



Ministry
of Defence

Army Secretariat
Army Headquarters
IDL 24 Blenheim Building
Marlborough Lines
Andover
Hampshire, SP11 8HJ
United Kingdom

Ref: FOI2017/05188/21/1/78868

E-mail: ArmySec-Group@mod.uk

Website www.army.mod.uk

XXXXXXXXXXXXX
XXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXXX

18 May 2017

Dear XXXXXXXX,

Thank you for your email of 2 May in which you requested the following information:

- '1. When are Soldiers being withdrawal from Germany under the Army 2020 plans?*
- 2. Are all of the German bases being handed back to the German authorities under Army 2020 or are some remaining?*
- 3. What is going to happen with Bielefeld under Army 2020 plans?'*

I am treating your correspondence as a request for information under the Freedom of Information Act (FOIA) 2000.

A search for the information has now been completed within the Ministry of Defence, and I can confirm that information in scope of your request is held and is detailed below.

1. Since 2010 the Army Basing Programme has successfully relocated 82% of Service personnel and their families from Germany to the UK, with the remainder returning in 2019.
2. It was always intended to retain a small number of posts in Germany, such as Defence Attaché; Liaison Officers with the Bundeswehr and other nations; North Atlantic Treaty Organization and European Union appointments; and some training roles. As part of this, we will continue to use the excellent adventure training facilities in Bavaria. We will also retain our presence in Ayrshire Barracks, Mönchengladbach.
3. Unit moves from Bielefeld Station are planned to take place in 2019.

If you are not satisfied with this response or you wish to complain about any aspect of the handling of your request, then you should contact me in the first instance. If informal resolution is not possible and you are still dissatisfied then you may apply for an independent internal review by contacting the Information Rights Compliance team, Ground Floor, MOD Main Building, Whitehall, SW1A 2HB (e-mail CIO-FOI-IR@mod.uk). Please note that any request for an internal review must be made within 40 working days of the date on which the attempt to reach informal resolution has come to an end.

If you remain dissatisfied following an internal review, you may take your complaint to the Information Commissioner under the provisions of Section 50 of the Freedom of Information Act. Please note that the Information Commissioner will not investigate your case until the MOD internal review process has been completed. Further details of the role and powers of the Information Commissioner can be found on the Commissioner's website, <https://ico.org.uk>.

Yours sincerely,

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