

Fine tuning for the exercise Crystal Eagle

Written by Jens Alsing
Friday, 07 September 2012 09:41



On 4-5 September 2012, the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) delegation headed by the Chief of Staff Brigadier General Morten Danielsson conducted the second reconnaissance in the Army Warfighting Simulation Centre in Wildflecken, Germany.

The Army Warfighting Simulation Centre will be the location of the biggest training endeavour of the Corps in 2013, the Crystal Eagle 13 exercise. The exercise planned as an ISAF mission oriented and simulation supported Command Post Exercise will be executed with a strong support from the Joint Forces Training Centre in Bydgoszcz, Poland, via the special software called Combined Federated Battle Laboratories Network, delivering unique training opportunities.

The participants of the reconnaissance comprised also selected personnel from the training audience so that all the issues that needed to be clarified and coordinated could have been solved on the spot.

Due to a very complex character the Crystal Eagle 13 scenario based on ISAF experiences, the exercise has been recognized by the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) and sponsored by the Commander of the Joint Force Command in Brunssum. It has also been approved by the Chief of Staff of the ISAF Joint Command and supported by the Commander of

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the Joint Forces Training Centre in Bydgoszcz and the Host Nation, Germany.

The exercise training audience will be the 1st German Armoured Division, the German Airmobile Division, the 10th Polish Armoured Cavalry Brigade, the 4th Austrian Mechanised Brigade, the NATO Multinational Military Police Battalion, and the Slovenian CBRND (Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence) Battalion. In addition, the Commander MNC NE welcomes the 18th USA Engineer Brigade's decision to join that undertaking.

The aims of the reconnaissance, among other things, were to agree with the Host Nation – Germany, NATO partners and the training audience on the decisive simulation, communication and IT network as well as the real life support issues, all essential for the continuation of planning of the exercise. It is clear that Crystal Eagle 13 will set new standards for HQ MNC NE's capability to payback to nations by delivering attractive and unique mission oriented "train as you fight" exercises in support of the nations' needs.

Photo: MNC NE archive 