Written by Peter Fennel
Tuesday, 11 September 2012 14:08

**In the time-frame from 7 to 9 September 2012, a delegation of Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) under the lead of Chief of G4 Staff Division Colonel Bogdan Dawidczyk took part in the 13th International Shooting Competition in Walldürn in Germany.**

This traditional event is hosted and organized by the German Logistics Battalion 461 (LogBn 46) in cooperation with the local section of the German Armed Forces Reservists Association. The participants of the event come from various nations representing active personnel as well as reservists from all services. This year Lieutenant Colonel Volker Kuhlmann, the Commander of LogBn 461, could welcome competitors from as many as 9 NATO and non-NATO nations.

The competition for the Cup sponsored by the district governor (Landrat) was conducted at the Kühlsheim shooting range. The organization of the event was excellent, the weather was brilliant but, above all, the highly motivated teams joined in the contest. HQ MNC NE took part in the competition with two teams representing 5 out of 12 nations in the Corps. The flags of the participating nations were flying at the shooting range side by side with the flag of Szczecin representing the MNC NE teams.

The competitors had to shoot with the German assault rifle G36, the Pistol P8 and the Machine

Gun MG3. Beside the team category, all individual results were recognized so that the best competitors could be identified. A parallel program composed of military challenges such as hand grenade throwing, estimating distances or shooting with the old German K98 carbine and an exhibition of historic military vehicles completed the event.

The shooting competition ended with an awarding ceremony under the auspices of the Landrat and the local Member of Parliament who awarded the prizes to the best competitors. In the evening, all participants were formally received by the Mayor of Buchen in the Old Town Hall. Then they marched, accompanied by the town's music band, through the town's historic centre to the local fest area where the evening ended with a social event.

The event provided the chance to meet soldiers from different nations, services and age groups. Some new friendships have been established during the event and some old ones – renewed. Many teams showed their interest in the role and function of MNC NE and maybe we will see some of them as visitors to our Headquarters in the future.

*Photo by LTC Peter Fennel, DEU A*