



NORTH ATLANTIC TREATY ORGANIZATION

**SUPREME ALLIED COMMANDER
TRANSFORMATION**

SACT REMARKS to

**ALL HANDS Ceremony
Bydgoszcz,**

1st October

As Delivered

Général d'armée aérienne André LANATA

1163 mots : 10 minutes

Préparé par LCL Philippe BAILLOT d'ESTIVAUX



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Dear Wilhelm,

General,

JFTC Staff members,

I thank all of you for the warm welcome I received since I arrived in Bydgoszcz.

I am very happy to be here today, to pay my first visit in Europe to you, Joint Force Training Centre, underlining your importance to me as a valuable NATO tool for Transformation.

I must begin by telling you how proud I was to be appointed as Supreme Allied Commander Transformation even if an uninvited hurricane disrupted the meticulously prepared change of command ceremony.



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Let me introduce myself. In a few words, I spent about 37 years in the French Air Force from fighter pilot to Chief of Staff and if I were to do it all over again, no doubt I would make the same choices!

I have a strong background in Defense planning and capability development. Also, I have an operational background in combat and recce air missions, that is to say I know very very well how Pre-Deployment Training is essential.

Train as you fight is not only a say!

Do not worry, I am not here to tell about myself but to understand your missions and associated stakes better. I am all ears!



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Before going into details, I would like to welcome the many newcomers (and I am one myself) and wish you an excellent tour.

I hope your families, the solid support base of any military, are well settled.

This is paramount because they are part of our capabilities. In NATO, as in our Nations, I am convinced that our strategic resources (that is to say data and human capital) are fundamental.

However, data can be managed, but I want to ensure our human capital is preserved. This is one of my main concerns!

What is the mission I received from the Nations? What are ACT missions?



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Allied Command Transformation's mission is to contribute to preserving the peace, security and territorial integrity of the Alliance member states by leading the transformation of military structures, forces, capabilities and doctrines.

This mission must enable NATO to meet its level of ambition and core missions:

- Collective Defence,
- Crisis Management and
- Cooperative Security).

Allied Command Transformation is organized around four principal functions: strategic thinking, development of capabilities, education, training and exercises and, co-operation and engagement.



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In two words, ACO is NATO warfighting HQ while ACT is warfare development HQ which simply means our areas of interest are in capability development, training, innovation, partnerships and so on...

Among many of others, our main concerns at the moment in Norfolk are around NCS Adaptation implementation –we are on track to Capacity development Management authority and ensuring a seamless transition of Common Funded capabilities between the 2 Strategic Commands.

Creativity and innovation were boosted by my predecessor, **General Denis Mercier** and I would like to emphasize in front of you the outstanding job he has accomplished during his 3 year mandate.



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I endorse the vision he has established, I will follow the same path and, as he often said to you: you do not work for me, we all work for our Alliance we defend.

In this broad task, JFTC has a distinct and unique role within NATO Command Structure: focusing on joint and combined training at the tactical level.

The Centre's motto, "*Transformation through Training,*" reflects perfectly its mission and its strong and friendly link to ACT.

For me, one of the best example to reflect this motto is CWIX.



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I would like to take this opportunity to underline how CWIX (Coalition Warrior Interoperability eXploration, eXperimentation, eXamination, eXercise) is important for Transformation. Indeed, it is paramount we stay on track on our Warfighting development task in support of ACO.

Moreover, JFTC has played and plays a key role in the NATO transformation process I am leading from Norfolk, by delivering joint pre-deployment training, supporting current operations and emerging requirements, and by offering a platform for experimentation, testing, and interoperability.

I am pleased to note the presence of NATO Military Police Centre of Excellence, NCIA support unit and NSEs. We still have to work together.

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Developing innovation is also part of JFTC mission and this is one of the reason you belong to ACT. Innovation is part of your transformation. Here, there is such a huge amount of tactical, operational and technical skills, it is our responsibility to take advantage from, for innovation.

I am convinced that military innovation is a bottom-up process which contributes to link operational and technical world.

This is a lot to do and I know it. I understand well that this new tasks are very demanding and stressed your plan of work.



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We have to work together to take it into account in a comprehensive approach in order to establish the best possible balance.

I ask my HQ to work in close coordination with yours to ensure the Centre remains at the same level of performance and this is the reason why I support an extra 31 people for JFTC out of 123 positions for ACT as a whole.

It means one quarter of my authorized increase, in a very constraint environment where each and every single new position had to be explained into details, is for JFTC.

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Keep in mind the exercises you organize are great test beds for our new ideas!

I would like finally to highlight the outstanding job you all accomplished during the last period.

I was told that the last Trident Joust, Citadel Bonus, Steadfast Pyramid or Steadfast Pinnacle, you conduct last year and until September, among other exercises and activities, were again a series of success and I want to publicly congratulate you all, for this very good job.

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Overall, the work you did supporting then ISAF and now RSM, as well as, brand new NATO Mission Iraq is commended in the Alliance and around. If I am not wrong you start a new one tomorrow (RESOLUTE SUPPORT 18-4)?

Now, in addition, NATO wants you to develop such a model for each and every operation that could come up in the future.

It is the price of glory and I trust your ability to manage it successfully.

Also, I draw your attention on Steadfast Jupiter 20 where you are being to support JWC. It is clear to me that the 3Js (JWC, JFTC, JALLC for the new comers) are to work shoulder to shoulder.

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Obviously, whatever your position in JFTC, one of 160 officers, NATO International Civilians and non-commissioned officers, from 16 NATO nations, I rely on your professionalism, your dedication and pride and I know that you will do your utmost to support our Alliance of Nations through you daily tasks.

If not done yet, I look forward to meeting with you very soon. At this specific moment, feel free to talk to me directly and very frankly about what you are working on.

Thank you for what you have done and Thank you for what you are going to do.

Let's take this to the next level!