

Exercise ALLIED REACH 05 concludes - Joint Warfare Centre

Written by Juergen Eise, JWC PAO
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Conducted from 1-3 February 2005 in Norway, Exercise Allied Reach 2005 (AR 05) allowed over 300 representatives under the lead of the two NATO Strategic Commanders, U.S. Marine Corps General James L. Jones, Supreme Allied Commander, Europe (SACEUR) and Admiral Edmund P. Giambastiani, Supreme Allied Commander Transformation (SACT) to train in the context of the NRF implementation scenario.

ACO and ACT carry out annually an exercise aimed to develop NRF procedures and knowledge. For this year, Norway served as the host nation. AR 05 was played at the JWC Training Facility at Ulsnes. Ulsnes proved to be an excellent choice for such training. A net centric system was provided which connected the different syndicates and EXCON throughout the exercise. The three Joint Force Commanders, from Brunssum, Naples and Lisbon chaired all three syndicates. The JWC has set a standard for connectivity in NATO, said a high-ranking official.

Naturally, the participation of both strategic commanders made the difference in Allied Reach 05. The final exercise day was a day for the syndicate presentations. Also, on the final day, there was a hot wash for the commanders to discuss the outcome of the exercise.

AR 05 was clearly successful and proved the trust for the NRF, making Allied Reach exercises a worthy training vehicle and a hallmark for NATO transformation.