

**April 5<sup>th</sup>, 2011****Issue no. 6**

# ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

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**Defence Minister Gabriel Oprea awarded  
Sergeant Angel Ilovan, wounded in Afghanistan,  
the Emblem „The Honor of the Romanian Armed Forces“**

## Special points of interests:

- Defence Minister Gabriel Oprea awarded Sergeant Angel Ilovan, wounded in Afghanistan, the Emblem „The Honor of the Romanian Armed Forces“
- NATO Day celebrated at the Ministry of National Defence HQ
- Official visit of the Chief of Defence Staff from Bulgaria
- Romanian Air Force takes over the Kabul International Airport (KAIA) Command



Emblem „The Honor of the Romanian Armed Forces“  
for Sergeant Angel-Paul Ilovan

Corporal Angel-Paul Ilovan, wounded at the end of last year in Afghanistan, received on March 31<sup>st</sup>, the highest military distinction, Emblem „The Honor of the Romanian Armed Forces“, from Defence Minister Gabriel Oprea and he was promoted non-commissioned officer with the rank of Sergeant, as a sign of appreciation for his devotion and bravery shown while in mission in the theatre of operations.

Minister Gabriel Oprea and the Chief of General Staff, Major General Stefan Danila, paid a visit to Sergeant Ilovan at Central Military Hospital from Bucharest where the Sergeant is hospitalized after his returning from Germany, in order to go through a recovery program.

The Defence Minister inquired on the treatment and on the medical procedures the military is attended with and was informed on his good health evolution which will soon allow him to reincorporate in his unit.

„I am here to shake your hand for your heroism and commitment proved in Afghanistan, alongside your compeers from the 812<sup>th</sup> Maneuver Battalion «Carpathians Hawks» and we all stand by you because the Armed Forces do not leave anybody behind and always back up the soldiers who faithfully, honestly and honorably do theirs duty“.

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## NATO Day celebrated at the Ministry of National Defence HQ

NATO Day was celebrated with a ceremony organized on Sunday, April 3<sup>rd</sup>, before the Defence Minister Gabriel Oprea.

During the military ceremony celebrating 62 years since the establishment of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization and seven years since Romania has joined the Alliance, Romanian and NATO Colours were hoisted while Romanian and NATO anthems were played.

The event organized at MoND HQ was attended by military and civil personnel from MoND HQ and the three services.

NATO Day was also celebrated with ceremonies organized in military units across the country in cooperation with local authorities.

„NATO Day in Romania“ is celebrated according to the provisions of Law No. 390 adopted by the Romanian Parliament on September 28, 2004. The event is a celebration of „European and Euro-Atlantic democracy and spirit“.



Romanian and NATO Colours hoisting at  
MoND HQ



Defence Minister Gabriel Oprea taking the salute



Aspect from the military ceremony organized at Buzau

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### Official visit of the Chief of Defence Staff from Bulgaria

The Chief of General Staff, Major General Stefan Danila, met on April 4<sup>th</sup>, at MoND HQ, with the Chief of Defence Staff from Bulgaria General Hristov Simeonov who is paying an official visit to our country.

The talks approached topics related to security of the Western Balkans and Black Sea area, the Romanian Armed Forces' participation in international missions as well as the military bilateral cooperation.

At the same time, it was described Romania's experience, as NATO and EU member state,



The Chief of General Staff, Major General Stefan Danila, met with the Chief of Defence Staff from Bulgaria, General Hristov Simeonov



Viorel Oancea, State Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning in Romanian MoND, and General Hristov Simeonov

regarding its Armed Forces' transformation and modernization and there were talks on the personnel training within education establishments, on mutual terms.

General Simeonov also met today with State Secretary for Defence Policy and Planning Viorel Oancea and laid a wreath at the Tomb of the Unknown Soldier in Carol Park.

The schedule of the Bulgarian delegation includes visits at several military units across the country.

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## Romanian Air Force takes over the Kabul International Airport (KAIA) Command



General Nándor Kilián hands over the KAIA Colors  
to Major General Joachim Wundrak

Romanian Air Forces took over officially the Kabul International Airport (KAIA) Command from the Hungarian Air Forces on Friday, April 1<sup>st</sup>, Afghanistan.

The ceremony was led by the ISAF Deputy Commander Air Component Command Major General Joachim Wundrak and was attended by the Chief of Air Force Staff Major General Fanica Carnu and a delegation of the General Staff, headed by Major General Alexandru Rus.

After the national anthem of Afghanistan, Hungaria and Romania was played, KAIA colors was took by the Romanian Air Forces detachment commander, Air Flotilla General Victor Strîmbeanu, and the handing taking over protocol was signed.

In his message to the KAIA detachment's troops, Defence Minister Gabriel Oprea prompted them to follow the model of their colleagues who had carried out the same mission five years ago doing an excellent job and proving, once again, the professionalism and reliability the military airmen are famous for home and abroad.

„A difficult mission is waiting for you ahead. You will have the responsibility to coordinate an airfield with 450-500 different flights daily, in an area in permanent terrorist threaten. You have worked hard to be able to accomplish this highly important mission for the Air Forces, Armed Forces and for Romania as NATO member state. That is why I hold the confidence that the attentively selected personnel and your intense training set the premises of a successful mission, at the highest standards. Go in and win.“

At the end of the ceremony Major General Wundrak expressed his confidence in the Romanian team's enthusiasm and professionalism, „one of the best prepared national detachments to assume KAIA coordination since the beginning of the ISAF operation“.

Romania is the first country within the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force in Afghanistan that takes over the Kabul International Airport for one year period (by rotating two detachments at a six month period). Romanian troops will employ key-positions in the administrative and command structures of the airport: air traffic control, air operation control, flight security, logistic support and communications.