



NATO
+
OTAN



NORTHERN STAR

Magazine for HQ JFC Brunssum – July / August 2014



- Maastricht celebrations 200 years Kingdom of the Netherlands
- Keep the Jets Flying
- NATO's Energy Security Agenda
- NATO NCO's Conduct Training in Kazakhstan



www.jfcbs.nato.int



Find us on
Facebook

www.facebook.com/jfcbs



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 OR VOLVO?

- 1) BMW AND VOLVO 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!

COMMAND GROUP CORNER

By Major General Hans van Griensven, Deputy Chief of Staff PLANS at JFC Brunssum

I commenced work in my current appointment, as the Deputy Chief of Staff PLANS, at Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS) at the beginning of April this year, during what is probably one of the most challenging periods within NATO in the last 20 years. My first actual day 'in office' was in Tartu (Estonia) during the Baltic Spring exercise, 4 days after I handed over command of the Land Operations Support Command and its 6,000 personnel, the largest brigade size unit in the Netherlands. In Estonia I was confronted with the '3 Bs and Poland' being pretty much our focal area when it comes to Article 5 obligations. Luckily my predecessor, MGen Yakovleff, occupied the 'left seat' during a challenging start to my assignment. The learning curve has certainly been steep and at times it has felt as though I had 'jumped on a fast-moving train'. As a result there was hardly time to do a proper introduction program. So I met most of you along the road doing business. Sorry for that!

It is my first assignment to a NATO HQ. Although I have worked with the NATO command structure in different jobs I never had the pleasure of being part of it. So during the first few weeks it felt a little 'Alice in Wonderland', being confronted with new people, subjects, content, procedures, acronyms, systems and of course trying to find out 'how the system works'. Fortunately for me I have a great team supporting me and maintaining the operational tempo. Although it takes time to become fully integrated within an organisation I am feeling 'comfortable in my shoes' and am enjoying this post very much.

Good planning is the center of gravity for a lot of issues that requires our attention. The priorities are clear: ISAF, the NATO Response Force (NRF) and Regional Focus. The transition from ISAF to Resolute Support in Afghanistan has been planned and is ready for execution. Now we are waiting for the new Afghan president to sign the agreements and have it running. If we are unable to meet the time schedule we face the challenge of ending our presence in Afghanistan sooner and we must be prepared to respond accordingly. So let us hope for the best. The latest developments in the Ukraine and Russia have focused our attention on our core business. We have to look carefully at our Contingency Plans and provide assurance to our member states that we are ready to defend them. The plans have to be more



Major General Hans van Griensven

agile and executable. Our actions are based on new directives from Brussels and Mons, so J5 (PLANS branch) can take its responsibility. In the meantime we have to prepare to deploy and act whenever and wherever it is necessary, possibly in a NRF-setting, but also 'ad hoc' like we do now on a small scale with our NATO Forward Integration Teams. This demands not only planning and preparation, but also training and exercising. J7 (training branch) is very busy in coordinating all of that. Of course we are all working towards the highlight of next year's exercise 'Trident Juncture 15'. It promises to be huge and we are aiming to impress friends and foes alike.

Nowadays a crisis cannot be solved by military force alone. On the contrary I would say. The Comprehensive Approach is the way forward to contribute to solutions for the 'hybrid threats and warfare' that we are facing in recent crises. Involvement of military partners and non-military actors is of utmost importance and there is still a lot

of ground to cover on this. So J9 is fully involved in integrating all partners that are increasing relevant to prevent and solve future conflicts.,

In short, PLANS plays its roles in the heart of Joint Force Command Brunssum and I am looking forward to assuming our responsibilities together with my team and of course all of you. It is all about being agile and always looking for 'added value' as our commander used to say. That is exactly what we are here for; creating the conditions for NATO to be successful when we are called upon.

Colleagues in the Netherlands are familiar with the slogan that pretty much reflects my mind set. Whatever has to be done, no matter how difficult, if we are responsible, let us do it. Let's make it happen! I am looking forward to accomplish that together with you!

Colophon

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

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

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

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

Editorial Staff

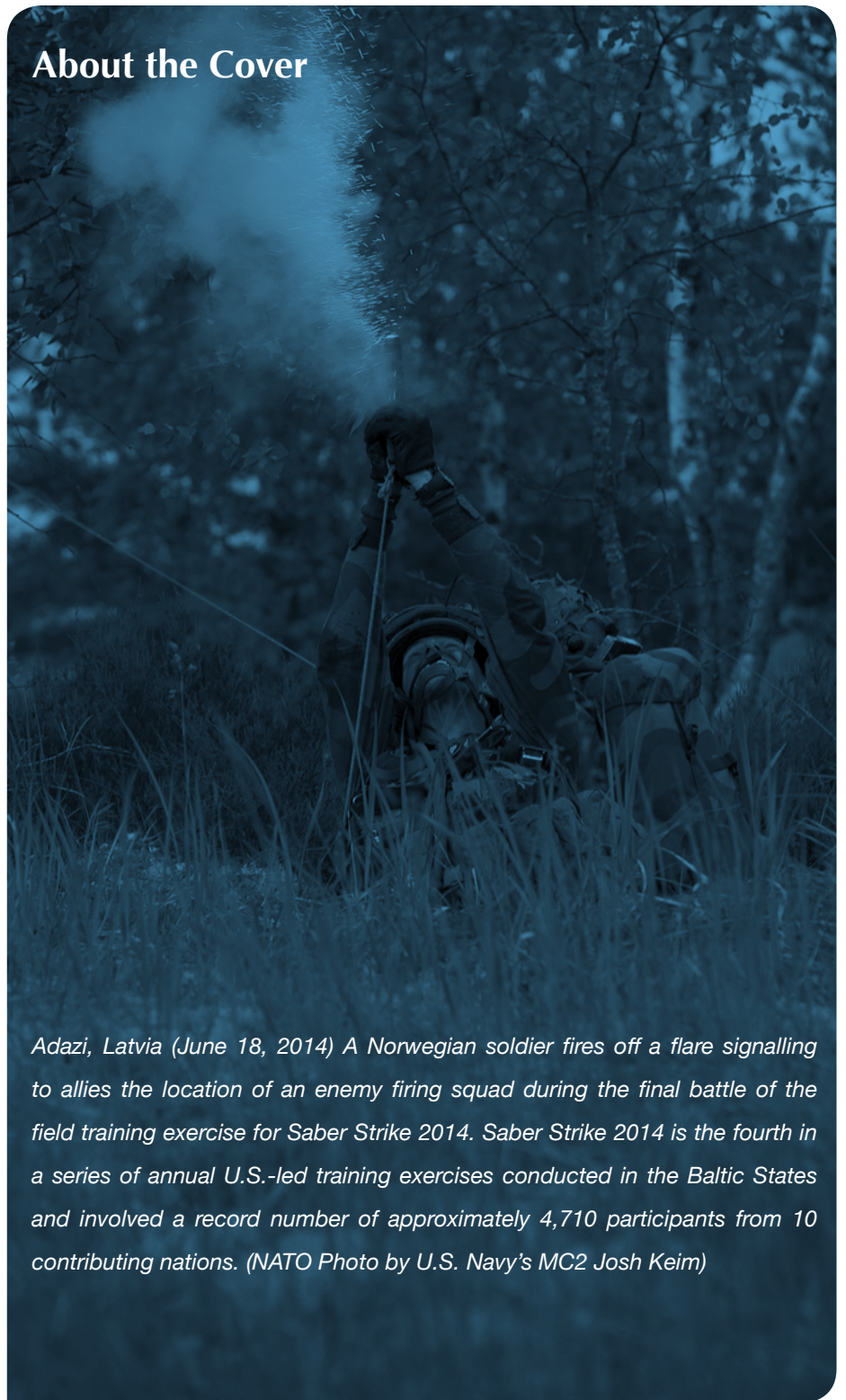
Col Martin Klein, DEU A
Chief Public Affairs Office

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

Edwin Tromp, NLD A
Contributing Editor

Henk van der Velde, NLD N
Contributing Editor

About the Cover



Adazi, Latvia (June 18, 2014) A Norwegian soldier fires off a flare signalling to allies the location of an enemy firing squad during the final battle of the field training exercise for Saber Strike 2014. Saber Strike 2014 is the fourth in a series of annual U.S.-led training exercises conducted in the Baltic States and involved a record number of approximately 4,710 participants from 10 contributing nations. (NATO Photo by U.S. Navy's MC2 Josh Keim)

Contents

3	Command Group Corner	19	NAHEMA: NATO Helicopter D&D Production and Logistics Management Agency
5	Keep the Jets Flying		Joint Force Command Headquarter Brunssum monitored Self Evaluation Level 2 in Sweden
6	Command of SNMG1 To Transfer from Norway to Denmark During Turkey Port Visit	20	International Club: A season full of accomplishments
8-9	Visits and Activities	21	One of Us
10-11	NATO's Energy Security Agenda	22	AFNORTH International School
12	JFC Naples Team train NCOs from Serbia	23	AFNORTH International School's 47th International Award Ceremony
14	NATO STRATCOM Centre of Excellence!	24	Maastricht celebrations 200 years Kingdom of the Netherlands
14-15	On the Way to Enhanced Strategic Communication	25	Circle 100
16	A long tradition of service to NATO	27	Dutch Cancer Society 'Relay for Life'
17	Extended Air Defence Task Force Visits JFC Brunssum Joint Force Command Headquarters Brunssum conducted NATO Evaluation Level 1 in Finland		
18	NATO NCOs Conduct Training in Kazakhstan		

Keep the Jets Flying

Story and pictures by Christian Timmig, HQ AIRCOM, Public Affairs Office

Malbork, Poland 11 June 2014 – Usually it is only the Polish MiG-29 fighter jets that take off from Malbork Air Base in the north of Poland. However, currently a French Air Force detachment is also deployed here in support of NATO's Air Policing Mission in the Baltic States. The French arrived in May 2014 and have flown Rafale and, since mid-May, Mirage 2000 fighter jets.



The badge of the French Air Force detachment presently deployed to Malbork Air Base in support of NATO's Air Policing Mission in the Baltic States.

Today we meet Jeremy, a Sergeant Chef in the French Air Force; he is one of about 100 French soldiers presently on duty at Malbork. He joined the French Air Force in 2001 and after three years of training he became a fully trained mechanic for the Mirage fighter jet. His job is to "keep the jets flying".



Sergeant Chef Jeremy disconnecting the external power unit from a Mirage 2000C fighter jet in order to prepare the take-off.

"Without us, the jets would stay on the ground," Jeremy says with a smile on his face. "A lot of work has to be done before a Mirage can take off; and even after the landing the work is not over." Numerous cross checks, routine inspections and minor repair work are only a few of the tasks the mechanic and his colleagues accomplish during the deployment.

Jeremy is a member of Squadron 1/2 "Cigognes" – or storks – normally based at Luxeuil Air Base in the north-east of France.



Sergeant Chef Jeremy is watching the final check of the crew chief before the Mirage 2000C fighter jet is taking-off.

Besides the two Mirage 2000-5 from Luxeuil another two Mirage 2000C fighters from Orange Air Base in the south of France complement the French air Force detachment.



Sergeant Chef Jeremy in front of a Mirage 2000-5 fighter jet from his squadron at Luxeuil, France, currently deployed to Malbork, Poland.

Due to his training Jeremy is able to maintain both of the Mirage versions deployed to Poland. The mechanic is on a rotational post, therefore his tour at Malbork will end after six weeks.

The French Air Force detachment will support the NATO's Air Policing Mission in the Baltic States until the end of August 2014. The current mission is led by the Polish Air Force MiG-29s deployed to Siauliai in Lithuania, and also supported by the Royal Air Force Typhoons – also deployed to Siauliai – and the Royal Danish Air Force F-16s deployed to Ämari Air Base in Estonia.

Command of SNMG1 To Transfer from Norway to Denmark During Turkey Port Visit

Story by Thorbjørn Hein Commander, Royal Danish Navy, Staff Public Affairs Officer



As the COM of SNMG1 and Task Force 508, Commodore Aage Buur Jensen, Royal Danish Navy, is currently deployed in his third counter-piracy mission. In February he returned from CTF 151, only to return to deploy again in the end of May. Sitting to the right is Commodore Nils Andreas Stensones, the outgoing COM of SNMG1, and Rear Admiral Giorgio Lazio, COS of NATO MARCOM

Aksaz Naval Base, Turkey – This morning, the Change of Command Ceremony (CoC) for the Standing NATO Maritime Group 1 (SNMG 1) took place in Aksaz Naval Base, Turkey. The Commander of SNMG 1, Commodore Nils Andreas Stensones Royal Norwegian Navy is relieved by Commodore Aage Buur Jensen, Royal Danish Navy.

3 NATO ships assigned to Standing NATO Maritime Group ONE (SNMG1) arrived in Aksaz Naval Base on 27th of May, along with the Danish Navy Frigate HDMS Esbern Snare, for the port visit and the Change of Command ceremony.

HDMS Esbern Snare assumed its new role as flagship for the Group from outgoing HNoMS Thor Heyerdahl with a solemn ceremony in Aksaz Naval Base.

"I am proud to hand over to my Danish colleague a SNMG1 that is ready for all naval tasks from high end warfare to maritime security operations," said outgoing SNMG1 Commodore Nils Andreas Stensones. "Being ready at short notice is maybe more important now than ever."

"To maintain capable and motivated forces it takes commitment and hard work by all our men and women and make the best out of every training opportunity. In other words, be prepared to operate together," said MARCOM Chief of Staff Rear Admiral Giorgio Lazio. "During the last four months Commodore Stensones conducted his Group, relentlessly, through no less than four complex exercises before moving south to the Mediterranean Sea to join Operation Active Endeavour for a full month of operations."

Now, led by Commodore Aage Buur Jensen (DEN N), SNMG1 is currently composed of the HDMS Esbern Snare (flagship), the German Frigate FGS Magdeburg and the US Navy frigate US Navy Frigate USS Taylor.

"My international staff and I are well prepared and ready for the tasks ahead. Likewise I am confident that the units which I will get the privilege of commanding are highly professional and motivated. Together we are fit and primed to go ahead and tackle the challenges lying ahead of us in the Mediterranean, the Indian Ocean, or wherever we might be sent to," said Commodore Aage Buur Jensen.

Standing NATO Maritime Group ONE (SNMG1), is presently engaged in NATO's counter-terrorism Operation ACTIVE ENDEAVOUR, was ordered to deploy to the Mediterranean as a part of the maritime portion of actions to enhance collective defence and assurance measures. The Group has also been tasked as a part of NATO's assurance following the crisis in Ukraine, focused on enhancing collective defence, assuring Allies, enhancing maritime security, and demonstrating NATO's solidarity and readiness. Next month the Group will proceed to the Indian Ocean to take the duty of NATO's counter-piracy Operation Ocean Shield from SNMG2.

Looking ahead to the future, I'm particularly pleased to welcome Commodore Jensen as the new commander of the Group. I wish fair winds and following seas, the Allied Maritime Command is looking forward to your deployment and will always be committed to support you however necessary," said MARCOM Chief of Staff Rear Admiral Giorgio Lazio. "I would also like to thank Turkey for hosting these ships and this ceremony in Aksaz Naval Base, a simple ceremony but full of significance."

OFFICIAL VOLVO MILITARY/DIPLOMAT/EXPAT SALES AGENT

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



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

- FOR US, CANADIAN, UK & ALL EUROPEAN 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

*ONLY U.S. & CANADIAN SPECS

www.autokallen.nl

MEEÛS®

Concessionaire for JFC HQ Brunssum for the past 30 years!

For all your insurance needs

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

Location: Building H-604 (next to the JFC Library),

JFC HQ Brunssum, extension 2492

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

Serving the NATO Community

37
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.dierenhotelabdisseimbosch.nl (also in English)

Spoom

LUNCH - DINER - FEESTEN - VERGADEREN

By Golf-Residentie Brunssummerheide



Enjoy the good life
Try our new menu!

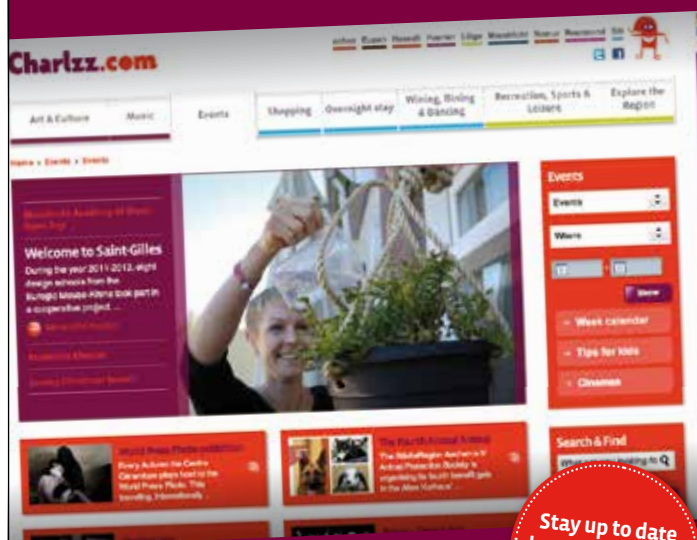
Please visit us for a cup of coffee, a drink, lunch or dinner.

Free parking for our guests

Rimburgerweg 52 | 6445 PA Brunssum

045 564 63 00 | www.golfhotelzuidlimburg.nl

International activities Maastricht region



Stay up to date
by subscribing to
our newsletter!

Charlzz.com

Make the most of your stay in this region!

Charlzz provides you with tips for borderless outings in the area

Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum - Visits and Activities

Prepared by Adjutant Edwin Tromp, photos by PAO JFCBS

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

April 2014



173rd Airborne Brigade Jumps over Amari

On May 19 an element of the 173rd Airborne Brigade (US) conducted an airborne operation in the vicinity of Amari Airfield, Estonia. Exercise Steadfast Javelin 1 is the most important exercise in the Baltic region

for many years with circa 6000 troops taking part. It is a clear demonstration of NATO's military capability and commitment to collective defence.



Exercise Steadfast Javelin 1 Concludes

22 May, 1200 local time, Exercise Steadfast Javelin 1 drew to a close in Estonia. According to Major Andrus Merilo, 1st Estonian Brigade Scouts Battalion Commander, "the

interaction and interoperability among all these different national elements went smoothly with excellent results." He added "I am very delighted with the exercise and the lessons we have learned."



Estonian Policy Makers Visit JFC Brunssum

Thursday 22 May a group of Estonian policy makers visited JFC Brunssum. Commander JFC Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, warmly welcomed his

guests and seized the opportunity to brief them on the role and responsibilities of his HQs.



And The Planning Begins

Preparations for Exercise Trident Juncture 2015, the largest NATO exercise for over a decade, began this week in Vale do Lobo, Portugal. Over 250 representatives from 26 NATO and partner nations met for an Initial Planning

Conference (IPC). Trident Juncture 2015 will be the finale of NATO Response Force (NRF) 2016 certification; however, in practice, it will represent the largest test ever for the NRF. TRJE15 will incorporate more than 20 000 troops and have large numbers of aircraft and ships participating. It will involve both allies and partners and provide the best possible platform for Connected Forces Initiative implementation.



US Memorial Day Ceremony – Margraten

On a beautiful sunny day over 2000 people made their way to the American Cemetery, at Margraten The Netherlands, Sunday 25 May. General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, joined a raft of

VIPs in paying his respects to the more than 8000 souls that lay in rest at this wonderfully maintained site.



Commanding General of the United States Army Europe (USAEUR) visited JFC Brunssum

Tuesday 10 June the Commanding General of the United States Army Europe (USAEUR), Lieutenant General Donald M. Campbell Jr., visited

Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum. In discussions with General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, a wide variety of topics were touched upon that included Alliance and U.S. military operations, ISAF and future training/exercise opportunities.



Visit of Ambassador Tomas Bertelman, Chair of the Inquiry of the Swedish Defence Ministry on Sweden's International Defence Cooperation

On 6 June the Commander received Ambassador

Tomas Bertelman from Sweden and a small delegation from the Swedish Mission to NATO. Ambassador Bertelman explained his assignment by the Swedish Minister of Defence to study Swedish International Military Cooperation.



NATO joins Exercise Saber Strike 2014 in the Baltics

NATO Allies are participating in Exercise Saber Strike 2014 which is underway in the Baltics. The U.S. led exercise, which kicked off on

Monday, 9 June 2014, at the Adazi training area, Latvia, aims to improve joint operational capability and interoperability with regional Allies and Partners.

The exercise involves a command post exercise; computer assisted exercise as well as a situational training component. It will feature the integration of U.S. close air support with partner nation ground forces and a demonstration of air deployment of forces and equipment.

A coordination team from Joint Force Command Brunssum will be on hand to enhance NATO's ability to work together with other NATO allies and key regional partners. This element is intended to support training and exercise events within the command's area of responsibility.

NATO's participation in Saber Strike 2014 will also provide the opportunity for the Alliance to train together, strengthening NATO and bilateral ties, promoting interoperability and building confidence and assurance between participating Allies. Participating countries include the Baltic Nations of Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia, as well as Canada, Denmark, Finland, Norway, Poland, the United Kingdom and the United States. Saber Strike 2014 will take place throughout the Baltic region until 20 June.



Delegation of 5 policy makers from the Lithuanian government visited JFC Brunssum

On 12 June 2014 a delegation of 5 policy makers from the Lithuanian government visited JFC Brunssum



Joint Force Command Brunssum Deputy Commander visits Exercise Saber Strike 2014, in Latvia.

Deputy Commander Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS), Air Marshal Graham STACEY, paid a visit to Latvia, 16 June. He witnessed first-hand, a number of Exercise Saber Strike 2014

serials and met the team JFCBS has deployed to Latvia in the framework of the Assurance Measures NATO has developed as a consequence of Russia's intervention in the Ukraine. Saber Strike 2014 is an annual, US Army Europe-led, Field Training, Live Fire, Command Post and Computer Aided security cooperation exercise spanning the Baltic States. This year's event involves participants from 10 countries and is taking place during the period 09-20 June, 2014.



Commander JFC Brunssum visits JWC ISAF Training Event in Stavanger

The Commander of Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum visited ISAF Training Event 14-1 on 4-5 June at the NATO Joint Warfare Center.

This training event is a part of NATO's Pre-Deployment Training for Allied and Partner Nation personnel that will deploy to Afghanistan.

A new addition to this training event was Ministerial Advisory Group (MAG) training to specifically prepare future Afghan Ministry advisors. General Domröse had the opportunity to brief the training audience and said: "You will be deploying at a time of transition and you will close the ISAF mission as the last team to deploy to Afghanistan under the ISAF banner. Even though there are some uncertainties, don't worry, we have a magnificent leadership in theatre. I will be there with you when we lower the ISAF flag together with the Commander, and raise the Resolute Support flag. Resolute Support is a non-combat mission therefore it will be a significant change. There will no longer be soldiers or patrols in the streets but only trainers, advisors and assistance teams. And our work will continue that effort, respectful of the way Afghans do things. We have accomplished much and we have sacrificed much in pursuit of a stable and secure Afghanistan. We have built 350,000 capable and competent Afghan forces who are now securing the country and the gains that we made. So, thank you for your commitment and contribution to NATO's still most important and challenging mission."



Bold Vision NRF 2014 Commanders Conceptual Discussion

From 11 to 13 of June 2014, Lieutenant General Eric Margail, Commander French Rapid Reaction Corps, hosted a group of land, air, maritime

and special forces NRF14 commanders under the lead of General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum

Subject matter experts and representatives from the UN, World Food Program, International Committee of the Red Cross, EU Military Staff, USEUCOM, 1st GE/NL Corps, Swedish Armed Forces Headquarters, the French.

Operations Headquarters, SHAPE and NATO Defence College, Rome, briefed their perspectives and set the starting points for intensive debates. Discussion themes included the building of networks, information sharing and developing trust between actors. Lieutenant General (Rtd.) Ton Van Loon moderated the event utilising his expert experience and time as Commander 1st GE/NL Corps to excellent effect.

General Domröse summarised the event at the end saying it was a very fruitful discussion that established a common view on how to approach future operations. 'We should build upon the nascent trust and confidence we have established at this conference', he said.



Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS) "Assurance" Team Visits Latvian Air Base

17 June 2014 the Joint Force Command Brunssum (JFCBS)

"Assurance" team visited the Latvian Air Base, in Lielvarde, to observe and to capture relevant lessons learned to be integrated into future NATO exercises.

The visit started with a briefing by Colonel Aivars MEZARS, Commander of the Air Base. He said: "Latvia is a member of NATO and we are proud of that.

Your presence today is a symbol of NATO's commitment to collective defence and this is very important, not only for the military, but also for the civilian people".

Each member of the "Assurance" team bring their own unique experience and this is mutually beneficial. It is all about the exchange of experience" he added.

NATO's Energy Security Agenda

Story by Julijus Grubliauskas

We must make energy diversification a strategic transatlantic priority and reduce Europe's dependency on Russian energy.



When NATO Secretary General Anders Fogh Rasmussen made this statement in March 2014, in the context of the Ukraine crisis, he expressed what few NATO officials had ever said in public: energy security is becoming a truly strategic issue, with numerous implications for Allied security.

Indeed, even without the new concerns raised by the Ukrainian crisis, the political, economic and security challenges surrounding the energy supply of many NATO Allies are profound: Europe's dependency on oil and gas imports is increasing, as are the energy needs of rising powers such as China and India; political instability haunts many energy-producing and transit states; the quest for energy and other resources has sparked territorial disputes in several parts of the world; terrorist and cyber attacks against refineries, pipelines and power plants are a common occurrence in many countries, as is piracy along critical maritime choke points. Finally, there is also the energy challenge of military operations: with military forces deployed far from home,

the logistical and financial burden is constantly increasing, necessitating new energy efficiency measures.

Is NATO ready? A few years ago, an answer to this question would have come only hesitantly. It was only at the 2008 Bucharest Summit when NATO was given a dedicated mandate to work in the field of energy security. Initially, Allies struggled to define NATO's role in an area which is largely non-military in nature, features many institutional players, and, above all, remains mostly a national responsibility. Over the past years, however, NATO's energy security agenda has become ever more systematic and coherent, focusing on three major areas: raising strategic awareness of energy developments with security implications, contributing to the protection of critical energy infrastructure, and enhancing energy efficiency in the military.

Energy Security as Part of NATO Strategic Awareness

While NATO is not an energy institution, energy developments affect the

international security environment and, hence, touch on Allies' security interests. For example, the American shale gas "revolution" and growing volumes of Liquefied Natural Gas (LNG) shipped worldwide may raise new maritime security concerns. By the same token, falling oil and gas prices could increase instability in many non-NATO energy suppliers that are highly dependent on energy exports, including Russia. Finally, energy factors are playing a major role in the current crisis in Ukraine, as supply disruptions, would have far reaching security implications for some NATO Allies.

For all these reasons, strategic awareness of global and regional energy developments is part and parcel of NATO's energy security agenda. NATO's political consultation process, supported by shared intelligence, provides Allies with a confidential setting in which to discuss energy developments that affect their security in the broadest sense. An important milestone in this regard was the North Atlantic Council's seminar on global energy developments, which took place in January 2014. Supported by outside experts, this informal

gathering sparked a lively discussion on the security implications of a changing energy landscape. Since NATO is not an energy institution, it often relies on expertise provided by other international organizations, such as the International Energy Agency, as well as think tanks and academia.

NATO's own existing in-house analytical capabilities allow for deeper analyses of how energy, economic, environmental and other factors may impact on NATO's policies and operations. Enhancing awareness also includes partner countries. For example, individual partners can meet with NATO's 28 Allies in the so-called "28+n" meetings, which provide Allies with detailed insights about these partners' energy policies and security perceptions.

The growing importance of energy considerations in the international debate suggests that energy security could become a permanent fixture in NATO's education and training programmes. Diplomats and military leaders alike would be given the opportunity to develop a better understanding of energy and related issues, such as resource competition and climate change, as drivers of future security developments. To this end, courses at NATO's training facilities as well as at national institutions are currently being developed, with the first Strategic Awareness Course to take place at the NATO School in Oberammergau in late October 2014.

Critical Energy Infrastructure Protection: NATO's Contribution

Energy infrastructure is a critical part of global energy security, and is subject to a number of vulnerabilities. Around half of the total world oil production is transported by oil tankers on fixed maritime routes, many of which have to pass critical choke points. Port facilities are more complex and congested than ever before. And many parts of critical energy infrastructure today are heavily reliant on cyber systems, which make them vulnerable to cyber attacks. Moreover, over the past years, terrorists and insurgents conducted on average about 500 attacks each year against energy-related targets. This included the bombing of gas and oil pipelines; attacks on fuel trucks; killing and kidnapping associated personnel, and disrupting of electrical power systems. Most of these attacks are clustered in a few specific regions, such as West Africa. However, attacks on energy infrastructure can reverberate far beyond their point of origin. As energy markets are volatile even a single attack can lead to global price spikes. Terrorism can drive up insurance premiums. And the interruption of the flow of energy – even if only briefly – can have multiple ripple effects, both

economically and psychologically. In short, energy infrastructure will remain a tempting target.

As most NATO member states depend on energy imports from regions outside the Alliance, they have a vested interest in the security of energy infrastructure in the producing or transit countries. Accordingly, sharing best practices on the protection of critical energy infrastructure remains NATO's most frequently offered cooperation item with partner countries with respect to energy security. Activities in this regard benefit from NATO's longstanding expertise in crisis and consequence management as well as civil emergency planning, and from the effective involvement of the private sector. NATO also enhances its competence to provide support to the protection of energy infrastructure through its counter-piracy operations in the Indian Ocean.

Among NATO's strongest contributions in this field, however, is its capability to ensure the freedom of navigation in the maritime domain. As an increasing share of global oil and LNG shipments is transported by sea, the security of maritime lines of communication, will become ever more important. Equally importantly, by incorporating energy-related scenarios in relevant exercises, NATO ensures that its political-military interface and procedures are up to par with the requirements of complex crisis management. The fact that some of these exercises involve both partner countries and other international organisations, testifies to the interconnected nature of these challenges as well as to NATO's readiness to play in a team. Since building competence on critical energy infrastructure protection is an objective of Allies and partner countries alike, partners can augment NATO's training efforts in this area by offering some of their own.

Improving Energy Efficiency of Our Forces

Even before the attacks on NATO fuel convoys in Afghanistan and Pakistan it had been widely acknowledged that the growing fuel requirements of allied forces can compromise their operational effectiveness. Since some of NATO's future missions will involve long distances and a sustained presence, they require ever larger support structures, which also increase the risk for the soldiers. Several NATO member nations have thus started to examine ways to reduce their dependence on traditional fuels and shrink their logistics and environmental footprint. However, these are essentially national initiatives. NATO has started to bring scattered national efforts together, with a view to share knowledge on

promising technologies (e.g. smart grids in deployable base camps, fuel cells), agree common standards to enhance allied interoperability, and showcase the best examples of energy efficient equipment.

To this end, NATO adopted a "Green Defence" framework and stood up a group of experts – the Smart Energy Team (SENT) – that works closely with other NATO stakeholders, such as military engineers and fuel experts.

Reducing fuel costs, minimising the risk for soldiers, and demonstrating environmental awareness is in the interest of both Allies and partners alike. For this reason, some partner countries are part of the SENT project. NATO's Science for Peace and Security (SPS) programme also contributes to energy security: in addition to supporting SENT, it serves as a platform for cooperation with universities and research institutes, where most innovative technologies are conceived.

To ensure that energy efficiency in the military is fully understood and applied throughout NATO's militaries, it needs to be adequately reflected in NATO's training and education efforts. The NATO Energy Security Centre of Excellence in Lithuania has taken on a lead role in this regard. The Centre will also examine the behavioral change that is required to firmly ingrain the need to save and conserve energy in the way NATO plans and conducts its future missions.

Conclusion

NATO's role in energy security will remain modest, yet it is an essential part of the Alliance's modern toolkit. Energy issues have simply become too intertwined with other security developments to allow NATO to ignore them. In the globalized world of the 21st century, the Atlantic Alliance cannot afford a blind spot.

About the Author: Julijus Grubliauskas is a Political Officer in the Energy Security Section, which is part of NATO Emerging Security Challenges Division.



JFC Naples Team train NCOs from Serbia

Story and Photo by MSgt Jusin Philips, NCI Agency Naples



Naples JMTT with their Serbian Trainees

The Joint Force Command Naples' Joint Mobile Training Team completed a mission to Belgrade, Serbia, May 26-30, 2014. During this mission they trained 15 Senior Non-commissioned Officers from the Serbian Army. This was Naples' second mission this year and first in support of NATO's Partnership for Peace program, which directly supports one of JFC Naples' key tasks - that of engaging with partners. The main mission of the team is to travel into Non- NATO- Member- Countries and introduce a different kind of training to their armed forces. The overall program is led by the JFC Naples senior enlisted leader, Command Sergeant Major Manfred Jerabek.

Under the professional leadership of German Army Master Sergeant Torben Ritz, a team of instructors travelled to Belgrade and facilitated classroom based leadership training. The training material covered various NCO development and leadership topics; including ethics,

communication and counseling. The JMTT training material doesn't include any country specific doctrine and is based on the NATO-School and Swiss NCO-School leadership course.

Master Sergeant Ritz, who is also the alternate JMTT coordinator for JFC Naples, stated, "The mission to Serbia was a really great experience. We met some very experienced and professional senior NCOs. It was a unique opportunity to instruct and learn from our Serbian Partners."

Master Sergeant Ritz's team members included Turkish Army Sergeant Major Aydin Cavas, United States Army Master Sergeant Bryan Williams, British Army Sergeant Christopher Barr and Canadian Air Force Sergeant Sebastien Turgeon. The team also had the opportunity to attend a Serbian First Sergeant Academy session where they delivered a briefing on the Role of the NCO. This additional

training session provided the academy students with an international perspective on NCOs working within the multi-national environment and the team received praise from the training base commandant for their efforts.

The team successfully delivered the training content, but more importantly they established relationships and shared ideas with other NCOs from a valuable partner country. Overall, the Naples JMTT team graduated 15 Serbian SNCOs and fulfilled the motto of the JMTT program: "We train our own!"

Restaurant und Café

**Haus
Hamacher**

52538 Gangelt Am Freibad 10

Just take your holiday break at home!

We are available for you all day long
(open at 11:00 - no day off, no break!)

For coffee and cake or various ice-cream specialties

For lunch or dinner or just a snack

In the immediate vicinity:

Mini golf, boating, swimming, hiking trails

Tel: 0049-2454-1414 www.Haus-Hamacher.de
www.facebook.com/HausHamacher



**Pizzeria
Molise**

Delivery: **045-5256296**

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

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

Restaurant open on monday, thursday, friday and saturday 16.00-23.00

sunday 15.00-23.00 (tuesday and wednesday closed)

Visit our website: **www.molise.nl**



**Autos stehen bei uns
im Mittelpunkt.**

Die Volkswagen & Audi Spezialisten in Ihrer Region.



Ihr Jacobs automobile Verkaufs-Team freut sich auf Ihren Besuch:

v.l.n.r. Achim Kafferlein, Alfred Deffur, Martin Deffur, Gerd Caron, Andreas Nolte, Lothar Herfs,
Marcel Oellers, Michael Wittwer, Carsten Schaps, Markus Weber, Michael Marx



JACOBS
Automobile

Audi Zentrum Aachen
Jacobs Automobile GmbH & Co. KG, Zwnl. Geilenkirchen
Landstraße 48+50, 52511 Geilenkirchen
Tel. 02451-98 700, www.jacobs-automobile.com

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



"I was able to download coursework and presentations, enabling me to complete assignments in non-traditional settings."

-Michael Sedovic, Bachelor of Science in Aeronautics with Minors in Management and Aviation Safety

For more information or to start your own degree program, please contact Embry-Riddle's Geilenkirchen Campus:

NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen
Bldg. 89, Lilienthalallee 100
52511 Geilenkirchen, Germany

Office Hours: M-F 900-1400
DSN: 458-6097 or +49 (0)245-163-2246
geilenkirchen@erau.edu
worldwide.erau.edu/geilenkirchen

EMBRY-RIDDLE
Aeronautical University
WORLDWIDE

NATO STRATCOM Centre of Excellence!

“Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defenses of peace must be constructed”



This quotation from the Preamble to the Constitution of UNESCO (1946) is more than relevant in the information age. One cannot imagine a successful operation without clearly defined and efficient strategic communication.

In January 2014, the newly established NATO Centre of Excellence for Strategic Communications became functional. The Centre will help the Alliance to advance its strategic communication capabilities. It will strive to ensure that NATO's strategic communication becomes contemporary, dynamic and efficient.

The Latvian government has allocated significant resources to the Centre. Ambassador Janis Karklins has been appointed Director and an initial staff is

in place. Preparation of Memorandums of Understanding with Allies is actively being pursued. Ambitions are strong and, at the upcoming NATO Summit in Wales, it is likely the Centre of Excellence will be announced 'fully operational'.

The first two years will be critical for the Centre in terms of establishing a reputation for professionalism, placing its name on the Allies "radar screen" and providing added value to the Alliance. Expectations are high. The Centre is fully committed to meeting those expectations and the Government of Latvia is standing firmly behind this initiative.

Latvian Minister of Defense Raimonds Vejonis

On the Way to Enhanced Strategic Communication

Story by Ambassador Jānis Kārkliņš, Director of the NATO Strategic Communications Centre of Excellence

Strengthening NATO Strategic Communications (StratCom)

Today's complex and changing communication environment creates new opportunities and poses new challenges to the Alliance. Rapid development of information and communication technologies, the rise of new media, increased popularity of social networks, unprecedented free flow of information and freedom of expression – all of these are attributes of the new media landscape. Gradually "one to many" communication is shifting towards "many to many" communication. In this environment new challenges arise together with new opportunities. The Alliance should be well equipped to leverage these new opportunities and counter the potential threats within the new information and media ecosystem.

In 2009, NATO committed itself to further the capability of strategic communication to support the Alliance's political and military objectives. According to the NATO definition, StratCom includes five information disciplines - Public Affairs, Military Public Affairs, Public Diplomacy, PsyOps, and InfoOps that are used

in appropriate ways to support actual operations.

Since the adoption of the NATO StratCom concept, the Alliance has steadily improved its strategic communications structures, with the StratCom section created at SHAPE followed by a StratCom cell at NATO headquarters and the addition of StratCom advisors at other major military commands. The first StratCom course has also been introduced at the NATO School in Oberammergau and the interest in StratCom from senior commanders has continuously grown. Furthermore, early this year the Government of Latvia launched its initiative to establish the NATO StratCom Centre of Excellence in Riga to support the Alliance's needs in enhanced communication via research and education.

NATO StratCom Centre of Excellence

The Centre was established in January 2014 as a Latvian national Centre that reports to the Minister of Defence. At the 2nd Establishment Conference, which took place during 8-10 April 2014, Latvia was joined by Estonia, Germany, Italy, Lithuania,

Poland and the UK to launch the Centre as a NATO military body in accordance to the 1952 Paris Protocol.

The Centre will closely cooperate with NATO headquarters, SHAPE, ACT and other NATO structures to enhance the Alliance's StratCom capability. Similarly to other NATO Centres of Excellence, it will focus on doctrine development, analysis, experimentation, support to operations and training and education.

The first step towards the Centre's internationalisation will be the signing of the Memorandums of Understanding in July this year. The Centre aims for NATO accreditation before the NATO Summit in Wales in September 2014.

StratCom in NATO Operations

StratCom has become an important part of NATO operations. It has been recognized that strategic communications should help the Alliance to achieve its political and military goals. In the fast evolving information and communications environment the battle for "people's minds" is growing in importance, though as such, the concept is not new. Already



Ambassador Jānis Kārklīš

in 1946, when the UNESCO Constitution was drafted, its authors underlined that: *"Since wars begin in the minds of men, it is in the minds of men that the defences of peace must be constructed"*. Military success alone does not necessarily secure the success of an operation, as the battle might be easily lost in the information space. For example, the lessons drawn from Operation Unified Protector show that the strategic communications of the Gaddafi regime forces was better attuned to the local sentiment of target audiences and thus to the most relevant media profile. In addition, the Gaddafi regime took advantage of NATO's hesitance to communicate on the number of civilian casualties by providing the international media with images and information supporting their message.

Another example is NATO's engagement in Afghanistan. NATO has put significant effort in implementing the NATO/ISAF Strategic Communications Framework. It has been difficult due to the lack of the so called "StratCom mind-set", insufficient target audience analysis and lengthy decision making processes. The insurgents often prove to be more effective in the communication field preventing the Alliance from fully achieving its goal to communicate progress and diminish support for the insurgents and criminal patronage networks. As the active military engagement phase of the ISAF operation comes to an end, it is vital that the Alliance draws the key StratCom lessons from this situation and institutionalizes them in the operational planning on all levels.

StratCom in Practice: the Ukrainian Case

In the 21st Century information warfare and strategic communications have gained prominence in the military concepts of some countries. The current Ukraine/Russia conflict clearly demonstrates the effectiveness of intensive application of strategic communication by one of the parties in the conflict.

Extensive analysis by the Western media has singled out the elements of StratCom used by Russia vis-à-vis Ukraine. The narratives they have used have provided a biased portrayal of the events which have been used to rebrand "Euromaidan" into a fascist coup d'état and secure support among Russian populations for Moscow's actions in Ukraine.

The NATO response to the Ukraine crises has accelerated gradually. The words were followed by actions as Allies decided to suspend all practical civilian and military cooperation between NATO and Russia – an example of StratCom in practice. In addition, the increased NATO military presence in the Baltic States and Poland is being aligned with the political reassurance and deterrence messages coming from NATO headquarters – another example of applied StratCom. The current situation has also raised the question of increased defence spending which, in some of the Allied countries, is widely debated at all levels – from the political leadership to civil society and population at large.

It is clear that the Ukrainian case will affect the agenda of the upcoming NATO Wales Summit.

Way Ahead

At a time of a rapidly evolving communication environment, strategic communications can have a remarkable influence on real-life as well as perceptions. The decision to create the NATO StratCom Centre of Excellence to support and review the implementation of the Alliance's StratCom is timely. In close cooperation with other NATO bodies, the Centre will strive to become a useful tool in enhancing the Alliance's operational capabilities by strengthening its strategic communications.

A long tradition of service to NATO

Story by Major Daniel J. Kucherhan, Commander Engineering and Maintenance Group, CSSC



Commander CSSC and three long time serving CSSC members cutting the 55th anniversary cake

The NCI Agency CIS Sustainment Support Centre (CSSC) celebrates its 55th anniversary.

In this fast-paced, modern technological world, most of us are focused solely on the future. Rarely do we take the opportunity to reflect upon achievements of the past. On the 14th of May 2014, newcomers and long-time serving members of the CSSC gathered to recognize a significant milestone in unit history.

Born in 1959 under the command of its first commander, USAF Major D. Howell, the Central Repair Depot (CRD) which belonged to AIRCENT was transferred to the then new Joint Communications Agency (JCA) in 1962. At this moment in time, the new combined headquarters was formed at Hendrik Camp in Brunssum, the Netherlands, under the name Allied Forces Central Region (AFCENT). Concurrently, the JCA and CRD moved into a facility in the nearby community of Hoensbroek: the EMMA mine complex. The CRD (eventually renamed the Central Region CIS Logistics Depot) would remain in Hoensbroek until 1990, when the unit relocated to its current

location at Hendrik Camp in Brunssum. The JCA / CRD would gradually evolve into their more familiar names: The NCI Agency / CSSC.

One must never forget that current day realities were forged by those who preceded us. For more information on

CSSC's rich history, visit the following link: <https://cssc.nr.ncia/Pages/History.aspx>

CSSC: Delivering quality CIS sustainment solutions to its customers since 1959.



Emma Mine

Extended Air Defence Task Force Visits JFC Brunssum

Story by Major Paul Bezem RNLAf, J3/5 Targeting, TBMD/SBAD

On 25 April 2014, a Netherlands delegation from the (bi-National) Extended Air Defence Task Force (EADTF) visited JFC Brunssum (JFCB) to inform the staff with regard to (Theatre) Ballistic Missile Defence operations, issues and challenges.

Major Paul Bezem of the JFCB Operations Division (J35), took the initiative to invite the EADTF to share their Theatre Ballistic Missile Defence knowledge and expertise within the JFCBS staff. This invitation was well accepted by the Command Group of the Bi-national EADTF.

The EADTF was formally established as a tri-party entity on the 3rd December 1999 in Burbach, Germany. In 2008 the United States Air Force terminated their membership and nowadays the EADTF comprises of German and Dutch Air Force and Navy military personnel. Currently, the 20 soldiers strong EADTF is located within HQ AIRCOM, at Airbase Ramstein. The principal reason for the formation of the EADTF was the frank admission that more robust cooperation was required amongst the PATRIOT weapon system user community. More specific was the requirement for interoperability between the nations and in the development of common Training, Tactics and Procedures (TTPs).

The mission of the EADTF is defined as: "Planning and coordinating combined air and missile defence activities, including training, exercises and interoperability tests. EADTF's main effort, within the Air and Missile Defence arena, is focused on Ballistic Missile Defence and Theatre Ballistic Missile Defence operations, notwithstanding the importance of the more-accustomed threats posed by Cruise Missiles (CM), Anti-Radiation Missiles (ARM), Unmanned Aerial Vehicles (UAVs) and Aircraft. EADTF's program of work, is categorized under four major activities:

- Planning and Execution of BMD Missions
- Providing AMD Expertise
- Education and Training of AMD Personnel
- Multinational Co-operation

The EADTF is neither part of the NATO Command Structure nor the NATO Integrated Air and Missile Defence System (NATINAMDS), however, does support and reinforce existing NATO Headquarters and assist multi-national Task Forces.

During the three hour visit, the EADTF briefly explained the role of the EADTF in the Air and Missile Defence arena as based on the guidance of the participating nations. The EADTF explained the fundamentals of a Ballistic Missile and the Ballistic Missile Defence systems. They elaborated on the proliferation of the ballistic missile threat as well the role and capability of



NATO-nations to cope with this threat. The meeting concluded with a challenging question and answer session, especially with regard to the role JFCB could play in the Integration of Air and Missile Defence efforts. Questions were related to potential BMD triggers such as Third Parties, International Law, Consequence of (non)Intercept and Offensive and Defensive Integration. The visit was commonly appreciated and proved to be valuable for the joint (T)BMD role of JFCB within the NATO Command Structure and provided a better understanding of the (T)BMD challenges NATO and JFCB are currently facing.

Joint Force Command Headquarters Brunssum conducted NATO Evaluation Level 1 in Finland

Story by LTC Edin Fako, BiH A

Based on the SHAPE list of Operational Capabilities Concept Evaluation and Feedback Programme (OCC E&F) activities for 2014, SHAPE tasked Joint Force Command Headquarters Brunssum (JFCBS) to support Partner Countries, for which JFCBS is responsible for, in activities related to the OCC E&F Programme. The tasking was in line with the SHAPE Partnership Programme Management and it was included in the planned JFCBS Partner Cooperation Menu (PCM) list of activities.

During the period 14-23 May 2014, the JFCBS OCC E&F team conducted NATO Evaluation Level 1 (NEL 1) of the Finnish Armed Forces units declared to the Operational Capabilities Concept Pool of Forces and supported SHAPE in conducting of the Evaluation Training Course (ETC) as a part of the evaluation.

Course participants included representatives from Partner and NATO countries. All participants were provided with the opportunity to conduct practice evaluations using the methodology contained within the OCC Handbook. As a result of this successful event, the OCC pool of evaluators has been increased. The 25 newly-qualified and certified evaluators will significantly support future demanding OCC E&F activities and



The JFCBS OCC E&F team

evaluations of Partner Countries and their efforts to participate in NATO-led operations. It is important to point out that evaluated unit performed all selected tasks successfully

throughout the evaluation and achieved the goal of being interoperable with NATO standards.

NATO NCO's Conduct Training in Kazakhstan

Story and photo by by Master Sergeant Indrek Ojasoo

Qasqirdı qansha asırasañ da taūğa qarap ulıydı.

(No matter how much you train the wolf, he still looks at the mountains and howls).

Kazakh proverb



Sergeant 1st Class Tatjana Koster during her lecture in front of the Kazakhstan students.

Did you know that the earliest archaeological evidence for the domestication of the horse comes from sites in Kazakhstan?

Did you know that the skier, Vladimir Smirnov, won seven medals in total in the 1988, 1994 and 1998 Winter Olympics?

Did you know that Kazakhstan officially joined the Alliance's Partnership for Peace program in 1995?

What you also probably didn't know is that NATO is conducting regular training courses in Kazakhstan. Courses delivered embrace a number of different topics such as: Counter Insurgency doctrine, Improvised Explosive Device (IED) awareness, and leadership, amongst others. One of these courses was recently successfully conducted by JFC Brunssum's Joint Mobile Training Team (JMTT) 12-15 May 2014. The team consisted of one Officer and 5 NCOs: OF-4 Vazirov (AZB), OR-8 Kamenz (DEU), OR-8 Ojasoo (EST), OR-6 Koster (NLD), OR-6 Bartniak (POL) and OR-5 Zwiers (FRA).

Throughout their time in Kazakhstan JMTT members were treated with nothing but respect. The Kazakh people demonstrated a genuine kindness and friendship; the Brunssum team were warmly welcomed everywhere they went. As security issues continue to unfold in an increasingly uncertain world, at the outset JMTT members were, understandably, filled with some trepidation at the prospect of the trip. This was completely unfounded. Kazakh officers and NCOs demonstrated that they were attending the course to learn from the NATO NCOs, not ascertain or promote political opinions.

The course's primary objective was to promote understanding of the Alliance, how its military arm operates and share NCO-level experience. The course started with lessons drawn from NATO's history, structures and operations before moving to more practical skills such as a map reading exercise where students had to create map overlays from the situations provided by the instructors.

Throughout the entire course students

demonstrated impressive learning skills and sustained interest. JMTT members were challenged by the large number of questions each lecture generated. However, as the team was deliberately constructed with NCOs possessing extensive operational experience derived from Iraq, Afghanistan, the Balkans and other missions around the world, JMTT members were always able to provide appropriate answers. It was pleasing to note that, on several occasions, students indicated they would be able to use what they had learnt once the course completed as they returned to their daily tasks.

Time just flew by and swiftly it was time for the JMTT to leave. With a profound sadness in the heart of both the instructors and students good wishes were exchanged and the time spent together will be long remembered. The event is a great example of how NCOs from different nations and cultural backgrounds can work and learn together in harmony and friendship. We are not so different after all.

Mission accomplished.

NAHEMA: NATO Helicopter D&D Production and Logistics Management Agency

Story provided by the Confederation of NATO Civilian Staff Committees

The principle objective of NAHEMA is to manage the NH90 helicopter programme on behalf of the involved Nations. After initial design & development, production phase NAHEMO⁽¹⁾ Nations (Belgium, France, Germany, Italy, The Nederland and Portugal) have been joined by Australia, Finland, New Zealand, Norway, Spain and Sweden (Community Nations) for post-design, and in-service support phases.

Since 1992, NAHEMA is located in Aix-en-Provence (France) and now includes 63 staff members.

In particular, NAHEMA is responsible for TTH (Tactical Transport Helicopter) and NFH (NATO Frigate Helicopter) versions, placing and managing the execution of contracts with industrial counterparts. Today both helicopter versions are qualified. Of the 371 procured by NAHEMA, 102 helicopters have already been delivered. The Italian and German NH90s are flying now in the skies of Afghanistan. Efficiency and effectiveness of the In Service Support is becoming one of the highest challenges of the Agency.

⁽¹⁾ *NATO Helicopter for the 1990s Design and Development, Production and Logistics Management Organization is a subsidiary body of NATO.*



NAHEMA's MISSION

Core mission is to act on behalf of the NAHEMO / Community Nations:

- meeting the best advantage for collective requirements in the field of the design & development, joint production (including production investment) and in-service support of the NH90, under the conditions specified in the NAHEMO Charter;
- executing specific tasks for the Community Nations as stated in the Community MoU and dedicated 'Programme Arrangements';
- managing the execution of the Programme (Qualification, Configuration management, Quality Assurance, Material Support (including AGE), Maintenance, Repair and Overhaul, Technical publications, Training media, ...);
- negotiating, placing and managing contracts, including urgent contracts for operational deployments (e.g. Afghanistan);
- preparing annual budgets (Operational and Administrative);
- checking planning and work share for approval by the NAHEMO Steering Committee;
- assisting in the preparation and negotiation of MoUs.

Joint Force Command Headquarter Brunssum monitored Self Evaluation Level 2 in Sweden

Story by LTC Edin Fako, BiH A

During the period 24-28 May 2014, Swedish Armed Forces conducted an exercise and Self Evaluation Level 2 (SEL 2) of its three units (Infantry Battalion, Logistic Battalion and Engineering Company) assigned to the Operational Capability Concept pool of forces.

The JFC Brunssum (JFCBS) Operational Capability Concept Evaluation and Feedback (OCC E&F) team supported the Swedish national evaluation team by monitoring evaluation and providing all necessary expertise through the SEL 2. The evaluation was conducted in two parts: In-barracks and Field inspection. During the In-barracks inspection, the JFCBS OCC E&F team was led by COL Ilmars LEJINS, Military Partnership Branch head, who provided expertise throughout all activities planned for the In-barracks inspection.

The evaluation was in line with the SHAPE Partnership Programme Management and was included in the planned JFCBS Partner



Self Evaluation Level 2 in Sweden

Cooperation Menu (PCM) list of activities for 2014.

All units performed declared capabilities in a professional way and in accordance with the NATO standards and procedures.

At the conclusion of the evaluation, both the Swedish national evaluation team and JFCBS OCC E&F team agreed that the three units were COMBAT READY for NATO-led operations and for participating in NATO Response Force (NRF) activities.

International Club: A season full of accomplishments

Story by Nathalie Lhermenier, JFCBS International Club Publicity Coordinator



Progeria Family Circle EUROPE, Belgium

Last June 3rd, the JFC HQ Brunssum International Club was having its last social event of the season. And what a season ! Monthly coffee mornings offering social gatherings, group activities teaching so many skills from foreign language conversation to arts and crafts and sports, and - thanks to a recently created "travel committee" - a couple of field trips to discover our Brunssum area. Different kind of trips were offered from the Bruges Christmas market to the lovely city of Leuven (Belgium), a visit to an "applestroop" making farm in Schinnen or a family oriented outing in Kasteelpark Born. The Club "Charity Committee" also sets up the famous "Craft market" in November and the long awaited "Charity Night" in spring. International cookbooks with recipes from all over the world have also been designed (an ideal gift for friends at home!).

But the International Club is not just about having fun ! Proceeds from charity activities like Charity Night, Craft Market or the sale of cookbooks are to be donated to carefully selected charities from our international community. This season, an impressive amount of 48100 Euros has been donated to 13 different charities.

The 3rd June Coffee Morning was hosted by the UK Delegation. While enjoying a delicious "High Tea" with lovely decorated tables and amazing raffle prizes to be won, Club members were proud to donate charity cheques to each Charity representative. For each, this meant a great deal, hope and relief.

In addition, an amount of 2000 Euros - arising from extra raffle money - was donated to three community groups: AFNORTH elementary school, "Scouting de Landgraaf, Brunssum" and the Turkish Delegation for the campaign "Help the Afghan children".

Next season will start in September. Don't miss out the first Coffee Morning of the season when activities registration takes place. Monthly and additional coffee mornings are scheduled, together with trips and activities.

International Club membership (10 Euros) is open to every NATO ID cardholder.

If you'd like to volunteer to be an active member of the Club Board or Charity Committee or run an activity group (e.g. cooking, foreign language conversation and culture, sports, arts & crafts, computing...), or to know more about the Club, contact "JFCBIC@yahoo.com" or Facebook group "JFC Brunssum International Club". We hope to see many of you at the next Club season.

2013-2014 charities:

Honor Flight Network, US

"Opera SS. Medici Cosma e Damiano - Bitonto/Italy - Onlus", Italy

Little Prince Hospice for Children, Poland

Progeria Family Circle EUROPE, Belgium

Sykehusbarn (Hospital Children), Norway

Angriff auf de Seele (Attack to the Soul), Germany

Vis De Joie, France

Once We Were Soldiers, United Kingdom

HAIMA CC, Czech Republic

Veterans Emergency Transition Services, Canada.

Alti Nokta Korle Denegi (Six Dots Blind Association), Turkey -

Estonian Paralympic Committee ; S/K Meduus,

Ontmoetingscentrum Limburgse Veteranen (OLV) 'Het Eldershoes' The Netherlands

2014-2015 provisional events:

September : First Coffee Morning, with activity registration

September 23: Trip to Sittard

October 14: Coffee Morning hosted by Canada & France

Nov 25: Craft Market

Dec 9: Coffee Morning hosted by Poland & Czech Republic

Jan 20: Coffee Morning hosted by Scandinavian countries

Feb 10: Coffee Morning hosted by Turkey

March 10: Coffee Morning hosted by Italy

March -April: Charity Night

April 21: Coffee Morning hosted by UK & Germany

May 19: Coffee Morning hosted by USA

June 9: Coffee Morning hosted by Baltic countries

Additional trips, coffees and activities to be scheduled

The organizing committee of the annual Charity cheque distribution

Country : Norway
Capital : Oslo
Location : Northern Europe
Land Boundaries : 2,542 km
Coastline : 25,148 km
Population : 5,136,700
Area : Total 385,178 km²,
 water 5.2%

Climate:

The southern and western parts of Norway experience more precipitation and have milder winters than the south-eastern part. The lowlands around Oslo have the warmest and sunniest summers but also cold weather and snow in wintertime (especially inland). Because of Norway's high latitude, there are large seasonal variations in daylight. From late May to late July, the sun never completely descends beneath the horizon in areas north of the Arctic Circle (hence Norway's description as the "Land of the Midnight Sun"), and the rest of the country experiences up to 20 hours of daylight per day. Conversely, from late November to late January, the sun never rises above the horizon in the north, and daylight hours are very short in the rest of the country.

Economy:

GDP : \$282.174 billion (2013 Estimate)
GDP per Capita : \$55,398
GDP per sector : agriculture: 2.2%; industry: 45.1%; services: 52.7%

Budget:

Revenues : \$282.9 billion
Expenses : \$206.7 billion
Currency : Norwegian Krone (NOK)

Main Industries : petroleum and natural gas, food processing, shipbuilding, wood pulp and paper products, metals, chemicals, timber, mining, textiles, fishing

Exports : \$162.7 billion

Petroleum and petroleum products, machinery and equipment, metals, chemicals, ships, fish.

Imports : \$84.78 billion

Machinery and equipment, chemicals, metals, foodstuffs.



When did you arrive to the Netherlands and which position have you taken?

My family and I arrived in The Netherlands in August 2013. My position is in J5 Policy Branch where I work with great colleagues!

Tell us about your military career.

I joined the armed forces when I qualified for the Navy junior officer school in 1997. I chose the navigation branch and immediately caught the interest for navigation in general, but especially at sea. After one year at the junior officer school I joined the Royal Naval Academy in Bergen as a cadet in 1998 where I graduated with a bachelor's degree in 2001. I then joined the 22nd Fast Patrol Boat squadron in Tromsø – Northern Norway where my first position on board was Navigation Officer. This was the start of 7 great years almost non-stop at sea. After years of intensive training with a lot of focus on navigation along Norway's demanding coastline I qualified as a CO in May 2007. During these years we participated in several exercises abroad and also did a 6 months UN deployment outside the Lebanese coast as a part of UNIFIL II. Unfortunately our politicians decided to decommission the Hauk-class Fast Patrol Boats in 2008 and it was time for me to seek new adventures. I turned back to the Royal Naval Academy / Navigation Centre as an instructor at the Academy and as a project officer on all navigation related issues in the Navy. This is the position I held until I was posted to JFCBS in 2013. During my period at the Academy I got the chance to move to the UK with my family to undertake a one year Masters course in Navigation Technology at the University of Nottingham.

What was your thesis about at the University of Nottingham.

The focus on my thesis was the fast moving development on how we physically do navigation on board our high-speed vessels (+30kts) in the Navy. The new corvettes in The Royal Norwegian Navy has a top speed of more than 60kts. When I joined the Navy all navigation was done with paper charts with a Gyro compass and a stop-watch having most of the navigators focus outside the windows. Today almost all navigation (in the RNoN) is being done using computers and GPS. Simplifying in one way, but adding a lot more complexity in another way. How does this affect the navigators? How to not fall into the "play station mode" just following the line on the computer screen? Those, along with many others, were questions I tried to answer in my thesis.

What are your hobbies?

With a relatively big family (4 boys) there is not much time left to hobbies for the time being. But I enjoy cycling, both on- and off-road, which there are perfect conditions for here in South-Limburg. I did the Amstel Gold Race 2014 together with Norwegian colleagues and plan to do more races during my stay here in The Netherlands.

Your future plans?

Time will show! We will definitely move back to our house outside Bergen / Norway when this adventure is over. The majority of the Norwegian Navy is located in Bergen so I will have to see what opportunities that are available when we return in 2017.

ISNY students visited the AFNORTH International School and the local mining museum

Story by R.Bindels



The ISNY students

Eight years ago, former AIS teacher, Mr. A. Bächli, brought a group of pupils from the Isny Gymnasium to Brunssum. Since that year there have been annual visits to the AFNORTH International School. The goal is to have these children experience some international and North American culture and education.

To achieve this goal the children were partnered with AIS students studying

German at AIS. During their stay in the area the guest students lived for a week with host families. Activities throughout the week varied from attending regular classes to visiting the cities of Aachen and Maastricht. In the evenings the children were either with the families or attended the activities planned such as bowling and the family barbecue.

Part of the programme was also to explore the town of Brunssum. This year, for the

first time, the Isny students visited the local mining museum set up in a part of a former school on the Prins Hendriklaan, opposite the Police station.

The students, aged 15-16, were welcomed by a group of former miners all in their late seventies and eighties. These men of the underground gave the younger generation eye witness reports on daily life in and around the mines. The youth was fascinated by the stories and the genuine enthusiasm of the former miners. It was wonderful to see how these two totally different generations came together. To capture the energy of the visit lots of pictures were taken by both groups. The Isny students learned about mining and how daily life in Brunssum was influenced by the mining industry. There is nothing better than a lesson in history taught by eye witnesses.

The Isny group was at AIS from 1 June till 6 June.

International practicum on 3D programming and printing at AIS

Story by Dr Uwe Bettscheider

On Thursday, June 5th, the computing cluster HAVO 4 from Sintermeerten College Heerlen visited AFNORTH International School in Brunssum. Students from both schools participated in a practicum on 3D printing.

During the first part it was explained how 3D printers work and how this technology is likely to develop in future. Some students were allowed to "sit down" and make a 3D scan of the head and neck. Later, a 3D print could be made.

The second part (at least as impressive as the first) was devoted to the design of 3D objects for games. Using the 'Blender' programme, the AFNORTH IS students and their colleagues from Sintermeerten started to design their own objects with the software.



3D printing

The workshop ended with a joint lunch in the AFNORTH cafeteria. This workshop was another great international

collaboration between students and teachers from Sintermeerten College and AFNORTH International School.

AFNORTH INTERNATIONAL SCHOOL'S 47TH INTERNATIONAL AWARDS CEREMONY

Story by Rose Wehrens and Dr Uwe Bettscheider



General Hans-Lothar Domröse and Evan Bell Begrueßung



Dr Uwe Bettscheider opening the award Ceremony

Student Masters of Ceremonies, Emilie Witteborg and Alberto Loken, welcomed distinguished guests, parents and teachers to a ceremony and reception in honour of the AFNORTH International School's most outstanding secondary students. This ceremony celebrates excellence by honouring those students who have made extraordinary contributions to the international life of our school. These students also took the opportunity to learn, on a daily basis, tolerance and respect for those from other backgrounds, forged friendships that crossed national and cultural borders, and learned that as different as we may be, there is more substance that unites us than divides us.

The ceremony began with JROTC cadets' presentation of colours. During the ceremony, attendees enjoyed wonderful and high quality musical performances given by the AIS Concert Band, Amelie Essrich, Harleigh Pinault, Grace Philips, Madeleine Booth and the concert singers.

Music teacher, Jon Hodges, presented the award for excellence in music to Madeleine Booth. Cassidy Harless was awarded for her dedication and excellence in art by U.S. Section Head Mary Zimmerman-Bayer.

Sophia Essrich, Sarah Phillips, Vanessa Skerry and Molly Riebling were recognized for significant contributions to their national sections. The "Student Service Awards" were presented by Mary Zimmerman-Bayer, Canadian Section Head Dr Constance McLeese, German Section

Head Dr Iris Gerloff and Director of AIS Dr Uwe Bettscheider.

Brigadier General Torben Diken Møller, Director of Management, Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, Colonel Klaus Bücklein, Commander German Delegation, Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, Mr George Riebling, Deputy General Manager, NATO Airborne Early Warning and Control Management Agency and Lieutenant Commander Cynthia Kerwin, Chair Canadian Parent Advisory Committee and representing the Commanding Officer of Canadian Forces Support Unit (E), presented "The Director's Awards" to Celina Gienapp, Cassidy Harless, Myriam Jolicoeur and Emily Young. These young ladies were recognized for their voluntary service outside school hours to the student body, the school in general and in the community.

As the "Governmental Simulations" are a very important part of the international activities at AFNORTH International School, Dr Droste and Mr Bindels, our committed Directors of the Government Simulation programs, used the opportunity to present the student certificates for participation in these international events. This award ceremony is normally focused only on awarding distinguished and successful students. This time we had an unplanned "disturbance" of the accustomed procedure. The group of Simulation students honoured Dr Droste and Mr Bindels with a gavel as a sign of deep respect and appreciation.

Major General Hans van Griensven, Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans), Allied Force

Command Brunssum, presented the Jean Elder Award for outstanding participation and leadership demonstrated in the student government simulation program to Florian Matz.

The award presented to the top female and top male athlete in memory of David Newell, who died in an accident while his father was Head of the British Section of AIS, was presented to Daniel Cordova and Rachel Pagio by Group Captain Anthony Beasant, Director Afghanistan Focus Group, Joint Force Command Headquarters Brunssum.

Major General Jerry Martinez, Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations) Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, presented the European Council of International Schools Award to Claudius Karich. Claudius was honoured with this Award in public recognition as the student who best exemplified the principles of good international citizenship.

The most prestigious school award is as old as NATO's presence in Brunssum. It was initiated by General Johann Graf von Kielmansegg who was the first CINCENT in 1967. The Graf von Kielmansegg award is presented for distinguished contributions to the international goals of AFNORTH International School. This year we recognized Evan Bell. The award was presented by General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum.

Congratulations to the above mentioned students and special thanks to their teachers and parents for supporting them.

Did you know?

Composed by Ed Frieser

Maastricht celebrations 200 years Kingdom of the Netherlands *Dutch King and Queen to attend celebrations*



On Saturday 30 August His Majesty King Willem-Alexander and Her Majesty Queen Máxima will be attending the celebrations in Maastricht to mark the bicentenary of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Federal President Joachim Gauck of Germany and his partner Daniela Schadt will also attend.

This fourth national event to mark 200 years of the Kingdom of the Netherlands will emphasise the Netherlands' international outlook. The Dutch National Committee for the Bicentenary of the Kingdom, in close cooperation with the municipality of Maastricht and the province of Limburg, responsible for the organisation of these extensive celebrations, selected Maastricht as first European city of the Netherlands to mark this fourth event about International Outlook. As a consequence of its location and historically seen it is not a surprise that Maastricht was chosen for this event.

Two hundred years ago the Congress



Maastricht viert 200 jaar koninkrijk

of Vienna redefined boundaries within Europe. One of the changes made by the European powers was to restore Dutch independence, which helped determine the Kingdom of the Netherlands' position in Europe and beyond. The Netherlands has always been outward-looking: centuries ago as a seagoing nation, and more recently as a founding member state of the European Union. The Netherlands actively promotes peace and security in other parts of the world.

Programme

The celebrations on 30 August will begin with a fashion-art show named 'Fashion Clash' at the 'Markt' (Market Square opposite the Townhall) in Maastricht, with designs by artist Peter George d'Angelino Tap commissioned by the National Committee for the Bicentenary of the Kingdom. The parade will be followed by a congress on international perspective in the Vrijthof theatre titled "Hello World! Reflections on the Netherlands". Speakers will include German president Joachim Gauck and Dutch foreign minister Frans Timmermans. Throughout the day and into the evening a programme of festive events will be held in the centre of Maastricht. These include the Preuenemint culinary and music festival at the Vrijthof, with a special theme to mark the bicentenary. Proceeds will support charitable beneficiaries.

Also the Dutch Army will participate in this event and give live displays at the Kesselskade to demonstrate its diversity and capabilities.

The celebration in Maastricht is the fourth national event to mark the bicentenary of the Kingdom of the Netherlands. Celebratory events have already been held in Scheveningen, The Hague and St Maarten. In April 2015 there will be a fifth event, in Zwolle, with the celebrations concluding in Amsterdam in September 2015.

Maastricht will feature many interesting activities during this summer:

- | | |
|-------------------------|--|
| 4-20 July | André Rieu traditional open air concert at the Vrijthof |
| 3-17 August | Maastricht Aan Tafel: special menu's offered at different restaurants to enjoy a 3 course dinner for only €25,20 p.p. |
| 6 July-19 August | Opening of the Limburg Organ concert series on Sunday 6 July at the St Servaas Basilica |
| 18-22 August | Culture Valley at the Stadspark (City Park) with comedy, theatre, dance, art, film etc. (No admission fee) |
| 28-31 August | Maastricht open air food-tasting festival 'Preuenemint'. With 30 different restaurants represented. |
| 6 September | Flikkendag (Cops day) in Maastricht organised around the popular TV-film Flikken Maastricht with participation of EU regional security services. |

For more and detailed information check <http://vvvmaastricht.nl/cultuurzomer/agendatips.html>



Welcome to Shipping company Stiphout

Prepared by PAO JFCBS

The five passenger ships sail daily from Rederij Stiphout the Meuse and the Albert Canal and show you the most beautiful places of our region. On our website you will find all the trips that we offer according to a certain schedule.

There is a large selection of different boat trips, from approximately 1-hour cruises on the Meuse to a full day trip to Liege and a historic sailing route through the inner harbor of Maastricht and a romantic Saturday Night Dinner Cruise.

Groups of 30 people also have the opportunity to charter a boat for a day, afternoon or evening as a lunch, dinner or moonlight cruise.

Our tough American school buses provide City Tours by Maastricht and shows you an original way to know the city. Also a combination of the school bus and the boat are among the possibilities.

Almost all the details can be found on our website, but if you want to know or want to create a group program, please contact us and we will gladly assist with compiling your program.

<http://www.stiphout.nl/Manager/MediaLink/689/42290/384/0/>

The 4-Locks Voyage

A boat trip through the diversified upland scenery around Maastricht, passing through 4 locks including the Ternaaien lock with a height difference of 15 meters.

Maastricht - Liège roundtrip

A day-trip to the famous Belgian city of Liège, where the quintessential flea-market is held each Sunday. The boat trip passes through the Ternaaien lock where the vessel has to negotiate a height difference of 15 meters.

Our enthusiastic staff will be delighted to welcome you aboard.





Win Tickets for Shipping company Stiphout

- We have 5 x 2 tickets for either 4-Locks Voyage or the Maatsricht – Liège roundtrip
- In order to win the tickets, please answer the following question:
- **Quiz Question: What is the height difference in the Ternaaien lock?**
Fill in this coupon and send it to PAO, or send an e-mail to pao@jfcbs.nato.int, before 26 August 2014
- For NATO ID card holders only
- The winners will be announced in the next edition of the Northern Star

Answer:

Division:

Full name:

Extension:



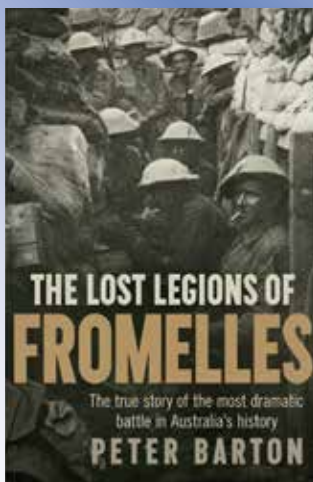
Winners Snowworld

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

Tickets won by:

Karren Farry	UK Nat Del
Krzysztof Karnicki	J4
Ralitsa Nerva	BSG
Wim Charlier	AIS School GER Kindergarten
Vital Vossen	DCOS Support, J1, CPB

Book Review



The Lost Legions Of Fromelles

by Peter Barton

About The Lost Legions of Fromelles

Controversial and groundbreaking, *The Lost Legions of Fromelles* is the most authoritative book ever written on the battle of Fromelles — the worst day in Australia's entire military history.

The story of Fromelles has always appeared simple: the British military leadership claimed that the British and Australian troops lacked courage and that spies told the Germans about the Allies' strategy.

At the time — and for many decades after — the bodies of the dead lay undiscovered in mass graves, only recently located.

However, with access to German records for the first time, Peter Barton dispels the myths. He describes its long and surprising genesis, and offers an unexpected account of the fighting; he investigates the interrogation of Anglo-Australian

prisoners, and the results of shrewd German propaganda techniques; and he explores the circumstances surrounding the 'missing' Pheasant Wood graves. He also brings a new perspective to the writings of Charles Bean.

Guest Speaker

Peter Barton was the Fromelles Project historian and has spent ten years researching this story. A documentary film-maker, archaeologist and respected First World War expert, he is the author of a series of acclaimed books. His new book, *The Lost Legions of Fromelles*, written with access to the German archives for the first time, reveals crucial facts about one of the bloodiest battles in the Great War.

Dutch Cancer Society 'Relay for Life'

Story by LCDR Rob Wesdorp



The team members

On Saturday 14th June a team from JFC Brunssum, organised by LCDR Rob Wesdorp of J2, were amongst the 900 participants in the 'Relay for Life' - organised to raise

money for the Dutch Cancer Society. Team members took turns to walk/run for 24 hours to raise money and awareness.

The day was made special by the presence of 129 cancer survivors who led the opening and closing laps and provided food for thought with personal stories of their personal battles against cancer.

At 23:00 on Saturday the team took part in a stirring and emotionally charged candle lit service with performances from local artists and a moment of silence.

Many chose to camp and enjoy the atmosphere with live music, food stalls, a beer tent and children's entertainment. Special thanks go to all those who took time out to participate. The event raised over Euro 66,000.

Team members: COL Elisabeth Jackson, Lt Col Georgette Young and her son Joshua, CDR Christoph Karich and his family, LCDR Rob Wesdorp, his daughter Merel and his son Mees, Mr Carlos Antunez Moreno, MC Bryon Zeumalt and his family, MSGT Shaquita Himes, and YNC Teresa Roberson.



't Swarte Schaap
communicatie & grafisch projectmanagement



Is your website getting old?

Brand new websites at brand new prices

**Contact Rob
and get a free offer**

't Swarte Schaap

Sint Franciscusweg 36-3
6417BD Heerlen

+31 (0)45-571 61 16

info@tswarteschaap.nl
www.tswarteschaap.nl



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