

Romanian flag-raising ceremony

Romania joins NRDC-ITA

by Maj Marian Predoica

At the beginning of September 2007, Romania joined the select club of the other 14 contributing nations to NRDC-ITA. During the ceremony – that took place in front of the

willing to share it with us.

For sure, we will do our utmost to learn as much as possible from this professional experience and to put to work as soon as possible all the knowledge we accumulate and all the skills we develop during our work time in NRDC-ITA.

The time we will spend working for NRDC-ITA will for sure allow us to make friends and build relationships that will improve our welfare and will reward us with precious professional and personal memories.

Moreover, taking into account that this is, for me and my Romanian colleague, the first time we set our foot in Italy, we will probably have many opportunities to gain more knowledge about the great Italian people and civilization by visiting beautiful, unique, interesting and historical places and by spending good-quality time with our families and new-made friends in modern and well-know sites of Italy.



NRDC-ITA assembled personnel – I, Major Marian Predoica, and my colleague, Major Catalin Paunescu, stood proudly to attention while the Romanian flag was raised and our national anthem played for the first time at the Headquarters.

Lieutenant General Gay, Commander NRDC-ITA, in his speech delivered on the occasion, described the event as a significant one for the Headquarters and took the opportunity to mention the important contributions our country, Romania, makes to NATO in different theaters of operations.

During his address, General Gay welcomed us, wished us all the best for our new challenges and assured us of receiving all the support necessary for making our integration into Headquarters and in Italy as fast and as smooth as possible.

In respect to this promise, it is a pleasure for me to mention that we received valuable help from the Family Support Center – especially from Warrant Officer Mario Boscu – and all the other colleagues in the Headquarters we interacted with in order to solve the inherent problems we faced as newcomers in NRDC-ITA and Italy.

From our perspective, the assignments at NRDC-ITA as Media Operations Officer and, for my colleague, Audit & Clerical Officer, is a very important opportunity to prove our professional skills, to learn and improve our experience as staff officers in a NATO Headquarters which has recently proven its great expertise during a nine month challenging mission in Afghanistan.

We expect our duty in NRDC-ITA to be a rewarding experience through the professional and personal benefits we will draw from our interactions with military professionals from 14 countries who have accumulated valuable experience working in various NATO and non-NATO Headquarters all over the world, and who, I am sure, are

