

# *The Role of Joint Air Power – JAPCC Conference 2007*

*Lieutenant General James N. Soligan's Presentation*

*"NATO's Allied Command Transformation."*

## Summary:

NATO needs to look outside of the system, to find the right solution from the experts and then NATO should put the answer back into the "system" to institutionalize the solution.

JAPCC is supported by seventeen nations. This is very important because when the JAPCC worked out a solution to ACT, it's a NATO-solution and not a national one. Lessons learned and training: How can we learn from the lessons and then get them into training to have the right people trained (HQ and troops)?

Today it is incorporated to insert Friendly Force Trackers (FFT) in Afghanistan, the next step will to install Link 16 in theatre.

How do we help the Nations to change the way of training their military personnel? Is training at home (Pre-Deployment Training) the right way to prepare soldiers to do the business in the AOR? The US trains conventional and Special Operating Forces (SOF) differently. In the theatre, they are effectively integrated and work together. Other nations have different training programs.

ACT's three key focus areas are:

### ► *The support of current missions*

- Support MRTs – ISAF/NRF – HQ Components.
- Support training at tactical level (C-IED, PRT, Operational Manoeuvre Liaison Teams (OMLTs), mil/non-mil).
- Support current NATO activities; partners/contact – funding authorities.
- Support training of others: NATO Training Mission – Iraq (NTM-I)/ NATO Training Cooperation Initiative (NTCI), Afghan National Army (ANA), Kosovo Force (KFOR) – new missions.

### ► *To bring the output of lessons learned to the NATO Response Forces (NRF)*

- Questions to Audience on "Defining capabilities for future expeditionary stabilization and security operation."
- Question to audience on "How do we integrate intelligence sensors/products of various nations into an intelligence picture?"
- Question to audience on "Inputs for the development of a comprehensive Air C2 Concept."
- Question to audience on "How can available airlift assets be coordinated?"
- Question to audience on "How can air power use CIMIC capabilities that are provided in a Joint HQ?"

### ► *To establish longer term defense planning and capability development.*

NATO must improve to do a better job in organization, training and procurement of equipment. Processes need to support delivery of requirements and to fix the details so that nations can implement. Before nations go out and spend money to buy

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a capability, they should be based on clear operational requirements. NATO needs to do a better job at defining what those requirements are. For example, several years ago, NATO needed helicopters. The ones that we have now are not sufficient for operations in Afghanistan, because the requirements were poorly written.

Finally efforts must be made to address the planning phase (Defining the roles and mission), the training phase (how to interact via established procedures) and the Operational/Execution phase.