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ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

Visit of the Defence Ministry Leadership in Afghanistan

Special points of interests:

- Visit of the Defence Ministry Leadership in Afghanistan
- Official Visit in Romania of an American Military Delegation
- Opening Ceremony of Multinational Exercise „Black Sea Rotational Force 13”
- Opening of Post-Graduate Course on „Security and Good Governance”



The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa,
during his visit in Afghanistan

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa and a military delegation consisting of the chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, the Director General of the Defence Intelligence General Directorate, Major General Marian Hăpău, the deputy chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Valeriu Nicuţ and the commander of the Joint Logistic Command, Lieutenant General Cătălin Zisu made a visit in Afghanistan on Tuesday, 9 April.

During the bilateral meeting with the Afghan Minister of Defence, Bismillah Klan Mohammadi, Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, reiterated Romania's present and future support of Afghanistan for stability and security within the institutional framework of NATO. Romania will continue to be involved in the consolidation of Afghan security after 2014 as part of the future NATO mission.

A direct support Romania can offer in the spirit of the qualitative improvement of Afghan National Army could be the training and even formation of officers, NCOs or WOs in dedicated Romanian institutions „that are

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internationally recognized and appreciated”, Mircea Duşa said. The offer was accepted by the Afghan minister and an agreement will be drafted to this effect in the near future.

Bismillah Klan Mohammadi thanked Romania for the support of its troops in the training process and appreciated the professionalism of the Romanian troops, according to NATO mission. It is for the first time that a Romanian defence minister meets with the Afghan defence minister.

Minister Mircea Duşa invited the Afghan minister to visit Romania, which would be an opportunity to discuss possible cooperation partnerships in the defence industry along with Romanian state institutions in the field.

Minister Mircea Duşa met with the deputy ISAF commander, Lieutenant General Nick Patrick Carter, and Andrew W. Steinfeld, the North Atlantic Treaty Organization deputy senior civilian representative in Kabul. Lieutenant General Carter thanked Romania for its important contribution to NATO stabilization and assistance operation and made a briefing on the current state of affairs. They also discussed the future NATO mission, the goals and challenges it will have to meet.

From Kabul, the visit continued to Kandahar, where the minister visited the transit camp, the national support element, the force protection company involved in base security and had meetings with the troops there. On this occasion they checked the operation conditions of the military vehicles that were found to be good.

The delegation gave a special attention to the training facilities for the identification of the improvised explosive devices and M Roller simulators. Then there followed a meeting with Major General Robert B. Abrams, RC-South, and Brigadier General John L. Dolan, commander of Kandahar Base. They appreciated the activity of the Romanian troops and gave a briefing on the current situation.

Official Visit in Romania of an American Military Delegation

On Monday, April 8, the American delegation headed by the chief of the Alabama National Guard, Major General Perry Smith, made an official visit in Romania at the invitation of the chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă.

During the meeting at the defence ministry headquarters, the topics discussed included the cooperation fields between the National Guard of Alabama and the Romanian Air Force, training facilities, the equipment and specific missions as well as the participation of the two structures in international exercises, operations and missions.

„I appreciate the effort of the over 20,000 members of the Alabama National Guard in Afghanistan, in the last ten years as well as their contribution to the fight against terror”, the chief of General Staff pointed out.

The two officials also stressed the importance of the cooperation between the two structures within the State Partnership Program.

Major General Perry Smith declared that he wished that this partnership should last and meet its goals irrespective of our countries’ variations of allotted budgets.

According to the visit program, the American delegation met with troops in different garrisons of the country.



**The chief of General Staff,
Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă
and the chief of the Alabama
National Guard,
Major General Perry Smith**

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The cooperation between the Romanian Armed Forces and the National Guard of Alabama unfolds under the aegis of the State Partnership Program, initiated in 1994. As of 2011, the cooperation was taken to a higher level that involves a larger dialogue and American assistance in fields of real interest for the Romanian military, such as operating F-16 aircraft, the support of the host-nation for the Air Forces, developing the facilities at Câmpia Turzii Air Base, training of Land Forces and joint forces, improving the legal basis related to medical assistance for soldiers injured in theaters of operations, support for the families of troops deployed to theaters of operations, also operational medicine and Military Police.

Opening Ceremony of Multinational Exercise „Black Sea Rotational Force 13”



Ceremony held at Mihail Kogălniceanu Administrative Center

The opening ceremony of the multinational exercise „Black Sea Rotational Force 13 (BSRF-13)” took place at Mihail Kogălniceanu Administrative Center, on Wednesday, 10 April.

BSRF-13 is a multinational exercise led by the U.S. Marine Corps in Europe (MARFOREUR) involving 14 nations for about 6 months in the region of the Black Sea, the Balkans and the Caucasus.

In Romania, the exercise takes place from 5 April to 1 September, involving about 2,200 troops from FYROM, Armenia, Bulgaria, Romania and the USA. Romanian participation consists in over 1,500 troops from all military services.

The Land Forces Staff coordinates all forces and structures of NATO and PfP member countries participating in the common training conducted on Romanian soil, aiming at increasing their interoperability level for peacekeeping and counter-insurgency operations. The common training program is structured in training modules that include: pre-deployment training for participating in peacekeeping and counter-insurgency operations, boarding operations, NCO professional improvement, seminars, etc. The common training program is conducted in Mihail Kogălniceanu, Babadag shooting range, Damieni, Craiova, Dej, Boboc, Bogata, Bacău, Târgu Mureș and Constanța.

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Opening of Post-Graduate Course on „Security and Good Governance”



State Secretary for Parliament Liaison, Public Information and Personnel Welfare, Vasile Costea, delivering the opening speech

The post-graduate course on „Security and Good Governance”, organized by the National Defence College, began at the Palace of the National Military Club, on 8 April, in the presence of the State Secretary for Parliament Liaison, Public Information and Personnel Welfare, Vasile Costea.

„The National Defence College, as a military institution similar to others in European countries, had a special impact on the image of Romania at international level, that makes clear our country operates along the same coordinates as our Euro-Atlantic partners”, the state secretary said in the opening of the event.

Mr. Vasile Costea also appreciated that while short, the program brings together many of the fundamental concepts for Romania’s security and defence in a European and Euro-Atlantic context.