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ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

**The Minister of National Defence at Ceremony Marking the
Beginning of the Main Construction Works of the
Missile Defence Facility at Deveselu**

Special points of interests:

- The Minister of National Defence at Ceremony Marking the Beginning of the Main Construction Works of the Missile Defence Facility at Deveselu
- Minister of Defence Met with American and NATO Officials before the Ceremony at Deveselu
- The Defence Minister participated in the ceremonies to celebrate the Romanian Armed Forces' Day at Carei and Satu Mare
- Activities Attended by the Chief of General Staff on Romanian Armed Forces Day
- Annual Meeting of the Chief of General Staff with Defence Attaches Accredited to Romania
- NATO Defence Ministers Meet in Brussels
- National Security Forum on „Cyber Security“



Minister Mircea Duşa addressing the participants in the ceremony at military base of Deveselu

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, participated on Monday, 28 October, in the ceremony marking the beginning of the main construction works of the Missile Defence Facility at Deveselu.

Romanian Defence Minister Mircea Dusa said at the ceremony that „the creation of this defence facility against ballistic missiles is the outcome of extraordinary cooperation between Romania and the U.S.“.

U.S. Under Secretary of Defense for Policy James N. Miller said in his turn that „what you initiate today here is a strong and tangible manifestation of our solemn commitment to mutual security in Europe. This commitment is the foundation of the NATO alliance and strong and increasingly broader relations between the U.S. and Romania“.

October 30th, 2013

Issue no. 16

Pag. 2

On 13 September 2011, Romania and the United States of America signed the Agreement between Romania and the United States of America on the Deployment of the United States Ballistic Missile Defense System in Romania to be hosted by a military base at Deveselu. The agreement, which came into force on 23 December 2011, stipulates that an Aegis Ashore ground-based missile defense system will be placed and operated by Romania, as part of the US contribution to NATO missile defence system. Cooperation in missile defence is a major contribution to NATO collective security as an integral part of the allied missile defence system. Temporary facilities were already erected for the personnel involved in the working construction. A ceremony will be organized at the military base of Deveselu, on 28 October, to mark the start of the main construction works. The US missile defence system will be based in Deveselu and will become fully operational by 2015. It is estimated that about 200 military, civilian and contract enlisted personnel will be needed to operate the facility. The mentioned agreement and hosting the American facility at the military base of Deveselu is an integral part of the enhanced Strategic Partnership of Romania and the United States of America.

Military cooperation has increased significantly over the last years, a trend that is going to be maintained. Romania and the USA have been side by side in all theaters of operations in Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan. The US Marines of the Black Sea Rotational Force train at Mihail Kogălniceanu military base. On October 18, 2013, Mircea Duşa, the Defence Minister and Chuck Hagel, the US Secretary of Defense agreed on supporting the transit to and from Afghanistan. The US Secretary of Defense, Chuck Hagel, emphasized that such an agreement is one more proof of Romania's firm commitment to ISAF as far as regional and international security is concerned.

The armed forces of the both countries participate in many military exercises and activities in Romania and other places in Europe and the USA. This cooperation reflects the force behind the Strategic Partnership and the friendship between the Romanian and American people.

Minister of Defence Met with American and NATO Officials before the Ceremony at Deveselu

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, had an official meeting with US and NATO officials on Monday, 28 October, prior to the ceremony marking the beginning of the main construction works at the Missile Defence Facility at Deveselu.

Minister Duşa said that today was an especially important day „that marks the beginning of a new stage – the final one – in the process of rendering operational Deveselu Base“.

„The US-Romanian Strategic Partnership is one of the fundamental action lines for our foreign and defence policies. We are grateful for the major support the USA offered in terms of bilateral military cooperation, a relation we consider to be one based on trust“, the defence minister pointed out.

October 30th, 2013

Issue no. 16

Pag. 3

In turn, Dr. James Miller, US Principal Deputy Undersecretary of Defence for Policy, thanked Romania for the important role it assumed in the Strategic Partnership.

At the end of the meeting, the defence minister awarded Dr. James Miller the highest distinction of the Ministry of National Defence, the Emblem of Honor of the Romanian Armed Forces, with peace insignia, „as a token of our high appreciation for the remarkable contribution to the advance of the implementation process of the Agreement between Romania and the United States of America on the Deployment of the United States Ballistic Missile Defense System in Romania“ as well as a symbolic gift, namely a sword.

At the same time, Minister Duşa offered a symbolic gift to Frank Rose, US Deputy Assistant Secretary of State for Space and Defense Policy as well.

The meeting at the Ministry of National Defence was also attended by Ambassador Alexander Vershbow, NATO Deputy Secretary General and Ambassador Sorin Ducaru, Assistant Secretary General for Emerging Security Challenges.

The Defence Minister participated in the ceremonies to celebrate the Romanian Armed Forces' Day at Carei and Satu Mare

On October 25, Defence Minister, Mircea Duşa, participated in the military and religious ceremonies conducted at the Monuments from Carei and the Romanian Soldier's Monument from Satu Mare. The two ceremonies were part of the activities organized to celebrate the Romanian Armed Forces' Day.

Activities Attended by the Chief of General Staff on Romanian Armed Forces Day

On Friday, 25 October, on Romanian Armed Forces Day, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, chief of General Staff, held a videoconference with the troops deployed in theaters of operations of Afghanistan, Bosnia and Herzegovina and Kosovo, as well as those on „Regina Maria“ Frigate, participating in „Active Endeavour“ in the Mediterranean Sea. Commanders of the troops in theaters of operations and the commander of „Regina Maria“ frigate, briefed the chief of General Staff on the main missions carried out, on the security in their area of responsibility, on the morale of the troops and how they can get in touch with the families back home.

„After Romania's National Day, Romanian Armed Forces Day is the most important celebration for us, military men, a moment to remember with pride the glorious days of the Romanian Armed Forces. I wish you the traditional Happy Many Returns of the day on behalf of Minister Duşa and myself, lots of success in accomplishing your missions and to come back home in good health!“, was the message of the chief of General Staff to the participants in the videoconference.

October 30th, 2013

Issue no. 16

Pag. 4

Also on Friday, 25 October 2013, the chief of General Staff participated in military wreath-laying ceremonies organized in Bucharest at the Monument of Heroes who died on duty in theaters of operations, at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier and the Memorial of WW II Heroes.

On the occasion of the Romanian Armed Forces' Day, Lieutenant General Ștefan Dănilă, chief of General Staff, offered on 24 October the Emblem of Honor of the General Staff to several military men as a token of appreciation for their professionalism in carrying out their duties.

Annual Meeting of the Chief of General Staff with Defence Attaches Accredited to Romania

Lieutenant General Ștefan Dănilă, the chief of General Staff, met with the defence attaches accredited to Romania, at the defence ministry headquarters, on Wednesday, 23 October.

During the meeting, the chief of General Staff presented the main points on the agenda of the training activities conducted by the Romanian military this year, at national level or in cooperation with allied or partner countries and the activities planned for the next period of time.

The chief of General Staff made an analysis of the security environment in NATO's area of interest, mentioning the concrete Romanian contribution to the allied operations in Afghanistan, as well as the predictions for this participation, in the context of the approaching end of ISAF mission.

Lieutenant General Dănilă briefed the defence attaches on the transformation process of the military, focusing on the projected defence procurement of the three services in terms of the concepts Smart Defense and Connected Forces Initiative, adopted at NATO level and EU concept of Pooling and Sharing.

Thanking them for their support during all common activities, the chief of General Staff told the attaches he considered them the friends of the Romanian Armed Forces and that he relies on their support in building bridges to the armed forces of the countries they represent.

NATO Defence Ministers Meet in Brussels

NATO Defence Ministers' Reunion opened Tuesday, 22 October in Brussels with NATO Secretary General's message concerning the recent developments and priorities in the planning policies of the Alliance.

In this respect, the Romanian defence minister said that Romania's main goal continues to be the implementation of a NATO capability in the field of missile defence and synchronizing this with the implementation of the American missile defence system.

As to cyber defence, minister Dușa reiterated the importance of national investments in the field and NATO's support of member states in compliance with the principle of allied solidarity.

October 30th, 2013

Issue no. 16

Pag. 5

„Maintaining interoperability and our troops' level of training is a must“ Minister Mircea Duşa pointed out during the discussions. That is why initiative Connected Forces becomes the key element of the political and military dimension of the Alliance, after withdrawing from Afghanistan.

The officials also discussed the preparations for the 2014 Summit. In this respect, the Romanian defence minister said that the agenda should include a consolidated package consisting of talks on Smart Defence and Connected Forces Initiative, meant to warrant the success of the Alliance's post-2014 mission.



Romanian Minister of National Defence Mircea Duşa, and the US Secretary of Defense, Charles Timothy Hagel, at the NATO Defence Ministers' Meeting in Brussels

National Security Forum on „Cyber Security“

„Carol I“ National Defence University organized the 2nd edition of the „National Security Forum“ at the National Military Club. This year's event on „Cyber Security“ took place over 21 and 22 October.

The event was attended by representatives of the Presidency, Romanian Government, NATO and EU as well as other government agencies involved in national defence and security.

The second day of the event, dedicated to „Wireless Security“, dealt with technical solutions in the field of cyber security.

The topic of the forum, Cyber Security, was a field of major interest to government, non-government as well as private organizations that attracted the participation of famous national and multinational manufacturing companies in the industry.