

1. Military Policy: A Meeting of the CIS Defence Ministerial Council

14.04.10. The 58th Meeting of the CIS Defence Ministerial Council took place in Moscow.

Comment: *The Meeting was attended by a Ukrainian delegation headed by the Defence Minister, M.Yezhel. Meeting participants identified prospective improvement of legal support to multilateral military cooperation for development of military science and joint military memorial work till 2015. Other issues under discussion included development of a pan-CIS integrated air defence system. Ministers in attendance also evaluated flight safety in the CIS armed forces in 2009, meteorological support to military aviation and outlined prospective improvement of legal support to multilateral military cooperation.*

The next, 59th, Meeting of the CIS Defence Ministerial Council is scheduled for October of this year in Kiev.

Prior to the beginning of the 58th Meeting, a working meeting was held between the Ukrainian Defence Minister, M.Yezhel, and the Defence Minister of the Russian Federation, A.Serdukov. The counterparts discussed the current state and prospective enhancement of bilateral military and military-technical cooperation between the two countries.

2. Multinational Exercises: "Golden Mask – 2010"

15.04.10. A Ukrainian NBC unit departed for Germany to take part in the multinational certification exercise of the NATO Response Force "Golden Mask 2010".

Comment: *The active phase of the exercise will last from the 17th till the 22nd of April 2010 in the Munster military training area in Germany. The Ukrainian NBC unit dispatched to participate in the exercise "Golden Mask 2010" consists of 30 servicemen and 8 pieces of equipment.*

The Ukrainian unit's participation in this military cooperation event will facilitate development of the UAF expeditionary capabilities required for operating as part of multinational high readiness forces in emergency response operations in case of natural or anthropogenic disasters.

3. Multinational Exercises: "Blonde Avalanche 2010"

15.04.10. The Chief of the General Staff – the Commander-in-Chief of the Ukrainian Armed Forces – signed a Decree to organize preparation and conduct of the Joint Command-Post Exercise "Blonde Avalanche 2010" with the Joint Multinational Engineer Battalion TYSA.

Comment: *The aim of the decree is to ensure a timely and effective preparation for and conduct of the Joint CPX "Blonde Avalanche 2010" as well as other activities of the Multinational Engineer Battalion TYSA.*

The decree sets the dates and procedures for the conduct of the exercise "Blonde Avalanche 2010" in Ukraine. The decree also established mechanisms of coordination and distribution of authority among structural units of the Ukrainian General Staff involved in the preparation and conduct of activities of the multinational engineer battalion TYSA.

The Commander of the Ukrainian Land Forces is designated responsible for the preparation and conduct of the CPX with troops "Blonde Avalanche 2010".

4. Multinational Exercise: Preparation for "Peace Fairway 2010"

14.04.2010. The Second Planning Conference of the Ukrainian-Russian Naval Exercise "Peace Fairway 2010" commenced in Sevastopol.

Comment: *The designated topic of the CPX "Peace Fairway 2010" is planning and conduct of a search-and-rescue operation as part of a peacekeeping mission in a crisis area. The conference was attended by representatives of the Ukrainian Navy and the Russian Black Sea Fleet. The exercise "Peace Fairway 2010" is scheduled in compliance with the Plan of International Cooperation between the Ministries of Defence of Ukraine and the Russian Federation in 2010. The exercise will be conducted in June using the facilities of the Nakhimov Naval Academy.*

Four peacekeeping exercises of the "Peace Fairway" series were conducted biannually (in 1997, 1999, 2001 and 2003). No bilateral exercises with the Ukrainian and Russian fleets were conducted after 2003. The last Ukrainian-Russian Naval exercise "Peace Fairway 2003" took place at the Russian Black Sea Fleet Training Centre (Holland Settlement) and the Naval Amphibious Training Area (Kozacha Bay) in the vicinity of Sevastopol. The forces that took part in "Peace Fairway 2003" included 12 battle ships and auxiliary vessels, fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircrafts, 16 pieces of armoured equipment, some 1000 servicemen and approximately 200 marines of the Ukrainian Navy and the Russian Black Sea Fleet.

5. International Cooperation: A Ukrainian Military Delegation's Visit to the USA

12.04.10. A Ukrainian military delegation headed by the Army Commander, Colonel-General Gennagii Vorobiov, began its visit to the USA.

Comment: *In the USA, G.Vorobiov will meet with the Chief of Staff of the US Army, General George Casey. In the course of the meeting, the counterparts will discuss the current state and prospective development of cooperation between the two armies.*

The Ukrainian delegation also plans to visit the 4th Infantry Division of the US Army, get familiarized with functioning of the Joint Training Centre and Combined Arms Training Centre of the US Army. In the course of the visit to the Joint Combat Training Centre, the Ukrainian servicemen will acquaint themselves with scenario development system, role playing and post-operation rehabilitation of servicemen.

6. International Cooperation: Planning of Activities between the Ukrainian and US Armed Forces

13.04.10. A three-days' Ukraine-US military cooperation planning conference started in Kiev.

Comment: *The chief aim of this event is to develop the Working Plan of Military Cooperation between the Armed Forces of Ukraine and the US European Command in 2011-2012. Cooperation with the USA is currently the largest in scope and richest with activities. 98 bilateral cooperation activities were conducted last year which is the highest number over the past years in the military domain.*

7. International Cooperation: «Northern Falcon 2010»

As of 16.04.10, the Ukrainian aircraft Il-76, in the course of the operation "Northern Falcon 2010" on the air base Thule has transferred over 270000 litres of fuel since 6 April 2010. The total flying time of the crews amounts to approximately 45 hours.

Comment: *When the meteorological conditions are auspicious, Ukrainian airmen carry out air transfers in two shifts starting at 4am. In addition, another task set to the Ukrainian airmen abroad is the practical part of self-evaluation.*

Level II Self-evaluation (after NATO standards) of the aircraft, the two crews, the command element as well as engineers and technicians will start in Greenland on the 21st of April and finish in Aalborg (Denmark) on the 23rd of April. NATO representatives from Izmir (Turkey), representatives from Denmark as well as experts from Ukraine will take part in the self-evaluation.

All expenses, including accommodation, meals, fuel and navigation support, are covered by Denmark. The Ukrainian Defence Ministry provides airmen. Under the Cabinet's Decree, all personnel involved in the operation get their per diem allowance that amounts to some \$15.

8. Ukraine-NATO: A Meeting of the NATO Military Committee

13.04.10. A meeting between military representative of the NATO Military Committee and Ukraine was held in the NATO HQ in Brussels.

Comment: *Ukraine at the meeting was represented by the Military Representative of the Mission of Ukraine to NATO, Major-General Petro Garaschuk, and the Chief of the Military Institute of the Kiev National University (named after Taras Shevchenko), Major-General Viktor Balabin. In the course of the meeting, V.Balabin briefed participants on transformation of military education in Ukraine, organizational foundations of military education, ways and possibilities of getting such education, directions of its harmonization with and integration into national system of higher and vocational education.*

It should be noted that decisions have been made repeatedly over the past few years to improve the UAF officer training system and introduce one or another training scheme. The currently adopted officer training scheme is presented in Annex to IAR DN 15/2010.

9. Development of Weapons and Equipment: Modernization of the Mi-24 Helicopters

Ukraine will modernize the attack helicopters Mi-24 by equipping them with new power units manufactured by the Ukrainian company "Motor Sich".

Comment: *By replacing the helicopter engines TV3-117V with the new ones TV3-117VMA-SBM1V, the Ukrainian Air Forces will be able to save on repair and maintenance at the expense of the increased Mi-24 power unit life.*

The TV3-117VMA-SBM1V is an updated turboprop engine TV3-117VMA-SBM1 for the regional dual purpose (cargo-and-passenger) aircraft An-140. The new model has a number of new components with prolonged life. Besides, the mounting of the new engine does not require any additional modernization of the helicopter inasmuch as the automatic engine control systems can function together with the embedded airborne systems. The takeoff power of the new TV3-117 can vary from 2000hp to 2500hp whereas emergency power can reach 2800hp.

The Mi-24 can make up to 340kph and fly a distance of up to 1000km. Depending on the modification, the helicopter has 6-8 point of suspension for mounting of shell containers as well as guided and unguided missiles. The total weight of the combat load amounts to 900kg.

10. Development of Weapons and Equipment: Making of an Operational-tactical Rocket System

In 2009, the State Design Bureau "Pivdenne" defended the draft design of the multifunctional operational-tactical rocket system "Sapsan" with the Defence Ministry. The designing work is to be commenced in 2010.

Comment: *"Sapsan" is not Ukraine's first attempt to make its own operational-tactical system. "Borysfen" was to have become the fist such system with two modifications with the effective range of 100km and 500km respectively. The "Borysfen" project was launched by the Design Bureau "Pivdenne" as far back as 1994; some drafts were made, but the financing was suspended. In 2003, the project was phased down altogether. Taking into account the fact that the operation life of rocket systems currently in service with the UAF will expire in 2015-2016, the National Security and Defence Council approved, back in 2006, a decision to design the rocket system "Sapsan" using the drafts developed for "Borysfen".*

\$6,8 million were allocated for this project in 2009. The Design Bureau "Pivdenne", in particular, received \$4,6 million from the Defence Ministry. According to expert estimates, the making of the system will require some \$450 million, all told. For comparison, the Russian attack system "Iskander" cost \$1 billion.

22 countries nowadays are in possession of or can manufacture ballistic missiles. Among the countries actively developing operational-tactical missile projects are India, Pakistan, Israel, Brazil, Argentina, Iran, China, North and South Korea, Japan and Egypt.

Officer Training Scheme in the Ukrainian Armed Forces

