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ROMANIAN MILITARY

3-5 Izvor St., Bucharest, Romania

tel/fax +4021-3195698

e-mail: drp@mapn.ro

www.mapn.gov.ro

CHINESE MILITARY DELEGATION ON VISIT AT THE MINISTRY OF NATIONAL DEFENCE

Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, State Secretary for Defense Policy and Planning, Viorel Oancea and Chief of General Staff, Admiral Gheorghe Marin, Ph.D. received the official visit of a military delegation headed by General Ma Xiaotian, Deputy Chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army. The official talks were focused on the bilateral military cooperation, Romanian



participation in international operations and the defence cooperation for identifying the common solutions to the present security challenges. The talks also were related to the Romanian Armed Forces integration within NATO and EU's military structures and the Armed Forces' modernization, too.

Having in view the 60 years of diplomatic relations between Romanian and the People's Republic of China, the Minister of National Defence spoke about the importance of the traditional Romanian-Chinese friendship. Mister Gabriel Oprea also spoke about the opening we had for military cooperation with China. "We are interested to strengthen bilateral military relations, even on education and common training exercises, such as that exercise we organized last year in our country, with the Mountain Troops and we wish to increase the political-military dialogue at the two armed forces' level". General Ma Xiaotian appreciated the excellent relations between Romania and the People's Republic of China, stressing out the well known friendship and the good relations the two countries had, along the years, based on principles of equality and mutual respect. "We are concerned, like you, to strengthen and increase the bilateral military relations as an important part of the two countries' cooperation" the Chinese guest said during his meeting with Minister Gabriel Oprea.

On Tuesday, February 2, in the presence of General Ma Xiaotian, deputy chief of General Staff of the Chinese People's Liberation Army of the People's Republic of China, Lieutenant General Stefan Oprea, Deputy Chief of Romanian General Staff, generals and officers from the two armies' central structures, the National Defence University "Carol I" inaugurated the Chinese Language Laboratory, donated by the Chinese Armed Forces, the first of its kind in the South Eastern Europe with the possibility to transform it in a Regional Center of Chinese Language.

**Special points of
interests:**

- Chinese military delegation on visit at the Ministry of National Defence

- EOD Group returns from Afghanistan





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EOD GROUP RETURNS FROM AFGHANISTAN



Romanian Air Force's Engineer Regiment hosted on Thursday, February the 4th, a ceremony for the returning of the EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) Group from Afghanistan TO.

The Chief of the Romanian Air Force, Major General Ion-Aurel Stanciu, who attended the event along with the EOD soldiers and their family members, thanked the military for the bravery and professionalism proved in missions which won their American Partners' trust.

Sgt. 1st Class Teodorin Mustata, the Group Commander, reported the Chief of the Romanian Air Force that the order given at the departure has been carried out and he brought back all his people safe and sound while the mission has been accomplished.

EOD Group of the Romanian Air Force's Engineer Regiment consisted of six military and joined the 280 Manoeuvre Battalion – Focsani which ensured between July 2009 and January 2010 the security of the most important route from Afghanistan – A-1 Arterial Highway.

The EOD military performed 40 missions consisting in de-energizing unexploded ordnance, neutralizing the improvised explosive devices, healing the fire ranges and investigating the security incidents.

Starting with January 28, another EOD Group from the same structures has taken over these missions in Afghanistan TO, alongside the military of the 33rd Mountain Troops Battalion from Curtea de Arges.

