

Command History

Headquarters, USEUCOM was established August 1, 1952 with the stated purpose of forming a joint command in Europe "...to place in the hands of a single commander responsibility for the conduct of military operations of the land, naval, and air forces."

The Goldwater-Nickols Department of Defense Reorganization Act of 1986 placed the authority of combat command firmly in the hands of the unified and specified combatant commanders, that is, there was now the "one single concentrated effort" in a single commander as originally envisioned.

The Headquarters for this command temporarily opened at the I.G. Farben Hochhaus (the former C.W. Abrams Building) in Frankfurt in 1952, where it remained for two years. In 1954, the headquarters moved to its permanent home, Camp des Loges in the forest of St. Germain-en-Laye on the outskirts of Paris, to be near SHAPE headquarters. Forced to relocate again when French President General Charles de Gaulle requested NATO and US forces to leave France, the headquarters moved to Patch Barracks, in Stuttgart-Vaihingen on March 15, 1967.

Since the end of the Cold War, USEUCOM has participated in more than 80 contingency, disaster relief, and humanitarian operations—including Sharp Edge, Proven Force/Desert Storm, Provide Comfort, Operation Northern Watch, Provide Promise, Provide Hope, Joint Forge, Allied Force, Joint Guardian, Atlas Response, Focus Relief, and Enduring Freedom to name a few.

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Current Operations

Operation Enduring Freedom:

World-wide coalition operations against Terrorism

Operation Northern Watch:

Enforces the northern no-fly zone in Iraq and monitors Iraqi compliance with UN Security Council resolutions 678, 687, and 688

Humanitarian Demining:

Trains and equips Humanitarian Demining Program participant countries

NATO Stabilization Operations in the Balkans include:

Joint Guardian – Enforces the Military Technical Agreement, primarily provides a safe and secure environment to Kosovar residents.

Joint Forge – Supports peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina by implementing the Dayton Peace Accords.

United States European Command



Bringing Together Vital Forces and Capabilities
Enhancing Transatlantic Security and Stability