On 17 December 11, members of the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE), together with their families, took part in the Christmas tree cutting event organised in the area of Linken on the German side of the border.

Even though the night before the event a real downpour struck the area, the sky cleared up on the day of tree cutting and a nice weather accompanied the family gathering.

Around 100 adults and 80 children, all in cheerful Christmas moods, arrived on the spot armed with necessary equipment and ready to find the most beautiful Christmas trees to make their Christmas special. The event was also a nice opportunity to spend some time together, warming up by the roaring campfire. All participants could try sausages and some goodies, like a traditional stollen and homemade cakes prepared by Mrs Ingrid Neuhaus and Mrs Swedlana Rauhe. There was also mulled wine for the adults and hot chocolate for the children.

At 13:30, Santa Claus paid an unexpected visit and gave small gifts to children in return for reciting a poem or singing a Christmas carol; all children were delighted by this surprise.

With 60 Christmas trees brought home and excellent Christmas moods, the event ended with a great success. Even though it was the first event of this kind organized by HQ MNC NE, the forester of the

Löcknitz area, Mr. Michael Scholz, promised to support HQ MNC NE in future undertakings, too.

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