

"With the CPX we accomplished more with less, while avoiding high costs. The CPX was designed to emulate the complex operational conditions and dilemmas that are difficult to replicate in a LIVEX. We provided first-class training for multiple contingencies in a realistic and comprehensive environment. We were not limited by the challenges of a live training environment and other peacetime constraints, such as training near civilian populations. We saved a tremendous amount of money, because we didn't bring in 50,000 troops or transported vehicles and equipment, and we didn't build any training areas. But with our CAX, we simulated a NATO-led Article 5 collective defence operation at the Major Joint Operation scale. We also tested new doctrine, capabilities and concepts some of which, I believe, will be crucial in the future. For the first time, through this CPX and in an Article 5 collective defence exercise, we had Finland and Sweden, who are among NATO's closest partners, participating and playing themselves. Normally, the planning process of a CPX takes 18 months. But because TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2018 is combined with a large LIVEX, we started planning almost three years ago. It has been quite a complex, but very rewarding process. We are all very proud to take part in such an important exercise for the NATO Alliance. I feel humbled and privileged to work with the JWC Exercise Planning Team that operates like a well-oiled machine, no matter how hard the task. I call them my dream team."

Lieutenant Colonel Willem "Bill" De Kant,
Netherlands Army
JWC Officer of Primary Responsibility,
TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2018

Lieutenant Colonel De Kant.
Photo by JWC PAO



INTERVIEWS

Interviews and Photos by
Joint Warfare Centre Public Affairs Office



The days when our Alliance communicated only through politicians and defence journalists are over

Lieutenant Lasse L. Matberg, Norwegian Navy
The public face for TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2018; Sports Officer, NATO Joint Warfare Centre

"It is great that participants from 31 Nations worked together on Norwegian soil with the aim of protecting peace and sharing expertise. Norway gave access to excellent and varied training areas. By training collectively, we are able to put our common procedures to the test, and thereby improve the quality of our training. Ultimately, we become even better at what we do! First-hand training is invaluable. I want to point out that I was not the only face of this exercise. All the participants of Exercise TRIDENT JUNCTURE 2018 were good ambassadors. The idea of promoting the exercise was to reach a broader audience and to explain what NATO does, and why we do it. Obviously, social media plays an important role today. The days when

our Alliance communicated only through politicians and defence journalists are over. The idea of me as a public face for the exercise was to bring the exercise and NATO Alliance closer to our young audience. I have to admit that the most interesting feedback was the 'positive' feedback we got from the Russian news media, highlighting me as an ambassador for the exercise, despite the tone being a little bit sarcastic. The NATO media staff really enjoyed this piece of feedback, and so did I. On another note, it really meant a lot to me when our Secretary General, Mr Jens Stoltenberg, told me that the Tabata workout I organized in Trondheim was effective, fun, and an event that he, and his staff, would definitely continue to do in the future."



Lasse L. Matberg.
Photo by JWC PAO