



Ambassade
de la République de Pologne
à Luxembourg



cordially invite you to the lecture:

Poland 15 Years in NATO

Past Transformation, Present Endeavors and Expectations for the Future

Thursday, 6 November 2014, 14.00 to 15.00

Free admission

NSPA - NATO Support Agency

11, rue de la Gare

L-8325 Capellen

Fifteen years ago, Poland left the grey security area and joined the North Atlantic Treaty Organization. Since then Poland radically transformed its armed forces and deployed them abroad on numerous occasions. Today, Poland spends about 2% of its GDP on defense. Investments in new equipment and capabilities of the Polish army are underway. Is Poland thus prepared to deal with the challenges posed by the conflict in Ukraine and by further potential crises? What else can Poland and NATO do in order to ensure the safety of the Alliance's members? General Mieczysław Bieniek, one of the architects and most active participants of Poland's military transformation, will try to answer these and other questions pertaining to the future of the Polish armed forces and NATO.

AGENDA

13.30 – Check-in at NATO Support Agency Gate, Capellen

14.00 – Introductory remarks by Rear Admiral (retired) Mike Lyden, General Manager, NSPA

14.10 – Lecture by Lt. Gen. (retired) Dr. Mieczysław Bieniek

14.30 – Discussion

15.00 – End of conference

REGISTRATION FORM

Name:

Title:

Affiliation:

E-mail:

Passport/Identity card number:

Car license plate number:

For security reasons, please e-mail this form to the Embassy of Poland.
Luksemburg.amb.sekretariat@msz.gov.pl at the latest by Thursday 30 Oct.

Seating is limited, please register in advance.

SPEAKER BIOGRAPHIES

Mike Lyden is the General Manager of the NATO Support Agency, a key element of NATO's focus on Smart Defense and Agency Reform.

He retired as a Rear Admiral from the United States Navy in October 2011 after serving for over 32 years in the Navy Supply Corps, the U.S. Navy's cadre of business and logistics professionals. His Navy career culminated with his assignment as Commander, Naval Supply Systems Command and 45th Chief of the Navy Supply Corps from 2008 to July 2011.

Mike Lyden received a bachelor's degree in Management Engineering from Rensselaer Polytechnic Institute and was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps in 1978. He also received a Master's in Business Administration from Harvard University Graduate School of Business Administration, and is a graduate of the Advanced Management Program at the Kellogg School of Management, Northwestern University in the United States.

Mike Lyden's afloat tours include supply officer, USS Valdez (FF 1096); stock control officer, USNS Sirius (T-AFS 8); and supply officer, USS Carl Vinson (CVN 70).

His shore and staff assignments include Navy Supply Corps School, Naval Air Station Whidbey Island, Naval Aviation Supply Office, Naval Supply Systems Command, and Office of Chief of Naval Operations.

His joint and multinational experience includes Director, Logistics and Security Assistance (EUCOM J-4), United States European Command, Stuttgart, Germany; Commander, Defense Supply Center Richmond, Va.; and as Executive Officer to the Director, Defense Logistics Agency.

Mieczysław Bieniek was born in Krapkowice, Poland, on 19 June 1951. He joined the Polish Army as an Officer Cadet in 1969.

Following commissioning, he served in 7th Reconnaissance Battalion of 10th Armored Division, starting as platoon leader, through long range reconnaissance company commander, and staff officer of the battalion.

From 1978 to 1981 he attended the Polish Armed Force General Staff Academy. Upon graduation he served as chief of G-3 Plans of 6th Airborne Division. In 1983 he was assigned as COS (Chief of staff) of the battalion of 6th Airborne Division, and in 1985 he assumed a command of the 16th Airborne battalion where served until 1989.

Promoted to Lt Col in 1989, he was appointed as COS and then CO (Commanding Officer) of the Polish Contingent in the UN Mission - UNDOF until 1991. Then following a tour of duty as Section Chief in OPS (Operation) Division of Cracow Military District, he served as Chief Logistics Officer in UN Mission - MINURSO until 1993 as a special envoy of UN General Secretary.

In 1994, upon his promotion to Colonel, he assumed the command of 6th Air Assault Brigade in Cracow. The following year he attended the Royal College of Defense Studies in London graduating in 1996, followed by command of 25th Air Cavalry Division. The same year he was promoted to the rank of Brigadier General. In 1997, he attended the Senior Defense Management Course in Monterey, California.

In 1999, General M. Bieniek took over Nordic-Polish Brigade Command in SFOR (Stabilization Forces in Bosnia and Hercegovina), and successfully commanded the Brigade for over 7 months. In 1999, he became the Chief of Crisis Management Division in Polish MOD (Ministry of Defense), and adviser to Polish Minister of Defense. At the end of the year he was assigned as Chief of Exercise, Education and Training Branch in SHAPE (Supreme Headquarter Allied Power Europe) in MONS, Belgium.

In May 2002, he became Deputy Commander of 3rd Corps NRDC (NATO Rapid Deployable Corps -Turkey. From January to July 2004 he successfully commanded Multinational Division Central-South in Iraq during the operation "Iraqi Freedom". Division has included 23 Nations. Then, he was appointed as 2nd Polish Mechanized Corps Commander in Cracow. On 15th August 2004 he was promoted to the rank of Lieutenant General. Between January and August 2007 he was assigned as a Special Envoy of the SACEUR in Afghanistan, where he served as a special advisor to Minister of Defense. As such he was responsible for advising in terms of organization, doctrine, equipment and training of the Afghans National Security Forces.

From October 2007, he served as a senior military advisor to the Polish Minister of Defense. In April 2009 Lt General Bieniek was appointed as the Polish Military Representative to the NATO and European Union Military Committees in Brussels -Belgium. On 29th September 2010 he assumed the position of Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Transformation where he served until September 2013. In November 2010 he was promoted to the rank of the four-star General.

So far it was the highest position which was taken by Polish general in NATO Command Structure. General Bieniek's education includes the Polish Army Academy and Polish Armed Forces General Staff Academy as well as Royal College of Defense Studies in London. He also holds a Master of Arts Degree from Cracow Physical Education Academy and a PhD in International Security from Polish NDU (National Defense University). He is also an author of the many articles and books about International security and strategy as well as cyber and energy security.

In addition to English he is also fluent in Russian. General Bieniek has been awarded the Commandors Officer's Cross and Bachelor Cross of the Order of Rebirth of Poland, Golden Cross of Merit, US Bronze Medal of Merit and Legion of Honor of the Spanish Kingdom, medals for operations in NATO and UN and many others. His interests include history, literature and sports, especially tennis, snowboarding, windsurfing and parachuting. He holds the Jump Master qualification for both military and civilian parachuting, with more than 3000 jumps under his belt.

Moreover he is qualified to jump together with US, UK, Norwegian, Turkish, German and Belgian Airborne Units.

General Mieczysław Bieniek is married to Grażyna. They have four grown children - Mieczysław, Piotr, Paweł and Magdalena.

Agnieszka Wierzchucka
**Ambassade de Pologne
au Grand-Duché de Luxembourg**

24, rue Guillaume Schneider
L-2522 Luxembourg
tel. (352) 26 00 32
fax (352) 26 68 75 74

www.luksemburg.msz.gov.pl
www.poland.gov.pl