

**January 13th, 2014****Issue no. 1**

110 Izvor St., Bucharest, Romania

tel/fax +4021-3195698

e-mail: drp@mapn.ro

www.mapn.gov.ro

ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

**Handover/Takeover Ceremony of the Position as Chief of the
Romanian Land Forces Staff**

Special points of interests:

- Handover/Takeover Ceremony of the Position as Chief of the Romanian Land Forces Staff
- Opening of 2014 Training Year
- Investiture Ceremony of the Chief of Air Force Staff
- Hand over/take over ceremony at the Naval Forces Staff
- A new Commander at 2nd Infantry Division
- Defence Minister attending the hand over/take over ceremony at 4th Infantry Division



The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa hands over the combat Colours and the command of the Land Forces

Mircea Duşa: „The 2014 budget allows us to go on with the modernization and procurement programs“

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, participated in the ceremony when Major General Nicolae Ciucă took over the position of chief of Land Forces Staff, on Tuesday, 7 January. „After many years of a low defence budget, 2013 brought an increase that allowed resuming the modernization and procurement process of the Romanian military“, Minister Mircea Duşa declared. The defence minister pointed out also that the 2014 budget mirrors this increase, which would ensure continuing the programs. Mircea Duşa spoke of the main events ahead saying that this year we will organize activities to celebrate ten years since our country joined NATO, with the participation of officials from the Alliance and member

January 13th, 2014

Issue no. 1

Pag. 2

countries. As to the new free leading positions in the defence ministry, Minister Duşa said they will be manned in a transparent way, after being made public and following a contest. The activity was attended by the chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, representatives of the defence ministry, Land Forces unit commanders.

Opening of 2014 Training Year

The 2014 training year was officially opened on Wednesday, 8 January, in all military units of the Ministry of National Defence. During the activity organized by the General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, chief of General Staff, pointed out that the main characteristic of this training year is adaptability. „Training programs have to be adapted to the transformation process, according to where the respective unit's place is in the Framework Restructuring Program, depending on its mission and resources. But,

most of all, from what we have seen so far, they have to be adapted to the present professional status of the soldiers, different from the conscripts“, the chief of General Staff said. Also, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă continued by saying that the quality of training should further education by developing the skills a modern combat soldier needs. „Evaluation of structures is already done according to NATO standards. We have to maintain the level of exigency we used in assessing the troops meant for the theater of operations in Afghanistan“, the chief of General Staff concluded.



Leadership of the General Staff at the opening ceremony
of the 2014 training year

January 13th, 2014

Issue no. 1

Pag. 3

Investiture Ceremony of the Chief of Air Force Staff

Air-Flotilla General Laurian Anastasof was appointed chief of Air Force Staff on Thursday, December 19. The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, attended the hand over/take over ceremony of the position as chief of Air Force Staff. Before this assignment, General Anastasof was commander of 71st Air Base, Câmpia Turzii.

The chief of Air Force Staff has performed over 2.000 flight hours on MIG 21 Lancer, L-29, L-39, MIG 21 MF aircrafts as well as on IAR 330 M helicopter. Also, General Anastasof made evaluation flights on the F 16 aircraft.

Laurian Anastasof took over the chief of Air Forces Staff position from General Fănică Cârnu, who retired following the issuance of a presidential decree.

Air Flotilla General Laurian Anastasof was promoted to Major General Rank during a ceremony held at „General Emanoil Ionescu“ 71st Air Base on December 30th. Defence Minister Mircea Duşa, and the chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă participated in the promotion ceremony.



The Defence Minister addressing the attendants of the ceremony

January 13th, 2014

Issue no. 1

Pag. 4

Hand over/take over ceremony at the Naval Forces Staff

The Minister of National Defence, Mircea Duşa, participated in the hand over/take over ceremony of the position as chief of Navy Staff which took place at the Navy Staff HQ, at 09.00, on 20 December. On this occasion the presidential decree stipulating the promotion to the rank of Admiral and passing to reserve of Vice Admiral Aurel Popa and the order of the Minister of National Defence appointing Rear Admiral Alexandru Mîrşu, former Fleet Commander, as chief of Navy Staff, were read.

Throughout his career, Rear-admiral Alexandru Mîrşu held several command positions, being the Fleet Commander in 2010.

He graduated the United States Navy's Officer Candidate School from Newport, USA, and several specialty courses from Canada, Holland, Germany and Great Britain. In 2004, he took his Master's Degree at the Royal College (London, Great Britain) and in 2008 he graduated the NATO Defence College, Rome.

He was commander of the Black Sea Naval Cooperation Task Group (BLACKSEAFOR) throughout 2005-2006—when Romania held the chairmanship of this regional initiative.



The chief of Navy Staff, Rear Admiral Alexandru Mîrşu receives the combat colours

January 13th, 2014

Issue no. 1

Pag. 5

A new Commander at 2nd Infantry Division

The Minister of National Defence Mircea Duşa and the chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, participated in the military handover/takeover ceremony of the command of the 2nd „Getica“ Infantry Division which took place, on Wednesday, 8 January, at Buzău.

Brigade General Lucian Foca took over the division command from Major General Nicolae Ciucă, who was appointed chief of Land Forces Staff.

Before being assigned to this position, Brigade General Lucian Foca was commander of the Military Intelligence Brigade from Buzău.



Brigadier General Lucian Foca takes over command and unit flag

January 13th, 2014

Issue no. 1

Pag. 6

**Defence Minister attending the hand over/take over ceremony
at 4th Infantry Division**

Defence Minister, Mircea Duşa, and the chief of General Staff, Lieutenant General Ştefan Dănilă, participated in the military handover/takeover ceremony of the command of the 4th „Gemina“ Infantry Division which took place in Cluj-Napoca, on Friday, January 10, at 09.00.

Brigade General Adrian Tonea took over the division command from Major General Dumitru Scarlat, who was appointed deputy chief of the General Staff.

Before being assigned to this position, Brigade General Adrian Tonea was the commander of 282nd *Unirea Principatelor* Mechanized Infantry Brigade in 2011 and Commander of the National Contingent and Deputy Commander of CTF *Arrowhead* Zabul for NATO Operations, in the theater of operations from Afganistan, in 2012.



Minister of National Defence addresses the audience