



# RACVIAC Newsletter

REGIONAL ARMS CONTROL VERIFICATION AND IMPLEMENTATION ASSISTANCE CENTRE

Issue 6

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## Director of RACVIAC at the Stability Pact Regional Table Meeting in Skopje

Director of RACVIAC Brig Gen Stergios PAPOTIS participated at the highest decision-making forum of the Stability Pact, the bi-annual Regional Table / Working Table III which took place in Skopje, 17 November 2004.

The Regional Table meeting approved its working programme for 2005 and reaffirmed its commitment to further regional co-operation and regional ownership in South Eastern Europe.

The conclusions, adopted unanimously by more than 250 participants from more than 70 partner countries and organisations from around the world, foresee close co-operation between the parliaments in South Eastern Europe, which play an even more important role in the political stabilisation and economic development of the region now that SEE has started to forge closer ties with the EU.

In line with the decision of the participants, the Stability Pact will co-ordinate activities that will result in higher level of expertise both among the parliamentarians and among their staff.

Brig Gen PAPOTIS explained the current situation in a broader spectrum of the security sector reform in SEE. He also reported about the new possible role of RACVIAC emphasizing the contexts from different courses / seminars and lessons learned.



“In 2005, RACVIAC will continue to deal with AC issues as well as with the widened scope of Politico-Military issues and refocus its target audience towards parliamentarians, politicians, decision makers, journalists, civil society and NGOs”, said the Director.

The participants at the meeting reemphasized the significant role of RACVIAC and promised to continue their support to RACVIAC for the benefit and stability of the SEE region.

## Ambassador Janez PREMOŽE commended RACVIAC in Skopje

Ambassador Janez PREMOŽE, Chairman of WTIII, noted broad support for strengthening RACVIAC's contribution to Security Sector Reform, including Defence Conversion and SALW proliferation issues as well as support for RACVIAC's role as a platform for dialogue on regional military / defence cooperation.

RACVIAC has established itself as a broadly recognized 'institution' in the area of arms control verification and, increasingly also, security sector reform in SEE. The Chair expressed appreciation to the former Director of RACVIAC, Brig Gen Johann PUCHER, for his important contributions during the last two years to achieve this.

In this context the Chair congratulated both, Col. Marin RADU and Brig Gen Stergios PAPOTIS for being respectively appointed as the new MAG Chairperson and the new Director of RACVIAC.

## DAYTON art. IV Training Course

The C-8 Training Course was the 2<sup>nd</sup> Course on the DAYTON Art.IV, carried out in accordance with RACVIAC Programme for 2004 and the 9<sup>th</sup> from the beginning of RACVIAC. It was conducted from 27<sup>th</sup> of September to 8<sup>th</sup> of October 2004 in two phases: Theoretical phase (1<sup>st</sup> week) in Rakitje (Croatia) and Practical phase (2<sup>nd</sup> week) in Banja Luka and Zenica (Bosnia & Herzegovina).

The aim of the course was to prepare designated individuals to perform duties as inspectors and/or escorts in accordance with Dayton Agreement, Article IV and to establish a common approach to the Agreement in order to ensure a mutual behaviour of confidence and transparency during the performance of their tasks.

Fifteen participants from the signatory parties attended the course (Croatia:3 – Serbia & Montenegro:3 – Bosnia & Herzegovina:3 – Federation of B&H:4 – Republic of Srpska:2) as well as five participants from other OSCE countries (Albania, Bulgaria, Italy, Slovenia and USA/DTRA). RACVIAC hosted nine lecturers coming from Croatia, Serbia & Montenegro, Bosnia & Herzegovina, France, Germany, United Kingdom, USA/DTRA and OSCE.

The 1<sup>st</sup> phase (27 September – 2 October) was a combination of lectures and syndicate work on the content of the Dayton Art.IV, and on the accomplishment of the mission planning. The 2<sup>nd</sup> phase (3 – 8 October) was a training inspection on two declared sites, according to Protocol on Inspection of Dayton Article IV. During the 2<sup>nd</sup> week of the Training Course the class was divided in two teams, which acted both as Inspection and Escort Team, into two different OOI (objects of inspection). They planned and organized the whole mission's plan according to their duties (Inspectors/Escorts).



Finally they accomplished the debriefing and the conclusion of the training inspections. Professional lecturers, as well as site commanders, substantially contributed to achieve the objectives of the course; that was obtained thanks to the good and close cooperation between RACVIAC and the relevant MODs and Arms Control Agencies.

## The Impact of Disaster on the Security Environment in SEE - Regional Efforts

The Workshop on “The Impact of Disasters on the Security Environment in South Eastern Europe (SEE) – Regional Efforts; emphasis on Protection of Critical Infrastructure” was conducted from 26<sup>th</sup> – 27<sup>th</sup> Oct 2004 in RACVIAC.



The seminar provided an opportunity for participants to meet with their international colleagues from the SEE region, dealing with Disaster management as well as with representatives coming from international organizations and associations.

There were twenty-three participants, military and civilian Senior planning officers, coming from the SEE region: Albania, Bulgaria, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Hungary, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Moldova, Romania, Serbia and Montenegro and Turkey. Expert input was provided by lecturers from: CEPD/OD NATO HQ Brussels; General Directorate of Fire Rescue Service, MOI of Czech Republic; Office of the Assistant Secretary of Defense for Homeland Defense, USA and ENCONET, Croatia.

The seminar began with a keynote speech made by Mr. Lorenz MAYER-MINEMANN, General Policy Officer, coming from CEPD/OD NATO HQ in Brussels. He set the stage for the theory and practice of Critical Infrastructure, Critical Infrastructure Protection, Planning of

Critical Infrastructure Protection, Concept of CIP, activities in NATO and the Euro-Atlantic Partnership Council framework as well as activities by other international organisations – EU, OECD and G8.

Representatives from all countries present agreed on the necessity of stronger co-operation on the national and international level in exchanging different views and opinions and to share information.

The seminar brought an added value and showed fields and ways as how to work in the future as a platform for co-operation on the national and international level as well as to foster co-operation between the civilian and military sphere in SEE.

### Orientation Course on the CFE and the Adopted CFE Treaty

From 08<sup>th</sup> to 11<sup>th</sup> November, RACVIAC held the “Orientation Course on the Treaty on Conventional Armed Forces in Europe (CFE) and the Adapted CFE Treaty”. For the first time it was organized for military and civilian personnel of the SEE region which will possibly be engaged in the future as staff dealing with activities related to the fulfilment of the requirements of the Adapted CFE Treaty.

The aim of this Course was to provide participants with a comprehensive overview of relevant elements of existing or future arms control documents, highlighting the most commonly followed rules and procedures of the execution of real inspections carried out by State Parties of the CFE Treaty.

Sixteen participants attended the Course as follows: Albania (3), Bosnia and Herzegovina



### Visits to RACVIAC

- 29 Sep — **Colonel William C. VOGT**, DTRA - Chief European Operations Division
- 27 Oct — **Captain Giorgio GUIDUZZI**, Italian Defence Attache
- 15 Nov — **Mrs. Jelena GRČIĆ POLIĆ**, Assistant Minister of Croatian MOD,  
**Col Mladen BARKOVIĆ**, Commander of Croatian War School,  
— **Mr. Justin P. FRIEDMAN**, Political Officer at U.S. Embassy in Zagreb
- 16 Nov — **General Claudio SAMPAOLO**, Personal Representative of the OSCE Chairman-In-Office for Articles II & IV, Dayton Peace Accords
- 26 Nov — **Ambassador Gregor ZORE**, Head of Multilateral Affairs, International Projects at Geneva DCAF and **Mr. Marc REMILLARD**
- 07 Dec — **Col Mike REES**, British Defence Attaché
- 08 Dec — **Christian HAUPT**, Military-Political Adviser in OSCE Mission to B&H
- 14 Dec — **H.E. Ambassador Jürgen STAKS**, German Ambassador to Croatia

(2), Croatia (3), Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (3), Serbia and Montenegro (2) and Slovenia (3). Six lecturers from verification agencies of CFE State Parties (DE/1, HU/1, UK/1 and US/2) and from the OSCE Conflict Prevention Centre (CPC) assisted the Course by providing presentations on selected topics.

The two-day Course gave the participants the opportunity to meet colleagues from the SEE region, who are involved in arms control issues, and representatives/experts who are coming from organisations and agencies and dealing with the implementation of the existing CFE Treaty for years.

The Course was proved to be very successful and the participants expressed the wish to continue with this project in the future, and to have similar, but longer and more detailed training courses organised on these specific topics.

## Director of RACVIAC visits SEE capitals

Brig Gen Stergios PAPOTIS made a visit to Belgrad, S&M on 16<sup>th</sup> Nov and to Ljubljana, Slovenia on 07<sup>th</sup> Dec where he met high-ranking officials from the MOD, MFA and NGOs.

Assistant to Defence Minister of S&M, Mr Pavle JANKOVIĆ, emphasized his country's full support for RACVIAC's activities and its possible broaden role in the future. He expressed the wish to actively participate in the upcoming Friends of Chair Meetings.

The meeting in Ljubljana was the first joint visit of the Director of RACVIAC and the MAG Chairman, Colonel Marin RADU. Ambassador Janez PREMOŽE, Chairman of WTIII, emphasized the importance of the Friends of Chair group and stressed the need to focus on short-term goals. It was concluded that Slovenia could work on RACVIAC's promotion through the forthcoming chairmanship to OSCE.

## First Joint RACVIAC/SIPRI Seminar

In the period from 11<sup>th</sup> to 13<sup>th</sup> October 2004, RACVIAC held its «first timer» seminar on "Dual-Use Export Control", in co-operation with



the Stockholm International Peace Research Institute (SIPRI).

The mission of the seminar was to enhance awareness for the problems of non-proliferation of dual-use goods/ technology and their export control in SEE. The objectives were to cover the context and need for export control, to address legal and administrative issues and to view implementation issues.

14 participants from Albania (2), Bosnia and Herzegovina (1), Croatia (6), Former

Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia (1), Moldova (1) and from Serbia and Montenegro (3) attended the Seminar. Ten lecturers came from Sweden (5), Germany (2), Australia, Hungary, Romania and UK. Unfortunately, invited EU and US representatives did not attend this seminar.

The great expertise offered by SIPRI, in particular by Dr S. BAUER and Dr I. ANTHONY, but also ANCEX, ABB, Australia Group, BAFA, Hungarian Export Control Office, Swedish Government and WASSENAAR Arrangement turned this seminar into an informative and enjoyable event that should be repeated, as suggested by SIPRI, in 2005.

The success of this seminar was also recognized at the WASSENAAR Seminar on 19 Oct 2004, during which RACVIAC has been asked to continue on this route.

## WASSENAAR Arrangement Outreach Seminar

Lt Col Frank ODENDAHL and Maj Barbara BENCIC, RACVIAC's Planning and Liaison Officers, participated at the WASSENAAR Arrangement "Responsibility, Transparency and Security" Outreach Seminar which was held in the Japanese Permanent Mission in VIENNA on 19 Oct 2004. The invitation was extended through Mr. S. DANIELSSON of the WASSENAAR Arrangement, who seemed favorably enough impressed by RACVIAC's S-13 Seminar on "Dual-Use Export Control" to extend an invitation to RACVIAC.

The aim of the seminar was to introduce the WASSENAAR Arrangement in general and to give an update on procedures concerning the export of Dual Use goods/ equipment/ SALW/ (potential) equipment for WMD etc.

Participants came from 26 of the 33 WASSENAAR signatory states, 11 "outreach countries" (including Croatia and Slovenia), plus 42 participants from various International and NGOs, Think Tanks, Industry, Media etc.

This seminar was useful both for the informational content as well as for "showing the (RACVIAC) flag" and thus gain access to the Dual Use community, which may be put to good use for future Dual Use seminars at RACVIAC.

The positive feedback from participants, both at our S-13 Seminar as well as the WASSENAAR Outreach Seminar, further added to the value of this event and sent encouraging signals for future Dual Use Seminars at RACVIAC.

## Farewell for founding members of RACVIAC

### Ms Allison Jane BUCHANAN

RACVIAC says an extremely sad farewell to Ms. Allison Jane BUCHANAN, our Aji, who has been a part of RACVIAC since the very beginning. After four very interesting and challenging years as the MAG SEC and Chief of PR in RACVIAC, she left RACVIAC on Thursday 11<sup>th</sup> November, and made her way to Geneva to start her new appointment as a Coordinator in the Border Security Programme in the Centre for the Democratic Control of Armed Forces (DCAF).

We take this opportunity to thank her for all her work and friendship during this time in RACVIAC and wish her every success in the future.

### Captain Marjančo JANEVSKI

At the very end of this year, RACVIAC bid farewell to Captain Marjančo JANEVSKI, who has been a part of RACVIAC since February 2001. He has been working as a Seminar Officer in the Dialogue and Cooperation Division and was a very popular and well-liked member among our international staff.

We would like to thank Marjančo for all his work and friendship during his time in RACVIAC and wish him and his family all the best in the future.

### 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Tihomir BODROŽIĆ

It has been a genuine pleasure to have 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Tihomir BODROŽIĆ here in RACVIAC since September 2001. During his work as a Press&PR Officer, Tihomir has produced excellent results in promoting RACVIAC and has been a most valuable asset to the RACVIAC Permanent staff. He was extremely supportive and has provided assistance to all other staff members.

He left us in December and we wish him all the best with his new post in the Croatian Army HQ.

### Captain Mirsad ČALUK

At the beginning of November, RACVIAC said farewell to Captain Mirsad ČALUK. Mirsad

joined the staff in October 2000 as a Course Officer in the Training and Verification Division. He returned home where he took up his new post in the Federation of Bosnia and Hercegovina Verification Centre.

## New MAG SEC in RACVIAC

As no pledges have been received regarding Ms. BUCHANAN's successor as the MAG SEC, we would like to inform you that the Director and the MAG Chairperson have decided to use RACVIAC's "in-house" capacity to fill this post, as it was discussed and agreed at the 10<sup>th</sup> MAG meeting.



The new MAG Secretary is Ms. Jelena VELJAČA, who has been working in RACVIAC since 2002 and assisted Ms. BUCHANAN in several MAG meetings.

## The 1<sup>st</sup> Friends of the Chair Meeting

During the last two MAG Meetings, it was suggested and agreed to establish an open-ended group which could offer support to the MAG Chairperson in his/her tasks and assist when decisions need to be taken.

The first meeting of this group named "Friends of the Chair" (FOC) took place in RACVIAC on Thursday 28<sup>th</sup> October 2004. It was chaired by the MAG Chairperson, Colonel Marin RADU and hosted by the Director of RACVIAC, Brig Gen Stergios PAPOTIS and RACVIAC staff. 8 countries were represented (AT, HR, DE, IT, NO, RO, SI and UK), as well as the Director of SP WTIll, Mr. Pieter VERBEEK.

The FOC emphasized that RACVIAC needs to focus on the complete implementation of the Medium Term Strategy first, before moving on. They also agreed that it would be helpful to consider an adequate national representation in the RACVIAC permanent staff, in order to deal with the shift in RACVIAC's scope of activities.

They concluded that another important task for RACVIAC is to foster and promote military contacts in the region and with participating states at different levels, including high-ranking representatives of the armed forces and civil society (e.g. members of defence or disarmament committees), with the aim of enhancing regional co-operation.

## NEW PEOPLE IN RACVIAC

### HELLOS:

#### 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Aldin ZAMETICA

1<sup>st</sup> Lt Aldin ZAMETICA joined RACVIAC in November as a Course Officer in the RACVIAC Training and Verification Division. He was born in 1974 in Sarajevo, BiH where he started his military career in 1992. He is a student at the Faculty for Political Sciences in Sarajevo (third grade).



#### 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Ružica SPAJIĆ

RACVIAC welcomes 1<sup>st</sup> Lt Ružica SPAJIĆ from Croatia, who joined the staff as the new Press & PR Officer in October. Ruzica came to RACVIAC from the Department for Defence Studies and International Military Cooperation in the General Staff of the Croatian Armed Forces. She has a university degree in Foreign Trade and Tourism and worked in the GS of CAF as a desk officer for international military cooperation.



#### Maj Vincenzo LAFASANELLA

Maj Vincenzo LAFASANELLA was born in Matera, Italy in 1967 and joined the RACVIAC staff in September as a Seminar Director in the RACVIAC Dialog and Cooperation Division. He has a University degree in "Strategic Sciences" from the Turin University. He is married with Elena and has 2 daughters.



#### Ltc Victor SOTCHI

RACVIAC welcomes for the first time a representative from Moldova - Ltc Victor SOTCHI. He joined the RACVIAC staff in December as a Planning & Liaison Officer. He worked as a Head of the Authorization Section of the Public Order Department of the Moldova MOI.



## The 2nd Year of the Implementation of the SALW Stability Pact Plan

The RACVIAC's seminar on "The 2nd Year of the Implementation of the SALW Stability Pact Plan" was held in the period from 2nd to 4th November 2004. The seminar was organized in cooperation with SEESAC and held in the RACVIAC facilities in Rakitje. Its intention was to supplement the SEE SALW NFP & PM Seminar hosted by SEESAC in BUDVAR (S&CG) on Oct 12-14.

The mission of the seminar was to provide information on the requirements, obligations and responsibilities pertaining to the various agreements on SALW, different approaches, lessons learned and projects performed by the countries in the region, to assess achievements regarding the SALW Stability Pact Plan and to discuss methods of how this plan could be implemented more effectively.

28 participants were invited, 19 of those chose to follow the invitation: 3 from Albania, 2 from Bosnia and Herzegovina, 6 from Croatia, 3 from Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, 3 from Moldova and 2 from Serbia and Montenegro. 6 lecturers/ observers came from Serbia & Montenegro (2), Albania (UNDP), Germany, Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia, Netherlands and UK(SEESAC). Extraordinary input was provided by BG (ret) VAN DER GRAAF, the SEESAC team and the two NGOs (CIVIL and "Give up Arms Project" ZRENJANIN). Unfortunately, other NGOs (SECI, SZEGED Center) as well as the OSCE had declined participation.

This Seminar has been planned as an opportunity to exchange experience as well as gather information on the current status of the SALW Stability Pact Plan in SEE for the benefit of the countries/institutions involved as well as to devise ways of improving implementation of the SALW Stability Pact Plan. The recommendations to this effect were brought to bear at the Working Table III Meet in Skopje Nov 17-18.



## Workshop on tackling SALW trafficking in SEE

On 14-15 December 2004, in Tirana, law enforcement officials, government representatives, and international experts from SEE and other countries (including Australia, Japan, Netherlands, Italy and UK), as well as regional bodies (Europol, SECI Regional Centre, UNDP, SEESAC, RACVIAC, and OSCE) were present at a workshop on tackling SALW trafficking in SEE.

The workshop was organized by the SECI Regional Centre for Combating Trans-border Crime and Saferworld (UK), in association with the Ministry of Public Order of Albania and with the support of UK and US governments.

The main focus of discussion during the workshop was the SECI Centre SALW Task Force's forthcoming "Operation Safe Place", a SEE wide initiative to combat the illicit trade in SALW through increased cooperation at regional level, specifically in relation to information exchange on seizures of SALW. In addition, the concept of the Operation Safe Place will include two main types of actions: one focused on gathering statistical data on the SALW trafficking in the Region and the other focused on operational information exchange through SECI Centre liaison officers.

RACVIAC's representative, Col Zoran Boskovic, participated in that gathering and

discussed about the capabilities and possible involvement of the RACVIAC's Centre in that important regional activity.

## NEW GERMAN AMBASSADOR IN RACVIAC



H.E. Ambassador Jürgen STAKS, the new German Ambassador to Croatia, visited RACVIAC on 14 Dec.

"I was impressed by many activities you are conducting during the course of the year, and the spirit of building confidence among people and nations was felt everywhere" – said the Ambassador.

He introduced to the Director his intention to gather Ambassadors of all MAG countries in Croatia at RACVIAC in the near future. The idea is to get a better view of RACVIAC's achievements and to discuss its future role in the region.



**RACVIAC's PERMANENT STAFF, November 2004.**

## Forthcoming events - 2005.

### Orientation Course for Site Commanders

24 - 28 January

*Main Goals:* ● To inform site commanders about their respective duties and responsibilities under the requirements of the relevant documents.

*Target Audience:* - Site Commanders and staff officers from units

### Role of the Parliaments in Security Sector Reform

31 January - 4 February

*Main Goals:* ● To discuss with parliamentarians, parliamentarian staff, academics and journalists the role of parliaments in SSR

*Target Audience:* - Parliamentarians, Parliamentarian staff, Academics and Media

### English Arms Control Terminology

14-25 February

*Main Goals:* ● To increase the English conversational capability of officers/civilians dealing with arms control in the region of SEE

*Target Audience:* - Civilian or military personnel dealing with Arms control who already attended the basic grammar course of English language, coming from MOD, MFA, MOI, GS.

### Manpower Planning Meeting

28 February - 4 March

*Main Goals:* ● To clarify nominations for upcoming rotation of personnel and to discuss personnel procedures.

*Target Audience:* - Representatives of MAG countries

### SALW (national / regional control strategies – subject to be confirmed)

7-11 March

*Main Goals:* ● To improve the nation's SALW control strategies.

*Target Audience:* - Staff from MODs, MFAs, MOIs and NGOs

### High Level Meeting on Military–political Issues in SEE

14-18 March

*Main Goals:* ● To exchange experience and information on military-politico issues in SEE to generate co-operation in specific military-security fields.

*Target Audience:* - Politicians, Parliamentarians, Senior Ministry staff and Academics

### Dayton Article IV

4 - 15 April

*Main Goals:* ● To prepare individuals to perform duties as inspectors or/and escorts regarding Dayton Agreement, Article IV to establish a common approach to the Agreement.

*Target Audience:* - Military personnel dealing with Dayton Art. IV

### 11<sup>th</sup> MAG Meeting

18 - 22 April