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110 Izvor St., Bucharest, Romania

tel/fax +4021-3195698

e-mail: drp@mapn.ro

www.mapn.gov.ro

# ROMANIAN MILITARY NEWSLETTER

## Military ceremony occasioned by the leave for Afghanistan of the “Kabul Tank School” Detachment and the Training Teams for the Petty ANA’s Officers School and for Specialized Training Battalion

On Friday, January 14, a military ceremony took place at the Training School for Combat Units “Mihai Viteazul” from Pitesti, occasioned by the leave for Afghanistan of the “Kabul Tank School” Detachment and the Training Teams for the Petty ANA’s Officers School and for Specialized Training Battalion.

State Secretary Mihail Vasile-Ozunu delivered the audience the message of the Minister of Defence, Mr. Gabriel Oprea, that presented the military trainers’ participation in this mission as a new evidence of the fact that Romania is sustaining the Alliance’s efforts both by supplementing its effectiveness and by appointing



Photo: The march of the military from the Training School for Combat Units “Mihai Viteazul” that leave for Afghanistan (source:www.mapn.ro)

the new training positions in the Afghani training centres.

“I rely on your ability to make the most of your knowledge, to interact and cooperate not only with the Alliance’s soldiers but also with the Afghani, in order to complete the entrusted mission and reach the planned objectives in all the areas you are specialized in. I ask you to seriously prepare the missions, to be orderly and rightful with the soldiers you’ll be training. Practice the force of the personal example, observe the working procedures and the directions, permanently act with calm and mindfulness, think carefully each variant to be followed, the risks and the threats.

“I am confident that for the next six months you will be strengthening the prestige of the Romanian mission ANA Training and will be accomplishing your duty with bravery and determination”, conveyed Minister Gabriel Oprea to trainers from Arges. He also wished the military luck in their mission and assured them he will always stand by them and their families left home and by all military that are now accomplishing their missions with honor and dignity in Afghanistan and West Balkans trying to ensure security in those areas, according with the assumed commitments.

The event was also attended, besides the soldiers’ families, by MoND’s and local public authorities’ representatives, veterans and reservists.

### Special points of interests:

◆ Military ceremony occasioned by the leave for Afghanistan of the “Kabul Tank School” Detachment and the Training Teams for the Petty ANA’s Officers School and for Specialized Training Battalion.

◆ Military ceremony occasioned by the leave for Afghanistan TO of the “Red Scorpions”



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## Military ceremony occasioned by the leave for Afghanistan TO of the “Red Scorpions”

Major General Stefan Danila, the Chief of General Staff, took part on Friday, January 14, in the barrack of the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion “Neagoe Basarab” from Craiova, in the ceremony occasioned by the “Red Scorpions’s” leave for Afghanistan TO.

Between February and July 2011, the soldiers from Craiova will act within the ISAF mission, in Zabul province - Southern Afghanistan, replacing the infantry men from the 812<sup>th</sup> Battalion “Carpathians’ Hawks” from Bistrita. Through his message to the soldiers, the Minister of National Defence, Gabriel Oprea, asserted that the name “Red Scorpions”, chosen in 2002 in Afghanistan, changed into fame becoming, after each accomplished mission, a real symbol that defines around the world the profile of the Romanian Soldier – stout, brave and a trustful companion-in-arms.

“My thoughts and my soul are with the soldiers of the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion who will soon replenish the effectives of the 2<sup>nd</sup> Infantry Brigade “Rovine”, along with the military from the 20<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion “Black Scorpions” and Command and Control Element - Combined Team Zabul that already act in our area of responsibility”, said the Minister of National Defence.

Your slogan – we train ourselves as we fight – will soon get a concrete dimension because in Afghanistan you will have to fight for a six month period the same way you have tenaciously, bravely and determined trained yourselves in shooting ranges or in national and multinational exercises.. You own an important experience, valuable, won by intense work, sacrifices and sustained effort. I hold the confidence that you will prove out again your exceptional training while accomplishing all the missions come from the entrusted mandate”, added the Defence Minister.

In his message, Minister Oprea also mentioned that the efforts meant to ensuring the security and good conditions for the troops in TOs will still remain a priority even in the actual budgetary limitations. In this regard, the Defence Minister stressed that the last MRAP vehicles come in use in Afghanistan “offer the fighters the highest possible level of protection to the attacks with improvised explosive devices and with small size guns, along with the improvement of the mobility and combat capacity of the maneuver battalions. You should wisely use this technique and duplicate its ballistic protection through an effective training of the teams so that increase the maneuver and action capacity”.

Concluding his message, Minister Oprea assured the soldiers that “Ministry of National Defence will direct its energy to make the missions of these soldiers, leaving today for Afghanistan, bring the expected results”.

The ceremony was also attended, besides the soldiers’ families and fellows, by local public authorities’ representatives, veterans and reservists from Craiova Garrison.

During its 16 year existence, the 26<sup>th</sup> Infantry Battalion “Neagoe Basarab” carries out the twelve mission abroad.



Photo: Aspect from the military ceremony occasioned by the leave for Afghanistan TO of the “Red Scorpions” (source:www.mapn.ro)