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NORTHERN STAR

Magazine for HQ JFC Brunssum – February 2013



Joint Force Command Brunssum Welcomes New Deputy Commander

**General Domröse Assumes Command of
JFC Brunssum**

HQ AIRCOM – New Tasks, New Faces

**AFNORTH International School – an
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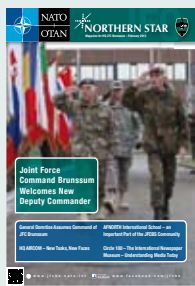
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General Hans-Lothar Domröse and Air Marshal Graham Stacey saluting the flags during a walk-in ceremony held at the entrance of the headquarters main building, 15 January 2013. Air Marshal Stacey succeeds Air Marshal David Walker as the Deputy Commander of JFC Brunssum.

Photo by MSgt Jan Hecht, PAO

Command Group Corner

I feel privileged and honoured, as your new commander, to have this opportunity to highlight some initial impressions in this first edition of the Northern Star in the New Year. Before I continue, and on behalf of my wife Christina, I would like to wish you and your families all the best and good health for 2013.

Both Christina and I were heartened by the warm welcome we received during the reception at the Change of Command Ceremony, 14 December. My family, and especially my father, were most impressed by the professionalism, enthusiasm, and encouraging comments we received from HQ Staff, NATO, National authorities and local dignitaries. Thank you for this memorable event and for preparing me for the challenges that lie ahead by providing the necessary background information prior to my assumption of this Command. Working together we will be able to achieve our objectives.

"Time flies" and sometimes, as I grow older, I have the feeling it flies even quicker. It only seems a few days ago as COM EUROCORPS that I finished Exercise STEADFAST JOIST (May 2010) in preparation for the NRF 15 standby period. Back then I would not have guessed I would become COM Joint Force Command Brunssum only a few short years later. I was most impressed that despite its continued responsibility for the ISAF mission, Brunssum was capable of conducting a challenging NRF certification exercise.

As SACEUR's first direction to me at the change of command, I would like to reiterate our 3 main tasks, namely ISAF, NRF, and Northern Regional Focus. Our primary task, for the short and medium term, remains unchanged. Our responsibilities for the ISAF and follow-on mission are the main drivers for our daily activities. More importantly is the realisation that our Headquarters is at the heart of NATO's corporate understanding of the evolution of the ISAF mission. This provides us an implied obligation with regard to shaping the concept and conditions for the follow-on mission.

At the beginning of his command, I recall General Langheld alluded to the major changes within NATO's Command Structure and its possible consequences for our Headquarters. During the last couple of weeks, it became apparent to me that we will face some of these implications shortly, especially with respect to the manning level. This year's intensive preparation for NRF 2014 standby, in conjunction with our primary

role of supporting ISAF, require the collective Command Group to carefully manage our level of ambition and think creatively to make best use of our most valuable, but limited, resource – our people. Our Headquarters has an important and prominent role within the new NATO Command Structure. We can only maintain this position by addressing our three 'Rs', Reputation, Relevance, and Responsiveness. Here I count on your loyal and valuable support.

Despite this it will be necessary to commence with the 3rd, new, main task. Expanding responsibilities with regard to Northern Regional Focus will most certainly consume staff effort at times, and that is not convenient right now. I would like to call on your loyalty and professionalism however, to proceed where possible but also to report conflicting priorities if necessary.

I would like to conclude by stating that I'm proud to be the Commander of Joint Force Command Brunssum and that I'm looking forward working with you. My trip to ISAF and subsequent NRF 2014 Commanders' Conceptual Discussion at the end of January provided me deeper insight to the issues and challenges at hand. These will further shape my thoughts and help frame my initial Commanders' Intent that I intend to promulgate later on. Again, I wish you all the best and success in your daily work in a most challenging year.



Commander Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum General Hans-Lothar Domröse

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The Word on Women - Noorjahan Akbar - A Letter to My Harasser

Letter by: Noorjahan Akbar - Afghanistan Correspondent for Safe World for Women



Hello sir, I do not know your name, but you passed by me a week after Eid-ul-Fetr in the Bazaar in Kabul. You might remember me. I was the young woman wearing a white scarf and a long red embroidered tunic with dark pants. I was standing by a vegetable stand and bargaining the price of fresh mint when you passed me and nonchalantly pinched my bottom. I turned red. The old man who was selling vegetables noticed but didn't say anything. He probably sees this every day. This had happened to me more than once, but this time I felt more embarrassed because the old man noticed.

I ran after you and grasped your wrist. Scared and sweating I started yelling. "Why did you do that? How dare you? Do you do this at home to your family members too?" and you started yelling back louder, "you crazy woman! I haven't done anything. You are not worth doing anything to."

I was still ashamed to tell people what you had done. You probably remember how everyone was watching us. Other women advised me to keep calm that this would only ruin my reputation, but I wasn't going to give up now. I started yelling. Soon the police arrived and took us both to the station.

A tall man in uniform asked me what had happened. I told him. You opened your mouth and the police officer yelled, "You, shut up!" Next thing I knew he was beating you. You were on the floor and he was kicking you with his gigantic shoes. Sweat was dripping off his thick eyebrows. He must have been as angry as I was.

I didn't see you again, but the friend who was walking with you followed me all the way home. He told me, "what is the big deal?! It is not like he f**ked you." But I was too tired for a second fight that day.

You and your friend probably both claim to be Muslims. You probably even pray at the mosque every Friday or more often. You probably tell your wives that they should not get out of the house because the world out there is filled with horrible men who will disgrace them. You probably even believe that you had a right to touching my bottom because you think a "good" woman would never be out on the streets without a man. Your sisters are "good." They stay at home when you pressure them to. If I were a "good woman" I would do the same. These streets belong to men.

I am writing this letter to tell you that I never intended for you to get beaten and humiliated, but I am not sorry for speaking

out. I am writing to tell you that I know what you are up to. You want to threaten me, scare me, and keep me shut at home where I will learn to tend to many children and cook food for your kind and be submissive to a man that might someday marry me. You want me to be terrified of the world outside and not find my way and my place in it. You want me to believe that the only safe and "decent" place for me is in the kitchen and the bedroom. But I am writing you to tell you that I am not buying that ever again. Not you, not the Taliban, not this government, not my brother or mother, nor anybody else can convince me that I am less than a man, that I cannot protect myself, that I cannot be what I want to, and that the best life for me is in a "safe" kitchen where a man or a mother-in-law has control over my every move. I am not buying that. Not ever again.

I will come out of the home every day and walk bravely down the streets of my city, not because I need to, but because I can and neither your harassment or sexual assault nor an oppressive government will ever be able to take that ability from me again.

With Defiance,

A Woman You Harassed

USFOR-A, GIRoA Complete Renovations on Hazrata Mosque

Story by USAF Major Tyrell O. Mayfield, HQ ISAF

His Excellency Dr. Sayed Makhdum Raheen, Minister of Information and Culture, presided over a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the recent renovation of the historic Hazrata Mosque in Ashaquan wa Arefaan, Kabul.



His Excellency Dr. Sayed Makhdum Raheen, Minister of Information and Culture, presided over a ribbon cutting ceremony to celebrate the recent renovation of the historic Hazrata Mosque in Ashaquan wa Arefaan, Kabul.

Prominent personalities from across Kabul and several Afghan media outlets witnessed the ribbon cutting by Dr. Raheen and the guest of honor, Prof. Sibghatullah Mojaddedi. Mojaddedi served as the first President of Afghanistan after the fall of the communist regime in 1992.

The Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIRoA) worked shoulder to shoulder with the United States Forces – Afghanistan in order to restore one of Afghanistan's most significant cultural and historical landmarks.

"The Hazrata Mosque is very famous. It was built at the end of the 18th century by King Timor Shah Durani, and it is one of the most precious monuments of Kabul," said Dr. Raheen. "King Amanullah and the Holy Scholar Mojaddedi discussed some critical issues in this mosque together,

for example, constitutional issues and Afghanistan's independence."

The \$400,000 renovation project completely restored the mosque and its grounds. They are once again available to the local community for both daily use and Friday prayers.

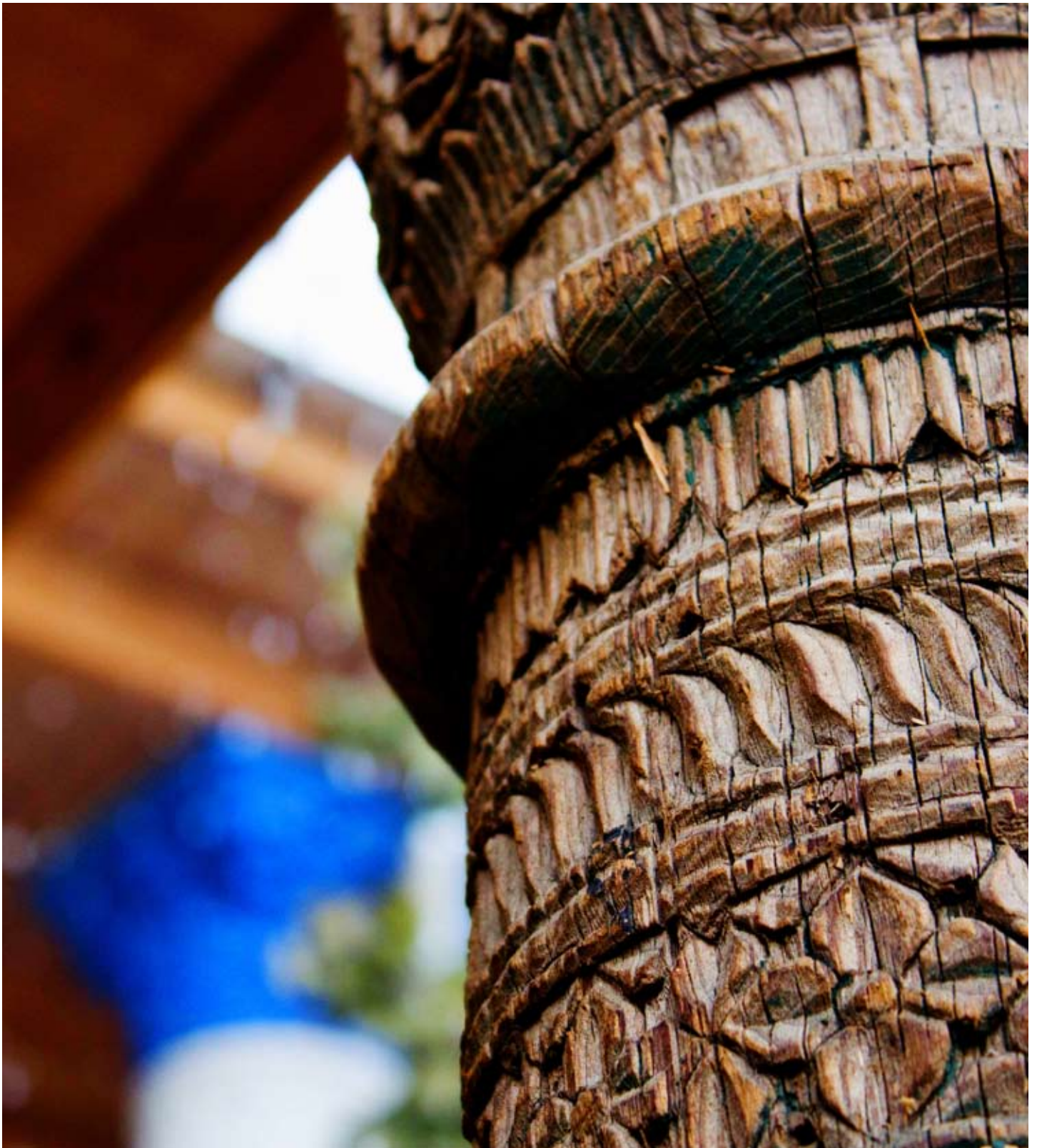
Renovations began in September of 2011 and were completed in December of 2012. The mosque, which was severely damaged during the civil war that followed the fall of the communist regime, underwent extensive renovations during the last year and has been completely transformed. Skilled Afghan craftsmen worked very hard to maintain the structural and architectural integrity of the mosque by using traditional construction techniques and materials to renovate the site.

The Ministry of Information and Culture (MoIC) is responsible for

the preservation and restoration of historic sites across Afghanistan. The renovation of the mosque represents a goodwill gesture to the nation of Afghanistan from the United States of America. The 426th Civil Affairs Battalion provided oversight for the project, while Afghan craftsmen carried out the renovation.

During the ribbon cutting ceremony, both Dr. Raheen and Prof. Mojaddedi thanked the US for funding the restoration of the Hazrata Mosque and for their continued support in preserving the cultural and historic sites across Afghanistan. Mojaddedi stated "I am very grateful for the American friends, who have helped and given their assistance for this mosque and for the people living here. I wish all the best for the American friends and for those who have taken part in rebuilding of this Masjid (Mosque)."

Mr. Abdul Ahad Abasi, an architect



These columns highlight the impeccable craftsmanship that went into the Hazrata Mosque renovation

and the Director of Preservation and Restoration of Historic Monument for the MoIC stated, “Some parts of this Mosque were destroyed during the civil war. More than fifty per cent of the mosque was destroyed, but thanks to the efforts of the MoIC and the financial assistance of US government we have been helped to rebuild this mosque.” Mr. Abasi added that this was just one of five historic sites in the Kabul area which the US has helped renovate.

The Mosque and its grounds include a large indoor area for prayer and an outdoor area that can be used in warmer weather for services. The courtyard has been resurfaced with paving stones and a water feature sits beneath two large mulberry trees enclosed by a tall mud and straw wall which surrounds the entire compound. The Azan tower, where the call to prayer goes out from stands with a new spiral staircase overlooking the courtyard and the sprawling Old City which

climbs the mountain on the south side of Kabul. Behind a traditional mud and straw wall the interior of the mosque stands out with bright white and blue columns and a new metal roof.

The Hazrata Mosque dates to the early 19th Century and played a central role in rallying Afghans. Its renovation cements its place as a spiritual center of Kabul and a historic site that accurately portrays the rich history and traditions of Afghanistan.

Poland Takes Command of NATO Mine Counter Measures Group

Story by PAO MARCOM Northwood

Poland took command of the permanently established NATO Mine Countermeasures group 1 (SNMCMG1), 17 January. The Change of Command ceremony took place on the Naval Base in Gdynia, Northern Poland. Commander Piotr Sikora (Polish navy) accepted Command of SNMCMG1 from his Belgian colleague, Commander Yvo Jaenen (Belgian navy).

On taking over the Group, Cdr Sikora said "Taking responsibility for the NATO Mine counter measures force is a tremendous privilege for Poland and is for me a source of great personal pride. Over 40 years this force has been a tangible expression of NATO smart power. Not only fulfilling a valuable mission in war and peace but also making a great contribution in the diplomatic sphere through engagement, exercises and visits".

Standing NATO Mine Counter Measures Group 1 (SNMCMG1) is one of NATO's two specialist mine countermeasures groups. It is a permanently established, multinational, seagoing force of MCM vessels, on task continuously, to give NATO the ability to respond to a wide range of missions almost anywhere in the world. It consists of units from NATO countries and regularly exercises with the Russian Navy and engages with Partner Nation countries in Europe, Africa and as far away as the Gulf.



Commander Piotr Sikora (Polish Navy) Commander Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 1 - for the biography go to http://www.manw.nato.int/page_cv_com_snmcmg1.aspx

HQ AIRCOM – New Tasks, New Faces

Story by HQ AIRCOM Public Affairs Office

NATO Air HQ at Ramstein Air Base becomes the single Allied Air Command

Under NATO's leaner and more efficient new Command Structure military integration Headquarters have been reduced from eleven to seven. As the new structure unfolds during 2013, the Allied Air Headquarters at Izmir, Turkey, and Ramstein, Germany, will amalgamate and concentrate at Ramstein. Consequently, General Philip Breedlove, USA Air Force, the new Commander Allied Air Command – or COM AIRCOM – will have responsibility over all air-related matters within NATO. These include core tasks such as collective defence, crisis management and cooperative security as well as enabling functions such as air and space advocacy, capability development and resource governance. Catchwords of this all-encompassing air mission are Air Policing and Ballistic Missile Defence, Support to ISAF, preparation for Article-5 and Crisis Response



HQ AIRCOM building – a winter impression

Operations, Military Partnerships and Civil Military Cooperation, Cooperative Security- to name but a few.

The new AIRCOM refers to all air entities in the NATO Command Structure comprising HQ AIRCOM, Ramstein,

Germany, the Deployable Air Command and Control Centre (DAGCC), Poggio Renatico, Italy, and Combined Air Operations (CAOCs) Torrejon, Spain, and Uden, Germany.

This new architecture within AIRCOM



COS Morning Huddle (from left to right): Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) Operations Brigadier General John K. McMullen, USA Air Force, Chief of Staff, Major General Erich G. Siegmann, DEU Air Force, DCOS Support, Brigadier General Patrice Laurent, BEL Air Force, and DCOS Plans Brigadier General Hakan Evrim, TUR Air Force.

has also meant new arrivals of personnel on several prominent posts in the HQ AIRCOM. The new Chief of Staff, German Air Force Major General Erich G. Siegmann arrived at the headquarters on 1 January 2013. A pilot of RF-4E Phantom fighter and C-160 Transall transport aircraft, General Siegmann had previously served as Deputy Commander of 2nd Air Division at Birkenfeld, Germany, and Deputy Commander of the German Air Force Air Operations Command, Kalkar, Germany.

The HQ new structure includes three Deputy Chiefs of Staff (DCOSs) – one each for Operations, Plans and Support. While the DCOS Support, Brigadier General Patrice Laurent, Belgian Air Force, arrived in Ramstein already in March 2012, he was joined by Brigadier Generals John K. McMullen, USA Air Force, and Hakan Evrim, Turkish Air Force late in 2012. DCOS Operations, General McMullen, had been Commander of 325th Fighter Wing at Air Combat Command, Tyndall Air Force Base, Florida where he was in charge of more than 4,000 personnel who train and prepare F-22 Raptor pilots, intelligence officers, maintainers, and other support specialties for worldwide assignment to combat air force units. DCOS Plans, General Evrim, had been the Air Force Deputy Chief of the Planning and Policy Division, advising

the Commander of the Turkish Air Force on national security policy issues.

The HQ now has only a few months to come to terms with the new tasks and integrate new staff also from several NATO nations that have so far not sent any contributions to NATO's Air HQ at Ramstein.

The first major task for HQ AIRCOM is ensure command and control for NATO's mission in support of Turkey's

air defence capabilities. Under the operational command of the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), the Ballistic Missile Cell at HQ AIRCOM will provide control for the defensive assets from the USA, the Netherlands and Germany once these are deployed to Turkey.

This is the new AIRCOM's first contribution to Alliance solidarity and resolve to protect Allied populations and territories.



HQ AIRCOM leadership (from left to right): Deputy Chief of Staff (DCOS) Support, Brigadier General Patrice Laurent, BEL Air Force, DCOS Plans Brigadier General Hakan Evrim, TUR Air Force, Chief of Staff, Major General Erich G. Siegmann, DEU Air Force, and DCOS Operations, Brigadier General John K. McMullen, USA Air Force.

Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum - Visits and Activities

Prepared by MSgt Jan Hecht, photos by PAO JFCBS

Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command (HQ JFC) Brunssum major activities are depicted along six lines of effort within the Brunssum campaign plan. Each of these activities requires an ambitious level of constant attention and effort. Beside the Staff routine work we plan and conduct special activities like visits, trainings as well as social events on a regular basis. We would like to give you an overview about those activities by looking at a few selected events.

November 2012



28 November, Grosser Zapfenstreich In Honour Of Retiring Commander JFCBS

Thomas de Maizière, the German Minister of Defence, bid farewell to General Wolf Langheld with a military ceremony at the Ministry of Defence, in

Berlin. The 'Grosser Zapfenstreich' (The Grand Tattoo) took place in the presence of many high ranking military and civilian guests. General Wolf Langheld, who handed over command of Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum to General Hans-Lothar Domröse on 14 December, retired after 41 years service. The Großer Zapfenstreich is the highest ceremonial honour executed by the German federal armed forces, the Bundeswehr. The ceremony is performed only on the occasion of national celebrations and solemn public commemorations. It honours distinguished persons at special events such as the succession ceremony for a German federal president, and the conclusion of a large military exercise.



6 December, Commander JFCBS Addresses His Staff

General Langheld conducted his final Staff Address at the JFCBS Alliance Theatre. General Langheld used the opportunity to address all JFCBS members before he handed over command to his successor, General

Dörmose, 14 December. In his farewell speech General Langheld thanked all military and civilian personnel for their support over the past two years and said he looked back with considerable pride to the many achievements made. He mentioned a number of challenges that lie ahead such as the implementation of a more deployable posture and the need to monitor manning levels. With regard to ISAF the Commander said:

"Crucially, this headquarters has a depth of ISAF-related knowledge and continuity that is not replicated anywhere else. We have been embedded with ISAF since its beginning in 2003, and can relate directly to Theatre without controlling the campaign at the Tactical Level. Each year I have read, or been told, that 'this is a decisive year' for ISAF. Well, Ladies and Gentlemen, I believe we are now, truly, at a decisive stage. Actions taken over the course of 2013 will affect not only the outcome of our campaign, but the future of Afghanistan for decades to come."



8 January, ISAF Deployment Ceremony

Commander HQ JFC Brunssum bid farewell to 50 personnel deploying in support of HQ ISAF for six months at the International Conference Centre. In 2013 JFC Brunssum assumed significant additional responsibility in

support of Headquarters ISAF, in Kabul. Throughout this year more than 100 Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum personnel, from 18 different nations, including NATO international civilian staff, will deploy. Deployments will be conducted in two six month tranches. The first deployment of 50 personnel commenced Tuesday 08 January. In a heart warming informal departure ceremony, with families present, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander HQ JFC Brunssum, reminded deploying personnel of the importance of the Afghanistan mission and that the HQs was available around the clock to look after families whilst they were away. The Chief of Staff, Lieutenant General Richard Tieskens, also took the opportunity to make a short address reminding all that ISAF remains Brunssum's "utmost priority".

4 December, Visit By Lieutenant General Anders Silwer

The Director of Operations of the Swedish Armed Forces visited HQ JFC Brunssum.

Lieutenant General Silwer met the Commander JFCBS General Wolf Langheld, Deputy Commander Air Marshal David Walker, Chief of Staff Lieutenant General Richard G. Tieskens and Deputy Chief of Staff Operations Major General Joseph Reynes. In the context of ACO's Regional Focus initiative the increasing communication and developing relationship between our Headquarters and Swedish military authorities is very important. During the office calls, briefings and subsequent discussion the focus was on future cooperation, the new NATO command structure and post-2014 ISAF planning. Sweden is not only participating in ISAF; the Swedes have taken part in the Operation Unified Protector (Libya), SFOR and KFOR. In addition, Sweden has indicated an interest to be involved in the post-2014 NATO mission in Afghanistan. In 2014 Sweden will host and organize the Comprehensive Approach Exercise VIKING, to which HQ JFCBS will deploy staff.



6 December, JFCBS Christmas Market

Following his final Address to the Staff, the Commander hosted the Christmas Market at the International Conference Centre. Short welcome remarks by General Langheld were followed by an ecumenical prayer led by our military chaplains and a carol sung by children from the AFNORTH International School Students' Choir. More than 800 guests enjoyed the warm and friendly advent atmosphere, live music and a wide variety of national food and drinks.



9 January, Visit By Vice Admiral Charles

Anthony Johnstone-Burt

The Chief of Staff Supreme Allied Command Transformation (SACT) visited HQ JFC Brunssum in a sequence of engagements in Europe including Allied Command Operations and NATO Headquarters. The intent of the visit was to discuss a variety of topics regarding the headquarters' mission with main focus on the ISAF mission, post 2014 planning and the NATO Response Force. SACT is a NATO military command formed in 2003 following an earlier round of Alliance restructuring. It's primary role is to lead military transformation of Alliance forces and capabilities, using new concepts and new doctrines in order to improve the Alliance's military effectiveness.



14 January, Visit By Lieutenant

General Raimonds Graube

The Latvian Chief of Defence, accompanied by the Latvian Military Representative to NATO, Brigadier General Andis Dilans was welcomed by Commander HQ JFC Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse. An office call with the Commander was followed inter alia by briefs on the headquarters' mission, the Deployability Concept and the composition of a Joint Task Force Headquarters. The visit aimed at deepening the linkages between the HQ and Latvia and concluded with a round table discussion with key staff.



January 2012

General Domröse Assumes Command of JFC Brunssum

Story by MSgt Jan Hecht, PAO

General Hans-Lothar Domröse assumed command of Allied Joint Force Command (JFC) Brunssum, 14 December, at a Ceremony presided over by Admiral James G. Stavridis, Supreme Allied Commander Europe.



General Domröse succeeds General Wolf Langheld, who led the command since September 2010.

In a Change of Command Ceremony, held at the JFC International Conference Centre, Admiral Stavridis passed the Joint Force Command Brunssum flag to General Hans-Lothar Domröse.

General Domröse succeeds General Wolf Langheld, who led the command since September 2010. The handover ceremony was attended by military and civilian dignitaries; amongst them Commander ISAF, General John R. Allen, who flew in from Kabul specifically to attend this symbolic event.

General Langheld, who retired after 41 years service, stressed that his time as Commander JFC Brunssum presented a fitting climax to his military career. In his speech he stated: "JFC Brunssum is blessed with a talented, dedicated and professional staff. This is not the time to talk about past successes or future challenges – but simply to say thank you for your support. My successor, General Domröse, is fortunate to have such a team." During the ceremony SACEUR presented the NATO Meritorious Service Medal to General Langheld in recognition of his achievements and immense contribution to the Alliance.

"Welcome aboard General", Admiral Stavridis said in his remarks to the incoming Commander. He went on to stress the importance of the tremendous support the headquarters delivered to the ISAF mission. SACEUR particularly stressed the progress achieved in Afghanistan.

Addressing General Domröse, Admiral

Stavridis said: "As always at Change of Command Ceremonies I like to say a few words to the new Commander about what I would like you to focus on and, I think, in your case Hans Lothar it is fairly straight forward. I would like you to continue the terrific work of Wolf, in Afghanistan. That's job one. And I know that John Allen is applauding that behind me. Secondly, I would like you to think about the NATO Response Force and how we might use that instrument into the future. As the NRF concept further evolves I will be looking for great creative thinking from this Command and your team. And, finally, I would like you to think about Regional Focus. In this, you are the hub of our northern network; and, personally, I strongly believe there is a wonderful opportunity to generate stronger operational-level links with

member nations and partners in your assigned area. So, I ask you, as you take over and step into this extraordinary command position, with this terrific team, that you focus on these three things."

Before taking Command of JFC Brunssum, General Domröse served as the Military Representative to the NATO and the EU Military Committees, in Brussels. Previous assignments include: Commander Special Operations Division in Regensburg, Germany, and Commanding General of EUROCORPS, in Strasbourg, from 2009 to 2011.

General Domröse has a Master Degree in Economic and Organisational Science. He is married to Christina and has two grown-up sons.



Admiral Stavridis passes the Joint Force Command Brunssum flag to General Hans-Lothar Domröse

JFCBS Welcomes New Deputy Commander

Story by MSgt Jan Hecht, PAO

Commander NATO Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse welcomed Air Marshal Graham Stacey during a walk-in ceremony held at the entrance of the headquarters main office building, 15 January 2013. Air Marshal Stacey succeeds Air Marshal David Walker as the Deputy Commander of JFC Brunssum.

Air Marshal Stacey joins the headquarters with vast experience. Notably, his career includes command of No. 1 Royal Air Force Tactical Survive to Operate (Force Protection) Headquarters where, in an eventful 18 months, the Headquarters completed 2 Iraqi Southern Watch tours and led the establishment of the RAF Detachment at Ali al Salem, Kuwait. The Headquarters also provided the framework organisation for the activation and running of the KFOR airfield at Pristina, Kosovo. The latter task saw Air Marshal Stacey attached to HQ UK 4 Armoured Brigade and deploying with forward elements on day 1 of the NATO Kosovo Land Campaign.

Air Marshal Stacey has also commanded Royal Air Force Honington, a large airbase in eastern England, in 2001. This tour included a mid-term 4-month "sabbatical" to command the multinational ISAF 1 Detachment at Kabul Airfield, in Afghanistan.

No stranger to Brunssum, Air Marshal Stacey led our J3 Operations Division as of 2007. He departed Brunssum in December 2008, on promotion to Air Vice-Marshal, and joined US CENTRAL COMMAND (Tampa) in February 2009 as Senior British Military Advisor to General David Petraeus. Most recently, he was appointed Administrator of the Sovereign Base Areas and Commander British Forces Cyprus.

Air Marshal Stacey was awarded an MBE for service in Indonesia, a QCVS for Operation Desert Fox and was appointed a Companion of the Order of Bath, in 2011. His wife, Dr Maria Stuttford, is an academic specialising in health and human rights issues. He has two children, Fiona (20) and Gavin (18). Interests include cycling, walking, squash, cooking and rugby. Air Marshal Stacey is an ex Chairman of RAF and Combined Services Rugby, and ex Service Vice President of the Royal Air Force Association (European and Overseas Area).

For full CV of
Air Marshal Graham Stacey go to:
www.jfcbs.nato.int



General Domröse bids farewell to Air Marshal Walker

Handing Over Responsibility to Capable Officers

Story by Captain Artūras Kazlauskas, Photos by Lithuanian armed forces

Sharing experience is a way of ensuring that, once the mission has been completed, appropriate knowledge is provided to local officers making them capable of ensuring security in the native land. Papers is that security interests are assessed globally without restricting the analysis to defense issues.



Certificates for the last Ghor police servicemen trained by ISAF soldiers

On October 18, 2012 troops and policemen of the Police Advisory Team (PAT) in Ghor Province, Afghanistan, presented certificates of qualification to instructors of the local Police Training Centre – six Afghan police non-commissioned officers and one officer – at the Afghan National Police (ANP) Headquarters of Ghor as a result of a nearly month-long evaluation period.

The number of Ghor police officers trained by the PAT since the beginning of the operation, in the autumn of 2010, now exceeds 700. Today approximately 70% of police in Ghor Province have been trained at least in one of the activities organised by the PAT or similar units in other provinces. It is also worth noticing that in 2011 the Lithuanian-

led PAT organized the first Basic Police Officer Course for junior officers with the first female police officer of Ghor province among the graduates. “Formal certification of the officers and award of the certificates is not only an excellent opportunity to finish our mission via a meaningful gesture, but also a way to sum up and evaluate the two years spent on service in Ghor by the PAT instructors,” said Major Darius Bartaševičius.

This was the last course the PAT will deliver to the Afghan National Police (ANP) before the closure of its mission. During two years in Afghanistan the Police Advisory Team’s military and police personnel have also assisted the ANP in establishing a Police Training Centre, arranged qualification courses and training events for the provincial police, and have been providing consultations regarding their daily work.

Lithuanian and US military also worked as mediators in the development of logistics and personnel-related projects, attended collective operations and conducted joint patrols. At the Police Training Centre 11 Basic Patrol Courses and 3 Sergeant Courses have been held. In addition, airfield security specialists, bodyguards of the provincial Governor and other authorities have undergone training in first aid. Provincial Response Company officers have undertaken a wide range of refresher courses.

The trainers are ready to train their own troops

In the middle of November 2012 the final PAT rotation ended and the responsibility for training was handed over to local police officers of the Afghan National Police. Afghan policemen who have already been trained by the PAT will now organize courses and train their

colleagues. Deployments in support of this Lithuanian-led mission came from personnel of the Military Police of the Lithuanian Armed Forces, Public Security Service under the Ministry of the Interior of Lithuania, and troops from the Pennsylvania National Guard. In August 2012, military personnel of the Pennsylvania National Guard started redeployment after the completion of service.

From September to October 2012 PAT personnel oversaw practical and theoretical sessions conducted by the personnel of the Afghan Police Training Centre and attended field exercises. During the sessions Lithuanian troops

“All certified instructors have mastered the course material excellently and have acquired sufficient practical skills to continue with the Training Centre’s activities independently”, said one PAT instructor, from the Public Security Service Art ras Vaitiekus. Since late 2011 PAT military personnel have focused on training the instructors of the Afghan Police Training Centre and on a successful transfer of the Centre’s activities to the local police command. “You came here as our counselors and you are leaving as our closest friends”, said Ghor Chief of Police, Colonel Delawar Shach Delawar, as he presented Afghan national coats (chapan in Dari) to the Lithuanian military staff.

the Operations Coordination Centre-Provincial Advisory Team (OCC-PAT) was inaugurated. The task of the OCC-PAT is to perform advisory and mentoring functions for the Operations Coordination Centre of the province of Ghor, to facilitate the Centre’s interaction with the ISAF units, and to assist in developing the Centre’s professionalism and ability to function independently. The team is manned by 8 troops from the Lithuanian Armed Forces.

Just like the Operations Coordination Centre’s Advisory Team, the Military Advisory Team serve in Ghor Province as a subordinate unit of the ISAF



and officers evaluated the abilities of Afghan instructors to compile training schedules, syllabuses, prepare for training sessions, motivate their trainees, relate to the audience, and convey knowledge in a methodological way. The Afghan officers were evaluated against instructor criteria established by PAT instructors, Ghor ANP leadership, NATO Training Mission Afghanistan (NTM-A) and staff specialists from the Joint Headquarters of the Lithuanian Armed Forces. “We have to be sure that we did our best to prepare officers and servicemen of the Afghan National Police to face a huge responsibility, and I am sure that the expertise and experience that servicemen of the Police Advisory Team have shared during this training, and during these two years of service, will be crucial in raising the level of professionalism of Ghor policeman”, said Major Darius Bartaševičius, PAT Commander.

Training efforts progress into another dimension

A joint Police Operational Mentor and Liaison Team (POMLT) manned jointly by the Lithuanian Armed Forces and the Pennsylvania National Guard began operations in Chaghcharan, in November 2010. It was manned by 8 Lithuanian and 12 US military representatives - all with previous experience in civilian police work. The POMLT trained and supervised units of the Afghan National Police deployed in the province of Ghor. In May 2012 the POMLT was reorganised into a Police Advisory Team (PAT). Since then the key function of the unit was rendering advice to the Afghan National Police. As activities of the PAT ceased in the middle of November 2012, support to Afghan security forces in Ghor Province has been reorganised according to a different model. In November 2012

Joint Command (IJC). Lithuania has also contributed an Air Advisory Team (AAT) to the NTM-A. The Lithuanian-led multinational AAT which includes Belgian, Latvian, Ukrainian and Lithuanian military personnel based in Kandahar has been in operation since 2011. The AAT trains helicopter pilots and technical maintenance specialists for the Afghan National Army (ANA) and evaluates their readiness to fulfil their tasks.

Lithuania is planning to pull out the peacekeepers from the province of Ghor by the end of 2013. The decision to hand over the responsibilities of the PRT has been made following close consultation with other institutions and partner nations. Lithuania foresees continuing its commitment to Afghanistan with Special Operations Force units and the Air Mentoring Team in 2014 on condition that the Seimas (Parliament) of the Republic of Lithuania gives a mandate for that.

No ... There are Definitely No Penguins in the Arctic!

Story by Major Marc Segers, BEL A, Intelligence and Knowledge Analysis and Production Branch

It made me laugh when I was told that, during a briefing on the Arctic a couple of years ago, there were penguins on the introduction slide of the presentation. Perhaps time - I thought - for a little update. No, don't worry, I will not go into details on fauna and flora but nobody will deny that the Arctic ice is melting and that it is melting fast. Over recent years, 50 percent of the sea-ice cover in the Arctic Ocean has disappeared.



The sea routes to Asia that European explorers had sought in vain for centuries opened for shipping, for the first time, during the summer of 2008 when a Canadian commercial ship travelled through the Northwest Passage. In 2009, two German commercial vessels arrived in Siberia from South Korea after traveling around Russia's northern coastline. Reviewing Arctic-related media it is evident a "mad dash" for the region's resources is underway and even an Arctic '(re)militarization' has been suggested. Sitting on top of a mine, we should be familiar with the yellow canary used to warn miners of toxic gases. Perhaps the Canadian Prime Minister Harper was not so wrong labeling the melting Arctic the proverbial 'yellow canary in the coal mine' of our planet's health. Yet, the 'little bird' set in motion a series of political developments and is fueling the High North related security debate, not only in the Arctic littoral states and Europe, but also across the globe in countries as far as China,

India and Japan.

Viability of the Arctic Passages

With over 90 percent of the world's trade carried by sea, commercial shipping will continue to be the driving force behind the world's economy. The world's centre of maritime gravity has shifted to Asia, and China, in particular. With 46 percent of China's GDP contributions led by foreign trades, and 85 percent of imports and exports trades closely linked with the ocean shipping, the international maritime industry has emerged as one of the key industries in China.

Whilst ship design technology exists for vessels to operate year-round in the Arctic, commercial shipping over the top of the world still needs to prove economically viable. With as much as 32 percent of the European-Asian trade consisting of Chinese goods heading for Europe, the North West Passage (NW Passage) and the Northern Sea Route (NSR) could become an attractive alternative for

Northern Sea Route: 6,500 nautical miles



Current route: 11,200 nautical miles

the maritime routes of the Middle Corridor, connecting the Pacific and the Atlantic through the Suez Canal and the Mediterranean, in the near future. Unlike the Suez- or Panama Canals, the NSR has no vessel restrictions and could reduce the shipping time from Europe to Asia by up to 40 percent and deliver gains in fuel cost and CO2 emissions. More importantly, the Arctic route is virtually clear of hotspots of regional instability, strategic bottlenecks, areas affected by piracy and other transnational criminal actors. However, risk mitigation in this hazardous maritime environment calls for extended cooperation in fields such as meteorology and maritime safety. Yet, whilst a Search and Rescue (SAR) agreement has been concluded by the Arctic Council (AC) members, the Arctic region lacks adequate support infrastructure to accommodate additional maritime traffic. Maritime insurances will be remain very high as a consequence.

The 'mad dash' for the Arctic resource

According to the International Energy Agency (IEA), global energy supply reliance grows amongst a relatively small number of producers, mainly in the Middle Eastern and North African (MENA) region. If the IEA forecast proves correct, hydrocarbon energy producers might be tempted to shift focus towards Asia rather than to the Western hemisphere. As the United States is attempting to be the largest supplier of oil and gas by 2020, European countries are increasingly trying to diversify their energy supply; it is possible the High North could become a central energy provision hub for Europe.

Today Arctic onshore exploitation produces about one tenth of the

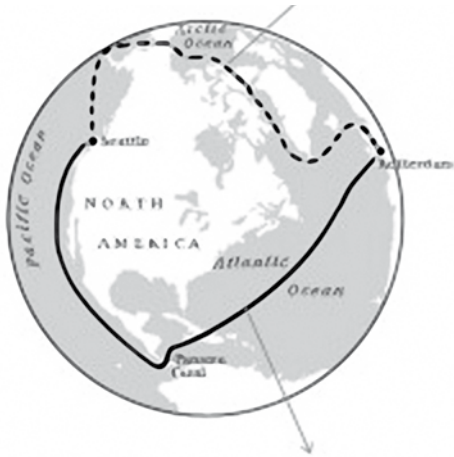
hydrocarbon supplies reaching out into Africa, Central Asia and Siberia. At first sight, it looks that the European and Chinese energy security concerns will not collide over the Arctic hydrocarbon resources. Yet, as long as security issues over the Malacca Strait prevail, China might welcome any alternative to tap into the Arctic's 13 percent of the world's undiscovered oil and up to 30 percent of its undiscovered gas. Then again, most potential fields are situated in the Arctic states' Exclusive Economic Zones (EEZ) and exploitation will be subject to their sovereign rights. Furthermore, despite some rhetoric, China has not laid claim to any of the EEZ or the continental shelf, nor would any claim be accepted as it has no coastline in the Arctic area.

The Arctic Council and multi-lateral cooperation

Turning to commercial shipping corridors and energy resources, it is obvious that the Arctic melting holds a series of opportunities and challenges in the realm of 'soft' governance as well as 'hard' economy and security which could favor multi-lateral cooperation; deteriorating into 'an agreement to disagree' or even worse in confrontation.

The number of institutions in which the Arctic involved states are represented, in particular to the north of the Atlantic, is multiple, but one body for multi-lateral cooperation that has made progress over the last couple of years is the Arctic Council. Established in 1996, the Arctic

Northwest Passage: 7,000 nautical miles



Current route: 9,000 nautical miles

world's oil and one quarter of its gas. Even though environmental, climate and high cost considerations make the prospect of Arctic offshore exploitation remote, if the IEA prediction of crude oil import price - over US Dollar 210 per barrel in 2035 - holds, then offshore exploitation becomes a mid-term perspective rather than a long-term perspective. Over the next twenty years or so it is thought Chinese oil import dependency will rise beyond 80 percent. This strategic vulnerability deepens China's 'energy security dilemma' as others could literally shut down its economy. As a result China views pursuing an ambitious energy strategy as essential, diversifying its

Whilst a collision over Arctic hydrocarbon resources sounds a distant reality, this will likely not be mirrored in the competition over critical raw materials, also known as Rare Earth Elements (REE). With the Arctic ice retreating and its limited fiscal resources, Greenland relies heavily on foreign investment to develop its mineral reserves. Greenland's mineral potential has been assessed as high to moderate for 6 out of 14 of the current critical raw materials for the EU. Should demand evolve according to the emerging technology indicators, by 2030 Greenland's relevance for minerals will increase even further.

Council is an intergovernmental forum to promote cooperation, coordination and interaction among the Arctic States (Canada, Denmark {including Greenland and the Faroe Islands}, Finland, Iceland, Norway, Russian Federation, Sweden, and the United States of America). Time will tell whether the multiple institutions and the current legal framework of the UN Convention on the Law of the Sea (UNCLOS) will be able to manage the 'soft' and cope with the future 'hard' dimensions. As much as the political focus is there for now, it is equally transient and I do hope we will not need another Berlin Knut to attract world media attention before the last polar bear only has thin ice to hang on to. In one of the next issues we will have a closer look at the Arctic scientific cooperation and security challenges and opportunities.

IF YOU WOULD LIKE TO KNOW MORE

For a link to the Arctic site at NATO HQ: <http://www.nato.int/docu/review/2009/0901/EN/index.htm>

For a recent report by the NATO Parliamentary Assembly on the Arctic: <http://www.nato-pa.int/Docdownload.asp?ID=1BFFAD049306000F0F06>

For an overview of the activities of the Arctic Council: <http://www.arctic-council.org/index.php/en/>



Commanders' Commendations

Prepared by MSgt Jan Hecht, PAO

Commander Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS) presented The Commanders' Commendation to 13 JFCBS members for their extraordinary work, 6 December 2012.

During the annual Commanders' Award Ceremony held at the JFCBS Alliance Theatre General Wolf Langheld presented the Commanders' Commendation to:

Lieutenant Colonel Rudy Acke
Colonel David Pincet
Major Ali Cakan
Warrant Officer Raffaele Pirozzi
Major Manuel Gomez Reyes
Lieutenant Colonel Thorsten Plonus
Lieutenant Colonel Slawomir Kozicki
Wing Commander Alan Povey
Lieutenant Colonel Nicola Lombardo
Captain Wiliam Silkman
Lieutenant Colonel Guillermo Palos
Miss Susan Wouters
Commander Yves Peant

The Commanders' Commendation is reserved for those who exhibit exceptional service, above and beyond the norm, over time.



The ceremony climaxed with Brigadier General Michael Jorgensen being awarded the NATO Meritorious Service Medal for his outstanding work as Branch Head Plans. Under his watchful eye numerous Contingency Plans, Operation Plans,

even an internal Campaign Plan have been developed all requiring the smallest of amendment. Effects generated have benefited ISAF, NATO's northern region and JFC Brunssum itself.

Joint Mobile Training Team Conducts Training in ALMATY - KAZAKHSTAN

Story by AdjChf Patrick Potloot, Teamleader JMTT

Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum's Non Commissioned Officer (NCO) Joint Mobile Training Team (JMTT) conducted another very successful NCO training event in Almaty, Kazakhstan (KAZ) from 10 to 16 November, 2012.

21 KAZ NCOs completed the training, which was conducted at the request of the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Kazakhstan. The objective was to deliver basic information about Tactical Training and Military Topography in order to improve the knowledge of NCOs.

The training was highly appreciated by the KAZ NCO Corps.

Participants had the opportunity to hear up-to-date lectures from NATO NCOs, most of whom have been actively involved in the ISAF mission and NRF exercises. Lectures included a wide range of topics from NATO history to NCO leadership, NCO Education and Professional Development. Introductions to Counter Insurgency theory (COIN) and Improvised Explosive Device (IED) awareness were also part of the agenda. The students were invited to participate in lively discussions, especially when each of us explained

our National NCO system.

The important value of this training was recognized by both the participants and the JMTT. Our Instructors were asked challenging questions throughout. HQ JFC Brunssum will continue supporting NATO's outreach program as one method of sharing information with Partner Nations and building a strong foundation for future relationships.

At the end of the training, the KAZ Academy Sergeant Major expressed his appreciation towards our JMTT and the hope that cooperation will continue. All 21 students, from Sergeant to Sergeant Major, received a Certificate during the formal end-of-course Ceremony. The JFC Brunssum Team included Master Sergeant Indrek Ojasoo (EST), Staff Sergeant Pherris Baldwin (GBR), Staff Sergeant Eric Evans (USA), Sergeant Lee Morrissey (CAN) and Sergeant Major Patrick Potloot (BEL).

The NCO JMTT acts as a "business card" for HQ JFC Brunssum and contributes to the highly esteemed reputation of the HQs amongst our Partner nations. Our partnership programme will continue to support the following statement of the 2010 Lisbon Summit: "Allies agreed to develop a more efficient and flexible policy for better engagement and transparency in order to built capacity....TOGETHER!"



Participants together with the JFC Brunssum training team

AFNORTH International School Geographic Bee

Story by AFNORTH International School

Logan Johnson, an M2 student at AFNORTH International School, won the elementary school-level competition of the National Geographic Bee on January 11.

The National Geographic Bee, an educational programme of the National Geographic Society, is a geography competition designed to be a fun and rewarding way for students in grades IY6-8 to learn about geography. The Geography Bee questions are designed to explore all facets of geography—historical, physical, cultural, political, and economic. The goal according to Chelsea Zillmer, manager of Geography Competitions, is to create global citizens. The school-level Bee, at which students answered oral questions on geography, was the first round in the

25th annual National Geographic Bee. The Bee is sponsored by the National Geographic Society and our local Parent Teacher Organization.

The kickoff for this year's Bee was during December, with thousands of schools participating. At AFNORTH, each IY6-8th grade classroom held a preliminary round to determine which student would be the class representative. AFNORTH's Elementary School Geography Bee finalists were, among others: Haley Belanger, Logan Englert, Vangesta Cowin, Aidan Woodrow, Alek Kurland, Seth Arnold, Leo Bernard, Cameron Gaetos, Logan Johnson, Zach Villa, Alex Graham and Ben Yeates. Seth Arnold competed in the Championship Round with Logan Johnson and thus earned recognition as



the second place runner up. Ben Yeates was the third place finisher.

Logan Johnson will compete against the Middle School Geography Bee winner to see who will represent our school at the next level of the Geography Bee.

Anyone can brush up on geography with GeoBee Challenge, an online geography quiz at www.nationalgeographic.com/geobee, which poses ten new questions per day from previous National Geographic Bees.

50 Years Élysée Treaty - 50 Years of Franco-German Friendship

Story by Dr. Iris Gerloff, Head of German Department, Photo by Carolin Barnehl

A joint celebration of the French and German governments, parliaments, and the Senate of the Federal Council on the 50th Anniversary of the Elysée Treaty was held in Berlin, Wednesday 22 January.

The focus of the festivities is the fostering and realignment of the Franco-German

relationship to the changing conditions in Europe and the world. The anniversary year is aimed specifically at the young generation. The German department of AIS celebrated this day with a presentation of student work. Secondary students worked in a cross-disciplinary and mixed age project on issues such as relations between Germany and France (past and

the present) and/or cultural information about France (e.g. music, cuisine) and presented their findings. Delicacies prepared by parents and students were offered. In summary, it was a very good and successful activity with a wider sense of high pedagogical value, where young Germans got personally involved in the Franco-German relationship.



AFNORTH International School – an Important Part of the JFCBS Community

Dr Uwe Bettscheider interviewed by MSgt Jan Hecht, Public Affairs

Dr Uwe Bettscheider has been the head teacher of AFNORTH International School since July 2012. We met him to learn more about the International School, an important element of the 'JFCBS family', and seek his views and vision for the future.

Dr Bettscheider, how did you get the offer for this interesting international appointment?

As I was involved in a number of international projects over recent years, the Department for International School Affairs of the Ministry of Education of North Rhine-Westphalia had my email-address. They knew that I am always interested in international projects. Once they informed me an interesting assignment was likely to become vacant, I visited Brunssum for a discussion with my predecessor, Ms Stresman, about the school. After seeing the school for ourselves my wife and I didn't need long to make a decision. So I applied for the job and here I am.

Is your family here with you?

Yes they are. I live in Kerkrade with my wife and our two girls (five and seven).

Tell us about your career.

After the obligatory military service I enrolled in the University of Marburg to study Mathematics, Computer Science and Physics. I graduated with the 1st State Examination for high school teaching. Over the following four years I worked as a scientific assistant at the Institute for Didactics of Mathematics in the Justus Liebig University at Giessen. This was followed by two years of teacher training at a school in Hesse. In 1996 I started my career as a high school teacher at the Viktoria Schule in Aachen. I obtained my doctorate from the Faculty of Mathematics of the University of Giessen for my work on Intelligent Tutoring Systems. After five years the possibility to work as an assistant principal at the Inda-Gymnasium in Aachen arose. From February 2006 until last summer I was the principal of the Ernst-Moritz-Arndt-Gymnasium in Bonn, a school with about 90 teachers and roughly 1100 middle and high school students. That school has a special focus on Mathematics, Nature, Computer Sciences and Music.

Tell us about AIS, your Job and what kind of challenges you have to face.

AFNORTH International School is a place where we all - staff, students and parents - learn from each other in an international setting. AIS is a Dutch foundation owned by the four nations: Canada, Germany, the United Kingdom and United States. We are open to everyone but, primarily, cater to the needs of the children of NATO soldiers and civilians in the age range 3 to 18 years. The english speaking students are taught in English and the German speaking students get taught in German.

I'm responsible for the efficient administration of the school; the coordination of the facilities and requirements of the four National Sections; for the internal organisation, management and discipline of the school (assisted by the Heads of the National Sections); and, of course, for the preparation of the budget.

The biggest challenge for me, as Director, is to take care that students and staff can benefit from the international environment as much as possible. This is not as easy as it sounds because every national section is obligated to offer a curriculum according to their own requirements so that the students can be reintegrated in their home country at any time. Fortunately, most of our staff try hard to stay open



Dr Uwe Bettscheider, head teacher of AFNORTH International School



Dr Bettscheider during the weekly management team meeting.

mindful for international collaboration and not to be focused solely on their own national curriculum.

How would you describe the most significant difference between the AIS and a national public school?

Minor, but nice to have, differences between AIS and a national public school are that we have less students per class and we have a quite well equipped school in comparison. A more significant difference is that we have a truly international community in one building. We have teachers with five different pedagogical backgrounds; we have staff members who are open minded and interested in other cultures. We have students from more than 20 countries. All students benefit from our partner language programme which provides them with additional language lessons. The English speaking students get additional German lessons and the Germans get additional English lessons. But the mere fact that they are playing together on the playground or participating in joint culture or sports projects give them the possibility to live in an international environment and to learn from each other every day.

How do you see the relationship

between the AIS and the JFCBS community?

We are part of the JFCBS community. Only a very few children of our school are from outside our community. My personal experience of the last months is that we get a lot of support from the JFCBS community even from people who do not have children in our school. We are mainly working together with the "Family Support, Morale & Welfare" branch and national delegations.

Is there space for improvement?

There is always space for improvement and we are working on exploring and reducing this space. Last autumn we became aware of the fact that the coordination of our yearly plans could be improved e.g. it is not a good situation when we have our holidays at the same time that a big part of the JFC HQ is on exercise somewhere in Europe. As a result we decided to cooperate better with the community on this topic. A more difficult issue which affects our cooperation from time to time is the fact that AIS is financed by only four nations and the JFCBS community, including partners, consists of 30 nations. More and more families of the community

are not from the four nations that are funding AIS. This means children of the other nations have to pay a tuition fee which is determined by the schools Board of Governors. Of course, the ideal situation would be if we could find a way to offer a payable school for all nations in Brunssum that came at a price everyone could afford. But this is not an easy task; it can't be solved without the willingness and help of all the nations who want to benefit from AIS.

Please tell us something about the plans for 2013.

We are planning a number of projects and activities to foster internationalism at AIS. We will take part in several European School projects, we want to establish an international choir and we will have our annual culture week around the Koninginnedag. One highlight at the end of the year will be again the Model European Parliament Simulation (cf. Northern Star December, page 22).

LWR Personnel Awarded

Story by J1

Deputy Chief of Staff Support, Major General Vincenzo Santo, met all Local Wage Rate (LWR) personnel in the Dutch National Support Unit lounge to thank them for the excellent services they provide to the Hendrik Camp on daily basis, 23 November.

LWR personnel are an essential key contributing to the success of this headquarters (HQs). Primarily performing duties within the Base Support Group, they maintain the central heating, the gardens, the plumbing, electrical systems and provide carpentry support. In addition, they clean our roads within the base and if there is snow or ice, they will make sure you can safely drive up the hill. Many LWRs also work in the warehouse, as storekeepers for example. But you will also find them in the motor pool ensuring that HQ personnel are provided duty vehicles in good working order. Additionally, some administrative jobs are performed by LWR personnel, for example: in the Travel Office, J1, NAF Management, Housing Office, Graphics and Reproduction. And, last but not least, we have LWR personnel in our Protocol Branch. If you want to have a VTC, you will be assisted by a LWR embedded in Protocol. Mr. Raf Ruiters, Head Civilian Personnel, commended the work and



Major General Santo thanked all LWR personnel for the excellent services they provide to the Hendrik Camp.

professionalism our LWR community displayed over the past year. As a token of gratitude all LWR personnel were presented with a monetary award for their achievements throughout 2012.

Many things you normally don't notice are performed and kept in shape by LWR personnel! Please give them a sign of appreciation if you see them performing their duties around the base.

Other Ranks Association - a Spirit of Goodwill and Friendship

Story by AdjtChef Patrick Potloot – Chairman ORA



The first month of 2013 is already over. As usual the New Year brought some changes and I would like to take the opportunity to inform all Other Ranks (OR), and those of equivalent status, about the Other Ranks Association (ORA).

The purpose of the association is to enhance community spirit. It does this by providing member ORs, of all services, nationalities and certain categories of civilian personnel serving at JFC Brunssum (plus retirees and their dependants) with opportunities to meet together in a spirit of goodwill and friendship. From your first day on

the base you are automatically an ORA member and this without paying for your membership.

The association organizes activities for its members as decided by the committee. Each delegation provides a representative to support the committee. In this way we strive to ensure that the wishes and views of the entire other ranks community are properly represented. This is a vital element as the ORA can only act with the support of the National Representatives.

In addition, the association will have the opportunity to represent the views and opinions of its members through

membership in the International Warrant Officers and Senior Non-Commissioned Officers Council.

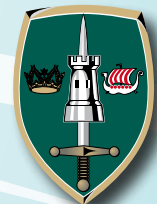
Their committee meets every month and discusses the issues submitted. During an annual general meeting, held at the beginning of each year, the reelection of the committee takes place.

The ORA has a bank account and uses the funds to sponsor a number of military and non-military events. However, there is a slight cost involved. Typical examples would be: a dinner in the International Conference Center; an annual battlefield tour; the Who Dares Wins competition; and, not to forget, the monthly gathering which takes place every first Thursday of the month. If you want to contribute an idea for any activities just inform your representative or another committee member so this can be discussed.

Your engagement and active participation is highly appreciated and will only enhance the spirit and friendship in the association. If you would like more information, contact your national representative, one of the committee members, or just have a look at the HQ SharePoint portal where you can find everything you need to know. I hope to see you soon at one of our gatherings and I'm looking forward to a great 2013.



CAS: Morale Enhancing Programs and Events for JFC HQ Personnel



Parent's Night Out

For Children Infant - 5th Grade

Enjoy a night out while CYSS take care of your children

WHEN:	HOURS OF CARE:	SIGN-UP DEADLINE
January 18th	6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	January 16th
February 22nd	6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	February 20th
March 22nd	6:30 p.m. - 11:30 p.m.	March 20th

OPEN TO ALL US AND NATO ID CARDHOLDERS. Light dinner will be served. Children must be registered with CYSS. Care is \$20 per child, each additional sibling \$18. AFC benefits can be used. Care is located at JFC Brunssum BLDG H-501. To sign-up contact Parent Central Services, +31 (0) 45-526-3121 or stop by JFC BLDG H-505 to make your reservations.

Fees are non-refundable.

Need at least 9 children enrolled to offer the event. If less than 9, we will notify of cancellation by COB Thursday.

JFC BRUNSSUM ALLIANCE THEATER Movie Schedule

☐	Sat. 9 Feb / 13:00	Sat. 16 Feb / 19:00
☐	WRECK-IT RALPH	FLIGHT
☐	John C. Reilly	Denzel Washington
☐	Jack McBrayer	John Goodman
☐	Sat. 09 Feb / 16:00	Sat. 23 Feb / 16:00
☐	HOTEL TRANSYLVANIA	LIFE OF PI
☐	Adam Sandler	Suraj Sharma
☐	Selena Gomez	Irfan Khan
☐	Sat. 09 Feb / 16:00	Sat. 23 Feb / 19:00
☐	KILLING THEM	PLAYING FOR KEEPS
☐	SOFTLY	Gerard Butler
☐	Brad Pitt	Jessica Biel
☐	Ray Liotta	
☐	Sat. 16 Feb / 16:00	
☐	RED DAWN	
☐	Josh Hutcherson	
☐	Chris Hemsworth	

VALENTINE'S DAY

Champagne "SPARKLERS" Tasting

February 14, 2013 @ 1830

JFCBS International Conference Center

Attire: Sharp Casual

For your enjoyment: Wine expert, Tasty Food &
On site childcare

Did you know?

Story by Ed Frieser

Winter in Holland - How the Elfstedentocht-Feaver Affects Every Dutchman



"Winter Landscape with ice skaters" by Hendrick Avercamp, 1608

Winter has arrived in the Netherlands. And, when one is stationed in The Netherlands, one of the first thoughts that might cross your mind is winter scenes with Dutchmen skating on frozen canals - as depicted in classical Dutch paintings. Now where does this image come from? Is it only because of the classic Dutch painters that created these typical Dutch winter sceneries?

Average winter temperatures in The Netherlands range from 2 degrees Celsius (36 degrees Fahrenheit) in January to 20 degrees Celsius (68 degrees Fahrenheit) in July. The Netherlands has a moderate climate with mild winters and summers due to its proximity to the sea. Still, this Dutch winter image exists and encourages you believe that skates are the second Dutch mode of transport in addition to the bicycle. But it is only during a few weeks you might experience these wintry conditions. Just long enough to freeze the canals with an ice pack sufficiently strong to carry the weight of thousands of skating-lovers. The Dutch are certainly eager to experience good cold and severe winters, with pea soup, hot chocolate milk and a Dutch brandy to keep them warm. But winters in

The Netherlands can still be severe enough.

In 2011 temperatures dropped to minus 20 degrees Celsius! But, importantly, not long enough to create an ice pack of 15 centimetres - that is the necessary depth to carry the weight of 16,000 skaters participating in the well known 11 cities skating tour or "Elfstedentocht" in the province of Friesland; skating the frozen Frisian lakes and canals with a finish at the "Bonkevaert" near Leeuwarden, after 200 km's! A monster tour prepared, when conditions allow, by the Royal Society "De Friesche Elf Steden" founded 15 January 1909. However, since 1909 the "Mother of all skate tours" only took place 15 times - six in the month of January, eight in February and one in December! The last time it was held was in 1997. Will we have one this year? This is a question many Dutchmen, suffering from the Elfstedentocht-feaver that starts as soon as frost is apparent, are asking themselves.

Is that the reason for this winter image? Perhaps - reinforced by the Dutch performing so well in speed skating competitions such as the recent Heerenveen 2013 European All-round Speed Skating Championships at Thialf. Or is it the

thousands of spectators in orange cheering and singing for each skater, Dutch or not, pictures of which are televised live and worldwide. One big fest. Or is it perhaps the high tech research and development from the University of Delft, that designed and developed a super skin suit. Or the very sophisticated clap skate or "Klapschaats" developed at the University of Amsterdam generating a torrent of world records and now in use by all international professional speed skaters. Whatever the reasons might be, the Netherlands is associated with winter and skating, preferably on frozen canals.

If this year is not one of those long cold winters allowing you to skate on the canals, you can always go to one of the many outdoor skating rinks in The Netherlands. The nearest one being the Glanerbrook rink, in Geleen. Give it a try and use one of those sophisticated Dutch "Klapschaatsen". But if you do not fancy stepping on the ice with skates, you can always try the well known Dutch pea soup, brandy, warm chocolate milk topped off with lots of cream and stay warm inside near the open fire looking at Dutch winter paintings or maybe even the 16th edition of the "Elfstedentocht"! Who knows....



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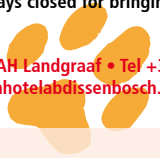
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The International Newspaper Museum – Understanding Media Today

Story by MSgt Jan Hecht, PAO and IZM, photos by Stadt Aachen, Peter Hinschläger

In recent years the number of newspapers slated for closure, bankruptcy or severe cutbacks as a result of competition from internet media has squeezed older print publishers. To understand how the transmission of news has changed over the years the International Newspaper museum Aachen offers an interesting and lively walk through the history of media.

The news business has been upended quickly as the result of massive simultaneous shifts in traffic from social networks and mobile devices. The future of news and newspapers has been widely debated as the industry has been confronted by soaring newsprint prices, slumping advertisement sales, the loss of much classified advertising, and precipitous drops in circulation. At a time when newspaper still had the absolute monopoly in providing news the collector and private scholar Oskar von Forckenbeck (1822-98) founded Germany's first Newspaper Museum in Aachen. He amassed his collection of newspapers on several world tours. His first selection was exhibited in February 1886.

Grown over centuries, nowadays the museum boasts the world's largest collection of newspapers, with well over 200,000 specimens, including such rarities as first editions, special editions and final editions of German and international press from all five continents.

The International Newspaper museum has been located in Aachen's "Großes Haus"(Great House of Aachen) at

Pontstraße 13 since 1931. The museum belongs to Aachen's Route Charlemagne which connects significant locations around the city to create a path through history. The building was completely renovated and extended in 2006. The exhibition itself was given a complete facelift. A library, a news café, space for temporary exhibitions and an education room for workshops, lectures and events round off the facilities provided in the museum.

When you enter the house through the doorway, there is a point of information on the museum and its activities. The ground floor is also the location of the news café and the space for temporary exhibitions with a barrier free variant of the complete contents of the museum. In the courtyard which, in summer months, is used as an open-air restaurant, countless traces of the Roman and medieval history of Aachen were unearthed during renovation work, including an extremely well preserved medieval cellar.

On the first floor, the media museum offers one of the most up-to-date and informative presentations on the international world of media in the 21st century. Divided into sections like "From event to news", "Lies and truths" or a "chaos chamber" the exhibition lets you experience first-hand what sensory overload through media means.

The museum imparts media competence in a vivid and truly modern way and helps to understand huge changes evolving across the news and media landscape.

Aachen itself is always worth a trip but to combine it with a visit at the International Newspaper museum makes it even more interesting.

As always we offer five free family tickets in the Circle 100 contest. Start planning your excursion and understand media today.



List of temporary exhibitions in 2013

- 1.) BRIGITTE BURGMEYER: The Gutenberg Galaxy - from 9 March 2013 – 9 June 2013
- 2.) Robert Capa – Israel - from 5 July 2013 – autumn 2013
<http://www.magnumphotos.com/Catalogue/Robert-Capa/1948/ISRAEL-NN140737.html>
- 3.) Europe on the eve of the First World War - as of autumn 2013



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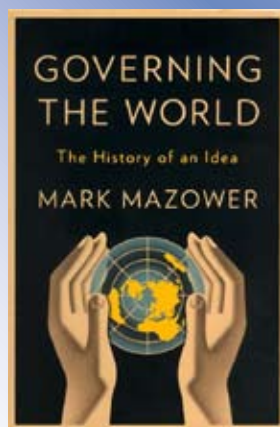
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Book Review



Governing the World: The History of an Idea

by Mark Mazower

The story of global cooperation between nations and peoples is a tale of dreamers goading us to find common cause in remedying humanity's worst problems. But international institutions have also provided a tool for the powers that be to advance their own interests and stamp their imprint on the world. Mark Mazower's *Governing the World* tells the epic story of that inevitable and irresolvable tension—the unstable and often surprising alchemy between ideas and power.

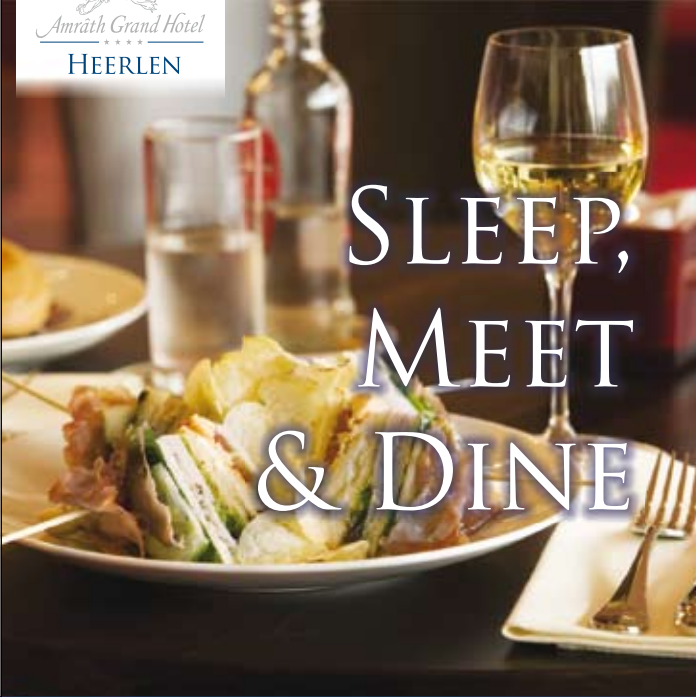
From the beginning, the willingness of national leaders to cooperate has been spurred by crisis: the book opens in 1815, amid the rubble of the Napoleonic Empire, as the Concert of Europe was assembled with an avowed mission to prevent any single power from dominating the continent and to stamp out revolutionary agitation before it could lead to war. But if the Concert was a response to Napoleon, internationalism was a response to the Concert, and as courts and monarchs disintegrated they were replaced by revolutionaries and bureaucrats.

Throughout the history, we see that international institutions are only as strong as the great powers of the moment allow them to be. The League

was intended to prop up the British empire. With Washington taking over world leadership from Whitehall, the United Nations became a useful extension of American power. But as Mazower shows us, from the late 1960s on, America lost control over the dialogue and the rise of the independent Third World saw a marked shift away from the United Nations and toward more pliable tools such as the World Bank and the International Monetary Fund. From the 1990s to 2007, *Governing the World* centers on a new regime of global coordination built upon economic rule-making by central bankers and finance ministers, a regime in which the interests of citizens and workers are trumped by the iron logic of markets.

Now, the era of Western dominance of international life is fast coming to an end and a new multi-centered global balance of forces is emerging. We are living in a time of extreme confusion about the purpose and durability of our international institutions. History is not prophecy, but Mark Mazower shows us why the current dialectic between ideals and power politics in the international arena is just another stage in an epic two-hundred-year story.


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