

NON-CLASSIFIED

THE REPUBLIC OF LATVIA

In 2007, the Republic of Latvia has deployed in total 344 National Armed Forces personnel in international operations as follows:

- a) NATO-led operation in Kosovo (KFOR) – 34 soldiers;
- b) NATO-led operation in Afghanistan (ISAF) – 172 soldiers;
- c) EU-led operation in Bosnia and Herzegovina (ALTHEA) – 4 soldiers;
- d) Multinational operation in Iraq (OIF) – 134 soldiers.

In accordance with the process of transfer of authority to the Iraqi government, during 2007, Latvia reduced its contingent in Iraq and is going to increase its military presence in Afghanistan to 150-200 troops from the second half of 2008. Currently, rotational period of Latvian soldiers in international operations is 6 months.

Latvia has been participating in NRF since 2006. During 2007, the participation of National armed forces in NATO Response forces (NRF) was as follows:

- a) NRF-7, from 1 July 2006 until 11 January 2007 - Explosive ordnance disposal platoon – 19 soldiers;
- b) NRF-8, from 14 January 2007 until 29 May 2007 - Military police platoon – 36 soldiers and Naval Force flotilla mine-hunter “Namejs” was the part of the Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 1;
- c) From 5 January 2008, mine-hunter “Imanta” joined the Standing NATO Mine Countermeasures Group 1. The vessel will be operating within the international unit until 19 May 2008.

It is planned, that Latvia will participate in NRF-11 with 59 soldiers, but in NRF-14 with about 310 soldiers. Latvia will also participate in the EU Battlegroup in the first half of 2010.

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