



FOREWORD

Dear readers,

After a long period, exactly a year, we are back to you with a new issue of our magazine which focuses on our experience in Afghanistan as framework headquarters for the ISAF mission. It was a great mission both from a professional and a human point of view, granting all of us the chance to see a fascinating country, meet extraordinary people and be part of an important international effort. All the challenges of NATO's priority mission, which we faced during our tour, were met; the successful and safe conduct of parliamentary elections and the preparation for mission expansion to the demanding South of the country.

In the meantime the NRDC-Italy family has grown and now there are two new contributing nations: Bulgaria and Slovenia; we are happy to welcome them and we are confident that their presence will contribute to improve our headquarters from a cultural and professional point of view.

After a deserved rest and recuperation period the NRDC-Italy staff are already back at work preparing our next deployment exercise, Ex Eagle Blade 06, that will take place in November 2006 close to Rome. After our first operational tour our focus is back on training and preparation as we approach the ninth rotation of NRF from July 2007 to January 2008.



Riccardo Cristoni
Lt. IT Army
Chief PI

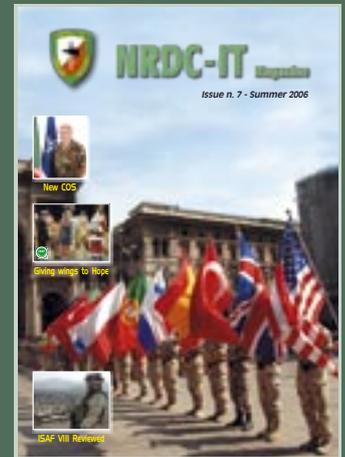


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Front page:

Flags on parade in Duomo Square in Milan during the Ceremony for the Return of HQ NATO Rapid Deployable Corps - Italy from deployment as HQ ISAF, Afghanistan on 13 May 2006.

NRDC-IT Magazine is the authorized unofficial publication of NRDC-IT; editorial content is edited and prepared by the Public Information office staff from submissions sent to them.

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Opinions expressed herein are those of the authors and do not necessarily represent the official views of NRDC-IT and NATO.

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