





Beginnings of Military Education in Estonia

- April 1919 – Military School founded basic officer course
- September 1921 – Higher Staff Course founded
- Initially education based on Czarist methods instructors former professors from Nikolai Academy
- Colonel Nikolai Reek first to attend ecole d'guerre in France



Reek's Changes to Officer Education

- Russian style officer education:
 - Was heavily theoretical
 - Was based on lecturing
 - Stressed of repetition material and numerous examinations.
- Reek Introduced:
 - applicatory method based on...
 - case studies
 - tactical decision games
 - independent written studies by students

Baltic Defence College

- Founded 1999 - tri national organization
- Joint Command General Staff Course
primary course (11 Months)
- Instructor consists of Baltic Officers, NATO
and allied non NATO, civilian academic
(retired officers and PhDs, MoD officials)
- Support Staff Estonian
- College Language English

Joint Command General Staff Course

- Currently 49 students (Capt to Lt. Col.) – from Estonia, Latvia, Lithuania, USA, Canada, Denmark, Norway, Ukraine, Georgia
- Equivalent to US Command and General Staff Course at Fort Leavenworth or USMC Command and Staff Course at Quantico
- Prepares students to move from being tactical leaders to be operational planners and senior leaders

Joint Command General Staff Course

- Applicatory learning methods important, planning exercises, historical case studies
- develops broader thinking on military problems and adaptive problem solving

Applicatory Method

“The human mind is not designed to learn from lists of characteristics, traits, and attributes. Rather, it was designed to learn from experience.” – Dr. Bruce I. Gudmundsson, US Marine Corps University

























