

MILITARY POLICE OF CZECH REPUBLIC

The Czech Republic is a member state of the European Union, and being responsible for the safety of the state and its citizens, it must react to the same challenges as the other EU members do. The most serious threats are terrorism, organised crime, illegal distribution of mass destruction weapons and illegal migration, along with industrial accidents, natural disasters or disease epidemics.

The external security of the state is provided, in cooperation with NATO, by the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic (ACR). The Police Forces of the Czech Republic are responsible for order within the country and provide the internal security of the state together with the Municipal Police of each city and town. In addition, there is also the Military Police.

Military Police is a special police unit that operates within the army. Their duties are connected with protection of the armed forces, military premises, military equipment and supplies, etc. The Czech military police have jurisdiction to deal with military personnel of the Czech Republic on active service, persons on military premises and areas where military activities are performed, persons committing a crime or offence with, or against military personnel and persons committing a crime or offence against military property.

Duties of the Czech military police are to ensure the discipline and order on military premises and maintain discipline and order of military personnel in public. Also act as a police institution at criminal proceedings where crimes of military personnel and investigations of offences of the military are concerned, search for military personnel and Armed Forces property, assist in the protection of weapons, ammunition and explosives, assist in the protection of classified matters.

They should supervise the security of, and control of military vehicle traffic on roads, supervise the training of military drivers, keep records and statistics necessary for the fulfilment of their duties and provide protection and escort for specifically determined persons.

Military Police are selected from the officers and warrant officers in active service or in reserve, and from among both civilian and military youth.

Each applicant has to successfully pass a selection procedure which consists of a battery of general knowledge tests, physical fitness, psychodiagnostic examination and medical examination in a military hospital.

A newly established MP Specialist School started its operation. The MP Specialist School provides: several types of short-term advanced courses for the military policemen during their service, the members may use schools and institutions of Ministry of Defence as well as Ministry of Interior - Police academies, courses of criminology technicians, etc. Also a 12-month study course, aimed at general professional preparation of MP service applicants in the basic warrant officer functions. This is completed after a secondary school final examination.

The most important fact that they have special preparation of military policemen before their dispatching to UN peacekeeping units

As you know, Military Police are a fully professional service of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic as this is required by Article 1 of the Military Police Act.

The main task of the command is to ensure safe transport and on time arrival of a protected person at the determined place and back, and to anticipate and prevent any attack against the life, freedom or dignity of protected person. The command provides protection and escort for foreign guests of the Czech Ministry of Defence and the General Staff Commander. Also the main task are protection and escort for inspection teams, protection of accommodation places of foreign guests, protection of high account money transports and protection and escort of special military equipment transports.

Czech Military Police support to the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic in international missions involves the MP section of the 3rd Mechanised Battalion of SFOR (Stabilisation Force) in Bosnia & Herzegovina.

Czech Military Police is directly subordinate to the unit commander and fulfils the duties of a police provision of the activity of the Battalion and its members. they detects and documents criminal activity, investigates traffic accidents and informs the commander, and main functionaries about the development of security situation of the unit.

Now that the Czech Republic is part of NATO vehicles in use by the ACR MP seem to have taken a decidedly Western turn. Vehicles such as Audi's, Land Rovers, Jeep Cherokees and Mitsubishi Pajeros are a far cry from the austere vehicles of the WARSAW Pact era.

The military police appear to wear the standard uniforms of the Czech Armed Forces together with the usual distinctive insignia and accoutrements of the military police man or woman.

On both upper arms is worn a "VP" patch together with a "VOJENSKA POLICIE" shoulder title. Some form of pocket hanger is worn from the left breast pocket flap.

Military police appear to wear a black beret with the ACR insignia. The wearers the rank is shown on the epaulette. The same shoulder insignia as is worn on service dress also appears to worn on camouflage dress under certain circumstances.

Military Police personnel on patrol also appear to wear a brassard similar to NATO military police. They also appear to wear white belts and a bayonet carrier to make them more visible.

The Alien Police is the unit of the Police of the Czech Republic with national competence and specialisation. Their main duties are connected with investigation of illegal migration of citizens from other countries and with residence permits for foreigners in the Czech Republic. In addition, the Alien Police supervises the state border, and deals with criminal activities related to crossing borders.

Список використаних джерел

1. <http://www.mpcoe.org/index.php/169-czech-mp-commander-visits-nato-mp-coe>
2. http://worldmilitaryintel.blogspot.com/2013/05/blog-post_7150.html