

Provision of Accommodation Capacity in Missions Abroad

The current conceptual basics to that what is often designated “camp” in general usage are laid down in the Sub-Concept “Accommodation in Missions” (SC AiM) which was issued by the Chief of Staff, Bundeswehr, on 22 December 2004. The aim of this sub-concept is to better meet the requirements of current missions in comparison with the previous “Camp Concept of the Bundeswehr” and, in particular, to establish a Bundeswehr-common approach to a mission-tailored and most economic form of accommodation. With the issuance of the SC AiM, the 1998 “Camp Concept of the Bundeswehr” ceased to be effective.

Types of Accommodation

The SC AiM differentiates between three types of accommodation:

- The “mobile accommodation” (in bivouacs) supports frequent changes of location and/or short staying periods of the armed forces ranging from a few days to the duration of a mission and has to be ensured in the responsibility of the military organizational areas without additional forces and with transport means of the respective troops within the scope of the task.
- The “stationary accommodation in a camp” is required especially at the beginning of missions (basically assumed is a staying period of up to one year) if the accommodation in a mission infrastructure and the employment of non-military personnel and resources is not possible or purposeful due to the operational conditions and time frame. In order to alleviate the mission burdens of the service personnel with regard to the sustainability it is essential to aim for a stationary accommodation as early as possible. This is therefore primarily affected in cases when the task, the security situation, and the duration of the deployment of the operational forces allow that. Camps are basically set up and operated by use of military means (material for camps) and forces (camp operation personnel of the Joint Support Service) as well as by forces and means of the users. The use of services by third parties can, depending on the situation, be also included here.
- “Stationary accommodation in a mission infrastructure” is planned for a long-term accommodation (anticipated mission duration of more than twelve months). This (permanent) type of accommodation will, if necessary, be set up and operated by and on the responsibility of the Territorial Defence Administration. The use of military camp equipment and an augmentation of the per-

sonnel necessary for the operation by military forces are possible, though.

Current Projects for Stationary Accommodations

Currently pursued within the scope of the implementation of the SC AiM in the category of “stationary accommodation in a camp” are armament projects, the integration of external services, and the accommodation in fixed mission infrastructure.

Bivouacs, air transportable, modular

The air transportable, modular bivouac, which is classified as belonging to the “stationary accommodation”, is designed as an air transportable tent solution with limited core functions to ensure a high reaction and quick setup capability. Material and equipment of the modular, air transportable bivouac are the basis for the stationary accommodation of an operating unit. The accommodation capacity is available to all military organizational areas and will, on request, be provided and operated by the Joint Support Service (JSS) depending on the situation and task. The modular composition and a respective interface definition of

modules “150 soldiers” do not only allow an early and quick setup of a qualified accommodation, but also the flexible, gradual expansion in case of an augmentation of forces, beginning – if required – with the quartering parties already, followed by the advance forces and ending with the main body. In addition to that it also permits to adequately support, deploy, and accommodate the personnel of a command post.

The breakdown of the “150 soldiers modules” into modules/sub-modules for up to 50 soldiers each meets the special requirements of rapidly air-deployable forces and mini contingents and thus also allows the establishment of a mission-optimized operational basis for special and specialized forces. The project consists of the following modules:

- Basic module with the components
- Accommodation, sanitary facilities, food service/social and recreation areas, armory, medical support/treatment module
- Operations module with the components work area, energy supply, water supply, laundry service, garbage collection
- Supplementary module with the components staff section, mission preparation, securing/guarding, logistics
- Quartering module with the basic component/function for deployability, working, hygiene, resting, and catering/supplying.



Artist Conception of an Air Transportable, Modular Camp.

Photos/Graphics: BWB



Climatic Test of the Air Transportable, Modular Camp in Finland.

One module of the camp (air transportable, modular) is in the process of procurement. The general layout and basic setup of this module was presented and demonstrated at the Bundeswehr Technical Center for Engineer and General Field Equipment in Koblenz in September 2009 on the occasion of the conclusion of the studies. Beginning as of 2010 it is planned to have the overall capacity increased to ten modules with 150 spaces each. The procurement will be completed in 2013.

Camps, rapidly deployable

The rapidly deployable camp (with a total of 7,000 accommodation spaces in modules of 1,000 each) is to provide – together with the air transportable, modular camp with its total of 1,500 accommodation spaces – the required capacities for a stationary accommodation in camps for the response forces and appurtenant support forces in intervention/ response operations. The key tasks consist of accommodating mission contingents after a short preparatory time with personnel and means of the mission contingent and/or by resorting to commercial support services.

Although the rapidly deployable camp does not represent a logistic installation for the support of the operating forces in its primary task, it has nevertheless the material elements of equipment necessary for the operation of the camp. The rapidly deployable camps are intended for missions of duration of up to one year. As compared to camps for stabilization operations, limitations have to be accepted in the comfort equipment in favor of a reduced time, transport and setup and operations effort.

According to the conceptual targets the aforementioned task was structured in a function-oriented way and resulted in modularly joining material components. Functional areas to be realized and tasks of the camp operation to be considered are consolidated to sub-modules and modules, which can be combined as follows:

- Accommodation (including lighting, heating, cooling, furniture, garbage collector)
- Sanitary facility (including lavatories, urinals, showers, hand basin, ensuring gender separation)
- Food/catering service (including food storage, preparation, cooking, serving, eating, stockpiling and provision of potable water, waste water/garbage collection, separate sanitary area for the staff employed in food/catering service)
- Social/recreation area (including care/welfare, military chaplain's service, military psychological service, post exchange articles, mess hall, military post office, basic information/communication services, hairdresser)
- Guards (guardroom and guard tower stand)
- Camp operation (including camp commandant headquarters, services and utilities area, laundry service, energy, POL and water supply, garbage and waste water collection, armory, ammunition storage).

With the ministerial finalization of the Final Functional Requirement (FFR) the completion of the analysis phase to the rapidly deployable camp is expected imminently. Following the successful execution of the development, the procurement of the first modules is scheduled for a prospective start as of 2012.

Camps for Stabilization Operations

For camps for stabilization operations it is planned to have a container solution with protected elements and additional components for



Setup of Z-Containers.



Accommodation Block Against the Background of the Marmal Mountains at Mazar-i-Sharif in Afghanistan.

extreme climatic conditions. This solution corresponds most nearly to the original “Bundeswehr Camp Components” approach of the 1990s. The setup of containers allows longer periods of use, but, depending on the technical solution, it also requires infrastructure preparations. The draft of the 2010 Bundeswehr Plan does not provide for procurement intent for the initial allowance until 2015.

Bundeswehr Camp Component

For missions carried out to date material was procured within the scope of immediate mission requirements on the basis of the 1998 “Bundeswehr Camp Component” Tactical-Technical Requirement which was issued in 1997 and which was introduced with a realization approval including the authorization for use and a first interim decision with the same title into the Customer Product Management (CPM). For the time being, this camp material is essentially tied up in the current missions. Only within the scope of the servicing/maintenance float there are approximately 200 to 300 accommodation spaces available.

In order to be able to realize the core of a camp for the accommodation of up to 1,000 men until sufficient freely available capacities of the “stationary accommodation in missions” are available, a respective initiative “Stationary Accommodation in NRF 10 Mission” was submit-

ted on the basis of the commitments for the NATO Response Force (NRF) 10 and implemented within the scope of the first interim decision on the realization approval for the Bundeswehr Camp Component with the authorization for use. The project is an unprotected tent solution, which is limited to the essential core functions. To be able to use the equipment within the scope of missions and mission-identical commitments, supplements based on the prevailing situation are required which, if necessary, can also be provided by the integration of external service providers.

Integration of External Service Providers

To supplement the military core capability “stationary accommodation in a camp” in case of need, it is aspired within the scope of the “Life Support” working group to produce the fundamentals for an integration of external service providers as specified in the SC AiM. Based on the definition of “life support” (for the studies of the working group the term was defined as follows: “life support denotes the total of the support and supply tasks and services that are to be rendered to ensure, depending on the situation and environment, the life/survival of (multi) national contingents in missions/exercises”) respective service descriptions will be prepared in a first step for the most important functional areas, i.e. for accommodation, food/catering, wa-

ter supply, and laundry services. In addition, the necessary cooperation relations and the required measures will be identified by scope, contents and procedure to allow placing necessary short-term orders on the basis of the service descriptions as and when required.

Accommodation in Fixed Mission Infrastructure

The Territorial Defence Administration principally effects the provision and operation of mission infrastructure. For a staying/deployment period of more than twelve months and the assumption that the overall situation allows or requires to erect stationary buildings it is essential to initially create the respective prerequisites. Existing buildings can be renovated and/or new ones erected in accordance with the “mission” infrastructure procedure. The architectural implementation and project management of these infrastructure measures are in the responsibility of the Federal Office of Defence Administration which puts respective services out for tender, awards them and

accompanies their execution.

Within the scope of the setup of a mission property by application of the infrastructure procedure it is also possible for reasons of schedule, funds or protection to make use of container modules or building of lightweight design. Although these products are components of a mission structure, the procurement is expediently carried out by the armaments sector, as these components are armament products. This modus operandi does not only allow an economic procurement, but by the involvement of the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement the technical experience of the armaments sector is directly included as well. For example, the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement has, apart from a few exceptions, concluded for Camp Marmal in Mazar-i-Sharif all contracts for the procurement and setup of buildings and sheds/hangars.

Setup and Operation

Military Forces

Structurally there are ten companies of camp operation forces (approximately 1,400 personnel) available for the setup and operation of existing and future camps. These are combined into two special engineer battalions with gar-

rison in Husum and Speyer. The available trained personnel are contained to a large extent by current missions and operations and mission-identical commitments.

Civilian Personnel

Aside from military forces it is possible to also bring in additional personnel for the setup and operation accommodations in missions provided the type of accommodation and duration of stay have been sufficiently specified and fixed. As described above, staff of both the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement and of the Federal Office of Defence Administration as well as from the subordinate agencies of the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement will be employed in the setup and operation of mission infrastructure. As all camp components are examined and tested at the Bundeswehr Technical Center for Engineer and General Field Equipment in Koblenz before their introduction there is great expertise available here in this field. Matters concerning the constructional protection of camp material as well as of buildings are taken care of in the armaments sector by the Bundeswehr Technical Center for Protective and Special Technologies at Oberjettenberg.

In consideration of the awarding and contracting procedures it is also possible to capitalize on civilian companies for the establishment and operation of mission infrastructure. Thus, for instance, the Camp Marmal, which was initially operated as a temporary camp, has been turned into a mission infrastructure since 1 January 2008 and is consequently operated by the Territorial Defence Administration and/or by the companies commissioned by it. For example, the utility buildings/messing facilities and the field hospital at Camp Marmal are thus supported and serviced by personnel of the manufacturer within the framework of "caretaker" contracts. This ensures that personnel experienced and familiar in handling different equipment sets are always locally available and do not have to be newly trained every four months. Civilian companies can also be engaged for additional extensions of the mission infrastructure.

Problem Fields and Challenges

The proceeding presented above with, among other things, a time-varying fixation of the responsibility in the establishment and use of capacities for the accommodation in missions generates frictions, which still need to be overcome. Depending on the task and mandate, all accommodations in missions begin with mobile accommodations or bivouacs. According to the statements previously made, the required material is procured as an armament project and the bivouac/camp is set up and operated by the user.

After a respective decision, which, for example, will become necessary due to a prolonged duration of stay/deployment or change and/or expansion of the mandate, the operation and the extension can pass into the responsibility of the Territorial Defence Administration. The individuals acting in the respective project phases like planning, development, procurement, setup and operation differ, at least on the side of the material developer, in their training and education as well as in their experiences and knowledge of the development, procurement and building procedures to be applied. This makes the co-action and dialogue between the agencies and staff involved difficult in parts.

Nearly all acting staff of the armaments sector has an educational background in engineering oftentimes coupled with mechanical engineering or natural sciences. Subordinate to the Directorate General of Armaments at FMoD is the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement, which is a technical component that guarantees both the procurement and a technical assessment. The technical centers and research institutes subordinate to the Federal Office of Defence Technology and Procurement deal with the examination, tests and studies of products or components on highest technological-scientific level. This structure, which has grown over the years, has proven well in the processing and handling of complex armament projects and each level is aware of the tasks, capabilities and parameters of the respective superior or subordinate level.

In contrast to this, the Defence Administration, Infrastructure and Environmental Protection Directorate at FMoD has the Federal Office of Defence Administration as a subordinate area. The majority of the staff acting there has a civil engineering or administrative background. However, the Federal Office of Defence Administration does not have a subordinate area comparable to that of the technical centers of the armaments sector. Pursuant to the distribution of jurisdiction between the Federation and the Laender (states) as stipulated in the Basic Law (constitution), the Territorial Defence Administration didn't have a building administration of its own. This building administration for construction projects abroad had to be newly established, because it was not possible here to resort via the "organ hire" system to the building administrations of the Laender. In addition, for more complex or technical construction projects the Federal Office of Defence Administration invites tenders for architect and engineer services and awards them, respectively.

In the project realization with participation of the armaments sector and the Territorial Defence Administration problems in connection with procedures and the coordination sometimes arise on expert level with a clearly different background and wealth of experiences. In order to remove these blockings it is essential to create a broad, common and holistic understanding for the task "Provision of Accommodation Capacities in Missions Abroad".

First steps in this direction have already been taken and will be further optimized through an intensified exchange of knowledge and information on the reciprocal responsibilities and points of contact as well as by a constant exchange of data between the contact partners.

For that purpose it is necessary to determine already in advance of the material development the essential planning and implementation steps in the project realization, to define and delimitate the responsibilities, to designate the "project manager with the overall responsibility for infrastructure measures" at the Federal Office of Administration, to determine the contact partners on the respective levels, and to define the technical interfaces.

In the implementation of protective-technical measures with accommodations in missions the above mentioned distribution of jurisdiction leads also to the fact that these measures are, with regard to their layout as constructional measures, designed and assessed by the Armed Forces Office and the Bundeswehr Technical Center for Protective and Special Technologies.

The Federal Office of Defence Technologies and Procurement processes all non-constructional protective measures as armament projects. A strict separation is here sub-optimal, too. Instead of that it is imperative to have an intensive exchange of experiences and knowledge. With the joint events of the advisory group "Security and Protection Abroad" and the annual meetings on the constructional protection with accommodations in missions, an important step was taken in this direction, which ought to be further extended.

Jointly Coordinated Action

Ensuring accommodations in missions is a core capability of the Bundeswehr. The foreseeable operational parameters require both bivouacs/camps, which allow short to medium term reactions and fixed mission infrastructures, which allow duration of stay for a longer period of time with economies in personnel and material. Since the bulk of the available camp material is contained in the ongoing missions and since there are no reserves available in a volume worth mentioning for missions at short notice, the current and intended armament projects "camps, air transportable, modular", "camps, rapidly deployable", and "camps for stabilization operations" will be points of principal focus and priority in future procurements and thus the future fields of activity of the armaments sector in the provision of solutions for accommodations in missions. Within the meaning of a holistic comprehension of the task the provision of accommodations in missions can lead to optimal results only in jointly coordinated co-actions of all parties involved. ■

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