

Commemorating the past

Written by AG

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A solemn prayer and wreath laying marked annual celebrations at the Central Cemetery in Szczecin, which took place on 26 April 2009.

The ceremony commemorated events of 1945, when the 65th Russian Army entered Szczecin on 26 April and seized it from the Wehrmacht. The Polish administration eventually took over the city on 5 July 1945. Every year, at the memorial “Brotherhood of Arms” wreaths are laid to pay tribute to those who died during fights for Szczecin and those who contributed to the rebuilding Szczecin after World War II. Also this year, apart from City Mayor Mr Piotr Krzystek, representatives of the city authorities, the Police, the 12th Mechanized Division, city pioneers and citizens, a HQ MNC NE delegation took part in the ceremony. It was a way of showing the Corps’ vivid interest in life of Szczecin and respect for its history. Commander MNC NE Lieutenant General Zdzisław Goral, his deputy Major General Ole Køppen, Colonel Klaus Finck acting as Chief of Staff and German National Representative as well as National Representatives of remaining nations contributing to the Corps, officially laid wreaths at the memorial. Mr Piotr Zaremba, a grandson of Piotr Zaremba, the first City Mayor of Polish Szczecin, also participated in the celebrations.

