



**Office of the Commander
United States Africa Command**

July 31, 2020


To the Service Members, Civilians, and Families of U.S. Africa Command

By now you are aware that the Secretary of Defense has announced plans to adjust U.S. military force locations in Europe. In response, our headquarters is developing options to relocate U.S. Africa Command and Special Operations Command Africa from Germany to a new home. The command will prioritize options in Europe, but also consider the United States.

The planning effort is designed to support the priorities of our National Defense Strategy and to adapt to a changing strategic environment. It will likely take several months to consider locations, develop options, and make decisions. We will conduct deliberate and thorough planning to ensure our team is prepared for what lies ahead. We are currently in the earliest phases of developing the way forward and we will keep you informed. We will address this at our next "All-Hands," scheduled for August 27th.

We recognize this news can create angst, but rest assured this will be a thoughtful and deliberate process. We remain committed to our force and families and will provide as much time as possible for future planning. Medical care, housing, schools, and other family support services are important to all of us. U.S. Africa Command remains focused on our mission, committed to our African partners and proud of our relationships in the Stuttgart community.

WE WILL STAY STEADY AS
WE WORK THROUGH
THIS DELIBERATELY AND
TOGETHER.



Stephen J. Townsend
General, U.S. Army