



- Romania Actively Contributes to Strengthen NATO's Collective Defence
- Over 100 years of Dutch Aviation Industry "Part 1: Anthony Fokker Dutch Aviation Pioneer"
- Exercise Trident Juncture Air Planners Meet for Final Synchronization at Allied Air Command





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CHIEF OF STAFF – LIEUTENANT GENERAL JANUSZ ADAMCZAK

Kto nie idzie naprzód, ten się cofa – ‘He who does not advance goes backwards’

For five years, a primary focus has been to take forward the directive of the Lisbon Summit (2010) that charged our headquarters with being capable of conducting comprehensive operational planning, operating as a deployed Joint Task Force Headquarters (JTFHQ) and implementing resultant changes to our organization and processes. In addition, in implementing the directives of the Chicago and Wales Summits (2012 and 2014), I am the first to recognize that an ever-increasing workload and the impact of change are felt the hardest in the staff.

The deployment on Exercise TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2015 (TRJE15), has involved all directorates, at all levels. This has included the exercise planning, widespread dialogue with host nations and other participants, refinement of our battle rhythm and a continual release of media information and broader messaging. Not so obvious has been the work of Brunssum personnel to construct our deployed camps in Zaragoza and Beja, the detailed and often thankless work to secure contracts for real life support, ensure sufficient funding for the exercise and cross-match the CIS to JTFHQ positions. As this has continued, so has our support to the evolution of our NATO mission in Afghanistan, to an enhanced Enduring Partnership (eEP) and our equally pressing work to provide sustained assurance to member nations on NATO's Eastern flank and other measures under the Readiness Action Plan (RAP). Similarly, demand for operational planning has meant little respite for the members of the Joint Operational Planning Groups formed to respond to SHAPE tasking. As if this was not enough, work to develop new operational concepts and our full training support to other entities has been at an all-time high to complement an already busy



CHIEF OF STAFF – LIEUTENANT GENERAL JANUSZ ADAMCZAK

partnership programme and more ‘routine’ activities. The autumn of 2015 was always going to be one of the busiest periods in the Brunssum calendar – this has proved to be true.

The loading and the pace is likely to continue until Spring 2016. Before then, we will focus on the Roadmap to the Warsaw Summit, July 2016, in further developing an enhanced NATO Response Force (eNRF), including an operationally capable a Very High Readiness Joint Task Force, and establishing NATO Force Integration Units (NFIUs). This will be supported in all areas by additional contingency planning and an ambitious exercise programme. More generally, we will implement and manage the changes directed by the ACO Optimization Study and RAP that will require us to make further adjustments to our structure, personnel and procedures. In this, we will attempt to address with SHAPE some of the long-standing shortfalls in our manning. We are also in the early stages of scoping a task to cross-

walk Peacetime Establishment positions to our Crisis Establishment which will be a whole headquarters effort. On base, we will also shortly commence work to extend our current H-106 headquarters building, which is covered in more detail (page 14) – progressive change on all fronts.

In sum, I would like to thank every member of the ‘Brunssum Team’ for your many recognized – but more often unrecognized – individual and collective achievements to date, and for adding value to the outputs of the headquarters. I would also like to extend a very warm welcome to our newcomers who have recently joined us and look forward to working with you. As we prepare for an equally busy period ahead, please let it be known that the understanding and support of your families and wider community is always valued, and is never taken for granted.

Colophon

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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



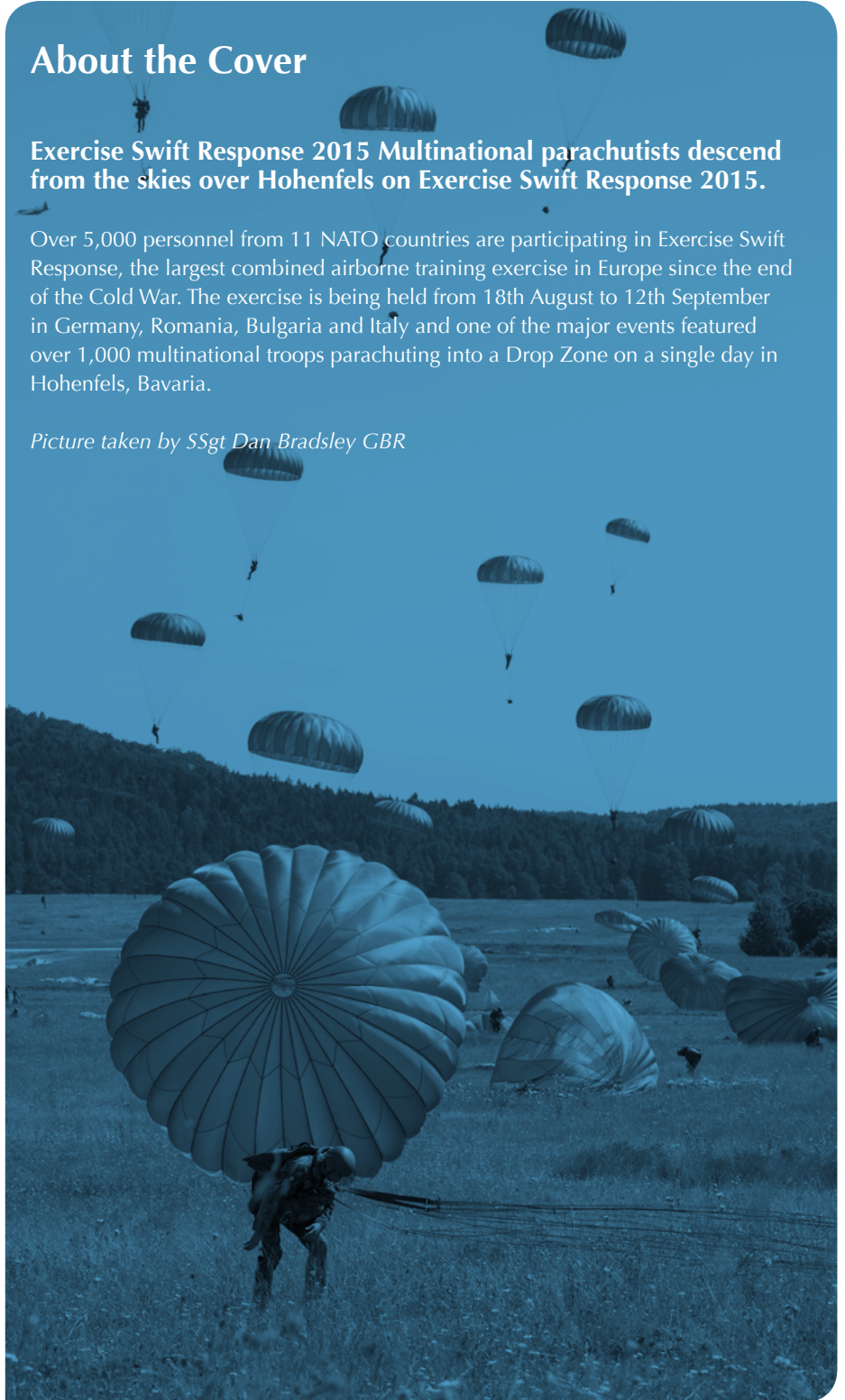
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About the Cover

Exercise Swift Response 2015 Multinational parachutists descend from the skies over Hohenfels on Exercise Swift Response 2015.

Over 5,000 personnel from 11 NATO countries are participating in Exercise Swift Response, the largest combined airborne training exercise in Europe since the end of the Cold War. The exercise is being held from 18th August to 12th September in Germany, Romania, Bulgaria and Italy and one of the major events featured over 1,000 multinational troops parachuting into a Drop Zone on a single day in Hohenfels, Bavaria.

Picture taken by SSgt Dan Bradsley GBR



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Exercise Trident Juncture Air Planners Meet for Final Synchronization at Allied Air Command

Story by AIRCOM Public Affairs

09 September, Turkish Brigadier General, Mehmet Yalinalp, Deputy Chief of Staff (Plans) at Headquarters Allied Air Command (HQ AIRCOM) at Ramstein Air Base - the TRJE15 Air Exercise Director - welcomed representatives from participating Allied and Partner air forces to an Air Synchronization Conference.



Danish Major Michael Petersen (second from left) discussing with exercise participants the details of the flying programme for Portugal. Photo by Cynthia Vernat, HQ AIRCOM PAO

"We believe this conference is a must for successful and safe exercise execution," said General Yalinalp.

"Thank you for your contributions so far. Let's be open and frank and make best use of our time here to ensure there are no unaddressed questions. We must all be confident that we have a good and safe plan to execute what

is a significant air input to NATO's largest exercise in years."

During the two-day event planners from HQ AIRCOM conducted final coordination measures for the air operations scheduled for the TRJE15 exercise airspace over Italy, Spain and Portugal, as well as adjacent international

airspace. "Since June 2015 we have been planning the execution of the air contribution to TRJE15," said Danish Major, Michael Petersen, one of three execution planners at AIRCOM, who is responsible for the flying training in Portugal. "During site surveys, planning meetings, coordination conference we've gathered the air community to sort



This picture is the outcome of a long planning process. It shows the carefully arranged formation of Allied aircraft during a so-called Composite Air Operation or COMAO. This type of manoeuvre will also be flown during the upcoming major NATO LIFE-FLY exercise Trident Juncture 2015 (TRJE15) starting on 21 October 2015. Photo: Belgian Air Force EAPB, Malbork, Poland

out the basic flying programme ensuring all participants get the most out of the life-fly training – the so-called SFTP or serialized field training programme. This is the last time we have the chance to gather all air players in one place and do some fine tuning of an ambitious plan. We're all excited to see how this plan will unfold during the execution of TRJE15 this fall."

More than 180 aircraft from 16 NATO Allies and three NATO Partners will be operating out of military air bases in Italy, Spain and Portugal. In total approximately 36,000 soldiers, sailors and airmen from 30 Allied and Partner Nations will participate in TRJE15 to test the Command and Control concept, interoperability, strategic communication, intelligence, surveillance, target acquisition, and

reconnaissance; and to certify the command and control element of NATO Response Force (NRF) 2016.

The Italian Joint Force Air Component (JFAC) Air Exercise Director at Poggio Renatico, Italy, will be the senior officer responsible for the overall direction and control of the air exercise play. He will be supported by three Chiefs of so-called Local Operations Control, LOPSCON Air cells, who will be based at the Deployment Operating Bases at Beja, Albacete and Trapani and responsible for fine tuning the training plan during execution. This coordinated plan will then be forwarded to the JFAC for preparation of the Air Tasking Order (ATO). LOPSCON Air will direct and control the local Air exercise play, monitor the daily battle rhythm and liaise with the Host Nations. LOPSCON Air

will also approve ATO change requests arising as a result of inclement weather, aircraft unavailability or safety issues. HQ AIRCOM will man some 10 posts each in LOPSCON Air.

TRJE15 LIVEX is a joint exercise. Air assets will be used in support of army, maritime and special operations forces, conducting Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance, Close Air Support and troop transport missions. Personnel Recovery and Search and Rescue missions are also scheduled.

NATO Tests its Anti-Submarine skills with Exercise Dynamic Manta in Italy

Story by MARCOM Public Affairs

NATO's Submarine Warfare Exercise DYNAMIC MANTA 2015 (DYMA 15) began Friday off the Sicilian coast, with ships, submarines, and aircraft and personnel from 9 Allied nations converging on the Central Mediterranean Sea for anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and anti-surface warfare training.



DYMA15 - PHOTEX - TCG PREVEZE, FGS HAMBURG (F220) and FS JEAN DE VIENNE (D643) - 13 SEP 2015 - Photo by WO ARTIGUES (HQ MARCOM). Ionian Sea, Italy - NATO's Submarine Warfare Exercise DYNAMIC MANTA 2015 (DYMA 15) took place from 11th to 22nd September off the Sicilian coast, with ships, submarines, and aircraft and personnel from 9 Allied nations converging on the Central Mediterranean Sea for anti-submarine warfare (ASW) and anti-surface warfare training.

Submarines from France, Greece, Italy, Spain, Turkey, the United Kingdom, and the United States, under the control of NATO Submarine Command (COMSUBNATO), will join 5 surface ships from France, Germany, Italy, Turkey and the United States under the command of Standing NATO Maritime Group TWO (SNMG-2) Rear Admiral Jörg Klein (German Navy). Host nation Italy is providing support from both the Augusta Naval Base and the Sigonella Air Base in Catania.

"DYNAMIC MANTA 15 is one of the most challenging exercises dedicated to training in the anti-submarine warfare area. It is especially valuable for the ships of SNMG-2" said Rear Admiral Jörg Klein (German Navy), Commander of SNMG2. "Intensivereal world scenarios can be executed, providing unique training opportunities for the participants. DYNAMIC MANTA offers exceptional conditions to enhance the war fighting skills

of all participating units in a multinational operations environment."

To support the simulated multi-threat environment, 7 Maritime Patrol Aircraft and Helicopters from Canada, France, Italy, Turkey and the United States will operate from Sigonella Air Base under the control of personnel from NATO Maritime Air Command (COMMARAIRNATO).

The aim of this exercise is to provide all participants with complex and challenging warfare training to enhance their interoperability and proficiency in anti-submarine and anti-surface warfare skills, with due regard to safety. During the exercise, an analysis team of ASW experts (In-stride Debrief Team) will be located in Sigonella Air Base. The team will analyse anti-submarine warfare events real time and will provide debriefs to ships, submarines and aircrews. It allows crew to accelerate their process, make adjustments, improve the performance and boost the anti-

submarine warfare readiness. Each surface ship under the tactical command of SNMG2 will have the opportunity to conduct a variety of submarine warfare operations. The submarines will take turns hunting and being hunted, closely coordinating their efforts with the air and surface participants.

"This is an excellent opportunity for NATO maritime forces to practice and evaluate their Anti-Submarine skillset in a challenging environment. The large number of participating units in this year's exercise is a clear demonstration to NATO's commitment to the maritime domain and Anti-Submarine Warfare capabilities." said Commander Submarines NATO, Rear Admiral Matthew A. Zirkle (U.S. Navy). "We appreciate the outstanding host nation support of the Italian Navy that was required to make this challenging and effective exercise happen".

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.

August 2015



Commander JFC Brunssum Attends Multi National Corps North East Change of Command 13 AUG 2015

A military change of command ceremony was held at the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE). Polish Lieutenant General Bogusław Samol handed over responsibility for the Corps to German Lieutenant General Manfred Hofmann. The Framework Nations of MNC NE, i.e. Denmark, Germany and Poland, traditionally hold the three commanding positions of the Corps and fill the posts in accordance with an agreed three-year rotation schedule. The President of Poland, HE Andrzej Duda, honoured the event with his presence. The ceremony attracted great interest amongst the Corps' Framework Nations and Participating States, such that many dignitaries attended. These included: the Danish Deputy Chief of Defence, Lieutenant General Per Ludvigsen; the Polish Minister of Defence, Mr Tomasz Siemoniak; Commander Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse; and representatives of other NATO commands, sister corps, uniformed services, partnering units and organizations, national, regional and local authorities, diplomats, clergy, as well as friends of the Corps. "This assignment as a NATO Corps Commander was a challenging time, a great time, and the highlight in my career. All that is left for me now is to say thank you," said Lt Gen Samol addressing the decision makers of the Framework Nations, the Corps Committee and the city of Szczecin. "My particular gratitude goes to the members of HQ MNC NE and – this I would like to underline – their families. You can all be proud of your work, just as I am proud to have been your Commander."



The new Chief of the German Army visiting Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum 24 AUG 2015

Brunssum, General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum Commander welcomed Lieutenant General Jörg Vollmer with an honour sentry at JFC Brunssum Headquarters today. During a briefing by the respective stakeholders in the Joint Force Command, General Vollmer got insight into the working structures and mission focuses of the Headquarters and how JFC Brunssum tackles challenges to coordinate NATO's core tasks of collective defense, crisis management and military cooperation. General Vollmer stressed the strong German Army interest in the JFC Brunssum centres of gravity of Resolute Support, enhanced NRF and VJTf. General Vollmer, in his position as the German Army Chief, also took the opportunity to inform his fellow German officers serving at JFCBS about the current status of the German Army and met with troops later that evening for a working dinner. lessons we learn will be valuable for NATO in the future".



Six NATO Force Integration Units activated 2 SEP 2015

MONS, Belgium - NATO Force Integration Units in six Allied nations were activated on Tuesday, 1 September 2015, marking an important milestone in their stand-up process. These small headquarters, based in Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Poland and Romania, will ensure that NATO's high-readiness forces can deploy to the region in a rapid manner and prepare for subsequent operations if required. "I am very impressed by how quickly the six host-nations and NATO staff were able to activate these NATO Force Integration Units," said General Philip Breedlove, Supreme Allied Commander Europe. "While much work remains before these units are fully operational, the progress has been impressive. These units will be critical in facilitating the rapid deployment of Allied forces if required, supporting collective defence planning, and assisting in coordinating training and exercises," he said.

Spain Prepares for Exercise Trident Juncture 2015 18 AUG 2015

Zaragoza, Spain - Soldiers working 14 hour days, gusty winds and scorching sun... this is only a fraction of what is happening now in Zaragoza, Spain. Foreseen to be the hub of a Joint Task Force Headquarters manned by JFC Brunssum personnel, a tent city is rising from the ground in an extremely ambitious time schedule and equally demanding weather conditions. The most ambitious Exercise in NATO's modern history demands equally ambitious logistical support. The Exercise Support Group was tasked to erect the "tent city" in due time for the exercise which is scheduled to launch in the last week of September. To meet the deadline, 392 containers with all the necessary equipment arrived at the base at the end of July, and around 120 soldiers from Austria, Germany, and the USA are busy putting the pieces of this giant puzzle together. Royal Navy Lieutenant Philip Morrison, commander of the Support Group, describes the process: "Plans for exact positioning of every single tent, container and facility in the camp were drafted a year ago and approved in December 2014. What was easy on paper though, turns out to be a real challenge here: particularly as temperatures are often over 32 degrees Celsius, gusty winds turn each part of the tent into a yacht-sail, and sustained long working hours combine to present a real challenge". When asked about the biggest obstacle, Lieutenant Morrison replies: "We are encountering challenges that we did not anticipate, but the lessons we learn will be valuable for NATO in the future".



Italy ended its NATO Baltic Air Policing mission 28 AUG 2015

Šiauliai, 27 Aug 2015 - Italy's support to NATO Baltic Air Policing (BAP) mission, featuring under the name "Operation Frontiera Baltica" (Baltic Frontier), is at the closing stage. On 27 August 2015, in the presence of numerous military and civilian authorities, the Italian Air Force detachment known as "Task Force Air Šiauliai", ended its mission for NATO's Air Policing in the skies above Lithuania, Latvia and Estonia. The ceremony took place in the Italian Quick Reaction Alert (QRA) area of Šiauliai Air Base – the "home base" of Italian Eurofighter "Typhoon" jets for the last eight months. To accomplish this 24/7 peacetime task, the Italian Air Force had deployed at Šiauliai Air Base (Lithuania) four Eurofighter Typhoon fighters (coming from 4th Wing Grosseto and 36th Wing Gioia del Colle) and a team of around 100 military that covered every sensitive sector to be operative: from pilots to maintenance crew, from support personnel to infirmary, logistics and force protection. Since 1 January to 30 April 2015 (as known as "block 37") Italian Detachment operated as lead Nation and from 1 May until the end of August (as known as "block 38") as augmenting Nation. This means that Italy is the first NATO Ally to have supported BAP mission for a full eight months in a row and the only NATO member to have performed all NATO Interim Air Policing (IAP) missions: Slovenia, Albania, Iceland and Baltics. In effect, the Italian Air Force has continued to assure, from own bases in Italy, the IAP over Slovenia 24/7 since 2004, over Albania since 2009 (sharing this duty with Greece) and conducted the NATO mission in Iceland in 2013.





JFC Brunssum Commander Visits Resolute Support Mission in Afghanistan

2 SEP 2015

26-28 August General Hans-Lothar Domröse, Commander JFC Brunssum, conducted a situational awareness trip to Afghanistan where he was apprised of latest developments in NATO's Resolute Support Mission. Alongside discussions with Commander Resolute Support (RS), General John Campbell, General Domröse met with a number of RS and Afghan dignitaries, Regional Commanders and diplomats. The General was accompanied on his trip by Major General Scott Smith, Deputy Chief of Staff (Operations) at JFC Brunssum, for trade and traffic.



NATO HQ Defence Planning & Policy Division Visit JFC Brunssum.

3 SEP 2015

Allied Joint Force Command

Brunssum hosted a visit by a delegation from the NATO HQ Defence Planning & Policy Division on Thursday 03 September 2015. Chaired by Mr Jonathan Parish, Deputy Assistant Secretary General for Defence Policy and Planning, the Committee toured the headquarters and received a brief from the Deputy Commander, Air Marshal Graham Stacey, about its missions, as well as an update on the current priorities emphasizing the possible roles and tasks for the Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF) as NATO's spearhead force.



Exercise Trident Juncture 2015 Camp in Spain Begins to Take Shape

7 SEP 2015

The TRJE 15 camp build-up has been underway at Zaragoza Air Base, Spain, since the first week of August. Construction personnel work 14-hour days 6

days a week to finalize the site. The Support Group commander on-site, United States Air Force Major Kelie Thomas from JFC Brunssum (JFCBS), reports that the combined efforts of JFCBS, MNHQ Ulm Support Group, Austrian engineers, US SEABEES and NSPA SOC personnel have ensured excellent progress.

In addition, Major Thomas noted that the Host Nation Spanish leadership team of Zaragoza Air Base have contributed greatly and have been 100% supportive of all JFCBS efforts on-site.

Major Thomas further stated that TRJE 15 final preparations at Zaragoza Air Base are: "Nothing short of impressive and a true measure of interoperability and coalition unity." The 300-strong construction team have proven themselves capable and are demonstrating amazing ingenuity under the leadership and guidance of Dr. Stern, Captain Jurgen Gruber, Ensign Jason McGee, and NSPA SOC leader, George Brown.



Final Preparations for Exercise Trident Juncture 2015

11 SEP 2015

JFC Brunssum conducted an intense staff training week 07-11 Sep. With Joint Warfare Centre and other expert assistance the headquarters' staff were challenged to react to fictitious scenario-driven events as if they were real in what the military calls 'Battle Staff Training.' The serial was designed to familiarize personnel with the scenario, educate them in the requirements of a complex battle rhythm, integrate newcomers and augmentees, and exert a little time-pressure to demonstrate how quickly work needs to be done.

This training, conducted over five 12-hour working days, is now complete but the work continues. Lessons learned will be evaluated and changes to processes made; structures will be adjusted; and staff will continue to develop their knowledge such that, when they deploy for the exercise at the end of the month, they are ready.

'Greater solidarity, strength and readiness': NATO Secretary General marks opening of six new headquarters in Eastern Allies

3 SEP 2015

NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg attended the inauguration of a NATO Force Integration Unit (NFIU) in Vilnius, Lithuania on Thursday (3 September 2015), calling the opening "a big step forward towards greater solidarity, greater strength, and greater readiness." The Lithuanian NFIU is one of six small new headquarters activated this month in Lithuania, as well as in Bulgaria, Estonia, Latvia, Poland and Romania.



General Domröse Attends NFIU Inauguration Ceremony

3 SEP 2015

JFC Brunssum Commander Hans-Lothar Domröse visited Vilnius, Lithuania, on 3 September to take part in the inauguration of six NATO Force Integration Units that were activated in Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia, Poland, Romania and Bulgaria on 1 September.



The ceremony was attended by NATO Secretary General, Jens Stoltenberg, and the President of Lithuania, Dalia Grybauskaitė. The Secretary General explained the role of the new headquarters' stating: "The NATO Force Integration Units are very important because they are a vital link between national forces and multinational NATO forces. They will undertake planning. They will organize exercises. They will make it easier to reinforce if needed. And they will strengthen NATO's presence in this part of the Alliance."

Gen. Domröse is the commander of the Implementation Area that includes the NFIUs in Lithuania, Estonia, Latvia and Poland. from final preparations to the exercise proper.

Brunssum Deputy Commander Visits Italian Air Command Designated for NATO Response Force 2016

8 SEP 2015

Deputy Commander JFC Brunssum, Air Marshal Graham Stacey, visited the Italian Joint Force Air Component (JFAC) 3/4 September 2015.

The purpose of the visit, conducted on behalf of the Commander, was to get a personal "look and feel" on how preparations for Exercise Trident Juncture 2015 and the NRF Stand-By Phase 2016 were progressing.

Accompanied by the Deputy Commander of the Italian Joint Operations Command, Lieutenant General Roberto Nordio, and the JFAC Commander, Brigadier General Paolo Mazzi, Air Marshal Stacey was provided a comprehensive overview of the structure, manning and training underway that is designed to make the JFAC a successful part of the Joint Task Force. The Italian JFAC demonstrated great professionalism and confidence in their capabilities. They categorically proved to be on the right track.



Swedish Defence University Visit JFC Brunssum

11 SEP 2015

10 September: JFC Brunssum was honoured to host a visit of students and staff from the Swedish Defence University. Visitors were briefed on the roles and responsibilities of the headquarters with the following topics discussed in depth – the operational implementation of tasks related to NATO's Readiness Action Plan (RAP); the breadth and complexity of the Alliance's Planning Process; and the Resolute Support mission in Afghanistan.



Romania Actively Contributes to Strengthen NATO's Collective Defence

Story by Brigadier General Vasile BUCUR, Romanian Military Representative at JFC HQ Brunssum

New security challenges. The crisis in Ukraine posed the greatest security challenges to European security since the end of the Cold War. After the fundamental changes of the 1980s and 90s, our continent enjoyed an outstanding respite of calm, prosperity, freedom, democracy and respect for international law, cooperation and mutual help in key aspects of development and security—all at a level never known throughout European history.

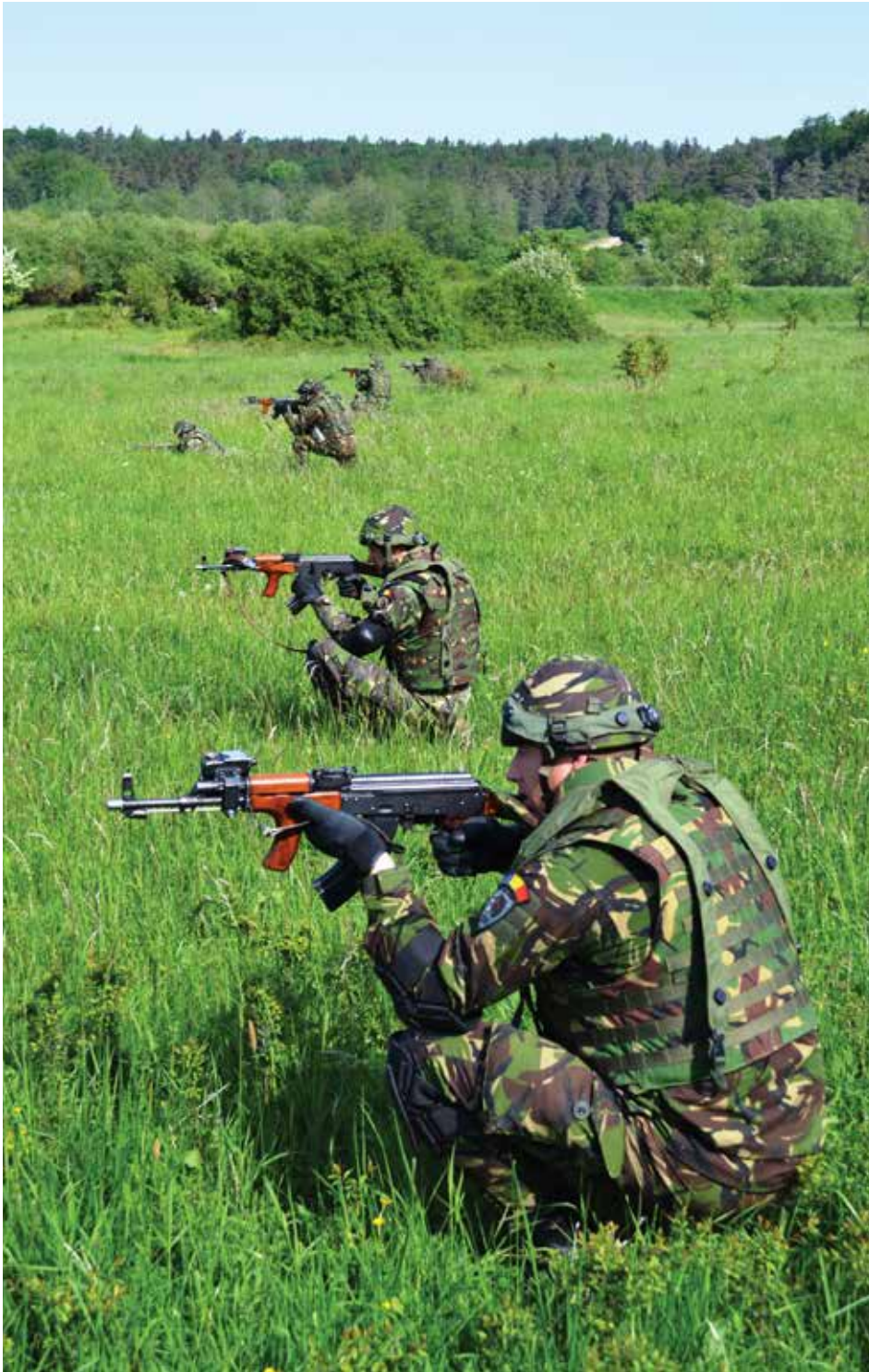


MAJ Mihaita Marin seconds before touch down at the end of a successful flight with an F-16 aircraft, Monte Real Air Base, Portugal.

As of 2014 however, the North Atlantic Alliance faces a new reality, a new, dramatically changed situation, both on its Eastern flank where threats continue to emerge in 2015, and in the South, where a true instability arch manifests itself, from North Africa to the Middle East. Confronted by these threats, NATO quickly responded by rapidly adopting reassurance and

adaptation measures appropriate to the new situation, especially on the Eastern flank. In this respect, steps are underway to adopt new strategic postures, to improve NATO's ability to militarily respond and to develop new command and control structures for the prevention and countering of the new threats, as articulated by the Readiness Action Plan.

Operational capacity of RAF. Given the rapidly degrading security environment in our neighbourhood, increasing the operational capacity of the Romanian Armed Forces (RAF) became the number one priority of the Ministry of National Defence. The main condition for the sustainability of these endeavours is to increase the defence budget. The defence budget of 2014 was the largest since 2008, whereas implementing the



Live-firing of the Romanian Infantry Company at Combined Resolve II Multinational Exercise, Grafenwoehr Training Area, Germany, June 2014.

provisions of Acordul politic național privind creșterea finanțării pentru apărare [National Political Agreement on Increasing Defence Funding] sets the premises for the multi-annual planning to improve the response time, procurement and upgrade of existing Romanian military technology.

Over 100 multi-national exercises in 2015. Training exercises, whether

national or international, are given special attention; they are numerous and ample. For this year, Romania has planned more than 100 multi-national exercises on its territory and in multiple locations abroad with its partners and allied forces. The Romanian Ministry of Defence has opened 16 national exercises to allies and partners in order to reiterate its ability to fulfill the main mission of defending the national territory and to reaffirm

its commitment to the promotion of peace and stability in the region. These engagements emphasize the enhanced relationship with allies and partners for collectively responding to common security challenges in the region, and also enhancing interoperability and effectiveness among participating forces.

The most important exercise, Trident Joust, was a first both for the Romanian and Joint Task Force Command Naples, as command and control elements were deployed for the first time; this exercise was conducted in Cincu, Romania. NFIU and MND-SE HQ. Against a background of national and allied efforts to respond adequately to the new security challenges on the Eastern flank, Romania puts at the disposal of the Alliance the Multi-national Division South-east Headquarters (MND-SE HQ) and hosts a multi-national NATO Force Integration Unit (NFIU). These are ready and the NFIU was highly appreciated by NATO Secretary General, Mr. Jens Stoltenberg, during his recent visit to Bucharest.

Once fully operational in 2016, the MND-SE HQ will be included in the NATO Force Structure, being able to coordinate the ROU and BGR NFIUs and provide C2 for NATO forces employed in Art. 5 operations that might be conducted in the South-Eastern flank of NATO's AOR. These allied multi-national structures constitute a presence of NATO in Romania that is visible and long-term. They will play a key-role in connecting our national forces with NATO's such that vital command control functions are quickly established in situations that require deployment of the NATO Response Force. These NATO structures will also affirm and consolidate Romania's status as a reliable and trustworthy member of the Alliance, and underscore the capacity of the Romanian Armed Forces to adapt to evolving security



For 2015, Romania has planned more than 100 multinational exercises on its territory and in multiple locations abroad along with its partners and allied forces

challenges in the region. Romania - US Strategic Partnership. Since its launch, in 1997, the Strategic Partnership between Romania and the US provided a framework for the development of bilateral relations between the two armed forces. Last year the number of consultations and high level visits, many a consequence of the security situation in Ukraine, markedly increased.

The presence of US warships in Constanta, the bilateral military exercises - TRIDENT POSEIDON, BREEZE, SEABREEZE, Eurasia Partnership DIVE - and the increased number of marines at the Mihail Kogalniceanu base all serve to demonstrate US determination to reassure Romania and its Eastern allies. NATO Ballistic Missile Defence (BMD) Capability in Romania. Romania took the decision to be part of the NATO Ballistic

Missile Defence (BMD) Capability at the November 2010 NATO Summit in Lisbon. This decision provides an excellent vehicle for Romania to pursue its core task of collective defence. As part of the European Phased Adaptive Approach (EPAA), the Deveselu base will comprise Romania's national contribution to the missile defence system architecture developed by NATO. On May 21st, 2014, the Missile Defense Agency and U.S. Navy conducted a test which confirmed the functionality of SM3 Block IB-type interceptors which are to be installed at Deveselu. This year is a crucial one. Making the Aegis Ashore in Romania operational shows clearly that NATO BMD is taking shape. Afghanistan, NATO Resolute Support Mission (RSM). After 12 years of uninterrupted deployments, Afghanistan still represents the main

area of interest and also the highest troop engagement effort in operations abroad for the Romanian Armed Forces.

Romania, as an active member of the Alliance, and in accordance with national political decisions, increased the number of its military personnel between January and March 2015, and became the 4th largest troop contributing nation to the RSM (at present over 600 military personnel are involved in this mission).

Romanian Air Force F-16 Program. Following a contract signed in October 2013 with Portugal for the purchase of 12 F-16 aircraft, Romania became the 27th country to add the F-16 Fighting Falcon to its military aircraft fleet. The Romanian F-16 acquisition program is



an essential element for transformation, introducing a new operation, training and logistic support philosophy. As such, the program is the main driver of Air Force transformation. Its introduction will generate major changes to personnel education and training in the Air Force Academy.

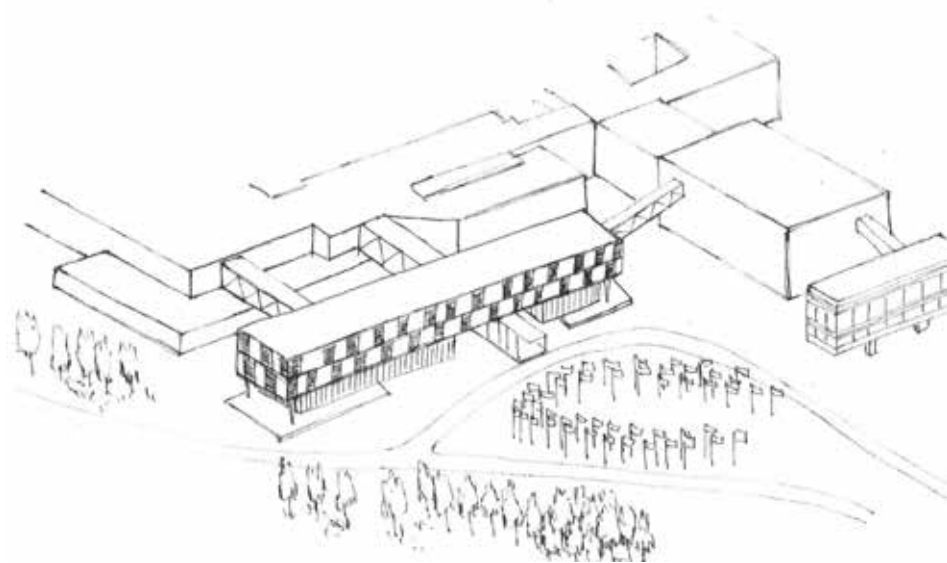
The first wave of pilots, mission planners and maintenance personnel is currently being trained in Portugal and, in 2016, the first Romanian F-16 will land in Romania.



NATO Secretary General Jens Stoltenberg visited the NATO Force Integration Unit (NFIU), Bucharest

H106 Expansion to Provide More Office Space

Story by Andrew Penney OF-4 CAN F



This Fall construction will begin on a major extension to Building H-106. The new extension will help relieve the shortage of Class II work space within

the headquarters, as well as address deficiencies at the main entrance hall. The work will include the construction of a three-level building in front of the

main entrance of Building H-106 that will include space for approximately 100 new work stations, a new Miner's Rest, a new Conference Foyer and VIP Entrance. The work stations will be accommodated on the first and second floors of the new building and connected to the main building with enclosed walkways to Wing's Alpha and Foxtrot.

Inside Building H-106, the current Miner's Rest and Reykjavik Conference Room will be converted into unclassified Conference Rooms and Meeting / Interview rooms. The HQSO area and the security post will be reconfigured to better accommodate the increased flow of personnel.

Work will begin in November 2015 and is expected to be completed by December 2016.

Alpha Company Generates Refugee Support

Story by Katrin Galeano

As the refugee crisis within the tri-border area continues, Alpha Company (AFNORTH BN Soldier and Family Readiness Group) has been busy providing support. At the beginning of September Alpha Company joined forces with the German Section of the AFNORTH International School (AIS). Tenth grade students from the school's German Section created the project "Yes, we care!", a bake sale for refugees - all proceeds being donated to a local refugee camp. The students asked for volunteers within the German Section to help bake cakes. Alpha Company, AFNORTH BN SFRG, supported this project and spread the word throughout the international community at JFC Brunssum, USAG Benelux Schinnen and NATO Air Base Geilenkirchen, through various online media channels, print and word-of-mouth.

Volunteers from a multitude of nations offered assistance. Many baked, others made financial donations. In a thank-you note to Alpha Company the head of the AIS German Section stated:



"I am overwhelmed by your support and assistance in raising money to provide shelter for the asylum seekers in Herzogenrath. I can only express my deepest "Thank you!" to all of you who so willingly and spontaneously came forward to help those who are fleeing persecution. Thank you so much!!!"

The final amount raised was 855 Euros. But it's not only the monetary benefit that counts. Because of project 'Yes, we care!' the military community is aware

of the refugee situation, which created an ink-spot transparency effect i.e. slowly but surely news of the initiative reached more and more organizations and groups, steadily mobilising ever greater support. For example, the UK Thrift Shop joined in and now Cub Scout Pack 100 is organizing a clothing drive. Alpha Company SFRG has now turned its attention to providing support to the clothing effort. This is great example how one good deed encourages others to help where help is needed.

Celebrating over 60 years of friendship: The Netherlands America Institute Limburg. *A local organization that embraces the bond from the past for the present and the future.*

Story by Katrin Galeano

This year, as we observe the 70th Anniversary of the Liberation of the Netherlands, we celebrate the special connection between the Netherlands and the United States of America. If you have attended any of the local parades or ceremonies, you may have spoken or listened to eyewitnesses sharing experiences from their youth.



NAIL Members at the famous Green Drink Network in Maastricht

You may have met Dutch citizens who are linked to families in the US and other countries though a common link: A US Soldier buried at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten located less than 30 minutes from JFC Brunssum. A local organization that has been fostering the Dutch-US connection for over 60 years is the Netherlands

America Institute Limburg (NAIL). There are still NAIL members today who as children personally witnessed the arrival of US troops in their towns, housed US soldiers in their homes, and care for the graves of US soldiers in Margraten. Egid Schoonbrood, a Dutch citizen and board member of the NAIL, stresses the long connection between the Dutch and

Americans throughout history starting with New York, originally named New Amsterdam in the 17th Century. He has adopted a grave of a US soldier. “We owe our freedom to the Americans.” His continued commitment to the Dutch-US friendship is shared by the Netherlands America Institute Limburg.

An exceptionally strong bond of friendship has evolved over the years. Embracing the past during Memorial Day events is only a small portion of the NAIL's activities. Throughout the year, the organization hosts a wide range of fun-filled social activities enjoyed by more than 200 members of Dutch, American, British, Irish, German, South African and Belgium nationalities. They all have the common goal of maintaining and strengthening the friendship between the citizens of the United States, the Netherlands and other nations.

NAIL President, Dr Arthur Philip Lieuwen, stresses that this special partnership is not only between the US and the

Americans. I am really impressed, the NAIL has rejuvenated and transformed into a true partnership between the Dutch and Americans, with increased US participation and membership. It gives me an opportunity to talk about my NATO experiences alongside Dutch culture and history."

Just like Johan, Joyce Crombach, a Dutch student and social entrepreneur, enjoys being part of NAIL. "It gives me a chance to explore beautiful places, connect with new cultures and, most of all, meet interesting people. I enjoy talking about the Dutch culture and learning how other nationalities view our country. The differences between

appreciation.

NAIL members are from very diverse backgrounds. Their professions and ages vary, but their common aim of cultivating the connection between the Dutch and American people bring them ever closer together, which is why long-time member Hub Schetters joined. "I have a strong sense of history and I am fully aware of the sacrifices the American nation made to liberate our country from Nazi oppression in the Second World War. Adoption of two graves in Margraten Cemetery, one of a young pilot who was killed over my hometown and meeting his brother and sister started a great friendship and



Annual Memorial Eve Gala



Ambassador Timothy Broas mingles with NAIL members at the NAIL Memorial Eve Banquet.

Netherlands, but also other nationalities. The organization is diverse, just like the United States of America that has been founded by immigrants, especially Europeans. The NAIL is evolving. It's a future-oriented organization that is actively reaching out to younger and future generations with the objective of building and fostering cross-border friendship. Fostering friendship is, after all, the basis for sustainable peace.

87-year young Dutch veteran, Johan Breukelaar, knows this first hand. The retired Royal Air Force Netherlands Major has been a NAIL member since the 1970s. "It gives me the opportunity to connect and meet face to face with

the US and the Netherlands always serve as interesting conversation topics! " Discussion of these differences and other topics take place during a variety of functions. Chatting during the intermission of an open-air concert in Valkenburg or a bus tour to the Dutch National Military Museum are only two examples. The NAIL creates opportunities for their members to meet and network. Events range from formal galas, day trips, open-air concerts to beer calls and local shooting club events. The NAIL functions as a platform facilitating people to connect, share information and experiences, to identify synergies and to establish networks resulting in mutual understanding and

personalized my feeling of gratitude. In a way I believe that this feeling should be kept alive for generations to come. I am very lucky and happy to meet members of this younger generation via NAIL." The NATO and US military presence in the tri-border region results in strong ties with senior commanders, military members and civilians. Thanks to their continuous support and commitment, the NAIL remains strong. United States Coast Guard Captain, Thomas Kaminski, Commander of Coast Guard Activities Europe at the US Army Garrison Benelux-Schinnen, acknowledges the unique overseas environment that can be highly educational and exciting, but brings with it many challenges: "We

are extremely fortunate at Activities Europe to have a number of support organizations available to help our families adjust to these challenges, including the Netherlands American Institute of Limburg (NAIL). The partnership between the people of Limburg and the American military community here is unique, and I look forward to many future opportunities to share time, both professionally and socially, with the Dutch people I have the privilege of meeting.”

United States Air Force Major General Jerry Martinez spent the last two years in the Netherlands during which he developed a strong appreciation for its

veteran organizations and the Foundation of the Adoption of American Graves, Margraten. Entrepreneurs and sponsors are drawn to the institute because of the synergies and ability to establish networks resulting in mutual understanding and appreciation. The municipalities of Brunssum, Beek and Schinnen are represented by their mayors, each a member of the NAIL. Amongst its patrons are also Drs. Theo Bovens, King’s Commissioner of Limburg, and Mr. Timothy Broas, United States Ambassador to the Kingdom of the Netherlands. These patrons take an active part in the organization by attending events like the annual King’s Day Gala and the Memorial Eve Banquet.

military members and families adjust to this duty station quickly” explained MAJ Rick Galeano, Vice President of the NAIL, during the annual tri-border welcome BBQ. “We work with various organizations that have the same goal: support and friendship. The synergy is superb amongst our friends.” The work of this organization positively affects the Limburg and American communities through the support of relevant charities and projects. In 2016, the NAIL will help raise funds for Limburg projects which support NAIL objectives through social activities such as the Green Drink Network.

The Netherlands America Institute



Annual Oktoberfest at Geilenkirchen Air Base



Hub Schetters chatting with Katrin Galeano at the NAIL King’s Day Gala.

people. “Having been the senior US Military Officer in the Netherlands, I have had the pleasure of experiencing the sincere friendship and gratitude of the people of the Netherlands. I want to thank the people of the Netherlands for being our friends. One organization that has been building friendships with Americans over the years has been the Netherlands America Institute of Limburg. Their purpose is to ensure this friendship will never die.”

NAIL has formed strong ties not only with the regional military, but also with local municipalities, the State of Limburg, the US Embassy, AFNORTH International School, entrepreneurs,

Over the past years, NAIL’s membership has increased steadily. According to US Ambassador Timothy Broas, this increase ‘demonstrates that it is not only the US Embassy that recognizes and values and important work the NAIL does.’

The Netherlands America Institute of Limburg is proactively reaching out to assist other non-profit organizations. Members have donated their time to help support Alpha Company, AFNORTH Battalion’s fundraising efforts in order to provide support for their soldiers and families. “Reaching out to the local community and creating awareness of this organization helps many of our

Limburg is a unique organization that always welcomes new members. You may join the organization at any time. To find out more about the Netherlands America Institute Limburg, visit them online at www.NAILLimburg.com and www.facebook.com/NAILLimburg. There, you will find more information about the organization and details about past and upcoming events but, more importantly, it will allow you to connect with them.

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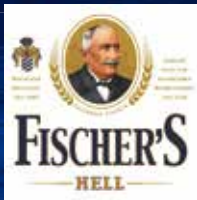
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JFC Brunssum Support Directorate Raise Funds for Charity

Story by Stephan Alford OR-8 GBR ARMY



The 'DCOS Spt Charity Committee' convened and the window of opportunity arose in Jul 15 for the DCOS Spt Families Summer BBQ to take place on the JFC Brunssum Sports Fields for all within DCOS Spt Directorate to relish and enjoy. Good weather, good food and above all, good company allowed the BBQ to flow with practically no incidents to report. The children enjoyed sports, fun and games whilst

the adults relaxed, chewed the fat and soaked up the sun over a burger and hotdog.

A 'Cash Bar' raised a total of €223.70 for charity. Donned with Black Scorpions scarves, WO2 Alford and Sgt Guthrie from JFC Brunssum, and members of the DCOS Spt Charity Committee, presented a cheque for €223.70 to members of the Black Scorpion Wheel Chair Hockey Club.

A really Big 'Thank You' to 'The Charity Committee', OR-9 Geppert, OR-8 Alford, OR-8 McNeil, OR-8 Parma, OR-8 Reynders, OR-8 Scott, OR-8 Schlesier, OR-7 Ashwood, OR-6 Silva, & OR-6 Guthrie, who worked tirelessly in the background and on the day to make the event a roaring success, well done!



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Country : Turkey
Capital : Ankara
Location : South eastern Europe & Western Asia
Land Boundaries : 2.648 km
Coastline : 7.200 km
Population : 77,695,904 (2014 Estimate)
Area : Total 783,562 km²
Location : Turkey is situated in Anatolia and the Balkans, bordering the Black Sea, between Bulgaria and Georgia, and bordering the Aegean Sea and the Mediterranean Sea, between Greece and Syria.

Climate : Turkey's diverse regions have different climates, with the weather system on the coasts contrasting with that prevailing in the interior. The Aegean and Mediterranean coasts have cool, rainy winters and hot, moderately dry summers. Annual precipitation in those areas varies from 580 to 1,300 millimeters (22.8 to 51.2 in), depending on location. Generally, rainfall is less to the east. The Black Sea coast receives the greatest amount of precipitation and is the only region of Turkey that receives high precipitation throughout the year. The eastern part of that coast averages 2,500 millimeters (98.4 in) annually which is the highest precipitation in the country.

Economy:
GDP : \$1.508 trillion
GDP per Capita : \$19,610
GDP per sector : agriculture: 8.9%; industry: 27.3%; services: 63.8% (2013 est.)

Budget:
Revenues : \$225 billion (2015)
Expenses : \$234 billion (2015)
Currency : Turkish Lira (TRY)

Main Industries : textiles, food processing, autos, electronics, tourism, mining (coal, chromate, copper, boron), steel, petroleum, construction, lumber, paper

Exports : \$176.6 billion

Export goods : apparel, foodstuffs, textiles, metal manufactures, transport equipment

Main Export partners: Germany 9%, Iraq 7.6%, United Kingdom 5.7%, Russia 4.6%, Italy 4.5%, France 4.2% (2013 est.)

Imports : \$240.4 billion

Import goods : machinery, chemicals, semi-finished goods, fuels, transport equipment

Main Import partners: Russia 10%, China 9.8%, Germany 9.6%, Italy 5.1%, United States 5%, Iran 4.1% (2013 est.)



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

I arrived here in early August 2013 with my family and it is the first time we have been in the Netherlands. After living in big cities such as Istanbul and Ankara, Brunssum came across to me as quite silent and free of traffic jams. Concerning the second part of the question, I have been assigned as the Maritime Planner in a magnificent Team (Team 1) in J5.

Tell us about your military career.

My military career started with passing the exam of Naval High School in 1992 and after spending four years in the high school and the same time frame in Naval War College, I graduated as a Navy Officer in 2000. I had been aboard for almost seven years in various types of warships as Communication Officer, Operations Officer, Commanding Officer and EXO from 2000 to 2007. My latest sea assignment was as EXO of TCG KARTAL (Jaguar Class Fast Patrol Boat). Subsequently after two years education in the Naval War Academy, I graduated as a Staff Officer in 2009 and was assigned as the Harmony Officer in the Naval High School. During three perfect years in this post, I finished my education in the Armed Forces Academy in 2012. My next assignment was Exercise/ Training Assessment and Evaluation Officer in Turkish Naval Forces HQ for one year and finally I came here for three years of which I have already spent two.

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

I am the Maritime Planner in J5 Team 1, I am quite sure that it is one of the best teams in the HQ. As Team 1, we normally deal with Future Operations Planning. Therefore we regularly host planning events with the other Divisions and Commands to ensure that we properly understand the direction and guidance provided by our Command Group and then based on those D&Gs, we develop the best plan we could for which our HQ and/or down chain commands would implement. My team specifically deals with the ongoing mission in Afghanistan, so at the beginning of my NATO career as a Navy guy, it was not easy to figure out how NATO was implementing the land heavy mission, ISAF and the transition from ISAF to the TAA mission. Nevertheless, thanks to my teammates for being so capable and well experienced that they made my adjustment period was as short as possible.

Tell us about how you spend your time out of the work.

I like spending time with my family, playing with kids and as a whole family cycling around sightseeing. I really like swimming and playing football, but as my immune system is getting slower, instead of trying to succeed staying in one piece during the match, I prefer to watch the matches particularly amongst the most famous teams in Europe. I also like to read books whilst drinking coffee and my favourite books are historical and academic ones. Visiting museums, the historical sites and structures is another option for me and my wife to spend time, nevertheless since my kids are too young, sometimes it would be really annoying when they were trying to catch each other's whilst yielding in a museum. Rather than aforementioned, nowadays I have recently started to snowboard and horse-back riding which fills me with adrenaline. Finally I have spare time to waste, as any other man I spend my time by reviewing the cars or trying to collect watches and fountain pens.

Did you know



Over 100 years of Dutch Aviation Industry "Part 1: Anthony Fokker Dutch Aviation Pioneer"

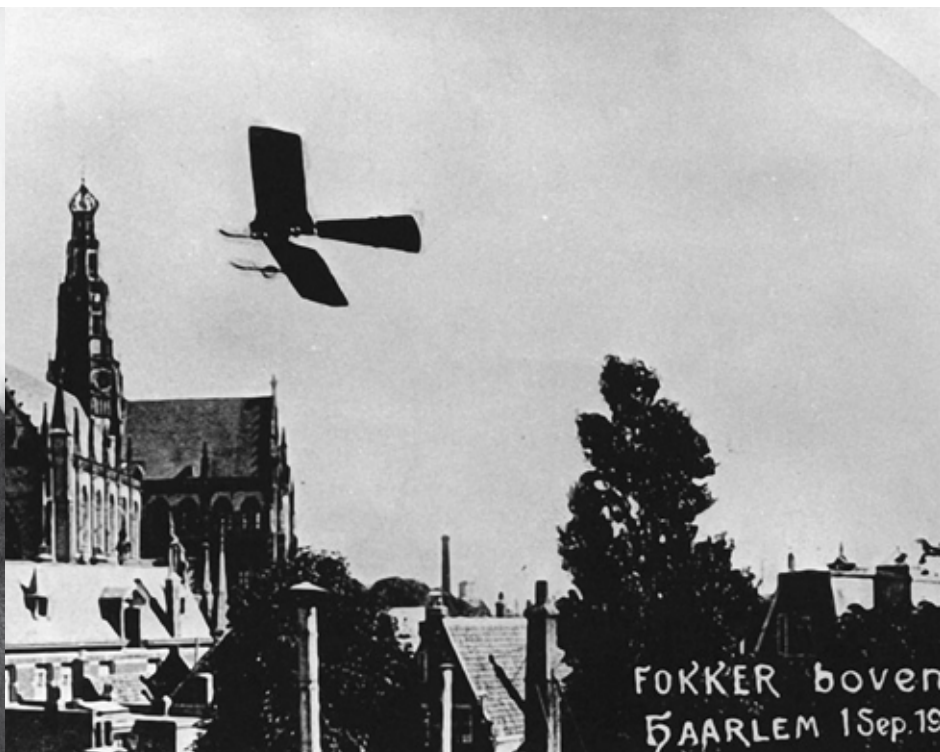
Composed by Ed Frieser.

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.

Another milestone in the life of Dutch Fokker Aviation and Space Industry was announced on 28 July 2015. British GKN Aerospace agreed to acquire Fokker Technologies, an industry once started by Dutch aviation pioneer Anthony Fokker. This news triggered me to look into the history of Dutch aviation and Anthony Fokker in particular and summarise.



Anthony Fokker



Anthony Fokker boven Haarlem

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 Zehlbach, 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.

First Fokker companies

In 1912 Anthony left for Johannistal, a small airfield near Berlin. There he founded a company - Fokker Aeroplanbau GmbH. The aircraft he built were traditionally made of a welded steel pipe body, wings stretched with linen and a wooden finish. The company, however, suffered heavy losses until the German Army placed a large aircraft order in 1913. In the meantime Anthony had

become close friends with the German pilot Manfred von Richthoven, better known as the Red Baron. Von Richthoven commanded a squadron of pilots flying Fokker aircraft. Anthony Fokker started a new company named Fokker Flugzeug Werke in Schwerin. This company with some 3000 employees became quite successful. The 4300 aircraft they built were very reliable and his three-decker airplane, the DR1, was remarkably manoeuvrable. In spite of its small engine of only 110 HP it had an incredible climb rate. Unfortunately for the allies, it was a very successful aircraft during World War I.

Naturalisation

In 1915 the German General Staff forced Anthony Fokker to adopt German nationality. He didn't want to change nationality, but was forced to and serve at the "Landsturm ohne Waffen" (Land forces without arms). However, in the end he became a very wealthy man. It is said that the Allies had offered him a sum of 2 million UK Pounds if he would leave Germany. This invitation however, was intercepted by the German Secret Service and never reached Anthony. At the end of WW I the Fokker D VII was introduced and entered the frontlines in France. Part of its success was the synchronization gear developed in the period 1915 - 1917 by a team led by Anthony Fokker that enabled the pilot to successfully fire a gun through the gaps of a two-blade propeller.

Smuggling Plan

The German fighters were so successful that, at the end of WW I, the occupying Allies in Germany demanded all German fighter

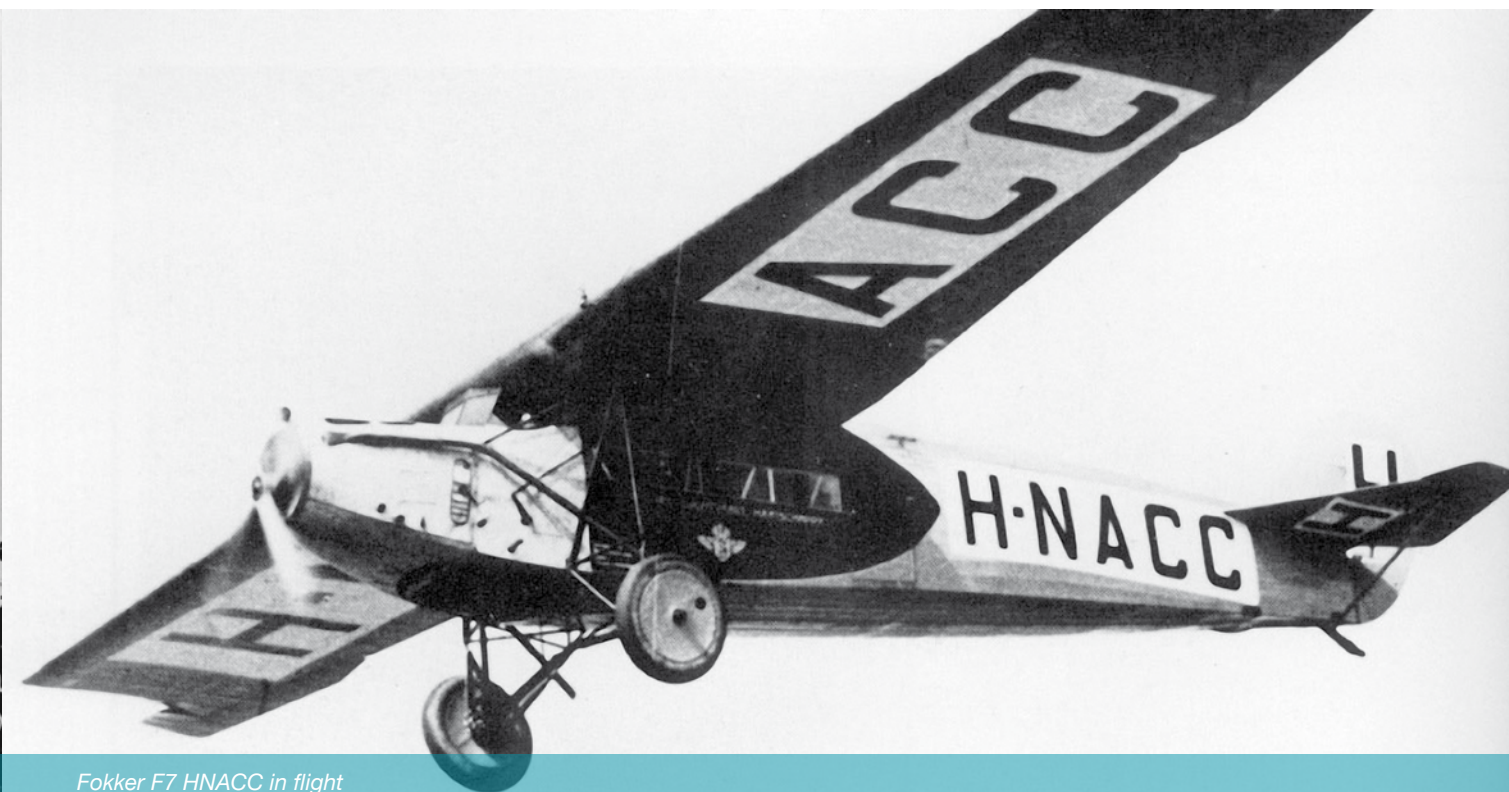
Civil aviation

With the start of a brand new company in Amsterdam-North, the NV Nederlandse Vliegtuigen Fabriek Fokker (Dutch Aircraft Factory Fokker), the era of civil aviation commenced. In the meantime, in 1916, Schiphol Amsterdam airfield was founded. On 7 October 1919 the Dutch KLM airline (Koninklijke Luchtvaart Maatschappij) was also founded. The first KLM President was Albert Plesman. Anthony Fokker had a close relationship with Plesman. Although more Dutchmen started to build aircraft, such as Frits Koolhoven, who built the first passenger aircraft in the world (the FK-26 in England) and van Berkel, in Rotterdam, who's factory built a seaplane for the Dutch Navy, Fokker started to produce the first passenger aircraft, the F-2. This was soon followed by the F-3 that could carry 4 passengers. In close cooperation with Albert Plesman the F-7 was developed. The very first F-7, H-NACC, still with a single engine made its maiden flight from the Netherlands to former Netherlands-

many of these were sold. In 1926 Josephine Ford Byrd flew a triple engine Fokker F-7 across the North Pole. Shortly thereafter, in 1928, the Australian aviation pioneer Charles Kingsford Smith made the very first flight across the ocean from Australia to the USA with a triple engine Fokker F-7, called the "Southern Cross", making him world famous. But Charles Lindbergh, who made the first solo flight across the Atlantic to Paris in May 1927, also became a household name. These successes all contributed to the popularity of aviation.

The end and a new beginning

On 24 October 1929 the Wall Street crises hit Fokker. Fokker shares quickly dropped 63% in value. The Fokker imperium collapsed. General Motors took over some parts of the Fokker Company and survived the financial crises. But the role of Anthony Fokker was severely diminished. Back in the Netherlands, Fokker continued building aircraft in the hangars of Schiphol Amsterdam. He designed an aircraft with four engines, each with 700



Fokker F7 HNACC in flight

aircraft be destroyed. Anthony refused to do this and instead sheltered several hundred aircraft in farms in the area of Schwerin. Following the financial chaos in Germany and the end of the German Empire in 1918, Anthony Fokker was placed under house arrest. But he managed to escape from his guards in Schwerin and hid in Berlin. As we read in his biography, his former chief logistics, Heinrich Mahn, came up with an incredible plan to smuggle 220 aircraft, 400 engines, 100 parachutes and production machinery by train to the Netherlands. The plan succeeded and these aircraft and engines secretly crossed the border near Hengelo in 350 rail-freight wagons.

Indies on 1 October 1924. The flight was delayed due to an engine problem forcing the pilots to make a stop near Belgrade, in Bulgaria. But on 24 November that year the H-NACC landed in Batavia (Jakarta). A heroic welcome was prepared for the pilots.

Aviation becomes popular

Anthony Fokker was also interested in the US market and, in 1925, started a large factory, the Fokker Aircraft Corporation, in Teterboro, New Jersey. Later, in 1927, Fokker became the world's largest aircraft manufacturer. Fokker tried to develop the F-32 passenger aircraft; the first four-engined aircraft designed and built in the US. But not

HP, suitable to carry 34 passengers. This aircraft was developed for flights between

Amsterdam and Batavia (Djakarta), in the former Netherlands-Indies. Albert Plesman, President of KLM however, was more interested in the aircraft built by Douglas. When Plesman subsequently refused to buy aircraft from Fokker the close relationship between the two chilled. Unfortunately Dutch aviation pioneer Anthony Fokker died at the age of 49, on 23 December 1939, suffering from meningitis in the Murray Hospital, New York. He left a fortune of 6.5 million Dutch Guilders to his heirs.

To be continued in the next edition of the Northern Star.

Re-Enlistment in Normandy

Story by Katrin Galeano, Picture credit: SSG Alexander Ndifor, Alpha Company, AFNORTH Battalion

On August 21, Alpha Company traveled to Normandy to re-enlist SSG Shull. Over 50 individuals participated in the event that started at the U.S. Ranger Monument located at Pointe du Hoc, the very spot on the northern coast of France where allied soldiers had stormed ashore to liberate Europe in 1944.

With the American flag, an old Army field desk, and the cliffs of Normandy in the back ground, SSG Shull re-enlisted in front of roughly 100 Soldiers and visitors. Alpha Company AFNORTH Battalion Commander CPT Sonney administered the re-enlistment oath. Soldiers were then given the opportunity to explore Omaha beach and join the company at the American Cemetery in Normandy as the company arranged to have the re-enlistment flag for SSG Shull raised and lowered.



SSG Benjamin Hull and Alpha Company, AFNORTH BN Commander CPT David Sonney shaking hands after the re-enlistment at the U.S. Ranger Memorial, Point du Hoc, Normandy, France on Friday, August 21

Alpha Company, AFNORTH BN Commander CPT David Sonney and SSG Benjamin Hull sign the enlistment documents at the U.S. Ranger Memorial, Point du Hoc, Normandy, France on Friday, August 21.



Croatian 7th International NCO Summer Camp 2015

Story by Master-Sergeant GASCHÉ Samuel, JFCBS / J3 / J35 C-IED Cell, FRA - ARMY

I had the honour to be selected to participate in the 7th NCO Camp held at the Naval Base of Split, Croatia, this year.



This event, designed for NATO / PfP Nations' military Headquarters and Units across the Alliance, gathered 15 Units from 12 different Nations. It is organised every year by the Croatian Armed Forces (CAF).

The NCO Camp was very well organised by the CAF and included a variety of interesting serials such as shooting, rowing, sailing and a city tour. Further, the CAF provided detailed presentations on national military topics whilst we attended the camp. It was a

great opportunity to share knowledge, build strong relationships and promote partnership. Every participant gave a presentation about their own NCO Corps. Guest speakers from the Resolute Support Mission provided insight of their experiences in Afghanistan.



Battle – the Show in Maaseik

Just across the border into Belgium lies the cozy town of Maaseik. It boasts a market square with bars that provide great Belgian beers! The cultural centre in Maaseik offers a really good entertainment program with all kinds of shows with different music styles. The Woodstock Music Festival on October 23rd for example and the Still Collins Band on October 24th, the most famous and most sought after Phil Collins/Genesis cover band that play the best songs by Genesis and Phil Collins!

Before then Battle - the Show will be taking place on October 17th. This promises to be an amazing show full of contrasts. Starting off with two beautiful ladies with violins performing together with EXTREME RHYTHM. An extraordinary tight-knit 'family', or 'brotherhood' of 10 maniac yet scrupulous percussionists, most of whom have been performing together now for almost 10 years, at home and abroad, in a huge variety of musical settings.

Battle offers something for everyone. From unique compositions to contemporary interpretations of Kashmir (Led Zeppelin), Hallelujah by Leonard Cohen and Michael Jackson's legendary Earth Song. Two completely different musical worlds merge into a breathtaking grand musical duel. This show seriously offers the public musical fireworks!

Tickets

€ 23

Circle 100 can give away 6 tickets to the lucky winners! If you would like to win a ticket send an email to: pao@jfcbs.nato.int

Contact

Cultuurcentrum Achterolmen
Van Eycklaan 72
3680 Maaseik
Telephone +32 89 569956
achterolmen@maaseik.be
Free parking available (follow the signs P4 Sportlaan)





Win Tickets for Battle - the Show in Maaseik

- We have 6 tickets for Battle - the Show in Maaseik
- In order to win the tickets, please answer the following question:
- **Quiz Question: How many percussionists are there in the show?**

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:

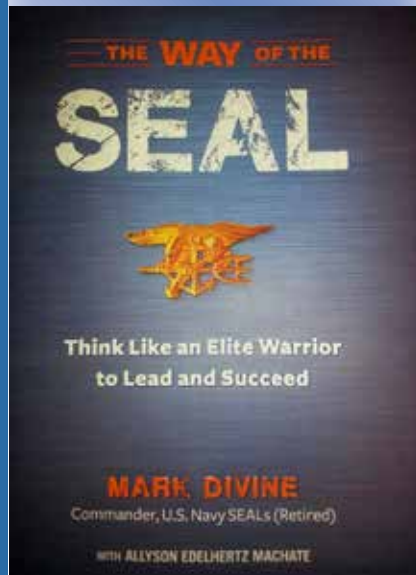
Winners Adventureparc Valdeludo

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

Tickets won by:

Caroli Barnehl	AFNORTH School
Markus Grebe	BWVSt
Uwe Meyer	BWVSt
Wim Charlier	German Kindergarten AIS School
Zoe Fowler	BSG

Book Review



The Way of the SEAL

(Think Like an Elite Warrior to Succeed and Lead in Life)

Mark Divine

Want to be tough? Cool under fire? Able to sense danger before it's too late? In *The Way of the SEAL*, ex-Navy SEAL Commander Mark Divine reveals exercises, meditations, and focusing techniques to train your mind for mental toughness, emotional resilience, and uncanny intuition. Along the way you'll reaffirm your ultimate purpose, define your most important goals, and take concrete steps to make them happen. A practical guide for businesspeople or anyone who wants to be an elite operator in life, this book will teach you how to:

- Lead from the front, so that others will want to work for you
- Practice front-sight focus, the radical ability to focus on one thing until victory is achieved
- Think offense, all the time, to eradicate fear and indecisiveness

- Smash the box and be an unconventional thinker so you're never thrown off-guard by chaotic conditions
- Access your intuition so you can make "hard right" decisions
- Achieve twenty times more than you think you can

Blending the tactics he learned from America's elite force with lessons from the Spartans, samurai, Apache scouts, and other great warrior traditions, Mark Divine has distilled the fundamentals of success into eight powerful principles that will transform you into the leader you always knew you could be. Learn to think like a SEAL and take charge of your destiny at work, at home, and in life.



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t' Swarte Schaap

Sint Franciscusweg 36-3
6417BD Heerlen

+31 (0)45-571 61 16

info@tswarteschaap.nl
www.tswarteschaap.nl



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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