

High NCO skills certified

Written by AG

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The second part of the Advanced Leadership Training for non-commissioned officers of the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast (HQ MNC NE) was conducted from 26th to 30th January 2009 at Baltic Barracks.

Non-commissioned officers (NCOs) of HQ MNC NE participated in the first part of the course in December 2008. They learned, both in theory and practice, issues related, for example, to communication, cultural diversity and some psychological aspects of the human nature. This time, there were also lectures and presentations followed by discussions, however, a greater emphasis was put on syndicate work and solving tasks in groups.

“It has been a very useful and professionally conducted course by the Joint Mobile Training Team of the Joint Forces Command Brunssum”, said Sergeant Major Michael Frøslev, a mentor and organiser of the whole event. The course took five days and was run by two trainers from the Joint Mobile Training Team. Additionally, two trainees had an observer status as they were preparing to run an NCO Junior course themselves.

During the training the participants discussed, among other things, developments within 60 years of NATO existence, ways to motivate people and deliver effective presentations. A very important topic referred to the integration of NCOs and soldiers in general, especially

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newcomers, within the Corps. The cooperation between NCOs from different nations was considered of vital importance. To strengthen ties and enhance mutual reliance, sports competitions were organised.

Each participant of the course received a special certificate. As Master Sergeant Arnold Weber said, "it is very important because it is the highest NCO course in NATO". MNC NE Commander Lieutenant General Zdzisław Goral, Chief of Staff Brigadier General Josef Heinrichs and all Senior National Representatives participated in the rewarding ceremony. A special guest was Command Sergeant Major Mario Ouellet who came from the Joint Forces Command Brunssum to congratulate on the accomplishment of the course.

It is important to notice that with the end of the Advanced Leadership Training, the NCO education is not finalized. In March 2009, a course for Junior NCOs will take place as well as a two-day seminar for Senior NCOs, which would summarize the achievements of the course and check upon the progress agreed.