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Border management, security addressed in Kyrgyzstan

The Marshall Center organized a border management and security conference Feb. 3-5 in Bishkek, Kyrgyzstan. The conference sought to improve inter-regional border management/security cooperation to enhance the region's ability to reduce smuggling, trafficking, and trans-national terrorism.

Mr. Peter Neven, Deputy Chief of Mission, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany to the Kyrgyz Republic, addresses participants at the recent border security conference.



Forty-five participants from Kazakhstan, Kyrgyzstan and Tajikistan took part in the conference. Speakers, moderators, and facilitators came from the EU Border Management Programme in Central Asia; U.S. Embassies' Export Control and Related Border Security Program; International Organization for Migration; Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe; and United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime. Asian Development Bank attended as an observer.

As part of the conference, participants toured the border service training center in Novopokrovka and both the Kyrgyz and Kazakh sides of the recently upgraded Ak-Jol Border Crossing Point, the busiest border crossing in Central Asia. The Kyrgyz Border Service is forming its own professional school. The government of Kyrgyzstan also offered the Novopokrovka Training Center to serve as an international/regional center of excellence for border issues in Central Asia. Participants stressed the need for follow-up training, especially given that personnel frequently rotate. A strong "Train the Trainer" program was recommended.

Montenegrin alumni form association

Marshall Center alumni from Montenegro held a foundation assembly in Miločer, Montenegro on Feb. 25. Twenty-eight of Montenegro's 33 Marshall Center graduates participated in the assembly.

Guests included representatives from the US Embassy and Montenegrin MOD, as well as other MC alumni and professors who were attending a NATO Lessons Learned regional conference. Deputy Minister of Defense, Draško Jovanović, gave welcome remarks to the assembly.



Alumni talk during a break.

The keynote address was given by COL (ret.) Gerhard Blaesing. LTC Milan Tepšić, general secretary of the Serbian Alumni Association, spoke and shared his expertise and the association's lessons learned. Mr. Mehmedin Tahirović, who was elected president of the Montenegrin association, discussed the role of the association and Ms. Barbara Wither, Marshall Center Alumni Relations Specialist for Montenegro, presented Marshall Center opportunities and initiatives.

Estonian seminar addresses contemporary security issues

About 30 people, 15 of them Marshall Center alumni, attended a seminar on contemporary European defense and security issues held Feb. 9-10 at the Estonian Riigikogu (Parliament)

The event took place at the initiative of Mr. Mati Raidma (SES 2007-6), chairman of the Riigikogu's National Defense Committee, and brought together members of the Riigikogu, and senior military officers and representatives from the Estonian Office of the Prime Minister (Riigikantselei) and Defense League (Kaitseliit).

The seminar included presentations by Marshall Center professors Dr. Matt Rhodes, Dr. Robert Brannon and Lt Col (ret.) James Wither, who addressed the topics of Security Sector Governance, National Security Strategy, Civil-Military Relations, Trends in Warfare and Defense Economics.

The staffs of the National Defense Committee and the U.S. Embassy Office for Defense Cooperation facilitated the event.

Marshall Center February courses

Forty-five participants from 25 nations attended the Marshall Center's **Seminar on Trans-Atlantic Civil Security (STACS)** Feb. 4-25.

Special presentations were made by Mr. Peter Verga, Principal Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense and Americas' Security Affairs; General Craig McKinley, the Chief, National Guard Bureau; Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, the Deputy Chairman of the NATO Military Committee; Maj. Gen. Frank Grass, Northern Command J-3 and Maj Gen Pierre Forgues, the NORAD J-3.

STACS participants visited Munich International Airport to see some of the security measures there.



Sixty-nine participants from 49 countries are attending the **Program on Terrorism and Security Studies** which runs Feb. 13-March 20 at the Marshall Center.

Worldwide faculty support

Lt. Gen. Jean Paul Raffenne, director of the Marshall Center's Senior Executive Seminar, travelled to Fort Leavenworth, Kansas Feb. 1-6 to give four presentations on "How to prepare our officers for comprehensive approach." Fifteen active duty generals and 100 colonels from the Combined Arms Center attended.

Dr. Jay Le Beau made a presentation to the NATO School Nuclear Surety Course on Feb. 23 entitled "The Terrorist Threat to NATO and NATO Member Countries." The NATO course had about forty participants.

German Lt. Col. receives US service medal

Lt. Col. Nicholas J. von Thaden, former assistant military attaché of Germany to the United States, received the U.S. Meritorious Service Medal Feb. 9 for his service Aug. 4, 2004 to Aug. 30, 2007 in Washington D. C. Lt. Col. Von Thaden is the deputy director of the Program for Advanced Security Studies at the Marshall Center.



According to the award, "... he strengthened the bonds of military-to-military friendship between the United States and Germany. His service as a member of the Executive Committee of the Washington Association of Military Attachés... contributed to improving communications and understanding

between the United States Army and the entire Attaché corps." Col. David Allwine, defense attaché at the American Embassy, Berlin, presented the award to Lt. Col. Von Thaden and a token of appreciation to the lieutenant colonel's wife, Andrea.

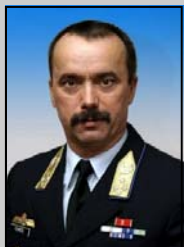
"You can't do this alone," Colonel Allwine said. "The most important person is your wife to support you in this. This is just a small token of our appreciation for what you've done to help Nicholas do the magnificent job he did in Washington."

Kyrgyz alumni attend Bishkek security roundtable

On Feb. 3, 16 Marshall Center alumni attended a security roundtable in Bishkek conducted by the Marshall Center, in conjunction with the Kyrgyzstan Alumni Association. The roundtable focus was on "Borders in a Globalizing world." Mr. Lee Litzenberger, Deputy Chief of Mission at the U.S. Embassy, and Toktogul Kakchekeyev (Executive Course 1994-1), vice-president of the Marshall Center Alumni Association in Kyrgyzstan, made opening remarks.

Dr. Greg Gleason, Marshall Center Professor of Eurasian Security Studies, gave a presentation entitled, "Borders in a Globalizing World." Dr. Orozbek Moldaliev (Executive Program 1996-2), Head of the Department of World Politics and International Relations in the Ministry of Foreign Affairs' Diplomatic Academy, and Executive Director of the Research Center "Sedep," spoke on "Globalization and Changing Borders in Global Affairs."

Marshall Center January Graduate of the Month—General László Tömböl , Hungary



On Jan. 16, General Tömböl was promoted to four-star general and appointed chief of defense, of the Hungarian Defense Forces. General Tömböl graduated from the Military Academy in Budapest in 1981 and commenced his military career in the Hungarian Air Defense Forces.

He has attended the Air Defense War College in Kalinin in the former Soviet Union and the U.S. Air War College in Montgomery, Alabama. He has served as head of the Hungarian Liaison Team at NATO AFSOUTH and as chief, Military Cooperation Branch, JCS Verona. The general attended SES 2003-6, while chief for integration at the Ministry of Defense. General Tömböl has been an avid Marshall Center supporter. He facilitated a visit by Dr. Rose in October 2003, and an outreach lecture in November 2004. He also attended an alumni seminar in September 2008 on the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction.

September distinguished visitors to the Marshall Center



✦ **General Craig McKinley**, Chief, National Guard Bureau, visited Feb. 5 to speak at STACS.

✦ **Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry**, Deputy Chairman, NATO Military Committee, visited Feb. 12 to speak at STACS.

- ✦ **Maj. Gen. Pierre Forgues**, Canadian Forces, J-3, North American Aerospace Defense Command (NORAD), visited Feb. 19 to speak at STACS.
- ✦ **Brig. Gen. Katherine Kasun**, Commandant, Joint Forces Staff College, National Defense University, visited Feb. 23 for an orientation.
- ✦ **Maj. Gen. Frank Grass**, J-3, Northern Command, Colorado Springs, CO, visited Feb. 24 to be the STACS graduation dinner speaker.
- ✦ **Mr. Peter Verga**, Acting Principal Deputy Under Secretary of Defense for Policy, OSD, visited Feb. 25 to be the STACS graduation speaker.

✦ **Mr. Brian Jenkins**, Senior Security Advisor, RAND Corporation, visited Feb. 20 to speak at PTSS.

- ✦ **Representative John Tanner**, D-Tenn., president of the 26-member NATO Parliamentary Assembly; and Reps. **John Boozman**, R-Ark.; **Jo Ann Emerson**, R-Mo.; **Baron Hill**, D-Ind.; **Carolyn McCarthy**, D-N.Y.; **Charlie Melancon**, D-La.; **Jef Miller**, R-Fl; **Dennis Moore**, D-Kan.; **Mike Ross**, D-Ark., and



David Scott, D-Ga., visited Feb. 20 for an orientation.



Members of the delegation and Dr. John Rose pose for a group photo after receiving the Marshall Center mission briefing.

PfP-Consortium gets strategic guidance

The PfP Consortium's Senior Advisory Council (SAC) met Feb. 12 in Freising, Germany, to discuss the Consortium's budget and program for fiscal year 2009, publications themes for fiscal year 2010, the annual conference, and ways to increase the reach and resources of the Consortium.



Senior Advisory Council members and observers met Feb. 12 in Freising to discuss the next fiscal year's programs.

The Chairman, Mr. James Q. Roberts, pointed out to SAC members that the sums allocated by the principal sponsors leverage contributions in kind of about 300%, the bulk of which are the professional time of participants in Consortium projects. Other contributions include conference facilities and travel expenses.

The 2009 program consists of 28 events and five publications, produced by six working groups and an editorial board, all of them coordinated by an operations staff located at the Marshall Center.

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