



ON EXERCISES AND DOCTRINE

1st GNC Exercise NOBLE SWORD 2010

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The Wildflecken training area served 1st (German-Netherlands) Corps as the ideal environment for exercise Noble Sword during which the HQ Corps trained German, Dutch and Norwegian units. From 7 to 22 June, about 1500 soldiers ranking from private to general have been ready to extend and deepen their knowledge. Another major formation at Rhon Barracks, apart from the Corps, was the 1st DEU Armoured Division with representatives from all subordinate units.

The women and men of this division – whose brigades and battalions can be found across Northern Germany – will soon

take part in two important missions. Already in January 2011 they will deploy to Kosovo within the framework of the KFOR mission, followed by the division's task as a lead unit for the ISAF mission in Afghanistan. During the exercise Noble Sword, the multinational Corps from Munster was the training partner for the division staff from Hannover.

In this computer assisted exercise, the division had no need for combat vehicles, since all troop movements were virtual. It was the particular objective of the Corps to pass on the lessons learned during the Afghanistan mission last year to 1st DEU Armoured Division. The CIS and HQ Battalions facilitated the work of the Corps staff; in addition they were supported by parts of 13th NLD Mechanised Brigade.

The main participating troops Noble Sword 2010 were, as already mentioned, 1st Armoured Division (DEU A) from Hannover and 13th Mechanized Brigade (NLD A) from Oirschot.

Just few words about them.

The 1st German Armoured Division is the core of the German Army's reaction force.

The HQ of the Division is located in Hannover, the capital of Lower Saxony. Due to its organization and equipment it is able to lead operations in the context of networked, joint and multinational operations. The major brigades of the Division are the 9th Armoured Brigade in Munster – also Lower Saxony – and 21st Armoured Brigade in Augustdorf, a garrison in North Rhine-Westphalia. Further regiments under the command are the 1st Signal Regiment, 6th Air Defence Regiment, 100th Artillery Regiment and 100th Engineer Regiment. Further Battalions like 3rd Reconnaissance Battalion and the 3rd Logistic Battalion are also subordinated. Additionally the division can lead forces of the airmobile brigade as well as multinational troops up to the brigade level. The division uses the possibilities of mechanized forces for fast and expansive operations with high impact assertiveness.





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The 13th Mechanized Brigade is one of the three brigades of the Dutch land forces. Due to its numerous vehicles, armoured or not, the Brigade is easily deployable over long distances for various tasks. With approximately 3000 soldiers, the Brigade is also one of the unit most frequently engaged in NATO activities in southern Netherlands. It consists of the 17th Mechanized Infantry Battalion Guard Fusiliers Princess Irene, the 42nd Mechanized Artillery Battalion Limburg Hunters, the Tank Battalion 11 Regiment of Hussars van Szttyama and the Brigade Reconnaissance Squadron 42 of Borrel Hussars. Further troops are its combat support and logistic units. The core of the Brigade is its state of the art armoured vehicles, such as the reconnaissance vehicle Fennek and the main battle tank Leopard 2A6.

