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ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

The Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, took part in the celebration of the “Romanian Naval Forces Day”

Special points of interests:

- The Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, took part in the celebration of the “Romanian Naval Forces Day”
- The arrival ceremony from Afghanistan of the troops of the 26th Infantry Battalion “Red Scorpions”



The Minister of National Defence Gabriel Oprea, delivering his speech to the audience

The Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, took part in the events occasioned by the celebration of the “Romanian Naval Forces Day” and held in Constanta, on the Casino’s cliff, on August 15, 2011.

“We share the full joy of this holiday because we are close to an elite force of the Romanian Armed Forces, representing us with professionalism all over the world. These true ambassadors for Romania who speak through their facts about honour and professionalism are the pride of the Romanian Armed Forces. I would like to thank you especially today for everything you undertake and to assure you that the entire society understands better and really appreciates the efforts you do make”, the Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, said.

In his speech, Minister Oprea recalled the contribution of the naval officers and the frigate “King Ferdinand” to the operation “Unified Protector”, carried out at the Mediterranean Sea. “I would like to thank to the frigate crew who, besides the specific missions accomplished, saved human lives, too, while an operation of humanitarian assistance to a boat in

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The Minister Gabriel Oprea hands over the
Combat Colours of the Naval Forces Staff

danger at sea. The irreproachable accomplishment of the past missions carried out by the frigate “King Ferdinand” and the contribution of the Romanian naval officers to the international exercises and missions Active Endeavour and Blackseafort acknowledge again that the Romanian Naval Forces are fully professional, having the capacity to successfully fulfill their role and mission”, Gabriel Oprea added.

While a ceremony, Minister Oprea handed over to the Chief of the Naval Forces, Vice Admiral Aurel Popa the Combat Colours of the Naval Forces Staff. The Minister Gabriel Oprea stressed that “this symbol of the military honour, courage and glory comes to crown all the outstanding results from the past years”.

Among the activities organized by the Ministry of National Defence on the Casino’s cliff, before the Fleet Command, were the dressing of the colours and flags on the ships’ board, laying the flower anchors at sea and demonstrative exercises performed by the Naval Forces troops.



The March of the Honour Guard

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The arrival ceremony from Afghanistan of the troops of the 26th Infantry Battalion “Red Scorpions”



The Minister Gabriel Oprea decorates the Combat Colours of the 26th Infantry Battalion

The Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, took part in the military ceremony held in Craiova garrison on Wednesday, August 17, 2011, on the occasion of the arrival of the 26th Infantry Battalion “Red Scorpions” from Afghanistan. Minister Gabriel Oprea congratulated the troops from Craiova for the exemplary manner they accomplished their mission, stressing that the whole detachment had to carry out “a difficult mission in an area where the danger watches at every step, and the climate and livelihood are difficult to bear, especially when you are far from home and the dear ones.”

While reviewing the outstanding results of the big unit from Craiova, the 2nd Infantry Brigade “Rovine”, the first structure of brigade type which contributed in the same time, six years ago, with two infantry battalions to the theatres of operations and a company to UNAMI mission from Basra, in Iraq, the Minister of National Defence pointed out that: “The story has been on the same string this year: the contribution with manoeuvre battalions and command and control element (Combined Team Zabul) to the theatre of operations in Afghanistan, military structures deriving from the staff of same brigade located in Craiova. I appreciate the professional manner you, the troops of the 20th and 26th Manoeuvre Battalions, as well as the members of the valuable team, staff officers and NCOs – who manned the Romanian-USA component, Combined Team Zabul – acted in the area of responsibility.”

The Minister Gabriel Oprea paid his tribute to both heroes from the 26th Manoeuvre Battalion, second lieutenant Constantin-Laurentiu Lixandru and second lieutenant Catalin-Ionel Marinescu “who fell in action for the honour and glory of the Romanian Armed Forces in the fight against international terrorism.”

On the same occasion, the Combat Colours of the 20th Infantry Battalion “Black Scorpions” and of 26th Infantry Battalion “Red Scorpions” were decorated.