

Press Release U.S. Air Forces in Europe and Air Forces Africa

HQ USAFE-AFAFRICA Public Affairs, Box 120, Unit 3050, APO AE 09012 Telephone: +49 (0) 6371 47 6558; DSN 314 480-6558

March 30, 2022 MARINE CORPS UNITS REPOSITIONED TO EASTERN EUROPE TO SUPPORT NATO In coordination with the U.S Embassy in Lithuania, United States European Command (USEUCOM), and in direct support to U.S. Air Forces Europe, U.S. Marines from 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, II Marine Expeditionary Force, have deployed to enhance Eastern Europe's collective defense posture and NATO's capabilities.

Marine Air Control Group (MACG) 28, a command and control unit based at Marine Corps Air Station (MCAS) Cherry Point, N.C., has been repositioned to Lithuania. MACG-28 provides multi-domain command and control, air defense, air traffic control, and communications support.

In addition to MACG-28's repositioning to Lithuania, F/A-18C Hornets from Marine Fighter Attack Squadron (VMFA) 312, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Beaufort, S.C. and KC-130J Hercules from Aerial Refueler Training Squadron (VMGR) 252, 2d Marine Aircraft Wing, MCAS Cherry Point, N.C. will deploy to Eastern Europe.

The rapid redeployment of U.S. Marines immediately reinforces the deterrent and defensive posture on NATO's eastern flank. These deployments were conducted in full coordination with host nations and military authorities, and although temporary in nature, they are prudent measures to increase readiness and enhance Eastern European collective defense during this period of uncertainty.

For media interested in engagement opportunities, please contact USAFE-AFAFRICA Public Affairs at +49 06371-47-6558 or email <u>usafepao.pao@us.af.mil</u> or usafepa.pastaffdutyofficer@us.af.mil.