



Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast, Public Affairs Office

HQ MNC NE / Crystal Eagle, Nymindegablejren / Crystal Eagle, Vesterhavsvej 302, DK-6830 Nørre Nebel
Tel.: +45 40 166 321, +48 603 989 134
E-mail: contact@hqmncne.mil.pl
Web: www.mncne.pl

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News Release

Croatia and Slovenia close the military circle

When Croatia and Slovenia arrived to Nymindegab in Western Jutland, they completed the circle of 18 nations gathered for the biggest multinational military exercise in Denmark since 2004. When exercise commences tomorrow morning, it is the first time these two nations join the series of Crystal Eagle exercises orchestrated by Multinational Corps Northeast.

18 nations, ten of thousands of kilometres travel, 1.200 soldiers, 185 vehicles, more than 100 fully booked accommodation rooms, 900 desks and 800 computers linked into a single network by 1.000 km cables.

The statistic of Crystal Eagle 2012 speaks its own language and shows the degree of preparation conducted by Multinational Corps Northeast along with the participating units to meet the key success factors of the exercise.

With the arrival of the last two nations, all units report: "Ready to run!"

We'll be back...

Shortly after the arrival, proud soldiers of Croatia and Slovenia raised their national flag in the circle of the other 16 nations.

"It is not only about our flag. To be a valuable future partner for the Multinational Corps Northeast, we have to train together and to affiliate our units", stated Lieutenant Colonel Franc Kalic of the Slovenian Army.

His quote might as well reflect the ambition of Croatia, which is also joining the exercise for the first time.

With the additional two flags blowing in the chilly spring wind and the great smile, Lieutenant Colonel Kalic concluded with a personal remark: *"It will definitely not be the last time we are participating. We'll be back in 2013".*

Caption:

Soldiers from Croatia and Slovenia are raising their flag in the circle of other 16 national flags, representing the participating nations in Crystal Eagle 2012.

Text: Lt. Cdr. R. Schillings, German Navy

Photos for free editorial use: Marian Cihon, Public Affairs Office

Presseinformation under Crystal Eagle 2012
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