

# Ex Arcade Fiscal

by Maj C. Tapinnetto, G8 – So2 Analysis and Statistics

## NRDC-IT G8's MOTTO: "FIRST IN - LAST OUT"



*ARRC G8 gives his lecture*

In April NRDC-IT G8 hosted Exercise ARCADE Fiscal 04, organised by HQ ARCC – G8 and attended by the majority of the Ground Readiness Forces G8 community. The aim of the Exercise was to share budgeting points of view on important issues within NATO such as the NATO Response Force and NATO automated financial system.

The exercise comprised briefings, syndicates and panel discussions on various Budget and Finance regulations and their likely impact on operations, specifically the financial implications related to the NATO Response Force concept and the way ahead for the standby NRF/HRF (L).

There was the chance to talk in open forum about operational experiences and explore different methods of financing NATO operations, in particular to achieve a common understanding of the NRF concept.

The **ARRC G8** representative illustrated the NATO Automated Financial System Light (NAFS) used by ARRC during previous exercises, its implementation and the resulting implications for the use of NAFS on operations. Furthermore he discussed the Common Financial Administrative Procedures for GRFs and a new prospective of the problem was offered with the proposal of a new document "The Financial Deviation" to be presented to the Senior Resource Committee for approval.

With reference to Customs issues and related Memorandum of Understanding and Technical Agreements in the Operational environment, **GE/NL Corps** provided an overview of the major issues related to purchasing and contracting activities, customs, the solutions proposed and the problems still pending from their recent experience whilst deployed to Afghanistan.

**NRDC-TU** then gave a lecture on G8 problems and experiences they had before being nominated as one of the standby NRF HQ's, how they dealt with these financial issues and what lessons we can learn in order to improve our knowledge of the NRF concept.

**SHAPE representative** delivered a lecture and discussion on NATO Security Investments Programme projects, command and control of these projects and their financial management.

The exercise proved very successful in all areas, particularly during the discussion phases, when it was possible to see and understand the differences between the different NRF's, and the implications and interpretations of financial regulations and possible impacts this may have during handover/takeover on operations. The closing social dinner in Milan reinforced the relationship between all participants and all saw ARCADE Fiscal 04 as a complete success; a necessary tool in this fast changing environment which will be run as an annual Exercise, hosted by each NRF in turn.



*A rapt audience (when it comes to money!)*