

## Expanding history knowledge

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**Over thirty Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) from the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) got together at the Military Historic Seminar that took place in Baltic Barracks on 12 May 2009. The second part – the Terrain Walk was held in Świnoujście on 14 May 2009.**

Soldiers from 10 different countries serve in the Multinational Corps Northeast and, therefore, ensuring a similar educational background is so important. Moreover, knowledge of military history is necessary for every soldier. This seminar was a great opportunity to increase competence and skills. It provided new information about places which soldiers could see on the next day during their trip to Świnoujście.

The Terrain Walk was organised in order to broaden knowledge about the Polish Navy but also to show techniques of defence used in World War II and the Cold War. In order to achieve this goal, the participants visited the 8th Navy Fleet and could see some of their equipment. They also found out about their tasks in the Polish Armed Forces and unanimously agreed that the Navy provides one of the most important means of military transport.

Then, all of them explored the Eastern Fort (Gerhard's Fort), built in the 19th century, used by the Germans and, later, the Russians as a part of a defence system.

The seminar was based on the programme of educating NCOs that started in December 2008. The soldiers found it very successful. "It was very well organised and it showed different views on defence. This knowledge can be useful even in the present times" – said Sergeant Major Michael Frøslev.