- JOINT DERBY 2016 -

"Start" of the largest deployment exercise of the Bundeswehr in years

2,000 soldiers from 12 nations will rehearse deployment to a fictitious area of operations

Garlstedt. Today, "JOINT DERBY 2016", one of the largest deployment exercises of the Bundeswehr in the past years, will begin in Garlstedt, near Bremen.

Scheduled to take until 22 April, the exercise will focus on the deployment of troops over great distances and the deployment of forces in a staging area prior to the operation start proper in a crisis region.

I am glad that, finally, the exercise begins so that we can subject our processes and procedures to a practical test", says Lieutenant General Richard Roßmanith who, in his capacity as Commander of the Ulm-based Multinational Joint Headquarters, is responsible for directing the exercise.

The complex tactical and logistic preparations have been going on for more than two years. Not only had the exercise scenario to be developed, but also the extensive arrangements with authorities such as police, customs and civilian service providers were part of the planners' working list.

During the first exercise week, this practical test also includes a computer-assisted command post exercise at the Bundeswehr Logistics School in Garlstedt, where a so-called "Joint Logistic Support Group Headquarters" (JLSG) was established that was given responsibility for deployment control.

The "hot phase" of the exercise will begin on Friday, when about 1,200 soldiers from Germany, Czech Republic, Austria, Luxembourg and the Netherlands will deploy by air from Wunstorf airfield with Transall and A 400 M transport aircraft to Nordholz. From there the troops will deploy by land to Garlstedt and Bremerhaven. In Bremerhaven, the soldiers will mount their vehicles that previously arrived by sea transport from Emden. Garlstedt will be the staging area for all vehicles and material, and all exercise participants who subsequently will deploy in convoys via Munster/Bergen to the fictitious area of operations.

In the days to come you will receive separate press releases about the individual exercise sections, by way of which we cordially invite you to report about the exercise.

Additional information can be accessed at <u>www.streitkraeftebasis.de/jody</u>.