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# ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

**12 November – the Day of the General Staff**

## Special points of interests:

- 12 November – the Day of the General Staff
- “RUBICON 2014” Training Module
- Ceremony dedicated to Veterans Day
- Defence Minister Mircea Dusa evaluated the modernization works of the infrastructure of the 86<sup>th</sup> Air Base Airfield



The Combat Colors of the General Staff were decorated with the National Order “Steaua României” [Star of Romania] - rank of Commodore, for military men, in times of war.

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, participated in the military ceremony marking 155 years since the establishment of the General Staff, organized at the defence ministry HQ. On this occasion, the Combat Colors of the General Staff were decorated with the National Order „Steaua României” [Star of Romania] – rank of Commodore, for military men, in times of war.

On this occasion, minister Duşa gave orders and medals to members of the General Staff, also to the soldiers involved in the recent rescue mission at Sulina. The chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, gave the Emblem of Honor of the General Staff to several personalities, former military leaders as well as officials of the national defence, public order and national security system.

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The 155 years anniversary of the General Staff, of November 12, was marked by the organization of a symposium, „General Staff - 155 years as the higher body of conception and command of the Romanian Armed Forces” and a book exhibition.

### “RUBICON 2014” Training Module

Land Forces units and units of the US 173<sup>rd</sup> Airborne Brigade participate in „RUBICON 2014” training module led by the 6<sup>th</sup> „Mihai Viteazul” Special Operations Brigade, conducted in Câmpia Turzii, Cluj County and Cincu, Braşov County, over 11-24 November.

The over 400 troops involved will train jointly for flying and parachute jumps, firing different types of weapons and tactical exercises.

„RUBICON 2014” is a major activity of Atlantic Resolve Operation, meant to show the commitment of the USA and Romania to support NATO collective security, aiming at increasing the level of interoperability among the forces involved, exchanges of experience, harmonizing techniques and procedures in the field.

### Ceremony dedicated to Veterans Day

Veterans Day was celebrated for the first time in our country through a ceremony organized on 11 November, from 10.30 in Tineretului Park, at the Monument of heroes who died in theaters of operations or on Romanian territory, in the presence of the defence minister Mircea Duşa.

The participants, who wore rosettes consisting of a Romanian peony, hold a moment of recollection and laid several wreaths in memory of the heroes who died on duty whereas several veterans were promoted in rank or were awarded distinctions.



Romanian peony flower, symbol of Veterans Day

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At 11.00, church bells rang in churches or chapels built in military units.

Veterans Day was established by Law 150 of 22.10.2014, which alters and completes OUG 82/2006 stipulating the recognition of merits of military personnel participating in military missions and providing rights for them and the families of the deceased ones. Romania is thus joining Australia, Canada, the USA and other European countries in the gesture of gratitude for the soldiers who returned from missions and commemorate their heroes.

11 November was chosen for its significance, as on November 11, 1918, at 11.00, the armistice was signed between the Entente Powers and Germany, which put an end to WW1 and created the conditions of the Great Union of December 1, 1918 in Romania.

For the Romanian Armed Forces the day signifies that on November 11, 2003, 1<sup>st</sup> Lieutenant (post mortem) Iosif Silviu Fogorași, died in the theater of operations in Afghanistan.

Our country celebrates Veterans Day on April 29, in honor of all Romanian soldiers who fought sacrificing their lives during the two world wars, while defending the independence, sovereignty and territorial integrity of Romania.

### **Defence Minister Mircea Duşa evaluated the modernization works of the infrastructure of the 86<sup>th</sup> Air Base Airfield**

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, evaluated the stage of the rehabilitation and modernization works of the infrastructure of the 86<sup>th</sup> Air Base airfield, on Wednesday, 5 November.

The airfield in Borcea will be upgraded at NATO standards, in order to operate the F-16 aircraft. The 32 Mil Euros worth of modernization works address the damage braking system, parking and

maintenance platforms, ammunition and fuel warehouses, maintenance hangar or landing/take off strip. The defence budget covers 11 Mil Euros, while the NSIP financing brings 21 Mil Euros into the project.



Photo coverage of the visit