

NRDC-ITA welcomes the French Contingent

NRDC-ITA has a new contributing nation

by LTC Christian Bichon

On 21 May 2007, NRDC-ITA welcomed the first French officer, LTC Jean-Pierre Relave (Info Ops), during a flag raising ceremony led by LTG Del Vecchio and attended by all members of the HQ. FRANCE then became the 14th nation of NRDC-ITA.

On July 2007, two other French officers arrived: LTC Christian Bichon (G4 OPS), MAJ Hervè Riga (RSC MOV), and French NCO, WO Cèlia Perez (G4 Deputy Chief Clerck). LTC Bichon is the Senior National Representative for the French Contingent.

Finally, during summer 2008 the last French officer (COL) will arrive, foreseen as ACOS INFO OPS, and then the French contingent for NRDC-ITA will be at full strength.

On a reciprocity basis, RRC FR (Rapid Reaction Corps-France) located in Lille has welcomed in 2007 four Italian officers and an Italian NCO.

I take the opportunity to introduce these French newcomers to NRDC-ITA:

LTC Christian BICHON comes from NRDC-FR (RRC FR) in Lille where he was assigned as DACOS CDSS RIFINE, working in the logistics branch. He is married to Françoise and they have three children: a boy of 17, and two daughters of 14 and 9. They now live in Induno Olona, close to Varese.

LTC Jean-Pierre Relave comes also from NRDC-FR (RRC FR) in Lille where he was assigned as SO in G7 branch, and now lives in Varese.

MAJ Hervè Riga comes from NRDC-FR (RRC FR) in Lille where he was assigned as staff officer in Combat Support Division dealing with movement matters. He is married to Evelyne and they live now in Bodio, near Varese.

All three officers have participated in the build-up of the new NRDC-FR and the FOC that took place last March, in France.

WO Celia Perez comes from the 61st Artillery Regiment in Chaumont where she was assigned as Chief Clerk for the Regiment Commander. She is married to Jerome and they have two children: a 2 and half years old boy, and a daughter 8 months old. They live in Vedano Olona, close to Varese.

These four soldiers are able to fulfil their tasks in NRDC-ITA and ready to go wherever the HQ will be engaged, anywhere in the world.

