



General Sir Richard Shirreff, the Deputy Supreme Allied Commander (DSACEUR), visited the Joint Force Training Centre on 24 October. He arrived in Bydgoszcz during the Bold Dragon 2012 Exercise – a training event conducted concurrently at the JFTC and at the Headquarters Allied Joint Force Command Brunssum (HQ JFCBS).

The DSACEUR was welcomed by representatives of both the HQ JFCBS and the JFTC. Lieutenant General Richard G. Tieskens, the JFCBS Chief of Staff introduced the distinguished guest to the Bold Dragon 2012 Exercise. Later Brigadier General Grzegorz Buszka, the JFTC Deputy Commander, presented the Centre focusing on its mission, main tasks and capabilities.

The main focus of the visit was an update on the JFCBS Deployability Concept and its challenges. General Sir Richard Shirreff was also interested in the outcome of the exercise and how its main goals were fulfilled. Furthermore, the DSACEUR's was acquainted with issues related to the NATO Response Force (NRF) 2012, including the interaction with the response cells provided to the exercise by the NRF 2012 Component Commands.

As it was his first visit to the Joint Force Training Centre, General Sir Richard Shirreff was also very interested in the Centre's role in the NATO training program. General Buszka introduced the guest to the Centre's activities but also with its abilities and plans for the future. The DSACEUR had a perfect opportunity to investigate the JFTC's work and the capabilities of the

Centre's staff and facilities during the ongoing exercise.

The two-week Bold Dragon 2012 Exercise started on 17 October. It was tailored to practise the HQ JFCBS in deployment and operational-level command and control procedures and to instil a spirit of deployability within the HQ. During the event the JFCBS members are working on a fictitious NATO-led crisis response operation with humanitarian assistance under a United Nations' mandate. The JFTC is hosting approximately 200 HQ JFCBS internal staff.



