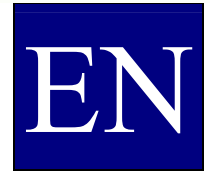




**COUNCIL OF
THE EUROPEAN UNION**



Brussels, 23 February 2007

INFORMATION TO THE PRESS

Press Briefing

Handover Ceremony
from Lt. General Jean-Paul PERRUCHE to Lt. General David LEAKEY
as Director General of the EU Military Staff (EUMS).

Brussels, 28 February 2007

A press briefing will be held on Wednesday 28 February at 14:00 at the "Justus Lipsius" Conference Room (EU Council, Justus Lipsius Building). The briefing will address current ESDP issues.

The **press briefing** will be introduced by General Henri BENTEGEAT, Chairman of the EU Military Committee (EUMC).

Lt General David LEAKEY, incoming Director General of the European Union Military Staff (EUMS), and Lt General Jean-Paul PERRUCHE, outgoing Director General of the EUMS, will take questions from the media on recent ESDP developments.

After the press briefing, the EU High Representative Javier SOLANA will participate in a **handover ceremony** from Lt General Jean-Paul PERRUCHE to Lt General David LEAKEY as Director General of the EUMS.

Established in June 2001, the EUMS is a General Directorate within the General Secretariat of the Council of the European Union. It is the only permanent integrated military structure of the European Union. Directly attached to the Secretary-General/High Representative, the EUMS provides in-house military expertise for the Secretary-General/High Representative or the EU Political and Security Committee (PSC). The main operational functions of EUMS are: early warning, situation assessment, and strategic planning.

Lt. General Jean-Paul PERRUCHE (France) was appointed Director-General of the EUMS on 1 March 2004 for a period of three years. Lt General David LEAKEY (UK) has been appointed Director-General of the EUMS as from 1 March 2007.

Press and Photo/TV opportunity:

14:00 Press briefing
EU Council Press Centre - "*Justus Lipsius*" Room (175 rue de la Loi, Brussels)

15:00 Handover Ceremony (*Justus Lipsius Courtyard - 175 rue de la Loi, Brussels*)

Outline of sequence of events:

- Military parade
- Arrival of Lt General Perruche on the parade area.
- Address by Lt General Perruche
- Arrival of SG/HR Javier Solana and General Bentégeat
- Address by SG/HR Javier Solana
- European Anthem
- SG/HR designates Lt General David Leakey as Director General of the EUMS
- SG/HR, CEUMC and Lt General Perruche leave the Parade area.
- Address by Lt General Leakey

Ceremony ends.

Annex: Curriculum vitae of Lt. General LEAKEY and Lt General PERRUCHE



LIEUTENANT GENERAL A D LEAKEY CMG CBE

Lieutenant General David Leakey was born in 1952, educated at Sherborne School, at Cambridge University where he read Law, and at the Royal Military Academy Sandhurst.

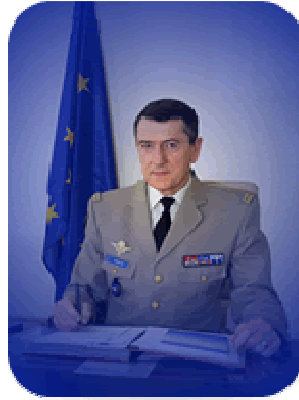
He was commissioned into the Royal Tank Regiment in 1971, and has served in UK, Cyprus, Northern Ireland, Germany, the Balkans and in Canada. His tours of Regimental Duty have included time in the armoured recce role and, mostly, on tanks.

He attended the Army Staff College at Camberley in 1984. His subsequent appointments were as Chief of Staff 7th Armoured Brigade (Germany), Military Assistant to the Chief of the Defence Staff and Commanding Officer of the 2nd Royal Tank Regiment.

In 1993 he was Colonel Military Operations 3 in the MOD with responsibility for Operations Planning and Policy covering Eastern and Western Europe, and specifically the Former Yugoslavia. During this appointment in 1995 he attended the Higher Command and Staff Course at Camberley and, later that year, was the UK Military Representative in Dayton at the Bosnia peace negotiations.

Whilst commanding 20 Armoured Brigade based in Germany in 1996/7, he deployed as part of the NATO (IFOR and SFOR) operation in Bosnia. He was Director of Military Operations in the Ministry of Defence 1997-1999 and subsequently attended the Royal College of Defence Studies before assuming the post of Chief of Staff Northern Ireland in 2001. He left Northern Ireland on promotion to Major General to take up the appointment of Director General Army Training and Recruiting from 2002 to 2004. He commanded the European Force (EUFOR) responsible for peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina in 2004/5. He was appointed Director General of the European Union Military Staff in Brussels on promotion to Lieutenant General from 28 February 2007.

He has a keen interest in classical music and is a (very) amateur pianist and singer. He remains an enthusiastic and vigorous all round games player having played squash at Army and national level and numerous other sports at lower representative levels. He enjoys tennis, shooting, golf, skiing, board sailing, and chain sawing. He is Colonel Commandant of the Royal Tank Regiment, President of Army Squash, a Governor of the National Children's Orchestra of Great Britain, Honorary Colonel of Army Cadet Force Music, Patron of the Dorset Yeomanry, and Chairman of a small property management company. He is married and has two sons.



Lieutenant-General Jean-Paul Perruche

Lieutenant-General Jean-Paul Perruche was appointed Director-General EU Military Staff in March 2004.

His operational deployments include Chad in 1978/1979, Somalia in 1992/1993 and Kosovo in 2002/2004.

During his career, Lieutenant-General Perruche served in numerous command and staff appointments, and as an instructor at the Saint-Cyr Military Academy.

Since his promotion to General rank, Lieutenant-General Perruche has served in the Defence Staff; in the 11th Airborne Division (Toulouse) as Deputy Commander; in the French Military Mission to SACEUR as Chief of Mission; as Commander of French Force Headquarters Number 1; and also as Special Assistant to the Chief of Army Staff.

He is a graduate of the War College, the Advanced Military Studies Centre, the Institute of Higher National Defence Studies and of the University of Paris.

Lieutenant-General Perruche is a Knight of the Légion d'Honneur and a Knight of National Order of Merit. Prior to his current appointment, Lieutenant-General Perruche was successively Deputy Commander KFOR and project leader to French Land Armed Forces Commander.
