

OPERATION UNIFIED PROTECTOR LESSONS FROM NATIONAL MILITARY PERSPECTIVES

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PROJECT OVERVIEW

In November 2011, the JALLC was tasked by the Supreme Allied Command Transformation to produce an analysis report on Lessons Identified during Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR from national military perspectives. When this tasking was assigned, each of the Headquarters involved in the NATO chain of command for OUP had either already published its own report of lessons or was in the process of preparing one. As a result, this study is a complementary report that is focused on the ongoing Lessons Learned process conducted by Nations during OUP.

The JALLC collected the observations and lessons identified relevant to NATO from all of the nations that contributed forces to the Combined Joint Task Force UNIFIED PROTECTOR, developing a summary of national perspectives and identifying observed practices and procedures that enhance NATO's interaction with nations and partners supporting future NATO missions.

It is important to note that for this study, the JALLC approached all 28 NATO Nations and the four Operational Partners associated with OUP. When the data for this report was assembled, it became readily apparent that every Nation had a unique list of concerns that were not necessarily in line with the priorities of the other Nations. For this reason, the observations of this report are merged in such a way that they are of relevance to both Nations and NATO.



The JALLC team during interviews with National Military Representatives

MAIN FINDINGS AND RECOMMENDATIONS

Ten major observations are identified in the report. The fact that much of the data reported has already been addressed in one or more of the NATO produced documents indicates that these are key focus areas for improvement that will benefit the Alliance and enhance future NATO operations. This report also contains two "other observations" that while important from a National Perspective were determined to be either internal national issues or with unspecified root causes.



A Norwegian F-16 prepares to launch from Souda Air Base in support of OUP

Two of the major observations are associated with personnel qualifications and rotation rates. Several Nations reported that personnel assigned to fill staff positions in support of OUP often lacked pre-requisite training and/or experience resulting in a mismatch of people and skills required, and that there was a reduced effectiveness of OUP Headquarters due to the frequent rotation of some assigned personnel.

Additional observations include Standing NATO Commitments, Strategic Communications, Force Preparation and Sustainment, Operational Partners with Sponsor Nations, Information Sharing, Precision Guided Munitions, Air Tasking Order Cycle, and the lack of Intelligence, Surveillance and Reconnaissance assets.

Within the report, National observations are cross-referenced with the various NATO Lessons Identified/Learned reports to highlight the importance of these National Perspectives to the Alliance as a whole. The overarching message is that the solutions to these challenges in NATO have been consistently identified, and should find support among Nations, because the national will to support NATO changes is paramount.





NATO
OTAN



PROJECT EXECUTION



Four ships of NATO's surface Task Group 455 form up for a brief ceremony to mark the end of OUP on 31 October 2011.

This report was developed utilizing interviews, correspondence and other data that described lessons from individual Nations who contributed to Operation UNIFIED PROTECTOR. The JALLC contacted all 28 NATO members as well as the four Operational Partners that participated in OUP military operations in order to gain an understanding of their lessons from a military perspective and to improve future NATO operations.

As this data was collected and analyzed, the team researched NATO's other reports about OUP in order to identify the areas that could be addressed to enhance the Alliance's military ability to conduct future missions. This document was produced in support of the other JALLC report "OUP: Lessons for the Alliance" to show that the concerns of Nations walk in step with the concerns of NATO.

LT COLONEL MAREK PRZYMANOWSKI, POLISH AIR FORCE

LTC Marek Przymanowski has been an analyst officer at the JALLC since August 2010. He has a masters degree in Electronics. Having specialized in Ground Based Air Defense, he has held multiple positions including Fire Control Officer as well as a Deputy Technical Commander of a Ground Based Air Defense Squadron. He has a wealth of Joint and NATO experience, and prior to taking the post at the JALLC, he worked in the Office of Chief of General Staff Assistant for Air Force Affairs, Poland.

LT COLONEL KARL KRONSKJOLD, DANISH ARMY

LTC Karl Kronskjold is an infantry officer and he has served in the Danish Army since 1982. He is a Senior Staff Course Graduate from the Baltic Defence College. LTC Kronskjold has been deployed to the Former Yugoslavia and Afghanistan. Since 2008, LTC Kronskjold has been assigned to NATO in Portugal, first for two years at Joint Command Lisbon, and since April 2010 at the JALLC as a military analyst.

LT COMMANDER ANTHONY SMITH, US NAVY

LCDR Smith has served as a pilot in the United States Navy since 1998. He graduated from the University of Washington with a degree in Computer Engineering. He has flown multiple combat missions in support of Operation IRAQI FREEDOM and served as the Assistant Air Operations Officer with Carrier Strike Group THREE in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM. He arrived at the JALLC in 2011.

MR ARTHUR SOSA, CIVILIAN ANALYST

Mr. Sosa has served as a senior analyst at the JALLC for nearly six years on projects influencing NATO operations in Kosovo and Afghanistan. He is a former US Army Officer with thirty years experience in command at all levels. Mr. Sosa graduated from the U.S. Army Senior Service College/War College; Command and General Staff College. He holds a Masters Degree in Education.

MR DAVID JONES, CIVILIAN OPERATIONAL ANALYST

David Jones is an operational analyst on the JALLC Production Branch's project support and assurance team. He has a masters degree in Military Operational Research from the UK Royal Military College of Science, with additional areas of studies in mathematics, statistics and health & safety. After seven years with BAE Systems he became a contractor for the UK Defence Science and Technology Laboratory. David began working for the JALLC in February 2011.

PROJECT TEAM

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