

„FLASH 22“



GENERAL CHARACTERISTICS OF THE EXERCISE „FLASH 22“

The forthcoming tactical exercise “FLASH 22” is a national terrain exercise/live exercise (FTX/LIVEX) that will be held from 3 to 11 April at the Army Training Area “Krivolak”, the training camp “Pepelishte”, the “Jane Sandanski” barracks – Shtip and the “Strasho Pindzur” barracks – Petrovec.

The exercise is organized and realized in order to assess the combat readiness in accordance with the declared capabilities of the Light Infantry Battalion (LIBn) in accordance with the Standards for Assessment of Ground Commands and Units of the NATO Joint Operations Command (AFS volume VII - CREVAL).

Holder of the activities for organization and realization of the "FLASH 22" exercise is the General Staff of the Army of the Republic of North Macedonia. The Commander of the Operations Command, Brigadier General Besnik Emini is the officer in charge of scheduling the exercise, while Lieutenant Colonel Zoran Sumrachki from the Operations Command is the director of the exercise "FLASH 22".

The realization of the exercise "FLASH 22" will take place according to a fictitious scenario with created events and incidents that will allow the unit to be assessed according to NATO standards in the designated areas, in other words the Light Infantry Battalion will be able to demonstrate its combat readiness to face complexity on the battlefield.

Participants:

Around 1100 servicemen of the Army of the Republic of North Macedonia and NATO evaluators and observers.

Objective of the exercise:

The purpose of the exercise is to provide conditions for demonstration of the level of combat readiness in the planned procedures of the Light Infantry Battalion, which will be assessed in accordance with the Standards for Assessment of Ground Commands and Units of the NATO Joint Operations Command (AFS volume VII - CREVAL).

The assessment will be conducted by a national assessment team, certified by the NATO School for Assessing the Combat Readiness of the Land Forces in accordance with Alliance standards and procedures.

Assessment is conducted through seven different areas of competence: preparation, design, engagement, maintenance, consulting, command and control, protection and information.

Team leaders and an appropriate number of assessors are assigned to each area, depending on the scope of the assessment. The evaluation is performed in 3 stages:

- Evaluation of a peaceful location - barracks, where the documentation and plans are evaluated, as well as the equipment in terms of preparation for deployment.

- Field assessment where the procedures and execution of the tasks will be evaluated, i.e. the demonstration of the tactical abilities for accomplishing the mission of the unit.
- Formal report: At the end of the evaluation, the formal report will be signed by NATO representatives, observers and evaluation directors, after which the result will be announced to the evaluated unit.

During the assessment, a NATO team will monitor the process and application of the assessment methodology, which is a prerequisite for the validity of the assessment. In addition to NATO monitors, there will be assessors from the Hellenic Republic as part of the assessment team and in the role of observers there will be representatives of the Armed Forces of Hungary.

Tasks:

- Execution of the primary mission of LIBn, i.e. demonstration of combat readiness in accordance with (AFS) Volume VII (CREVAL).
- Identification of weaknesses that limit the combat power and capabilities of the LIBn.
- Demonstration of management information flow and communication information system (CIS) procedures between and within headquarters, as well as standardization of processes and procedures.
- Logistics sustainability review.
- Confirmation of the command and control structure and identify improvements and shortcomings.
- Realization of command effectiveness in the implementation of the military decision-making process (MET), through the use of analogue and digital processes.
- Improvement of evaluation procedures.
- Improvement/maintenance of combat readiness, capabilities and effective cooperation between training elements in order to increase their ability to participate in NATO-led operations.
- Promotion of the Training Area "Krivolak" as a training capacity.

PHASES OF REALIZATION OF THE EXERCISE:

- **Planning process:** (Developing the concept and specification of the exercise, planning and making the Exercise Plan)
- **Realization of the exercise:**
 - Phase of individual and collective training;
 - Crisis planning and response phase;
 - Execution phase;
 - Evaluation phase.
- **Analysis and reporting from the exercise**

During the realization of the exercise activities, exercise ammunition for infantry weapons with calibre 5.56 mm, 7.62 mm, 7.9 mm and artillery ammunition with caliber 120 mm and 128 mm will be used.

Agenda of activities of the "FLASH 22" exercise

No.	Event	Time	Location
1.	Arrival of the personnel and equipment for the exercise	02.04.2022	Krivolak
2.	Opening of the exercise	03.04.2022	Pepelishte
3.	Realization of practical training activities	03.04. - 11.04.2022	Krivolak and Petrovec
4.	Distinguished Visitors Day	11.04.2022	Krivolak
5.	Closing of the exercise	11.04.2022	Pepelishte

More important dates:**Opening ceremony:**

- 3 April 2022;
- Location: plateau at camp „Pepelishte“.

Distinguished Visitors day

- 11 April 2022;
- Location: Dzidimirci, TA „Krivolak“.

Closing ceremony:

- 11 May 2022;
- Location: plateau at camp „Pepelishte“.

Media coverage:

Distinguished Visitors day, 11 April, Krivolak

Location: Dzidimirci.

All significant events and activities will be published in announcements on the website of the Army of the Republic of North Macedonia and short statuses on the Army Facebook page.

<https://mil.mk>

<https://www.mod.gov.mk/>

<https://www.facebook.com/Armija.Republika.Severna.Makedonija>

<https://www.facebook.com/DefenceMKD>

A unit that is evaluated



**Light Infantry Battalion
(2nd Infantry Battalion, part of the 1st Infantry Brigade)**

Units involved in the realization of the exercise:



Operations Command



1st Infantry Brigade



Air Brigade



Military Police Battalion



Signals Battalion



Engineer Battalion



Special Forces Battalion