

Eagle's Eye

2008



NO 4

Exercise Crystal Eagle 2008 Field Newspaper

Thursday 25th September, Wildflecken, Germany

A great day for great men



The stars on their shoulders were shining and their smiles grew bigger and bigger. The group of 59 VIP's who visited Exercise Crystal Eagle 2008 yesterday were clearly impressed by the setup and results of the exercise.

The impressive group of 3 Lieutenant Generals, 12 Major Generals, a Rear Admiral and 6 Brigadier Generals plus numerous colonels, high level politicians, and other great men arrived in Wildflecken yesterday morning to experience Exercise Crystal Eagle 2008 at first hand.

A tight, full day programme had been designed by the Visitors and Observers Bureau (VOB) to give the group of Distinguished Visitors (DV's) a feeling of the exercise and the units participating in it.

For several weeks the 12-man strong VOB staff (under the command of Lieutenant Colonel D. Schachel) had been working hard to match many visitors with the available time and number of coaches.

Warmly welcomed by the Commander

A convoy of comfortable coaches were in place in front of the building 177 as the group left the briefing room after a warm welcome by Commander MNC NE Lieutenant General Zdzislaw Goral and a series of exercise related presentations. After a quick snapshot of the distinguished group, they entered the coaches and set off to visit the different units and exercise control staffs scattered around Wildflecken Barracks. Onboard there were also several reporters and a TV-team to cover the exercise in general and the DV-day in particular.

First class lunch in good company

The programme was interrupted by a delicate lunch served in the mess tent. Soldiers from each country participating in the exercise had been invited for lunch to have the opportunity to exchange views on the exercise with DV's from their country.

This fine social event also gave the visitors the opportunity to comment on the DV-day – and many were more than satisfied with the achievements and results of the exercise. The visit to the exercise evaluation cell (EVAL) had confirmed that the exercise expectations had been more than met.

After the afternoon programme with visits to Szafran and the brigade headquarters the conclusion was clear. The investment in careful planning of the Exercise Crystal Eagle 2008 had clearly paid off.

Real Life Support survey – We do care about the participants

The evaluation team headed by Chief of Staff Multinational Corps Northeast (MNC NE) Brigadier General Josef Heinrichs evaluates the participants during the exercise. Additionally, his team helps Real Life Support (RLS) to improve its services for Crystal Eagle 2008 by evaluating the services rendered. 207 participants handed in their RLS survey. Most interestingly, the statements given generally did neither differ by rank nor by nationality.

The early point in time was enabling the RLS to resolve a couple of issues. As suggested by the survey, thus the participants, some improvements were introduced. It took only 48 hours to establish washing facilities in front of the

massing location. In response to the rapid changes in weather, heating was provided in all buildings and the gym was manned also during the weekend. Furthermore, the kitchen was asked to provide food which is free of pork meat. The survey had positive findings too: a couple of participants stated in their remarks that the kitchen personnel does a great job being friendly and service orientated.

General Heinrichs, underlined, however, that not all issues could be tackled since these were not in the sphere of the MNC NE or were too costly. For example issues relating to the accommodation (e.g. TV in rooms) could not be changed. Other issues will be taken



into account for the next exercise.

The General said that the overall view of the majority of the participants on RLS issues irrespective of nationality or rank was very good. According to the results of the survey, only a minority did not appreciate the RLS (even prior to the additional steps that were taken).



Exercise Director, Major General Ole Køppen, Deputy Commander MNC NE is overwhelmed by the dedication and commitment shown by the soldiers, who finish the exercise today. Eagle's Eye's reporter has met him.

Sir, what is the job of the Exercise Director?

Before the exercise I had some difficulties defining the true nature of the job. But as the exercise has evolved, I see a parallel to the time when I was Second in Command in a battalion or Chief of

You have done a great job

Staff at the regimental level. I am responsible for the practical execution of the exercise, and I have the Directing Staff (DISTAFF) at my disposal.

We discuss the play for the next 24 to 48 hours, and not a single incident is launched before I have approved it.

What has been your most interesting observation during the exercise?

One observation has made me feel very, very good. Every single soldier has been extremely dedicated to his or her work. The training audiences jumped into their roles and acted in these immediately, and every single participant has worked very hard, with only minimum fighting of the setting.

We, on the other hand, have tried to produce a "play" to optimize their learning. So it is my impression – also from walking around both in the DISTAFF and within the Command Posts – that everybody is enjoying themselves. At the same time DISTAFF is very eager to give the training audience top quality injects and products to work with,

to which all four Brigade Staffs have responded by producing products of very high quality.

The American saying that "The job isn't finished until the paperwork is done" is quite famous. Does this truth also apply to the upcoming "post-exercise work"?

You are absolutely right. An exercise like this produces a lot of paper, and if you look into our briefing room you will actually see a documentation pile at least half a meter high. On Friday before we go back home we will have a swift "After Action Review" in the Movie Theatre. Then, after returning to Szczecin we will have a comprehensive workload in front of us in order to examine all lessons identified and transform these into lessons learned and thus further improve our learning from Afghanistan. The report that each of the four Brigades will send us will of course also be of great value in this process. The end product will be improved mission preparedness for all and an improved Crystal Eagle in 3 years time.

Voice from the crowd

What will be the first thing you will do when you are backing home?



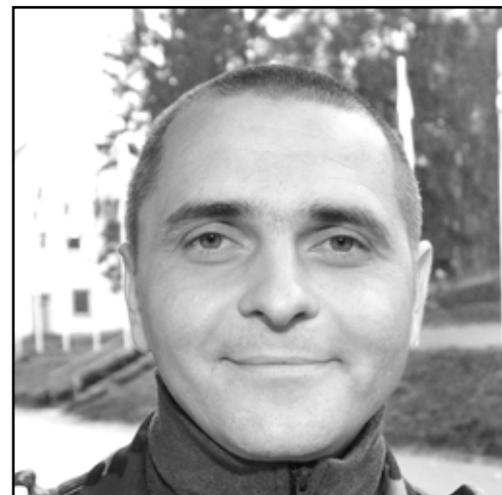
**Lieutenant Colonel
Gian FALESSI LUCA**
Italian Army

It is a difficult question. The exercise is interesting for me, as I am going to gain a lot of experience. I think that is all.



**Lieutenant Colonel
Vincent SAINT DENIS**
French Army

When I come back my home I will kiss all of my children. I have 5 sons.



**Captain
Marcel TROJAN**
Slovak Army

First of all, I would like to say thanks to my wife, the next I would like to say hello, after I will buy a huge bouquet of flowers for my wife. After that I will buy a special camouflage romper suit.

7th Polish Coastal Defence Brigade

The 7th Coastal Defence Brigade is one of three brigades belonging to the 12th Armored Division. The 7th Coastal Defence Brigade is located in three towns: Słupsk, Lębork and Trzebiatów. The brigade staff and main forces are located in Słupsk. They consist of an infantry battalion, artillery battalion, anti aircraft battalion, headquarters battalion, reconnaissance company, logistic battalion with 1,300 soldiers altogether. Two remaining infantry battalions are based outside of Słupsk.



The 7th Coastal Defence Brigade is the main land forces brigade with the task to defend the Polish coast in cooperation with the Polish Navy. Soldiers from the brigade participate in peace keeping missions and operations in: Af-

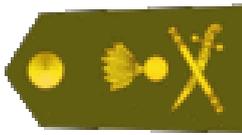


ghanistan, Iraq, Bosnia & Herzegovina, Kosovo, Lebanon, Syria, and Chad.

The roots of the Brigade date back to the beginning of the 18th century. The first traditions of the military unit were taken from the 7th National Cavalry

Brigade, which was raised in August 1794 during Kosciuszko Insurrection. The anchor as insignia for the brigade was taken from the unformed 7th Coastal Defence Brigade from Gdańsk. It is a symbol of the marine tradition.

Icebreaker

Code	OF-8
Czech Republic	 generálporučík
Denmark	 Generalløjtnant
Estonia	 Kindralleitnant
France	 Général de Corps d'Armée
Germany	 Generalleutnant
Greece	 Αντιστράτηγος
Hungary	 Altábornagy
Italy	 Generale di Corpo d'Armata (Tenente Generale)
Code	OF-8



Es mīlu jūs (LVA)

I love you (GBR)

Ljubim te (SLV)

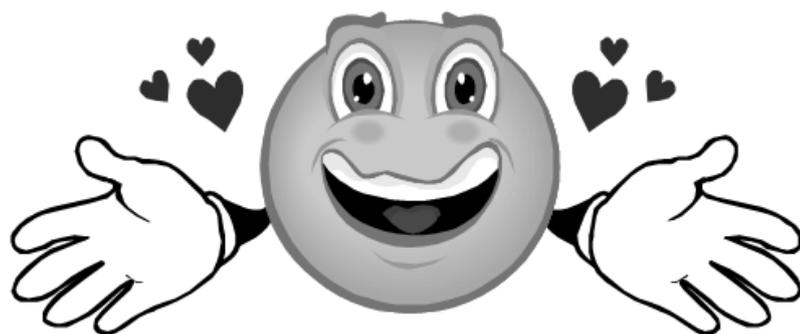
Miluji tě (CZE)

Aš tave myliu (LTU)

Ti amo (ITA)

Sizi seviyorum (TUR)

Jeg elsker dig (DNK)



Milujem ťa (SVK)

Se agapó polí (GRC)

Ik hou van jou (NLO)

Kocham Cię (POL)

Szeretlek (HUN)

Te iubesc (ROU)

Ich liebe dich (DEU)

I LOVE YOU (USA)

Je t'aime / Je vous aime (FRA)

Ma armastan sind (EST)

phrases part 3



Head aega (EST)

Do zobaczenia (POL)

La revedere (ROU)

Is to epanidín (GRC)

Uz redzēšanos (LVA)

Goodbye / Farewell (GBR)

Nashledanou (CZE)

VISO GERO (LTU)

Arrivederci (ITA)

Abıasmaladık (TUR)

Na svidenje (SLV)

Farvel (DNK)

See Ya (USA)

VISZONT LÁTÁSRA (HUN)

Auf Wiedersehen (DEU)

Au revoir (FRA)

Dovidenia (SVK)

TOT ZIENS (NLO)



Code	OF-8
Latvia	 Ģenerālleitnants
Lithuania	 Generolas leitenantas
Netherlands	 Luitenant - generaal
Poland	 Generał broni
Romania	 General-locotenent
Slovakia	 Generálporučík
Slovenia	 Generalpodpolkovnik
Turkey	 Korgeneral
United Kingdom	 Lieutenant General
United States	 Lieutenant General
Code	OF-8



A great day

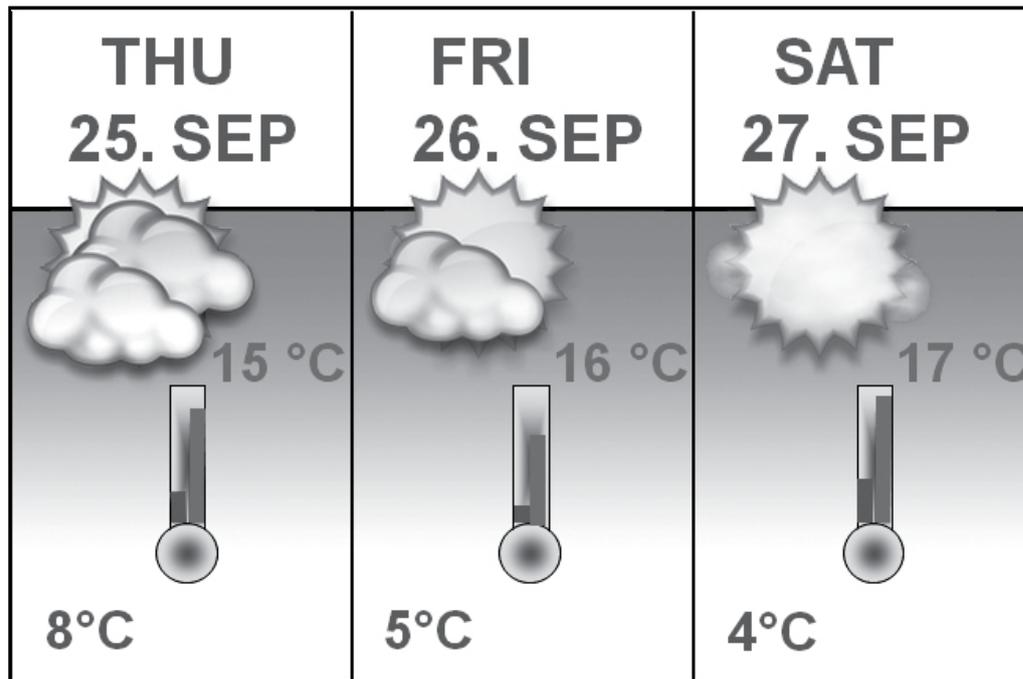




for great men



Weather forecast for Wildflecken



Passengers are already on the plane board and wait for the pilots. Suddenly two man with dark glasses and white sticks come in and go the pilots' cabin. The passengers take their luggage and try to get out from the plane because no one wants to fly with the

Free time

blind pilot. Stewardesses calm them down explaining that although they are blind they are fully professional pilots and they never made any crash. After a while passengers agree

to continue their travel. Then the doors are closed, engines are on, the plane with the full speed is approaching to the end of the starting lane.... but not taking off. The passengers seeing the trees just a few meters in front of them realize it is the last moment of their lives. They start screaming. At the same moment the plane takes off smoothly and luckily flies above the trees. One pilot with the tone of disappointment in his voice says to the other:

- If one day they do not start screaming we will for sure crash the plane.

A little boy asked his father, 'Daddy, how much does it cost to get married?' Father replied, 'I don't know son, I'm still paying.'

SUDOKU

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Military Situation Report Wednesday, 24 SEP 2008

Within the last days HQ AUFOR has received information about terrorists training camps in the vicinity of Loja near to the new constructed pipeline. In the morning of 24th November the German and the Estonian Brigade started a combined joint operation named EAGER HAMMER in order to seize the training camps and to capture the insurgents.

For the execution day of this operation the weather forecast predicted a dusty visibility day – short "DV Day". But the operational impact was assessed as very low. Actually, the impact is much higher than expected, and some Joint Fires assets will be temporarily not available. But flexibil-

ity in planning and a well coordinated execution make AUFOR confident to achieve success.

Beside this operation, there was further success in capturing single terrorists' leaders. This shows that the AUFOR mission is on a good way and that all over the country the Estonian, German, Latvian, and Polish led forces will ensure a better life for the people in Auriga.

Impressum
ANNA GAŁYGA, WISNIEWSKI WOJCIECH, RESENBRO HASSE, GRAF GUNNAR, DONSLUND KIM, H LANGTHEJM, SCHUSTER JÜRGEN, RATYNSKI SLAWOMIR, KRAMPL ROBERT, SOBOLEWSKI RAFAL, KÜHNAST ANDREAS, PIELECKI GRZEGORZ, SEEGER HANS, SCHIPKE RALF, GEO/MET, GRZEGORZ SZWANKOWSKI, WIKIPEDIA.ORG