



- Final Baltic Regional Training Event concludes, renamed “Ramstein Alloy”
- NATO Exercises, a home away from home
- Changing Threats Motivate NATO to test Response Force
- 35th International Football Tournament at JFC Brunssum





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COMMAND GROUP CORNER

Story by Major General Carmelo De Cicco (JFCBS DCOS Support), photos by CPO Henk van der Velde (JFCBS PAO)

We normally take the opportunity with our articles to write about the challenges we face, to share the leadership's vision on specific issues or to highlight good achievements. On this occasion, I will take the opportunity to write about the people within the Directorate that I have the honour to lead.



Major General De Cicco in discussion with Warrant Officer McCabe, Senior Support Directorate NCO

DCOS Support commenting Readiness Test activities with Support Directorate NCOs

'The backbone of the support directorate'

Nations have provided me with extremely skilled and highly professional Officers, Non Commissioned Officers and Civilians who display their diverse capabilities on a daily basis. I appreciate the drive and skill they all have, and I recognize that their work has made this Directorate highly successful. Therefore, I am going to take this opportunity to publicly highlight their commitment in the pages of the *Northern Star*, starting with the NCOs.

The staff of the Support Directorate covers a formidable array of disciplines that ensure not only that the high readiness and responsiveness of this HQ is maintained but also that the forces assigned to Joint Force Command Brunssum meet the same requirements. This great team consisting

of military personnel and civilians from NATO Nations constitutes a solid hub of manpower where there is a core of NCOs possessing a vast amount of experience, from both operational deployments and diverse training opportunities with their own Nations. They use this experience in preparing the requirements to deploy and sustain a large combined Joint Task Force like the NRF. Their knowledge and experience cover multiple specialties, including but not limited to human resources, logistics, communication services, military engineering and medical activities. My Officers and I depend on the critical support given by these NCOs to ensure that all tasks are covered properly. During my time here I have noticed the significant capacity they show in terms of quantity and quality of work along with their willingness to meet and overcome all the challenges that sometimes arise. On numerous occasions they have demonstrated that they are the backbone of the Directorate, the ones you can rely

on to get the job done. What is even more impressive is that, as busy as we are, they still are able to commit to the well-being of the people in the HQ - organizing sports activities, fund raising events and a myriad of other activities to improve morale and team building. Some of these fund raising serials include the local Black Scorpions Wheelchair Hockey Charity or International charities such as the Polish charity for children suffering from Leukemia.

In conclusion, I remember that Alexander the Great was famed for executing his "logisticians" if they failed. Who knows, perhaps this most fundamental incentive for survival is at the base of the support component evolution to become today the crucial enabler of modern warfare and peace support operations. I am certain, though, that all the great achievements of the Support Directorate would not have been attained without the pivotal contribution given by our great NCOs.

Colophon

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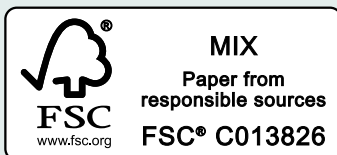
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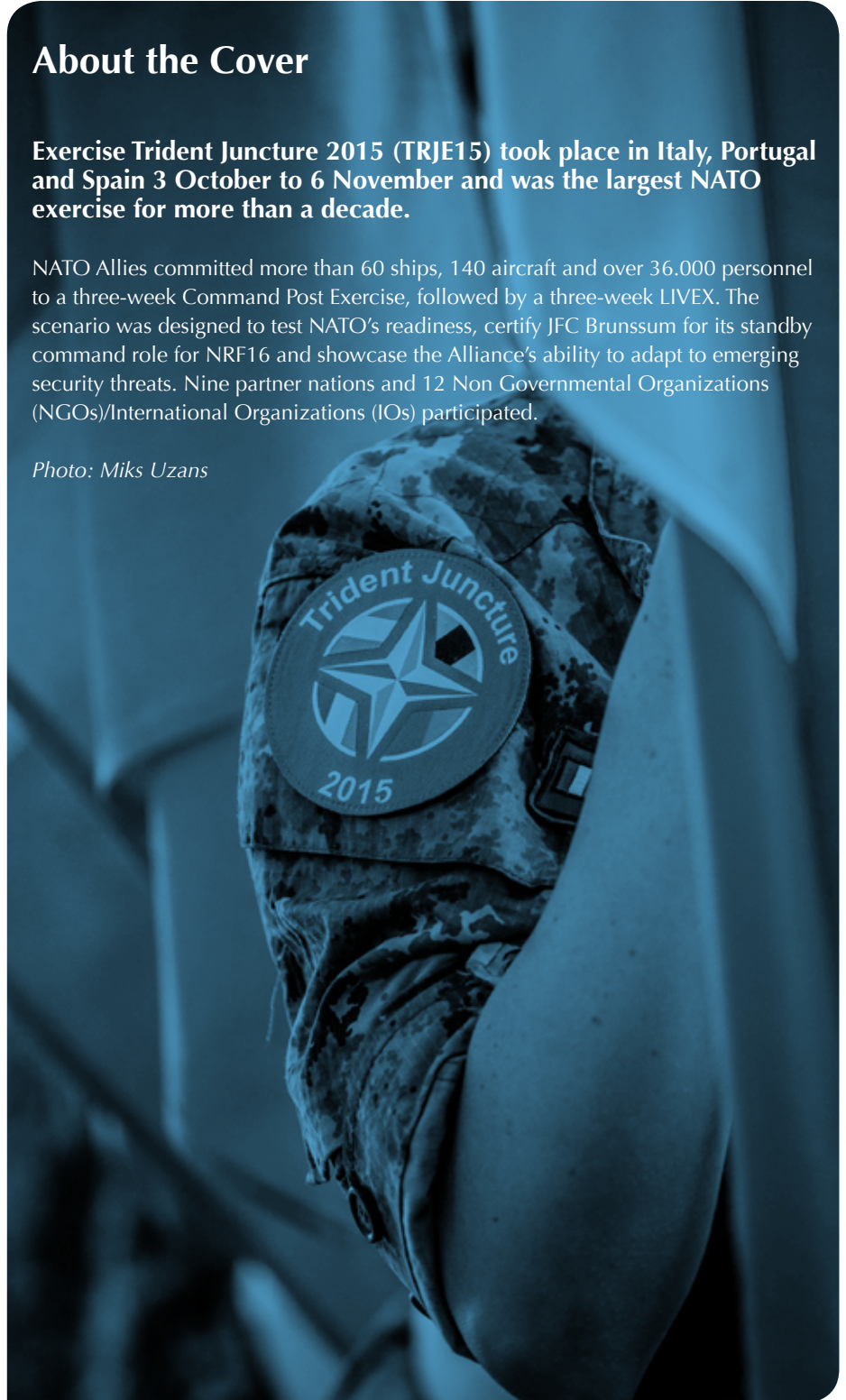


About the Cover

Exercise Trident Juncture 2015 (TRJE15) took place in Italy, Portugal and Spain 3 October to 6 November and was the largest NATO exercise for more than a decade.

NATO Allies committed more than 60 ships, 140 aircraft and over 36.000 personnel to a three-week Command Post Exercise, followed by a three-week LIVEX. The scenario was designed to test NATO's readiness, certify JFC Brunssum for its standby command role for NRF16 and showcase the Alliance's ability to adapt to emerging security threats. Nine partner nations and 12 Non Governmental Organizations (NGOs)/International Organizations (IOs) participated.

Photo: Miks Uzans



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Final Baltic Regional Training Event concludes, renamed “Ramstein Alloy”

Story by HQ AIRCOM PAO

SIAULIAI AIR BASE, Lithuania – Ten countries, 20 aircraft and over 20 media representatives participated in the 22nd Baltic Region Training Event (BRTE) here 29 and 30 September. The two-day training event served as the final BRTE before it is renamed “Ramstein Alloy” in 2016.



Inside the C27 with the journalists during the interception.

During this BRTE series, approximately 20 aircraft from Allied and Partner nations trained in tactics, techniques and procedures while conducting air-to-air flying training in the Baltic airspace. Aircrews, air and ground controllers, and civilian air traffic controllers honed their skills and enhanced interoperability through various scenarios.

Hungary and Germany, who currently execute NATO's Baltic Air Policing (BAP) missions from Siauliai, Lithuania, and Ämari, Estonia, were joined by jets from Poland, Norway, Finland and Sweden to execute the BRTE 22 training objectives.

Additionally, Latvia, Lithuania and Estonia trained air controllers from the Control and Reporting Center in Karmelava, Lithuania, and the Control and Reporting

Post in Ämari, while support aircraft from the Lithuanian, U.S. and Royal Air Forces, to include the NATO E-3 AWACS, enabled command and control, air-to-air refueling and transport in concert with BRTE air operations.

“BRTE 22 is NATO's visible sign of assurance, solidarity, partnership and assistance to the Baltic Region and Lithuania,” said Lithuanian Air Chief,



C-27 transport simulated COMLOSS while transiting through Estonian airspace. First, DEU Eurofighter Scrambled in Ämari to intercept C-27. Just after, 2 Hungarian Gripen scrambled in Siauliai, take over and escort C-27 back.

Col. Audronis Navikas, during a press conference 29 September.

Members of the press also witnessed the training and scenarios first hand. Media boarded a Lithuanian C-27J Spartan transport aircraft taking off from Siauliai Air Base, which then simulated a loss of communications. On the plane they witnessed how the aircraft was first intercepted and identified by German Eurofighters, which escorted it to the airspace border with Lithuania and handed the Spartan over to two JAS-39 Gripens from Hungary.

In addition, media visited with Air Commodore Dean Andrew, NATO Allied Air Command (AIRCOM)'s Deputy Chief of Staff, Colonel Navikas, and the deputy Hungarian BAP detachment commander, Lt. Col. Sando Kallo, as well as interviewed aircrew members and toured aircraft from participating nations.

"The training scenarios not only strengthened the interoperability between our Allies in NATO, but also further enhanced our partnerships with Finland and Sweden," Air Commodore Andrew said. "NATO AIRCOM remains

fully committed to air policing and maintaining a robust and sustainable Baltic Air Policing capability, as showcased over the course of this training event," he added.

When interviewed about his role with BRTE and the first-ever Hungarian BAP mission in Lithuania, Colonel Kallo discussed the training benefit BRTEs bring to BAP crews.

"This week's BRTE provided excellent training work for our aircrews, Allies and Partner nations. It helped hone skills to enhance our air policing efforts and build cooperation across the region," Colonel Kallo said. "I'm very satisfied with the results from BRTE, as well as the support from our Lithuanian friends and hosts here in Siauliai," he added.

With the conclusion of BRTE 22, AIRCOM, in conjunction with NATO, will rename the training event "Ramstein Alloy." The concept of Ramstein Alloy remains the same as the BRTEs: continued training of BAP assets with regional Allied and Partner air forces. A third day for each event will be added with Ramstein Alloy as a back-up day to enhance the scenarios and ensure all training objectives are met.

BRTEs and the future Ramstein Alloy achieve the NATO mission by enhancing Allies' provision of state-of-the-art aircraft and professional, well-trained crews to deploy in support of other Allied nations.

"The professionalism and prowess of all of the BRTE participants showed continued investment in the success of AIRCOM's standing, peacetime mission: to ensure the same standard of security in all Allied airspace and assure a strong and defensive Alliance," Air Commodore Andrew said.

The first Ramstein Alloy will take place in Ämari, Estonia in April 2016.

HQ JFC Brunssum conduct C-IED Training in Kyrgyzstan

Story by LTC Plamen Kostadinov, J9/Military Partnerships Branch

HQ Joint Force Command Brunssum has recently completed a Counter Improvised Explosive Devices (C-IED) Mobile Training Team (MTT) training mission to Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan from 21 – 25 September 2015. The team consisted of C-IED subject matter experts from the J3 division and the visit was organised by the J9/MILPART Branch.



Kabul Afghanistan; ANA conducting a route clearance patrol exercise at the KMTC (Kabul Military Training Centre) supervised by ISAF.
Photo by CPL Joosten.

The aim of this MTT visit was to train partners on C-IED, update developments in C-IED evolution and familiarise participants with NATO procedures in this domain.

25 students with ranks from OR-4 to OF-5 from the General Staff, Army and Air Force units of the Armed Forces and Border guard units of the Kyrgyz Republic attended the training. Additionally, one officer (OF-3) from the Kuwaiti Special Service unit, dealing with investigations

of terroristic attacks, participated in the event.

In the run up to the NATO briefings, the KGZ participants presented their national C-IED concept and briefed the JFCBS team on recent IED events. Within the training, the participants gained familiarity with topics related to the NATO approach to C-IED, IED threat awareness, explosives & effects, attacking the networks and the current IED situation in some conflict areas

around the world. Presentations and briefings were reinforced by syndicate work where students were able to bring the newly acquired theoretical knowledge into practice. The high value of C-IED training has been recognised by both the participants and the JFCBS staff, who are aware of the importance of outreach activities as they build reliable working relationships with partners and prepare them to cooperate directly with NATO in Coalition Operations.

NATO Exercises, a home away from home

Story by Ian Querat. Contributors: Mark De Baat Doelman, Miguel Suarez Fernandez, Johnny Nordahl

The NATO CIS Group (NCISG) is the “immediate response force” for the swift provision of Deployed Communications Information Systems (DCIS) to NATO users. DCIS may sound unfamiliar to you, but our Group provides everything related with ICT (Information and Communication Technology) once NATO deploys to an operation or exercise. Essentially, our staff builds up networks, provides and defends computers, printers, services such as email, chat and many other apps so that the end-users can perform their daily work.



Ian Querat on Pre-Deployment Training course, Vyskov, Czech Republic.

The NCISG structure is comprised of a HQ located in SHAPE, Belgium, and 3 Signal Battalions in Germany, Italy, and Poland, with a total of 1511 personnel; 67 of whom are NATO civilians that work and deploy along-side their military colleagues under the same conditions. Be it in tents on the edge of a desert or near the Baltic Sea as the first snow storms arrive, in containers filled with DCIS equipment, through rain or heatwaves, wind and thunderstorms, NCISG is there with the allies.

To help prepare for this, NCISG NATO Civilians attend Pre-Deployment Training in Vyskov, Czech Republic, for 8 days. The training includes briefings on cultural awareness, human trafficking, gender perspective, firefighting, map reading, mine awareness, CBRN equipment familiarization, Force Protection, as well as participation in live scenarios and overnight field training to reinforce the lessons.

Since 2012, NCISG civilians have provided direct support to NATO

exercises as well as on-going NATO operations and missions.

These include:

Steadfast COBALT (2013 – 2015)

Trident JUNCTURE (2014-2015)

Steadfast JAZZ (2013)

Trident LANCE (2014)

Trident JAGUAR (2014 – 2015)

Trident JOUST (2015)

ISAF (2013)

Active Fence (2013 -)

The DCIS community within NATO and the contributing Nations is small. Once you join the NATO DCIS community you



Ian Querat and Ron Barney, deployed to Spain, in support of Trident Juncture 2015.

will invariably meet the same group of colleagues from NATO and National units where the camaraderie and work ethic is such that everyone eagerly contributes his/her best for the common success of NATO DCIS. It is not uncommon to be

greeted with 40 "Hellos" in the waiting area of an airport on the way to the next planning conference and it is this esprit de corps which makes the gruelling 12 hour work days somewhat more enjoyable.

Now, don't think it is fun and games (and camping) in NCISG. One of the main responsibilities we have is to provide coordination in the CIS planning of NATO exercises and during an average month, we spend more weeks away from the office than in it. To get an idea, it is not uncommon for an NCISG NATO Civilian to be away from home for more than 80 working days each year. We work the same hours as our military counterparts, 12+ hours a day, seven days a week, and we both leave behind our spouses, children, friends, pets, and comfy beds. This year during the month of May, while also supporting Steadfast Cobalt, NCISG NATO Civilians recorded more than 4800 hours of overtime.

Yes, the work is hard, the deployments are long and the conditions can be uncomfortable, but the result of all this effort, as contributed by so many organizations and its people, is the satisfaction of being part of something historic and one of the most enriching experiences in our careers.

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Changing Threats Motivate NATO To Test Response Force

Nicholas Fiorenza, Oct 7, 2015 Aviation Week & Space Technology - Defense Technology Edition

Rapid Response - NATO's largest training exercise in more than a decade, Trident Juncture 2015 (TRJE15), is underway in Europe, the Mediterranean, the Atlantic and even Canada.

TRJE15, which began Oct. 3 and runs to Nov. 6, involves more than 36,000 troops and personnel from the 28 alliance members, plus partner countries Austria, Bosnia-Herzegovina, Finland, Sweden and Ukraine.

Its goal is to train and test the newly reinforced NATO Response Force (NRF)—including land, air, maritime and special forces—and certify Joint Force Command (JFC) Brunssum to be on standby to command and control the force if it is activated in 2016, when NATO wants NRF at full readiness.

The NRF is being enhanced as part of alliance measures to reinforce NATO's Article 5 collective security guarantee to Eastern European members nervous about Russian involvement in the fighting in Ukraine.

The exercise will also certify NRF components: NATO Rapid Deployable Corps Spain; Joint Force Air Component (JFAC) in Italy; U.K. Maritime Force; U.S. Special Operations Command Europe; and the Polish Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) Task Force.

British Army Lt. Gen. Phil Jones, chief of staff of NATO's Supreme Allied Command Transformation (ACT) in Norfolk, Virginia, which is organizing the exercise, describes it as "a keystone event for NATO as we shift



U.S. Marines shield themselves from flying debris as a U.S. Marine Corps MV-22B Osprey tilt-rotor aircraft takes off after supporting a multilateral training exercise during Platinum Eagle 15 at the Babadag Training Area, Romania, 2015. U.S. Marine Corps. Photo by Sgt. Paul Peterson.

our focus from over a decade of really intense counterinsurgency to start to recalibrate our posture for the current security environment. This exercise," he notes, "is a focal point for testing, validating, experimenting, developing and training our joint forces at the scale, scope and level of complexity that our current and future security challenges demand."

ACT's Joint Warfare Center of Stavanger, Norway, developed the nearly 4,000-page exercise scenario dubbed "Sorotan." ("Sor" means "south" in Norwegian and "OTAN," of course, is the French acronym for NATO.) The scenario describes political instability, ethnic tensions and socio-economic problems, exacerbated by a water shortage in the fictional Cerasia

region far from NATO territory. These factors lead to the nation of "Kamon" invading a weaker country "Lakuta" to seize a key dam. The United Nations gives the alliance the mandate to intervene in the face of hybrid warfare similar to that seen in Ukraine, as well as theater ballistic missile and CBRN threats. NATO also has to deal with violence against the civilian population, a humanitarian crisis and hostile government-controlled media.

Alliance representative Oana Longescu says TRJE15 will "demonstrate NATO's ability to work with international organizations to deal with a crisis...[using a] comprehensive approach." More than 12 international governmental and non-governmental organizations are



A U.S. Marine Corps amphibious assault vehicle assigned to Battalion Landing Team, 1st Battalion, 4th Marine Regiment, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit comes ashore during a mechanized raid in support of Cobra Gold 2012 in Hat Klad, Thailand. Photo by Cpl. Jonathan Wright, U.S. Marine Corps.

participating, including the European Union, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe and the African Union, as players or observers.

For the first time, defense industries have been invited to an exercise “to observe evolutions, with the aim of generating exchanges and to bring insights and perspectives to possible technological solutions for the future and to accelerate military innovation,” Jones says.

TRJE15 consists of two parts: a command post exercise (CPX) Oct. 3-16, and a live firing and training exercise (Livex) that takes place Oct. 21-Nov. 6. The CPX covers the entire exercise area, from Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe

and JFC Brunssum down to the unit level in Italy, Spain, Portugal and offshore.

The Livex will be NATO’s first large-scale exercise since its involvement in Afghanistan: Four brigade-size units and more than 60 ships and 140 aircraft will participate. Amphibious landings on four beaches, carrier operations and CBRN defense training are planned. Maritime forces in the exercise include 68 surface ships, nine submarines, eight maritime patrol aircraft, 12 MV-22 Ospreys and more than 3,000 marines. Opposing forces consist of 20 surface ships and four submarines, plus aircraft, across the Mediterranean and in the Atlantic.

The JFAC, based at Poggio Renatico, Italy, will command and control more

than 140 aircraft in the exercise, including: Eurofighter Typhoons, Panavia Tornados, Lockheed Martin F-16s, Boeing F-18s, Aero Vodochody L-159s, Dassault Mirage 2000s, Saab JAS-39 Gripen, Bell Boeing MV-22s, Lockheed C-130s, Transall C-160s and Airbus C-295s, along with nine aerial tankers, three airborne early warning and control systems, helicopters, and unmanned air systems (UAS).

The aircraft represent assets of 16 NATO allies, as well as Finland, Sweden and Ukraine. Based in Italy, Spain and Portugal, these aircraft will support army, maritime and special operations forces with intelligence, surveillance and reconnaissance; close air support; troop transport; personnel recovery; and search-and-rescue missions.

Social Media Prompting Military Capability & Process Change

Story by Major Rick Galeano, US Army. Engage in the debate with Rick at: www.ConnectwithRick.com

Over the last decade, amongst others, #NATO operations have included the #UN-mandated International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan, an ongoing Baltic Air Policing mission, and a counter piracy mission around the Horn of Africa (#OceanShield). All of these have been conducted within an evolving social media environment and, to a lesser or greater extent, have leveraged this medium for messaging purposes.

Today, NATO is confronted by hybrid warfare that, one can assume, will more often than not take place within an asymmetrical environment. One element of hybrid warfare focuses on the information environment, in particular, the vast realm that social media encompasses.

Exercise Trident Juncture 2015 (#TJ15) is the largest NATO exercise since 2002. Throughout #TJ15, NATO is pushing the boundaries and training in this information space. NATO is exploring, on a closed internal network, the left and right limits that are focused around collective defense, response and resolve, and interoperability with partner nations, International Organizations, and Government Organizations.

A series of exercises since 2013, starting with #SteadfastJazz (hosted by Latvia), culminating with Trident Juncture (hosted by Italy, Portugal and Spain), have underlined the huge military potential of social media. What does this mean? NATO and its partners are busy adapting existing messaging policies, embracing new technology, revising working structures, implementing better working processes and promoting a new level of understanding amongst its leadership to the increasing potential of non-kinetic action. But it should be understood NATO remains steadfastly committed to its core values articulated in #ArticleV of the #WashingtonTreaty all those years ago. The leveraging of new technologies and opportunities is nothing new to the Alliance as it continues to adapt to the geo-strategic environment so as to remain a relevant and credible international security actor.

Capabilities and Transparency in social media have been at the forefront of our current training. No secret Troll farms or nefarious messaging or mischievous acts of aggression. Rather, increasing our situational awareness of the networks, messaging timely and truthful messages, and quickly reacting to hostile and adversarial fictitious information.

To our advantage, the opposing force



Major Rick Galeano taking a selfie with General Hans-Lothar Domröse during Trident Juncture 2015.

(OPFOR) has identified many ways to advance social media in this information environment. At the same time, the fictitious NATO force established for #TJ15 has identified numerous weaknesses that play in its favor. Training in a simulated environment during #TJ15 has allowed critical vulnerabilities of the OPFOR to be identified and exploited. For example, the creation of a Troll army, hacking of NATO accounts, and organization of flash mobs to conduct demonstrations, have all been tactics used by the OPFOR. Identifying and countering tactics such as these requires a dedicated team of trained individuals which include intelligence, cyber, and communicators of all disciplines.

Following these principles assists in the Alliance's continued adaption to emerging real world security threats. During the latter part of October through early November the #TJ15 Live Exercise (LIVEX) will be conducted. In this phase we are confident our training will help us achieve the communications objectives we have been tasked with. For the LIVEX a team of digital communications scientists and communicators come together to form a NATO Media Information Centre

(NMIC). This entity will conduct real-world messaging. Our scientists add a new dimension to our capabilities. This highly specialized team will conduct social network analysis to monitor the spread awareness of #TJ15 at the same time as our communicators are publishing content that demonstrates the transparency of our exercises. We are good at what we do and our doors are always open to explore new ways of doing things.

Our forward-leaning thinking and execution has not only kept us in the fight, but has propelled us into the future. The youth are the primary demographic on social media that are encouraging the rapid growth of mediums such as Twitter and Facebook. This exponential explosion of inter-connectedness, driven by the young people of today, is shaping and defining the next generation of military capability. NATO is very aware of this and has taken steps to ensure it is at the forefront of communications evolution. Follow, like, share and subscribe to our social media accounts to see what Trident Juncture is all about. #TJ15

35th International Small-Pitch Soccer Tournament at HQ JFC Brunssum

OR-8 Daniel Sawatzki, Tournament Report 2015

This year, it was a great honor for the HQ JFC to host the 35th International Small-Pitch Soccer Tournament under the patronage of Commander General Hans-Lothar Domröse. Managed by the German Delegation and the German National Team Soccer (GNT), 42 teams came together for sporting competitions on the sports field of the Allied JFC HQ Brunssum on 27th and 28th August.



Opening of the 12th Delegations Cup by Colonel Klaus Bücklein, Commander of the German Delegation in the Netherlands.

On 27th August 2015, at 1300 hrs, with “soccer weather at its best”, the big moment was finally there: Colonel Bücklein, Commander of the German Delegation, opened the tournament and gave the starting signal for the first Cup.

The event started with the 12th Delegations Cup. Unfortunately, only four teams competed against each other. By means of the “everyone plays

everyone” mode, the two finalists were determined. Hereby, the HFlgWaS Ausb Z C (AAvnSchool) team played the 1st DEU/NLD Corps and won 2:0.

At round about 1815 hrs, it was the ladies’ turn to compete in the 13th Ladies Cup. They also did the “everyone plays everyone” mode as only 5 teams took part in the end after others had canceled at short notice. Still, those 5 teams once again proved a recipe for attractive women’s soccer.

Within the course of the Cup, two extremely strong teams crystallized, which consequently ended up in the final. In an extremely exciting final, the Richterich Allstars defeated Alemannia Aachen by 1:0.

After the awards ceremony, the “Welcome Party” started, with excellent music and a lot of fun.

The next day, after a way too short night, the 35th Commander’s Cup



FüUstgBtl 383 (ret) vs. Uni Bw Hamburg (green).

started. Throughout the whole day, the 14 teams fighting in the Oldies' Cup as well as the 19 Youngsters' Cup teams showed extremely exciting group games that were nice to watch. With perfect weather conditions, the teams for the finals were soon clear.

(Tactical Air Force Wing) 51 in the 9m penalty shoot-out. The FüUstgBtl 383 team, however, qualified for the final in an unusual way. They agreed with their semi-final opponent, the GNT Old Stars, to determine the future finalist directly by 9m penalty shoot-out. This

led to a 3:2 victory of the FüUstgBtl 383 team over the Old Stars of the GNT Brunssum.

But the winner of the final was again determined by a match. The FüUstgBtl 383 team could finally secure the highly

In the first final of the day, the final of the Youngsters' Cup, and after thrilling quarterfinals and semifinals, LazRgt 31 (MilMedRegt) "Berlin" faced UniBw München. Those teams had prevailed over AusbZ (Training Center) TLS and PzBrig (TankBde) 21 respectively. The UniBw München team steered the match and left no doubt that they would leave the field as the winners. In the end, a 5:0 underpinned this clear and well-earned victory.

The finalists in the subsequent Oldies' Cup final were the UniBw Hamburg team and FüUstgBtl (CmdSptBn) 383. Beforehand, the UniBw Hamburg team had fought an exciting semifinal and won 3:1 against the Takt LwGeschw



Show match: Bambini: SV Breinig (black/white) vs. Sv 09 Scherpenseel (black/red).



GNT donation to “Basissport Limburg”.

Donation to Sergeant First Class Figge (received for him by SFC Haupt).

coveted trophy with a 2:0 victory after an eventful and thrilling final.

In order to top off the supporting program a little bit, two show matches had been organized. In these games, the “Bambinis” and “F-Jugend” (second lowest class of age) of SV Breinig and SV 09 Scherpenseel played each other. Even if the results were of secondary importance, it was still nice to watch how committed, passionate and enthusiastic the youngest of the youngest were.

This year, too, the charitable character of the GNT tournament was emphasized. Just like in the past, Basissport Limburg, a sports institution for disabled people, was given a donation within the framework of our charity activities in our host nation’s country.

In addition to that, we could give a donation to our comrade at JFC HQ Brunssum, who is also a member of the German National Team and has to deal with major physical restrictions due to a blow of fate. What deserves being emphasized is the great willingness of the UniBw München team to donate money. They gave an additional 100 Euros to those two parties in equal proportions. It was, as always, a great

pleasure for the German National Team to again contribute to better social interaction and understanding.

It was of special importance to all participants to highlight the fact that the sporting competition was to be continued at the 36th International Small-Pitch Soccer Tournament the following year!

Overview of the Cup Winners



12th Delegations Cup: HFlgWaS Ausb Z C.

35th Oldies’ Cup: FüUstgBtl 383.



An Exercise in Pictures



Obituary Lieutenant-General (retired) R.P.F. (Remco) Seijn



Lieutenant General Seijn, shown here in the rank of Major General.

Dordrecht Sept 30, 1948 – Portugal Sept 27, 2015

With great sadness we inform you that one of our former Chiefs of Staff passed away on September 27th 2015.

We have taken note with great dismay of the totally unexpected death of Lieutenant General Seijn. Lt Gen Seijn was an extremely amiable, friendly and dedicated person who was Chief of Staff here, in Brunssum, from 2002 until 2006.

We wish his wife Annemieke, children Boudewijn and Willemijn, mother and sister and other family and friends strength as they cope with this unexpected loss. Our thoughts and wishes are with them.



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	06 NOV 2015 FRI SPECTRE Daniel Craig Christoph Waltz 150 min 1900		20 NOV 2015 FRI THE NIGHT BEFORE Joseph Gordon-Levitt Seth Rogen -- min 1900
	07 NOV 2015 SAT THE PEANUTS MOVIE Noah Schnapp Bill Melendez 92 min 1600		21 NOV 2015 SAT THE HUNGER GAMES: MOCKINGJAY - PART 2 Jennifer Lawrence Josh Hutcherson -- min 1600
	07 NOV 2015 SAT CAPTIVE David Oyelowo Kate Mara 97 min 1900		21 NOV 2015 SAT THE VISIT Kathryn Hahn Ed Oxenbould 94 min 1900
	13 NOV 2015 FRI THE 33 Antonio Banderas Rodrigo Santoro 120 min 1900		27 NOV 2015 FRI VICTOR FRANKENSTEIN Daniel Radcliffe James McAvoy -- min 1900
	14 NOV 2015 SAT THE PEANUTS MOVIE Noah Schnapp Bill Melendez 92 min 1600		28 NOV 2015 SAT THE GOOD DINOSAUR Jeffrey Wright Frances McDormand -- min 1600
	14 NOV 2015 SAT SICARIO Benicio Del Toro Josh Brolin 121 min 1900		28 NOV 2015 SAT CREED Sylvester Stallone Micheal B. Jordan 95 min 1900

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Country : Slovakia
Capital : Bratislava
Location : Central Europe
Land Boundaries : 1.474 km
Coastline : -
Population : 5,415,949
Area : 49,035 km²
Location : Slovakia, officially the Slovak Republic, is a country in Central Europe. It is bordered by the Czech Republic and Austria to the west, Poland to the north, Ukraine to the east and Hungary to the south. Slovakia's territory spans about 49,000 square kilometres (19,000 sq mi) and is mostly mountainous. The population is over 5 million and comprised mostly of ethnic Slovaks. The capital and largest city is Bratislava. The official language is Slovak, a member of the Slavic language family.

Climate : The Slovak climate lies between the temperate and continental climate zones with relatively warm summers and cold, cloudy and humid winters. Temperature extremes are in interval between -41 to 40.3 °C (-41.8 to 104.5 °F) although temperatures below -30 °C (-22 °F) are rare. The weather differs from the mountainous North to the plain South. The warmest region is Bratislava and Southern Slovakia where the temperatures may rise up to 30 °C (86 °F) in summer, occasionally to 37 °C (99 °F). During night, the temperatures rise up to 20 °C (68 °F). The daily temperatures in winter average in the range of -5 °C (23 °F) up to 10 °C (50 °F). During night it may be freezing, but usually not below -10 °C (14 °F). Summer in Northern Slovakia is usually mild with temperatures around 25 °C (77 °F) (less in the mountains). Winters are colder in the mountains, where the snow usually lasts until March and April and the night temperatures go down to -20 °C (-4 °F) and colder.

Economy:
GDP : \$158.428 billion
GDP per Capita : \$29,209
GDP per sector : agriculture: 3.8%; industry: 36.4%; services: 59.8% (2012 est.)

Budget:
Revenues : \$31.39 billion (2012 est.)
Expenses : \$35.85 billion (2012 est.)
Currency : Euro (EUR)

Main Industries : metal and metal products; food and beverages; electricity, gas, coke, oil, nuclear fuel; chemicals and manmade fibers; machinery; paper and printing; earthenware and ceramics; transport vehicles; textiles; electrical and optical apparatus; rubber products

Exports : \$77.82 billion (2012)

Export goods : machinery and electrical equipment 35.9%, vehicles 21.0%, base metals 11.3%, chemicals and minerals 8.1%, plastics 4.9% (2009)

Imports : \$74.29 billion (2012 est.)

Import goods : machinery and transport equipment 31%, mineral products 13%, vehicles 12%, base metals 9%, chemicals 8%, plastics 6% (2009 est.)



When did you arrive in the Netherlands?

I arrived in the Netherlands in February 2014. Actually this is my first position in Allied NATO structures. At the beginning everything was really new for me and I had to learn a lot.

What is your position here in JFC HQ Brunssum?

Here in Brunssum I work as staff officer in J7 Training & Exercise Branch which means that I am involved in most of training events and exercises within HQ.

Tell us about your military career.

I joined the Slovak Armed Forces Military Academy in 1991. However before that I spent four years at the Military High School. I was promoted to Engineers Second Lieutenant in 1994. The next more than fifteen years I worked on command and staff positions within our Engineers units. From 2010 until my posting here in Brunssum I worked at the Slovak Armed Forces General Staff as staff officer in J7 Exercise.

Do you have any experience with other international missions?

During my military carrier I have been deployed two times with our Engineers units. I have participated in the operation IRAQI FREEDOM (IRAQ) in 2004 and in the operation ISAF (AFGHANISTAN) in 2009.

Is your family here in the Netherlands with you?

My wife Vera and my younger daughter (7) are living in Netherlands in Maastricht. My older daughter (21) stays in Slovakia as studies at the University there. She visits us here in the Netherlands during holiday times.

What are your hobbies?

I like reading good crimes or historical books, listening music and I also like to go for walk with our dog. Currently I enjoy traveling around the Netherlands and Europe.

Your future plans?

Once I finished my tour in Brunssum in 2017 I will be most likely promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and I would like to stay work within the Training & Exercise community within the Slovak Armed Forces where I can use great experiences from working in Allied NATO environment.

Did you
know



Over 100 years of Dutch Aviation Industry “Part 2: Fokker rises from the ashes”

Composed by Ed Frieser.

Sources: Interview Marc Dierikx, Film TROS 1993, Wikipedia articles, Fokker Technologies website, GKN and Fokker Technologies press release, Fokker related websites, articles from NRC Handelsblad, Financieel Dagblad, and Historisch Nieuwsblad.

The death of Anthony Fokker did not mean an end of Dutch aviation industry. On the contrary, it was the beginning of a new era.



The famous Fokker G-1, used by the Dutch Army Aviation Brigade at the start of WWII.

History

The greatest contributor to the success of Dutch aviation industry was undoubtedly Anthony Herman Gerard Fokker. Anthony was born on 6 April 1890 in Blitar, Kediri, East Java; former Netherlands-Indies, today's Indonesia. He was the son of Herman Fokker, owner of a coffee plantation. At the age of four Anthony Fokker moved with his parents back to the

Netherlands. The family settled in Haarlem near Amsterdam. At school his teachers could not inspire Anthony. He left secondary school prematurely. Anthony was more interested in creating model aircraft and in learning how to fly. In 1910 his father sent him to a technical school in Zehlendorf, Germany. Inspired by a French aircraft design, Anthony, together with German Lieutenant von Daun, built his very first airplane, the Spider in 1910. With this

aircraft he flew several rounds over the Haarlem market square on Queens Day 1911.

WWII

At the start of WWII the Dutch Army Aviation Brigade flew 29 operational Fokker D XXI single engine fighter aircraft, 35 Fokker G-1 twin-engine heavy fighter airplanes, 7 Fokker D XVII single engine fighters, 20 Fokker

C.X. light bombers and some 80 other types of aircraft. The available aircraft were mainly deployed over Rotterdam and The Hague in ground attack missions, strafing advancing German infantry units. But they were also used to attack Junkers Ju 52/3m transports, contributing to the loss of 167 Ju 52s, scoring up to 14 confirmed aerial kills. Although pilots were able to score some victories against the German fighter aircraft during the "Five-day War", The Netherlands was overrun and many Dutch aircraft were destroyed on the ground.

Post WWII

The Germans had confiscated the Fokker factories and built Bücker Bü 181 Bestmann trainers and parts for the Junkers Ju 52. At the end of the war, the factories were completely stripped

of the first purpose-built jet trainers. It served for over a decade with the Royal Netherlands Air Force. A new factory was built next to Schiphol Airport near Amsterdam in 1951. A number of military planes were built there under license, among them the Gloster Meteor twin jet fighter and, in the sixties and seventies, Lockheed's F-104 Starfighter. A second jet engine production and maintenance facility was established at the air base Woensdrecht.

New aircraft

In 1958 the F-27 Friendship was introduced, as well as its military version the F-27 Troopship. The Dutch government contributed 27 million guilders to its development. This aircraft became the world's best selling turboprop airliner. The F-27

the F-16 Fighting Falcon consortium (EPAF, European Participating Air Forces). Together Fokker and SABCA, in Belgium, produced parts and over 520 airframes for the European and US F-16s.

Bankruptcy

After a brief and unsuccessful collaboration effort with McDonnell Douglas in 1981, Fokker began an ambitious project to develop two new aircraft concurrently. The Fokker F-50 was to be a completely modernised version of the F-27, the Fokker F-100 a new airliner based on the F-28. Initial sales of the F-100 were good, leading Fokker to begin development of the Fokker F-70, a smaller version of the F-100, in 1991. But sales of the F-70 were below expectations and the F-100 had strong competition



The most successful Turboprop Fokker F-27 (Troopship) Royal Netherlands Air Force.

by the Germans and destroyed by Allied bombing. Rebuilding the Fokker Company after WWII was not an easy job. The company literally had to rise from the ashes. The market was flooded with cheap surplus airplanes from the war. Fokker started converting Dakota transport planes for civilian use. It built a few F-25s, a four-passenger monoplane, but was unsuccessful. However, the small S-11 trainer proved very popular. Further, the S-14 Mach trainer became one

was followed, in 1962, by the F-28 Fellowship until production stopped in 1987; a total of 241 were built in various versions.

The F-16

In 1979 it was decided General Dynamics' F-16 was to replace the Belgian, Dutch, Danish and Norwegian F-104 Starfighters and the Northrop F-5 fighter aircraft inventories. Fokker became one of the main partners in

from Boeing and Airbus by then. Thus making the F-70 the last Fokker aircraft. In the meantime development costs were allowed to spiral out of control, almost forcing Fokker out of business in 1987. The Dutch government bailed them out with 212 million Guilders but demanded Fokker look for a "strategic partner", British Aerospace and DASA being the most likely candidates. In 1992, after a long and arduous negotiation process, Fokker signed an agreement



The Fokker F-70 flown by KLM

with DASA. This did not however solve Fokker's problems, mostly because DASA's parent company, Daimler-Benz, also had to deal with its own organisational problems. On 22 January 1996, the Board of Directors of Daimler-Benz decided to focus on its core automobile business and cut ties with Fokker. The next day an Amsterdam court extended temporary creditor protection. On 15 March of that year the Fokker Company was declared bankrupt.

Stork takes over

Those divisions of the company that manufactured parts and carried out maintenance and repair work were taken over by Dutch Stork N.V.; this organisation is now known as the Stork Aerospace Group. Stork Fokker exists to sustain remarketing of the company's existing aircraft: they refurbished and resold F-50s and F-100s, and converted a few F-50s to transport aircraft. Special projects included the development of an F-50 Maritime Patrol variant and an F-100 Executive Jet. For this project, Stork received the 2005 "Aerospace Industry Award" in the Air Transport category from Flight International magazine. The profitable divisions of the Fokker Company, continued

as separate companies, like Fokker Space (later Dutch Space) and Fokker Control Systems. In November 2009, Stork Aerospace changed its name to the Fokker Aerospace Group. As of 2011, the Fokker Aerospace Group changed its name again, this time to Fokker Technologies Group B.V., with its headquarters in Papendrecht. The company's 5000 specialists are employed in 9 countries and facilities across the world: The Netherlands, Romania, Turkey, Canada, Mexico, the USA, China, India and Singapore. The four individual business units within Fokker Technologies carry the Fokker name: Fokker Aerostructures, Fokker Landing Gear, Fokker Elmo and Fokker Services. The former Fokker aircraft facilities at Schiphol were redeveloped into the Fokker Logistics Park.

Joint Strike Fighter, F-35

Fokker Technologies received, in 2013, an order for the F-35 Joint Strike Fighter programme. The company will deliver parts for three types of the new aircraft and has an F-35 portfolio that extends into 2016. CEO, Hans B  thker, finds it encouraging that Fokker, following the 50 delivered F-35's and more than 80 aircraft in production, has been requested to deliver products for another 73 F-35 JSF aircraft.

GKN Aerospace

Fokker's engineering capabilities are based on its more than 100 year heritage and knowledge of the complexity of aircraft manufacturing. Fokker is involved as a sole supplier to 75 commercial- as well as defense-aircraft types. As we read in the Annual Report 2014 CEO Hans B  thker announced that "... Fokker's overall outlook is strong, partly based on the well-balanced order book, including the Airbus A350XWB, the Lockheed Martin F-35 Lightning II, the Dassault Falcon FSX and Bombardier C Series... ". The British GKN Aerospace Company has now acquired Fokker and, as we read in their consolidated press release: "... GKN was founded more than 250 years ago while Fokker has been at the forefront of aerospace technology for more than 100 years. The combination will help to meet the challenges of a more competitive and increasingly global aerospace market..." With this take-over a new chapter has started and will hopefully strengthen and continue an accomplished Dutch aviation history that reaches back over 100 years and was started by Anthony Herman Gerard Fokker.



Autumn brings great Jazz musicians to the region!

A great concert to look out for is in Maastricht, where the Brad Mehldau Trio will be performing in the Vrijthof Theatre on the 30th November.

The famous and extremely talented pianist Brad Mehldau will be performing together with two other maestros in Maastricht: Larry Grenadier (bass) and Jeff Ballard (drums). The trio will play their own compositions as well as famous jazz tunes, together with pop song covers. It may be unexpected, but the trio is actually famous for its covers of Oasis, Paul Simon, Massive Attack and quite a few more! Which covers will these three musicians choose this time to surprise the public? Mehldau will be touring Europe for only two weeks, so be quick to buy tickets! The concert starts at 20.00 hours giving you plenty of time to get to Maastricht and have a bite to eat!

The annual Jazz Out event in Heerlen is another highlight in the region when it comes to Jazz in the month of November. This year's edition features Al Di Meola and Sharon Robinson (both USA) as well as Erik Truffaz (FR) and TaxiWars (B). It will take place in the theatre in Heerlen end of November. The jazz festival In Front in Aachen is also well worth attending, which makes it difficult to choose as these festivals both take place on November 21st! Later on in the year on December 10th there is also a really cool event in the Conservatory in Maastricht. The Jazz Night by the teachers and students of the Maastricht Academy of Music brings the best of jazz, and it's free of charge! Bring your kids as they will really be inspired by the young musicians performing.

If you want to know more about what is going on in the region, check the Charlzz.com website. It has a complete Jazz section.





Win Tickets for Brad Mehldau Trio

- We have 6 tickets for the Brad Mehldau Trio concert in Maastricht on the 30th November.
 - In order to win the tickets, please answer the following question:
 - **Quiz Question: What is the name of the latest album by Brad Mehldau?**
- Fill in this coupon and send it to PAO, or send an e-mail to pao@jfcbs.nato.int, before 16 November 2015
- For NATO ID card holders only
 - The winners will be announced in the next edition of the Northern Star

Answer:

Division:

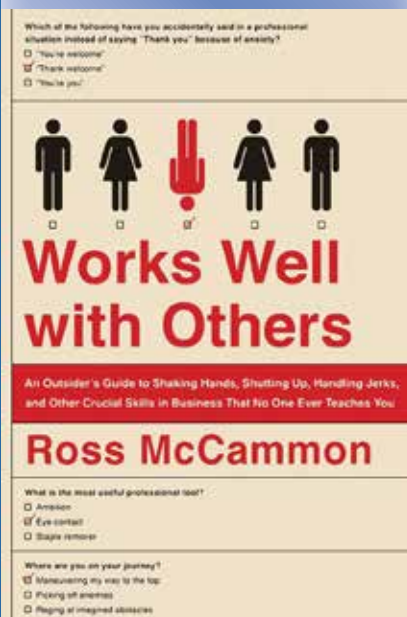
Full name:

Extension:

Winners

Prize winners of the Battle – the Show in Maaseik, will be announced in the December/January edition of the Northern Star due to personnel deployment issues.

Book Review



Works Well with Others
(An Outsider's Guide to Shaking Hands, Shutting Up, Handling Jerks, and Other Crucial Skills in Business That No One Ever Teaches You)

Ross McCammon

Ten years ago, before he got a job at Esquire magazine and way before he became the etiquette columnist at Entrepreneur magazine, Ross McCammon, editor at an in-flight magazine, was staring out a second-floor window at a parking lot in suburban Dallas wondering if it was five o'clock yet. Everything changed with one phone call from Esquire. Three weeks later, he was working in New York and wondering what the hell had just happened.

This is McCammon's honest, funny, and entertaining journey from impostor to authority, a story that begins with periods of debilitating workplace anxiety but leads to rich insights and practical advice from a guy who "made it" but who still remembers what it's like to feel entirely ill-equipped for professional success. And for life in

general, if we're being completely honest. McCammon points out the workplace for what it is: an often absurd landscape of ego and fear guided by social rules that no one ever talks about. He offers a mix of enlightening and often self-deprecating personal stories about his experience and clear, practical advice on getting the small things right—crucial skills that often go unacknowledged—from shaking a hand to conducting a business meeting in a bar to navigating a work party.

Here is an inspirational new way of looking at your job, your career, and success itself; an accessible guide for those of us who are smart, talented, and ambitious but who aren't well—"leveraged" and don't quite feel prepared for success . . . or know what to do once we've made it.



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

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