

Media Advisory

U.S. Army Europe

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Armored brigades mark first transition of U.S. Army rotational forces

ZAGAN, Poland — The 3rd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 4th Infantry Division, will conduct a Relief in Place Ceremony with 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 1st Infantry Division, at 10 a.m. Friday, September 29, at Gen. Stanislaw Maczek Square in downtown Zagan.

During the ceremony, the 3rd ABCT, 4th Inf. Div., also known as the “Iron Brigade,” will case its colors and the commander of the 2nd ABCT, 1st Inf. Div. Brigade will uncase the “Dagger Brigade” colors to signify the unit’s assumption of the Atlantic Resolve mission as U.S. Army Europe’s regionally allocated land force. The ceremony marks the first formal handover between heavy brigades as the U.S. Army provides a continuous armored presence in Europe to deter aggression against NATO Allies and partners.

The Relief in Place Ceremony indicates the Dagger Brigade is “ready to fight” after transporting its full equipment set of tanks, fighting vehicles and other armored equipment to Poland from its home station of Fort Riley, Kansas.

The occasion also signifies that the Iron Brigade will return its Soldiers and equipment to Fort Carson, Colorado. The Iron Brigade arrived to Europe in January to initiate the first of the “heel to toe” rotations of U.S. Army armored brigade combat teams for the collective defense of eastern Europe.

Atlantic Resolve Media Roundtable

Brig. Gen. Stanisław Czosnek, commanding general of the Polish 11th Armored Cavalry Division, and Col. Michael J. Simmering, 3rd ABCT commander, will also host an Atlantic Resolve Media Roundtable, 10 a.m. Thursday, Sept. 28, at the 11th Armored Cavalry Division Heritage Hall, Żarska 19, Żagan. During the roundtable, Simmering will discuss the Iron Brigade’s key accomplishments while deployed to Europe in support of Atlantic Resolve. The incoming brigade commander will also participate in the event.

Media and public interested in attending the media round table and/or Relief in Place Ceremony should RSVP by Wednesday 5 p.m. September 27 to the 4th Infantry Division Mission Command Element at +49 (0) 1 520-653-5535 or brent.m.williams4.mil@mail.mil.

About us: U.S. Army Europe is uniquely positioned in its 51 country area of responsibility to advance American strategic interests in Europe and Eurasia. The relationships we build during more than 1,000 theater security cooperation events in more than 40 countries each year lead directly to support for multinational contingency operations around the world, strengthen regional partnerships and enhance global security.

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) 524-8651, or email at brent.m.williams4.mil@mail.mil.