

## Polish Independence Day in multinational colours

Written by AG

Friday, 09 November 2012 13:03

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**Polish community of the Multinational Corps Northeast (MNC NE) along with representatives of other Corps' nations organised common celebrations of the Polish Independence Day held on 9 November 2012 at Baltic Barracks.**

*“As servicemen we understand that independence of the country and freedom of people is priceless value. Celebrating independence of Poland we shall remember about history, which demonstrated that freedom that we now enjoy was not given to Polish people forever,”* said Major General Bogusław Samol, an organiser of the event. Cherishing history of the Corps' different member states has been a solid tradition at Baltic Barracks; the MNC NE community meets on days of importance for the respective country. Therefore, the Polish Independence Day is another opportunity for Poles to present Polish culture and history to multinational friends.

Indeed, a film was displayed to present selected facts about Poland's history. A military band played traditional Polish military songs. And selected officers and civilians traditionally received awards. “Stars of Afghanistan” and “Medals for Long Service” awarded by the President of Poland were handed over by Mr Kazimierz Drzazga, the Vice Chairman of the Westpomeranian Parliament, and the MNC NE Deputy Commander General Samol, whereas “Medals of the Armed Forces in the Service of the Homeland”, awarded by the Polish Minister of Defence, were handed over by Mr Piotr Krzystek, the President of Szczecin and General Samol.

A very nice element of the ceremony was cutting a cake decorated in the colours of Polish flag and Poland's national emblem.

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*“Poland is independent country with its contribution in the creation of the safe world. Poland as a member of the most powerful alliance associating democratic countries of Western Europe and North America has its contribution in the shaping of the contemporary Europe,”* said General Samol stressing that the functioning of Multinational Corps Northeast is a very good example of the current political situation.

*“I am very happy that the solemn ceremony of 94th anniversary of regaining independence, we, Polish people may celebrate together with our foreign friends.”*

Photos by: Marian Cihon, SVK CIV

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