

What is the Bundeswehr doing in connection with the COVID-19?

The medical service monitors the situation for the Bundeswehr and is preparing for further cases in close coordination with the responsible civil authorities. All preventive measures are specified centrally by the Bundeswehr Medical Service Command in Koblenz, and all measures are coordinated by the specially set up situation center.

Authorities provide mutual administrative assistance. Among other things, the first suspected case in Germany of a man from Bavaria was confirmed at the end of January by the Bundeswehr Institute for Microbiology in Munich.

At the request of the Federal Foreign Office to the Ministry of Defense, the Air Force was commissioned to retrieve German citizens from the particularly affected region of Wuhan.

The flights were carried out in February and March. As a precaution, the people flown out in February were placed in a barracks in Germersheim under a fortnightly quarantine and have since been released free of viruses.

The Bundeswehr provides administrative assistance to the Federal Ministry of Health. Medical equipment worth 241 million euros was procured within two weeks.

In addition, the Bundeswehr is deploying a team of 15,000 soldiers to deal with the coronavirus crisis. They come from the medical sector, logistics and military police. They should help when the civilian forces are exhausted.