



- Norwegian Armed Forces

- 2015 Year of the Mines

- Italian Delegation Marks the 2768th Anniversary of the Founding of Rome



www.jfcbs.nato.int



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/jfcbs

LEXUS MILITARY SALES

UNIQUE
NEW

"CASH-BACK
PROGRAM"!!

LEXUS SPRING STOCK SALE!!

SPECIAL OFFERS ON SELECTED MODELS!!



STAY
FLEXIBLE!
YOU CHOOSE
HOW TO USE
TOTAL SAVINGS



Model	Type	MY	Exterior	Interior	US Dealer Price	PCS Price	Military Savings	Spring Stock Sale Bonus	Total Savings
CT 200H	Hatch	15	Eminent White	Caramel	\$ 33,675	\$30,980	\$ 2,845	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,345
CT 200H	Hatch	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Caramel	\$38,065	\$35,370	\$ 2,845	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,345
CT 200H	Hatch	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Black	\$ 33,675	\$30,980	\$ 2,845	\$ 1,500	\$ 4,345
IS 250 AWD	Sedan	15	Silver Lining Met.	Black	\$45,660	\$42,280	\$3,380	\$ 2,300	\$ 5,680
IS 250 AWD	Sedan	15	Matador Red Mica	Light Gray	\$45,660	\$42,280	\$3,380	\$ 2,300	\$ 5,680
IS 250 RWD	Sedan	15	Ultra White	Black	\$43,865	\$40,670	\$ 3,195	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,195
IS 350 AWD	Sedan	15	Atomic Silver	Light Gray	\$48,875	\$45,230	\$3,645	\$ 2,500	\$ 6,145
IS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Obsidian	Black	\$49,025	\$45,565	\$3,460	\$ 2,000	\$ 5,460
ES 350 FWD	Sedan	15	Obsidian	Black	\$45,010	\$ 41,715	\$ 3,295	\$ 1,800	\$ 5,095
ES 300H FWD	Sedan	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Black	\$47,600	\$44,075	\$3,525	\$ 2,300	\$ 5,825
ES 350 FWD	Sedan	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Black	\$45,010	\$ 41,715	\$ 3,295	\$ 1,800	\$ 5,095
ES 350 FWD	Sedan	15	Starfire Pearl	Black	\$45,630	\$42,335	\$ 3,295	\$ 2,200	\$ 5,495
GS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Atomic Silver	Black (Walnut)	\$52,365	\$48,220	\$ 4,145	\$ 2,800	\$ 6,945
GS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Riviera Red	F-Sport Black (Alu)	\$59,430	\$55,285	\$ 4,145	\$ 3,300	\$ 7,445
GS 350 RWD	Sedan	15	Liquid Platinum	Black (Walnut)	\$ 61,480	\$ 57,335	\$ 4,145	\$ 3,800	\$ 7,945
GS 450H RWD	Sedan	15	Deep Sea Mica	Light Gray (Bamboo)	\$ 67,665	\$62,490	\$ 5,175	\$ 4,500	\$ 9,675
RX 350 AWD	SUV	15	Nebula Gray Pearl	Saddle Tan	\$50,890	\$47,225	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,665
RX 350 AWD	SUV	15	Starfire Pearl	Parchment	\$50,890	\$47,225	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,665
RX 350 AWD	SUV	15	Silver Lining Met.	Light Gray	\$50,890	\$47,225	\$ 3,665	\$ 3,000	\$ 6,665
RX 450H AWD	SUV	15	Silver Lining Met.	Black	\$ 58,210	\$53,995	\$ 4,215	\$ 4,000	\$ 8,215

VISIT OUR WEBSITE TO SEE ALL CARS ON SPECIAL OFFER!

WITH OUR NEW "CASH-BACK" OPTION - YOU CHOOSE HOW YOU USE THE VEHICLE SAVINGS SHOWN ABOVE. TAKE THE LOWEST PRICE FOR YOUR SELECTED MODEL, OR TAKE THE VEHICLE SAVINGS AS A "CASH-BACK" BONUS, OR A COMBINATION OF THE TWO OPTIONS!! **IT'S YOUR CHOICE**

WE SERVICE WHAT WE SELL!
AUTHORIZED LEXUS SERVICE CENTER

SERVICE
CREDIT UNION
★★★★★

For the lowest rates around
check-out Service Credit Union



www.PentagonCarSales.com • sales@PentagonCarSales.com



Germany

Ramstein

Kindsbacher Str. 47
66877 Ramstein-Miesenbach
Tel: 06371 61 39 90

Kaiserslautern

Kaiserstrasse 1
67661 Kaiserslautern
Tel: 0631 351 90 40

Wiesbaden

Ludwig-Wolker-Str. 14
55252 Mainz-Kastel
Tel: 06134 567 80

Spangdahlem

Im Kreuzgarten 1 A
54529 Spangdahlem
Tel: 06565 93 69 90

Italy

Aviano

Via Pordenone 48D
33081 Aviano (PN)
Tel: 0434 676 613

Vicenza

Viale Della Pace 254
36100 Vicenza (VI)
Tel: 0444 91 09 38

Our Cash-Back offer allows you to take the entire amount in the "Total Savings" column as a reduction on USMSRP, or as a Cash-Back amount. A combination of these two options may also be chosen - a price reduction on USMSRP and a Cash-Back bonus, but cannot exceed the specified "Total Savings" amount. If a Cash-Back is selected, please note that the payment will be issued together with the final Bill of Sales.

COMMAND GROUP CORNER

By Brigadier General Torben Diken Møller

Road to Trident Juncture 2015 ~ Real Life Support and Headquarters Information Management

Two of the headquarters' sections that work for the Director of Management (DOM) are in the spotlight as they are key to the provision of EXERCISE TRIDENT JUNCTURE 15 (TRJE15) real life support; they are the Base Support Group (BSG) Real Life Support (RLS) and Headquarters Information Management (HQIM) teams. They represent a fraction of the total DOM office workforce; however, they have been instrumental in providing behind-the-scenes work in order to prepare for a smooth and successful TRJE15 exercise. From tents and linen to WiFi and network accounts, the DOM teams have spent the last year focused on how to best serve you, our customers, with top notch accommodation and information support. As you deploy to TRJE15 my teams and I promise you the very best professional service, in keeping with that you have come to expect from my office – only this time, from beyond the gates of JFC Brunssum.



Brigadier General Torben Diken Møller

While most of you are planning your summer vacations to beautiful places where you can relax and enjoy your time away from work, your BSG RLS and HQIM teams have been busy planning for a somewhat more rigorous get-away for you for the Fall months. This JFC Brunssum HQs 'get-away' will span both Zaragoza Air Base in Spain and Beja Infantry Barracks in Portugal for the upcoming TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2015 Exercise from 28 September – 6 November 2015. As many are already aware, the primary purpose of TRJE 15 is to train and test the NATO RESPONSE FORCE (NRF) capability which represents the final step in the certification process for the command and control elements of the NRF 16 and Final Operational Capability (FOC) for JFC Brunssum. Because TRJE15 will be the largest NATO exercise in many years with more than 25,000 troops participating, RLS and HQIM began planning for TRJE15 over a year ago with customer service and your welfare in mind as top priorities.

Using these key tenets, RLS has tried to exceed expectations by providing the necessary welfare for JFC Brunssum Exercise participants staying in both Spain and Portugal. For RLS, our primary planning factor has been to use a holistic approach to working together with Host Nation teams, as well as external support agencies and staff personnel. As a result, both locations will afford exercise participants access to a

gym, running routes around base, quality food, quality drinking water, downtown Zaragoza city and Beja availability (when off duty), sleeping accommodation with linen, laundry services (available at cost), WiFi as well as morale and welfare activities. RLS has also been busy finalizing the tent camp preparation and transportation plan for both Zaragoza and Beja. These plans, in the context of 'First In – Last Out', comprise the movement of more than 400 sea-lift containers from Italy to both Spain and Portugal, the download and onward movement of the containers from the sea port, ground levelling preparations, as well as the build-up and tear down of around 220 Capability Package tents.

In addition, the HQIM team has been working diligently to plan and prepare for your information needs. You may not have given much thought to the preparatory work that is needed to provide everyone with a user account with the correct permissions, access to the appropriate group mailboxes, and the ability to store/retrieve documents and contribute to Headquarters' taskings. You expect, quite rightly, that you will be given an account and log-on password when you arrive at the Exercise location, so that you can sit down in front of your desktop computer and start work straight away. The HQIM team has therefore built Exercise network accounts, scripted new log-on details and created new Outlook distribution lists

so that when you log-on to the computer at your desk, you will have access to all of the Exercise information via the TRJE 15-specific versions of the Portal, Document Handling System (DHS) and everyone's favorite ... the Task Tracker Enterprise (TTE) system! These versions have been built by HQIM and tested during EXERCISE STEADFAST COBALT to ensure that these essential IM tools are functioning perfectly from Day One, such that you won't have to give any thought to how much preparatory work has been done to make this happen!

You don't yet know how to use the Portal, DHS or TTE systems? HQIM has been providing training to the staff over the past few months and will continue to do so leading up to the Exercise start date, including for all newcomers to JFC Brunssum this summer. For those who will be part of the JTFHQ staff but are external to JFC Brunssum, HQIM will provide targeted training during Battle Staff Training and TRJE15 itself. The detailed training programme has still to be finalised but, rest assured, HQIM will be present during the Exercise to aid those in need of additional Portal, DHS and TTE training.

With all that said, I am certain that both our RLS and HQIM team efforts will ensure that each of you are comfortable and productive during your TRJE15 Fall 'get-away' to either Spain or Portugal.

Colophon

The NORTHERN STAR is a publication, published with the assistance of 't Swarte Schaap, in co-operation with and at no cost to HQ JFC Brunssum. Opinions herein do not necessarily reflect official NATO or HQ JFC Brunssum policy. The appearance of advertisements, including inserts, does not constitute endorsement by NATO or HQ JFC Brunssum of the products or services offered. Deadline for articles, advertisements and photographs is on the Monday at close of business prior to the week of publication.

To place an advertisement in the Northern Star, please call 't Swarte Schaap and ask for Rob Schaap, Sint Franciscusweg 36-3, 6417 BD Heerlen, The Netherlands, telephone: +31 (0)45 571 61 16, or e-mail: rob@tswarteschaap.nl.

Submissions to the Northern Star can be made to room F 1.21, Bldg. H 106 or e-mailed to pao@jfcbs.nato.int. Articles should be in Microsoft Word format and, whenever possible, should be no longer than 300 words. Photographs should be at least 9x6 centimetres and 300 dpi. The Northern Star is published monthly and is available around the first Friday of each month.

For more information, call ext. 2687 or +31 (0)45 526 26 87. The editor reserves the right to edit submissions.

Editorial Staff

Col Martin Klein, DEU A
Chief Public Affairs Office

Mr. Barry Mellor, GBR Civ
Section Head Internal Communication & Community Relations, Editor

Edwin Tromp, NLD A
Contributing Editor

Henk van der Velde, NLD N
Contributing Editor



MIX
Paper from
responsible sources
FSC® C017488

About the Cover



Exercise Siil / Steadfast Javelin

Following a series of artillery barrages, engineer demolitions, mortar and small arms fire an Estonian machine gunner carries his equipment as the Distinguished Visitors day comes to a climax.

Exercise Siil / Steadfast Javelin involves 13,000 troops including 7,000 reservists from Estonia and Allied countries in locations across Estonia from 4th to the 15th of May. The objective of the exercise is to test the full staging of permanent readiness troops and additional staging of rapid response reserve units. Over 600 troops from Belgium, Germany, Latvia, Poland, the Netherlands, UK and U.S. are taking part. NATO photo by SSgt Dan Bardsley GBR OR7

Contents

3	Command Group Corner	16	Italian Delegation Marks the 2768th Anniversary of the Founding of Rome
4	About the cover	19	Lieutenant General Janusz Adamczak, Chief of Staff JFC Brunssum, visited AFNORTH International School to sign the new Memorandum of Agreement
5	Norwegian Armed Forces	20	2015 Year of the Mines
8	Visit and Activities	23	Movie Schedule
10	JFC Brunssum Civilian/Military Cooperation Directorate (J9) Participate in Military Partnerships Coordination Workshop 2015	26	Book Review
12	NCO Winter Camp 2015 Pokljuka, Slovenia		
13	Brunssum Brits Bake Up A Storm		
14	Command Senior Enlisted Leader's Staff Ride to Bastogne		

Norwegian Armed Forces

Story by BGEN Torgeir Gråtrud, Assistant Chief of Staff J5

Introduction

The Norwegian Armed Forces provide for Norway's national security, and are divided into four branches: the Army, the Navy, the Air Force and the Home Guard. In addition, there are a number of joint departments which support the operative needs. The day-to-day operational issues and forces deployed in operations abroad are commanded and coordinated by the National Joint Headquarters (NJHQ).

"The ambition of the Norwegian Armed Forces is to have the right forces at the right time to provide for our national security and our international commitments."



Amount of personnel:

- Peacetime strength: Approximately 23,000 (including officers/NCOs/civilian employees).
- Strength after mobilization: Approximately 83,000.

National bases:

The Armed Forces have 33 bases dispersed throughout the country.

System of management:

The management of the Norwegian Armed Forces is twofold, both military and political.

Chief of Defence:

Admiral Haakon Bruun-Hansen is the most senior leader of the military organization, and also the top military advisor for the Ministry of Defence.

The operational part of the Armed Forces is coordinated by the Norwegian Joint Headquarters, which is located near Bodø. NJHQ is responsible for planning and commanding the Armed Forces operations in peace, crisis and war.

Defence Minister:

Mrs Ine Marie Eriksen Søreide represents the political leadership of the Armed Forces. She is responsible for shaping, running and controlling Norwegian security and defence policy.

Personnel

The personnel of the Armed Forces have a wide range of qualifications and are the organization's most important resource.

The Armed Forces are in need of both military and civilian skills.

The Armed Forces have about 16,500 employees; 11,500 of them are military and 5,000 are civilians. In addition there are conscripts and students. The amount of conscripts varies, depending on the needs of the Armed Forces. In 2008, 10,151 did their national service, out of which 803 were female. In addition to those in the traditional war structure, the military employees perform tasks such as economists, doctors, meteorologists and engineers.

Civilian employees fill a range of important positions in the Armed Forces; researchers, solicitors, technicians, veterinarians,

information consultants, different specialists and administration are some of the positions they fill.

The Army

The army is central in every defense force. In the Norwegian Armed Forces, the army's role is to operate on land and control territory and people, if necessary with force.

The army has the capacity to aid in national development, if necessary, with weapons in hand. During international operations the army's units have proved their relevance in every area from armed conflicts to humanitarian emergencies. The backbone of the Army is the Brigade North providing modern warfare combined arms capabilities.

The Air Force

The Royal Norwegian Air Force utilizes modern warfare capacities such as F-16 fighters, Bell 412 helicopters and more. The Air Force also has a strong focus towards international operations but collective defense is absolutely a priority.

Over the last ten years the Royal Norwegian

Air Force has participated with helicopters, F-16 fighters and C-130J cargo planes in operations in areas such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, Kosovo, Lithuania and Afghanistan. P-3 Orion MPA surveillance aircraft have also operated out of area in order to patrol the Mediterranean and Indian Ocean.

The Navy

The Royal Norwegian Navy (RNoN) was established by royal decree on 12 April 1814. Consequently, the RNoN celebrated its 200th anniversary last year.

The RNoN is today led by the Chief of



the RNoN supported by the Naval Staff. The Navy is organized into the following subunits: the Norwegian Fleet, the Norwegian Coast Guard, the Naval schools and the Naval bases.

The Norwegian fleet is responsible for the manning, training and maintenance of the RNoN naval units and their associated operational support units. Main naval units include the frigates of the Fridtjof Nansen-class, submarines of the Ula-class, corvettes of the Skjold-class and finally, MCMVs of the Oksøy- and Alta-classes. All units are home-ported at Haakonsværn naval base in Bergen.

The Norwegian Coast Guard is organized within the RNoN to ensure synergies with respect to education, manning and maintenance. The Coast Guard operates 15 vessels of various types, sizes and capabilities. Common for all is that they are home-ported at the Norwegian Coast Guard base in Sortland in Northern Norway. All vessels are operated utilizing a dual-crew concept resulting in an operational pattern with more than 300 sea days for each vessel per year. The Coast Guard operations rest on a special national jurisdiction as promulgated by the

Norwegian Coast Guard Act.

The RNoN is today a modern navy with a total manning of more than 4,000 officers, NCOs and ratings. Naval vessels and units are state-of-art and the knowhow among the RNoN personnel is substantial, ensuring that Norway has a capable and ready naval capability at hand.

The Home Guard

The task of the Home Guard is to protect the local population and the essential functions of society. This includes helping to maintain Norwegian sovereignty, national crisis management, the reception of allied reinforcements and contributing to



the safety and security of society.

Many of these tasks are mostly relevant in the coastal zone and can best be carried out through integrated Home Guard operations in which the land, naval and air force Home Guard work together. The Inspector General of the Home Guard is responsible for force production to man the Home Guard's war structure, making use of the territorial district staffs, schools and competence centers for this purpose.

Location of Norwegian Military Bases



Norwegian Defence Logistics Organisation (NDLO)

Even without a military degree, you may be the person we are looking for. 2,000 of our employees in the Norwegian Defence Logistics Organisation (NDLO) are civilians. The NDLO is a competence-based organisation which employs engineers, lawyers, economists and technical personnel, among others.

When the Norwegian Armed Forces conduct their missions, the NDLO ensures that the best equipment is available to them. The NDLO has at its disposal around 50% of the annual Defence Budget and is responsible for procuring, developing,



maintaining, updating, and eventually decommissioning all Armed Forces materiel.

Our people provide Norwegian forces with everything from high-quality thermal underwear to Europe's most advanced fighter planes. Some of our bright minds were involved in developing the good old field boot, as well as the high-tech helmet to be used on the Armed Forces' new F-35 fighter plane.

YOUR PATIENCE IS BEING REWARDED DISCOVER THE NEW VOLVO XC90 NOW

Dear NATO Customers,
We cordially invite you to the official introduction of
the new XC90 at Excellent Volvo dealer
Auto Kallen in Geleen.
Thursday, 11 June from 15.00 to 21.00 hours
Please pre-register at www.autokallen.nl



Auto Kallen - Rijksweg Zuid 320 - 6161 BZ Geleen - T. 046-4238686



AUTO KALLEN
GELEEN



't Swarte Schaap
communicatie & grafisch projectmanagement



Is your website getting old?

Brand new websites at brand new prices

**Contact Rob
and get a free offer**

't Swarte Schaap

Sint Franciscusweg 36-3
6417BD Heerlen

+31 (0)45-571 61 16

info@tswarteschaap.nl
www.tswarteschaap.nl

Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum - Visits and Activities

Prepared by Adjutant Edwin Tromp, photos by PAO JFCBS

Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum major activities are depicted along five lines of effort within the Brunssum Campaign Plan. Each of these activities requires an ambitious level of attention and effort. Beside routine staff work we plan and conduct special activities in the form of visits and training, as well as, social events on a regular basis. We would like to provide you an overview of those activities.

April 2015



JFC Brunssum Conduct Training Event in Belarus

07 – 10 April 18 students attended a NATO Expert Training Team Visit in Minsk, Belarus.

Joint Force Command Brunssum organised and conducted this event that, amongst other issues, included discussion of chemical and biological warfare, on request of the Belarus authorities. Events such as this are part of ongoing routine cooperation activities NATO conducts and are in no way reflective of any perceived or emerging threat. Indeed, in 2014, JFC Brunssum personnel conducted two training events in Belarus where other security related issues were discussed.



Netherlands' Defense College visits JFC Brunssum

17 April, JFC Brunssum hosted a party of approximately 50 Belgian, Dutch, German and Norwegian officers participating in a professional development course at the Netherlands' Defense College. Visitors received a series of briefings focusing on the Headquarters' role, responsibilities and planning processes with the objective of familiarizing them with operational challenges confronting the Alliance. As part of their curriculum module "Operational Art and Planning", students are provided the opportunity to acquaint themselves with a Joint Headquarters (comprising air, land and maritime capability) in order to better prepare themselves for possible future assignment to NATO.



Commander JFC Brunssum Meets With Italian CHOD

In the wake of trips to Portugal and Spain, for discussions centred on the status of preparations for Exercise Trident Juncture 2015, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, flew to Italy for a meeting with the Italian Chief of Defence Staff (General Claudio Graziano), in Rome, Friday 17 April. In a most congenial meeting the General commented he was most grateful as the discussions enabled him to gain a really clear picture of Italy's participation in the exercise.



JFC Deputy Commander Visits Pakistan and Afghanistan

Deputy Commander JFC Brunssum, Air Marshal Graham Stacey, visited Pakistan and Afghanistan during the week 13-17 April.

The visit to Pakistan was at the personal invitation of the Pakistan Chief of Army Staff (COAS), General Raheel Sharif. The visit began with an office call on General Sharif, where NATO's current and future role in Afghanistan and pertinent regional issues were discussed. This was followed by a meeting with Pakistan's Chief of the Air Staff, Air Chief Marshal Sohail Aman. Air Marshal Stacey also visited the Commander of 12th Infantry Division of the Pakistan Army, Major General Muhammad Kaleem Asif.



Deputy Commander JFC Naples Visits JFC Brunssum

JFC Brunssum was pleased to host Lieutenant General D. Michael Day (CAN), Joint Force Command Naples Deputy Commander, 21 April.

During a first visit to his twin JFC Lieutenant General Day attended the Commander's Update Brief, had an office call with General Hans-Lothar Domröse, JFC Brunssum's Commander, and was briefed on Brunssum's major ongoing tasks and subjects of interest by Air Marshal Graham Stacey, JFC Brunssum's Deputy Commander.



Bulgarian Ambassador Briefed at JFC Brunssum

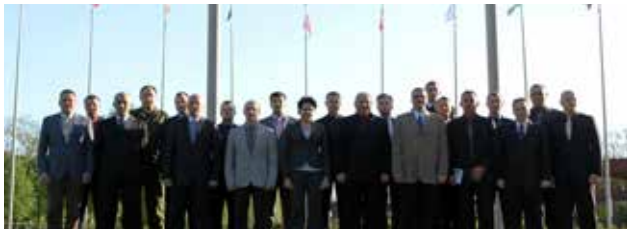
22 Apr, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum Commander, welcomed His Excellency the Ambassador of Bulgaria to the Netherlands to his headquarters today.

H.E. Ambassador Nikola Ivanov Kolev was accompanied by Lieutenant General Pehliyanov, the Bulgarian Military Representative to NATO, and Major General Natchev, the Bulgarian National Military Representative to SHAPE. Brigadier General Dyakov, the Bulgarian Senior National Representative at JFC Brunssum, was in attendance to host the ambassador and his delegation.



Latvian Policy Makers call into JFC Brunssum

28 April, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, hosted H.E. Māris Riekstiņš (Latvian Ambassador to NATO) and a delegation of Latvian parliamentarians to his HQs. In a concise briefing the General briefed his visitors on the primary roles and responsibilities of JFC Brunssum – Afghanistan, NATO's Response Force (NRF) and Regional Focus – but deliberately focussed his remarks on security issues of overwhelming importance to Latvia.



Baltic Defense College Visits JFC Brunssum

06 May, Commander JFC Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, was pleased to host a visit of students and staff from the Baltic Defense College. Students comprise military officers specially selected to undergo intensive staff training to prepare them for higher rank. Their current learning module is designed to enhance comprehension of the NATO Alliance and other security stakeholders active in the European area. The visit to JFC Brunssum was but one such stop in a busy week-long program.



Commander JFC Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Visits Exercise Siil/Steadfast Javelin in Estonia

8 MAY 2015. The largest mobilisation exercise Siil/Steadfast Javelin is currently underway in Estonia after the country restored its armed forces two decades ago. Siil/Steadfast Javelin involving over 7,000 of reserve forces and in total 13,000 troops from Estonia and Allied countries kicked off in locations all over Estonia this week and runs from May 4 to 15.



Danish Chief of Defence, General Peter Bartram, Calls Into JFC Brunssum

13 May, General Peter Bartram, the Danish Chief of Defence Staff (CHOD), accompanied by Lieutenant General Per Pugholm Olsen, Denmark's Military Representative to NATO, visited JFC Brunssum. The distinguished visitors met with the Commander, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, receive briefings on the roles and responsibilities of the headquarters, participated in a round-table discussion and held discussions with Danish personnel serving here.



UK Vice Chief of Defence Visits JFC Brunssum

30 April, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach KCB, CBE, ADC, RAF, UK Vice Chief of Defence Staff, visited JFC Brunssum. Hosted by General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, the Air Chief Marshal was briefed on the roles, responsibilities and challenges confronting the HQs. Amongst other topics the following were discussed: the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan; the NATO Response Force; Assurance Measures; Regional Focus; the Alliance's Readiness Action Plan; the rollout of NATO Force Integration Units; and the status of the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force.



Visit by Finnish Defence College to JFC Brunssum

08 May, 84 staff and students from the Finnish Defence College called into JFC Brunssum as part of a tour that included visits to the European Union and NATO Headquarters this week to familiarize students with the functions of European and NATO security policy/structures. General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, extended a warm welcome to his visitors and personally briefed them on the role and responsibilities of his operational-level headquarters, a headquarters that takes political guidance and turns it into practical outcomes at the tactical level.



NATO Civilian Staff Long Service Awards Ceremony

12 May, NATO Civilian staff received Long Service Awards in a ceremony hosted and moderated by Mr Barry Mellor (Chairman Brunssum Civilian Staff Association). Brigadier General Dancho Dyakov, Bulgarian Army, Assistant Chief of Staff JFC Brunssum Civil/Military Cooperation Division, was the VIP in attendance and presented awards. In his remarks BGen Dyakov emphasised the event was not merely to mark longevity but a symbol of the high regard the military have for their civilian colleagues, and that our continued success relies upon the seamless integration of military/civilian personnel.

JFC Brunssum Civilian/Military Cooperation Directorate (J9) Participate in Military Partnerships Coordination Workshop 2015

Story by: MAJ Veronika Golkova, Civilian/Military Cooperation Directorate

Assistant Chief of Staff J9, Brigadier General Dancho DYAKOV, and J9 Military Partnership Branch representatives participated in the Military Partnerships Coordination Workshop 2015, held in Budva, Montenegro, from 23rd to 27th of March 2015.



The official group photograph of the Military Partnership Coordination Workshop 2015, Budva (MNE), 23 – 27 March 2015.

The annual Military Partnership Coordination Workshop brings together all levels of NATO Headquarters with representatives from Partnership for Peace (PfP), Mediterranean Dialogue (MD), Istanbul Cooperation Initiative (ICI) and other NATO partner nations for almost 5 days of intense briefings, syndicates and bi-lateral meetings.

The primary aim of the workshop was to engage with partner countries on NATO's planned military cooperation programs and activities, discuss and tailor their specific plans for 2015 - 2016. The event was opened by Vice Chief of Staff SHAPE, Lieutenant General Michel YAKOVLEFF, who stressed the importance of the relationship between NATO and its partner countries and,

inter alia, that these connections are an important path to any future membership of the Alliance. 'Operations led by NATO would not occur without the assistance and involvement of partners ... we share the same values and NATO's future strongly incorporates the strengthening of existing partnerships', he said. The Deputy Chief of Staff Military Partnership Directorate, Major General Ali ÇETİNKAYA, chaired the workshop and thanked the Chief of the Armed Forces of Montenegro, Admiral Dragan Tripko Samardžić, for the warm hospitality.

The presence of all levels of NATO Headquarters from Single Service Commands through Joint Force Commands to Allied Command Operations, Allied Command Transition, the International Military Staff and International Staff provided the widest

possible spectrum of NATO attention to partner nations. During the first day the individual NATO stakeholders presented their current status and briefed all the attendees on their activities. The Military Partnership Branch Head, Colonel Ilmar LEJINS, introduced in detail the Enhanced Observer Program which Joint Force Command Brunssum conducts in order to prepare and train Staff Officers from Partner Nations to participate in a Joint Task Force HQs in future exercises and real world operations.

This sixth workshop was a fruitful and successful meeting conducted under the motto developing partnerships, building the future.

OFFICIAL VOLVO MILITARY/DIPLOMAT SALES AGENT

NATO AIRBASE GEILENKIRCHEN, U.S. ARMY GARRISSON SCHINNEN & JFC BRUNSSUM



- FOR ALL EUROPEAN, US, CANADIAN & UK NATIONALITIES SERVING NATO
- LEADING TAX-FREE MILITARY AND DIPLOMATIC VOLVO SUPPLIER
- GUARANTEED LOWEST PRICE
- ALL PAYMENTS DIRECT TO THE VOLVO FACTORY IN GOTHENBURG, SWEDEN
- HOME SHIPMENT PROGRAM INCLUDED*
- US, CANADIAN AND EUROPEAN SPECS SERVICE & MAINTENANCE
- BODY AND PAINT SHOP
- VOLVO DEALER SINCE 1965

*ONLY U.S. & CANADIAN SPECS



Auto Kallen | Rijksweg Zuid 320 - Geleen | The Netherlands
Tel +31 (0)46 - 423 86 86 | Contact: r.vossen@autokallen.nl

www.autokallen.nl

Steakhouse



Dalmacija

International dishes • Balkan cuisine
Argentine steak dishes • seafood

Opening hours are from 4 p.m. untill 11 p.m.
On Sunday and holidays from 12 a.m. untill 11 p.m.

Make a reservation if you want to come with a larger group
We offer you the best dishes for special prices

Lindeplein 4b • Brunssum • tel. 045-5271351 • dalmacija.nl

Haus Hamacher

Restaurant und Café

*We are your starting- and resting
point for excursions in the beautiful
scenery of the Rodebach naturepark*

Daily fresh asparagus
(till the end of June)

we are there for you 7 days a week!

Tel: 0049-2454-1414 www.Haus-Hamacher.de 52538 Gangelt
Am Freibad 10

sian

manuele therapie **acupunctuur**
echografie shockwave therapie

SHOCKWAVE AND/OR DRY-NEEDLING IS EFFECTIVE WITH:

Back and neck strain - Shoulderpain
Heelspurs/achilles tendon problems
tennis/golfarm - Bursas - Triggerpoints

LASER/EARPUNCTURE IS EFFECTIVE WITH:

Slimming - Quit smoking - Hayfever
Menopausal symptoms - Migraine
General Pain



Praktijk Sian Neerbeek
Praktijk Sian Aalst-Waalre
www.sian.nl

Langweide 35
De Leesakker 24

046-4862857
040-2217188
info@sian.nl

Pizzeria Molise

Delivery: **045-5256296**

Pick up adres: **Rimburgerweg 2a, Brunssum**

open 7 days/ week from 16.00-23.00, sundays at 15.00-23.00

Restaurant open on monday, thursday, friday and saturday 16.00-23.00
sunday 15.00-23.00 (tuesday and wednesday closed)

Visit our website: www.molise.nl



NCO Winter Camp 2015 Pokljuka, Slovenia

Story by Staff Sergeant Jose Pagan

The 8th International NATO and Partnership for Peace (PfP) Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) Camp was held in Pokljuka, Slovenia from 20 to 27 March 2015, and was hosted by Slovenian Armed forces (SAF) Command Sergeant Mayor (CSM) Igor Tomasic.

The main purpose of this camp was to strengthen and build relationships, promote professional development and share experiences amongst NATO and PfP NCOs. The SAF taught much about their beautiful country, capabilities and assets. They hosted representatives from several nations and NATO organizations including Joint Force Commands (JFC) Naples and Brunssum, with the latter represented by myself, Staff Sergeant (SSG/OR6) Jose Pagan from the Political Advisor's Office.

We were hosted at the Pokljuka training Center. Activities included lectures, workshops, visits, outdoor activities and guest speakers. Lectures focused on SAF capabilities and were given by senior Slovenian NCOs. Participants also presented briefings about their own NCO corps. Guest speakers included NATO Allied Command Transformation Command Chief Jack Johnson, NATO Allied Command Operations Command Chief Richard Small, Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL) JFC Naples CSM Manfred Jerabek and CSEL Allied Land Command, Izmir, CSM Daniel Moyer.

There were many challenging winter activities including: Avalanche training rescue missions, Basic Biathlon techniques, Basic Skiing, Military Mountaineering skills, Biathlon Shooting training with Slovenian Biathlon World Champion Tadeja Brankovic Likoazar. There was also live-fire exercise with Slovenian Special Forces weapons with their Special Forces Team supervision it was a great experience. At the end of the winter camp we had an award ceremony to recognize the top 3 finishers in the Biathlon competition and the top NCO (given only to the one that works the



NCO Winter Camp 2015 Biathlon Competition Day

hardest at the camp), to my surprise I was awarded the Top NCO of the group of 22 other senior NCOs in the winter camp.

In closing, I would like to thank the Slovenian Armed Forces for providing me the opportunity to participate in such a professional, well organized and meaningful camp that strengthened relationships and generated substantial mutual respect, while providing a

once in a lifetime experience in an unforgettable environment. This was possible due to the professionalism, energy and knowledge of the staff of the 8th International NATO and PfP NCO Winter Camp.

BRUNSSUM BRITS BAKE UP A STORM

Story by CPL Zoe Fowler, Base Support Coord Cell

Wednesday, 22nd April 2015 saw NATO Joint Force Command Brunssum in the Netherlands resemble somewhat of a contemporary Bakery! Organisers, Cpls Zoe Fowler & Sarah Proffitt, arranged the cake sale within the Miners Rest, the perfect location to tickle the taste buds of our colleagues from a variety of countries, and introduce them to our famous British cakes. The cakes, kindly donated from the British Community and their friends, were delicious, seeing over 30 different types on offer. With a line forming before the opening time of 10:00, and no cakes leftover come 13:00, it's evident how good they were. Alongside the sale, a raffle was held, with amazing prizes to be won. These were all generously donated by a variety of companies. A list of winners and donators can be found below. In total, €1301.43 was raised for Scotty's Little Soldiers. Thank you to all the Bakers, Donators and Buyers for helping make this event the success it was, with the funds going to such a worthy cause.

Prize	Winner	Special Thanks To
Romantic All-Inclusive Dinner For 2 At Kasteel Terworm	Kev Heatley	Kasteel Terworm
€100 Vouchers Roermond Designer Outlet	Michael (Miners Rest)	Roermond Designer Outlet
3 Course Lunch For 2 At Hotel Winselerhof	Melissa Ruiz	Hotel Winselerhof
Bistrot Walking Package For 2 At Chateau St.gerlach	Matt Thurlow	Chateau St.gerlach
2 X Entry Tickets & Museum Guide Rijks Museum Amsterdam	Roly Connell	Rijks Museum Amsterdam
Family Ticket Amsterdam Blue Boat Canal Cruises	Henk Van Der Velde	Amsterdam Blue Boat Canal Cruises
2 X Entry Tickets Paleis Het Loo	Pedro Rodrigues	Paleis Het Loo
2 X Tickets Scapino Ballet Rotterdam Heerlen Theatre – 2 May 15	Serge Penna	Parkstad Limburg Theaters
2 X Tickets Georgian Legends Heerlen Theatre – 29 Apr 15	Jose Pagan	Parkstad Limburg Theaters
Lunch For 2 At Uk Coffee Shop, Brunssum	Roly Connell	Uk Coffee Shop, Brunssum
€25 Restaurant Down Under, Sittard	Marc Cresser	Restaurant Down Under, Sittard
€25 Restaurant Brasserie De Passie, Heerlen	Phil Morrison	Restaurant Brasserie De Passie, Heerlen
€25 Restaurant La Storia, Brunssum	Matt Wheildon	Restaurant La Storia, Brunssum
€22 Café Fratellis, Brunssum	Grzegorz Pytel	Café Fratellis, Brunssum
€15 Decathlon Voucher	Chris Riavez	Decathlon, Kerkrade
5 X Entry Tickets Ballorig Soft Play	Emma Neal	Ballorig Soft Play, Sittard
€10 Absolute Beauty Voucher	Tara Sarik	Absolute Beauty, Heerlen
2 X Base Cinema Tickets	Georg Megrund	Fsmw, Jfc Brunssum
Belgian Beer Gift Set	Neil Cummins	Belgianbeerfactory.com
British Hamper	Richard Sheffe	Crystals Nightclub, Newtown, Powys
Banana Cake	Javier Buhigas	Linda Ormerod
Fruit Cake	Rafael Cabanillas	Linda Ormerod
Lemon Cake	Matt Thurlow	Linda Ormerod



Cake sale mid-flow



Organisers Cpls Zoe Fowler & Sarah Proffitt

Command Senior Enlisted Leader's Staff Ride to Bastogne

Story by: Sergeant Jim Drake, Royal Air Force

Chief Warrant Officer Joe Ramsay, Canadian Army, is the Command Senior Enlisted Leader (CSEL) in JFC HQ Brunssum. In this capacity he is not only the most senior non-commissioned officer (NCO) in the headquarters but also the Commanders' personal advisor on all issues related to the NCO community. Below is an article describing a recent professional development led by Warrant Officer Ramsay and organised by Sergeant Jim Drake.



The JFC Brunssum participants welcomed by their Belgian hosts

One day I was sitting in my office trying to look busy when I wandered a British Warrant Officer who said: “Jim, you like battlefields and stuff like that, how about organizing a day out for the CSEL?” Since my favourite area for walking around and touching things is Bastogne, it was a given as to where we were going to go.

Once the CSEL had agreed the locations to be visited and the timings, my deputy - Erwin Reynders – and I, got busy plagiarizing somebody else's Administration Order¹. Surprisingly, once the necessary administrative documents

had been completed, all went smoothly and quickly.

The date for the pre-briefing was set for Monday 20 Apr and the trip was set for was set for Thursday 23 Apr, but as in all things military related, nothing survives first contact with the Brits or Canadians. The Brits had a visit to Arnhem on the 23 Apr, and then the Canadians went off and spent some time playing with their weapons on the 20 Apr; so it was necessary to pull the briefing forward a week in order to encompass the CSEL, and push the trip back a week to catch the Brits.

The change of timing was emailed out to all the individuals who had put themselves on the nominal roll, and possibly due to a language problem or the inability of many people to improvise

and adapt, of the thirty or so names, only about twelve turned up. This meant that on the actual day of the trip some of those in the bus knew the background to the Ardennes Offensive whilst the remainder were behind the drag-curve, so situation normal then!

My idea for the trip was to concentrate more on the soldiers at the front rather than the big strategic picture, after all, that's what officers are for! The locations to be visited were Foy and Bastogne Barracks followed by the Mardasson Memorial and Museum.

On the day I turned up at 0710 to make sure there were no problems, but was beaten by several people who were far more keen than I was, and promptly hit the first snag; I had calculated the timings using Google maps which defaulted to a

¹ In the military an Administration Order, or Admin Order, contains all the detail necessary for an event to run smoothly i.e. dates, times, places, responsibilities, etc.



Mardasson Memorial. Was built as a token of gratitude by the Belgian people for the liberation of their country, and in honour of the 76,890 American soldiers who were wounded or killed during the Battle of the Bulge. The first steps towards the memorial were undertaken on July 4, 1946, and the monument was dedicated on July 16, 1950. Slightly off to one side of the memorial is a small crypt within which stands three altars, one Catholic, one Protestant and one Jewish.

car, we were in a forty-seven seat coach, which surprisingly enough does not have the same handling characteristics of a family car and so the journey would take about half an hour longer.

Once on the road we encountered my next set of miscalculations; rush hour traffic and the fact that the Netherlands and Belgium seem to be rebuilding their entire road network. So our timings slipped even further, and quiet internal panic started to set in as we had to visit Bois Jacques Woods, have a quick tour around Foy, and then be at Bastogne Barracks for 1000 for the guided tour.

But because Erwin and I are military we adapted our plan and missed out Bois Jacques Woods and Foy and went straight to the barracks where two Belgian Army guides were waiting for us. Both very keen and knowledgeable, they provided an excellent tour, but I think they struggled a bit due to the number of personnel crammed into the cellar where Brigadier General McAuliffe operated from during the siege. Once outside the CSEL had a quick photo opportunity and gave them each one of his coins².

From the barracks we drove to the Mardasson Memorial and Museum, where the plan was to have a talk about the memorial and chapel, and then



have a catch-up session for those who missed the pre-brief; but since it was freezing and raining this was cut short and after a very quick walk around and over the memorial all rushed to the dry warmth of the museum where we spilt in to two groups. The more manly of the group went straight into the audio guided tour of the museum, and the weak and unmilitary of us went straight to the café for a coffee or hot chocolate.

In the warmth of the café I then conducted the pre-brief again for those who had missed it and discussed the contributions to the battle by the small groups US Army soldiers, who put up a fierce resistance. In one case, at the village of Lanzerath, 22 men fought off up to 500 German Paratroopers for almost 10 hours and, in doing so, delayed an entire panzer army.

Within the museum are a number of photographs showing the conditions of the time and one of the things that comes across is the snow and how cold it must have been during the battle, especially since most of the American troops did not have the appropriate winter clothing and were short of everything else.

On the way back to JFC Brunssum we went via the back roads to Bois Jacques Wood where Easy Company were dug in overlooking the village of Foy, and spent some time walking part of the woods looking at where the foxholes were.

From the woods we drove down the hill to Foy where we had a ten minute walk around looking at a couple of buildings that were involved in the battle before getting on the bus and returning to do battle with the roadwork's of Europe.

On a more serious note, the lessons that were identified were all as relevant then as they are now:

- Don't attack down narrow roads - Taking two panzer armies down single



lane roads and narrow tracks which in many places were surrounded by steep hillsides probably wasn't the best move.

- Don't attack with untrained soldiers - The Germans attacked with children and untrained soldiers, even their paratroopers were untrained.
- Don't rely on the enemy to supply you - Any offensive that is not backed by adequate logistics is doomed to fail.
- Don't attack an enemy who has air superiority - An offensive that relies on weather conditions to keep the enemy grounded is doomed to failure in the long term (or in this case, short-term).

And finally, the last word goes to General Von Rundstedt:

"All, absolutely all, conditions for the possible success of such an offensive were lacking."



² Since WWII military personnel in positions of authority have awarded a personalized coin to those who have performed acts worthy of informal recognition.

Italian Delegation Marks the 2768th Anniversary of the Founding of Rome

Story by LTC Pasquale di Bisceglie, JFCBS Public Affairs Office. Photos by LTC Pasquale di Bisceglie and CPO Henk van der Velde, JFCBS Public Affairs Office

Members of the Italian delegation at Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS), under the lead of the Italian Senior National Representative (ITA SNR), Major General Carmelo DE CICCIO, marked the 2768th anniversary of the birth of Rome at the International Conference Centre with a conference and a display of Roman artefacts. The event took place on 20th April, the day before the true anniversary. Underpinning the date of this secular holiday, the Latin writer Marco Terenzio Varrone, with the cooperation of the astrologer Lucio Taruzio, is claimed to have identified 21st April, 753 B.C., as the date on which Romulus founded Rome.



Military and Civilian guests at the conference marking the 2768th Anniversary of the Founding of Rome listen to opening remarks made by the Italian Senior National Representative, Major General Carmelo DE CICCIO.

The celebration started in the morning with the visit of a large representation of students from the local AFNORTH international school, of families belonging to the military and civilian personnel of JFCBS and of staff representatives working in the Headquarters. Participants were able to admire an impressive display of historical material dating back to Roman times kindly loaned by the

Thermen Museum of Heerlen (the current name of the ancient roman city of Coriovallum). Thanks to the presence of professional reenactors (belonging to the group Tenth Legion Gemina and the Museum of Heerlen) attired in perfect reproductions of clothes worn in the Roman period, guests had the opportunity to live for a few hours the life of Roman legionaries by learning the rudiments of combat techniques

and familiarizing themselves with Roman training and exercise regimes. In this interactive context, students participated with great enthusiasm in the various activities and demonstrated great curiosity for both the ancient artefacts on display (vases, pottery, and accessories for the beauty of the women) and for the section of the exhibition dedicated to games of the Roman era.

The event continued in the afternoon with a conference that was attended by almost 200 civilian and military guests. Dignitaries in attendance included the Commander of JFCBS, General Hans-Lothar DOMRÖSE, his Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Janusz ADAMCZAK, and the Mayor of the city of Brunssum, Mr. Luc WINANTS.

In his opening speech, Major General Carmelo DE CICCIO, after thanking all the participants for attending the event, underlined the active collaboration of JFCBS and its Base Support Group,

in the period between the years 50 BC and 50 AD”, by Major Fabio RANIERI from the Italian delegation, “Romanization of Limburg and the Pax Romana”, by Drs. Gilbert SOETERS, an Archaeologist based in Maastricht, and “The Roman Legacy in Limburg”, by Dr. Karen JENESON, Curator of the Thermen Museum of Heerlen.

During the first lecture, Major Fabio RANIERI covered a wide range of aspects related to the Roman Legions during the Imperial period where the Army became fully professional. His

divided into 10 infantry Cohorts (units equivalent to Battalion/Regiment), supported by other significant assets such as cavalry. When fighting, the Legion formation was a united front with the infantry at the centre and the cavalry on the wings, with the more capable and better-armed fighters in the first row and a second row of reinforcement. The Roman Legion was a military unit of primary importance, not only at the tactical level but also at the strategic level, as its mere presence in a province was a strong deterrent to enemies.



Reenactors belonging to the “10th Gemina Legion” group, attired in perfect reproductions of clothes worn by Legionaries in the Roman period.

highlighted the great synergy that was created between the Italian delegation and the City of Maastricht with its University, the towns of Brunssum and Heerlen with its prestigious Thermen Museum, and the City of Rome for having made possible the success of the event.

Three very interesting topics were presented during the conference: “The organisation of the Roman Legions

agenda mainly focused on ranks, level of command, equipment, weapons in use, as well as logistics, terms of service, formations and combat techniques. Noticeably, logistics, formations and the old Roman concept of deployment are still used by modern Armies.

Each Legion (unit equivalent to a modern Army Brigade) was composed of approximately 5200/6000 men,

The key to the success of the legion was the morale of the soldiers, strengthened by the knowledge that each man had to count on the support of his companion. Of note, at the end of his career, every Roman soldier was entitled to receive a kind of modern pension called Praemium correspondent to 12/13 years of his current wage (sometimes integrated by a piece of land). All these peculiarities made the Roman Legion as the most ancient model for military efficiency, in terms of training, equipment and organization.

Drs. Gilbert SOETERS presented the second lecture. The Romanization of South Limburg started in the period of the so-called Pax Romana (20 B.C.-180 A.D.) at the time of Emperor Augustus. This process, which has left an archaeological heritage presented in a number of renowned museums in Maastricht, Cologne, Tongeren and Heerlen, has somehow defined the identity of South Limburg and has greatly influenced not only the habits and customs of the local people, but also the shape of the territory itself and the road network connections. “Roads write history: there would be no history

without roads. Armies conquering new territories, trade, traffic and communication, it is all possible by the presence of roads” said Drs. SOETERS. After several hundred years, these roads are still visible and the Roman imprint is still recognizable in the morphology of many landscapes of South-Limburg and also some areas of Germany.

Dr. Karen JENESON, curator of the Thermen Museum in Heerlen, presented the third and final lecture. She highlighted the impact of the Roman civilization on current-day South Limburg. ***“The legacy of the Romans in this part of the Empire can still be experienced in many different ways and one of these is the existence of the two most important towns: Maastricht and Heerlen”*** she said during her presentation.

The Roman Empire, in addition to leaving physical evidence of its presence in the local architecture, had a broad impact in many areas and can even be seen in the region’s culinary tradition. Many of the crops in South Limburg date back to the Romans, who introduced the cultivation of cereals, legumes, various varieties of lettuce and a number of different breeds of cattle, pigs and goats.

The final presentation was followed by closing remarks of the ITA SNR. ***“The Roman Empire left not only tangible and long-lasting evidence, in the form of roads, monuments, aqueducts, amphitheaters, bridges and an impressive number of important cities such as London, Paris, Cologne, Maastricht and many others ”*** said MG DE CICCIO. ***“The Romans established also the fundamental rules of organized***



Students from the local AFNORTH International School learning the rudiments of Roman combat techniques and the games of the Roman era.

society and a philosophy of life which, in the end, generated the basic common values around which the current great alliances of western countries have been built, such as NATO and the European Union” he added.

A vin d’honneur was offered to conclude the event. Attendees seized the opportunity to discuss the issues

raised further and learn a little bit more of the many ways in which the Romans continue to impact the lives of those living in South Limburg.

Lieutenant General Janusz Adamczak, Chief of Staff JFC Brunssum, visited AFNORTH International School to sign the new Memorandum of Agreement

Story by Dr. Uwe Bettscheider - International Director - AFNORTH International School . Photo by Erie ten Doesschate



In front: COS Lieutenant General Adamczak. From left to right in the background: Director of AIS - Dr Uwe Bettscheider and the Governors: Frank Roehl (U.S.), Marc Belanger (Canada), Peter Berlinghof (Germany), Paul Niedzwiedzki (U.K.).

In keeping with the new host nation contract between NATO and The Netherlands, the existing Memorandum of Agreement (MOA) between Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum and AFNORTH International School was reviewed and adapted. Although AFNORTH International School is a Dutch foundation owned by the Departments of Defence of

Germany, Canada, United Kingdom and United States, and not directly a part of NATO or HQ JFC Brunssum, the school is closely related to the Headquarters. This relationship is defined and laid down in a MOA and has proven to work brilliantly ever since the school was built in 1967.

The Board of Governors (BOG) and the Director of AFNORTH International

School very much appreciated that the Chief of Staff came personally to attend the schools' BOG meeting on Wednesday, 13 May 2015, to reconfirm our excellent relationship and to sign the new Memorandum of Agreement between the school and the base.

Did you know?

2015 Year of the Mines

In tribute to 50 years following the closure of Limburg's Mining Industry

Based on an earlier article "The Hidden World Beneath Our Feet" written by the late Lt. Col. M. Walraven and edited by Ed Frieser.

With a theatre-play called 'The Speech', in the Heerlen Parkstad Theatre, on 17 December 2014 at precisely 16.00 hrs. an official start was given to the '2015 Year of the Mines'. Here, the then and late Dutch Minister of Economic Affairs, Joop den Uyl, announced the end of the Limburg mining industry on 17 December 1965 in that same Heerlen theatre. A dramatic moment for the South-Limburg community.

In commemoration of this dramatic event many activities in South-Limburg will take place during 2015. Although South-Limburg has evolved into a modern society, with new industries and developments, there are still enough reasons not to forget the mining era that enjoyed a flourishing mining industry that was once the major energy supplier for the Dutch society. But for an outsider with no specific knowledge, it is difficult to properly convey the spirit and atmosphere of a thriving mining community. The solidarity of people who live with the possibility of sudden and violent disaster really has to be experienced to be understood. In this context, an attempt was made to give a short history of the mine complexes on which premises JFC Headquarters Brunssum now sits.

Hendrik Mine

The Hendrik Mine was the third oldest mine in the Netherlands. Initial construction started in 1910 and official exploitation in 1918. The concession field of the Hendrik Mine was about 2,400 hectares. To give you some idea of the size it is comparable with the area bounded by the Emma Terrain in Treebeek, Hoensbroek Castle, Nuth, Schinnen, Oirsbeek and Amstenrade. It is difficult to imagine the vastness of the mine complexes. There were 122 km of corridors in the Hendrik Mine alone and it was possible to descend into the underground system in Kerkrade and surface in Geleen. During the nineteen fifties the Hendrik Mine was producing about 1 1/2 million tons of coal per year and employed 5,700 people at its peak, whilst production at Emma reached 2



A wall painting in the learning mine corridor underneath Hendrik Camp. It states: Do it safe, do it well.

1/2 million tons per year and 10,400 people were employed. The Emma Mine in Treebeek, once also used by military and civilian staff of the Central Region Signal Group of HQ AFCENT, today's NCI Agency-CIS Sustainment Support Centre Brunssum, but abandoned in the mid-eighties, was the second oldest mine in Limburg. It is now an industrial site and housing area passed through when driving from Hoensbroek to Brunssum. Its concession was 7,235 hectares of which only 2000 hectares were exploited. These mines were once amongst the most modern mines in Europe.

Mine Shafts

The Emma Mine and the Hendrik Mine had four shafts, the deepest of which was the number four shaft at Hendrik Mine. You will find this (blocked) shaft

underneath the car park next to the JFC Communications Tower, close to the Gymnasium. A remnant is the mineshaft wheel, now at the Akerstraat entrance of the headquarters, that was used to carry the lift that would take 60 miners at a time to a maximum depth of 1057 meters. But there were levels at 272, 316, 401, 537, 636, 730, 855 and 1008 meters. A plaque near the shaft wheel remembers the 153 underground miners and 24 miners at the surface who lost their lives in disasters and accidents - the majority of whom died at the Hendrik Mine. On Friday 13th, July 1928, for instance, 13 miners lost their lives in an underground explosion. And, on 24 March 1947, a second calamity killed 13 miners at a depth of 636 meters.

Shafts one and two, also production shafts, were interconnected with shaft



The Hendrik mineshaft wheel of shaft IV at the Akerstraat gate. Today a miners monument to remember the miners that did not survive the calamities of 13 June 1928 and 24 March 1947.

four at several levels but only descended to a level of 855 meters. Shaft three was located at Nieuwenhagen, on the Brunssum heath, and was purely a ventilator shaft with the capacity to suck air through the other three shafts at a rate of 20,000 cubic meters per minute. Emma mine was interconnected with Hendrik at the 700-meter level and had three shafts at Treebeek and one at Schinnen. One of the Treebeek shafts had the capacity to deliver coal to the surface at the rate of 500 tons per hour whilst the one at Schinnen was used to deliver stones underground for the purpose of filling and construction.

Mine Closure

The closing of the Hendrik Mine started in 1967 and was completed in 1969. When HQ AFCENT came from Fontainebleau in 1967, the last miners were still working on the closure of the mine. The shafts were closed with a concrete seal at the 272-meter level and then filled with the stone residue from the coal washing process. The Emma mine closure started in 1971 and was completed in 1974.

The name Hendrik

The name Hendrik Mine was derived from the name of Prince Hendrik von Mecklenburg, husband of the late Queen Wilhelmina the great-grandmother of HM Dutch King Willem-Alexander. The name Hendrik Camp (JFC HQ Brunssum Camp) however, refers to Hendrik van Nassau Ouwerkerk, a great Dutch allied commander in the 17th Century who commanded Dutch, British and Prussian troops and acquired a formidable reputation. Hendrik van Nassau-Ouwerkerk accompanied Stadholder William III in 1688 to England. He became 'Master of the Horse' of the King-Stadholder. His residence was 10 Downing Street in London, the present official residence of the British Prime Minister. The residence at 10 Downing Street is also named 'Overkirk House' a reference to the name Ouwerkerk.

2015 activities

The former Mayor of Heerlen, Mr. Paul Depla, stated: "This Year of the Mines is an important milestone and should not simply pass unnoticed. It is an opportunity, however, not only to look

back and remember that we were once a strong region thanks to the mining industry, but also to look forward and see how we can reinforce this region into the future."

For those interested in learning more about mining, a visit to the underground imitation mine in Valkenburg or the Mine Museum in the former Oranje-Nassau shaft tower is absolutely a must. Many socio-cultural activities are scheduled during 2015. Events include the replay of the 1950 football champions match between a team of former Ajax players and Brunssum football players at the BSV Limburgia terrain on Saturday 20 June. Its former football stadium, where the Brunssum team became national champions against Ajax in 1950, is now the housing area next to the headquarters. For an extensive list of activities please visit the following web page:

http://www.m2015.nl/nl/agenda?date_filter%5Bvalue%5D%5Bdate%5D=now

38 YEARS

ANIMAL HOTEL ABDISSEN BOSCH
The address where your pets feels at home

DAYCARE

New cat-place where your cat can move freely.
Roomy outside place, playgrounds, central heated.
Grooming salon, also D-I-Y washsalon for pets.

Opening hours: Mo-Sa 08.00-12.00 and 16.00-19.00
Sundays and holidays closed for bringing in or picking-up.

Vogelzankweg 230 • NL-6374 AH Landgraaf • Tel +31 (0)45 531 72 17
www.dierenhotelabdissebosch.nl (also in English)

MEEÛS®

Concessionaire for JFC HQ Brunssum for the past 30 years!

For all your insurance needs

Opening hours: Monday-Wednesday 9.30-12.30 and 13.30-16.30

Location: Building H-604 (next to the JFC Library),
JFC HQ Brunssum, extension 2492

T +31 (0)45 526 24 92 E jfc@meeus.com W jfc.meeus.com

Serving the NATO Community

We focus on cars.
The Volkswagen & Audi specialists in the Tri-Border region.



We are also your strong partner for commercial vehicles.

Your Jacobs cars sales team looks forward to your visit:
f.l.t.r. Achim Käfferlein, Alfred Deffur, Martin Deffur, Gerd Caron, Andreas Nolte, Lothar Herfs, Marcel Oellers, Michael Wittwer, Carsten Schaps, Markus Weber, Michael Marx

JACOBS

Audi Zentrum Aachen
Jacobs Automobile GmbH & Co. KG, Zwnl. Geilenkirchen DE
Landstraße 48+50, 52511 Geilenkirchen DE
Tel. +49 (0)2451-98700, www.jacobs-automobile.com

+++ www.jacobs-gruppe.de +++

IND. RESTAURANT
Original Indian Cuisine • www.tasteofindia.tv





10% rebate
on all dishes
Mon to Thurs

Our Introductory Offer: 3-course Menu

- Papadam and Salad
- one Chicken, one Lamb dish with Basmati rice and original Tandoori Naan (bread)
- Dessert (specialty of the house)

20,90 € (34,90 € p.2P.)

Also order all dishes for take-away.

In der Fumme 18 • Selfkant-Tüddern • Fon: 0 24 56 - 508 72 82 • Opening hours: all 7 days from 16 to 22 hrs



FAMILY SUPPORT MORALE & WELFARE

WHEN YOU WORK, WE WORK
WHEN YOU PLAY, WE WORK HARDER



05 JUN 2015 FRI

ENTOURAGE

Kevin Connolly
Adrian Grenier

-- min

1900



19 JUN 2015 FRI

SPY

Melissa McCarthy
Jude Law

120 min

1900



06 JUN 2015 SAT

MONKEY KINGDOM

NARRATED BY:
Tina Fey

81 min

1600



20 JUN 2015 SAT

INSIDE OUT

Diane Lane
Amy Poehler

102 min

1600



06 JUN 2015 SAT

SPY

Melissa McCarthy
Jude Law

120 min

1900



20 JUN 2015 SAT

JURASSIC WORLD

Chris Pratt
Bryce Dallas Howard

130 min

1900



12 JUN 2015 FRI

JURASSIC WORLD

Chris Pratt
Bryce Dallas Howard

130 min

1900



26 JUN 2015 FRI

TED 2

Mark Wahlberg
Seth MacFarlane

-- min

1900



13 JUN 2015 SAT

MONKEY KINGDOM

NARRATED BY:
Tina Fey

81 min

1600



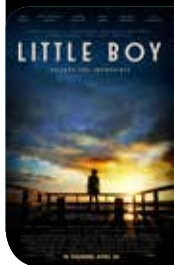
27 JUN 2015 SAT

MAX

Josh Wiggins
Lauren Graham

111 min

1600



13 JUN 2015 SAT

LITTLE BOY

Jakob Salvati
Emily Watson

105 min

1900



27 JUN 2015 SAT

SAN ANDREAS

Dwayne Johnson
Carla Gugino

114 min

1900

internationaler mönchengladbacher militärwettkampf



**Join the famous annual NATO Military Skills Competition for teams of four tough soldiers !
Saturday, 20th June 2015**

Cups donated by the German Minister of Defence and other authorities

Reporting point: Youth Centre, Moenchengladbach-Hehn

Organizer: German Bundeswehr and Reservists' Association

Contact: phone 0049 2161 / 58520 or Helmut.Michelis@googlemail.com

further information: <http://www.imm-bundeswehr.de>



Eva Cassidy Tribute at the Open Air Theatre in Valkenburg

Do you remember Eva Cassidy? Her versions of *Fields of Gold* and *Over the Rainbow* made her world famous! After she died her album *Songbird* sold more than 10 million copies!

The singer Margriet Sjoerdsma was so stirred by the wonderful qualities and by the story of Eva Cassidy that she decided to make a whole musical program around her and her songs. Magriet was really inspired by her! Both artists do not limit themselves to one genre, and mix pop, jazz, folk and country. And they were both able to find the absolute jewels out of these genres.

The critics from the Dutch national newspaper *De Telegraaf* wrote about

Margriet Sjoerdsma saying she is a world-class artist! Breaking news: together with the guitarist Arie Storm and the contrabassist Cord Heuneking, Eva Cassidy's brother Dan, violinist, will be playing and accompanies Magriet in the show. For the Circle 100 readers we are giving away free tickets for the shows in Valkenburg on the 17th and 18th of June.

The concert will be held in the Open Air Theatre in Valkenburg where they present an interesting program during the summer. Apart from the Eva Cassidy concert there is also Irish Folk on offer, classical music and jazz.

The open air theatre is actually an impressive rock formation that was turned

into a theatre as early as 1916, and it is seriously the oldest and most beautiful open air theatre in The Netherlands. It is popularly called the 'Heksenkeuken' (the Witches' Kitchen), which refers to the Goat Riders (a gang of bandits from the eighteenth century). The theatre fits 800 people in the amphitheatre making it possible for everyone to have a good view!

Concerts on the 17th, 18th June
Tickets € 15

Address information
Plenkertstraat 51A, 6301 GL
Valkenburg 043 601 5044

website
www.openluchttheater-valkenburg.nl





Win Tickets for Eva Cassidy Tribute at the Open Air Theatre

- We have 2 x 2 tickets for Eva Cassidy Tribute at the Open Air Theatre
- In order to win the tickets, please answer the following question:
- **Quiz Question: Which 2 songs made Eva Cassidy world famous?**
Fill in this coupon and send it to PAO, or send an e-mail to pao@jfcbs.nato.int, before 15 June 2015
- For NATO ID card holders only
- The winners will be announced in the next edition of the Northern Star

Answer:

Division:

Full name:

Extension:



Winners Wellness Fitland XL

The Northern Star congratulates the lucky winners of the last contest.

Tickets won by:

Ralitsa Nenova-Aleksova	Base Supprt Coord Cell
Tatjana Koster	Travel Office
Zoe Fowler	Base Supprt Coord Cell

Book Review



Boneshaker (The Clockwork Century #1)

*by Cherie Priest
(Goodreads Author)*

In the early days of the Civil War, rumors of gold in the frozen Klondike brought hordes of newcomers to the Pacific Northwest. Anxious to compete, Russian prospectors commissioned inventor Leviticus Blue to create a great machine that could mine through Alaska's ice. Thus was Dr. Blue's Incredible Bone-Shaking Drill Engine born.

But on its first test run the Boneshaker went terribly awry, destroying several blocks of downtown Seattle and unearthing a subterranean vein of blight gas that turned anyone who breathed it into the living dead.

Now it is sixteen years later, and a wall has been built to enclose the devastated and toxic city. Just beyond it lives Blue's widow, Briar

Wilkes. Life is hard with a ruined reputation and a teenaged boy to support, but she and Ezekiel are managing. Until Ezekiel undertakes a secret crusade to rewrite history.

His quest will take him under the wall and into a city teeming with ravenous undead, air pirates, criminal overlords, and heavily armed refugees. And only Briar can bring him out alive.



MILITARY DISCOUNT CENTRE



WHY BUY A QUALITY CAR?

- 1) QUALITY CARS ARE DESIGNED AND MANUFACTURED TO LAST MUCH LONGER
- 2) QUALITY CARS TRANSPORT YOU AND YOUR FAMILY IN THE SAFEST ENVIRONMENT.
- 3) QUALITY CARS HAVE EXCEPTIONAL RESALE VALUES
- 4) QUALITY CARS ARE RELIABLE
- 5) QUALITY CARS ARE A PLEASURE TO OWN

WHY BUY BMW , VOLVO OR MERCEDES?

- 1) BMW ,VOLVO AND MERCEDES ARE YOUR QUALITY CARS
- 2) MASSIVE MILITARY DISCOUNTS (BUY QUALITY FOR THE PRICE OF AN AVERAGE CAR)
- 3) FREE HOME SHIPMENT TO THE U.S.A OR CANADA WHEN YOU RETURN HOME
- 4) FREE SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE FOR 3 YEARS (U.S. VOLVO MODELS)
- 5) FREE EUROPEAN BREAKDOWN/RECOVERY (INCL. HOTEL, FLIGHTS HOME, RENTAL CAR)
- 6) FREE 4 YEAR WARRANTY (3 YEAR EU MODELS)
- 7) FREE 12 YEAR ANTI CORROSION GUARANTEE
- 8) PURCHASE PRICE IN YOUR CURRENCY AND PROTECTED AGAINST PRICE INCREASES

WHY BUY FROM ROADCRAFT?

- 1) ROADCRAFT GUARANTEE YOU THE LOWEST PRICE
- 2) ROADCRAFT GUARANTEE THE HIGHEST LEVEL OF SERVICE
- 3) ROADCRAFT DELIVER TO YOUR MILITARY BASE
- 4) ROADCRAFT HAVE OVER 30 YEARS EXPERIENCE SELLING TO MILITARY/DIPLOMATS
- 5) ROADCRAFT PROVIDE 24/7 LIFETIME SUPPORT- UNIQUE IN CAR SALES
- 6) ROADCRAFT DO NOT BELIEVE IN PRESSURE SELLING.
WE VALUE AND RESPECT OUR CUSTOMERS!

OVER 20%
SAVINGS OFF
TAX-FREE PRICES



WWW.MILITARYTAXFREECARS.COM / CEO@MILITARYTAXFREECARS.COM
DIRECT LINES: 0031 646855537



Ecolog international provides tailor-made logistical and service solutions to armed forces and organizations in crisis regions worldwide.

As a specialist for mobile infrastructure services we concentrate on innovative, environment-friendly technologies, exceptional reliability and individualized solutions.

Our success and the trust of our long term clients justify our approach.

Outstanding quality, first-class service and flexibility are our trademarks.



LOGISTICS | PORTABLE TOILETS | LAUNDRY | CLEANING | FUEL | WASTE MANAGEMENT | SUPPLY AND SERVICING OF HEAVY EQUIPMENT
CONTAINERS | POWER, WATER & SUPPLIES | CATERING | AVIATION | CONSTRUCTION | COMMUNICATION

ISO 9001:2008 | ISO 14001:2009 | OHSAS 18001:2007

¹ the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. Turkey recognizes the Republic of Macedonia with its constitutional name.

Ecolog International Deutschland GmbH

In der Steele 14
D-40599 Düsseldorf
Germany

Phone : + 49 (0) 211 688 750 0
Fax : + 49 (0) 211 688 750 199
info@ecolog-international.com
www.ecolog-international.com