

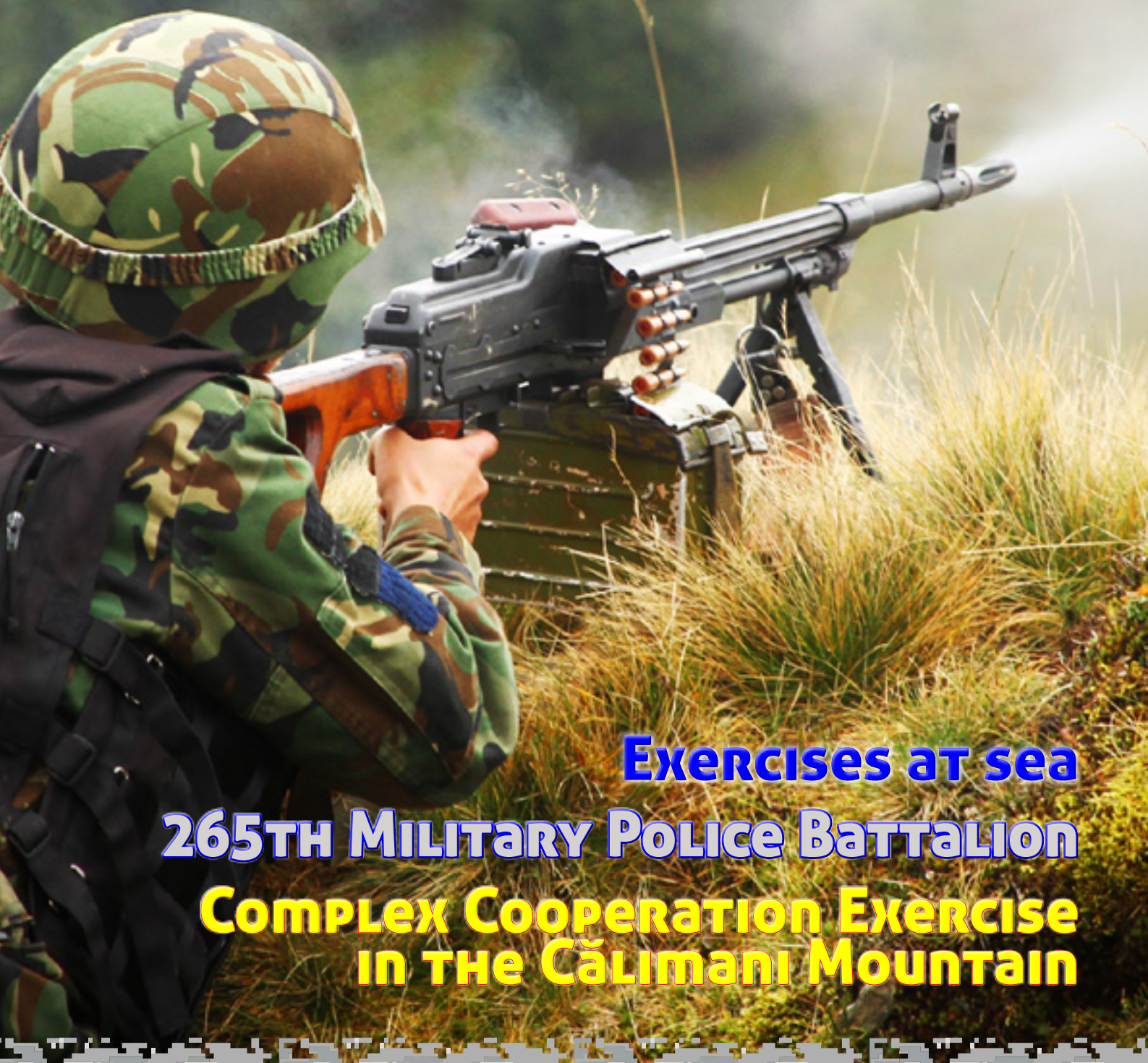


#11

TACTICA

magazine

**Black Sea
Rotational Force 15.2
Platinum Lynx 16-1**



Exercises at sea
265TH Military Police Battalion
Complex Cooperation Exercise
in the Călimani Mountain

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PUBLISHER
Tactica Media
office@tacticamagazine.com
MARKETING & SUBSCRIPTIONS
tactica.magazine@gmail.com

EDITOR IN CHIEF
Marcella Drăgan
UK: +44 750 660 3365
RO: +40 745 938 006
marcella.dragan@gmail.com

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265TH Military Police Battalion

Photo & text: Marcella Dragan, Military Police

Photo from missions performed in theaters of operations independently or in cooperation with other Romanian forces or belonging to NATO, EUFOR, UN, OSCE, CIVPOL, or belonging to the host nation.



When I arrived at the 265th Military Police Battalion, I found the military students from the „Nicolae Bălcescu” Land Forces Academy in Sibiu during a crowd control exercise with a subunit of military police, squatters specially trained for this purpose, exercise whose role is to disperse crowds, protesters, in various theaters of operations.

As the military instructors said, „our role is to train the leader, so we perform an exercise and put in

the role of the leader, the platoon commander, each of the students we have, so that they train their skills of leaders, to be able to have the vision of the platoon when acting in the detachment of squires - regardless of its value, it can be a platoon, it can be a company.”

What the military students exercised were the commands for the formation of the device, its movement and the action in certain situations, depending on

how the protesters behaved. Once they have formed these command skills very well, they are put into practice, by passing each student in the role of platoon commander.

It starts from the ground position, with the shield, then exercises the commands given to reach the guard position, for the formation of the device, tightening the line to the right, left or center, and then moving in the device, in cadence, synchronized with added steps, following at the end



by the contact with the protesters and their dispersion.

The aim is for the students to learn very well the place and the role of each soldier in the formation, because it is considered to obtain a device as

compact as possible, because the aim is the strength of the whole device and not of each soldier. It is operated with the equipment of the Military Police subunits: anti-skid vest, crowd control shield, tufa, visor helmet, knee pads and armrests for arm and leg

protection. Attempts are made to keep the military in the device protected, using the device itself to protect each individual, he being defended by his colleague on the left and right, except on the flanks.



Historic

The history of the Military Police is closely related to the history of the Romanian gendarmerie, where it has its origins. However, it should be mentioned that the Gendarmerie - the name of that time - was established and subordinated to the Ministry of Rebellion. The first attestations of the activity of „troop police” are found in the documents of „existence of the gendarmerie” of April 3, 1850 issued by Mr. Grigore Alexandru Ghica, and the specific missions were recorded in Ordinance 896 of June 20, 1864 signed by Prince Al. I. Cuza.

The term consecrated by the Military Police has its origins in 1893, when, during the reign of King Carol I, with his approval, the legislator Lascăr Catargiu promulgated the „Law on the Rural Gendarmerie”.

The tasks of the military police, described in detail in the Regulations for the Application of the Law on the Rural Gendarmerie, Section III, consist in particular of: military judicial police; the search and arrest of reported deserters and disobedient people, as well as soldiers who have been late to report to their bodies after the expiration of their leave; surveillance of soldiers absent from their bodies, deserters and disobedient; the arrest of any soldier who will not have a roadmap or leave ticket; the search for armed or unarmed troops, qualified by law as seditious; rejecting attacks on the armed forces charged with escorting and transferring detainees or convicts; rejecting any



attempts to favor desertions or to prevent the military from going under the flag; the discovery of hidden weapons depots, clandestine workshops for the manufacture of powder and explosives, threatening letters, signs and words of understanding, incendiary posters and placards, provoking riots, sedition, assassination and robbery; carrying out mobilization orders and executing them.

It is also worth mentioning that at that time, the Gendarmerie was under the direct subordination of the Ministry of War „in everything related to the discipline, command and instruction of the troops” but also had structures that „depended on the Minister of Interior in everything public order and safety”, but also under the „orders of the Minister of Justice and the sub-prefect of the network”.

At the end of the second world conflagration, the Gendarmerie is again subordinated to the Ministry of Interior, and the specialized military police formations are disbanded, the personnel being merged with other structures.

Leaving a gap in the activity of the Ministry of the Armed Forces (former Ministry of War), in 1947, the need was imposed to establish structures to cover the needs of maintaining and controlling military discipline, as well as guiding the movement of military vehicles. In order not to have too much power to act, which would run counter to the interests of the single party and its representatives, some structures were set up to compensate for the



disappearance of the military police, but these were designed as disparate, independent elements - and consequently quite inefficient - with different subordination and competencies: Order and Discipline, Traffic Control and Guidance, Special Criminal Investigation, Military Prison, etc.

Starting with 15.04.1990, B 265 P.M. Bucharest, Cp. 285 P.M. Timisoara, Cp. 286 P.M. Cluj-Napoca and Cp. 288 Târgu Mureş.

Recently, as a natural evolution and as a result of Romania's entry among NATO member countries, the command structures have also seen an increase in organizational capacity, command and control, thus aligning with the new requirements imposed by this partnership and they transformed into Sections (Military Police Section, at the level of the Land Forces General Staff) or Offices at the Army Corps. Due to the restructuring, modernization and professionalization of the

Land Forces, the task of guarding the military units of special importance, with specialized forces, also fell to the military police. Consequently, starting with 2006, 3 more Military Police battalions were set up, properly equipped and trained, covering the entire national territory as an area of responsibility. The battalion commands are found in the Bucharest, Focşani and Târgu Mureş garrisons, with subunits deployed in the important garrisons.





Training

Officers, military foremen and non-commissioned officers come from the ranks of graduates of military educational institutions. As there is no application school at the Land Forces level to train military police personnel, the training is carried out by individual study and by attending level or career courses in the same way as those of other weapons and military specialties. The candidate also attends courses specific to military police, investigations, operations, gathering information conducted by other state institutions - M.A.I., Gendarmerie, S.P.P. or in NATO member countries.

Soldiers and professional ranks,

after being assigned to a military police unit / subunit, the program of the unit is executed, which provides for the development of specialized training hours and the execution of missions specific to the specialty.

The training program includes general military training (approximately 40% of the time allocated to training): shooting instruction; military physical education; transmission instruction; genetic training; knowledge of ADMRNBC (Weapons of Mass Destruction, Radiological, Nuclear and Bacteriological); health instruction; mental training; knowledge of Romanian and international legislation; international humanitarian law. It

also includes specialized training and specific tactical training - complex tactical exercises, as close as possible to real situations. Approximately 60% of the allotted training time is reserved for these categories. The training program takes place on the training grounds, in the field or in specialized rooms. Specialized training can also take place in camps (mobile camps), in the mountains and / or at sea. The program includes learning and practicing climbing procedures (with or without the help of ropes - freeclimbing) on slopes or buildings, rappelling and funicular descents, fighting, marching, skiing, swimming, crossing rivers, survival, research, helicopter training, etc.

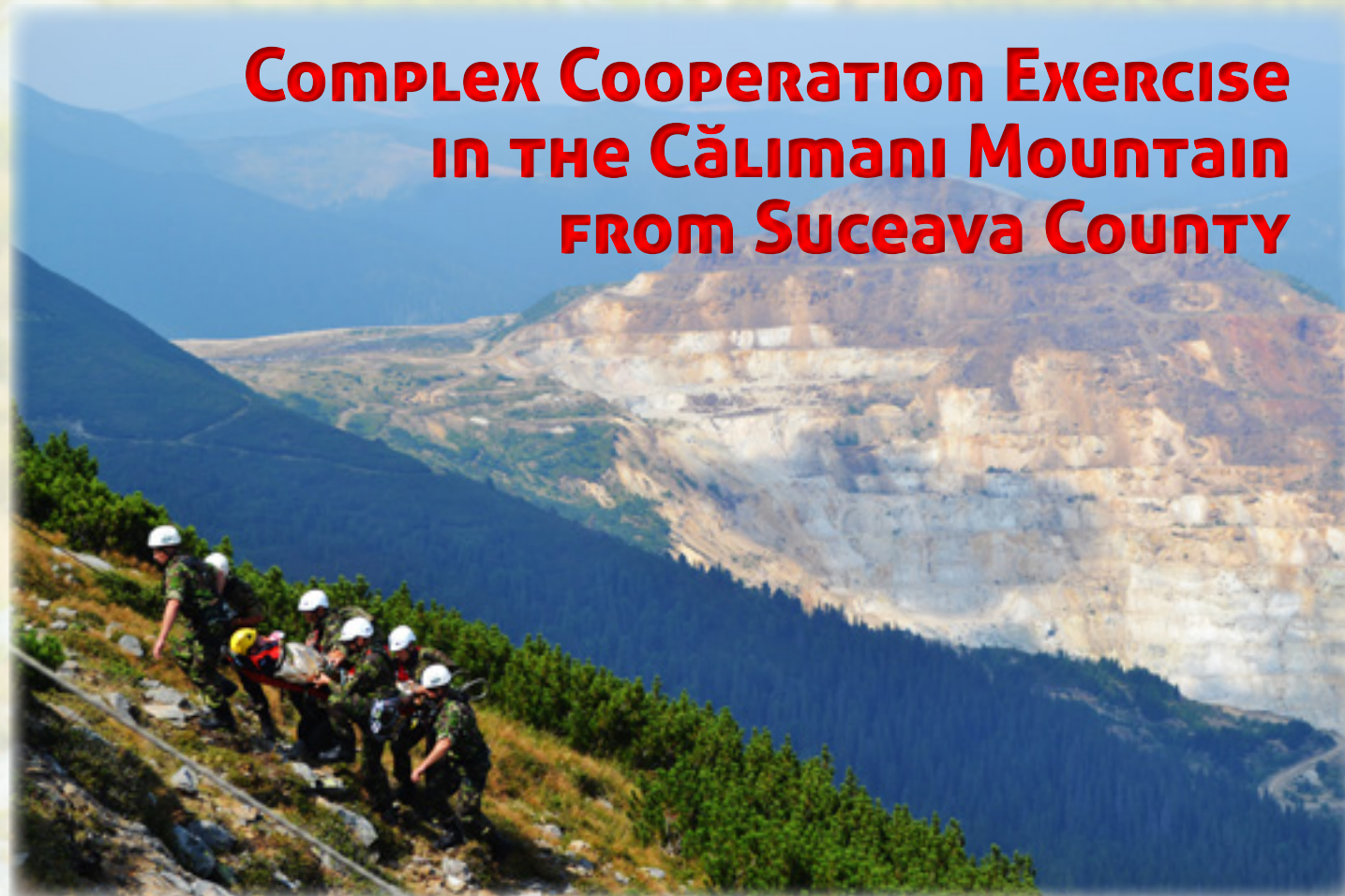


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Complex Cooperation Exercise in the Călimani Mountain from Suceava County



In the Călimani Mountain, the cooperation exercise with forces and means in the field, in the field of emergency situations, organized by the Inspectorate for Emergency Situations „Bucovina” of Suceava County, took place.



Text [IGSU](#)
Photo: Plt. Adj. Constantin
Cojocaru,
[IGSU](#)



The theme of the exercise, carried out in the area of the Hydrometeorological Station, on the Reșițiș peak of the Călimani Mountain, was the intervention of the ISU Bucovina from Suceava County, ISU Oltul, from Harghita County and ISU Horea from Mureș County, as well as the other institutions with support functions, for rescuing people and limiting the negative effects produced by a forest fire and a civil aviation accident in the Călimani Mountain”.

The application, assumed and included in the calendar of activities of the Suceava County Inspectorate, since 2014, brought together forces and means belonging to ISU Mureș, ISU Harghita, ISU Neamț, ISU Bistrița-Năsăud, Mountain Rescue Services and Forestry Departments from Suceava, Mureș and Haresti counties Suceava County Ambulance Service, the Military Units from Roșu and Miercurea Ciuc, the Suceava Police and Gendarme Inspectorates and the Local Committee for Emergency Situations of Șaru Dornei Commune.

The activity aimed at staff training, ensuring integrated management, joint intervention and interoperability of structures, the cohesion of the „group” in complex interventions, as well as identification of „good practices” and their materialization following „lessons learned”.

Also, within the tactical application, the staff from the operational structures (command and intervention) had the opportunity to develop and improve their working skills in cooperation, while verifying the viability of the Joint Intervention Plan and



associated procedures, in order to implement in a real situation.

The exercise was also attended by the 17th Mountain Troops Battalion „Dragoș Vodă” with a commanding officer of the intervention for the search and rescue of a person and a rescue team consisting of five soldiers aboard a DAC truck, which they moved to Călimani National Park, at the foot of Rețitiș Peak, where the rescue search exercise took place.

Dorna’s mountain troops train monthly in rescue search teams, they are prepared to climb hard-to-reach mountain ranges, to carry out dynamic missions, for long periods of time, in large spaces and in any weather conditions, to carry out search missions, rescue and transport of injured people safely.

Tactical situations of the exercise:

1 At 12.00, a ranger of the Călimani National Park reservation announced a fire at plots 75 and 76 within UP II Călimani, Dealu Negru Forest District. The fire was observed at 11.58 by the staff of the Călimani Park, who announced it at the ISU - SAJ Joint Dispatch Office by calling SNUAU 112. Upon arrival of the intervention forces, it was found that due to the vegetal composition of the forest and the relief characteristics upward currents formed that favored the development of the fire to the South and covered a larger area than originally announced. The fire was manifested on a depth of 50 meters, with a length of 1 km, and an area of one hectare of forest was already burned.



2 A small plane, located in the area of the Călimani Mountain, transmits an SOS signal and disappears from the radar of the control tower of Suceava Airport. ROMATSA - CCSAR initiates the procedure for intervention in a civil aviation accident. Flying over the burned area, the small plane, which was traveling

in the direction of Cluj - Suceava, crashed. The accident resulted in the serious injury of 3 passengers on board, the destruction of the aircraft and the existence of the danger that it would catch fire. Two passengers were trapped, and the third was projected outside the plane, about 6 meters away.

3 In the area of the Rețitiș chalet there is an accident in which 3 tourists are involved who, trying to climb the Rețitiș peak from the northern part of the slope, slip and fall into a ravine of about 50 meters. Following the incident, the victims remained immobilized, accusing the injuries on the legs.



Black Sea Rotational Force 15.2 Platinum Lynx 16-1

*Platinum Lynx
16-1 module
took place in the
garrison of the
17th Dragoș Vodă
Mountain Troops
Battalion from
Vatra Dornei,
where the opening
ceremony and part
of the workshops
within the exercise
took place.*

Text & photo: Marcella Drăgan



As a novelty this year was the participation of 30 Bulgarian soldiers from the 101st Alpine Battalion from Smolian, who joined the 100 Romanian mountain troops and 100 American Marines from the 8th Marine Regiment, 3rd Battalion, from the Corps of US Marines

deployed in Europe. On the first day of the Platinum Lynx 16-2 module, the soldiers of the three nations began training to become familiar with the weapons provided by the partner armies, an opportunity to get to know and shoot with different weapons of the partners. For

example, the American Marines could test their shooting skills using rifles and submachine guns used by the Romanian Army, trying to simulate encountering an enemy as close as possible. Likewise, the Romanian Mountain Troops could shoot with American weapons, including learning how





to shoot with a rocket launcher.

The second part of the first day was also dedicated to the exchange of experience between the three nations, being shown alternatively different tactical procedures, such as travel formations, fighting in the cities or rescuing and evacuating an injured person from mountain areas. Also, the Bulgarian and American soldiers were able to see equipment specific to mountain troops, such as climbing gear and the one for traveling in mountain areas, or the MLVM - an armed vehicle specific of mountain troops - and were able to learn about survival techniques used by Romanian soldiers.

The next two days were connected both by the location, the Rotunda Polygon, and by the exercises in which the soldiers of the three nations participated. Also in this part of the exercise, a novelty was marked compared to the previous exercises, namely „incidents“, attacks either on the convoy travelling to the firerage, or on the military teams that chose to march to reach the polygon, or at the camps installed on the Rotunda Plateau.

Thus, the first attack on the column of trucks and cars, jointly rejected by the servicemen of the three nations, also marked the point of separation of the column, some of the soldiers marching towards the polygon, on a ridge route of about 15 km, the rest part continuing the motorized travel and ensuring the security of the equipment and the ammunition.

As expected, the weather conditions played an important role in the realization of the exercise scenarios in the field, the strong fog increasing the importance of communications, an aspect to which the Romanian side still has to learn and apply from the experience of American partners. The importance of communications was seen not only in the teams that chose the march, but also in those that continued the motorized travel. They were attacked twice, and the transmission of orders and reporting the situation in the column that stretched along the mountain valleys could be achieved only through a very well-developed communications system.

After repelling the two attacks and getting close to the firing range, where the soldiers of the three nations regrouped, the camp, observation points and patrols were set up to ensure security over the night. Near midnight, the last incident of the day took place, the attack taking place on the Romanian part of



the camp. The mountain troops responded to the attack with MLVMs and then with the soldiers in the field, thus repelling the attack, benefiting from the support of the Bulgarian soldiers, which were located on the flank of the Romanian camp.

The morning also began with an attack on the column of mountain troops moving to the range, which was repulsed by the soldiers in the field with the support of MLVM. Once on the fiere range, the soldiers from





the three armies started firing with real ammunition, using all the categories of weapons at the disposal of the troops. Following different scenarios of attack or defense, the soldiers from the three battalions present at the exercise made the most of the training opportunities offered by

the polygon, from the relief with valleys and hills, to long shooting distances and the possibility of landing a helicopter to evacuate the wounded.

Throughout the Platinum Lynx training module, the aim was to develop the training of the

participating forces and increase the interoperability, an aspect all the more important as the exercise was attended by soldiers from three nations, requiring better collaboration to act uniformly, to overcome language barriers and to unite different ways of acting in the field.





„I believe that the main goal of the exercise, namely to increase the level of military training of the participating personnel has been achieved. I also believe that the objective of increasing the level of interoperability of the structures involved in the exercise has been achieved.

The planned exercises took place in very good conditions, the American partner benefiting from the experience of previous participations, in the other two exercises that took place during 2014 in the same area, and although the Bulgarian partners were for the first time on the training grounds of Dor-na's Mountain Troops, they faced all the challenges of this training week, finally managing to be able for all the three participating structures to share their own tactics and procedures for fighting in mountainous terrain.”

Colonel Marian Dragomir, commander of the 17th Dragoș Vodă Mountain Troops Battalion



„It was an excellent opportunity for the three nations to meet and prepare together, to implement the partnership between them and to help build the NATO alliance we have with Bulgaria and Romania and the United States. As a Marine unit, 2nd Battalion, 8th Regiment, the Armament Company gained enormously from the opportunity to collaborate with partners in Bulgaria and Romania. There were exchanges from which we learned the „secrets of the trade” from our partners and, in turn, we shared our knowledge, which is a very good thing, because it makes us all better fighters.

I was impressed by the strength, endurance and dedication of the Romanian and Bulgarian servicemen, reconfirming, during this exercise, what I had already seen in the theaters of operations where we fought together.”

Lieutenant-Colonel Camper Jones, 2nd Battalion Commander, 8th Regiment, US Marine



„I think it was extraordinary that we were able to show from the techniques and tactics used by us and that we were able to learn from those of the Bulgarians and Romanians. During the march I was impressed by the fact that we had the three platoons working together as one and the way in which the march was lead by all nations. It was an impressive demonstration of resistance of the Romanian and Bulgarian soldiers, who moved very well in the field, which challenged us to rise to the same level. It is impressive for a soldier to see the strength of another nation's armed forces and try to learn as much as possible from those soldiers.”

Sergeant Major Paul Costa, Commander-in-Chief of the 2nd Battalion, 8th Regiment, American Marine Corps



„It was an extraordinary exercise because it was a very good opportunity for the soldiers of our battalion to train in difficult mountain terrain. In the Rotunda firing range, the shootings with real ammunition were very important because the actual firing is an important component of our training, and this firing range offered us the possibility to execute them in a very wide space, with very long distances to targets.”

Lieutenant-Colonel Dimitar Katsarov, commander of the 101st Alpine Battalion



Exercises at sea WITH NATO PARTNERS AND ALLIES



Text: [Fortele Navale Romane](#)
Photo [Fortele Navale Romane](#) ,
Cristian Vlăsceanu



The soldiers of the Romanian Naval Forces participated in training activities at sea, jointly with military ships from Bulgaria, USA, Ukraine and Turkey, in the international waters of the Black Sea.

The training was attended by the Queen Maria Frigate (222), with a Puma Naval helicopter and a group of Special Operations Forces on board, Rear Admiral Horia Macellariu Corvette (265), and for the support of anti-aircraft and surface combat sequences, the Romanian Air Force participated with two MiG 21 LanceR aircraft.

The US Navy was represented by the destroyer USS Porter (DDG 78), which is on a mission in the Black Sea, and a P-3C Orion maritime patrol aircraft, belonging to the 9th Patrol Battalion of the U.S. Navy. On behalf of the Ukrainian Naval

Forces participated the Frigate Hetman Sahaydachniy (U 130), the Bulgarian Naval Forces were represented by the Frigate Verni



specific to anti-submarine combat in order to increase interoperability and the ability to jointly ensure security and stability in the Black Sea. Joint training significantly contributes to increasing interoperability, by harmonizing work procedures, coordinating activities and synchronizing the command and control process.

The exercises are part of the US Support Program for NATO Allies and Eastern European Partners Initiative (ERI) and are part of Operation Atlantic Resolve South / Black Sea Resolve Events (OARS / BSRE).

(42), and the Naval Forces of Turkey participated with the Frigate Turgut Reis.

In the context of the security situation in the Black Sea Basin, increasing interoperability between the Romanian Naval Forces and the partner naval forces is a key element in meeting the objectives of the Alliance's Readiness Action Plan, adopted at the 2014 NATO Summit in Wales.

The members of the Naval Forces involved in the exercise practiced tactics, procedures and strategies



Romanian Diver's Day and the 39th anniversary OF THE ESTABLISHMENT OF THE DIVING CENTER

photo: Cristian Vlăsceanu



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The „Board Rescue Book” campaign in Petrom stations



Text & foto: [IGSU](#)

The Rescue Card is an initiative launched by the Romanian Automobile Club (ACR) together with the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (IGSU) and promoted in partnership with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) and OMV Petrom

This concept was implemented in Romania after the model of other clubs in Europe, members of the International Automobile Federation (FIA)

Equipping the car with the Rescue Card on board can reduce the rescue time by up to 30% in the event of an accident

With the support of OMV Petrom, the promotion campaign will take place in over 400 Petrom gas stations

Most drivers in Romania show preventive behavior in traffic, but fewer of them are familiar with



the post-accident situation. In the event of a serious accident, the equipment of modern cars, designed to increase passenger safety, is a serious challenge for release crews. Certain safety components can be risk factors (eg explosion of gas generators in airbag systems) for both response crews and those waiting to be rescued.

The car rescue card on board can increase the chances of rescuing traffic participants after an accident. With its help, the rescue time can be reduced by up to 30%, a vital aspect in the fight against the clock to save the victims of serious traffic accidents.

„This project is part of the series of activities that the Romanian Automobile Club carries out within the World Decade of Road Safety 2011 - 2020, launched by the United Nations, in order to reduce the number of victims of road accidents. By implementing the „Rescue Book on Board” in Romania, ACR, together with IGSU and the new partner OMV Petrom, contributes substantially to the efforts to save the lives of road accident victims by reducing release time,” said Constantin Niculescu, President of ACR.

The Rescue Book on Board is a standardized A4 document, which presents the technical specifications of the machines. It contains important information for rescuers, such as: the positioning of the cab fittings, fuel tank, battery, airbags, gas generators, control units, etc., as well as the appropriate cutting points, so that in the event of a car accident, emergency teams should intervene promptly to rescue the victims.

„If these indications are in the car, they only facilitate the firefighter’s release operation



and speed up the release of the victim, safely, from the crashed car. It is something that costs nothing but can make the difference between life and death. It is an honor for the Department for Emergency Situations to join and support this initiative launched by the Romanian Automobile Club (ACR) together with the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (IGSU) and promoted in partnership with OMV Petrom", said Raed Arafat, Secretary of State in the Ministry of Internal Affairs, Head of the Department for Emergency Situations.

It is a necessity for each vehicle owner to have a rescue card, which can be downloaded from the ACR website - www.csb.acr.ro, depending on the make and model of the vehicle. In order to easily identify the various components, the Rescue Card on board must be printed in color and placed on the sun visor next to the driver, as provided in the rescue procedures.

After printing the document, car owners can present it at cash registers at any Petrom station or at ACR offices, in order to receive a signal sticker. It will be glued to the inside of the windshield, top

left or bottom left, to "signal" to the rescue crews the presence of the Rescue Card on board.

The „Rescue Book on Board” campaign is an initiative launched by the Romanian Automobile Club (ACR) together with the General Inspectorate for Emergency Situations (IGSU) and promoted in partnership with the Department for Emergency Situations (DSU) and OMV Petrom.

More details about using the Rescue Card on Board can be found on www.petrom.ro or www.csb.acr.ro.



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Invictus România Veterans Relay

The soldiers of the INVICTUS group started the „Veterans' Relay” on September 4, at the Monument of the Heroes from the Second World War, from the „Carol I” National Defense University.

„Veterans Relay” is an event organized in the context of the Year of War Veterans and the celebration, on October 25, of the Romanian Army Day.

The activity was attended by the President of the National Association of War Veterans, General (rtr.) Marin Dragnea, the President of the Romanian Olympic and Sports Committee, Alin Petrache Secretary of State for Relations with Parliament, public information and increasing the quality of life of staff, Otilia Sava, Head of State Major General, Lieutenant General Nicolae Ionel Ciucă, Secretary General of the Ministry of National Defense, Codrin-Dumitru Munteanu, military personnel in reserve



and retreat, war veterans and military veterans of theaters of operations. The veterans' relay bearers will arrive in Carei, on October 25, during the ceremony that will take place at the „Glorie Ostaşului

Român” Monumental Ensemble. The INVICTUS group also includes members of the Land Forces, some of them injured in the theater of operations in Afghanistan.



I first met the Invictus volunteer group on December 1, 2014, at Stars for Veterans (Stele pentru Veterani), when I accompanied a journalist, the team of mountain troops from the 17th Dragoş Vodă Battalion, in their run from Vatra Dornei, over Tihuţa Pass, until in Bistrita. I was impressed by their passion, enthusiasm and determination to complete the mission and fight for the cause they believe in.

A cause that I appreciated because it draws attention to veterans of recent conflicts, and that I felt as one that offers hope, not only to the soldiers who will participate in the Invictus Games 2016, but also to the other wounded soldiers, who it brings together civilians and the military to come to the aid of those who put their lives in the service of the homeland and ours.

Also then, on December 1, I thought it would be great if one day I could carry the tricolor in an Invictus relay. I still can't compare my performances with those of Invictus volunteers who have been running for a long time, but I rely on their encouragement, as I rely on your support, so that together we can raise the Romanian Flag at the Invictus Games 2016.

Marcella Dragan



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INVICTUS is an education project, a fight against ignorance and a bridge between the army and civil society.

INVICTUS conducts humanitarian activities on days of historical significance to raise funds to send at least one wounded fighter to Afghanistan or Iraq in 2016 for the next edition of the Invictus Paralympic Games (games held under the high patronage of the House of Royal of Great Britain, being dedicated to the wounded soldiers in the theaters of operations).



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