

## Visiting "Black Bear 2009"

Written by AG

Thursday, 24 September 2009 11:56

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**On 22 September 2009, Commander Multinational Corps Northeast Lieutenant General Zdzisław Goral and other guests took part in the Distinguished Visitors' Day during the exercise "Black Bear".**

The aim of the "Black Bear" exercise conducted on the training ground near Vyškov in the Czech Republic from 14 to 23 September 2009 was training units Multinational Military Police Battalion consists of. Four nations – Croatia, the Czech Republic, Poland and Slovakia contribute to this multinational formation, which in fact is going to be affiliated to Multinational Corps Northeast in the future.

Since it was a live exercise, General Goral had a chance to get acquainted with skills of soldiers and their equipment. *"From what I have seen, they are very well prepared to fulfill the tasks assigned"*, he assessed. Multinational Military Police Battalion shall be used among other things in NATO-led missions. It specializes in e.g. convoying, detaining criminals or in medical evacuation. For that reason, during "Black Bear" given units trained e.g. convoy protection that fell into an ambush, holding back aggressive demonstrators or detaining dangerous criminals.

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While this is a good photo, it is not the best. The best is the one that shows the soldiers in full riot gear, including helmets and shields, facing a crowd of people. The soldiers are wearing blue armbands. The crowd consists of men and women, some wearing balaclavas and holding water bottles. The scene appears to be outdoors, possibly at a training exercise or a public demonstration.