

# Rear Support Command

by **BG N. GRAMMATIKOPOULOS, GR Army RSC Commander**

The Rear Support Command (RSC/G9) Division comprises the RSC Branch and the CIMIC-G9 Branch of the HQ NRDC-IT. In barracks, it performs the normal staff functions of a staff division, contributing to the development of operational planning and capability across the full spectrum of mission sets. Manned at just 48 officers and soldiers, the staff is both multinational and multi-functional, with Brigadier General N Grammatikopoulos (Hellenic Army) as Division chief, and staff members from Italy, Greece, UK, Hungary the Netherlands and Spain. We are a colourful team, as shown in the photograph. On operations, the Division splits to produce a Rear Support Command CP – comprising the Operations, Logistic and Movements Coordination Cells, with an embedded CIMIC-G9 team – and also produces the CIMIC cell for the Main HQ. It is a reflection of the importance of Civil – Military Cooperation in emerging operations that the very small staff is in high demand in both Command

## **REAR SUPPORT COMMAND CP HAS THE RESPONSIBILITY FOR COORDINATING THE PROCESS WITH ANY HOST NATION AND THE NATIONAL SUPPORT ELEMENTS OF THE TROOP CONTRIBUTING NATIONS**

Posts...and is likely to play a leading role in the majority of mission sets for the NATO Response Force.

When deployed the Rear Support Command plays a central role in preparing the Corps for operations. First In, Last Out is our motto...we arrive as part of the Early Entry package, and leave once the Corps is safely redeployed to home locations. Early arrival in a

Theatre of Operations is essential if the Divisions and Brigades of the Corps are to be received, staged and onward moved in a timely, efficient manner, and the Rear Support Command CP has the responsibility for coordinating the



*Brig Gen Nick Grammatikopoulos  
RSC Commander.*

process with any Host Nation and the National Support Elements of the Troop Contributing Nations. Of course, the work of the RSC CP is not limited to Reception Staging and Onward Movement. As the only LCC CP in the Joint Rear Area, the Rear Support Command has the responsibility to represent the LCC (NRDC-IT) Commander's interests in the area, as well as dealing with the Media, implementing the Information Operation for the JRA, sourcing contracts in coordination with the National Support Elements, ensuring that the Air and Sea Ports of disembarkation are working to capacity in support of the deployment plan, and even

seeking to promote multinational logistic solutions between the Troop Contributing Nations. More over, as

an operation concludes, the Rear Support Command must plan and coordinate the extraction of the Corps from the Area of Operations as well. In delivering this primary function all staff cells of the Rear Support Command must operate as a single, integrated whole. The CIMIC-G9



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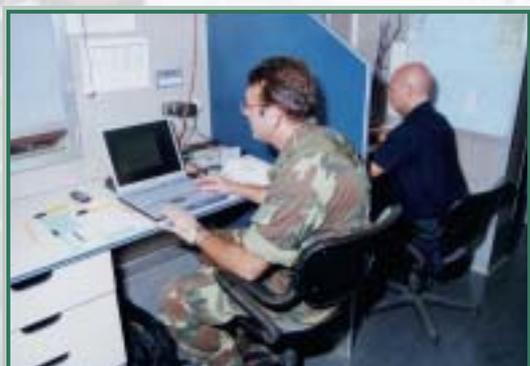
team has to integrate the capabilities of the civil authorities, Host Nation, IOs/NGOs, with the efforts of the Movements and Logistic teams who work to coordinate the National Support Elements, while the Operations team produce the framework for intelligence collection and force protection. Not least, and most challenging, is the requirement to work in close cooperation with Host Nation authorities and all International

ners-up in the Swimming, Volleyball and Football competitions...and we still make time for work!

Interpreting the feelings of my personnel, I get the impression that all we need now is 'this HQ undertakes a mission to any of the crisis areas'.



*RSC Staff working on board of the Rapid Reaction Train.*



*RSC Staff receive the last details before boarding the Rapid Reaction Train.*

Organisations and Non-Governmental Organisations that will be present in the Joint Rear Area – a number running routinely into hundreds! In all, a considerable task for a small – if highly motivated – staff!

The RSC Division also enthusiastically supports a number of social events, other HQ activities, like the HQ sports program, producing the Ugo Mara golf champion and coming close run-

