

AFCU PRAYER ALERT January 2025

Armed Forces – Thousands of British troops to lead major NATO exercise in Eastern Europe

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As we welcome in the New Year 2025 military personnel around the country are preparing for deployment on a large-scale NATO exercise in Eastern Europe, Exercise Steadfast Dart 25. Over 2600 UK Military personnel and 730 vehicles are deploying to NATO's eastern flank. This is the first deployment under new NATO Allied Reaction Force.

The 1st Division of the British Army will be in command of NATO's land forces during the exercise, The exercises will see UK Armed Forces join with thousands of personnel from ten NATO Allies, operating across Romania and Bulgaria.

This exercise's aim is to help improve co-ordination and cooperation between NATO Allies, increasing the ability of NATO to rapidly deploy by training nations to seamlessly operate alongside each other.

Having high-readiness forces to respond to emerging threats is a critical component of NATO's defensive plans. The new Allied Reaction Force will ensure that forces from across the NATO alliance can come together at shorter notice that has been possible before.

Prayer points:

- Please pray for all UK military personnel who are saying goodbyes to loved ones once again as they
 deploy on Exercise Steadfast Dart 25 in the coming days.
- Please pray for a deepening sense of co-ordination and cooperation between the different NATO militaries involved in this exercise.
- Please especially pray for both the logistics of this operation and the wisdom of those seeking to
 enable a better level of coordination between militaries with not only different languages but also
 different cultures and methods etc.
- Please pray that God's grace will underpin all meetings and conversations between the NATO military leaders involved as well as with the troops on the ground.