



25th Anniversary of Partnership
between the
U.S. Army
Military District of Washington
and the
German Armed Forces Command
United States and Canada
1994-2019

Almost 70 years ago to the day after the German Basic Law entered into force and in the 70th year after NATO was established, the partnership between the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and the German Armed Forces Command, United States and Canada is now approaching its 25th anniversary.

On 24 May 1994, the transatlantic partnership and friendship between our great nations, which had been existing for decades, was renewed and found visible and continued expression when Lieutenant General Charles E. Dominy, former Director of the Army Staff, and Lieutenant General Jürgen Schnell, Vice Chief of Staff of the German Armed Forces, officially signed the partnership agreement.



Our partnership is characterized by personal contacts, mutual support, almost daily contacts and a trusting relationship. All this proves: this partnership is alive and well!

We very much appreciate having the U.S. Army Military District of Washington at our side as a great partner in a great country. Your soldiers and civilian workers not only are fantastic people, but also downright professionals and perfect hosts.



The 50th anniversary celebrations of the German Armed Forces Command in 2015 would not have been so special without the generous support provided to us quite naturally by the U.S. Army Military District of Washington. Utilizing the infrastructure and the officers' club at Ft. Myer-Henderson Hall, Arlington, we were able to stage our event with pomp and circumstance, listen to the sounds of a German Army band, and watch the ceremonial performance of the German Federal Ministry of Defense's Guard Battalion.



Inspecting the troops together, the Commanding General of the U.S. Army Military District of Washington and the Commander, German Armed Forces Office demonstrated the close ties between our nations.



It is true, the German Armed Forces Command, United States and Canada is much smaller than its American partner. However, we feel just as much committed to proactively shaping this partnership and filling it with life.

We are proud to be regularly offering demanding training projects to U.S. soldiers. These are aimed at qualifying our fellow American soldiers for the German Armed Forces Proficiency or Marksmanship Badges, awards which are highly coveted by German and U.S. personnel alike and across all ranks.



These hard-won badges are annually awarded to up to 400 American soldiers by the Commander, German Armed Forces Command in a ceremony with musical accompaniment provided by a German Army band. The festivities continue well into the afternoon with music, BBQ, and inspiring talks with our American guests.



More often than not, new friendships develop from here.

For a long time now, this day has been a fixed date in the calendar of both the U.S. Army District of Washington and the German Armed Forces Command, and it has received wide publicity. It also is a symbol of the well-functioning, proven and deeply-rooted friendship between our armed forces, a friendship that has developed over several decades.



And there are other numerous events – not always of military nature – that have been formative for our relationship, among others the German Oktoberfest and the U.S. Army's Twilight Tattoo.

Our strong mutual bonds have multiple roots, both in our families and our history. This interconnectedness with our fellow soldiers shows in many respects: military, political and personal.



German servicemen and women have fought shoulder to shoulder with Americans for freedom and peace all over the world. This German-American friendship, our common interests and values have been and continue to be the rationale behind the presence of our German Armed Forces Command in Reston.

Our partnership is outstanding and symbolic for the decades-long friendship between our nations' armed forces. Fostering and strengthening this friendship is honor and duty alike to our troops.