

CIOR NEWSLETTER

3/2011 – September 2011



CIOR Symposium output presented to NATO

By CPT Joerg Schnurre (DEU), CIOR PA Working Group.

The international reservist community held its annual congress in August. This year the CIOR members gathered in Warsaw in Poland to discuss NATO's New Strategic Concept as the overall issue. Admiral James Stavridis (US), Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR), addressed the CIOR community in a video message and he will be presented results from the Congress in a report delivered by the CIOR President in Mons in Belgium 7 October 2011.

Furthermore, the CIOR community discussed on important topics; the transition in Afghanistan, the fight against piracy, and the cyber warfare. Several hundred delegates and reserve officers from 36 countries had the chance to discuss the subject with top speakers from several military institutions, Non-Governmental organisations (NGO's), Universities and Think-Tank's.



*SACEUR addressed the CIOR community at the beginning of the Symposium.
Photo: Henry Plimach (US)*

Video message

In his video message SACEUR stipulated the undoubted value of reservists for the Atlantic Alliance. The Admiral highlighted a key question in his address, of "how to use the Reserves effectively to support NATO's operations around the world?" From his perspective this covers both the operational and strategic level. The Admiral stresses clearly that "Reservists are assigned to be crucial in spreading the good message for example of Afghanistan in the capitals of the world". With regard to the three symposium panels themes, as they were: Transition in Afghanistan, Modern Piracy, and Cyber warfare – the Admiral delineated their relevance.

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SACEUR addressed the CIOR community

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Fruitful discussions

From that point tough but fruitful discussions arose during the entire symposium day amongst the audience and the respective panel key speakers. The symposium relevancies a key product of CIOR and supports its mission to forge links between reservists and NATO; to national ministries of defence as well as between military; civilian and academic authorities. Keynote speakers of the day were General Mieczysław Cieniuch (Poland), Chief of the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces; Major General (ret.) Ashok Hukku (India); Mr. Sturla Henriksen (Norway), Norwegian ship-owners association; LDV Henry Delatte (Belgium), Belgian Federal Ministry of Justice; Admiral Pierre Martinez (France); Prof. Daniel Ventre (France), National Centre for Scientific Research.



Photo: Henry Plimach (US)

Outcome delivered to SACEUR

CIOR highlighted again the broad spectrum of Reserves and linked it with subjects which are of concern in the military headquarters. CIOR will take the opportunity to give answers to the questions which were raised specifically by SACEUR. As a key product, the results and recommendations of the symposium will be compiled to a report and afterwards presented to NATO such as SACEUR; SACT; and Military Committee, NATO's highest military authority. It is the intention of the CIOR President Captain (R) RNoN, Jon Erling Tenvik (NOR) to meet with SACEUR in Mons/ Belgium on October, 7th 2011 to present the symposium outcome.

Next Symposium in Copenhagen

The upcoming summer congress in 2012 will take in place in Copenhagen/Denmark from July, 30th to August, 3rd 2012. The Symposium Group currently collects information about several different important subjects for the upcoming symposium. Issues of Cyber Warfare will probably be to one of the main topics in 2012. However, the final subject will be nominated during the Midwinter Meeting in Brussels/ Belgium, which will take place from 9th to 11th of February.



Battlefield Experience-Based Training for Reserve Officers in Poland

By Captain (R) Joerg Schnurre (DEU), CIOR PA Working Group



Photo: Henry Plimach (US)

The sun is shining and it seems to be a perfect day. Suddenly, a unit comes under a heavy complex attack by enemy forces – they request support from higher command. As the supporting party arrives, the scenario they encounter looks horrible. Several of their comrades are suffering from battle inflicted wounds classified as Category “CAT” A, CAT B, or CAT C: CAT A basically means the soldier is probably going to die, lose a limb, or lose his eyesight if not quickly treated. CAT B is more like someone who’s been shot in the foot – debilitating, but not immediately life-threatening. CAT C might be some kind of non-life-threatening illness or a broken finger. Since the attack has been fended off by the NATO ground force, medical treatment is now the top priority. This is reminiscent of current security missions in Afghanistan where soldiers face dangerous situations on daily basis. But why in Poland?

In early August, 2011, the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) held its annual summer congress in Warsaw, Poland. One premier segment is the one-week Military Competition (MilComp) which is held in conjunction with the congress. The use of reservists in the battlefields has increased in recent years. Two reasons can be stated for this: flexible capacity and a wide spectrum of competencies beyond military means. U.S. Navy Admiral James Stavridis, the Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR), backed both aspects in a motivating video message to the participants of the congress and the competition by stipulating the undoubted value of reservists for the Atlantic alliance.

Part for Reserves pre-deployment training

From this perspective the competition has close and direct linkages to the current missions of NATO and its member and partner countries. The competition covers many aspects of pre-deployment training and contains five disciplines on a more or less real or abstracted level compared to real requirements. The competition includes fundamental basics such as first aid; Law of Armed Conflict (LOAC); obstacle course, land navigation and orientation, and a shooting qualification. Judges, experts in their respective disciplines, ensured that all curriculum and training was based on the latest evaluation of “boots on the ground” lessons from the field.

Read the full story here:

<http://www.cior.net/News/2011/Battlefield-Experience-Based-Training-for-Reserve-.aspx>



Civilian and military skills database:

CIOR can support NATO to identify needed personnel

By LTC Marc Lemmermann (DEU) and CPT Daniel Gulino (SWE)

An important contribution to NATO could be a development of a web based database in order to identify needed personnel to complete NATO's missions. Such a tool could help NATO to fill organisation gaps. This is one of the findings from the Defence- and Security Committee (DEFSEC) discussions at CIOR's Summer Congress.



WE WANT YOU!

NATO as an organisation itself would not be able to call Reservists for duty, but could fill its organisational gaps with "NATO Civilians". If positions e.g. at HQ ISAF are not filled by the troop contributing nations (TCNs), ISAF has to fill these gaps, usually trying to recruit civilians with military background. An up-to-date and online available database would support these needs. In addition, NATO member nations could also use this tool, to search for their reservists. On top this tool could support Governmental organisations (GOs) and Non- governmental organisations (NGOs) (e.g. UN), to identify needed personnel for unfriendly environments.



Database on an international level

One solution would be , at an international level, to adopt and elevate the only one military database that has been proven in some extent usable: the of the Norwegian Reserve Officers Association database. It would be a relative easy and short process to reach an agreement upon royalties with the Norwegians, give the database a new proper CIOR/NATO-look, and finally marketing the database among suitable competence groups and end-user organizations. This makes the Norwegian database an attractive alternative because of an easier implementation process. However, it's technology level is not the latest so there will be maintenance and development costs connected to this alternative as well.

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LinkedIn with adjustments?

One other solution to consider, is the use of viable systems used by civilian actors which already exists online, e.g. LinkedIn. The LinkedIn company seems effective in their system management and could be expected in the future to keep their position in the technical frontline in this field. The system could with some adjustments fit in a military context. LinkedIn also provides other possibilities than the potent search engine, for example applications for networking, group management, references and credentials etcetera. Furthermore it enables direct contact between end-users and candidates, and it's already a popular, highly regarded and credible channel for recruitment, reducing marketing costs to a minimum.

It can also be a system where value is added for the personnel who want to make themselves available for deployment. First of all the possibility for personnel in these groups which probably already are a LinkedIn users, to concentrate their efforts on one (or several) less data bases, which would make them more prone to keep their data updated.



Evaluations of the best system

Implementation issues, legal issues, personal integrity issues to national security issues will arise when the system to be used should be decided. An issue that arise is also such a system will enable a private actor control over accumulated information about military personnel and capabilities. This could be a problem since the information could be regarded as strategic military information. But if this secrecy aspect, among the others aspects, could be looked into and solved. At the end it all comes down to the question whether it is easier to build a strong brand for the database of the Norwegian Reserve Officers Association or to implement a cooperation, coherent with quality standards connected to a military context, with a civilian partner like LinkedIn.

CIOR at LinkedIn®

The CIOR group at the social network service "LinkedIn" makes for easier interaction between CIOR stakeholders.

Visit the group at

<http://www.linkedin.com/groups?home=&gid=141818> and sign up as a member of the group if you are a member of the CIOR community or otherwise interested in the activities of CIOR.

LinkedIn is a social network with over 60 million users in 200 countries, primarily used for online networking, maintaining contact etc.



UK Stabilisation group joined CIMIC committee

At the CIOR Summer Conference in Warsaw in August 2011, two new participants from the UK Military Stabilisation Support Group (MSSG) joined the CIMIC Committee. They were Lt Col Peter Carroll who is a reserve officer, and Maj Mike Whatley, a regular officer.



UK MSSG team with Ugandan Military attachment, meeting with Ugandan village officials.

MSSG is a regular unit of the British Army, with currently around 100 reserves; it specialises in providing Military Aide to Civil Effect (MACE). MSSG is a joint organisation and therefore has members from all three British military services: Navy, Army and Air Force. The Group deploys CIMIC and Stabilisation trained individuals and teams on operations from within its own organisation, and also trains individuals and groups from other UK military units, in preparation for deployment. In the past, the Group has deployed reserves and regulars in the Balkans, Iraq and currently in Afghanistan; and other theatres of operations. The CIMIC Committee was interested to hear about MSSG's annual overseas exercise called Ex CIVIL BRIDGE (EX CB).

Format since 2002

EX CB has been running in its current format since 2002 in Nepal, Belize, Ghana, Uganda and this year it will be in Botswana. It is the Group's annual overseas training exercise (OTX) for a detachment of approximately 30 troops, both reserves and regulars; with rank ranging from JNCO to Lt Col. Other organisations are also invited to attend eg. Media Ops, Psyops, Engineers, Medical and the civilian Stabilisation Unit.

MSSG has established that training in countries like those mentioned above, which suffer from a range of natural disasters like flooding, drought, hurricanes etc; provides a realistic platform to practice a wide range of CIMIC and Stabilisation related skills. This is particularly relevant to the Group's expanded role in providing MACE and contributing to Stabilisation in countries like Afghanistan. The training is normally based on a review of the host country's national and regional disaster plans. Although not experts in disaster management, the Group has established that all of the elements involved in disaster



preparedness, response and management are similar to preparing for and the conduct of CIMIC and Stabilisation operations.

The exercise can be conducted at different levels: government, district and community levels. Each level involves interface with key stakeholders ranging from UK organisations (British High Commission, Defence Adviser, Department for International Development), host nation government officials and the military, to district civil servants and community leaders; emergency services, IOs and NGOs and of course the civilian population. Many skills are practiced including: planning, liaison, managing *complex meetings*, *infrastructure assessments*, *reporting*, *giving press interviews*, *expectation management* etc, etc.

“Real” product

The unique aspect of EX CB which has been progressively developed over the years is the delivery of “real” product to the host nation. For example; the facilitation of a disaster management workshop for several districts in Uganda; a region prone to drought and famine, amongst other natural disasters. Real product also included the facilitation of an inaugural planning meeting in Uganda’s capital city of Kampala, of a newly formed Uganda Government Flood Task Force. This task force specifically requested that the Group help them through the initial stages of planning for the response to an impending flood. The final “real” product from the exercise was a presentation and final report of the Groups’ key findings and recommendations in relation to the Government of Uganda’s disaster response capability, presented to the Government Minister and staff responsible for disaster management.



UK MSSG team which facilitated a disaster management workshop attended by Ugandan government officials, senior military, local government officials, emergency services and NGOs.

MSSG is of the view that nowhere in the UK military training programme is there anything that matches the CIMIC and Stabilisation training value gained from EX CB. It is as close as it is possible to get to operations, without contact with the enemy, and not without its real life challenges in relation to coping with the terrain, temperature, culture, politics, personalities etc.



The CIOR Presidency Message



I do hope you all have had a good and well-earned summer vacation. It is now a month since many of us met in Warszawa. Our Polish hosts organized everything in a splendid way. We struck a good balance between having fruitful working sessions and having time to get to know each other, discuss, exchange experiences etc. You do not need to know much yourself - as long as you know where and who to ask.

This was made very clear during the summer congress. We had a symposium with speakers and information that provided depth and insight. Our committees are up and going and deliver results. Young officers meet the seniors and everybody may be learning something new. For me this is an important perspective, we are part of an organization having existed more than 60 years. During those years our surroundings have changed dramatically and CIOR has adjusted.

The war in Libya seems to be getting near the end. Hopefully the emerging alternative will provide a better life for the citizens. The wind also seems to now blow a little more in favour of the relevance of reserves. Nations are finding out that the combination of cost and competence show that reserve forces may be of added value.

SACEUR is aware of that, his greetings and tasks to us on his videos speak for itself. I will during the autumn have an office call with him and report back our findings. Some nations are also, based on lessons learned from NATO operations the last years, re-introducing reserve forces, and today more than 20% of the forces in Afghanistan are reserves.

It is therefore important to a long-term perspective, the old lessons still stand, it is easier to tear down and delete compared to build up and re-structure. I am convinced CIOR has a future and the mission we all have is to prove in our life and work that we make a positive contribution, we are added value.

I wish you all a good autumn and encourage you to participate in our activities. Until next time, BEST WISHES TO YOU ALL.

Jon Erling Tenvik

***President CIOR
Captain (R) RNoN***



Reservists making important, cost-effective contributions

By NATO's Allied Command Transformation Chief of Public Affairs, Roy Thorvaldsen

Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Transformation, Polish Army General Mieczysław Bieniek recently spoke at the Symposium of the 64th annual Summer Congress of the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) in Warsaw, Poland.



Photo: Henry Plimack (US)

- As an organization representing over 1.3 million reservists across 34 participating nations within and beyond NATO, you are making an important contribution to the Alliance, said Bieniek.

Bieniek opened the symposium together with the Chief of the Polish General Staff, General Mieczysław Cieniuch.

Bieniek briefed the congress on Allied Command Transformation's (ACT) current priorities and shared some of his thoughts on "NATO's Transformation and Reform" in the context of NATO's new Strategic Concept. About the importance of Reserve officers and NCOs he went on to say:

- National Reserve Forces must be an integral part of transformation and reform so that they can be relevant, ready, cost-effective, and deployable. We come to the table with the understanding that each nation's Reserve Forces look very different. Some have strategic reserves, some have operational reserves, and some do not have standing reserves. We also acknowledge the difficult financial decisions, which are being made during these economic conditions.

Cost Effective

- Many nations when faced with the need to make cuts look to do away with their reserve forces. However, at a ratio of 4:1 or 5:1, the cost of utilizing a reservist with a skill or capacity that is needed on less than a full-time basis can be significantly cheaper. Of course there are the challenges of achieving and maintaining readiness including the cost, the availability, the employer support and the political will, but sustainability of concurrent major joint operations and several smaller operations including at a strategic distance could be unsustainable without the Reserve Component force.

Civilian Skills for 21st Century Challenges

- Aside from combat operations, there are key roles for reservists to play in meeting global challenges such as environmental and resource constraints, health risks, climate change, water scarcity and increasing energy needs that will shape the future security environment and impact NATO planning and operations. These are areas where a Reservists' civilian expertise can be instrumental in mitigating risks. We need to retain medical providers, environmental experts, city planners, engineers and similar skills in the reserves and utilize their experience.

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- Many reservists have extensive networking and partnerships, which bring together industry, academia, political, civilian, military, and [national and non-governmental organizations], all enhancing effective crises management. We must tap into these skill sets so that [our nations] and NATO can identify that talent and use it in the right place at the right time.



- Some of these capabilities may not be needed on a full-time basis and are ideal missions for reserve forces. Many of these are skills acquired in the civilian sector – Cyber Defense, Force Protection, Project Management, Medical skills, engineering etc. to name but a few, Bieniek said – to acclaim of the CIOR Presidency and 250 Congress participants.

Bieniek also spoke at the National Reserve Forces Committee (NRFC) Summer Meeting, as always held in conjunction with the CIOR Summer Congress. NRFC consists of representatives of NATO and NATO-associated Chiefs of Defence.

Read more about ACT: <http://www.act.nato.int>

NATO's Crucial Message Multipliers: The Reserves

By Captain (R) Joerg Schnurre (DEU), CIOR PA Working Group

A video message of Admiral James Stavridis (United States), Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR), stipulated the undoubted value of reservists for the Atlantic Alliance.



Watch the video message here:

[http://www.cior.net/News/2011/Mess age-from-SACEUR-to-CIOR-before-MWM-2011-\(1\).aspx](http://www.cior.net/News/2011/Mess age-from-SACEUR-to-CIOR-before-MWM-2011-(1).aspx)

The Admiral highlighted a key question in his address, of "how to use the Reserves effectively to support NATO's operations around the world?" From his perspective this covers both, the operational and strategic level. The Admiral stresses clearly that "Reservists are assigned to be crucial in spreading the good message for example of Afghanistan in the capitals of the world".

Read the full story here:

<http://www.cior.net/News/2011/NATO's-Crucial-Message-Multipliers--The-Reserves.aspx>



Deployment to Afghanistan: A NATO Reservist's Experience

By Captain (R) Fabrice Maronneaud (France), Public Affairs Working Group

First Lieutenant Christophe de Villeblanche (28) a member of the Interallied Confederation of Reserve Officers (CIOR) YRO (Young Reserve Officer) Committee, recently returned from an active duty mobilization to Afghanistan with the French Army. During the CIOR symposium, he presented his field experience and lessons learned during his deployment.



When French Army First Lieutenant Christophe de Villeblanche arrived at the Young Reserve Officer Workshop (YROW) in Warsaw, Poland, held August 2 – August 6th, he was well prepared to address the CIOR Symposium's theme of highlighting NATO's New Strategic Concept. In his civilian role as a maritime safety sales director with 3-S Group - Safety & Security Solutions, he was prepared to discuss piracy issues. However, his experience as young reserve officer was even more valuable due to his recent tour overseeing the security transition from NATO forces in Afghanistan to the Afghan National Security Forces (ANSF), including the Afghan National Army (ANA), Afghan National Police (ANP) and other forces.

ISAF HQ

In 2010, Christophe de Villeblanche served a five-month tour as a target audience analyst for a multinational NATO unit at the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) headquarters in Kabul, Afghanistan. "I've been a reserve PSYOPS (Psychological Operations) analyst since July 2009, but deployed to the field less than 6 months later," said Villeblanche, "PSYOPS are military communication techniques usually aimed at influencing the enemy's state of mind through non-combative means. The strategy, then led by U.S. Army Gen. Stanley McChrystal, focused on Counterinsurgency (COIN) tactics to win the hearts and minds of the Afghan people. These non-kinetic operations including Civil-Military Cooperation (CIMIC) and PSYOPS are essential. In this type of operations the reservist provides add value due to their civilian perspective."

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Deployed role

In his deployed role, Villeblanche honed new skills working with ISAF HQ and local Afghan people. "I spent three quarters of the time at ISAF HQ and one quarter of it in the field for face-to-face interactions with local Afghan people to collect their feelings and feedback on targeted topics including troop uplift, elections, perception about ISAF and ANSF troops, government, narcotics, and IEDs (Improvised Explosive Devices)," said Villeblanche.

As a Reservist, Christophe de Villeblanche normally works as an analyst. His civilian skills served as a force-multiplier to enhance the active force capabilities. "Reservists have military skills but many also have specialized civilian expertise in areas such as communications, marketing, and business. The effective leveraging of civilian skills and experience validated Villeblanche's hypothesis that Reservists are value-added assets in effective CIMIC and PSYOPS.



YROW program experience

First Lieutenant de Villeblanche joined CIOR as part of the YROW program as an opportunity to offer a strong foundation on which to build upon NATO operational and training experiences. "CIOR allowed me to develop my working knowledge of the NATO environment, which is indeed a great value when deploying with multinational forces. In addition, the exchange of experiences and methods between reserve officers of coalition armies is extremely interesting and beneficial. Some of us have met at CIOR symposiums and met again during real missions", said Villeblanche.

As for Christophe de Villeblanche, the next deployment is scheduled to be in Lebanon.



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