



Conference Objective: Land Command Transition



Maj. Gen. Ben Hodges, leader of the Stand-Up Team (SUT) for NATO's new Land Command addresses a packed conference room Aug. 22nd at a meeting that united experts from Force Command Heidelberg and Force Command Madrid with representatives of SHAPE and the SUT in order to discuss transition.

Commander's Corner

Let me start by welcoming everyone back from a well deserved summer break! There are several important events for the command in the coming weeks which provide opportunities for Force Command Heidelberg to excel. The pace is rapid with priority on two critical tasks-- the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) Combat Readiness Evaluation (CREVAL) and transition of capabilities to Land Command Izmir. Executed correctly and to standard, the benefit of our collective effort directly enhances the capabilities of the NATO Force Structure and NATO Command Structure.



After successfully completing the preparation phase by certifying our evaluators, we are ready to execute the ARRC CREVAL PHASE I and II in September and October respectively. This selection and certification of evaluators, combined with the continuous dialogue with the ARRC staff has set the proper conditions for a quality certification. There is no doubt that the ARRC will succeed and be ready to assume mission.

Our second commitment is to the transition of capability and land competency to Land Command Izmir (LCIZ). The LCIZ Stand-Up Team welcomes this headquarters' advice and more importantly, its full support as they build toward full operational capability. We will remain linked during this transition by communicating directly with our counterparts in Turkey. We must remain strong advocates for LCIZ as it stands up, while protecting land interests across the spectrum of NATO responsibilities.

Our contribution to the NATO Response Force remains as important as ever. Each member of this headquarters must remain diligent-- situationally aware and deployment ready. I charge each Senior National Representative to stay personally involved in ensuring their nations personnel assigned to the NRF force package are ready to respond when called.

For our families, we celebrate the last FCHD Family Fest this month. The fest provides a perfect forum for experiencing the different cultures of each nation represented in the headquarters and is traditionally a fantastic event for all who participate. I hope to see you there enjoying yourselves with family and friends!

Finally, let us not forget the many departing service members and battle buddies from across the headquarters. Each of us is grateful for the opportunity to have served together and look forward to serving together again in the future. Our mission continues and the command continues to do great work!

TREX team assesses Azerbaijani soldiers



An Azari, infantry platoon leader directs a helicopter to land as part of a medical evacuation exercise.

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Conference Objective: Land Command Transition



Members of the Stand-Up Team for NATO's new Land Command review an organization chart Aug. 22nd along with experts from SHAPE, Force Command Heidelberg, and Force Command Madrid. The group met for two days at the NATO headquarters in Izmir, Turkey.

An important step was taken Aug. 22nd toward the eventual transition of land competency from Force Command Heidelberg (FCHD) and Force Command Madrid (FCMD) to a Land Command in Izmir, Turkey.

The Land Command Stand-Up Team, led by Maj. Gen. Ben Hodges met with experts from Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE) and both Force Commands. This was the first in a planned series of meetings designed to advance the process of activating the new Land Command under a leaner, more efficient, and affordable NATO command structure. It's a process that, according to a SHAPE representative, the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR) wants in place as soon as possible.

Land Command is planning an activation ceremony in Izmir Nov. 30th.

Maj. Gen. Hodges welcomed Chief War-rant Officer Mark Saulnier, formerly of FCHD as his new Command Senior Enlisted Leader and Col. Gordon Falconer, formerly of Joint Force Command Brunssum as his Stand-Up Team (SUT) Chief of Staff. "With just 26 people we are small but really tough," said Maj. Gen. Hodges. He thanked everyone participating in the conference and welcomed the challenges of the Land Command's coming mission. "A lot of hard work has gone into helping this stand-up team, a lot of professional effort. We are excited by national contributions."

"The Air Command has been a good host," Maj. Gen. Hodges said referring to the current tenants of this small but pristine base in downtown Izmir. The Air Command, which played a significant role in

Operation Unified Protector, will deactivate in June, just months after activation of Land Command.

The two-day agenda included time for counterparts to exchange information from the two Force Commands outside the formal briefing room. Maj. Gen. Richard Rossmanith, Chief of Staff Transition summarized the sentiment of his team. "It's good to see the SUT with well-qualified people. This is a cooperative approach and we are in support," Rossmanith said.

"Today is the real start point," said Brig. Gen. Joachim Fischer, Acting Chief of Staff for Force Command Madrid's Deployable Joint Staff Element 2. "For us it is important to find where your priorities are," Brig. Gen. Fischer said to Maj. Gen. Hodges. "It is not easy to create a Land Command."

Briefers from both commands described the timeline that provides requisite, land specific, information to the Land Command from conception to its fully operational status. Maj. Gen. Rossmanith reminded the audience of the gravity and urgency required. "You decide the pace and direction," he said. "You never know what happens next but you are well-advised to [activate the command] as soon as possible.

Discussions were frank but a sense of confidence prevailed. The transition will happen, said Maj. Gen. Hodges. "Land Command will make its gates and we will be able to accomplish whatever mission SACEUR gives us."

Story and Photos
By Lt. Col. Randy Martin

DISCLOSURE :

Serving the military, civilians and family members of Headquarters Allied Force Command Heidelberg

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Headquarters Allied Force Command
Heidelberg



Bringing together land forces and NATO command structure representatives



The Headquarters Force Command Heidelberg (FC HD) Doctrine and Procedure Working Group (D&P WG) conducted its 18th meeting on 12 June in Münster Germany. Representatives from the Graduated Readiness Forces (GRF) and NATO Command Structure (NCS), gathered to discuss emerging policies and standardisation related to GRF community.

The interaction between the NCS and the GRF communities on key policies, doctrine, as well as standardisation issues are facilitated by the D&P WG. “Through this working group, we can better appreciate the GRFs thoughts and concerns relating to emerging policies and doctrine,” said Col. Eric Pelatan, the D&P WG chairman. “Our function is to further advocate the GRF community views into NCS and the policy and doctrine development environments.”

The 18th D&P WG meeting provided an opportunity to inform the GRF community about outcomes from the Allied Chief of Army Staff Talks (ACAST)/Land Commanders Conference (LCC) that was conducted 8 to 10 May in Tirana, Albania.

Furthermore, the chairman of the Land Operation Working Group (LOWG) provided an update on developments of land doctrines and standardization. He emphasized the importance

of the GRF community headquarters’ continued support and involvement in developing these documents in order to capture the recent operational experience. The responsibility for the D&P WG in the future will be transferred to the new LANDCOM in Izmir as part of the transition process.

“We plan to have a representative from the LANDCOM Stand-Up Team (SUT) participating in the next D&P WG meeting. This is tentatively scheduled in late November 2012,” said Pelatan. “The D&P WG provides an excellent forum to allow for mutual exchange of views and operational experience. In my opinion, the importance of the D&P WG will increase in the future. With the implementation of the new NCS we are more and more dependent upon utilizing the GRF community to improve the operational capabilities in support of the alliance strategic goals.

Written by Lt. Col. Bjorn Kristiansen
Photos by German Netherlands Corps PAO

Allied Force Command Heidelberg service members say farewell to General with esprit de corps



LTG John W. Morgan III, commander Allied Force Command Heidelberg, bids farewell to Brig. Gen. Olivier Rittimann, middle, at a ceremony in front of their headquarters on Campbell Barracks July 7th. Rittimann served as the assistant chief of staff for transition. Maj. Gen. Hubert De Vos, chief of staff operations, left, and Brig. Gen. Salvatore Alboré, director Joint Logistics Support Group, stand next to Rittimann and participate in his farewell ceremony.

On Tuesday July the 7th, Allied Force Command Heidelberg bade farewell to assistant chief of staff for transition, Brig. Gen. Olivier Rittimann, in a ceremony at its headquarters on Campbell Barracks.

For many members of the command, Rittimann is known as a team player, always showing concern for his comrades, superiors and subordinates alike.

“While with Allied Force Command Heidelberg, Brigadier General Rittimann earned a proud record of dedicated service,” said Allied Force Command Heidelberg commander LTG John W. Morgan III. “I want to express my sincere gratitude and the gratitude of the command whose causes and concerns he made his own.”

Since his arrival in September 2010, Rittimann has served in such roles as the director, joint coordination center of a deployable joint staff element (DJSE 1) and now assistant chief of staff for transition.

In January 2011, Rittimann deployed for a year to Afghanistan,

serving as chief combined joint operations for Headquarters International Security Assistance Forces.

“He is very pragmatic, has a sense of esprit de corps and is a very efficient worker,” said Lt. Col. Christian Bachmann who served as Rittimann’s military aide both in Heidelberg and from July 2011 to January 2012 as part of ISAF. “He is very appreciative and confident of his team as his team is of him.”

Rittimann’s sense of esprit de corps rang true throughout his assignment and during his farewell speech.

“We, as a team, made a difference,” said Rittimann referring to his deployment time. “You could really see in the ISAF HQ where the Force Command Heidelberg team members were working...the difference was team spirit, as you say in English ‘esprit de corps’.”

Rittimann will be moving to Brussels where he will serve as the French deputy military representative to NATO.

“You could really see in the ISAF HQ where the Force Command Heidelberg team members were working...the difference was team spirit, as you say in English ‘esprit de corps’.”



Brig. Gen. Olivier Rittimann says farewell to Allied Force Command Heidelberg during his farewell ceremony, July 7th.

Article by Capt. Tamara Gonzales
Photos by Staff Sgt. Dwight Chaney

Allied Force Command Heidelberg service members say farewell to CSM



Canadian Army Chief Warrant Officer Mark Saulnier, the command sergeant major of Allied Force Command Heidelberg, stands for one last time in front of the unit's formation during his change of responsibility ceremony held at Campbell Barracks, Heidelberg, Germany, August 2nd.

"The best part of my 24 months here was having the opportunity to experience a truly multi-national headquarters with 23 nations being represented," said Canadian Army Chief Warrant Officer Mark Saulnier, the command sergeant major of Allied Force Command Heidelberg. "It really brought to the forefront that there is an alliance and within this headquarters it is alive and well."

The headquarters said farewell to and welcomed a new senior enlisted advisor during a change of responsibility ceremony held at Heidelberg's Campbell Barracks, Aug. 2nd.

Saulnier said farewell, though not goodbye, as he will continue to work with the headquarters in his role within the Land Command-Izmir's Stand-Up Team and later will take over as the command senior enlisted leader for the command.

During his time here, Saulnier saw three rotations of FCHD personnel deploy to, and four rotations redeploy from Afghanistan in support of the International Security Assistance Force. Additionally, the headquarters earned its certification as the NATO Response Force 2012 during Exercise Steadfast Juncture 2011, working and coordinating with NATO Joint Force Command Brunssum Headquarters to accomplish this goal. In conjunction with this exercise, he was present while the headquarters

developed Command Post 156.

Saulnier also saw the headquarters form into the Deployable Joint Staff Element structure and prepare for the future Land Command-Izmir.

"Over the last 24 months, Chief Warrant Officer Saulnier has made a strong impact on this command," said the commander of Allied Force Command Heidelberg, LTG John W. Morgan III. "You have been the standard bearer for 23 countries assigned to this command."

As the command's senior enlisted advisor, Saulnier focused on developing the NCO corps within the headquarters and, as result, within NATO as a whole. He will now focus on developing the NCO corps for the new Land Command-Izmir.

"Where I'm going to, I don't feel as though I am leaving this headquarters. I look forward to working with and coordinating with this headquarters in the future," said Saulnier. "Because of the professionalism and great work coming from this headquarters, I am proud to be part of the Stand-Up Team."

French Army Adjutant Chef Fabien Le Camu, an experienced NCO who has been with the command within human resources for the past two years and assisted as senior enlisted advisor, takes over as the headquarters senior enlisted advisor.

Commander of Allied Force Command Heidelberg, LTG John W. Morgan III, (right) says farewell to the command sergeant major of Allied Force Command Heidelberg and senior enlisted advisor Canadian Army Chief Warrant Officer Mark



"The best part of my 24 months here was having the opportunity to experience a truly multi-national headquarters with 23 nations being represented."



Finish Lt. Col. Harri Paldanius shakes hands with the command sergeant major of Allied Force Command Heidelberg, Canadian Army Chief Warrant Officer Mark Saulnier, during the headquarters' change of responsibility held August 2nd at Campbell Barracks.

Forward Support Element conducts handover/takeover ceremony



Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Assistant Chief of Staff Support, Brig. Gen. Salvatore Alboré, says farewell to outgoing Forward Support Element Commander, Lt. Col. Georg Annen, and welcomes the incoming commander, Lt. Col. Guenther Tischner. The unit conducted a handover/takeover ceremony August 2nd at Heidelberg's International Support Kaserne.

Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Assistant Chief of Staff Support, Brig. Gen. Salvatore Alboré, presides over the headquarters' Forward Support Element handover/takeover ceremony held August 2nd at Heidelberg's International Support Kaserne. During the ceremony, outgoing Forward Support Element Commander, Lt. Col. Georg Annen, said farewell while incoming commander, Lt. Col. Guenther Tischner readied to take over his new position.

The International Support Kaserne, home of Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Forward Support Element was filled with all NATO contributing country flags making a worthy backdrop for its handover/takeover ceremony Aug. 1st.

Lt. Col. Georg Annen returned his unit to the Assistant Chief of Staff Support, Brig. Gen. Salvatore Alboré, who then presented the unit to Lt. Col. Guenther Tischner. Before this time, Tischner had served as the unit's Real Life Support branch head.

"I cannot avoid mentioning that I have recognized that Lieutenant Colonel Georg Annen has distinguished himself in the performance of outstanding service and dedication to the Force Command Heidelberg and the alliance as a whole," said Alboré as he presided over the ceremony.

"From my perspective the Forward Support Element of the Force Command Heidelberg Headquarters is a unique organization in NATO," Annen said. If we would have our own flag 'Team-spirit', the 'do approach' and 'make it happen' would have been placed on our banner," said Annen addressing his FSE team, visibly emotional and proud.

Annen took over as the FSE commander in October 2009. He was responsible for all matters concerning the real

life support of Allied Force Command Heidelberg. Previously, he was assigned to other NATO positions in Heidelberg since 2007.



Lt. Col. Georg Annen says farewell to his team at Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Forward Support Element during a handover/takeover ceremony held August 1st.

Annen's most challenging times were the missions abroad. During his assignment at the headquarters, he served twice with the Headquarters International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan. His first deployment was in 2008 as the staff officer for logistical plan assessment and later he deployed in 2010 as the ISAF deputy base commander.

Article by Maj. Peter Mientus
Photos by Staff Sgt. Dwight Chaney



Lt. Col. Guenther Tischner stands ready to take over as the Allied Force Command Heidelberg Forward Support Element commander during a handover/takeover ceremony held August 2nd at Heidelberg's International Support Kaserne.

"From my perspective the Forward Support Element of the Force Command Heidelberg Headquarters is a unique organization in NATO."



Outgoing Forward Support Element Commander, Lt. Col. Georg Annen, salutes Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Assistant Chief of Staff Support, Brig. Gen. Salvatore Alboré, as Annen returns his unit to Alboré.

Joint Logistics Support Group participates in Steadfast Joist 2012



SFJT 12 - NORWAY 02-16 MAY 2012

Allied Force Command HQ Heidelberg Joint Logistics Support Group Core Staff Element takes a quick photo break during Steadfast Joist 2012 at the Joint Warfare Center in Jatta, Norway, May 2nd to May 16th.

An Allied Force Command HQ Heidelberg Joint Logistics Support Group Core Staff Element supported the Steadfast Joist 2012 exercise at the Joint Warfare Center in Jatta, Norway, May 2nd to May 16th.

The JLSG, along with all other organizations fulfilling the roles of component commands, acted as a response cell to the training audience. The audience was comprised of Joint Force Command Lisbon staff.

JLSG team members are not strangers to exercises. Its previous exercise participation was for the NATO Response Force 2012 certification, Steadfast Juncture 2011. However, this exercise was different because its purpose was to test and stress the command and control elements of the new Deployable Joint Headquarters concept. In particular, the exercise examined possible outcomes during the Forward Coordinating Element (FCE)/DJHQ transition phase.

As a response cell, the JLSG focused on 'influencing' the training audience to properly execute command and control of its subordinate forces. The JLSG specifically applied efforts to 'encourage' the training audience to exercise its authority with a coordinated, unified voice. The team specifically coordinated many responses/actions with other component commands, to present 'holistic/comprehensive' situations for the training audience to react to.

SFJT 12 gave the Heidelberg JLSG another opportunity to demonstrate augmentee integration for the exercise. Therefore the JLSG received augmentee support from the 1st German/Netherlands Corps, Bundeswehr Logistikamt, Netherlands Operational Support Center (Land), and NATO Maintenance and Supply Agency. Hosting a JLSG augmentee training conference, prior to the exercise, surely paid dividends in terms of augmentees' abilities to fully support the JLSG and its role in SFJT12.

Article by Maj. Paul Choi
Photos by PAO Joint Warfare Center

TREX team meets, coaches and evaluates Azerbaijan infantry battalion



An Allied Force Command Heidelberg observer command and control team, augmented by two Swedish officers and one officer from the Air Component Command, Ramstein, pause for a moment with their Azari soldier counterparts during a NATO evaluation, level 1 (NEL 1) event.

Twelve members of Allied Force Command Heidelberg, augmented by two Swedish officers and one officer from the Air Component Command, Ramstein, endured the searing heat of Azerbaijan to conduct a NATO evaluation, level 1 (NEL 1) for an Azari Infantry Battalion, June 19th to 22nd.

The purpose of this event was to evaluate the interoperability of the Azari formation with other NATO organizations in case the Supreme Allied Commander Europe calls upon them as a Partner for Peace nation.

Planning for the evaluation began much earlier than the one-week exercise. The force command's training and exercise team, especially the observer command and control section, spent days in preparation for this event. Upon arrival in Azerbaijan, the evaluation team was quickly assimilated into the exercise condition portion of the exercise. The team and the soldiers from the Azari battalion undergoing the NEL 1 slept in the same buildings, developing an immediate camaraderie.

The evaluators were organ-

ized into six separate evaluation teams and assigned a specific company or battalion entity to observe and evaluate. Unit and key personnel prepared and provided in-briefs and introductions were made between the battalion commander, company commanders, and some platoon commanders.

After the formal part of the in-brief, evaluators and Azerbaijan key leaders swapped "war stories." Azaris hosted an ice breaker the first night, getting the evaluation off to a positive start.

The next three nights and four days were long to say the least. The evaluators observed all events to include mortar firing, medical evacuation, conducting night raids, patrolling, and chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear operations.

The evaluation was thorough and exhaustive, utilizing the standard OCC evaluation checklist. Once the evaluation was completed, the team prepared the initial feedback report, presented it to the evaluated command and discussed all of the performance aspects. The evaluation results

were then forwarded to Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe where the final assessment will be compiled and reviewed by the Military Cooperation Division and archived for future reference.

On the day of departure, the evaluation team received a walking tour of Baku, the capital city. This event put the final touches on a long and productive OCC NEL 1 event. The next step now is for the Azari Infantry Battalion to begin preparing itself for the self-evaluation level 2, a combat capabilities evaluation, which is very similar to the NATO Combat Readiness Evaluation.

An Azari infantry soldier conducts search procedures while another pulls security on a passenger who was on a bus at a check point. The exercise was one of many an Azari infantry battalion participated in during their evaluation by Allied Force Command Heidelberg and augmentees.



Article by Lt. Col. James Cole
Photos by PAO Joint Warfare Center

Forward Support Element Team learns about Berlin, each other



Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Forward Support Element observe and take photos of Brandenburg Gate.

Having an historical understanding of where people live can greatly enhance the experience of living there.

A team of 23 from Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Forward Support Element took the opportunity to do so during a team-building event in Berlin, July 23rd to July 26th.

Lt. Col. Guenther Tischner, the headquarters FSE commander, led the group called operation team-building Berlin consisting of personnel from Belgium, Germany, France and the United States.

When the team arrived, they immediately started their first tour, Berlin's must-see sights by bus including the Siegessäule, the Berlin Gate, the Reichstag (the German Parliament) and many other historical sites of significance today.

The group's first hands-on experience started July 23rd at the Olympic Stadium. The structure was built for the 1936 Olympics and could hold approximately 100,000 spectators.

The next day the group visited the Bunker Complex in Wünsdorf, approximately 50km southwest of

On day three, the group's trip featured underground shelters below the City of Berlin which were small and damp concrete rooms with few amenities. They heard stories of how tens of thousands of people were crammed into these rooms, double to quadruple the amount for which they were intended. It was hard to believe the hardships people had to endure within these walls during the bombings.

The following day, they visited one of the first civilian airports in Germany built in 1923 and later rebuilt in the 1930s. When construction was finished in 1941, it was the largest building in the world, only surpassed by the Pentagon two years later. After World War II, it was used by the U.S. Air Force as Tempelhof Air Base and played a major role in the Berlin Air Bridge in 1948/49.

The last day before returning

soldiers painted after the capitulation of 1945 gave a sense of history. The windows, by which one can see through the building and the Plenarsaal, where Germany's politicians preside, signify the openness of politics.

The FSE's team building event in Berlin provided the opportunity to further knowledge and understanding of Berlin's history from a military and political perspective. Berlin's architectural beauty, its nightlife and the Berliner's characters gave this event a framework in which the personnel of the FSE could spend time together outside of the office and get to know each other a little better.

Written by Capt. Phillip Templeton

Berlin. It housed the German Supreme Army Command during World War II. The Soviets later used parts of the complex as their Supreme Headquarters of Soviet Forces in East Germany and as the Headquarters of the 16th Air Army.



Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Forward Support Element pause for a photo in front of the Olympic Stadium Victory Plaque during the unit's staff ride to Berlin, July 23rd to July 26th.

Allied Force Command Heidelberg plays sports



Teams from across Allied Force Command Heidelberg battle to claim first place in Europe's top sport, football at the headquarters' annual Sports Day July 12.



Sgt. Domonic McKie drives the ball to the hoop as his team, International Security Kaserne, transition, staff and training and exercise, strives to earn first place win during the unit's annual Sports Day July 12 at Patton Barracks.



SCH Swen Chiron tosses the ball back into the game as Allied Force Command Heidelberg teams compete during the headquarters' annual Sports Day July 12.



Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Operations Team Two pulls tight on a rope in a competition of tug-of-war, at the headquarters' annual Sports Day July 12.

Photos by Peter J. Gonzales



Master Sgt. Daniel Lawrence purposefully pitches a horseshoe at a metal stake during FCHD's annual Sports Day July 12.



Allied Force Command Heidelberg members came together in a spirit of camaraderie and competition as they drove for first place in basketball during the unit's annual Sports Day July 12 at Patton Barracks.



French SCH Chef Edouard Phelip volleys the ball over the net in order to score his team a point in Allied Force Command Heidelberg's volleyball competition during the unit's annual Sports Day July 12 at Patton Barracks.

Training Calendar

<i>DATE</i>	<i>EVENTS</i>
05 SEP	Family Fest
10-14 SEP	Noble Ledger, Battle Staff Training
17-21 SEP	Land Command Izmir, Stand-Up Visit
30 SEP-12 OCT	Noble Ledger
02 OCT	German Reception
04-12 OCT	ARRC CREVAL, Phase 2b-3
NATO Holidays:	03 OCT German Unity Day

Closure Corner

Announcement: Garrison Closure Town Hall Meeting
 U.S. Army Garrison Baden-Württemberg will host a town hall Sept. 7, 11:00 in the Patrick Henry Village Pavilion Community Center, to discuss the garrison's closure next year. Questions may be submitted in advance to usarmy.badenwur.usag.mbx.post-newspaper@mail.mil or asked on the USAG BW Facebook page: www.facebook.com/bwnow The meeting will be aired live on the Armed Forces Network (AFN) channel, September 7th at 11a.m. and located at USAG B W Facebook page.

The Herald Post, published Thursdays, the garrison website: <http://www.bw.eur.army.mil>, and Town Halls remain the best sources of information about services affected by the inactivation of Patton Barracks and PHV.

Allied Force Command Heidelberg Family Fest 2012

Special KIDS' PROGRAM








Clown Show

Climbing Tower

Pony riding



Rodeo Duck

Bungee Trampoline

Kid's Food Corner

WEDNESDAY 05 Sept 2012

14:30 – 20:00 h



HQ members must have their NATO-ID card to gain access with their guest

Parking at the PR Messeplatz and Campbell Barracks

Shuttle Bus service from and to ISK available

Allied Force Command Heidelberg, giving to those in need

Allied Force Command Heidelberg, giving to those in need

Starting last year, the Italian Community decided to organize a lottery during Allied Force Command Heidelberg's Annual Family Fest. The aim was to raise funds to be donated to those in need while possibly winning a prize. Last year, 2,300 Euros were raised for Children-Planet, a kindergarten at Heidelberg's children hospital specialized in treatments of cancer patients.

This year, the Italian Community has decided donations will go to children with cancer through "Die Waldpiraten" ("The Pirates of the Forest") - a camp of the German Childhood Cancer Foundation, based on Paul Newman's "The Hole in the Wall Gang Camp" near Hartford (USA) and "The Barretstown Camp" (IRL).



Since "The Pirates of the Forest" is a unique camp in Germany, cancer patients from all over the country older than nine years of age get an eight to nine-day break from the routine by joining and team building with others in activities such as wall climbing, archery, swimming, canoeing, horseback riding, pottery, wood making and much more. For more information about the camp, please check out their website at www.waldpiraten.de or view a video at:

http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=Z65CvsFCclg&feature=player_embedded.

At the Family Fest the Lottery tickets will cost 2 Euros/Dollars for one ticket, 5 Euros/Dollars for three tickets, 10 Euros/Dollars for 7 tickets, 20 Euros/Dollars for 15 tickets.

You can win one or more of the at least 50 prizes based on Italian Sponsors:

- one 1st class award (most valuable Italian specialties and 2 free menu tickets for lunch or dinner at the most important Italian Restaurant "La Cantina" in Weinheim);

- one 2nd class award (most valuable Italian specialties and 2 free menu tickets for lunch or dinner at the Italian Pizzeria "Zur Stadtschenke" in Weinheim);



- three 3rd class awards (most valuable Italian specialties);

- about forty-five 4th class awards (valuable Italian specialties).

If you just want to donate or cannot make it during the Family Fest, all donations will be welcomed at the Italian Community or at the Family Support Center (FSC) from August 29th to September 4th and on September 5th at the lottery ticket booth, when the Lottery tickets will be on sale.

We are hoping that our donation for the children of "The Pirates of the Forest" camp will make a small difference for them and a reason to smile.

Written by PAO Staff
Photos courtesy "Das Waldpiraten"