

Defense and Security Policy Center
Kyiv, Oleniv'ska Str. 34a

Tel: (044)4257899
Fax: (044)4259595
E-mail: info@defpol.org.ua

1. Military Policy: Further Reforming of the UAF till 2015

According to the MoD Press Office, the Ukrainian Defence Ministry intends to reduce the UAF strength by 15-20% by 2015.

Comment: *The Defence Ministry and the General Staff forge ahead with development of a Concept of further reformation of the Ukrainian Armed Forces till 2015. Under this Concept, the UAF strength is to be reduced by 15-20% and surplus weapons, equipment and infrastructure are to be disposed of by 2015. Furthermore, new functioning principles are to be introduced for combat units whereby separate brigades and regiments in peacetime are going to adopt tables of organization of mobilization deployment bases. As estimated by the MoD, the allocations must be no less than 1% of the GDP gradually reaching 1,6-2% of the GDP.*

According to the Concept, further reformation of the UAF is to be carried out in two phases. Phase I (2011-2012) – stabilize the situation in the troops; prevent lowering of combat readiness and combat effectiveness. Phase II (2013-2015) – create preconditions for gradual development of the Ukrainian Armed Forces.

A decision has also been made to develop a strategy of social security for servicemen in 2011-2025 as well as a number of programmes that will precipitate military reforms.

Feasibility of the planned steps depends on the amount of funds allocated to the UAF. It is also necessary to abandon the practice of planning development measures while counting on the State Budget Special Fund which has never in the last five years been filled as planned. See Annex to IAR DN 29/2010 for information on allocations to the Special Fund.

2. Personnel Training: Working Trips of the Chief of the General Staff

Chief of the General Staff, Lieutenant-General Grygorii Pedchenko, accompanied by a group of generals and officers, visited the Vinnitsa Garrison (20.07.10), the Zhytomyr Garrison (21.07.10) and the Chernigiv Garrison (22.07.10).

Comment: *Lieutenant-General Pedchenko was briefed by the Air Force Commander, Colonel-General Ivan Rusnak, on the state of affairs in the Air Force.*

One of the issues discussed in the course of the trip was the state of aircraft. According to Lieutenant-General Pedchenko, the UAF have signed contracts for 68 million UAH under which 14 aircraft are to be revamped by the end of 2010. Another 32 aircraft are to be revamped completely next year. There are no plans to purchase new aircraft though.

In the course of his visits to the Zhytomyr and Chernigiv Garrisons, Lt-Gen Pedchenko familiarized himself with the organizational structure, mission and main tasks of local units and formations.

3. Combat Training: Joint Command-Post Exercise of UAF Units

22.07.10. A joint CPX for the Air Command "West" and the 13th Army Corps was held in the Rivne region. The overarching theme of the exercise was planning of force employment as well as command and control of operational deployment.

Comment: *The CPX was directed by the Air Force Commander, Colonel-General Ivan Rusnak. Staff branched and HQs of subordinated military units as well as Operational Group from the Army Command were also involved in the exercise.*

The key objectives of the exercise were planning of the Air Command and Army Corps's employment; honing of practical skills; cohesion and coordination between operations officers at Command Posts of the Air Command, the Army Corps and designated military units.

The end state of the CPX is to verify readiness of the Army and Air Force Command and Control elements for the year's complex exercise.

4. Ukraine-NATO: New Head of the Mission of Ukraine to NATO

22.07.10. The President of Ukraine, Viktor Yanukovich, issued Decree № 778/2010 appointing Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Kingdom of Belgium, Igor Dolgov, Head of the Mission of Ukraine to NATO (part-time service).

Comment: *Igor Oleksiovych Dolgov was born in 1957. In 1980, he graduated from the Kiev State Shevchenko University. From 1980 till 1992 worked as a lecturer at the Philology Department of the Kiev State University. From 1987 till 1991 worked as a lecturer at the University of Tampere (Finland). From 1992 till 1994 – occupies various posts within the Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 1994 till 1997 – Counsellor of the Embassy of Ukraine in Finland. From 1997 till 2000 – Deputy Chief of Political Analysis and Planning Department, Ministry of Foreign Affairs. From 2000 till 2001 – Deputy Head of Main Foreign Policy Department, Administration of the President of Ukraine. From 2002 till 2004 – Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the Republic of Turkey. From 2004 till 2005 – Deputy Minister of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. From 2005 till 2008 - Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Ukraine to the DDR. In 2008 – Head of the Foreign Policy Service, President's Secretariat. Since 2009 – Ambassador at large of the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Ukraine. His diplomatic rank is Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary.*

5. International Cooperation: Chiefs of Defence Conference

19-20.07.10. An Eastern European-Caucasus Chiefs of Defence Conference was held in Garmisch-Partenkirchen (Germany).

Comment: *The aim of the conference was to discuss the security situation in Eastern Europe and the Caucasus; identify prospective areas for regional military cooperation.*

The Ukrainian military delegation at the conference was headed by Deputy Chief of the General Staff, Vice-Admiral Igor Kabanenko.

The conference was attended by senior military officials from 8 countries of the region, namely Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Armenia, Georgia, Moldova, Russia, Romania, and Turkey.

6. International Cooperation: Visit of the US Air Force Representatives

21.07.10. Representatives of the 144th Fighter Wing, California National Guard, visited tactical air brigades of the Air Command "Centre".

Comment: The aim of the visit was to expose the US delegation to how Ukrainian Air Force ensures sovereignty of the air space and permanent standby of air defence forces and enhances interoperability for organization and conduct of air space security operations during public events (in support of "Euro 2012" in Ukraine).

Issues discussed in the course of the visit included ensuring air space sovereignty, air situation data delivery, fighter pilots training programmes, complex organization of on-site combat duty.

Another issue under discussion was planning and conduct of the bilateral Ukraine-US exercise "Safe Skies 2011".

7. International Activity: Ukrainian Servicemen on Duty as Part of the NATO Response Force

Last June, a Ukrainian NBC platoon went on duty for the first time as part of the NATO Response Force.

Comment: The 15th regular rotation took place last June. 30 Ukrainian servicemen in the NBC Platoon will be on duty till the next rotation scheduled for December 2010. Ukraine is the first partner nation contributing to the NATO Response Force. All the capabilities of the 15th rotation, including the Ukrainian unit, have been fully certified and completed preparation for their period on duty.

The NBC Platoon is currently stationed at its home base in Ukraine. If need be, it can be employed for an operation as part of the NATO Response Force.

It will be recalled that last April 30 servicemen of the NBC Platoon were certified in Germany for participation in the 15th rotation of the NRF as part of the multinational NBC Battalion.

The NRF are designed to provide efficient response to various types of crises all over the world. The NRF are generated and manned on the rotation principle. NATO member states assign their Army, Air Force, Naval and Special Operations units to the NRF for six months.

8. Conversion Challenged: Disposal of the Rocket Fuel Melange

20.07.10. The first batch of melange is being removed from a rocket fuel depot of the Western Operational Command located near Radehiv in the Lviv region.

Comment: 8 rail tank cars weighing 401 tons will soon be filled with melange and sent to Russia for disposal.

The rocket fuel depot in Radehiv was established in 1961. It was designed originally for storing of liquid rocket fuel components, fuel and lubricants, and special technical assets. Throughout its existence, the depot has been receiving, storing and dispatching different types of rocket fuel components. The last major dispatch took place in 1995-1998 when some 2500 tons of heptyl (reputedly the most toxic and hazardous rocket fuel component) were sent off to Russia.

Approximately 2900 tons of melange are currently stored at the depot.

9. Development of Equipment: New Radar for the UAF

Under Defence Minister's Decree № 362 of 14.07.10, the UAF adopted a mobile self-contained radar (reference name "Trasa") with basic technical and operating characteristics.

Comment: The newly adopted radar will make it possible to detect and identify position data for air and surface targets (fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft, unmanned aerial vehicles, ships) equipped with such transponders as "Parol", Mk-XA (Mk-XII), and RBS in the space controlled by the radar. It will also receive additional information on aircraft and put it out in the digital form.

The radar's effective range (target detection and acquisition of additional information) is from 2 to 360km horizontally and 25km vertically. The radar enables simultaneous acquisition and tracking of 250 targets at the minimum.

Allocations to the Special Fund of the State Budget of Ukraine
based on the results of economic activity including sale of real assets
belonging to the Defence Ministry
in 2006-2010

Year	Budget allocations (million UAH)	Plan	Fact	Fulfilment (%)
2006	Total	1 503,11	714,47	47,5
	Including real military assets	840,00	9,17	1,1
2007	Total	1 502,15	605,64	40,3
	Including real military assets	750,00	0,85	0,1
2008	Total	999,85	604,04	60,4
	Including real military assets	368,60	2,04	0,5
2009	Total	4 221,57	592,05	14,0
	Including real military assets	3 615,00	1,97	0,05
2010 (as of 01.05.2010)	Total	4 664,05	141,29	3,0
	Including real military assets	4 115,00	4,70	0,1