



ABNL

Admiral Belgium Netherlands and Luxembourg

Direction Operations

Our Ref:	ABNL R180730Z MAY 20 Sandy Coast 2020 MPC Calling Message	Tel	+32 244 30354
Date:	18 May 2020	Email	y.Jaenen@mil.be

SUBJECT: ADMINISTRATIVE AND JOINING INSTRUCTIONS FOR THE MAIN PLANNING CONFERENCE (MPC) AND FINAL PLANNING CONFERENCE (FPC) FOR SANDY COAST 20, 11 JUNE 2020 AT EGUERMIN, OSTEND, BELGIUM.

REFERENCES:

- A. *ABNL Routine 171029Z DEC 2019 Msg: Exercise Specifications (EXSPEC) Sandy Coast 2020.*
- B. *ABNL Routine 171002Z DEC 2019 Msg: Sandy Coast 2020 Initial Planning Conference (IPC) Calling Message.*
- C. *ABNL Routine 180730Z MAY 2020: Sandy Coast 2020 Main Planning Conference (MPC) Calling Message.*

1. In accordance with Ref A, exercise SANDY COAST 2020 will take place from 21 August until 11 September 2020 off the Belgian Coast. Scheduled by Admiral Belgium Netherlands and Luxemburg (ABNL), it is a continuation on the Bi-National MCM focus exercise that was organized in September 2018.

2. SACO 20 as a Binational exercise will primarily focus on MCM tactics, techniques and procedures, including experimental tactics (EXTACS) and VSW/EOD techniques and procedures. The 2020 edition will equally focus on harbour protection (HP) and shore-based VSW MCM. Its main training objectives are:

- A. To provide basic and intermediate level MCM training (including platform training which will be supported by MCMV operational sea training (MOST)) under challenging MCM environmental conditions.
- B. To exercise MCM command and control through the ABNL chain of command integrating BE-NL task unit(s)/ task element(s), SNMCMG1 and shore based VSW and EOD teams.

- C. To plan and conduct MCM operations to allow access from the sea to the mainland under medium level asymmetric threat and low level conventional MCM threat.
 - D. To exercise tactics, techniques and procedures within the MCM warfare area domain to provide training on team-, unit- and group level.
 - E. To exercise VSW/EOD surveys and searches in very shallow water depth zone in harbours and canals.
 - F. To offer detection (PC) trials opportunities to UUV equipped MCMVS for sensor performance assessment.
3. SACO 20 Conference planning schedule:
- A. Main Planning Conference (MPC) and Final Planning Conference (FPC), Eguermin, Ostend: 11 June 2020.
 - B. Pre-Sail Conference (PSC) for Harbour Phase (HP), Naval Barracks Bootsman Jonsen (EGUERMIN), Ostend: 22 AUG 2020.
 - C. Pre-Sail Conference (PSC) for Sea Phase, Naval Base Zeebrugge: 01 SEP 2020.
 - D. Post-Exercise Discussion (PXD) / Hot Wash-Up (HWU), Naval Base Zeebrugge: 11 SEP 2020

F. Clauwaert
Commander, BEL N
CTG 428.13
Sandy Coast 2020

ANNEXES:

- A. MPC/FPC Agenda
- B. Administrative and Joining Instructions

AGENDA
SACO 2020 MAIN PLANNING CONFERENCE (MPC)
AND FINAL PLANNING CONFERENCE (FPC)
OSTEND (BE), 11 June 2020

Time	Subject	Remarks
0830 - 0900	Arrival and administrative check	Multi-purpose conference room on parade ground, Naval Barracks Bootsman Jonson (NBBJ), EGUERMIN, Ostend
0900 - 0915	Administrative and safety briefing	
0915 - 0925	Welcome address by CDR Muylaert	Director EGUERMIN
0925 - 1000	Exercise Organisation and Scope by CDR Clauwaert (CTG SACO20)	Exercise area Exercise scenario Exercise objectives Task Organisation
1000 – 1020	Coffee break	Break room 100m across from Multi-purpose conference room
1020 - 1100	Exercise Planning Process (EPP) by CDR Jaenen (EXCON SACO20)	Location Shore staffs Staff manning LOG and INFRA support Ostend & Zeebrugge Comms architecture and C3I Exercise Schedule Of Events (SOE)
1100 - 1155	Harbour Training schedule and CET-FIT phase by EXCON	CET-FIT for Harbour Protection phase in Ostend CET-FIT for Sea Phase in Zeebrugge
1200 - 1300	Lunch break	Mess complex EGUERMIN, Parking North, in two shifts
1300 - 1430	Syndicate 1 for HP/VSW/EOD teams	Syndicate work coordinated by LCDR Vervenne (CTU SACO20)
1300 - 1430	Syndicate 2 for MCMV's	Syndicate work coordinated by CDR Clauwaert (CTG SACO20)
1430 - 1440	Coffee break	Break room 100m across from Multi-purpose conference room
1440 - 1515	Review action items of Syndicate work Question & Answers session	Presented by Syndicate coordinators
1515 - 1525	Closing remarks by CTG	

ADMINISTRATIVE and JOINING INSTRUCTIONS

1. **Exercise SACO20 MPC/FPC (11 June 20).**
2. **Location:**
EGUERMIN
3de en 23ste Linierregimentsplein, 8400 Oostende
BELGIUM
3. **Registration**
 - Registration must be done for the conference. .
 - Each participant must individually register via EGUERMIN's website prior to 3 June 20: [https://www.eguermin.org/welcome/events/MPC Sandy Coast 2020](https://www.eguermin.org/welcome/events/MPC_Sandy_Coast_2020)
 - To complete registration, besides your contact details, you will be asked to provide following information:
 - Date and time of arrival;
 - Date and time of departure;
 - if you come with a car or service vehicle, the registration (plate number) of the car;
 - if you need accommodation in EGUERMIN;
 - for those staying on the premises, if they require breakfast or lunch on Thursday 11 and Friday 12 June.
 - A confirmation of all data entered will be automatically send to the email contact address you provided. Any subsequent cancelation or modification to a registration must be communicated to the POCs and copied to beparteguermi-receptie@mil.be.
 - A Request for Visit (RfV) is only needed for non-NATO nations participants.
4. **Security**
 - Access will be provided on show of military or civilian ID at main gate of Naval Barracks (EGUERMIN).
 - If specific travel precautions need to be considered, each participant will be informed through the email contact address provided at registration.
5. **COVID-19 Precautionary Measures**
 - Conference participants that display signs of sickness should refrain from attending the conference.
 - Physical distance (1.5 meters) will be adhered to during the conference. The maximum attendance to the Conference is 25 people. Nations are requested to attend with minimal delegation.
 - Provisions will be taken to supply material for personal hygiene in the rest rooms adjoining the conference room.
 - ICT Equipment of speakers and presenters will be disinfected after each speaker.

- Mouth masks are not mandatory in the naval barracks but should be considered for use during social gathering and breaks.
- Mouth masks are mandatory when using public transport in Belgium.
- Meals will be taken in small groups/shifts.

6. Arrival and departure

- Participants are expected to schedule their arrival and departure in accordance with the conference program. Wednesday 10 June and Friday 12 June are therefore considered as traveling days.
- Participants arriving on 10 June and making use of accommodation in the naval barracks should arrive before 2300 LT. In case of delay they should call the Duty Guard at the main gate (tel: +32 244 31231) and provide details of their expected arrival time.
- No military transportation will be provided.

7. How to reach Ostend

EGUERMIN can easily be reached by air and public transportation. There are frequent railway connections between Ostend and major cities in surrounding countries via Brussels railway stations and Brussels National Airport. The Mine Warfare School is within walking distance (10-minutes, 800 meters) from Ostend railway station.

○ By airplane

Belgium is a hub to many major airlines. From Brussels National Airport you can board a train for Ostend at the Airport Station situated below the terminal (basement level-1). On Sundays there are usually two trains per hour for Ostend and the travel time is just under 2 hours. Information on train schedules can be obtained on the Belgian Railway Company website: <http://www.belgianrail.be/en/home>.

In the arrivals hall of the airport you will also find the desks of major car rental companies such as AVIS, ENTERPRISE-RENT-A-CAR, EUROPCAR, HERTZ and SIXT. More information can be found on the Brussels Airport website at <http://www.brusselsairport.be/en/passengers/access-parking/rental-cars/rental-cars>.

○ By train

▪ From the Netherlands:

A high-speed train (THALYS) and 2 to 3 InterCity trains leave Amsterdam every hour for Antwerp-Central where you will be required to change train. The trip lasts approximately 1 h 15 min (with THALYS) and up to 2 h 20 min (InterCity). The time required to change trains in Antwerp is less than 5 minutes. There are usually two trains per hour for Ostend and the journey takes approximately 1 h 30 min to 1 h 45 min. That train also stops at Ghent and Bruges.

▪ From France and the United Kingdom:

High speed trains to Brussels South (*Bruxelles-Midi* or *Brussel-Zuid*) run from Paris-Nord (THALYS) every hour and from London King's Cross (EUROSTAR) every two hours. The journey lasts respectively 1 h 15 min and

2 h 10 min. On Saturdays and Sundays there is one train every hour from Brussels South to Ostend. The journey takes approximately 1 h 20 min.

General information about travelling by train to Brussels and Ostend can be found on following websites

- <http://www.belgianrail.be/en/home>
- <http://www.b-europe.com/EN>
- <http://www.thalys.com/be/en>
- <http://www.eurostar.com>

○ By car

Ostend is approximately 1 h 30 min away from Brussels (113 km from the town centre or 125 km from the airport) via highway E40/A10. The Naval Barracks and the Mine Warfare School are located at 3^{de} en 23^{ste} Linierregimentsplein in Ostend. GPS coordinates are in DD: 51,224518 N - 2,924611 E; or in DMS: 51° 13' 28.3" N – 002° 55' 28.6" E

8. Accommodation

- It is possible to obtain a military accommodation in the Naval Barracks (Marine Kazerne Bootsman Jonsen) and must be requested separately on registration web page. However, the number of rooms available is rather limited and accommodation cannot be guaranteed for everyone. Allocation is done based on first registered, first served. Blocks R and F are allocated. When you ask a room in the naval barracks you will be informed about your request by mail.
- There are numerous affordable hotels within reasonable walking distance of the School. A list of hotels in Ostend can be found via <http://www.visitootende.be>. Following hotels provide discounts when mentioning the name of the school (EGUERMIN) and the reason of your presence: Hotel MERCURE, Hotel LEOPOLD, Hotel BERO, Hotel BOTTELTJE and Hotel BURLINGTON.
- Settlement of hotel bills is the responsibility of each participant and it must be paid prior to departure. No local arrangements exist with EGUERMIN for the settlement of any individual hotel bills.

9. Transportation

There is no organized transportation from points of arrival/departure in Belgium and from or to the hotels in Ostend.

10. Uniform

- Throughout the conference, normal administrative summer dress will be worn (white shirt-open neck, short sleeves) and, if temperature dictates, woolly pully.
- No working clothes or battle dress.
- There will be no ceremonial occasion.

11. Catering

- An all-ranks mess is accessible from at the participants' own expense. Payments of meals is only possible in cash; the price is indicated hereafter in EGUERMIN's guidelines.
- Breakfast and lunch will be provided on a registration base.
- Dinner is not available at the mess in the evening.

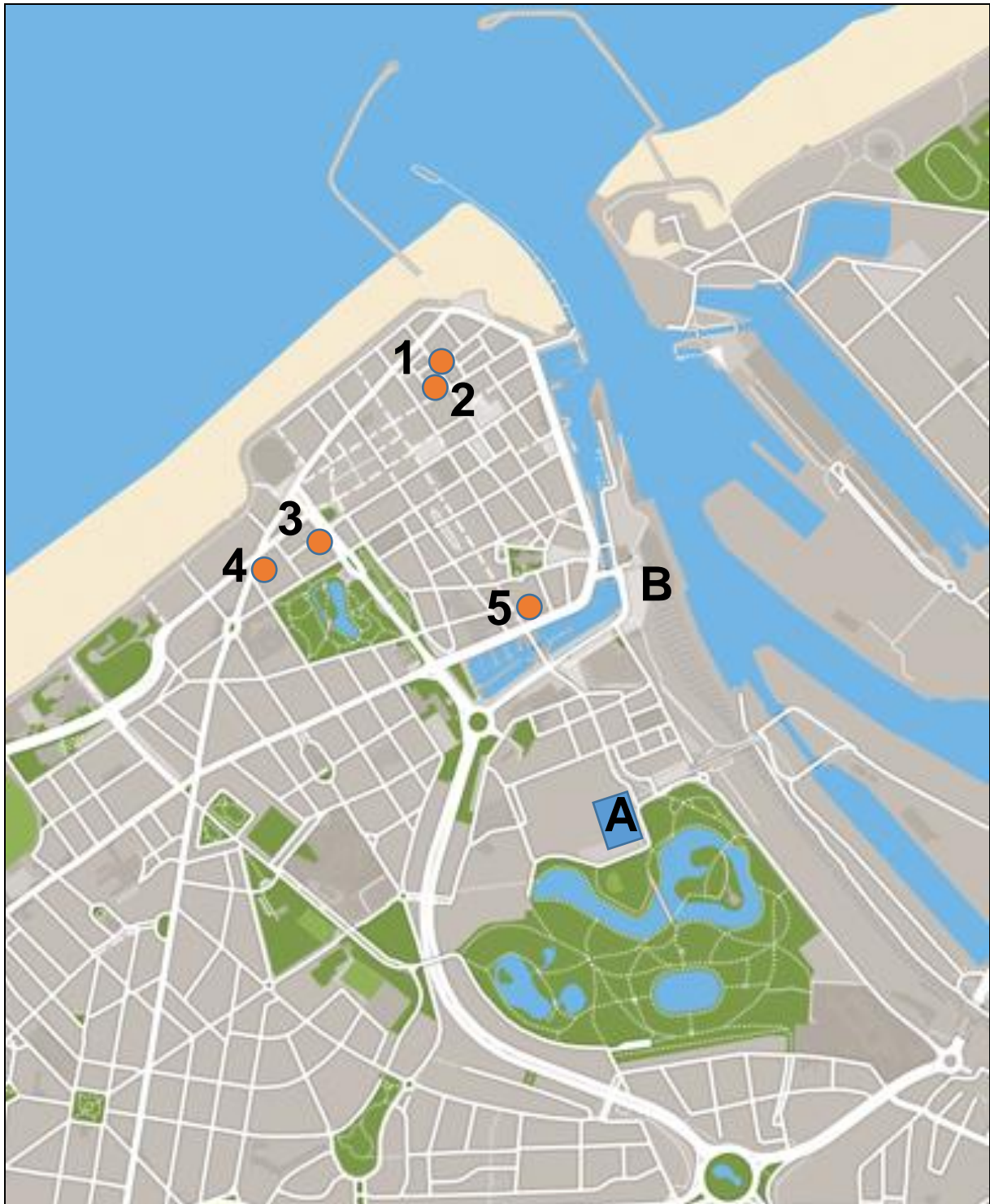
12. Internet and Wi-Fi

- Internet access will be available in the conference room building.

13. City of Ostend

General information can be found on <http://www.visitoostende.be/en>.

SITUATION MAP OSTEND



- A: EGUERMIN
- B: Railway station
- 1: Hotel BERO
- 2: Hotel BOTTELTJE
- 3: Hotel MERCURE
- 4: Hotel LEOPOLD
- 5: Hotel BURLINGTON

14. POCs.

If you have any questions or require additional advice, the POCs are:

CDR (OCE) Filip CLAUWAERT,
Unclass Email: Filip.Clauwaert@mil.be
Svc phone:+32 244 30996

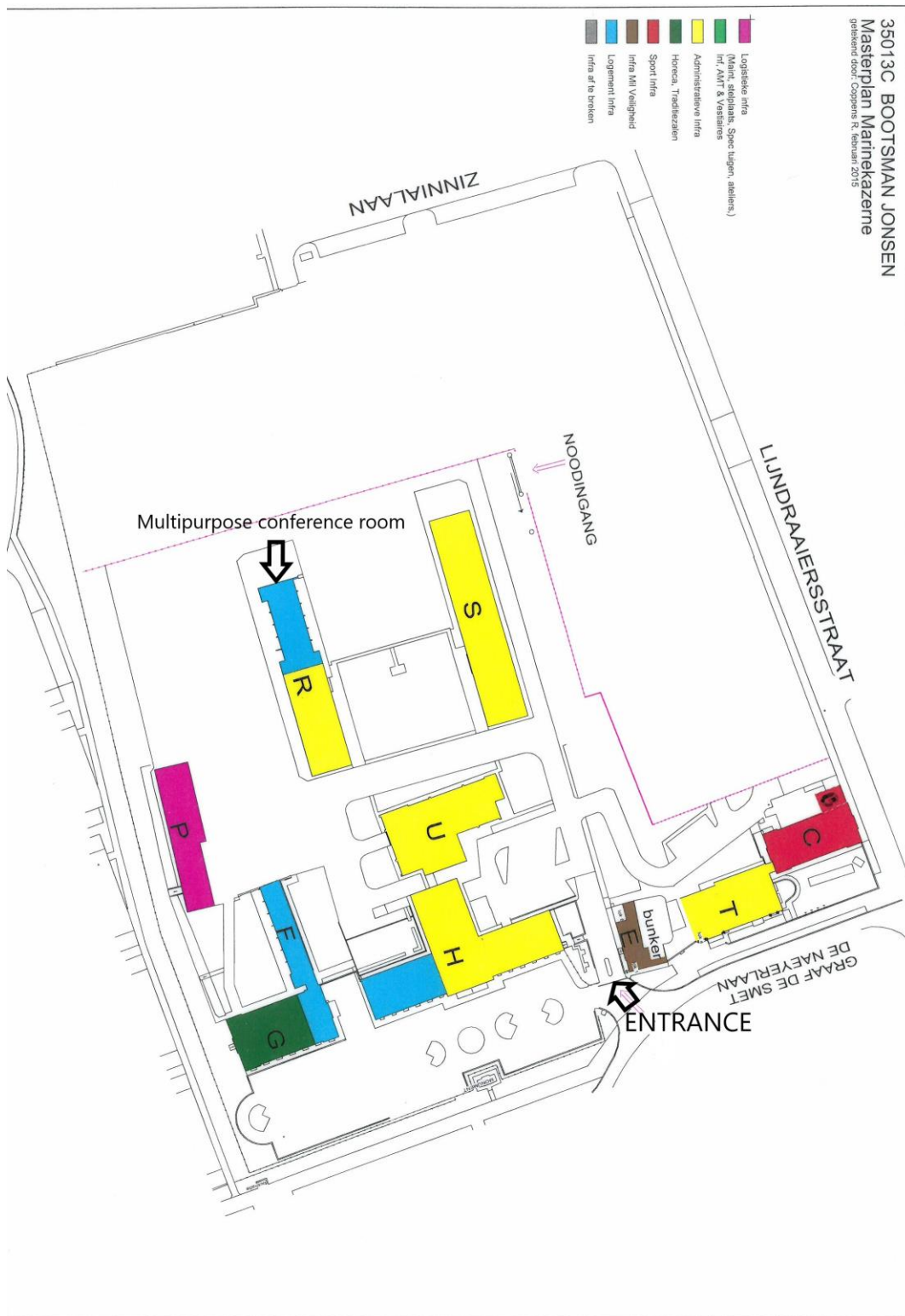
CDR (EXDIR) Yvo JAENEN,
Unclass Email: Yvo.Jaenen@mil.be
Svc phone:+32 244 30354
Mobile: +32 468118770 (EXCON LEAD PLANNER)

LCDR Ben LUCAS,
Unclass Email: Benjamin.lucas@mil.be
Svc phone:+32 244 31140
Administrative and Logistic Support EGUERMIN

EGUERMIN Guidelines

MAP of the Naval Barracks Ostend (EGUERMIN)

- ⇒ **MPC** in multipurpose conference room; accomodtion in blocks F and R; lunch in Mess facility block G and coffee break in block S:



PARKING FACILITIES

- A 24-hour monitored parking is available in the fenced area in front of the school. If you desire to use this parking, please mention it during your website-registration. On arrival, present your ID to the guard post and let them know which car you will be parking.

ACCESS TO THE SCHOOL

- **THE ACCESS TO THE EGUERMIN SCHOOL BUILDING IS STRICTLY PROHIBITED FOR SACO CONFERENCE PARTICIPANTS**

KEYS

- The room keys are obtained from the Duty guard at the main gate of the Naval Barracks Bootsman Jonsen (MKBJ).
- When leaving your room, it must be locked.
- The loss of a key must immediately be reported to the Duty guard. The replacement must be paid by the participant: **±10 EURO** per key.
- At the end of your stay, keys must be handed over at the Duty Guard.

ACCOMMODATION

- The participants are accommodated in the naval barracks (building F and R) (15 single rooms).
- Restrooms and showers are situated at the end of the hallway.
- Bed linen is provided. Participants must bring their own towels.
- Electric razors are to be adjusted for 220 Volts continental plugs.
- Glass waste **MUST** be disposed in the glass-containers in the passages.
- Alcoholic beverages, cooking utensils, etc. are **NOT** allowed in the rooms.
- Pinning something to the walls or on the woodwork is **NOT** permitted.
- Every room is equipped with a TV, a radio with CD-Player and a refrigerator.
- Make sure, whilst using your TV or music installation, not to disturb the study or the rest of your fellow- participants (curfew and overall silence at 22.00 Hrs.).

CATERING

- Catering will be organised taking into account COVID-19 precautionary measures.
- The participant must be registered for each meal on the website registration page. He/she is responsible when registering to communicate if they need breakfast or lunch on the first day of their stay.

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<u>Meal hours</u>	<u>Prices</u>
- breakfast : 07.00→07.45	2,00 EURO
- lunch : 11.50→12.30	4,50 EURO

NOTE: These timings may change on short notice due to COVID-19 measures

SECURITY

- Entry to the school is restricted to school personnel and staff.
- Taking pictures in naval barracks is prohibited.
- Security violations will be prosecuted.
- The naval barracks can only be entered on display of military or civilian ID card.
- The use of cellular phones is prohibited in the conference room and other designated areas.

MEDICAL FACILITIES

- In case of emergency, Hospital DAMIAAN is 800m from the barracks. In case of medical emergencies the duty guard (tel: +32 244 31231) at the main gate of the Naval Barracks will take action to notify ambulances.