

Iron 2000 at a glance

1st Armored Division Year 2000 review

January

1st Brigade Gunnery

February

2nd Brigade VALEX – IRF concept validated
1AD announces move to Wiesbaden

March

2-3 FA and 4th Brigade team up in FCX
1st Brigade MRE–Mountain Guardian III
Warfighter begins March 21

April

Warfighter ends April 17

May

Cooperative Lantern
Iron Medic Challenge
EIB

June

1AD takes command in Kosovo June 20

July

1AD 60th Birthday July 15
2nd Brigade Gunnery
EFMB
3rd Brigade's Task Force 2-70 deploys to Kuwait

August

Maj. Gen. George W. Casey Jr. renews bond with USS Constitution, "Old Ironsides"

September

1-94 Field Artillery (MLRS) stands up at Strassburg Kaserne
1-4 ADA gunnery in Putlos, Germany

October

2nd Brigade MRE–Mountain Guardian IV
1-1 Cav and SETAF team up at CMTC

November

ARRCADE Fusion
2nd Brigade deploys to Kosovo

December

1st Brigade redeploys from Kosovo
1-94 FA(MLRS) joint live fire with the Bundeswehr's 5th Panzer

First Armored Division began the year 2000 with a bang as the 1st Brigade Combat Team blasted its way through the rolling fog of Grafenwoehr Training Area in a challenging January gunnery.

Second Brigade struck hard in validating the Immediate Reaction Force in a frosty-February exercise designed to deploy a highly effective battalion-sized force anywhere in the European Command's theater of operations within 48 hours.

February also saw 1st Armored Division Headquarters announce the closure of military facilities in Bad Kreuznach and subsequent relocation to Wiesbaden scheduled for June 2001.

First Armored Division rocked HTA and GTA in three separate exercises in March. Ready First stormed into Hohenfels Training Area for Mountain Guardian III, a Mission Rehearsal Exercise designed to test the limits of Iron Soldiers preparing to deploy to Task Force Falcon 2A.

Fourth Brigade and 2-3 Field Artillery combined the bone-jarring shock of the M109 Paladin

with the lethality and pin-point-precision of Apache and Kiowa Warrior helicopters in a Fire Control Exercise.

First Armored Division's command and control elements pushed the envelope during a highly effective Warfighter in GTA, March 21-April 17.

First Armored Division took command of Task Force Falcon in Kosovo as Brig. Gen. Randal Tieszen accepted the colors from 1st Infantry Division's Brig. Gen. Ricardo Sanchez.

First Armored Division celebrated its 60th birthday at home and abroad in Kosovo, July 15.

Second Brigade blistered through a July gunnery while 3rd Brigade's Task Force 2-70 mounted up and rode out from Ft. Riley, Kan., on their way down the long, dusty trail to Kuwait.

Maj. Gen. George W. Casey, Jr. traveled to Boston Harbor in August where he forged a new bond with Commander Bill Foster, of the USS Constitution. The meeting rekindled the fires of a 60-year love affair between the prestigious ship "Old Ironsides" and 1st Armored Division.

The clear, ocean-side skies of Putlos, Germany ran red in the September sun and the fiery explosions of the 1-4 Air Defense Artillery gunnery. The battalion made the most out of its first gunnery as a whole in three years.

September 15 marked a great day for 1st Armored Division as the 1-94 Field Artillery (MLRS) stood up at Strassburg Kaserne.

Second Brigade's preparation for Kosovo became fully realized during Mountain Guardian IV in October. Lessons learned in Kosovo were applied to make this the most challenging and exciting MRE ever.

SETAF and 1st Armored Division's 1-1 Cavalry teamed up to save the day during an October CMTC rotation that combined light forces and heavy-mechanized forces to throw back an ever relentless OPFOR.

Second Brigade began deploying at the end of November and officially took command of Task Force Falcon on Dec. 18. First Brigade began redeploying to Germany from six months in Kosovo at the beginning of December. Thanks to the hard work by both brigades the transition was effective and seamless.

For Iron Soldiers, the end of 2000 is just as busy as the beginning, yet 1st Armored Division is ever ready and always on point for the nation. Iron Soldiers possess the best training and equipment in the world, and are ready for any mission anytime and anywhere.

