



MC NORTHWOOD JOINING ROUTINE



PART 1

MC NORTHWOOD INTRODUCTION AND HISTORY

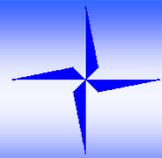


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Allied Maritime Command HQ Northwood





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- The aim of this presentation is to assist you in understanding the unique challenges facing NATO and the role that this HQ plays in meeting them
- It will also provide you with some basic guidance and essential information to assist you through your first few weeks here at MC Northwood.

MC NORTHWOOD'S CREST



The motif at the top left represents the land, sea and air components of the maritime forces working together in a joint environment. The castle at the bottom right symbolizes our responsibilities in Northern Europe, principally with HQ Joint Force Command Brunssum with whom we share this motif. The diagonal band represents the maritime environment and the contribution this HQ makes to the NATO Alliance.



HISTORY



- 1949 - The history of this HQ goes back to the very earliest days of NATO, the formation of which was in 1949. The Northwood site has hosted NATO in one form or another, for over 40 years.
- 1952 - It was with the formation of the Allied Command Eastern Atlantic in 1952 which saw the first use of this site under NATO.
- 1952 - The role of Allied Command Eastern Atlantic was assumed by the UK CINC HOME FLEET, then embarked afloat in the seagoing flagship HMS TYNE. To discharge his duties, he maintained a small shore HQ at Northwood from where his permanent NATO Staff operated. At that time, it was located in what is now Admiralty House.



HISTORY (cont'd)



- 1960 - The CINC Home Fleet ran out of capital warships big enough to accommodate him and his staff. Consequently, he moved ashore to the then RAF Coastal Command HQ at Northwood with good communications facilities and an underground Operations Centre.
- 1966 - CINC Home Fleet took over as NATO Allied CINC Channel. Allied CINC Eastern Atlantic and Allied CINC channel were semi-integrated under one CINC based at Northwood. At that time, the Allied CINC Channel was a major NATO appointment, whereas that of Allied CINC Eastern Atlantic was a major subordinate post. The position of Allied CINC Channel was held by the UK Flag Officer Portsmouth based at Fort Southwick.



HISTORY (cont'd)



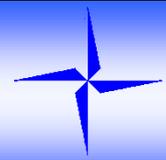
- Following NATO restructuring in 1994 the HQ became Regional Headquarters Eastern Atlantic (RHQ EASTLANT) in the Allied Command Atlantic and Commander Allied Naval Forces North-western Europe in the Allied Command Europe.
- The staff were then co-located in the old part of Atlantic Building.
- However, in response to the end of the cold war and the advent of Partnership for Peace, NATO reviewed its infrastructure and Defence Plans to prepare itself to face the rather more diverse risks inherent to the post-Cold War era. This led to a further name change and to expanded roles and tasks for the HQ as the combined Regional Headquarters East Atlantic and Headquarters Allied Naval Forces North.
- This necessitated an increase in the number of personnel serving at the HQ and the need to expand upon its existing infrastructure.



ATLANTIC BUILDING EXTENSION



In order to cope with the expanded Peace Establishment (PE), an extension to the building was required.



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The extension was formally opened by CINC NORTH - General Joachim SPIERING - on 1 September 2000.



HISTORY (Cont'd)



- 1 January 2004 – The HQ underwent a further role-change, severing the ties with SACLANT (now called Supreme Allied Command Transformation (SACT) - entailing the de-activation of our CINCEASTLANT responsibilities - and assuming the primary responsibilities of the Commander Allied Naval Forces North (COMNAVNORTH), a Maritime Component Commander (together with NAVSOUTH) under the newly titled Allied Command Operations (ACO).
- 1 July 2004 - The HQ underwent a further name-change and HQ NAVNORTH was deactivated and the new NATO Command Structure Headquarters - CC-Mar HQ Northwood stood up.
- 1 August 2010 – HQ CC Mar Northwood was renamed HQ MC Northwood.