

12th Combat Aviation Brigade welcomes new commander

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By **U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs**

HEIDELBERG, Germany -- U.S. Army Europe's 12th Combat Aviation Brigade welcomed a new commander today in a ceremony at Katterbach Army Airfield in Ansbach, Germany.

During the ceremony Col. Robert C. Doerer passed command of the brigade to Col. Van J. Voorhees Jr.

Voorhees comes to Europe from a tour as director of the Village Stability National Coordination Center, Combined Forces Special Operations Component Command, in Kabul, Afghanistan. His previous assignments include command and staff positions in the U.S. and South Korea; several combat tours in Operations Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom; and service in the Balkans. ([Voorhees's full biography](#))

Doerer, who has commanded the 12th since January 2009, is heading to a new assignment as director of officer personnel management at the Army's Human Resources Command at Fort Knox, Ky. During his tenure at the brigade Doerer oversaw a complex deployment that spanned the majority of his tour and simultaneously sent brigade units to combat tours in Iraq, Afghanistan and various locations in Europe. This year marked the first time the entire 12th was at home station in Germany at once.

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