

Commander Lieutenant General **Zdzisław Goral** Polish Army

The Corps Commander's primary mission is to prepare the Corps to carry out the full range of military operations throughout the area of responsibility and beyond.



Deputy Commander Major General **Ole Køppen** Danish Army

The Deputy Commander acts on the Commander's behalf when required and performs other duties as directed by the Commander. Furthermore, the Deputy Commander advises the Commander in all fields of concern related to the Corps.

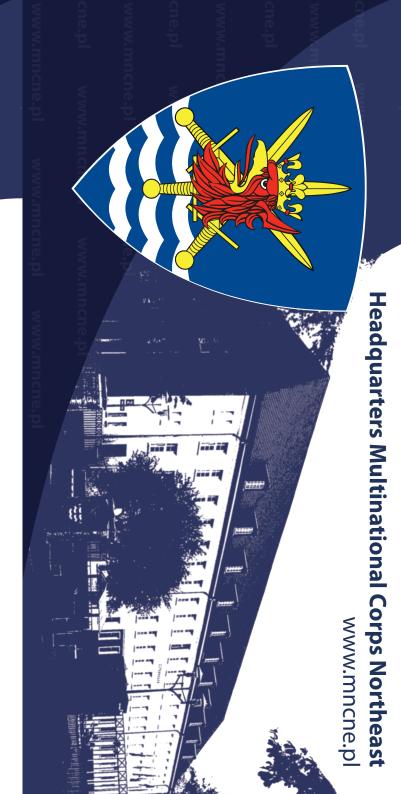


Chief of Staff Brigadier General **Josef Heinrichs** German Army

The Chief of Staff directs, coordinates and supervises staff activities on behalf of the Commander. He also transmits policies, plans and decisions of the Commander and his Deputy to the staff. "The Baltic Amber" - is the authorised official magazine of the Headquarters Multinational Corps Northeast. It serves as a supplement to information featured on the website and presents additional details and more in-depth analysis of ongoing challenges.

More information on the Corps <u>www.mncne.pl</u> - MNC NE Website is a fruitful source of information concerning the Corps containing not only coverage of current and past events, but also articles on the Corps history, mission, organisation and many others.

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### The Corps' 10th Anniversary

The year 2009 marks the 10th Anniversary of inaugurating Multinational Corps Northeast in Szczecin. On this occasion, MNC NE Commander Lieutenant General Zdzisław Goral has a great pleasure to invite all inhabitants of Szczecin, the Corps' enthusiasts, military fans and anyone interested for the celebrations taking place at "Wały Chrobrego", Szczecin on 19th and 20th September 2009. It will be an excellent opportunity to learn more about the Corps, meet representatives of all 11 Corps' nations as well as to try military cuisine and simply have a good time.

# The programme of celebrations 19th and 20th September 2009:

#### Saturday, 19th September 2009, the Harbour Area:

**14:00 - 15:30** - the official part of celebrations including military parade of military bands from Denmark, Germany and Poland accompanied by guards of honour;

**16:00 - 17:00** - concert of Polish Navy Military Band from Świnoujście;

19:00 - 20:30 - concert of folk band "Greenwood";
20:30 - 22:00 - concert of shanty-rock band "Stary Szmugler";
22:00 - fireworks.

Additional attractions:

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- MNC NE promotion tent a photographic studio, exhibitions, multimedia presentations, "Meet my Army" programme etc.;
- warships from Denmark, Germany and Poland open to the public;
- display of heavy equipment (tanks, artillery, armoured vehicles etc.) from Germany and Poland;
- display of equipment of Polish mechanised infantry section
- field kitchen and field bakery;
- karate competition by Szczecin Garrison Club;
- concert of Royal Danish Lifeguard Music Corps next to the Cathedral, at 20:00.

#### Sunday, 20th September 2009, the Harbour Area:

**15:00 - 16:00** - concert of Szczecin Garrison Military Band; **16:00 - 17:00** - concert of band "Dair" playing Celtic music.

Additional attractions starting from 10:00:

- MNC NE promotion tent a photographic studio, exhibitions, multimedia presentations, etc.;
- warships from Denmark, Germany and Poland open to the public;
- display of heavy equipment (tanks, artillery, armoured vehicles etc.) from Germany and Poland;
- display of equipment of Polish mechanised infantry section;
- MNC NE exhibition at the National Museum in Wały Chrobrego 3, open till 16:00, free entrance.

### Mission

Multinational Corps Northeast (MNC NE) with its Headquarters located in the Baltic Barracks in Szczecin is a part of the NATO Force Structure. As a Headquarters for Forces of Lower Readiness (Land), its staff is supposed to prepare for a mission within 91 to 180 days. These might be, for example, operations within NATO Collective Defence, Crisis and Peace Support Operations, or Catastrophe and Disaster Relief Operations.



## History

When the Czech Republic, Hungary and Poland were invited to join NATO in July 1997, Ministers of Defence of Denmark, Germany and Poland decided to establish a new Danish-German-Polish Corps. This Corps would be MULTINATIONAL CORPS NORTHEAST (MNC NE) named with its Headquarters located in Szczecin, Poland. The Headquarters Allied Land Forces Schleswig-Holstein and Jutland (LANDJUT) from Rendsburg in Germany was to form the nucleus of this new command. Ministers of Defence of Denmark, Germany and Poland signed the Corps Convention forming a common corps already in 1998 when Poland was not a member of NATO yet, but the date of the country's accession (12th March 1999) had already been set. As early as on 18th September 1999, the three founding nations could hoist their flags in Szczecin, and the Corps Headquarters moved into the renovated buildings of the Baltic Barracks.

The Corps has developed decisively over the past years. In 2005, the Headquarters passed the Full Operational Capability test and as soon as 2007 its personnel were sent into the mission area in Afghanistan. The Corps' multinational character has been enlarged as well. Since April 2004, the flags of Estonia, Latvia and Lithuania have been fluttering at the Headquarters. In January 2005 Slovakia joined Multinational Corps Northeast. Its neighbour, the Czech Republic, sent its officers just a few months later, in October 2005. The US flag was hoisted in November 2006 indicating American membership in the Corps. In July 2008, Romania sent its officers to serve at the HQ. Finally, Slovenia entered the Corps' family in August 2009 and officially became the eleventh nation of the Corps.

### **Mission ISAF X/1 in Afghanistan**

The mission in Afghanistan has been the most important challenge for the Corps so far after achieving Full Operational Capability in 2005 during the exercise Compact Eagle. The MNC NE staff was assigned to the ISAF X/1 mission and officially took over their duties on 4th February 2007. Under the lead of US ISAF Commander General Dan McNeill, about 160 officers and non-commissioned officers spent 6 months in Afghanistan. The majority of the MNC NE staff filled the posts in Kabul in a new composite Headquarters ISAF consisting of personnel from NATO Standing Headquarters and individuals provided by NATO nations and other nations contributing to the mission. In fact, they were spread among almost all branches within Headquarters ISAF where they proved their excellent level of preparedness and dedication to work.



## Facts & Figures

Name: Multinational Corps Northeast Inauguration: 18th September 1999 Location of the Headqurters: Baltic Barracks, Szczecin, Poland Status: Headquarters of Forces of Lower Readiness (Land) Full Operational Capability Evaluation: 31th October - 10th November 2005; approved by North Atlantic Council on 6th February 2006 Command & Control Arrangements : Operational Command to Supreme Allied Commander Europe after activation Supervising authority: Corps Committee

Framework Nations: Denmark, Germany, and Poland Participating States: the Czech Republic, Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Slovakia, Slovenia, the United States

Number of personnel at the Headquarters (peacetime): 223 Units affiliated: Command Support Brigade Units collocated: Air Operations Co-ordination Centre

**Missions:** ISAF X/1 in Afghanistan from February to August 2007