

THE REGENERATION OF MILITARY STRUCTURES INVOLVED IN MILITARY ACTIONS ABROAD

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Abstract

Accomplishing the complex missions incumbent to the Romanian Armed Forces as a state member of the UN, NATO, EU and OSCE, as well as security generating country regionally and globally, requires the regeneration of some adequate military structures.

I. The Romanian Army Commitments in Missions Abroad.

According to the provisions of the law concerning the participation of military forces in missions abroad, there are some set actions in which the Romanian Army is appointed to participate: *collective defense actions; peace-support actions; humanitarian actions; coalition-type actions; common, individual or ceremonial exercises.*⁽¹⁾

By means of the Romanian Army's commitments for missions abroad and the participation in multinational operations, Romania has in view the promotion of its own interests at international level. In this respect, we must emphasize the fact that Romania promotes its own values and national interests according to the following directions: the development of the Intensified Partnership with the United States of America (the operations "Enduring Freedom" and "Ana

¹ Law 42 / 2004, concerning the participation of the armed forces in missions outside the Romanian State, art. 2.

Training"); the development of the bilateral relations with the countries which are NATO members (the operations "Enduring Freedom" and "Joint Guardian"); the consolidation of the relations with the member countries of the European Union, on a bi - and multilateral level, with its neighbor countries, as well as with those countries maintaining a traditional relationship with Romania (the Multinational Force for Peace from the South - Western Europe, the Group for Naval Cooperation at the Black Sea, the Multinational Brigade for Stand-By Rapid Action); active involvement in the process of realization of the European Policy of Security and Defense (EPSD), through the engagement of a negotiated "force group"; the promotion of an active policy on the bilateral or international level in order to ensure security and stability in the South - Eastern Europe, in the whole region of the Danube River and the Black Sea as well as in the Southern Caucasus (the Romanian - Hungarian Mixed Battalion, "Tisa" Engineers Multinational Battalion); and the diplomatic support to participate in operations meant to enforce peace and in humanitarian operations, in the coalition against terrorism ("Enduring Freedom").

This range of missions of the Romanian Army explains the fact that Romanian soldiers were massively involved in operations, in the Western Balkans, in Afghanistan and Iraq, as well as in multinational structures and in an international environment if a crisis or a conflict arises.

II. General Considerations on the Concept of Military Structures' Regeneration

The notion of regeneration is a very complex one involving, on one hand, the evaluation of the activities from related fields (personnel and logistics) and, on the other hand, its harmonization into an integrated, functional system, which meets the standards of the military structure.

The system of regeneration of the military structures is made out of the totality of the administrative structures and of the functional relations set between them, having as a main goal the permanent renewal of the structures with human and material resources, at least until the minimum level necessary for the carrying out of the missions is reached.

In NATO's view, regeneration represents *"an activity carried out in due time, on the entire or part of the structure and infrastructure, including the compliance with the pre-established levels of effectives, equipment and supplies."*⁽²⁾

Romanian theoreticians define the process as representing *"the totality of measures and actions/activities carried out by military administrative structures in order to have damage control at the operational level and which could allow them to continue with the carrying out of the missions."*⁽³⁾

The process of regeneration must be looked at from two perspectives: the regeneration of the human resource and of the material goods, as well as the regeneration of the military structures.

Regulations state that *"the regeneration of the military structures that suffered damage during the carrying out of the military missions in crisis situations and at war represents the gradual process through which these structures are filled-in and rendered operational"*⁽⁴⁾ or *"the gradual process through which these structures are filled-in and made operational until reaching the projected operational capacity or at least until reaching the superior operational capacity."*⁽⁵⁾

² http://www.nato.int/docu/stan_ag/aap006/fr_f_c.pdf, ## 2%

³ Col. prof. Gheorghe Udeanu, PhD (coordinator), *The Fundamentals of all National and Multinational Military Actions*, Bucharest, AISM Publishing House, 2003, p. 263;

⁴ The Ministry of National Defense, the General Staff, "Instructions Concerning the Generation and Regeneration of the Military Forces / Structures in Crisis Situations and at War", Bucharest, 2003;

⁵ The Ministry of National Defense, the Land Forces Staff, "The Conception of Generation and Regeneration of the Land Forces", Bucharest, 2005.

As a result, we may distinguish from the aforementioned definitions the main features of the military structure system of regeneration:

- it is a conscious voluntary and permanent process, carried out by the military administrative structures;
- it has the aim to bring the military structures to the initial levels from all respects (human, material, financial, logistic);
- this process must be carried out in due time;
- it can deal with either parts or with the structure as a whole;
- it is organized and planned;
- the declared objective of the regeneration of the military structures is the maintenance or the recreation of the projected operational capacity belonging to the units already in the theatres of operations or those that are to be deployed.

At the same time, the regeneration of the military structures is planned, organized and developed according to the following principles:

- *the continuity principle* - according to this principle the regeneration of the military structures represents a complex process, planned and permanently developed, in an unitary conception;
- *the opportunity principle* - supposes the permanent knowledge at all military structures levels, of the detailed situation concerning the human resources, the existing and the supplied materials;
- *the competence principle* - according to this principle, the chiefs / commanders of the administrative structures must provide at the right place and in time the human and material resources necessary to the process of regenerating the military structure;
- *the effectiveness principle* - supposes the adoption of the most efficient measures and the right planning of activities belonging to the field of the human resources and to logistics;

- *the selection principle* - supposes the clear establishment of the aptitude and competence criteria in the process of recruiting the personnel, as well as the quality and performance criteria referring to material resources, necessary in order to fill-in the military structures, according to the personnel requirement of the functions that must be fulfilled and to the functional requirements specific to the technique, to equipments and materials;

- *the functionality principle* - according to this principle, the military structures subject to the regeneration process must be able to carry out their role and the war missions for which they were created.

In fact, the regeneration of the military structures is a complex process, based on the following dimensions: *human* (the regeneration of the physical and psychological capacities, the instruction and reintegration into headquarters, large units and units containing persons whose capacity to fight was temporarily affected); *material* (the evolution of the fight technique, of the military equipments, of the means of transportation up to normal functioning parameters or the replacement of the faulty means of fighting); *organizational* (the conception and application of an insurance system meant for human, material, financial and informational resources, necessary to carry out the regeneration of the military structures affected during the execution of the specific missions); *normative* (the adoption of adequate technical and juridical norms in order to carry out the process of adaptation of the military structures according to the planned functional parameters); *social* (the regeneration, in the context of the professional military, has a special impact on the population that will provide the human resources reserve with the future military personnel and voluntary soldiers, as well as on the reservists from all personnel categories).

III. The Military Structures' Regeneration in the Present-Day Environment

The military theoreticians and analysts state that the future actions that will involve the Romanian forces are characterized by an increased importance of the social, diplomatic, juridical and informational components, but also of the economic components. This fact imposes the treatment of these actions in a unitary and unanimous manner.

The armies of the NATO member countries, but also of other countries, are made out of military structures employed as active manning and instructed in order to be able to respond in an effective and adequate way to the requests of international missions.

Operations abroad impose the fulfillment of the operative compatibility between the military forces belonging to different states, each having its own structure, training, instruction, tradition and culture.

The multinational character of the military forces carrying out international missions under UN, NATO, EU and EOSC mandate, represent a new variable in the management of the military operations which, beside the communication issue, extends to procedures, regulations and mentalities, requesting a corresponding instruction effort.

In all modern states, there is a constant preoccupation for the responsibility factors in order to modernize the regeneration system meant for the military structures.

At the same time, the regeneration of the military structures that suffered damage during some missions abroad represents an activity belonging to the administrative military structures with a view to regenerate the physical and mental capacity, to carry out the instruction and reintegration into headquarters, and units of the manning whose capacity to fight was temporarily affected, but also to bring the fighting technique, the equipments and materials to normal functioning parameters, including the use of other human and material resources made available by legal structures.

That's why, in this respect, it must take action according to the following essential directions:

- the creation of a coherent system of selection, professional training and differentiated promotion according to the categories of personnel. In the case of NATO member states, this is to be done according to the standards of this political and military organization;

- the modernization of the system of regeneration meant for the military structures, according to the asymmetric structure of nowadays dangers concerning the internal, regional and global security;

- the passage from the mass army made by conscription, to the professional army, based on volunteering. In this context we think of the problem of creating a voluntary reserve that implies social, juridical, psycho-social, cultural, economical and political aspects.

IV. The Impact of the Improvement of the Military Standards on the Regeneration of the Military Structures Involved in International Missions

The improvement of military standards has a strong impact on the regeneration of the military structures, and this fact ensures the recruiting and maintenance of competent, adaptable and confident personnel in order to fulfill on a medium and long term the operational requirements of the military structures.

The introduction of the professional army also implies some structural changes.

The first structural change concerns the diminution of the army force volume. The reduction of the military mass, as well as the passage from the army made by the conscription to the professional army imposes the necessity of a permanent personnel supply for all combat and administrative points, the majority of these belonging to the "unicity" category, through the volunteering

method. The lack of a specialist in the key - moments of the operations may lead to severe deregulations of carrying out the commander's order, fact that may have unforeseeable consequences. The increase of every soldier's importance requests us to focus our attention on the combat and on the administrative structures concerning the supply and protection and the adoption of some adequate measures. The effects of this transformation may be diminished through the supply with equipment and modern combat technique and through the supply of the qualified personnel which is able to deserve it.

The second transformation is directly derived from the first. Having replaced people with modern means of combat, the armed forces managed to use a reduced number of soldiers having rigorously defined functions.

And, last but not least, the third structural transformation consists in an ageing of the military force, as a result of the increase in the proportion of the career personnel and of the introduction of an army characterized by a great technological density. This effect may lead in time to some difficulties concerning the execution of some missions abroad.

V. Methods of Regenerating the Romanian Military Structures Involved in Missions Abroad

The armies of the NATO member countries are made out of military structures employed as active effectives and of the structures that are filled with reservists, these ones being instructed so as to be able to comply in an effective and adequate way to the requests determined of international missions. These forces have a multinational character, being modular, adaptable, mobile, and available, made out of professional soldiers, provided with modern equipment, but, at the same time, instructed and trained to perform in various combat actions, characterized by different intensity, duration and nature, during complex critical situations, abroad. In conclusion, we may appreciate the fact that most of

the countries involved in the carrying out of missions as part of an international coalition, as the one fighting against international - Iraq terrorism, are made out only of professional soldiers.

In practice, the Romanian military structures are maintained in the theatres of operations for six months; after this period they are changed; they go back to the country in order to be regenerated. These are replaced with a similar structure, which was trained and instructed in order to be deployed in the theatre of operations. After the structure returns from the theatre of operations, the stages of medical consult and recovery are carried out; then, a process of reinsertion of the personnel and of adaptation to the former conditions is begun. After all these, the personnel will become subject to a training program, necessary for the re - adjustment to the national military environment. This training program focuses on the re-activation of the abilities necessary in order to act in an environment where classic forms of combat will be carried out, in an independent manner, as well as within the military squad. In general, activities will be carried out in order to: find out the changes in the field of legislation, regulations and structures; solve the specific logistics issues, the planning and fulfillment of the activities concerning the general and special training. Simultaneously with the training of the personnel, the means of combat and other materials necessary in the theatre will be updated according to the functional and technical planned parameters. The combat technique will also be adapted in order to be able to face the conditions in the theatre of operations. In this sense we must consider the climate and relief conditions of the theatre in which the operation is to be carried out.

The regeneration of the structure will be carried out, when the situation requires it, even before the period of rotation of the effectives. If the structures lose personnel, weaponry or minor technique, these may be supplemented with the reserve existent in the country, of course if the situation requires this and if the costs of the replacement before term are justified.

The management of the regeneration process and supplementing the structures acting in the theatres of operations is carried out by the General Staff. The force categories belonging to the military and to headquarters coordinate the activity of regenerating the subordinate structures, according to a plan drafted according to “The doctrine for manning support in joint operations”. According to the aforementioned plan, the operative units and the generation - regeneration military structures will supply the requested personnel to those forces which suffered important losses.

CONCLUSIONS AND SUGGESTIONS

In the context of the affiliation to the most powerful political and military organization, and according to the in - law treaties, Romania must act together with its other allied parties from the political point of view and contribute from the military point of view to the solving of crises and conflicts, according to the common interest. In fact, the presence of the Romanian troops in the most dangerous areas of the planet is no more a new thing for us, but a common fact.

The military structures involved in missions outside the national territory must be provided with a modern and mobile organization, an active military personnel and well - instructed and highly motivated reservists in order to carry out in a simultaneous or successive way a wide range of missions specific to the theatre of operations. They must as well be equipped with modern means of combat and weaponry, according to the weather and geographical conditions from the location of the actions.

Normally, the military structures carrying out missions abroad must recover after the departure from the theaters of operations, or, in specialty terms, they should be regenerated both from the human point of view and from the material point of view, as well. In this context it is necessary to adapt the Romanian regeneration process to the one practiced by our allies.

In this respect, in order to build a viable system of regeneration for the military structures participating in missions abroad, it is necessary to elaborate some regulations (laws, decisions, orders), of social nature (norms concerning the rights and obligations of the military and civilian personnel forming these structures), and of logistic nature (norms and duration of use). An important role in the adoption of these norms could be *“the lessons learnt”* from the experience of our army and of the allied countries participating in military actions in different theatres of operations, in order to meet the requirements from the battlefield.

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