

Individual Military Training 2011



Story by Captain ITA (A) Paolo Carunchio, G7

The 1st session of the annual Individual Military Training (IMT) was conducted over the period 21-25 March and 17-19 of May at multiple locations to include Solbiate Olona, Bellinzago Novarese and Candelo Massazza. The new IMT concept approved by NRDC – ITA Chief of Staff, requires the core training to consist of a majority of practical exercises. This interval of IMT was developed in accordance with this directive with 21 of the 44 (47%) training periods dedicated to practical exercises. In particular, the aim was to provide the NRDC ITA personnel with additional professional knowledge and specific military skills in order to meet the challenging requirements set for High Readiness Force personnel. A total of 125 individuals participated in the first 5 days of training with 74 of them succeeding in completing the overall training cycle by completing the final events at the Candelo Massazza firing range.

This session of annual IMT cycle introduced many new training events to meet the evolving challenges of today's combat environments and contingency operations. The previous training consisted of only C-IED, CBRN, mine awareness, health education and static weapons training at the Bellinzago Novarese firing range. This year IMT included those previous events and in addition lectures on Law of War, Media Awareness, Rules of Engagement,

Personal Recovery, Combat Thrauma Management/Force Health Protection. As far as the practical activities were concerned, this year IMT also included E – CAS procedures, orienteering techniques, MEDEVAC procedures, individual fighting techniques, and familiarization with “Lince” (the new Italian tactical vehicle). The practical exercises proved to be beneficial in increasing both the educational benefits as well as level of interest in the annual IMT.



The theoretical and practical lessons during E – CAS procedures provided familiarization to all participants in the NATO procedures for requesting and directing the CAS support in the absence of qualified Forward Air Controller (FAC). The 3rd Artillery Regiment instructors provided excellent instruction and realistic scenarios during practical exercises greatly enhancing the training experience for all participants. Lectures on Law of War, Media Awareness and Rules of Engagement were also very instructive and greatly stimulated audience interest resulting in a

barrage of questions at the end of each lesson in order to achieve a better understanding of the topics. The on site theoretical lessons were followed by an orienteering march in Ticino river area and by a practical fire session in Candelo Massazza. On this occasion the attendees got the opportunity to challenge themselves with dynamic weapons training that utilized the employment of mobile targets and the development of emergency shooting exercises with both rifle (Beretta mod. AR 70/90) and pistol (Beretta mod. PB 92). The new and improved annual IMT was made possible through the cooperation of multiple organizations. As the OPR for the activity I owe a special thank to all the instructors internal to NRDC – ITA and from external organizations such as the 7 CBRN Regiment and the Mountain Troops Command of Bolzano (COMALP); if the IMT proved a success that was due to their dedication and efforts.

Obviously, all the activities would not have been possible without the full cooperation of our Support Brigade and the Support Regiment. Both units showed a very cooperative attitude and provided day and night time availability. Finally, I would like to remind those who missed the first iteration that the next IMT session will be held over the period 19-23 of September and 08-10 of November 2011. Do not miss such an opportunity; you are going to have fun.

From the Staff