NATIONAL DEFENCE ACADEMY VIENNA AUSTRIAN ARMED FORCES LANGUAGE INSTITUTE

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BILC Conference 2012

NATIONAL REPORT

In 2011 there were no substantial changes regarding the basic concept of language training and the organization of Austrian Armed Forces Language Institute.

Mandatory English language training to STANAG 6001 level 2 Staff NCO candidates was integrated into the curriculum of the NCO Academy und is now an integral part of Staff NCO training.

In 2011 not only workplace and mission oriented English language training was intensified but also the program of seldom taught languages and languages of the neighbourhood (Hungarian, Czech, Slovenian, Italian and Slovak) was expanded, and the terminology work on East-Central and South-European languages was tied together.

The Tactical English Courses (TEC), particularly the nationally conducted ones, were a great success as they were tailored to the specific needs of the respective units.

1300 students received language training in centralized and decentralized courses and seminars. If we also include the students at the NCO Academy, the Theresian Military Academy, and the National Defence Academy, as many as 1600 students underwent some kind of language training.

The German language course for members of foreign armed forces remains divided into one course for STANAG Level 2 and Level 3. In addition to these two courses, a Tactical German Course, which lasts four weeks, was developed. Training in other languages was mainly tailored to individual needs (e.g. those of defence attachés, where a new concept took place).

In 2011 more than 110 courses and seminars comprising a total of 1600 participants were held, which does not include language training at the NCO Academy, the Theresian Military

Academy and the National Defence Academy. The languages taught were English, French, Russian, Italian, Ukrainian, Slovak, Czech, Slovenian, Hungarian, Chinese, Spanish, Arabic, Croatian, Serbian, Bosnian and German as a Foreign Language.

With regard to testing, the number of examinees stabilized around 4,500 over the last years. In 2011 among the tests administered were 935 admission tests, 1.095 placement tests, 1.514 final exams, and 935 language proficiency level tests. Members of all service categories were assessed e.g. officers, non-commissioned officers, corporals, civil servants, and militia soldiers.

| Proficiency level | Officers | NCO's |
|---------------------|----------|-------|
| Proficiency level 1 | 40 | 231 |
| Proficiency level 2 | 97 | 297 |
| Proficiency level 3 | 237 | 103 |
| Proficiency level 4 | 90 | 46 |

Publications currently being worked on include military dictionaries for Finish, Estonian, Italian, French, Romanian, Ukrainian, Hungarian, and English. A military Dictionary for Serbian was published in the year 2011.

As far as terminology work is concerned, the "MILLEX" Project of the Ministry of Defence is still supported, and the implementation of the second generation of the TRADOS program for PC-assisted translations and the establishment of a terminology database has been finished.

The changes we made in 2011 especially included

- the implementation of the new concept of language training for future Military Attachés
- the implementation of a new Air Operational Course
- the implementation of a new Military Legal English Course
- the preparation for a new Aviation English Course

These changes provided successful.

Language training was concentrated on:

two Technical Logistic Courses and workshops

- special seminars for English teachers teaching "Military English"
- intensified "military language training" at all levels
- testing of military ATC personnel according to ICAO standards
- forcing French as a third language for officers' language training
- forcing intercultural training
- forcing language training in the languages of the neighbouring countries
- German language for mother-tongue-speakers

Courses open to other nations

2012

German Military Terminology Seminar 02 JUL – 13 JUL 2012

Seminar for **English** Language Teachers 03 SEP – 14 SEP 2012

German Language Course 2 17 SEP – 14 DEC 2012

Tactical **English** Course 01 OCT – 12 OCZ 2012

German Teacher Training Seminar 05 NOV – 16 NOV 2012

Air Operational **English** Course 26 NOV – 30 NOV 2012

Aviation **English** Seminar 03 DEC – 14 DEC 2012

2013

German Language Course 3 JAN – APR 2013 (89 days)

Tactical **English** Course 04 MAR – 15 MAR 2013

Air Operational **English** Course *MAR 2013 (12 days)*

Aviation **English** Seminar *MAR 2013 (12 days)*

German Military Terminology Seminar *JUL 2013 (12 days)*

German Language Course 2 SEP – DEC 2013 (89 days)

Tactical **English** Course 16 SEP – 27 SEP 2013

Tactical **French** Course 21 OCT – 25 OCT 2013

German Teacher Training Seminar NOV 2013 (12 days)

Air Operational **English** Course *NOV 2013 (12 days)*

Aviation **English** Seminar *DEC 2013 (12 days)*

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