bronze Star Medal (three awards, one with valor), Meritorious Service Medal (four awards), Iraq Campaign Medal, NATO Medal, and the Combat Action Badge.

## 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team (3 ABCT) Leadership

## CSM CHRISTOPHER R. GUNN, BRIGADE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

Command Sgt. Maj. Christopher David Gunn, a native of Warner Robins, Georgia, graduated from Northside High School and entered military service in March 1992.

Command Sgt. Maj. Gunn completed Basic and One Station Unit Training (OSUT) at Fort Benning, Georgia. Gunn's assignments include 25th LRSD (Long Range Surveillance Detachment), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii; 1st Battalion, 32nd Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, New York; 1st Battalion, 34th Infantry Regiment (Basic Training Battalion), Fort Jackson, South Carolina; 1st Battalion,



502nd Infantry Regiment, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Task Force 1, Joint Readiness Training Center (JRTC) and 1st Battalion, 509th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Polk, Louisiana; United States Sergeants Major Academy (USASMA) Class 59, Fort Bliss, Texas; 3rd IBCT, 1AD, Fort Bliss; command sergeant major of 3rd Battalion, 69th Armored Regiment, Fort Stewart, Georgia; command sergeant major of 2nd Squadron, 3rd Cavalry Regiment, Fort Hood, Texas.

Command Sgt. Maj. Gunn's awards and decorations include: Bronze Star Medal (two Oak Leaf Clusters), Meritorious Service Medal (1 Silver and 1 Bronze Leaf Cluster), Army Commendation Medal (five Oak Leaf Clusters), Army Achievement Medal (1 Silver Leaf Cluster), Meritorious Unit Commendation (one Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Superior Unit Award (one Oak Leaf Cluster), Army Good Conduct Medal (eighth award), National Defense Service Medal (second award), Iraqi Campaign Medal with two stars, Afghanistan Campaign Medal with one star, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Humanitarian Service Medal with two stars, NCO Professional Development Ribbon with Numeral 4, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Multinational Force and Observers Medal, NATO Medal, Combat Infantry Badge, Expert Infantry Badge, Master Parachutist Badge, Pathfinder Badge, Air Assault Badge, Drill Sergeant Badge, and Ranger Tab. He is also a receipt of the Order of St Maurice, Order of St George and Order of St Barbara, a member of the Audie Murphy Association and a distinguished member of 502nd Regimental Association.

He holds an Associate's Degree in General Studies from Central Texas College, a Bachelor's Degree in Multidisciplinary Skills and a Master of Arts in Leadership Studies from University of Texas at El Paso.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (1-8 IN) Leadership

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL JASON M. SABAT, BATTALION COMMANDER

Lt. Col. Jason M. Sabat received his commission as an Infantry officer from the United States Military Academy in 1997.

Lt. Col. Sabat is a graduate of the Infantry Officer Basic and Career Course, U.S. Army Air Assault, Airborne, Jumpmaster, Freefall Parachutist, Ranger, and the Command and General Staff College.

Lt. Col. Sabat's previous assignments include Airborne Infantry and Anti-Armor Platoon Leader (2<sup>nd</sup> Battalion, 504<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina), Advanced Individual



Training (369<sup>th</sup> Adjutant General Battalion, Fort Jackson, South Carolina) and Air Assault Company Commander (1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 506<sup>th</sup> Parachute Infantry Regiment, Camp Greaves, Korea); Assistant Operations Officer (196<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, Fort Shafter, Hawaii); Battalion Executive Officer, and the Commanding General's Executive Officer (1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 64<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment, 3<sup>rd</sup> Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Georgia). His most recent assignment was serving as a Presidential Strike Advisor on the Joint Staff.

Lt. Col. Sabat has deployed to Kuwait, Iraq, and Afghanistan and served in various staff and command positions.

His awards include the Bronze Star, Defense Meritorious Service, Meritorious Service, and the Army Commendation Medals. In addition, he is awarded the Expert and Combat Infantryman's Badge, Master Parachutist, Air Assault, Military Freefall, and the Ranger Tab.

Lt. Col. Sabat holds a Bachelor of Science from the U.S. Military Academy and a Master of Science from Kansas State University.

He is married to Lt. Col. (U.S. Marine Corps) Colleen J. Sabat. They have a son by the name of Maximus.

## 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (1-8 IN) Leadership

## COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR JAY F. MORSE, BATTALION CMD. SGT. MAJ.

Command Sgt. Maj. Jay F. Morse entered the U.S. Army in November 1989 and completed One Station Unit Training at Fort Benning, Georgia, as an Infantryman (11B). His military education includes Primary Leaders Development Course, Basic Noncommissioned Officer Course, Advance Noncommissioned Officer Course, Airborne School, Jumpmaster School, Air Assault School, Pathfinder School, Ranger School, Drill Sergeant School, the U.S. Sergeants Major's Course, and the Pre-Command/CSM Development Course.



Command Sgt. Maj. Morse's previous assignments include rifleman to scout squad leader, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 87<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Fort Drum, New York; squad leader, 4<sup>th</sup> Battalion, 325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; drill sergeant, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 46<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Fort Knox, Kentucky; weapons squad leader and scout platoon sergeant, 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 325<sup>th</sup> Airborne Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, North Carolina; Senior Ranger Instructor, 6<sup>th</sup> Ranger Training Battalion, Eglin Air Force Base, Florida; platoon sergeant, Troop C, 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 33<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Regiment; first sergeant, Troop C, 1<sup>st</sup> Squadron, 33<sup>rd</sup> Cavalry Regiment; first sergeant, Troop C, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 187<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Fort Campbell, Kentucky; Garrison Operations Sergeant Major, U.S. Army Garrision, Fort Lee, Virginia; and Operations Sergeant Major of 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 14<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment, Schofield Barracks, Hawaii.

He has deployed to the Honduras, Joint Task Force Bravo; Haiti, Operation Uphold Democracy; Operation Iraqi Freedom III-V; Operation Enduring Freedom IV; Kuwait, Operation Spartan Shield; and currently Operation Atlantic Resolve.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star (3rd Award), Meritorious Service Medal (5th Award), Army Commendation Medal (4th Award), Army Achievement Medal (5th Award); Good Conduct Medal (8th Award); National Defense Service Medal (2nd Award); Armed Forces Expeditionary Medal; Afghanistan Campaign Medal; Iraqi Campaign Medal (2nd Bronze Star); GWTSM; Humanitarian Service Medal (3rd Award); Noncommissioned Officers Professional Development Ribbon (numeral four); Army Service Ribbon; Overseas Service Medal (numeral 4); NATO Medal; Ranger Tab, Expert Infantrymen Badge, Combat Infantryman Badge, Master Parachutists Badge, Air Assault Badge, Pathfinder Badge, and Drill Sergeant Badge.

Command Sgt. Maj. Morse holds an associate's in general studies from Central Texas College and a Bachelor of Professional Studies Degree in business and management from Excelsior College.

Command Sgt. Maj. Morse is married to Mrs. Teresa Morse and they have four children.

## "Iron Brigade" Operation Atlantic Resolve Mission

The 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division is the current regionally aligned heavy brigade for Europe. In January 2017 the entire brigade will deploy to support U.S. Army Europe and participate in Operation Atlantic Resolve. Deploying the Iron Brigade, including all its heavy equipment, to train with allies and partners and demonstrate the capabilities of an armored brigade combat team is a challenging mission, one the brigade is well prepared to undertake and eager to accomplish. Iron Soldiers have spent the last year aggressively training in preparation for this mission, and we are proud to be the brigade chosen to continue the armored presence in Europe.

The 3/4 ABCT's deployment in January marks the beginning of a continuous U.S. armored brigade presence in Europe. These "heel-to-toe" rotations, made possible by the European Reassurance Initiative, is a strong signal of the United States' ironclad commitment to strengthening the defensive and deterrent capabilities of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization alliance.

## "Iron Brigade" Overall Mission

When at its home station of Fort Carson, Colorado, the Iron Brigade conducts decisiveaction training in order to achieve and maintain proficiency in offensive and defensive Unified Land Operations. The brigade continues its training progression from the company level through the brigade level – performing in scaled, modular formations or as part of a larger force – to enable collective readiness in preparation for any contingency operation worldwide. Most recently, upon the return of select 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT senior leadership and staff from the Leader Training Program at Fort Irwin, California, in late June 2016, the brigade culminated its collective training progression through a final home-station training exercise, Iron Strike 16, from July 5-21, 2016, prior to conducting a deployment-validation rotation at the National Training Center at Fort Irwin from Aug. 21, 2016, to Sept. 20, 2016.

## **Command Priorities**

<u>Tough, Realistic Training</u>: Combat operations demand strong, active leaders at all levels; tight units; tough and confident Soldiers; simple, violently executed battle drills; and weapons and systems that work. Our goal is to develop these things under conditions as close to combat as possible. Training must be stressful, challenging, and fast-paced with clear, understood training objectives. Training must be well planned, executed on time, and evaluated to ensure that objectives were met.

<u>Every Soldier is a Leader</u>: Leaders are responsible for the combat readiness of their units. Senior leaders assign tasks, provide resources, establish standards, and hold teams accountable for excellent results. Junior leaders must be able to do the right thing in the absence of continuous direction.

<u>Soldiers and Families</u>: Building and strengthening our Soldiers and Families is accomplished through teamwork; enforcing discipline; conditioning mental, physical and spiritual strength; fostering independent Families; raising awareness to prevent harassment and assault, alcohol abuse, suicide and domestic violence.

## "Iron Brigade" Units



## 588<sup>th</sup> Brigade Engineer Battalion (588<sup>th</sup> BEB) "Lone Star" Battalion

"The 588<sup>th</sup> Brigade Engineer Battalion deploys and provides mobility, communications, intelligence, and security support to enable 3rd ABCT's full-spectrum operations."



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 8<sup>th</sup> Inf. Reg.) "Fighting Eagles"

"The 1st Bn., 8th Inf. Reg., maintains combat readiness to deploy, fight, and win in any theater of operation."



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 66<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 66<sup>th</sup> Armor Reg.) "Iron Knights"

"The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 66<sup>th</sup> Armor Reg., maintains combat readiness to deploy anywhere in the world and conduct full-spectrum operations in support of the commander's objectives."



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 68<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment (1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 68<sup>th</sup> Armor Reg.) "Silver Lions"

"The 1<sup>st</sup> Bn., 68<sup>th</sup> Armor Reg., maintains combat readiness to deploy, fight, and win in any theater of operation."



#### 4<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment (4<sup>th</sup> Sqdrn., 10<sup>th</sup> Cav. Reg.) "Black Jacks"

"Black Jack Squadron conducts reconnaissance and surveillance in support of the development of the 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT's situational awareness and knowledge in the area of operations."



#### 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 29<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment (3<sup>rd</sup> Bn., 29<sup>th</sup> FA Reg.) "Pacesetters"

"The 3rd Bn., 29th FA Reg., provides timely and accurate lethal indirectfire support for the 3rd ABCT, along with synchronizing the effects of nonlethal fires for the Commander in support of any worldwide deployment or contingency operation. On order, the Pacesetters are prepared to operate as a motorized maneuver battalion, combining both maneuver and traditional fire support against any enemy on the modern battlefield."



#### 64<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion (64<sup>th</sup> BSB) "Mountaineers"

"The 64th BSB deploys with the 3rd ABCT to provide a singular, responsive, multifunctional source of combat service support."

February 12, 2017

## "Iron Brigade" Highlights

- As our Army transitions to a leaner, more agile force, 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT will continue to adapt our training to shape a future force that has the capability and versatility to prevent conflict, shape the environment, and decisively win our Nation's wars.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT conducts decisive action training at Fort Carson, Colorado. In order to achieve proficiency in offensive operations, and in order to prepare to assume allocated missions in support of world-wide operations.
- The training environment of Fort Carson and Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site (PCMS) produces adaptive leaders and agile forces for the current fight, which are responsive to the unforeseen contingencies of the 21st Century.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT has transitioned its training to decisive-action exercises that provide a comprehensive approach in a Joint, Interagency, Intergovernmental and Multinational (JIIM) environment.
- Decisive-action scenarios ensure brigade combat teams are trained and ready to win the current fight, while maintaining responsiveness for future contingencies.
- The decisive-action training environment scenarios are reflective of the complexities of potential adversaries our nation could face and include: near-peer conventional, guerilla, insurgent, and criminal forces woven into one dynamic environment.
- The decisive-action training environment was developed to create a common training scenario for use throughout the Army.
- Decisive-action training allows units to fully exercise their mission-essential task list that supports the Army's core competencies: wide-area security and combined-arms maneuver.
- The Iron Brigade is committed to balancing our training mission with protecting and preserving Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site's natural environment and historical properties.
- 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT strives to be good neighbors and partners with its southern Colorado community and to communicate upcoming training events that may affect them.
- We ensure safety is adhered to on our ranges and training at Fort Carson and PCMS to protect the Soldiers, civilian personnel and those who live outside the gates of our community.

## **3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Atlantic Resolve Rotation Fact Sheet**

- Nine-month rotations scheduled into the foreseeable future
- Enhances deterrence capabilities, increases ability to respond to potential crises, and defends our Allies and partners in the European community
- Remains under U.S. command
- Focuses on strengthening capabilities and sustaining readiness through bilateral and multinational training and exercises

<u>3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Overview:</u>

- Arrived Jan. 5, 2017, from Fort Carson, Colorado
- Approximately 3,500 Soldiers, 87 tanks, 144 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, 18 Paladin self-propelled artillery (446 tracked vehicles, 907 wheeled vehicles, 650 trailers)
- Represents the beginning of Armored Brigade Combat Team continuous presence and back-to-back rotations of U.S. ABCTs in support of Atlantic Resolve

#### <u>3rd ABCT Deployment:</u>

- Equipment arrived at Bremerhaven, Germany, Jan. 6, 2017, and moved by rail, commercial line-haul and military convoy to Poland, consolidating at Drawsko Pomorskie, Skwierzyna, Swietoszow, Boleslawiec, and Zagan training areas
- Transportation included 3 vessels, approximately 35 trains, 100 vehicles for the movement of 2,800 pieces of equipment
- Convoys drove a distance of 930 KM to reach Zagan, Poland

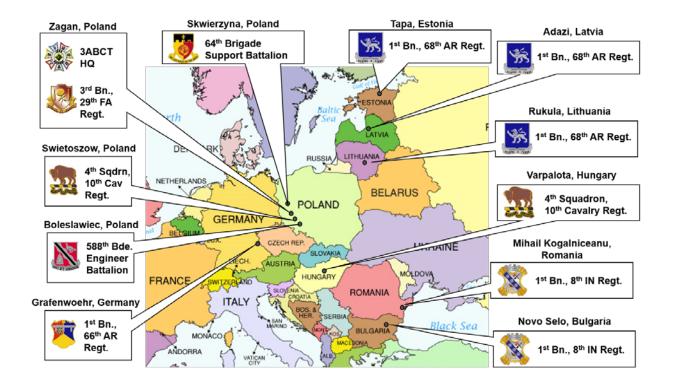
Purpose:

- The armor rotational brigade is making good on our commitment to the U.S.— European strategic partnership.
- This rotational force, deploying with their full complement of equipment, puts U.S. armor back into Europe.
- The forward presence of U.S. Soldiers is the bedrock of our country's ability to assure Allies, deter adversaries, and posture to act quickly if deterrence fails.
- The rotational forces will conduct exercises across the theater during the course of their nine month rotation, routinely demonstrating speed of assembly and massing for training events.

- These forces will train with our Allies and partners, ultimately leading to greater interoperability
- Rotational units will demonstrate their capability during July 2017 at exercise Saber Guardian 17 in the Black Sea region.

<u>3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT Locations:</u> Beginning in February 2017, units will distribute across the region:

- Brigade headquarters; brigade engineering and support battalions; 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 29<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment; and 4<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment - Poland (Zagan, DPTA, Swietoszow, Skwierzyna, and Boleslawiec)
- 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 68<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment positioning in Baltic nations until NATO Enhanced Forward Presence battalions are in place, then rotating for exercises
- 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment will train primarily in Bulgaria and Romania
- 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 66<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment is at Grafenwöhr, Germany, for training and competitions



## Atlantic Resolve Fact Sheet

Armored and Aviation brigade rotations overview

- Nine-month rotations scheduled into the foreseeable future
- Enhances the deterrence capabilities, increases ability to respond to potential crises and defend our allies and partners in the European community
- Remains under U.S. command (not NATO)
- Focuses on strengthening capabilities and sustaining readiness through bilateral and multinational training and exercises

#### 4th Infantry Division, Mission Command Element:

- Based in Baumholder, Germany; regionally aligned division headquarters for Europe
- Oversees rotational units, tactical headquarters for U.S. land forces
- Provides U.S. Army Europe a division-level command and control capability

#### 10th Combat Aviation Brigade:

- Began arriving Feb. 12, 2017, from Fort Drum, New York with approximately 10 Chinooks, 50 Blackhawks and 1,800 Soldiers
- Headquartered in Illesheim, Germany, with forward positioned aircraft in task forces in Latvia, Romania, and Poland
- An aviation battalion from Ft. Bliss will be attached to the 10th CAB task force with approximately 400 Soldiers and 24 Apaches
- Black Sea persistent and continuous presence
- Continued investment in the training and mission command capabilities at Novo Selo Training Area, Bulgaria, and Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, Romania

#### Army Prepositioned Stock

- Started assembling in September 2016, most of the equipment comes from across the Army, some was once European Activity Set
- Equipment and ammunition required to support armored division-sized force, can also be drawn for training and exercises
- Reduces deployment times, improves deterrence capabilities and provides additional combat power for contingency operations
- Locations: Eygelshoven, Netherlands; Zutendaal, Belgium; Miesau and Dülmen, Germany; and discussions ongoing for a site in Poland

#### Enhanced Forward Presence

- Separate and distinct from U.S. Army Europe rotational forces
- Will fall under NATO operational control
- Contributes to the alliance's deterrence and defense capabilities
- U.S. is the framework nation for the Poland-based eFP Battle Group
- In April 2017, 2<sup>nd</sup> Squadron, 2<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Cavalry Regiment will move from Vilseck, Germany, to Orzysz, Poland, and includes United Kingdom and Romanian forces

For more information visit <u>www.eur.army.mil/AtlanticResolve</u>

## 4th Infantry Division & Fort Carson, Colorado, Fact Sheet

4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division is a modular division of the United States Army based at Fort Carson, Colorado. It is composed of four organic infantry and armored brigade combat teams and one combat aviation brigade.

The 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division's official nickname, "Ivy" is a play on words of the Roman numeral IV or 4. Ivy leaves symbolize tenacity and fidelity, which are the basis of the division's motto: "Steadfast and Loyal." The second nickname, "Iron Horse," has been adopted to underscore the speed and power of the division and its soldiers.

Fort Carson is a U.S. Army installation located near Colorado Springs, Colorado. It is located between Pueblo, Colorado (approximately 40 miles to the south) and Denver, Colorado (approximately 75 miles to the north).

Fort Carson is approximately 137,000 acres in size and also includes Pinon Canyon Maneuver Site, which is an additional 236,000 acres in size.

Fort Carson contains and cares for more than 26,000 active-duty military, 42,000 family members, 6,300 Army civilians and 47,000 local military retirees. It additionally has five schools located on the installation that provide for the educational needs of more than 3,800 children.

## **4th Infantry Division History**

The 4th Infantry Division is the preeminent team of combat-focused Soldiers, Families, and supporting community members achieving excellence in the support of each other and the Army's mission.

As the Army's only balanced division with the combination of armor, light, and Stryker infantry, the 4th Inf. Div. is the most versatile division in the United States Army providing options to joint force commanders consistent with today's Army Operating Concept.

On December 10, 1917, the same year that America entered World War I, the 4th Division, American Expeditionary Forces, was organized at Camp Greene, North Carolina to begin its long tradition of service to the Nation. Filled with draftees, the 4th Div., whose insignia had been adopted by its first commanding general, Major General George H. Cameron, became known as the "Ivy" Division. Its insignia consisted of four green ivy leaves on a khaki background. The division also derived its numerical designation from the Roman numeral IV; hence the nickname, "Ivy" Division. The division's motto, "Steadfast and Loyal," has described the Iron Horse Soldier for nearly 100 years.

By June 1918, the entire division had arrived in France, and before entering combat in July for the Aisne-Marne Offensive, the 4th fought with distinction across France and received great praise for their heroic efforts during St. Mariel and the Muese-Argonne campaigns. With the Armistice signed on Nov. 11, the division moved to serve both the French and British sectors as well as all Corps in the American sector and was the first to crack the Hindenburg Line.

The 4th Infantry Division was reactivated in June 1940 and began training immediately for war. Sent to England in January 1944 for amphibious training prior to D-Day, the Ivy Division was first ashore, landing at Utah Beach on June 6, 1944. After a successful landing and breakout from Normandy, the 4th pushed into France and liberated Paris. The division then moved to Luxembourg where the 4th Inf. Div. became the first U.S. Soldiers to breach the Siegfried line and enter Germany. The 4th moved north to face the enemy in the bloody Hurtgen Forest and after weeks of brutal combat returned to Luxembourg for action in the Battle of the Bulge. The 4th Inf. Div. halted the enemy advance in December, gained the offensive and attacked across the Rhine and into eastern Germany during the spring of 1945.

The Fighting Fourth was again called into action in the fall of 1965 and sent to Vietnam. The division was given a large area of the Central Highlands to control and a base camp was soon established at Pleiku. During the next four years, the 4th Inf. Div. engaged the enemy in brutal combat, conducting search and destroy missions and constant patrols to defend their assigned territory. They eliminated enemy incursions moving from the Ho Chi Minh Trail thru Cambodia and Laos. When the division departed Vietnam in late 1970, it had earned 11 campaign streamers and 12 Soldiers had earned the Medal of Honor.

The 4th Inf. Div. returned to combat in 2003 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and would deploy multiple times during the next eight years. After arriving in April 2003, the division established Task Force Iron Horse at Tikrit and engaged the enemy north of Baghdad. In December 2003, the 4th along with special operations forces captured Saddam Hussein. The 4th Inf. Div. Headquarters returned in both 2005 and 2007 to command Multi-National Division-Baghdad and the division's brigade combat teams also made multiple deployments in support of the war. During their service in Iraq, Iron Horse Soldiers would balance aggressive operations to eliminate threats with massive rebuilding projects and sophisticated training programs. The Iron Horse Division deployed, serving as the command for MND-North in support of Operation New Dawn, in 2010.

The AI Qaeda attacks of September 11, 2001 resulted in a swift and unified action to destroy those responsible. The U.S. Army invaded Afghanistan in 2001 to search for and destroy al Qaeda, its sympathizers and its leader Osama Bin Laden. The action became known as Operation Enduring Freedom and focused on eliminating the Taliban organization which supported al Qaeda and practiced domestic terrorism against the people of Afghanistan. As the war evolved U.S. and NATO forces increased in number

to also provide necessary security training and infrastructure development for a free and democratic Afghanistan.

The Iron Horse Division cased its colors again, June 24, 2013, symbolizing the beginning of the Headquarters and Headquarters Battalion's one-year deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. The division deployed part of its headquarters to support NATO's International Security Assistance Force Regional Command-South in its mission to support and enable Afghanistan's National Security Forces to conduct security operations and create the necessary conditions to promote economic development and governance in the Kandahar, Zabul, Uruzgan and Daykundi provinces.

After returning from their deployment to Regional Command-South, Afghanistan, the 4th Inf. Div. received the Army's Regionally Allocated Forces mission in Europe. Arriving in Europe Feb. 13, 2015, the 4th Inf. Div. Mission Command Element serves as an intermediate headquarters for U.S. Army Europe, operating in support of Atlantic Resolve.

The 4th Inf. Div. headquarters is the first division-level headquarters to deploy to Europe as part of the regionally allocated forces concept. The MCE is a headquarters element tailored to provide mission command for all U.S. ground forces participating in Atlantic Resolve, and oversees continuous, enhanced multinational training and security cooperation activities with allies and partners in Eastern Europe, to include countries of Estonia, Lithuania, Latvia, Poland, Romania, Bulgaria, Hungary, and Germany.

The 4th Inf. Div. has earned 22 campaign streamers for participation in World War I, World War II, Vietnam, Iraq and Afghanistan. Since World War I, 21 Soldiers were awarded the nation's highest honor, the Medal of Honor. Staff Sgt. Clinton L. Romesha and Staff Sgt. Ty Michael Carter are two recent Soldiers to receive the nation's highest military award for extraordinary gallantry and selfless actions during the Battle of Kamdesh at Combat Outpost Keating, Afghanistan, on Oct. 3, 2009. Capt. Florent A. Groberg was the latest Iron Horse Soldier to receive the Medal of Honor from the President, Nov. 12, 2015.



## "Iron Brigade" History

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade was constituted Nov. 19, 1917, in the Regular Army as Headquarters, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Brigade, as an element of the 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division. It was organized in December 1917 at Camp Greene, N.C. The Brigade has been reorganized and redesignated several times over the years. Finally, on Dec. 15, 1970, it was activated at Fort Carson, Colorado, as 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade, 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division.

When the Division Headquarters moved to Fort Hood, Texas, in 1995, the brigade remained at Fort Carson and was redesignated as the 3<sup>rd</sup> Brigade Combat Team (3<sup>rd</sup> BCT). In May 2006 the brigade completed its transformation to the Army's modular design.

The brigade has received numerous campaign participation credits, including Aisne-Marne and Meuse-Argonne during World War I; Counteroffensive, Phases II-VI, and Tet Counteroffensive in Vietnam; and Operation Iraqi Freedom I of the War on Terrorism, to name a few. A few of its more prestigious decorations include the Presidential Unit Citation, the Valorous Unit Award, the Republic of Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm, and the Republic of Vietnam Civil Action Honor Medal, First Class.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team is comprised of nearly 4,200 Soldiers including: 4<sup>th</sup> Squadron, 10<sup>th</sup> Cavalry Regiment; the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 8<sup>th</sup> Infantry Regiment; the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 66<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment; the 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 68<sup>th</sup> Armor Regiment; the 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion, 29<sup>th</sup> Field Artillery Regiment; the 588<sup>th</sup> Brigade Engineer Battalion; and the 64<sup>th</sup> Brigade Support Battalion.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT deployed four times in a span of seven years in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom – from 2003-2004, 2005-2006, 2007-2008 – and later, Operation New Dawn from 2010-2011. In Iraq, the brigade's mission included several key areas: neutralizing the anti-Iraqi forces, building a capable Iraqi Security Force, legitimizing a responsive government, and putting Iraqis in the lead. During the latter half of Operation Iraqi Freedom and the beginning of Operation New Dawn, from March 2010-2011, the 3<sup>rd</sup> BCT had the mission to serve as an advise-and-assist brigade responsible for advising, training, and assisting Iraqi Security Forces. During that deployment, the brigade provided training and assistance to Iraqi security forces while simultaneously assisting the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRT) in helping the Iraqi government rebuild its civil capacity and infrastructure. While there, the brigade fell under the command of the 1<sup>st</sup> Infantry Division and the 36<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division in the southern four provinces of Iraq.

Along with its organic elements, the brigade partnered with two Iraqi Army Divisions, 10<sup>th</sup> IA Division and 14<sup>th</sup> IA Division; 4<sup>th</sup> Region DBE with the 9<sup>th</sup>, 10<sup>th</sup>, and 14<sup>th</sup> Brigades; three ports of entry, one each at Safwan, AI Sheeb, and Shalamcheh; one Federal Police Brigade; the Iraqi Highway Police in Dhi Qar Province; and Iraqi police with four separate provincial directors of police. The brigade also partnered with four PRT, responsible for securing movement, assessing projects and managing commanders' emergency response funds.

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The brigade's units worked with their partners diligently, training, mentoring and providing enablers when needed to assist the Iraqis to develop an effective and lethal security force capable of defeating the anti-Iraqi forces and supporting the elected government. The 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT returned to Fort Carson in March 2011.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT sent more than 300 of its officers and senior noncommissioned officers in April and May 2012 on a nine-month deployment to the southern provinces of Afghanistan to help mentor and train Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF). While supporting their deployed leadership, the remaining "Iron Brigade" Soldiers, NCOs and officers continue to train and prepare to maintain combat readiness to fulfill any future mission requirements.

The 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT deployed to Kuwait in February 2015 for a nine-month mission under Operation Spartan Shield. OSS is part of a longstanding bilateral defense relationship between the United States and the Persian Gulf region, with the U.S. maintaining a brigade in the region routinely since the first Gulf War in 1991. While deployed, 3<sup>rd</sup> ABCT conducted security operations as well as multinational and joint exercises aimed at helping to build the capacity of partner nations in the region.



## **Iron Brigade Vehicles**

For additional information, please see http://www.army.mil/factfiles/



HMMWV (High Mobility Multipurpose Wheeled Vehicle) – The HMMWV is a light, highly mobile, diesel-powered, fourwheel-drive vehicle equipped with an automatic transmission. Based on the M998 chassis, using common components and kits, the HMMWV vehicles include 11

variants. All HMMWVs are designed for use over all types of roads, in all weather conditions and are extremely effective in the most difficult terrain. The HMMWV's high power-to-weight ratio, four-wheel drive and high ground clearance combine to give it outstanding cross-country mobility.



**Bradley Fighting Vehicle** – Provides protected transport of an infantry squad on the battlefield and overwatching fires to support the dismounted infantry; is employed to suppress and defeat enemy tanks, reconnaissance vehicles, infantry fighting vehicles, armored personnel carriers, bunkers, dismounted infantry and attack helicoptors; and performs

cavalry scout and other essential (Bradley-equipped fire support and Stinger teams) missions in the 21st century. The infantry version (M2) is used most often to close with the enemy by means of fire and maneuver. The primary tasks performed by the cavalry version (M3) as part of a troop and/or squadron are reconnaissance, security and flank guard missions.



**Abrams** – The Abrams tank closes with and destroys enemy forces on the integrated battlefield using mobility, firepower, and shock effect. There are three variants in service: M1, M1A1 and M1A2. The 120mm main gun on the

M1A1 and M1A2, combined with the powerful 1,500 hp turbine engine and special armor, make the Abrams tank particularly suitable for attacking or defending against large concentrations of heavy armor forces on a highly lethal battlefield.



**Stryker** – To fulfill an immediate requirement in the Army's current transformation process to equip a strategically deployable (C-17/C-5) and operationally deployable (C-130) brigade capable of rapid movement anywhere on the globe in a combat ready configuration. The armored wheeled vehicle is designed to enable the Stryker Brigade Combat

Team (SBCT) to maneuver more easily in close and urban terrain while providing protection in open terrain. There are approximately nine variations of the vehicle.



**Heavy Expanded Mobility Tactical Truck (HEMTT)** – Provides transport capabilities for re-supply of combat vehicles and weapons systems. This vehicle family is rapidly deployable and is designed to operate in any

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climatic condition where military operations are expected to occur. The HEMTT is the backbone of U.S. Army logistics. Standard features include front and rear tow eyes, blackout lights, 24-volt electrical system, and rear pintle hook for towing trailers and artillery. All models are C130, C141 and C17 air transportable and are capable of fording water crossings up to 48 inches deep.



**Palletized Load System (PLS)** – Perform line haul, local haul, unit resupply, and other missions in the tactical environment to support modernized and highly mobile combat units. Rapid movement of combat configured loads

of ammunition and all classes of supply, shelters and containers.



**Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles (FMTV)** – Fills the Army's medium tactical-vehicle requirement for unit mobility and unit resupply, and transportation of equipment and personnel. Three truck variants and two companion trailers,

with the same cube and payload capacity as their prime movers, provide air drop capability. It is rapidly deployable worldwide and operates on primary and secondary roads, trails, and cross-country terrain, in all climatic conditions. Commonality of parts across truck chassis variants significantly reduces the logistics burden and operating and support costs.



**Paladin** – The M109A6 howitzer is the most technologically-advanced self-propelled cannon system in the U.S. Army. The "A6" designation identifies several changes to the standard model that provide improvements

to weapon survivability, responsiveness, reliability, availability and maintainability, armament and terminal effects. The fire-control system is fully automated, providing accurate position location, azimuth reference and on-board ballistic solutions of fire missions.

The **M88 Recovery Vehicle** – The M88 is one of the largest armored recovery vehicles (ARV) currently in use by the U.S. military. There are currently three variants, the *M88*, *M88A1* and *M88A2* HERCULES (Heavy Equipment Recovery Combat Utility Lifting Extraction System). The design of this vehicle was based on the chassis and parts of the automotive component of the M48 Patton and M60 Patton tanks. The original M88 was introduced in 1961, M88A1 in 1977, with the current M88A2 introduced in 1997.

## "Iron Brigade" Weapons

For additional information, please see http://www.army.mil/factfiles/



**M-4 Carbine** – A compact version of the M16A2 rifle, with a collapsible stock, a flat-top upper receiver accessory rail and a detachable handle/rear aperture site assembly. The M4 enables a soldier operating in close quarters to

engage targets at extended range with accurate, lethal fire.



**M-9 Pistol** – A semi-automatic, single-action / doubleaction pistol. The M9 is the primary sidearm of The U.S. military, replacing the .45 caliber model M1911A1. The M9 has a 15-round staggered magazine with a reversible magazine release button that can be positioned for either right- or left-handed shooters.



**M203/M203A1 Grenade Launcher** – The M203 grenade launcher is a single-shot weapon designed for use with the M16 series rifle and fires a 40mm grenade. The M203A1 grenade launcher is a single-shot weapon

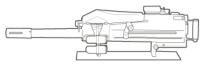
designed for use with the M4 series carbine and also fires a 40mm grenade. Both have a leaf sight and quadrant site. The M203 is also being used as the delivery system for a growing array of less-than-lethal munitions.



**M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon** – A lightweight, gasoperated, one-man-portable automatic weapon capable of delivering a large volume of effective fire at ranges up to 800 meters. Two M249s are issued per infantry squad.

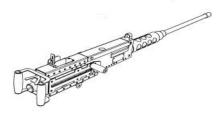
**M-240B Machine Gun** – This is a ground-mounted, gasoperated, crew-served machine gun. This reliable 7.62mm machine gun delivers more energy to the target

than the smaller caliber M-249 SAW. It is being issued to infantry, armor, combat engineer, special force/rangers, and selected field artillery units that require medium support fires.



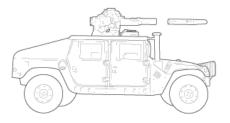
**MK19-3** – This is a self-powered, air-cooled, belt-fed, blowback-operated weapon designed to deliver decisive firepower against enemy personnel and lightly armored

vehicles. It replaces the M2 heavy machine guns in selected units and will be the primary suppressive weapon for combat support and combat service support units. The MK19-3 can be mounted on the HMMWV, M113 family of vehicles, 5-ton trucks, and selected M88A1 recovery vehicles.



**M-2**.50 Caliber Machine Gun – The M2 is a belt-fed, recoil-operated, air-cooled, crew-served machine gun. The gun is capable of single shot, as well as automatic fire, and operates on the short recoil principle. It can be used to defend against low-flying hostile aircraft, support the infantryman in both attack and defense, destroy lightly armored vehicles, provide protection for

motor movements, vehicle parks and train bivouacs, and reconnaissance by fire on suspected enemy positions.



**TOW** – The TOW (Tube-launched, Optically-tracked, Wire command-link guided) Missile System consists of a tripod, traversing unit, missile guidance set, launch tube, optical sight, battery assembly and any of five missile variations. The TOW system is mounted on various platforms including the Bradley Fighting Vehicle, the improved TOW vehicle, the Humvee and the AH-1F

Cobra helicopter. In addition, it can be operated in a dismounted ground mode. The TOW is guided to its target merely by the gunner keeping the cross-hairs on the target.



**Javelin** – The first "fire-and-forget" shoulder-fired antitank missile now fielded to the U.S. Army and U.S. Marine Corps, replacing Dragon. Javelin's unique topattack flight mode, superior self-guiding tracking system and advanced warhead design allows it to defeat all known tanks out to ranges of 2500m.



## The 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion (Romania) "Cuza Vodă"

### LIEUTENANT COLONEL NICOLAE-MARIUS MONEANU, COMMANDER

Born at Curtea de Argeş, Argeş County, Lt. Col. Nicolae-Marius Moneanu graduated in June 1996 from the Romanian Armor Military Academy's Armor Branch.

After his first assignment as tank platoon leader at 344th Armor Battalion, he commanded armor units at the company level with the 341<sup>st</sup> Armor Battalion.

He has served in a variety of joint and Army staff positions, including maintenance and firing anti-tank platoon leader, combat service support and combat service company



commander, Chief of Intelligence, Chief of Operations Office (Mihail Kogălniceanu Administrative Center), and Deputy Commander at the 912<sup>nd</sup> Armor Battalion; starting in January 2014, he was appointed Commissioned Commander.

From November 2004 to March 2005, he was joint guardian in the KFOR-ROFND IX, Kosovo. He was 1<sup>st</sup> officer in the Military Observers Group – ONUCI/Ivory Coast from April 2006 to April 2007. In 2009 he was a liaison officer with the 341<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion "IRAK Coalition." In 2013, he was Chief of Training Tank Section, Drilling Team, NTM-A, ANA TRAINING in Kabul, Afghanistan.

Lt. Col. Moneanu has served as Commander of the 284th Armor Battalion "Cuza Vodă" since April 2016.

He and his wife, Tania, have a daughter, Anda.

#### **ROMANIAN LAND FORCES**

284<sup>th</sup> ARMOR BATTALION "CUZA VODĂ"



#### **BRIEF HISTORY**

When the USSR invaded Czechoslovakia in 1968, the moment represented a major turning point for the Romanian defensive doctrine. Our country's refusal to participate with Russia during the invasion was a political decision that placed Romania in the front of a big threat. The geopolitical context of that year compelled Romania to adopt a new defensive conception particularized in the Focsani Gateway, by the founding of new military units.

According to Romanian Armed Forces Minister's Order, on 1st October 1968, in Focsani city was established the 282<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Regiment, subordinated to the 67<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Division. Since then, when it was equipped with tank model T-34-85, the 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion has been part of this Regiment. The reorganization of the Romanian Army turned the **284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion** into an independent unit placed in Focşani Garrison, subordinated to 282<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Brigade, according to the Romanian Armed Forces Minister's Order from 26 January 1995.

#### The most significant events from 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion activity:

1. On 31<sup>st</sup> August 1996, according to the Presidential Decree, Col. Nicu Apostu, the 8<sup>th</sup> Army Corps Commander, granted the War Flag to the 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion.

2. In 10<sup>th</sup> September 2001, proceeding to the Army General Staff Commander's Order, the 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion was relocated to Galati City, in the 267<sup>th</sup> Armored Battalion's barrack (unit which was in dissolution process), the current structure being the result of the fusion between these two battalions. Marked by the deep transformation and reorganization of the Romanian Army, the next period proved to be a very difficult for the young tank unit, because it has to achieve hard objectives to get fully operational as part of the Fast Reaction Forces.

3. The 2002 brought the first cooperation between Romanian and Italian Army tanks, materialized into a tactical military exercise with the participation of a company from 11 Italian Regiment Bersaglieri.

4. An event of major importance for the unit and for The Romanian Land Forces took place in the summer of 2003, when the unit has been provided with the newest Romanian tank – T.R. 85 M.1 "BUFFALO", a modern product of Romanian Defense Industry. So,  $284^{th}$  Armor Battalion became the first and the only tank unit provided with this product. The tank teams have started a severe training process on the new war machine which had a real fire test within the framework of the **WHITE BUFFALO 2003** tactical exercise.

5. Next year, form spring, start new stages of training for the Headquarter personnel and for the combat tank subunits, the capabilities of the new war machine being demonstrated into a military exercise, alongside about 600 Italian tank men from The Fourth Tank Regiment. Romania being a fresh member of NATO Alliance, the exercise used common NATO SOPs.

6. In the autumn of 2005, the 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion participated into 282<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Brigade's structure at **DEMEX 05**, a national military exercise which took place in Cincu training area, activity which was estimated to be the greatest military exercise of The Romanian Land Forces since 1990.

7. The 2006 year started with the initial evaluation as NATO Force. A year later, in the spring of 2007, the unit accomplished the second phase of evaluation – national certification, materialized in **CERTEX 07** military exercise, which took place in Smârdan Training Area. In October same year, at the end of the military exercise **ROUEX 07**, the  $284^{th}$  Armor Battalion was evaluated, attested and designated as a fully NATO Operational Force.

8. From May 12 to July 30, 2014, the unit participates with a tank company, alongside 300<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Infantry Battalion, to **COMBINED RESOLVE II**, a multinational exercise of high complexity that gathered 4,000 military personnel from 13 NATO and partner countries, which took place in Hohenfels and Grafenwohr, U.S. Training Area, located in Germany.

9. The 2014 also represents an anniversary year for the Romanian tank men, because they celebrate 95 years from the first armored unit establishment. With this occasion, on 31<sup>st</sup> August, the War Flag of the 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion was decorated with The Romanian Army General Staff Honor Ensign, as a sign of appreciation for his entire activity.

10. During 6th to 18th October 2014, the unit participate, alongside one British light infantry company from 2nd Yorkshire Regiment, to **DANUBE EXPRESS 14**, an international military exercise which gathered, for the first time, Romanian and British military forces. The exercise took place in Smardan fire range, located in Romania.

11. At the beginning of 2015, between 15 April and 27 April 2015, the unit has participated at multinational exercise **WIND SPRING 15/SABER JUNCTION 15**. The exercise took place under USAREUR-EUCOM command.

12. Between 24 October and 06 November 2015, in Smîrdan Training Area, took place the multinational exercise **JUSTICE SWORD 15**, were for the first time a USA Tank Platoon is under Romanian comand.

The 284<sup>th</sup> Armor Battalion is nowadays a fully NATO Operational Force (last evaluation took place during 03-14 October 2016), always prepared to respond to the current and future conflicts, which gained a privileged place among the most prominent units of Romanian Army, by hard working, because high standards can be achieved only by training.



## The 300<sup>th</sup> Infantry Mechanized Battalion (Romania) "Saint Andrew"

## LIEUTENANT COLONEL ILIE MELINTE, COMMANDER

Born in Iasi, Romania, Lt. Col. Ilie Melinte graduated from the Romanian Military Academy in June 1994 in the Infantry Branch.

After his first assignment as first lieutenant, he commanded infantry units at the company level in Kosovo as part of 280<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion and in Operation Enduring Freedom (Afghanistan) and in Operation Iraqi Freedom as part of 300<sup>th</sup> Infantry Mechanized Battalion (battalion level).

Lt. Col. Melinte also has served in a variety of joint and army staff positions, which include tactics instructor at the Infantry



School, Chief of Plans at 280<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion, and staff officer at brigade level.

In 2012 he graduated from the Land Forces Combined Arms Master Course.

From July 2015 to March 2016, he was assigned as Current Operation Chief at 282<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Mechanized Brigade.

He is marred to wife Alina, a military doctor serving at the Galati Military Hospital.

#### **ROMANIAN LAND FORCES**

300<sup>th</sup> MECHANIZED INFANTRY BATTALION "SAINT ANDREW"



#### **BRIEF HISTORY**

Following to presidential decisions concerning organizing and functions of Ministry of National Defense, beginning March 1, 1995, the 300<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion was established. This Battalion was subordinated to the 301<sup>st</sup> Mechanized Brigade "Petru Rares." Maj. Emil Varlan was appointed the first battalion commander.

#### THE ENDOWMENT OF UNIT'S FLAG

According to art. 99 from the Romanian Constitution and the Law for Units' Flag Endowment, with the Presidential Decision from 1996, at 25<sup>th</sup> October 1996 the 300<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion received its Unit Flag.

#### **BATTALION'S FLAG INVESTITURES**

• By Decree-law no. 886/09.08.2005 Battalion's Flag is decorated with "Military Virtue" Order, Knight rank, with war signs.

• By Order of Chief of Land Forces Staff no. FT 509/09.17.2008, Battalion's Flag is decorated with "Land Forces Staff Honour Emblem ".

• By Decree-law no. 428/21.06.2012 Battalion's Flag is decorated with "Military Virtue" Order, Officer rank, with war signs.

• By Order of Chief of Land Forces Staff, no. SPD 12/07.04.2014 Battalion's Flag is decorated with "General Staff Headquarters Honour Emblem".

#### BLAZONRY

• Following report no. DR 4251 of September 9<sup>th</sup> 2004 the Minister of National Defense approved honorary name of "Saint Andrew".

• December the 12<sup>th</sup> 2006, the Minister of National Defense following report no. DR 3692, approved the blazon, the sleeve badge, the pennant, the badge, the COIN and the identification flag for the 300<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Infantry Battalion "Saint Andrew".

• Beginning with March the 1<sup>st</sup> 2007 300<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Infantry Battalion "Sfântul Andrei" is changed with the 300<sup>th</sup> Infantry Mechanized Infantry Battalion "Saint Andrew".

#### N.R.F.

As of January 2009, the Battalion is designated to set a NATO Reaction Force, rotation 14, as a part of a multinational Brigade with Dutch command; training for this will have a national phase and an international one. Between January and June 2010, the 300 Mechanized Infantry Battalion "Saint Andrew" is in "Stand - By" phase, as part of N.R.F., rotaţion 14.

As of January 2014, the Battalion is designated to set a NATO Reaction Force, rotation 14, as a part of a multinational Brigade with French command; training for this had a national phase and an international one. All year 2014, the 300 Mechanized Infantry Battalion "Saint Andrew" is in "Stand - By" phase, as part of N.R.F., rotation 14.

#### **EMERGENCY SITUATIONS OPERATIONS**

In July 2005, in July 2010, in December 2012, in September 2013, in December 2014 and October 2016 platoons from the 300 Mechanized Infantry Battalion were sent to help the people from

villages SENDRENI, TUDOR VLADIMIRESCU, BRANIŞTEA and GALATI city in order to downgrade the flooding effects of the SIRET and DANUBE rivers.

#### **BATTALION'S MAIN TASK**

The 300<sup>th</sup> Mechanized Infantry Battalion "Saint Andrew" is a tactical unit, subordinated to the 282<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Infantry Brigade "Unirea Principatelor", assigned for NATO support, composed of combat subunits, combat support and logistics support companies, having a high mobility, able to execute integrated actions, with full operativity or using only few forces integrated in operational structures (coalitions or national) or subordinated to the 282<sup>nd</sup> Mechanized Infantry Brigade "Unirea Principatelor".

#### COMMANDERS

- March 1,1995 Feb. 28, 2002 MAJ EMIL VÂRLAN
- Aug. 1, 2002 March 10, 2005 LTC CONSTANTIN UNGUREANU
- March 11, 2005 Jan. 1, 2010 LTC ADRIAN SOCI
- Jan. 2, 2010 Aug. 31, 2015 LTC. ADRIAN POPESCU
- Aug. 31, 2015 Present LTC ILIE MELINTE
- •

#### **BATTALION'S HEROES IN AFGHANISTAN**

- 2nd Lt.(pm) NARCIS ŞONEI– KIA while patrolling in KHANDAHAR April 24<sup>th</sup> 2005
- 2nd Lt.(pm) COSMIN SANDU- KIA while patrolling in ZABUL March 20th 2008
- 2nd Lt.(pm) MARIUS COVRIG- KIA while patrolling in ZABUL June 13th 2008

#### HISTORICAL BACKGROUND

#### Abroad activities:

- March, 1st 1995 300th Inf. Bn. is established;
- January July 2005 "Enduring Freedom VI" Afganistan;
- January 2008 July 2008 "ISAF III" in Zabul, Afganistan;
- March-April 2011 Mission repeating exercise (MRE), Hohenfels/JMRC, Germany;
- 2011 June 2012 "ISAF III," in Zabul, Afganistan;
- October 2012 MRE, Reg. 2 Stryker SUA in Hohenfels/JMRC, Germany;
- October-November 2013 STEADFAST JAZZ, in Poland and Norway;
- May-July 2014 Combined resolve II, CALFEX, Germany;
- January-December 2014 "Stand By" phase for I.R.F.

#### In country activities:

- April 2007 CENCOOP-07, in cooperation with armyes from Austria and Croatia.
- January-June 2010 "Stand By" phase for N.R.F. rotation 14.
- March 24-26, 2015 Early Entry exercise (ROU-US-ESP-IT)
- April 15-29, 2015 Wind Spring 15 (ROU-US-UK-MLD)
- Oct. 26-31, 2015 JUSTICE SWORD 15.2
- Dec. 7-14, 2015 Black Sea Rotational Force 15.2 (ROU-US)
- May 8-16, 2016 PLATINUM EAGLE 16 (ROU-US-UK-MLD-SRB-BLG)
- Nov. 2-8, 2016 ROUEX 16 (ROU)



# **Press Release**

Release No: 170209-001

Contact: Capt. W. Scott Walters

3<sup>rd</sup> Armored Brigade Combat Team 4<sup>th</sup> Infantry Division Public Affairs Office For Release: IMMEDIATE

Phone: +49 172-832-8375 (office)

February 6, 2017

## U.S. Army Soldiers and equipment arrive in Romania

BAUMHOLDER, Germany—Soldiers and equipment from the 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, will arrive to Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, Constanta County, Romania, February 13, 2017 as part of Atlantic Resolve operations.

The combined arms unit of the "Fighting Eagles" brings a full complement of 500 U.S. troops, a U.S. Army infantry battalion's M1 Abrams tanks, M2 Bradley fighting vehicles, and M109A6 Paladin self-propelled howitzers to Romania.

Media representatives interested in attending the offloading of M1 Abrams tanks may request to attend railyard activities with the 1st Battalion, 8th Infantry Regiment Monday starting at 8:00 a.m.

All media representatives seeking to access to the Romanian air base must submit their full name, passport number with passport expiration date, media organization and media card identification number (if applicable). Please also submit vehicle information to include make, model and license plate number of media representative vehicle, if driving on base.

Media representatives who have RSVP'd for the event and have submitted their press accreditation details will be received at the main entrance of Mihail Kogalniceanu Air Base, Monday, between 6:45 a.m. to 7:15 a.m.

For all journalists interested in attending the event, please send accreditation details to Master Sgt. Brent M. Williams at brent.m.williams4.mil@mail.mil no later than Friday, Feb. 10, at 3:30 p.m.

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For more information about the units and Soldiers of Atlantic Resolve contact the Mission Command Element Public Affairs Office at +49 (0) 1520 6535535, DSN: (314) 531-2255, or email at atlanticresolve.mil@mail.mil.



## "VULTURII LUPTĂTORI" APROFUNDEAZĂ COOPERAREA ROMÂNO-AMERICANĂ ÎN DOMENIUL SECURITĂȚII, CU SOLDAȚI, ECHIPAMENT GREU ȘI ANTRENAMENTE COMUNE

Ambasada Statelor Unite ale Americii salută sosirea în România a "Vulturilor luptători", Batalionul 1, Regimentul 8 Infanterie.

Cei 500 de soldați din cadrul Batalionului 1, Regimentul 8 Infanterie aduc cu ei tancuri M1A1 Abrams, vehicule de luptă Bradley și mortiere autopropulsate calibrul 155 mm Paladin și vor fi staționați la Baza Aeriană Mihail Kogălniceanu din județul Constanța. Staționarea are loc ca parte a dislocării în Europa a Unității de luptă din cadrul Brigăzii 3 blindate, a Diviziei 4 Infanterie, care va continua pe bază de rotație, în viitorul apropiat.

Ambasadorul Statelor Unite ale Americii în România, a menționat:

"Sosirea Batalionului 1, Regimentul 8 Infanterie, evidențiază faptul că puternicul parteneriat strategic dintre SUA și România există nu doar în scris, ci și în realitate. Noua prezență rotațională persistentă extinde capacitatea noastră de a ne urmări interesul colectiv de menținere a păcii și securității în Europa de sud-est și în regiunea Mării Negre. În mod semnificativ, România este și furnizor de securitate pentru comunitatea internațională, nu doar beneficiar, așa cum clar demonstrează angajamentul său continuu în Afganistan, participarea la misiunea de contracarare a ISIL și recenta sa decizie de a cheltui 2% din PIB pentru apărare."

În perioada staționării în România, forțele americane vor efectua antrenamente și exerciții cu forțele armate române, cu alți aliați NATO și alte națiuni partenere, inclusiv cu Brigada Multinațională de la Craiova. Toate unitățile brigăzii blindate se vor reuni periodic la diverse evenimente de amploare, care demonstrează capacitatea acesteia de a furniza rapid forță de luptă eficientă în zona estică a NATO.