

PRESS RELEASE

House Armed Services Committee Duncan Hunter, Chairman

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HOUSE ARMED SERVICES COMMITTEE CHAIRMAN ANNOUNCES HEARINGS REGARDING THE REALIGNMENT OF U.S. FORCES IN EUROPE

Washington, D.C. - House Armed Services Committee Chairman Duncan Hunter today announced his intent to hold hearings on the structure of U.S. military forces in Europe in the coming weeks. He issued the following statement:

“As defense resources, especially those available for modernization, continue to be scarce, the House Armed Services Committee will focus on two major areas to increase efficiencies.

“First, we must examine the alignment of U.S. forces in Europe and, second, the prospects for relocating to areas in Europe with lower basing costs than those presently utilized.

“Today, there are new threats to American interests. The ability to efficiently project our military power to problem areas must be our primary concern. With recent restraints on the defense budget and rising operational expenses, the current cost of overseas bases compels us to examine alternatives.

“With an expanded number of European allies, the U.S. may have the opportunity to base its forces in new locations with lower training and deployment costs.

“Currently, the bulk of American troops in Europe are stationed in Germany. Certainly, in this era where every American military installation is being examined based on mission and cost, our bases in Germany and across Europe must receive the same scrutiny.”

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