

NORTHERN STAR

MAGAZINE FOR HQ JFC BRUNSSUM – APRIL 2018

FULL STEAM AHEAD!

SPRING EXERCISES
KICK START NATO'S
READINESS



THIS MONTH'S FOCUS: ENHANCED FORWARD PRESENCE

- EXERCISE DYNAMIC MANTA 2018
- 25 YEARS OF SLOVAK ARMED FORCES
- NEW MONTHLY FEATURE: QUADRANT – JFCBS'S AREA OF FOCUS



NATO
+
OTAN



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?

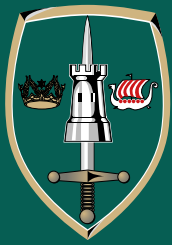
- 1) BMW ,VOLVO AND MERCEDES ARE YOUR QUALITY CARS
- 2) MASSIVE MILITARY DISCOUNTS (BUY QUALITY FOR THE PRICE OF AN AVERAGE CAR)
- 3) FREE HOME SHIPMENT TO THE U.S.A OR CANADA WHEN YOU RETURN HOME
- 4) FREE SERVICE AND MAINTENANCE FOR 3 YEARS (U.S. VOLVO MODELS)
- 5) FREE EUROPEAN BREAKDOWN/RECOVERY (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





NORTHERN STAR

MAGAZINE FOR HQ JFC BRUNSSUM

CONTENTS APRIL 2018

2. EDITORIAL
3. COMMAND GROUP CORNER
4. QUADRANT
6. COMMANDER JFC BRUNSSUM ON BRILLIANT JOUST 2018
8. BRILLIANT JOUST 2018: READINESS THROUGH TRAINING
10. DIRECTING EXERCISE BRILLIANT JOUST
12. EFP — NATO BATTLE GROUP POLAND: FIRST YEAR OF PROGRESS
13. SACEUR VISITS EFP-NATO BATTLE GROUPS
14. EXERCISE WINTER SUN
16. EXERCISE DYNAMIC MANTA
18. THE PORTUGUESE CONTRIBUTION TO SAFEGUARDING NATO SKIES
20. 25 YEARS OF THE SLOVAK ARMED FORCES
22. FROM THE NATO REVIEW: WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY
25. JFCBS TEAM AT ITALIAN MOUNTAIN TROOPS SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS
26. IN REMEMBRANCE
27. VISITS AND ACTIVITIES
28. #WEAREJFCBS



ABOUT THE COVER

Mediterranean Sea, March 2018 —
Italian Navy frigate 'Carabiniere' underway during a phase of exercise Dynamic Manta 2018.
(photo: Allied Maritime Command PAO)

COLOPHON

The NORTHERN STAR is a publication, published with the assistance of 't Swarte Schaap, in cooperation 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 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 in high quality JPEG or in TIFF format.

The Northern Star is published monthly, with the exceptions of January and August each year. It is generally available around the first Friday of each month it is produced.

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



EDITORIAL STAFF

Col. Frank Warda (DEU Army)
Editorial Director

Lt. Cdr. Davide Galli (ITA Navy)
Editor in Chief and Senior Photo Editor

Lt. Col. Marco Schmidl (DEU Air Force)
Deputy Chief Editor and Air Force Editor

Lt. Cdr. Piotr Wojtas (POL Navy)
Assistant Editor and Navy Editor

Cpt. Aouatef Zimrani (FRA Army)
Assistant Editor, Army Editor, Layout

Lt. Cdr. Jerry Parker (GBR Navy)
Assistant Editor, Copy Editor

Cpt. Linda Schrader (NLD Army)
Army and Host Nation Editor

Adj. Leo Roos (NLD Army)
Adj. Shirley Ham-Ter-Haar
(NLD Marechaussee)
Photographers and Photoeditors

CONTRIBUTORS:

Ms Marcela Zelnickova (NATO Editorial Services),
Ms. Vicki Nielsen (NATO Review Editor),
Ms. Christine Chinkin (Director Centre for Women, Peace and Security), SHAPE PAO, Allied Maritime Command PAO, Allied Air Command PAO, Portuguese Air Force, Capt. Gary Loten-Beckford (eFP Battle Group Poland PAO), Radosław Kubiczek and Lt. Col. Piotr Kozłowski (JFTC), Mr. Tristan Roeven

PHOTO CREDITS:

US Department of Defence, Slovak Armed Forces, Allied Maritime Command PAO, Allied Air Command PAO, NATO archive, Lt. Cdr. Piotr Wojtas, Portuguese Air Force

GRAPHIC DESIGN:

Derk Smid/DFS Creative • www.dfscreative.com

www.jfcbs.nato.int



Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum
[@jfcbs](https://www.facebook.com/jfcbs)



JFC Brunssum (@NATO_JFCBS)



Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum
([jfcbrunssum](https://www.youtube.com/jfcbrunssum))



NATO JFC Brunssum



Published by 't Swarte Schaap
Sint Franciscusweg 36-3
6417BD Heerlen
+31 (0)45-571 61 16
info@tswarteschaap.nl
www.tswarteschaap.nl

EDITORIAL

April Issue Highlights

Dear readers,

Spring is starting to bloom, and with this season NATO's training and exercise programme is gradually increasing its tempo to allow Allied forces to be ready and prepared for any task.

The cover of this month's Northern Star depicts a warship taking part in Dynamic Manta, a complex maritime exercise that takes place annually to test NATO's aero-naval forces in a challenging tri-dimensional training environment. And with 'full steam ahead' - as emphasized in our headline - other military components are training hard to meet the high standards required to maintain full operational capability.

For JFC Brunssum,, March brought the intense exercise Brilliant Joust 2018, conducted in Poland at the Joint Force Training Centre.

Now, let's flip through the April edition of our magazine.

'Quadrant' is the map covering the main activities and tasks in JFC Brunssum's focus area, a new feature introduced last month with the special pages on our Headquarters.

Our Commanders' interview provides an insight into the first major training event for this year and his view of our focus topic for this month: Brilliant Joust2018, explaining its objectives and peculiarities from the Command perspective.

Our Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans) provides his insight to recent JFCBS exercises, lessons learned and upcoming challenges.

Updates on two of the main tasks for our Headquarters - NATO Response Force and enhanced Forward Presence battlegroups can also be found within these pages.

For the 'joint' pages covering Land, Maritime and Air activities you will find updates about the Swedish exercise Winter Sun, the previously mentioned exercise Dynamic Manta in the central Mediterranean and Portugal's Air Force contributing to safeguarding NATO's skies in the Atlantic and, soon, in the Baltics.

For the feature on national armed forces, you'll learn about the Slovak Armed Forces proudly celebrating, this year, their 25th anniversary, while significantly contributing to NATO missions.

Our collaboration with the NATO Review this month is an opportunity to celebrate the 8th of March International Women's

Day with a very interesting article on the Centre for Women, Peace and Security and its initiatives.

In the 'Visits and Activities' Section you will find a tribute to our community's beloved former member Gail M. Martinez and to the French Colonel Arnaud Beltrame who is a true hero: they both passed away in the month of March – one in 2016 and the other in 2018 - and both will shine forever like bright stars in the Northern sky, for us all to remember them.

An interview with a Czech staff officer working in the Joint Operations Centre concludes the magazine with the #WeAreJFCBS page.

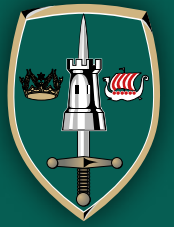
And now let me invite you to read this edition of the Northern Star!

*Davide Galli, Lieutenant Commander (ITA Navy)
Chief Editor of the Northern Star
Davide.Galli@jfcbs.nato.int*



COMMAND GROUP CORNER

Remain Ready – Continuous Adaptation



We continue to live in ‘interesting times’: the nerve agent attack in Salisbury, the al-Assad regime’s indiscriminate use of gas against civilians, and persistent provocative Russian behaviour in Europe are sharp reminders of the threat to the values and international norms that all NATO nations hold dear. The Alliance is in competition and, in areas such as the Information domain, already in confrontation. We must remain ready to counter an opportunistic adversary who seeks to test us daily. And we must adapt if we are to prevail against such non-linear aggression. So, how is JFC Brunssum undertaking continuous adaptation?

Many in the Headquarters have just returned from a demanding but stimulating experience on Ex TRIDENT JOUST. Although based on a Crisis Response Operation scenario, the Exercise provided a wonderful opportunity to build on TRIDENT JAVELIN 17. As well as testing us, this training gave everyone the opportunity to think deeply about our profession, and we should all have emerged with improved staff processes and procedures which will make this Headquarters better able to exercise Command and Control (C2) over Joint activity and operations.

JOUST also shone a first light on the potential of ‘reachback’. This aspect will be explored further in a re-appraisal of our C2 concept that seeks to ensure survivability against a peer-adversary.

Significantly, JFC Brunssum has established the ‘3rd pillar’ – Plans, alongside Operations and Support in both peace and crisis/conflict. This is long overdue and reflects not only the lesson of recent operations that planning remains as important even after the campaign has begun, but also the maxim of the very first SACEUR that, “the plan is nothing; planning is everything”. Planning is the continuous, cross-functional activity that lays the foundation for speed of both decision and action; on this will hinge the tempo that unlocks operational success.

Our recent exercises have highlighted that the complexity, scale and pace of potential operations will ask much of both commander and staff, and we can no longer rely solely on periodic major exercises to equip us adequately. Therefore, through 2018 and beyond, JFC Brunssum will conduct structured internally-delivered Battle Staff Continuation Training to build and maintain the staff acumen demanded by combat operations at scale.

The Headquarters stands ready to commence a major task of 2018: the revision of the first of our advance plans. It will start with BOLD BLUEPRINT in early May, which will be the first event of its kind. This endeavour, involving both NATO Command Structure (NCS) and NATO Force Structure (NFS) headquarters, will take our advance planning well beyond the PowerPoint, delivering executable plans of detail and substance.

This work will also enhance our linkages with the NFS, and particularly the NATO Response Force (NRF), which is one of the corner-stones of NATO Command Structure Adaptation (NCSA).

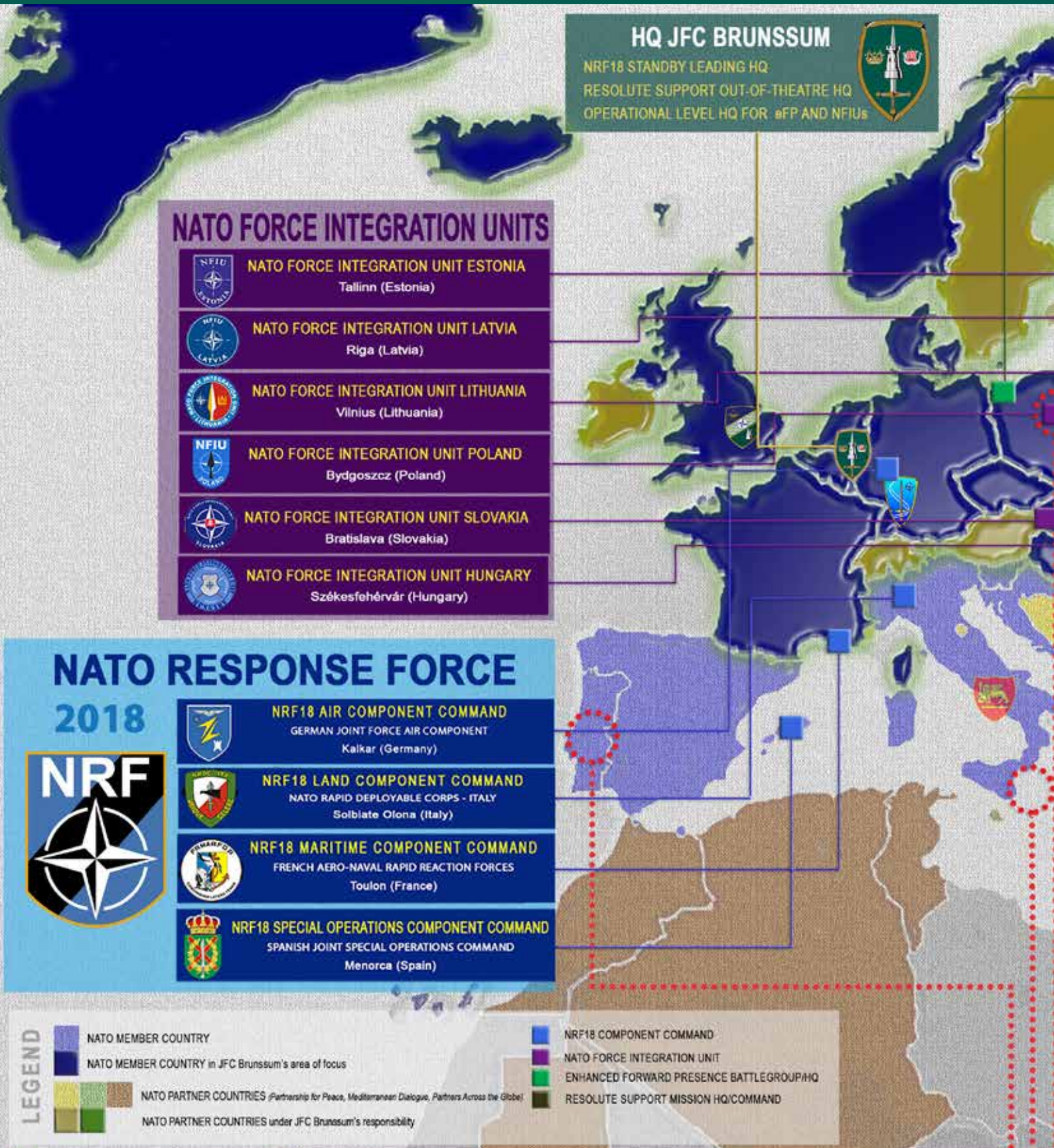


In parallel, Europe remains ‘a theatre in transition’ from Assurance to Deterrence, allied with Defence and Dialogue. JFC Brunssum remains at the forefront of this seminal change to NATO’s posture in northern Europe, while continuing to contribute to the 3600 projection of Stability including through our Military Partnerships’ programme. The NATO Force Integration Units (NFUIs) and enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) lie at the heart of our success in this ongoing transition, and both will adapt so as to continue to make major contribution as JFC Brunssum looks to the future.

Our task in the Alliance is to preserve peace in Europe, and so safeguard the peoples of our Nations. We must all remain ready to act, as required, to defend our collective security. Given an uncertain future, our role at JFC Brunssum, and that of our subordinate commands, is as relevant as ever. Your individual contribution could not be more vital.

Major General Karl Ford,
Deputy Chief of Staff Plans,
Allied JFC Brunssum

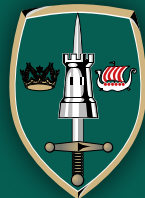




RANT

FC BRUNSSUM'S FOCUS AREA

March/April 2018



ENHANCED FORWARD PRESENCE

	MULTINATIONAL CORPS NORTHEAST Szczecin (Poland)
	MULTINATIONAL DIVISION NORTHEAST Elblag (Poland)
	eFP BATTLEGROUP ESTONIA Tapa (Estonia)
	eFP BATTLEGROUP LATVIA Adazi (Latvia)
	eFP BATTLEGROUP LITHUANIA Rukla (Lithuania)
	eFP BATTLEGROUP POLAND Orzysz (Poland)



RS RESOLUTE SUPPORT HQ Kabul (Afghanistan)

	TAAC - North Mazar-e-Sharif (Afghanistan)		TAAC - Air Herat (Afghanistan)
	TAAC - West Herat (Afghanistan)		TAAC - Capital Kabul (Afghanistan)
	TAAC - South Kandahar (Afghanistan)		TAAC - East Laghman (Afghanistan)

RESOLUTE SUPPORT

..... eFP POLAND 1st ANNIVERSARY
..... EXERCISE WINTER SUN 2018
..... EXERCISE BRILLANT JOUST 2018

COMMANDER JFC BRUNSSUM ON BRILLIANT JOUST 2018



Interview by Lt. Cdr. Jeremy Parker, JFCBS PAO;
Photos by JFTC PAO and Lt. Cdr. Piotr Wojtas, JFCBS PAO

Brunssum, the Netherlands –

Sir, could I please start by asking, What is 'Brilliant Joust 18' and why are we here in Bydgoszcz?

Absolutely! Brilliant Joust 18 (BRJT18) is our first major event as a headquarters this year. It is a complex computer aided command post exercise designed to test the joint interaction and integration of our headquarters with the NATO Response Force components provided by the Italian NATO Rapid Deployable Corps [Land], the German Joint Force Air Component [Air], the French Maritime Task Force Command [Maritime] and the Spanish Joint Special Operations Command [Special Forces]. As a response force our readiness is critical and this exercise will allow us to understand how we can better support each other to achieve interoperability and joint effects, should a crisis rapidly develop. This exercise will also test our ability to understand the second and third order effects and implications of military decisions taken at the operational level. The scenario is a complex crisis situation that requires the headquarters to take a 'comprehensive approach' to the friction generated by multiple headquarters, host nation allies, international organisations, non-governmental organisations, the media and other actors involved in the region. Together with the other exercises that the headquarters participates in, this allows us to generate continuity and shared values; these allow us to be 'stronger together'.

For those of us taking part, the exercise seems a little different from the typical crisis response exercises that NATO conducts.

Could you explain to our readers why this is the case?

It is true that we are trying to do something a little different here in Bydgoszcz. The Joint Force Training Centre [JFTC] was established to provide, not only, state-of-the-art training facilities for JFC-level training, but also innovation and experimentation to explore different ways of providing that training. Major General [Wilhelm] Grün (COM JFTC) and Lieutenant General [Ton] Van Loon (Senior Mentor) designed this exercise to, not necessarily follow the usual stages of a crisis response operation, instead to allow the headquarters staff to develop their own answers to the problems set. It has been designed to create discussion, explore new concepts and advance processes, rather than simply practice and refine the processes we already have. As a headquarters we have already achieved our certification to command the NRF for 2018. Now we are being given an opportunity to show our intellectual agility and flexibility. I see this every day as I walk around the headquarters and the tents, seeing for myself the physical coordination between so many different units. Despite the many different uniforms, we are not so different as operators.

I would like to give you an example to illustrate my points. During this exercise some of the staff were tasked to take part in a table-top war-game exercise to test and examine the psychological motivations of scenario nations and to use war-gaming to assess likely actions—based upon the psychological assessments and leverage available to those nations' leaders. This exercise was not for senior leaders—the participants were drawn from all parts of the HQ and from all rank levels. It was facilitated by ex-

ternal specialists and the results of this war-game were briefed directly to me. So, even though we are a hierarchical military organisation, this proves to me that we are able to leverage the intellectual firepower of all of the HQ and we are able to consider novel approaches to our operational analysis.

And it should also be noted that we have been able to test the wider effects of tactical issues, such as conflict related sexual and gender based violence incidents, causing strategic effects. CRSGBV (as the military call it) might be the world's worst acronym, but it is a critical issue of concern in modern warfare that we need to understand and learn how to address properly. In this case the scenario tested the entire headquarters and not just the gender advisor—issues caused by gender-based violence had implications that affected all elements of the staff, the components and external elements; this required the headquarters to conduct intense coordination and to look closely at their own processes to ensure that the correct actions were taken. A full arsenal of novel problems involving hybrid warfare, cyber warfare and information warfare has been set by the JFTC for the HQ to resolve—and of course, our ability to coordinate combat actions is also being thoroughly tested. This is a challenge—not least because we have also split our headquarters to test our ability to reach-back and coordinate operations from a split location.

Did we pass the test?

Of course, we will review the findings of this exercise with the exercise staff, note the lessons and conduct a comprehensive review. But as I said earlier, we are already certified. We are here to move to the next

General Riccardo Marchiò takes the opportunity of this year's first major training event for the HQ to speak about the exercise, the NATO Response Force and more.



level. To understand and to set the conditions to thrive in complexity. And I will also add I am being challenged too by this exercise—we are all learning new ways of dealing with challenges, such as the media, that are becoming more critical at the operational-strategic level.

So what are your first impressions of your new command? Is the HQ pulling its weight?

Ok, I am not here to give anyone an easy ride. I have worked in NATO for many years and have deployed operationally with NATO on many occasions. I know the expectations that SACEUR has of us and I know the successes that NATO has experienced in the past. I also know many members of the staff and I have previously commanded the NRDC-ITA, that is here as our land component. This is why I can say with great confidence that you, as a headquarters, are exceeding my expectations. But we must not rest on our laurels. This is our year and we will have many opportunities to continue to develop our skills.

Speaking of the NRDC-ITA, did you enjoy working with your old unit?

Well of course! Every commander looks

back at his or her previous commands—from platoon through to the higher levels—with great affection, but I also have great pride seeing the integration of the NRDC with the French maritime forces, the German air component and the Spanish special forces component, not to mention the integration with our, already integrated and multinational headquarters. The pride that all of have in serving in NATO is remarkable; we are all brothers and sisters in arms.

Can you explain for us what the NRF18 is and what this commitment means to JFCBS?

NRF is NATO's high readiness force that is prepared, capable and ready to provide an immediate response capability to support every task from humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to peace-support operations and war-fighting. JFCBS is providing the headquarters command and control element, which is rotated between us and our sister command in Naples [JFCNP].

Thank you. A cynic might say that the NRF is merely a tool to sabre-rattle in front of potential threats?

Well first, we should not forget that the NRF capability is indeed partly a deterrent

and that such a deterrent effect is of great value. Having a credible and well trained response force sends a significant message to any potential aggressor. You may not remember, but NATO has deployed elements of the NRF during disaster relief operations in Pakistan and to support Afghan elections in the past. The NRF training cycle, through organisations like the JFTC, also provides NATO with a tool to train units throughout the alliance in the latest doctrine and for them to take the lessons learned back to their national militaries. NRF is, therefore, also a mechanism to raise standards and interoperability throughout the alliance.

Do you have anything else that you would like to tell our readers?

I would like to, again, thank all participants from the components and the JFTC that are reading this article. Their efforts were critical to make our training both realistic and challenging. Their hard work is greatly appreciated by me. And finally, I would like to thank the headquarters—the staff that deployed forward to Bydgoszcz, the staff in reach-back at Brunssum and the support staff. We are truly 'stronger together.'



READINESS THROUGH TRAINING



Story by Lt. Cdr. Piotr Wojtas, JFCBS PAO
Photos by JFTC PAO and Lt. Cdr. Piotr Wojtas, JFCBS PAO

Bydgoszcz, Poland –

Twelve days of intensive training, all four NATO Response Force 2018 components, and more than six hundred personnel ... this is Brilliant Joust in numbers. The exercise, conducted at Joint Force Training Centre in Bydgoszcz, Poland, allowed NATO Response Force 2018 (NRF18) personnel to interact on the operational level and created a unique opportunity for Joint Force Command Brunssum to analyse second- and third-level implications of the decisions taken at the operational level.

The main reason for all NRF18 components to meet in Bydgoszcz was to cooperate together in a controlled environment.

Components comprising NATO Response Forces differ each year and hence there is a need for the Joint HQ (in this case JFC Brunssum) to ensure proper communication and coordination between all subordinated nodes. The process of preparation for the stand-by period starts a year before assuming command of respective components. Last year's Brilliant series of exercises were designed to certify all commands separately (Ledger, for the Land domain; Arrow, for the Air Force; Mariner, for the Maritime forces; and Sword, for Special Operations Command). Brilliant Joust 2018 held in Bydgoszcz, from 12 to 22 March, was the venue for all previously certified components to train together and forge working-level relationships.

The first preparatory meetings for Brilliant Joust 2018 were held in January 2017.

The exercise planning team comprised of subject matter experts from across NATO. In addition to producing a demanding and credible environment for the trainees, the planning team had to organize virtually everything from chartering a plane to supplying trainees with highlighters and the like. All this wouldn't be possible without the extensive help of Joint Force Training Centre, which is designed for this exact purpose and is prepared to support the most demanding training regimes for NATO. (We have a separate story on this subject—for details turn to page XX).

Within the exercise the fictitious scenario developed for Brilliant Joust simulated all major areas of a joint operation: a challenging adversary; a complicated political environment; simulated interaction with military and political players; and adverse

Exercise BRILLIANT JOUST 18 in Poland allowed personnel from the NATO Response Force components to interact at operational level in an intensive training environment.



weather that impeded pre-planned operations. The process-driven exercise was designed to enable every branch to contribute to the overall effect and the decision-making process at the joint and operational level.

JFC Brunssum deployed with around 280 personnel, the remainder of the staff remaining in the static location in The Netherlands, supporting the exercise from distance. Among those deployed was General Riccardo Marchiò (who assumed command just two weeks earlier), the Chief of Staff together with his deputies, and representatives of all branches and divisions. NRF Components: NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Italy (for the Land domain), the French Maritime Task Force Command (for the Maritime component), the German Joint Forces Air Component (Air) and the Spanish Joint Special Operations Com-

mand were all present in Bydgoszcz to interact, not only within the confines of the scenario, but, more importantly, to discuss real-life implications following “war gaming” of the NRF18 stand-by period.

An important factor to comprehend during the exercise was that Air, Land, Maritime and Special Forces components have their own priorities and requirements if they are to fulfil their given tasks. The joint headquarters staff—JFC Brunssum personnel—are challenged to develop processes and procedures to best combine existing and available NRF18 assets to achieve desired effects.

The biggest added value in this type of exercises is the “so what” effect. As we begin to comprehend other player’s needs in the process, our mind-set shifts to another gear. This understanding allows us then to

deliver better joint plans and actions and, as a consequence, better anticipate the evolution of the campaign design.

Brilliant Joust 2018 was the first combined NRF exercise this year but it will not be the last. Throughout the year, the components will continue to train and some will engage JFC Brunssum in the Autumn to execute Brilliant Jump. A number of NATO exercises are planned throughout the year but the Alliance’s 2018 training programme concludes with the second high-visibility event since the end of the International Security and Assistance Force mission, in Afghanistan—Exercise Trident Juncture 2018 which is designed to certify the NRF components for 2019 under Joint Force Command Naples lead.



DIRECTING EXERCISE BRILLIANT JOUST

Story by Radosław Kubiczek, JFTC PAO, and
Lt. Col. Piotr Kozłowski, JFTC Training Division
Photos by JFTC PAO

With more than 600 participants in place—including JFCBS personnel, as well as members of four NRF 2018 component commands (NATO Rapid Deployable Corps–Italy, French Maritime Force, German Joint Force Air Command, Spanish Joint Special Operations Command, and Joint Logistic Support Group)—the exercise was extremely demanding with regard to both training and real-life arrangements. To meet all the exercise objectives and to fulfill the ODE responsibilities, the preparation phase had to be initiated far in advance. The JFTC team commenced their efforts already in the first quarter of 2017.



Bydgoszcz, Poland –

It was the second time the Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS) exercised in Bydgoszcz, Poland, as the NATO Response Force (NRF) lead headquarters. Building on firm foundations, laid down during previous events devoted to NATO Command Structure and NATO Force Structure, the Joint Force Training Centre (JFTC) directed yet another complex computer assisted exercise based on a fictitious, non-Article 5 crisis response operation scenario. Brilliant Joust 2018 was executed between 7 and 22 March 2018 with JFTC as the Officer Directing Exercise (ODE).

Preparations for the exercise specification conference, conducted in March 2017, launched 12 months of intensive work for JFTC. The centre formed a robust team

dedicated to the exercise. Altogether, 50% of JFTC staff—close to 70 soldiers and civilians—were involved in various phases of the event. Numerous coordination meetings, conferences and workshops held in many locations in Europe, 60 travel days and thousands of working hours—all these created a solid basis for successful execution of the exercise.

As soon as basic presumptions and the level of ambition for the exercise were agreed upon between the main stakeholders—JFCBS (Officer Scheduling Exercise and Officer Conducting Exercise) and JFTC (ODE) in coordination with NRF 2018 component commands—exercise objectives as well as budget, timeline and manning could be discussed. The final exercise design included JFCBS as the primary training audience, represented by Joint Task Force Headquarters deployed to Bydgoszcz and “reach back” team in Brunssum, component commands deployed to Bydgoszcz in a

form of enhanced response cells and more than 20 other headquarters, units and organisations. They all provided their personnel to support JFTC and JFCBS in bringing the exercise to a highest possible level.

Exercise Brilliant Joust 2018 was the third “Joust” exercise conducted at JFTC since 2016 for NATO Command Structure and NATO Force Structure. Such events are extremely challenging, in both preparation and execution phases, due to the unique character of various headquarters and, which is even more important, diversity of training objectives. To meet the Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum’s requirements, JFTC used a fictitious scenario which allowed for execution of a non-Article 5 crisis response operation.

The scenario, however, is just a basis which needs to be complemented by lists of events and incidents that will be a part of the exercise play (main event list and main incident list—MEL/MIL). Only with prop-



The challenges for the Joint Force Training Centre in order to meet the objectives of a demanding exercise.



erly implemented events and incidents, does the scenario become a complete tool that enables proper meeting of the training objectives. Creation of the MEL/MIL is always one of the most important ODE's responsibilities. So it was this time. Starting in November 2017, the scripting team, led by JFTC, met several times. Their task was completed in February 2018. They developed storylines and main injects, ensuring an adequate coverage of the training objectives and also a realistic flow of events during the execution.

Exercise Brilliant Joust 18 was divided into two phases. It began on 7 March with five days of preparatory period for trainers and experts (Exercise Control), and then continued with the execution held between 12 and 22 March. The JFTC team, led by Major General Wilhelm Grün, the centre's Commander and Exercise Director, provided the trainees with assistance and expertise throughout the whole execution. Already

on the first day of the exercise General Grün encouraged the participants to take full advantage of the exercise, as it was a chance to gain knowledge and better overview of the operational side. He also underlined that as a non-certification exercise, Brilliant Joust 18 gave more flexibility in practicing interaction between the NRF lead headquarters and component commands. This "special" environment created at JFTC enabled free operational level thinking, testing new solutions in the Joint Task Force Headquarters structure and procedures, and more interaction with political, diplomatic as well as other non-military players, such as international organisations and non-governmental organisations. Yet, it has not lost anything from its truly joint character.

Conducting such a complex exercise would not be possible without a proper infrastructure. Thanks to the newly built training area, equipped with all installations and security systems required for ex-

ecution of this type of exercise, the training audience could train in a very realistic and comfortable environment. With its state-of-the-art facility and capabilities developed throughout the years, the Joint Force Training Centre ensured high-level conditions for the training audience which contributed significantly to smooth and professional execution of the exercise.

During the closing ceremony, General Riccardo Marchiò, JFCBS Commander, thanked General Grün and his staff for their support to the exercise as "one of the drivers of success". Exercise Brilliant Joust 2018 was a successful test of proficiency for JFCBS and also for JFTC, which yet again confirmed its position of a key venue and a perfect partner for NATO exercises and training, as well as its important role in shaping NATO's future.



NATO BATTLE GROUP POLAND: FIRST YEAR OF PROGRESS



Story by Capt. Gary Loten-Beckford, Battle Group Poland
Photos courtesy US Department of Defence

Bemowo Piske, Poland –

NATO Deputy Secretary General Rose Gottemoeller visited the NATO Enhanced Forward Presence Battle Group Poland for the battlegroup's one-year anniversary and to discuss accomplishments of the battlegroup over the past 12 months at Bemowo Piskie, Poland, 16 March 2018.

The NATO 2016 Warsaw Summit endorsed plans for the enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) of four battalion-sized battlegroups, deployed on a persistent rotational basis, to Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, and Poland.

Battle Group Poland is one of four NATO multinational battlegroups arrayed across NATO's eastern flank in the Baltic region and Poland with the mission to deter aggression and defend the Alliance's borders if required.

Battle Group Poland participated in numerous multinational operations and exercises with allies. Most of these focused heavily on testing the battlegroup's facets of interoperability, communicate as a battlegroup, deploying as a multinational force

and maintaining the common operating picture.

Gottemoeller met with battlegroup leaders briefly to discuss the mission and status of the unit over the past year. She also took time to speak with troops of the battlegroup about how their deployment has been and some of the elements that each group brings to the overall composition.

"I would like to thank military leaders, military personnel and most of all the citizens of Poland for your vital role in hosting and contributing to this battlegroup", said Gottemoeller. "Your public has been so very supportive of NATO's work here."

The NATO Deputy Secretary General took time to view military weapon systems and vehicles at a capabilities static display and spoke with the soldiers of the battlegroup. Gottemoeller offered words of affirmation to the group and a brief press conference with local media.

"I see soldiers here representing the US, UK, Romania and Croatia it is an extraordinary tribute to what NATO stands for", said Gottemoeller. "The battlegroup symbolises the spirit of our Alliance, which is best summed with a powerful set of seven words: All for one and one for all."

The Deputy Secretary General closed out her visit with statements to the press alongside leadership of the battlegroup, where she recognised Poland for their contributions to the Alliance in both capabilities and growth and finished by thanking the daily contributions of the soldiers.

The US-led squadron completes its rotational deployment next month, after which most of the multinational units of Battle Group Poland redeploy to their home countries. The Battle Group Poland transfer of authority is scheduled on 20 April 2018. 1st Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment will be the lead US element replacing 3rd Squadron, 2nd Cavalry Regiment as they redeploy to Germany.

Battle Group Poland helps in supporting Atlantic Resolve and in demonstrating the U.S. commitment to the security of NATO and NATO allies. This unique, multinational battlegroup comprised of US, UK, Croatian and Romanian soldiers serve with the Polish 15th Mechanized Brigade as a deterrence force in northeast Poland in support of NATO's Enhanced Forward Presence.



SACEUR VISITS ENHANCED FORWARD PRESENCE BATTLE GROUPS



Story and photos by SHAPE Public Affairs Office

Mons, Belgium –

Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), General Curtis M. Scaparrotti, visited the four NATO enhanced Forward Presence (eFP) battle groups in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia, 3–6 April, where he met with battle group personnel as well as political and military leaderships.

At his first stop in Poland, General Scaparrotti spoke to Multinational Corps North-East of the importance of eFP as well as the contribution of those supporting it.

“You, individually and collectively, all play a key part in the defence of the Alliance, with specific responsibility for the se-

curity of the northeastern flank of NATO—a responsibility I know you take very seriously”, said General Scaparrotti. “Allies from multiple nations, working together within a Corps Headquarters such as yours, are a visible demonstration of the Alliance’s commitment to Article V of the Washington Treaty, which enshrines the principle that an attack against one ally is an attack against all.”

The delegation continued on to Lithuania and Latvia to visit NATO leaders and troops where SACEUR was able to witness the multinational battle groups refining interoperability and capability through training and exercises.

“Rigorous and realistic training like this enhances the readiness of our soldiers and

enables them to better defend the Alliance”, said General Scaparrotti. “The eFP battle groups have demonstrated their robust abilities as well as their determination to defend NATO territory against any potential threats.”

The visit concluded with troop engagements in Estonia where General Scaparrotti met new recruits and observed officers in training at the Warrant Officer’s Command Leadership and Management Course.

Overall the visit to the four battle groups provided insight into the level of training within these multinational NATO elements and how they will continue to sustain a high level of readiness in the future.



EXERCISE WINTER SUN



Story and photos by SHAPE PAO

Boden, Sweden –

Operating in near arctic conditions demands certain skills set that must be maintained whenever possible. Exercise Winter Sun 18 held in Boden Sweden is an annual Swedish Home Defence Exercise that tests defensive joint operations in a challenging environment. Some 1400 personnel from the Swedish Armed Forces and United States Marine Corps have been conducting high tempo battle drills in order to repel a fictitious enemy crossing Sweden's border.

Exercising with NATO's partners provides opportunities that reinforce many capabilities with the opportunity to exercise with nations where it is second nature is hugely beneficial.

"Exercises like WINTER SUN underpin the operational importance of maintaining our cold weather military skills. This is a harsh and unforgiving environment that requires personal discipline and the ability to maintain equipment in extreme conditions," said Major General Odd Egil Pedersen Norwegian Army, Director of the Military Partnerships Directorate. "I am delighted that a highly experienced partner such as Sweden provides training opportunities and through testing tactical scenarios, we are able to learn from each other."

Exercise WINTER SUN 18 reflects what partnerships and training can achieve where combined Cold Weather operations must be practised and practised. The Swedish armed forces are extremely capable in operating in such conditions and this exercise has mirrored the importance of NATO's 360 degree approach to defence.

"Ex WINTER SUN is a high tempo exercise where Swedish forces are conducting defensive operations from multiple attacks across many fronts. The interoperability and co-operation between Sweden and the United States Marine Corps has been beneficial for both. In our battalions we have been able to test tactics, techniques and procedures and I am very proud of our achievements" said Lieutenant Colonel Michael Carlén Swedish Army, Commanding Officer 192nd Mechanized Battalion. "The global security environment has changed and this exercise has shown that the Swedish armed forces have adapted accordingly," he added. "We look forward to our participation in Exercise TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2018 later this year."

The Armed Forces of Sweden, a key NATO partner nation, together with the US Marine Corps, have been conducting defensive operations in the snow.



Special Offer!

**Exclusive for
NATO ID card
holders.**

**Audi Q5
2.0 TDI 110 (150) KW (PS)
6 speed, brilliantblack**
Available in different variants.

Kraftstoffverbrauch: kombiniert: 7,2-4,5
l/100km, CO₂-Emissionen 164-117 g/km

Audi Zentrum Aachen · Jacobs Automobile GmbH
Landstraße 48+50 · 52511 Geilenkirchen
Fon (02451) 98 700 · Fax (02451) 6 67 88
www.jacobs-gruppe.de



Illustration shows additional specifications.

Vehicle price: **€ 40.740,-** Special Offer (tax included): **€ 30.940,-**

Special Offer (tax excluded):
€ 26.000,-

 **JACOBS** 
Automobile Geilenkirchen
PENSKE AUTOMOTIVE

EXERCISE DYNAMIC MANTA



Story by Lt. Cdr. Piotr Wojtas, JFCBS PAO
Photos courtesy Allied Maritime Command PAO

Provides NATO navies with an opportunity to practice together in a joint environment... offers the ability to further develop Allied Anti-Submarine tactics and is a three-dimensional exercise, executed under-, on- and above- the surface of water. Held annually in the Mediterranean, Dynamic Manta remains one of the most challenging exams for NATO's maritime assets and personnel.

Dynamic Manta gives a unique opportunity to enhance Anti-Submarine-Warfare in a multinational and multi-threat environment. Each year navies from across NATO come together with their ships, submarines and aircrafts to execute one of the most difficult arts of maritime war – the hunt for the “silent hunters”. The overarching aim of this exercise is to provide all participants with complex and challenging warfare training to enhance their proficiency in anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare

skills.

Over the period of two weeks (2-16 March), each surface ship has the opportunity to conduct a variety of submarine warfare operations. The submarines execute hunting but are also being hunted in coordination with the air and surface assets. The role of each participant is defined in each episode, but the overall performance depends solely on the ability to cooperate and properly interpret the stream of data produced by the whole group.

Exercising in 3 dimensions: one of the most challenging maritime exercises trains aeronaval forces on, under, and above the surface, in the Mediterranean Sea.



The true benefit of DYNAMIC MANTA exercise lies in the support of the training team composed of anti-submarine warfare experts. They analyze anti-submarine warfare events in real time and provide feedback to ships, submarines and aircrews during the exercise. It allows crews to accelerate their process, adjust, improve the performance and boost the anti-submarine warfare readiness.

As emphasized by Rear Admiral Andrew Lennon, Commander Submarines NATO:

“The long list of ships, submarines, and aircraft participating clearly shows NATO’s commitment to maritime training. Our allied Sailors study and work hard to develop their undersea abilities. Dynamic Manta gives our airborne, surface, and submarine teams a valuable chance to test themselves during complex scenarios.”

2018 edition of NATO’s Submarine Warfare Exercise Dynamic Manta was executed off the Sicilian coast. Submarines from Canada, Greece, Italy, Spain, Turkey,

and the United States, under the control of NATO Submarine Command (COMSUB-NATO), joined nine surface ships from Belgium, France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Turkey, UK, and USA. Host nation Italy was providing support from the Augusta Naval Base, Catania Harbour and the Sigonella Air Base in Catania.



THE PORTUGUESE CONTRIBUTION TO SAFEGUARDING NATO SKIES



Story and photos by Portuguese Air Force

Monte Real, Portugal –

Portuguese F-16M fighter jets at Air Base No. 5 stand ready 24/7/365 to conduct NATO's peacetime mission of Air Policing, safeguarding the Alliance airspace on its southwestern flank.

Since 1994, the Portuguese F-16 Fighting Falcon has been the primary air interceptor used in the Quick Reaction Alert (Interceptor) or QRA(I) mission, covering both national and NATO commitments.

"Currently, two F-16M fighter squadrons, the 201—"Falcons" and the 301—"Jaguars", comprised of thirty operationally modernized aircraft ensure the air policing mission over the Portuguese mainland and the archipelagos of Madeira and the Azores in the Atlantic", said Lieutenant Colonel Afonso "Jackal" Gaiolas, the operational group

commander at Air Base No. 5. "Besides our national commitments, the two squadrons have participated in the common NATO effort of Baltic Air Policing in 2007, 2014, 2016 and again in 2018, Iceland Air Policing in 2012 and Assurance Measures in Romania in 2015 and 2017."

But how is a QRA(I) mission activated within the Portuguese/NATO airspace of interest?

If the Portuguese Control and Reporting Centre at Monsanto picks up an unclear situation in or near the Portuguese airspace it will inform NATO's southern Combined Air Operations Centre (CAOC) at Torrejon, Spain. Upon evaluation, the CAOC may decide it needs eyes on the situation as soon as possible and can order the Portuguese QRA(I) to launch and visually identify an aircraft, e.g., when it is not in radio contact with the responsible air traffic controllers or does not send its identification code, or

has no flight plan filed. The jets will fly up to that aircraft to visually communicate with the pilots, e.g., to re-establish radio communications.

"We execute approximately three hundred flight hours per year on QRA(I) sorties during active and training scrambles", said Lieutenant Colonel Gaiolas. "These are all in support of the Portuguese Air Policing Mission under the control of the Portuguese authorities and NATO CAOC", he added.

According to Gaiolas, the professionalism and hard day-to-day training of the Portuguese Falcons and Jaguars make Portugal an efficient and capable ally when it comes to ensuring the execution of NATO Air Policing—anytime, anywhere required.



Portugal's Air Force, soon contributing to NATO's Baltic air policing, is already safeguarding the Alliance's skies over the eastern Atlantic.



EXCEPTIONAL NEW MEMBER OFFER

Join one of Limburg's most beautiful clubs before 15/05/2018
&
ENJOY A 25% REDUCTION ON YOUR 2018 MEMBERSHIP !
+ preferential fee under age 40 + no entrance fee.



Temporary offer for a limited number of new adult Members.

Contact 045-575 33 00, info@hoenshuis.nl or visit the Club !

WWW.HOENSHUIS.NL



25 YEARS OF THE SLOVAK ARMED FORCES



Story by Brig. Gen. Ivan Pach, J ENG Branch Head and Slovakian Senior National Representative at JFC Brunssum
Photo courtesy Slovak Armed Forces

This year, people of Slovakia as well as members of its Armed Forces celebrate 25 years of establishment of the Slovak Republic.

Based on the significant global political and security changes which had happened at the end of 80's in Central and Eastern Europe, people of Czechoslovakia changed the socialistic and nondemocratic regime to pro-western democracy (in former Czechoslovakia recognized as a Velvet Revolution which culminated at the end of 1989).

On 1 January 1993, long desired national recognition and emancipation effort of Slovak people led finally to a peaceful split of the Czech and Slovak Federal Republic into two sovereign states—Slovak Republic and Czech Republic. “When the independent Slovak Republic came into existence along with our Armed Forces in parallel, we entered an entirely unexplored environment. Against all the odds, our desire to have our own country and to prove

to ourselves and to the world at large that we deserve it as a nation was stronger and triumphed above everything else”, Defence Minister Gajdoš said.

Slovakia since then has continued to transform its political, economic and social pillars towards western democratic standards. Such a transformation effort has obviously led also to the transformation of our Armed Forces—from a post-Warsaw Pact large army (which consisted of 53000 soldiers, 995 tanks, 1370 APC/IFV, 1053 artillery systems, 146 combat air fighters and 19 combat helicopters)—to the national defence oriented Armed Forces of a newly born democratic state.

By the way, one of significant characteristics of the soviet style army was also its “conscripts” based manpower which in our case changed on 1 January 2006, when the last conscripts left the Slovak Armed Forces and since then we are fully professionalised force.

First and foremost step in transforma-

tion of our Armed Forces was and since then has been our active participation in international operations and missions, partially as continuation of former Czechoslovak Army deployments. Right after Slovak Armed Forces establishment, our soldiers had proved their professionalism and capabilities during their deployment to Balkans in UNPROFOR.

Second important milestone was when the Slovak Republic as one of the very first signatories joined Partnership for Peace program and started to cooperate with the NATO organizations. This had led to the final and most important transformational milestone—on 29 March 2004 the Slovak Republic joined NATO and on 1 May 2004 we joined European Union.

From the early days of independence, our Armed Forces have been participating and significantly supporting peace processes within a global security effort of UN, NATO, EU or other International Community lead military, peacekeeping or observer

2018 marks for Slovakia's people and members of its Armed Forces an important anniversary since the establishment of the Republic.



operations. Since the first deployment, our Armed Forces have provided significant contribution to the crisis management operations and missions abroad. Overall, 18,000 soldiers from Slovak Armed Forces have rotated in and out within the military deployments abroad. Soldiers have managed to meet all the demanding operational tasks home and abroad with honour and very high professionalism, despite the fact that the active participation of Slovak Armed Forces in crises operations around the world have also resulted in number of our fallen soldiers within our ranks. The ultimate sacrifice of those who lost their lives in the line of duty will not be forgotten.

To increase readiness, interoperability and the war-fighting ability of our Armed Forces two key pillars of their transformation have been identified. First, human resources, as the most valuable asset we have. The emphasis has been laid on increasing the moral qualities, level of education and expertise of professional soldiers. The sec-

ond pillar is military hardware, the quite expensive segment of capability development. Its replacement or modernisation is a key to the overall progress in transforming the Armed Forces. Both, the soldiers and their equipment through high standards training and through deployments to demanding missions and operations have formed our required capabilities which are dedicated not to only Slovak Republic but also to NATO and EU overall defence capabilities.

As such our transformational effort continues as we want to achieve our ultimate goal—to have the Armed Forces which are:

- Mobile;**
- Operationally Ready;**
- Defensive Oriented;**
- Effective and Economically Sustainable;**
- Relevant;**
- NATO-Interoperable.**

The expected end-state is to have modern, credible, operationally ready Armed Forces consisting of enhanced capabilities providing interoperability with allied forces,

able to guarantee national defence as part of the collective defence within NATO and EU.

Slovakia and its Armed Forces have been active contributors to the security of Euro-Atlantic sphere and its contribution to the stabilisation of conflict-torn regions in the world has proved that we are stable and well-respected partner for the UN, the European Union, and NATO. To underscore this fact it is important to say that since the Slovak Republic joined NATO, Slovak Armed Forces have deployed number of its personnel to various positions within NATO Command as well as Force Structure, the contribution in JFC Brunssum being the largest.

Nowadays, Slovak soldiers' active roles in Afghanistan, Iraq, Cyprus, Bosnia and Hercegovina as well our deployment to Latvia as part of NATO eFP attest to the fact that the Slovak Republic is an active member of the NATO, EU and UN and their peace and stability effort.



WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY: SHIFTING FROM RHETORIC TO PRACTICE

Story written by Christine Chinkin and published in NATO REVIEW website on 8 March 2017
Photos from NATO archive

Launched in February 2015, the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the London School of Economics, developed out of the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative championed by former UK Foreign Minister William Hague and the Special Envoy for the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees, Angelina Jolie. However, the Centre is not solely focused on the issue of sexual violence but on the wider agenda for Women, Peace and Security set out in United Nations Security Council Resolution 1325, adopted in 2000. This Resolution brings issues relating to women and armed conflict directly into the political agenda of the Security Council, which has primary responsibility for the maintenance of international peace and security. An important objective of the LSE Centre is to be a hub of cross-sectoral partnerships and engagements, to support the policy agenda through academic thinking, research and education.

Resolution 1325 was widely celebrated by women's non-governmental organisations, which had advocated globally for its adoption. It was the first time that the Security Council had devoted a full session to debating women's experiences during and after conflict, and drawn attention to what have been termed the 'inextricable links between gender equality and international peace and security' ('High-level Review on Women, Peace and Security: 15 years of Security Council resolution 1325'). It has been supplemented by further resolutions: 1820 (2008), 1888 and 1889 (2009), 1960 (2010), 2106 and 2122 (2013) and 2242 (2015).

The four pillars

These resolutions build on each other and underpin what are often termed the 'four pillars' of the Women, Peace and Security agenda set out in Resolution 1325:

Participation—Full and equal participation and representation at all levels of decision-making, including peace talks and



War and conflict have a disproportionate effect on women and children and yet historically women have been left out of peace processes and stabilisation efforts.

negotiations, electoral processes (both candidates and voters), UN positions, and the broader social-political sphere.

Conflict prevention—Incorporation of a gender perspective and the participation of women in preventing the emergence, spread, and re-emergence of violent conflict as well as addressing root causes including the need for disarmament. Addressing the continuum of violence and adopting a holistic perspective of peace based on equality, human rights and human security for all, including the most marginalised, applied both domestically and internationally.

Protection—Specific protection of the rights and needs of women and girls in conflict and post-conflict settings, including reporting and prosecution of sexual and gender-based violence; domestic implementation of regional and international laws and conventions.

Relief and recovery—Access to health services and trauma counselling, including for survivors of sexual and gender-based violence.

The four pillars are therefore an essential subject of contemporary foreign and military policy.

There has been some shift in emphasis in the Resolutions between the two key pil-

lars on participation and protection. The pillar on participation and representation, especially emphasised at the outset of Resolution 1325 itself, presents women as agents, as active players in issues of peace and security. It stresses the importance of their 'equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security'.

Protection

In contrast, the pillar on protection focuses on women as victims who need to be protected, especially from sexual violence as a tactic of war. Resolution 1820 gives greater prominence to this pillar, setting out a number of demands on all parties to conflict to take measures to enhance such protection including: enforcing appropriate military disciplinary measures; upholding the principle of command responsibility; training troops on the categorical prohibition of all forms of sexual violence against civilians; debunking myths that fuel sexual violence; vetting armed and security forces to take into account past actions of sexual violence; and evacuation of women and children under imminent threat of sexual violence to safety.

Both the Women, Peace and Security agenda and the Preventing Sexual Violence

This month, following the International Women's Day celebrations, from the NATO Review we feature an article originally published 8 March 2017.



**NATO
REVIEW**

Initiative give some effect to the recognition of conflict as gendered—understood and experienced by women and men differently because of their gender. Both recognise how the incidence of sexual violence in armed conflict undermines international peace and security through its contribution to the displacement of peoples and refugee flows, and without steps to address it post-conflict, through its continuing divisiveness on communities and society. Accordingly both initiatives emphasise the importance of making accountable and prosecuting perpetrators of genocide, crimes against humanity, and war crimes (including such crimes involving gender-based and sexual and other violence against women and girls) to put an end to the impunity so often enjoyed by such persons.

However, the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative is explicitly a gender neutral initiative. Its focus on prevention of and tackling impunity for conflict-related sexual violence is with respect to all victims, women and girls, men and boys, and those targeted for their (real or perceived) sexual or gender identity. But only one of the Women, Peace and Security Resolutions refers to the reality that such violence also affects men and boys as well as ‘those secondarily traumatized as forced witnesses of sexual violence against family members’ (Resolution 2106).

As an important output of the Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative, an International Protocol on the Documentation and Investigation of Sexual Violence in Conflict was adopted to increase effective criminal prosecutions, both to enhance deterrence and to deliver justice in individual cases. This is a practical tool kit setting out good practice in response to the reality that criminal trials of perpetrators of sexual violence are seriously impeded by the lack of evidence appropriate for use in criminal processes and, moreover, that any trial may only be possible long after the commission of the offences by which time evidence may have been lost or become unusable. The Protocol has been tried in some pilot areas, gaps and other deficiencies identified, and a second edition has recently been completed.

Participation and representation

The Women, Peace and Security agenda

has also given rise to institutional innovation, especially with respect to representation and participation. One example is the nomination of gender advisers in military forces and women protection officers in peacekeeping operations to support commanders in ensuring that a gender perspective is integrated into all aspects of an operation.

The appointments of the Special Representative of the UN Secretary-General on Sexual Violence in Armed Conflict (following the adoption in 2009 of Resolution 1888) as well as a Special Representative to the NATO Secretary General on Women, Peace and Security in 2012 are further external indications of the significance accorded to issues related to women and conflict.

In 2015, the Security Council welcomed efforts to increase the numbers of women in militaries and police in UN peacekeeping operations and urged further efforts in this regard (Resolution 2242). This of course assumes the importance of women within armed forces, an approach that NATO has long fostered with its formation in 1976 of the Committee on Women in NATO Forces (now the NATO Committee on Gender Perspectives).

A global study (‘Preventing Conflict, Transforming Justice, Securing the Peace’)—commissioned to inform the discussions of the UN high-level review of the implementation of Resolution 1325, fifteen years after its adoption—pushes for greater participation of women in peace processes to increase the chances of producing sustainable peace or stable post-conflict societies. It notes that ‘more than half of peace processes that reach an outcome lapse back into conflict within the first five years’.

Arguments for the inclusion of greater numbers of women in peace processes and post-conflict state-building (as well as in peacekeeping operations) have tended to rest on one of two grounds: that women ‘are good at peace’, are in some sense instinctively able to foster peace, or that this is required by general principles of equality and specifically by the 1979 Convention on Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination, articles 7 and 8. Neither of these arguments necessarily carries much weight. The first, an essentialist concept of biological determinism, is strongly contested as having no empirical basis while the second, the equal-

ity argument, is too often disregarded as having no practical benefit.

Recent research has made the case in strong instrumental terms that highlight the illogicality of premising the possibilities of peace on a narrow base that reinforces the pre-conflict power structures and fails to take into account the widest possible range of views, capabilities and lived knowledge of those who endured the conflict. The Global Study cites evidence-based research to the effect that in 40 peace processes adopted since the end of the Cold War there was not one single case where organised women’s groups had a negative effect on the process, which was not the case for



A Swedish female liaison officer serves as part of a military observer team, deployed under the NATO-led, UN-mandated International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) in Afghanistan. ISAF ended its mission in December 2014. (Photo courtesy of the Swedish MoD)

other social actors. Specifically, women’s inclusion in peace-making creates a greater chance of agreement being reached and of that agreement lasting. Other research has shown that, when controlling for other variables, peace processes that included women as witnesses, signatories, mediators, and/or negotiators demonstrated a 20% increase in the probability of a peace agreement lasting at least two years. The percentage increases over time. A substantive gender perspective is also more likely where women have been involved.

The global study refers to the peace agreement reached between the Government of the Philippines and Moro Islamic



Liberation Front (MLF) in March 2014 after many years of conflict in Mindanao and 17 years of negotiations, by which time one third of the people at the table were women. The Agreement has strong provisions on women's rights with eight out of its 16 articles providing for women in positions of governance and protection against violence. It also sets out special economic programmes for decommissioned female fighters from the MLF—a category of women often overlooked in programmes for disarmament, demobilisation and reintegration or for protection against violence. Nevertheless, and despite some slow progress, such instances are rare and women remain greatly under-represented in peace-making and peace-building.

Identifying gaps and addressing challenges

The Preventing Sexual Violence Initiative and the Global Study on Resolution 1325 have both identified gaps that remain to be filled. The latter also highlighted emerging trends and priorities for action. It asserted that 'Resolution 1325 was conceived of and lobbied for as a human rights resolution that would promote the rights of women in conflict situations.' As such, Women, Peace and Security is a hu-



Ambassador Marriët Schuurman of the Netherlands serves as the current Special Representative to the NATO Secretary General on all aspects of NATO's contributions to the Women, Peace and Security agenda. © NATO

man rights agenda for the enhancement of women's human rights, elimination of discrimination on the basis of sex and gender and promotion of women's empowerment. However, it is located within the security framework of the UN Security Council. The



The Government of the Philippines and Moro Islamic Liberation Front signed a peace agreement in March 2014 after 17 years of negotiations, by which time one third of the people at the table were women. Women's inclusion in peace-building creates a greater chance of agreement being reached and of that agreement lasting.

two dimensions—human rights and security—may be in tension giving rise to the warning in the Global Study that 'attempts to "securitize" issues and to use women as instruments in military strategy must be consistently discouraged'.

As indicated, much research on Women, Peace and Security has been carried out but more knowledge is needed. The LSE Centre seeks to become a world-leading education provider and a research forum that brings together scholars, activists, UN experts, practitioners and policy-makers. We need to shift rhetoric to practice by asking and exploring further questions, for instance, about: how patterns of sexual and gender-based violence relate to different forms of contemporary conflict and how different responses are needed—one size does not fit all victims and survivors; the connections between the political economy and violence in conflict and post-conflict; how to change social attitudes that allow perpetrators to continue their lives with impunity while survivors live with stigma, isolation and poverty throughout their lives; what capacity building is needed in different contexts to develop effective programmes for combatting violence against women in conflict; and how National Action Plans on Women, Peace and Security (and those of organisations, such as the plan for the implementation of Resolution 1325 developed by NATO

together with partner countries in 2010) can be made more inclusive, more effective and adequately resourced.

The Centre aims to take advantage of its position as an academic research body with direct links to government, the military, international governmental and non-governmental institutions to contribute to the intellectual development of conceptual foundations and practical tools. It is envisaged that its normative input—with an emphasis on peace, justice and women's human rights—will contribute to reshaping and enriching the discourse on issues related to women and conflict. In this way, it will help secure more effectively the transformative ambitions of the United Nations Women, Peace and Security agenda.

Christine Chinkin is director of the Centre for Women, Peace and Security at the London School of Economics and co-author of *The Boundaries of International Law: A Feminist Analysis* (2000), *The Making of International Law* (2007), and *International Law and New Wars* (forthcoming 2017).

What is published in NATO Review does not necessarily represent the official position or policy of member governments, or of NATO.

Subscribe to NATO Review:
www.nato.int/review

JFCBS TEAM AT ITALIAN MOUNTAIN TROOPS SKI CHAMPIONSHIPS



Story by Lt. Col. David Colussi, JFCBS J5
Photos courtesy Italian Army; Location: Piedmont, Italy

A multi-national team from JFC Brunssum took part in the Alpini Troops Ski Championships held in the Vialattea ski resort in Piedmont (Italy) 05th to 10th March. The aim of this event is to verify the level of training reached by the units in a sportive environment where the bonds of friendship with the Alpini National Association, allied and partner countries.

The championship (Campionati Sciistici delle Truppe Alpine (C.a.S.T.A.)) are organised by the Italian Alpini HQ since 1931. It is a military version of the "Winter Olympics games" which combines the peculiar aspects of the Alpini being: training, professionalism and connection with social reality. The term "championship" could be misleading because the sport is only one aspect of this massive event. In fact, the primary aim is the verification of the level of training achieved by the units in the challenging winter environment. In this context, survival, mobility and tactical skills are paramount to be effective in this challenging setting. Sport competitions are only one of the means to train the soldier and make him fit to conduct operations in adverse environmental conditions.

This was the 70th anniversary of the competition where more than 1500 Alpini troops were competing in the 2006 Olympic winter park with partners and allies. The activities were conducted in a wide area involving all municipalities of the Vialattea resort. The over-arching theme of the event was safety in a winter mountain environment. The theme was delivered through a conference and a set of displays and exercises of military and civilian capacities demonstrating the high level of interaction among all these actors. This approach demonstrates the full interoperability of all entities involved in winter mountain rescue that usually operate together in such demanding and critical environment. The organisational effort put in place during the Ca.S.T.A. was extremely significant in consideration of the consistent number of troops involved both in the competitions and in the support required for all concurrent events.

All competitions that took place during the Ca.S.T.A. provided unique opportunities and experiences to the participants enhancing the cohesion of the units and HQs teams. The JFC Brunssum Team competed in the Friendship Trophy together with eleven national teams, representatives of

the Italian 'Alpini' Association and other multinational headquarters. In particular, these races were run together with the colleagues from HQ ARRC and NRDC-ITA in an inexpressible feeling of comradeship solving technical problems and sharing fatigue and satisfaction for all single performances. In fact, skiing at more than 2.000 meters of altitude and moving with ski-touring skis night time not only it was a great challenge for all participants but it was an experience that increased self-confidence on personal skills and limits. The whole activity was considered by all a wonderful opportunity to engage and strengthen the bonds of partnership in peculiar and unusual environment.

The importance of the event has been highlighted by the attendance of the major Italian civilian and military authorities to some of the key activities like exercises, opening and closing ceremonies. The international flavour of the championship was pointed out during many speeches and the colourful composition of the parades during two unforgettable snowfalls was the best proof of it. To keep and enhance this great and valuable spirit the organisation has made an appointment at the next edition of the championship!



IN REMEMBRANCE



22 March 2018

JFC Brunssum Community Commemorates Beloved Member Gail

Brunssum, The Netherlands – As another year goes by, we take a moment of silence to remember the Martinez family and their story. On 22 March 2016, Gail was found shielding one of her children and was killed in a terrorist attack at Brussels airport. This past Friday marks the second year of remembering this tragedy and JFCBS members gathered to remember the loss of Gail Martinez, beloved wife, mother, daughter, coach, secretary, cheerleader, friend, and shield.

Gail was an active member of our community and loved being active—both physically and in and around the community. In memory of her passion for being active, the US Air Force Element hosted a 5K Memorial Run as a remembrance.

Lieutenant Colonel Jacqueline Bvgari shared with the runners, “Today, I remember the words of Kathleen Mills, who said, ‘The quiet hero does not walk into war’. I can’t help but remember Gail Martinez. We as military members volunteer to risk our lives every day to safeguard our family, our friends, and our countrymen, but somehow in this rare moment, a military spouse was killed by enemy action. The battlefield was not Afghanistan, Iraq, or somewhere in Africa—the battlefield was an airport—Brussels airport. And in this one act, the relevance of the quiet hero becomes clear.”



28 March 2018

French delegation Honors Colonel Arnaud Beltrame

Brunssum, The Netherlands – Wednesday 28 March Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum French contingent observed one minute of silence to honour the sacrifice of Colonel Arnaud Beltrame of french Gendarmerie nationale who saved the life of a civilian hostage, and showed exceptional courage and self-sacrifice. After the moment of silence, Lieutenant General Olivier Rittmann, Chief of Staff Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, addressed the French contingent and stressed Colonel Arnaud Beltrame level of dedication and France determination :

‘His sacrifice testifies the commitment of those in uniform and demonstrates once more that military and police service is not a job like the others.

This sense of service to the nation and its citizens, to the point of sacrificing his life, is what differentiates the military/police from the others. Colonel Beltrame did much more than its duty.

He is a new symbol in the long list of our martyrs who tells our enemies that France does not give in, that France is stronger than their hatred, that France will survive them. Our thoughts go to his wife and his relatives. And I refer you to what they said about him and his action. There is no more beautiful tribute, more honourable, more vibrant, despite their suffering.’



VISITS AND ACTIVITIES

HQ Activities in March 2018



9 March 2018

Swedish Joint Defence Staff Policy and Plans Department Deputy Head Visits JFC Brunssum

Brunssum, The Netherlands – Lieutenant General Olivier Rittimann, Chief of Staff Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, welcomed Brigadier General Michael Claesson, Deputy Head of the Policy and Plans Department of the Swedish Joint Defence Staff today.

Following discussions with the Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Claesson met with representatives of the headquarters, led by Major General Karl Ford, Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans) at JFC Brunssum, for a mutually beneficial round table discussion.

The visit objective was to discuss further developments with regard to military cooperation. Sweden has been an active member within the Alliance's Partnership for Peace programme since 1994 and, as an Enhanced Opportunity Partner, makes particularly significant contributions to NATO operations and other Alliance activities.



16–17 March 2018

Commander German Air Operations Command Visits Exercise Brilliant Joust 2018

Bydgoszcz, Poland – Commander German Air Operations Command, Lieutenant General Joachim Wundrak, visited Exercise Brilliant Joust 2018 (BRJT18) at the Joint Force Training Centre (JFTC).

The German Air Operations Command provides the framework for the Joint Force Air Component Headquarters (JFAC HQ) for the NATO Response Force 2018 (NRF18) force package. General Wundrak met with Commander JFC Brunssum, General Riccardo Marchiò, who shared his first impressions of this critical NRF18 training event as a very good baseline to build integration and interoperability. Lieutenant General Wundrak was grateful for General Marchiò's unfiltered insights into the exercise, as well as the opportunity for a direct conversation with the NRF18 Commander.

BRJT18 is the first major NRF18 training event of the year. It is designed to test and refine the interoperability of the tactical joint force elements (air, land, maritime and special operations). JFTC Bydgoszcz provides NATO with the professional training facilities and staff that are essential to deliver this critical joint tactical level training.



26 March 2018

Maastricht University Masters Students Visit JFC Brunssum

Brunssum, The Netherlands – Monday 26 March 22 Masters Students from Maastricht University accompanied by their Course Director, Dorcas Mbuvi, visited the headquarters in order to gain a deeper comprehension of NATO and, specifically, the ways in which the military interact with the civilian community.

Lieutenant Colonels Jose Rodriguez from JFC Brunssum's Civil/Military Plans, Policy and Operations Section and Marco Schmidl from the Public Affairs Office, together with Mr Barry Mellor (Deputy Chief of Public Affairs) briefed the visitors and participated in a highly interactive question and answer session.

The students are pursuing the "Risk & Vulnerability Specialization" i.e. one of the six tracks available within an MSc in Public Policy and Human Development. The MSc programme is jointly offered by the United Nations University (UNU-MERIT) and the Maastricht Graduate School of Governance (part of Maastricht University).

The visit from Maastricht University was a fruitful exchange of knowledge. JFC Brunssum welcomes similar visits from university and school students into the future.

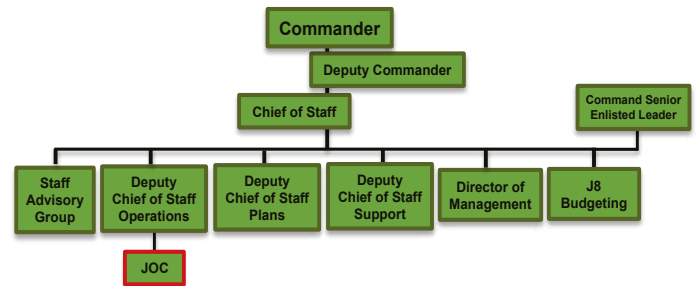


#WEAREJFCBS

#WEARENATO



NAME: **MICHAL MAMKIN**
 RANK: **MAJOR**
 SERVICE: **ARMY**
 NATION: **CZECH REPUBLIC**
 OFFICE: **JOINT OPERATIONS CENTRE (JOC)**



Joint Operations Centre (JOC): provides continuous situational awareness to the JFC HQ and supports the information needs of Higher Headquarters

When did you arrive in Brunssum and what is your job at the Headquarters?

I arrived in the Netherlands in July 2016. I have been posted to the JOC as Subject Matter Expert (SME) Land.

Tell us about your military career.

I graduated from University of Defence as a Lieutenant in 2006 and my first appointment was a platoon commander in 73rd tank battalion. My next position was Team Officer within BMATT (British Military Advisory Training Team) combined British and Czech team which provide military training courses, training assistance and advice to partner (PfP) countries. Following on from that I was Operations Officer in the 7th mechanised brigade HQ, and my last appointment before assignment to JFC Brunssum was as an Airborne Infantry company commander within the

74th light infantry battalion. I deployed to Afghanistan in 2011 with the Czech OMLT as a Mentor Team Leader attached to an ANA rifle company and, in 2014, to Mali as a Czech contingent commander in the EU Training Mission tasked to provide force protection for the HQ and deliver training to the Malian Armed Forces.

Tell us about your job and what kind of challenges you have to face.

In the JOC I work within the Regional Focus Team with responsibility for monitoring and providing information, assessment and recommendations on all aspects of the land situation in the region, including updates of Common Operational Picture for land units. On a daily basis I monitor any ongoing activities in our implementation area, including eFP activities, NATO or national exercises, or other military activity which have an effect on JFC Brunssum.

All these activities need to be analysed, assessed and are presented as part of the Commanders Situational Awareness Brief. Probably biggest challenge is to get all the necessary information to the Commander, using all available sources, such as other HQs, national information or even open media. Of course, another challenge is working within multinational environment.

Is your family here with you?

No, I'm here without family, but I've made a lot of friends here.

What are your hobbies?

In my spare time I love to travel, skydiving and of course all kind of sport activities. Here in the Netherlands I'm really enjoying cycling.

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

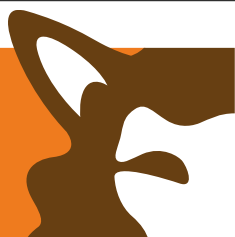
www.autokallen.nl

graphic design

magazines

web services

support



't Swarte Schaap
media & more

**YOUR ADVERTISEMENT
COULD BE HERE!**

info@tswarteschaap.nl
www.tswarteschaap.nl

Haus
Hamacher
Restaurant und Café

Enjoy every day!
Real German specialties and beer!

Currently:
Daily fresh asparagus!

we are there for you 7 days a week!

Tel: 0049-2454-1414 www.Haus-Hamacher.de

52538 Gangelt
Am Freibad 10



**41
Years**

Animal Hotel Abdissenbosch
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.dierenhotelabdissenbosch.nl (also in English)



membership for everyone

All-in Membership
€ 1370,- or € 120,- per month

So also for Sophie, Stijn, Ben, Ronald, Charlotte, Michel, Anneloes, Anne-Fleur, Jean-Paul, Diane and you!



Beautiful golf courses, a cozy community life and a welcoming atmosphere. Het Rijk Golfbanen make the best of what golf has to offer accessible to all. Thanks to our All-In, Individual, Youth, Student and Business Membership we have an appropriate membership for any type of golfer. Choose the one that suits best and become a member of one of our four wonderful courses! More information about our different types of memberships can be found at www.golfenophetrijk.nl



HET RIJK
GOLFBANEN

How beautiful golf can be!



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