

EXCHANGE OFFICER C4I AND THE NORWEGIAN ARMY SCHOOL OF SIGNALS

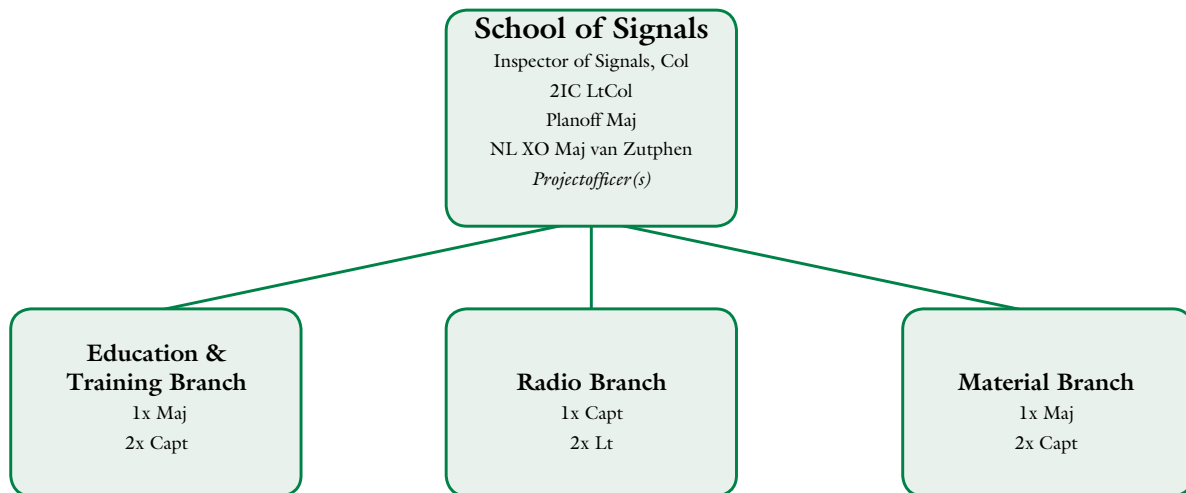
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As in one of the earlier edition, the editor of *Intercom* asked me to write an article on my experiences about life and work in Norway. I would like to take this opportunity to present the organisation of the Norwegian Army School of Signals, where I am posted, and the main developments and priorities.

In case you, whilst reading this, get any ideas for where forces can be combined and NOR and NLD can cooperate, do not hesitate to contact me.



ORDER OF BATTLE



ORGANISATIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- Merging of Army School of Signals with the Land Operational Signals Squadron from the National Development Centre to be more effective in tackling the combined task portfolio of the Army Signals. Step 1 is a test period from 2013-2015, in which we aim to establish common goals, production plan and agenda, shared filestructure (sharepoint), coordinated course catalogue and course coding, but keep the same formal orbat. In step 2 we will consider combining forces into a single unit.
- In the reorganisation of the Land Warfare Centre for 2014, it is proposed to transfer the Combat Lab to the School of Signals. By doing so, the intention is to improve the coordination and cooperation in the field of Concept Development & Experimentation with Noble (Norwegian Battle Lab) and the Cyber Defence.

PROJECTS (MAIN)

- P 9217/Defence tactical communication nodes
 - > Modern IP-based, LOS communication system with satellite capacity and close integration with other Defence Critical Infrastructure, as a replacement for the outdated TADKOM system. Pilot testing has already been carried out (ex Reindeer II). Possible COTS prototyping on a large scale from 2014. Large communication nodes (e.g for the Brig HQ) will be delivered from 2015 and Medium nodes from 2017.
- P 8016/MRR MLU (VHF CNR)
 - > Implementation in the Army from June 2014. Voice and data simultaneously. Increased data capacity (5x-20x) and IP-based.
- P 5136/Commandpost equipment
 - > New type of mobile containers with integrated ballistic protection – must be able to deploy and move rapidly. State of the art ICT and power infrastructure. Necessary as the current containers are worn out

and not up to standard. Meant for Brig HQ and a number of battalion HQ's. Possible prototype for the TOC of Brig HQ in winter 2014. Remainder of deliveries from 2015.

- "FISBasis Taktisk"
 - > Raving development over the last year. Version 2.0 has recently been released by the NDLO as a new official and managed version. Working on approval for the restricted security level, which is essential for establishing interoperability in NRF 2015. This process is challenging and demands more time and resources than the development of the system itself. Great improvement in the stability and ease of use and management of tactical C2IS.
- P8043/Tactical C2-system for the Land domain
 - > In a startfase and working on conceptual solutions. Main focus is on identifying processes that could be made more effective by using technology. Goal of



this project is to prepare for NNEC maturity level 4 and will deliver between 2017 and 2025. Estimated cost is at 3.2 billion Norwegian krouns, but this is likely to increase. The School of Signals is following this project and has temporarily appointed a project officer by allocating own means. This project should get a dedicated project officer from summer 2014 onwards.

TRAINING AND EXERCISE ARENA'S

- NRF 15; participate in testing and exercises
- Combined Endeavor 2013-14
 - > Education of personell for NRF15 and identify status of interoperability. CND is lacking in todays tactical C2IS, so therefore security and monitoring has been assigned as a focus area.
- Bold Quest 2013-14

>Testing of interoperability with a focus on firesupport, where NorBMS is the core application. The NOR Army will potentially be asked to take a larger role in the coordination for this exercise in 2014. Combat Lab is responsible for coordination of the Army's participation in support of the Battle Lab.

OTHER PRIORITY AREAS

- Development of concepts and regulations
- Development and improvement of the Concept for Army Signals.
 - >Observing/training based on official publications
 - >Organising and clearing the digital library FOBID, amongst which divide subject responsibilities better.
- Culture and tradition in the Army Corps of Signals
 - >Signals Conference and Signals meet in

2014 is from 24th until 27th April.

- >Development of an intranet site for improved information sharing
- Leadership development
 - >Further development of the Army Signals career and service plan with a proposed plan for leadership development.
 - >Establishing a Troop Commanders platform within the Army Corps of Signals as a part of the Troop Commanders Course part 2.

With this I hope to have created a picture of what drives the Norwegian Army Signals the years to come. Of course there are many more projects and developments the Signals School is involved in. And with only 12 positions, capacity is limited and we are always looking for ways to improve efficiency, not in the least by cooperating with other nations. Especially with the Netherlands!



CARTOON

