

2020

CZECH
ARMED
FORCES







**CZECH ARMED
FORCES 2020**



In 2020, we had to tackle a crisis none of us expected. The pandemic changed our plans and modus operandi. My great thanks and respect go to all military professionals, who performed their duties, provided assistance at all levels and showed resilience, discipline, readiness, preparedness and a high professionalism. The crisis also put to a test the abilities of the commanders at all echelons as well as our new command and control system. We have proven that we can cope.



The pandemic has not affected our primary mission, the national defence. We performed tasks on operations abroad, honed our skills and trained. What could not be performed physically in the real world, we moved into the online environment. When this crisis is over, a completely different one may come up any time. And we will stand ready again.

Through our professionalism, we continue to win a high support by the public. We will also need it in the years ahead.

The key is to continue the essential modernisation. We have to be one hundred percent ready to face all threats and follow the latest trends. Soldiers and airmen at some units obtained new equipment, in some instances after long decades.

The next ones are up, that is my high priority.

The centrepiece of every good team are high quality individuals. We are one team and we have a high confidence in each other. We are on a good track toward a modern military force, which will be a prestigious place for the best.

A handwritten signature in black ink, consisting of stylized, flowing letters that appear to be 'A. Opatá'.

General Aleš Opatá
Chief of the General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces





PERSONNEL

A total of 1,619 new military professionals enlisted in the line of recruitment plus 393 were enlisted as students of the University of Defence and the Military Department of the Faculty of Physical Education and Sports of the Charles University in 2020.

The total number of outgoing personnel in 2020 comprised 813 military professionals, 569 defence civilians and 90 civil servants.

In 2020, a total of 609 servicemembers were newly assigned to the Active Reserve Component, 352 of the Active Reserve Component members terminated their assignment, which means the total increase of ARC personnel by 257.

Actual MoD personnel strength in 2007–2021

At	Military professionals	Defence civilians	Civil servants	Total
1 Jan 2011	22,261	8,303		30,564
1 Jan 2012	21,751	8,248		29,999
1 Jan 2013	21,733	8,288		30,021
1 Jan 2014	21,011	7,530		28,541
1 Jan 2015	20,864	7,487		28,351
1 Jan 2016	21,970	6,411	1,131	29,512
1 Jan 2017	23,184	6,515	1,148	30,847
1 Jan 2018	24,251	6,691	1,178	32,120
1 Jan 2019	25,105	6,796	1,183	33,084
1 Jan 2020	25,899	6,896	1,163	33,958
1 Jan 2021	26,621	7,017	1,133	34,771





**Year-to-year increase of the number of military professionals
and the Active Reserve Component in 2020**

	Enlisted/Entered	Terminated service	Increase
Armed Forces of the Czech Republic	2,012	813	1,199
Active Reserve Component	609	352	257

**Actual strength of the Active Reserve Component
of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic**

2011	2012	2013	2014	2015	2016	2017	2018	2019	2020
1,093	1,128	1,214	1,237	1,259	1,488	2,194	2,788	3,190	3,468

Performance on the Czech Armed Forces' recruitment target

2019	Recruitment target	Applicants	Enlisted	%
Mil Dept, Charles Uni	750	1,143	428	57.1
Recruitment	1,450	5,701	1,464	101.0
2020	Recruitment target	Applicants	Enlisted	%
Mil Dept, Charles Uni	400	1,215	393	98.3
Recruitment	1,500	4,354	1,619	107.9

Performance on the recruitment target for the Active Reserve Component of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic

Year	Mil recruitment target	Mil enlisted	Mil	%
2018	700	1,581	811	115.9
2019	700	1,463	673	96.1
2020	600	1,268	609	101.5

Performance on recruitment targets in 2016-2020

Year	Mil recruitment target	Mil enlisted	Mil %	ARC recruitment target	ARC enlisted	ARC %
2016	2,000	2,148	107.4	-	-	-
2017	2,000	2,174	108.7	700	886	126.5
2018	2,000	1,977	98.9	700	811	115.9
2019	2,200	1,892	86	700	673	96.1
2020	1,900	2,012	105.9	600	609	101.5





Courtesy of NATO



INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STRUCTURES

CZECH SERVICEMEMBERS IN INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STRUCTURES IN 2020

In 2020, a total of 204 Czech Armed Forces service members were assigned to the NATO and EU international military staffs, NATO and EU agencies, the Czech Armed Forces national representations in international military staffs and in the Permanent Mission of the Czech Republic to the United Nations. They were posted in the territory of fifteen NATO nations, Ukraine and Mali.

Czech Armed Forces representatives also served in the capacity of Director J7 ACO/SHAPE Mons, Belgium; Legal Advisor to the SACEUR Office Mons, Belgium; Commander Joint Logistic Support Group (JLSG) Brunssum, the Netherlands; Deputy Command Chief of Staff Joint Force Training Centre (JFTC) Bydgoszcz, Poland; Deputy Commander Multinational Division Northeast (MND NE) Elblag, Poland, and; Chairman of the Committee of Chiefs of Medical Services in NATO (COMEDS).

Assignments to international staffs and workplaces abroad	Number
Permanent mission in Mons: Belgium, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, the Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Romania, Slovakia, Spain, Turkey, United Kingdom and Ukraine	158
Permanent mission in Brussels: Belgium	37
Permanent mission in Norfolk: USA	9
TOTAL	204



INTERNATIONAL MILITARY STRUCTURES



Courtesy of NATO





**READINESS FORCES,
INTERNATIONAL
OPERATIONS AND
OBSERVER MISSIONS**

NATO AND EU READINESS FORCES

NATO Response Force (NRF)

Units in total strength of 1,200 personnel were assigned to the NRF in 2020. The 71st Mechanised Battalion and a Military Police platoon along with combat support and combat support service units comprising 1,000 personnel were assigned into the Polish-led NATO Very High Readiness Joint Task Force (VJTF) brigade. Their notice to move was 5–7 days.

A Ground Based Air Defence (GBAD) unit with combat support combat support service units was totalling 200 personnel were assigned to the German-led NATO Response Force brigade at 30 days' notice to move. The units were on standby in the territory of the Czech Republic. The year 2020 also saw the national and international preparation of the Combined Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence Task Force slated for standby from 2021. The Czech Republic will take over the lead nation role.

European Union Battle Group (EU BG)



In the second half of 2020, Czech Armed Forces' units with the total strength of 250 personnel on standby were assigned to the German-led EU BG. The Czech task force comprised of a mechanised company, Military Police team, a Psychological Operations element plus combat support and combat support service components.





INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS AND MISSIONS

In 2020, the Czech MoD and the Czech Armed Forces joined 15 international operations and 3 United Nations observer missions in the territory of 14 countries. The Czech Republic assigned the total of 1,032 service personnel in multiple rotations, while significantly reducing its overall engagement in international operations from 678 service members in the first half to 354 in the second half of the year. The year 2020 also saw 2 specialists – active reserve component members and 3 defence civilians to be assigned to an international operation.

NATO OPERATIONS AND MISSIONS

Resolute Support Mission, Afghanistan



The effective national mandate for the Resolute Support Mission (RSM) authorised the total strength of 390 service personnel to deploy to the territory of Afghanistan.

Czech Armed Forces Task Force Resolute Support Mission

The task force was an umbrella component for the Czech deployments operating as part of RSM in the territory of Afghanistan.

Task Force Headquarters

Czech Armed Forces Task Force Headquarters Resolute Support with the total strength of 34 personnel, whose task was to provide a comprehensive support to all Czech deployments in the territory of Afghanistan. The CZE TF HQ comprising 34 personnel was based at the Hamid Karzai International Airport in Kabul and provided a full support to Czech forces and individuals in RSM, especially by providing administrative and logistic support and coordination of

medical support. The CZE TF HQ's primary mission included outsourcing in the local area, organisation and provision of movement to transport personnel and materiel, maintenance and overhauls of equipment in the area of deployment and materiel storage, operation of the Military Police component, budfin service, legal service and comprehensive support of secure and non-secure communications with the Czech Republic including for the deployed service personnel to keep in touch with their families back home.

Guard Company

The BAF Guard Company (GC) with the mandated strength of 173 personnel was deployed in the Parwan province with the mission to eliminate the opposing forces' activities targeting the Bagram Airfield in their assigned area of responsibility. The Guard Company's order of battle comprised the Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) and Intelligence Surveillance Reconnaissance (ISR) with Scan Eagle unmanned aerial system, which was a critical surveillance asset to provide early warning, including independently of coalition partners. The unit terminated the performance of their operational assignment at the end of March 2020 after almost seven years. April 2020 saw the redeployment of the unit including materiel from Bagram Airfield into the Czech Republic.

National representation

The total of 21 Czech Armed Forces personnel were assigned in the order of battle of commands and international staffs at the strategic and operational echelon in various regions of Afghanistan. Based on their occupational specialties, they served tours in operational, engineer, logistic and medical assignments.



Field Surgical Team

In the order of battle of the multinational field medical facility at the Hamid Karzai International Airport (HKIA), the ten-strong Field Surgical Tema performed the mission of providing round-the-clock medical care including direct medical support to the Czech Armed Forces deployments and Czech citizens in Afghanistan.

Support and Influence Unit

The unit was primarily manned by SOF operators. Based at Camp Thompson, they performed specialist training, advising and assistance to their assigned Afghan Special Forces unit until the middle of the year. In the second half of 2020, the Czech SOF were moved to Camp Morehead Kabul to mentor operational and tactical performance standards of the Afghan Special Forces.

Guardian Angels force protection team

The 21-strong unit was stationed in the military part of HKIA. Their mission was to provide security to coalition mentors and instructors primarily in the course of training Afghan Air Force pilots and ground specialist personnel. The completed their operational assignment at January 31st and withdrew back to the Czech Republic in February 2020.

KFOR Operation Joint Enterprise, Kosovo



The 2020 mandate authorised the posting of ten Czech Armed Forces personnel. The service members served tours in the order of battle HQ KFOR and international staff in Camp Film City in Pristina, serving as operations, geospatial and logistic support specialists.

NATO enhanced Forward Presence (eFP), Lithuania



The platoon-sized 2nd and 3rd Electronic Warfare task forces were manned by the 53rd Reconnaissance and Electronic Warfare Regiment. The deployments were embedded in the multinational eFP battalion together service members of Belgium, Croatia, Iceland, Luxembourg, Netherlands and Norway (led by Germany).

Their primary mission was to provide support to the capability building in the Lithuanian Armed Forces and common training activities.

NATO enhanced Forward Presence (eFP), Latvia



In 2020, Latvia hosted two Czech Task Forces. The 4th Task Force was primarily comprised by the members of the mortar platoons of the 42nd Mechanised Battalion and the core of the 5th Task Force was formed by the 44th Light Motorised Battalion. The Czech service personnel served in Latvia as part of eFP shoulder to shoulder with forces of other seven nations (Albania, Italy, Montenegro, Poland, Slovakia, Slovenia and Spain) under Canadian leadership. Their primary mission was to provide support to the capability building in the Latvian Armed Forces and common training activities.

The effective national mandate authorised the total strength of 290 service personnel to deploy in the territory of both Baltic nations.

Deployable Communication Module-B (DCM-B), Turkey

The Czech Republic deployed 9 military information systems specialists from the deployable signals company into the NATO operation in Turkey. The team performed duties relative to the provision of 24/7/365 connectivity for NATO forces in the area of deployment.





EU MISSIONS AND OPERATIONS

European Union Training Mission (EUTM), Mali



The effective mandate for EUTM authorised 120 service personnel. Given its sustained engagement in the mission and its national ambitions, the Czech Republic showed its interest to take over the EUTM command and the EU endorsed the Czech request unambiguously in mid-2019. On 12 June 2020, the Czech armed

Forces took over the historically first command of the mission for the period of seven months. As part of its lead national role, the Czech Republic manned 42 positions in the mission command and staff and Brigadier General František Ridzák was appointed the EUTM mission commander from June 2020.

Czech Armed Forces Task Force Mali

The Task Force performed the operational assignment in the strength of 119 personnel until the command takeover and then in the strength of 74 personnel. The TF comprised the command, platoon-sized Bamako force protection unit and company-sized Koulikoro force protection unit until April 2020 – then as a platoon equivalent – reinforced with training instructors and a mobile medical team. The primary mission was to provide security to the headquarters in Bamako and the Koulikoro Training Centre.

EUFOR Althea, Bosnia and Herzegovina



In line with the authorised mandate, the Czech Armed Forces engaged in the operation with two officers. Those specialists were assigned into the EUFOR HQ staff at Camp Butmir in Sarajevo and performed duties in the domain of inspection of ammunition storage, force protection and planning of training of the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



EU NAVFOR Somalia Operation Atalanta, United Kingdom/Spain



The Czech Republic joined EU NAVFOR Somalia in 2010. A team comprising two officers and a senior non-commissioned officer assigned to the structure of Operation Headquarters in Northwood, UK. In response to Brexit, the OHQ was relocated to the Naval Station Rota, Spain, in March 2019. The assignment of Czech Armed Forces personnel in the operation ended at 31 July 2020. In the course of ten years, 21 teams comprising 63 service personnel served tours.

EU NAVFOR MED Operation Sophia, Operation Irini, Italy



EU Naval Forces – Mediterranean Operation Sophia was established in 2015 to the effect of disrupting human smuggling and trafficking networks in the Mediterranean. The operation was discontinued at 31st March 2020. On the same day, the EU Council authorised the launch of new Operation EU NAVFOR MED Operation Irini with the mission to implement the UN arms embargo on Libya through the use of aerial, satellite and maritime assets. The tasks also involved the monitoring of illicit export of petroleum from Libya, assistance on training of the Libyan Coast Guard and Navy, and detecting and monitoring of human smuggling and trafficking networks. The Czech MoD posted had five service personnel posted in the OHQ in Rome.



OTHER INTERNATIONAL OPERATIONS

Multinational Force and Observers (MFO), Sinai, Arab Republic of Egypt



The Czech Republic engaged in MFO with three officers assigned at HQ MFO, and an air unit with the C-295 CASA aircraft comprising altogether 15 personnel. The air unit provided airlift for personnel and materiel among the MFO camps, Cairo and Tel Aviv, transport of government and liaison officials of the parties of the Peace Treaty, and partially also Search and Rescue (SAR) service and Medical Evacuation (MEDEVAC).

Operation Inherent Resolve (OIR), Iraq



The assignment of Czech service members was in conformity with the mandate and based on an official invitation by the Government of Iraq. The multinational operation is led by the United States with focus on fighting the so-called Islamic State (Daesh) and capability development and training of the Iraqi Armed Forces. The Czech Armed Forces continued the training courses and activities by the CBRN defence training team at the Al Taji base, with Military Police Training Team at Camp Dublin in Bagdad while the Air Advisory Team was on standby for potential resumed deployment. The training achieved the required capabilities in Iraqi Armed Forces and so it was terminated by Iraq in March 2020. The Czech involvement in the operation comprises four service personnel at the Command OIR, who solely focus on training and mentoring the operational echelon.

NATO Mission Iraq (NMI), Iraq

The Czech Armed Forces only engaged in the domain of advisory activities on the strategic level in support of the Iraqi



Armed Forces. From 2018, the Czech Republic fills a senior position in development and education management. Two service personnel serve in specialist mentoring positions.

Both missions in Iraq work closely together and complement one another in the capacity building and capability development processes in support of the Iraqi Armed Forces. The Czech Armed Forces temporarily redeployed its service personnel from both missions in Iraq in March 2020 because of the restrictions on the operational assignments due to security threats, coronavirus pandemic and the planned reorganisation of both missions. From October 1st, 2020, the Czech Armed Forces resumed its participation in those two operations.

Operation Takuba, Mali

The operation core task was on suppression of terrorist activities. Task Force Takuba is a French initiative. The Czech Republic sent an advance element in December 2020 with the task to prepare conditions, workplaces, materiel and logistic support for the core SOF task force. The primary mission of the Czech team was to provide training, support and assistance to specific units of the Malian Armed Forces to make sure they are self-reliant in counterterrorist operations.

Czech Embassy security, Afghanistan

The mandate for this mission was authorised for 20 personnel because of security reasons. The task to provide security to personnel and assets was assigned to the Military Police Team Kamba, which provided security to the Embassy, to transfers of Embassy personnel and VIPs and to official functions. This security effort is not a part of the Resolute Support Mission.

UNITED NATIONS MISSIONS

UNDOF, Golan Heights, Syria, Israel

The Czech Republic was engaged with four officers serving at UNDOF Headquarters at Camp Faouar in Syria. The mission's goal is to maintain stability in the Golan Heights area and promote the peace process in the region.

MINUSMA, Mali



Three Czech officers were posted in the MINUSMA command structure and another service members arrived in December 2020. The task is to provide stability and security in the region.

UN Military Observers

The Czech Armed Forces UN military observers served tours in 2019 in four UN peace missions comprising the total of 9 personnel, of whom there were six females.

MONUSCO (Democratic Republic of Congo) – 2 personnel

UNMIK (Kosovo) – 2 personnel

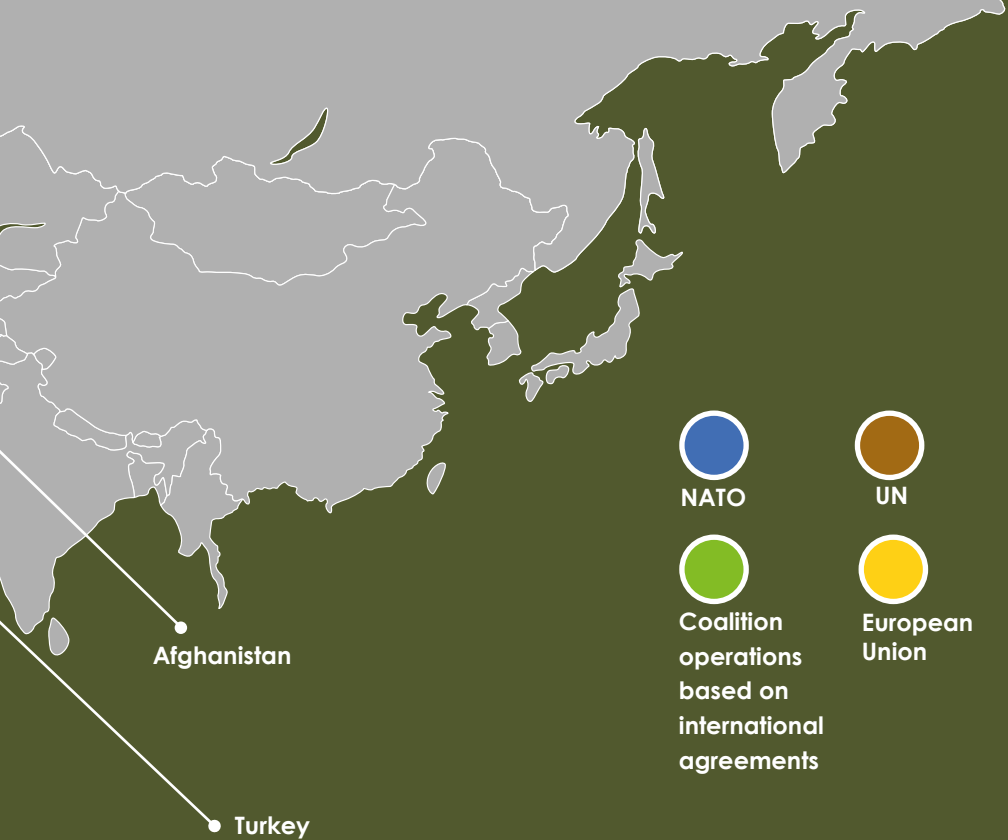
MINUSCA (Republic of Central Africa) – 3 personnel

MINUSMA (Mali) – the posting of military observers was discontinued in July 2020 following a decision by the United Nations because of the worsened security situation in Mali.









Deployments in international
operations in 2020



The background features a blurred photograph of a person, possibly a woman, with dark hair, looking towards the camera. This image is partially obscured by a large, dark green, angular shape that resembles a stylized 'V' or a folded piece of paper. Overlaid on the entire composition are several thin, dark green lines that intersect to form a geometric pattern, including a large triangle and several intersecting lines that create a sense of depth and structure.

**TRAINING
PRIORITIES IN 2020
| EXERCISES WITH
INTERNATIONAL PARTNERS**

TRAINING PRIORITIES IN 2020

The training of the Czech Armed Forces' units focused on meeting the requirements for the Czech Republic's territorial defence, delivering on NATO and EU commitments, predeployment training commitments and on maintaining and development of capabilities in individual branches and forces for the full spectrum of operations in both symmetric and asymmetric warfare environments as well as cyber threats and cooperation with foreign partners.

Major exercises with international partners in the home territory

AMPLE STRIKE

The exercise series is designed to hone skills of the joint terminal attack controllers in integration between aircrews and land commanders through exercising close air support operation procedures in a multinational environment. This exercise included field training of the active reserve component of the Czech Air Force, the proving of the Host Nation Support capabilities and in-flight refuelling practise. Notwithstanding half the number of trainees (roughly 700 soldiers and airmen, over 150 air assets and vehicles) in this edition, Ample Strike comprised 800 guided runs, 265 sorties and 370 flights hours.

YELLOW CROSS

The primary objective of this exercise was to harmonise the activities of the units assigned to the NATO Response Force task forces and verify readiness for operational deployment in support of multinational forces. In October 2020, the Yellow Cross saw the participation of 470 service personnel, especially the service personnel of the 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence Regiment.



BRILLIANT JUMP

A total of 200 service members of the 71st Mechanised Battalion took part in exercise Brilliant Jump with the core task to practise unit activation and movement into the area of deployment in Lithuania, with dozens of wheeled as well as tracked vehicles moving for the training event primarily on rail.

JOINT LOGISTIC SUPPORT GROUP HEADQUARTERS TABLE TOP EXERCISE

The exercise centred on methodological preparation of the Joint Logistic Support Group Headquarters was organised two times for the Visegrad Four member states. The exercise was designed to introduce and rehearse planning and coordination processes in accordance with the NATO standards in the provision of logistic support on operations. The primary responsibility for the training event was vested with the Multinational Logistics Coordination Centre (MLCC). Representing the Czech Armed Forces, the MLCC, MoD Support Division, Logistics Agency and the Land Forces Command assigned their personnel to the exercise.

In 2020, the "Obrana" national exercise was cancelled based on an order by the Chief of General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces. Out of international exercises European Challenge, Federated Cloud, Idee, Defender, Adamant Warrior were not held either in that year.

Major exercises with international partners outside the home territory

SURGICAL TEAM TRAINING

This NATO medical exercise was designed to harmonise surgical teams of the multinational field medical facility as part of the NATO task force in Afghanistan. The trainees practised triage, surgical stabilisation, hospital care and staging of casualties for evacuation to higher roles.

JACKAL

This Special Forces exercise for units ready for operational deployment in the territory of Mali verified the integration of staffs and units in tactical activities including the possibility to use cooperation with air forces.

TOBRUQ LEGACY

This is a rotation exercise series for ground based air defence (GBAD) units designed to verify technical interoperability and definition of operating procedures in conjunction with other NATO units. The exercise proved the GBAD capabilities in integration of the Czech unit into a NATO task force outside the home territory, by which the Czech Republic declares the readiness of the Czech Republic





for common airspace defence and reassures the NATO Allies about its continuing commitment to the Article 5 Washington Treaty collective defence in the domain of defensive operations. In NATO, the Czech Republic is the lead nation for the very short range air defence.

TRIDENT WARRIOR

This field exercise trained the Special Forces operators for operational deployment by the means of training in near real-world environments. The training objective was to practise operations in built-up areas with use of coalition vehicles, abbreviated planning process and the verification of the integration capability and interoperability as part of a coalition detachment. The exercise was designed to simulate detached operations by individual task forces for special operations.

Training of the Active Reserve Component (ARC) of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic

The ARC training focuses on achieving the objective capabilities based on the assignment of individual reserve personnel in the structure of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic. The ARC observes a three-year unit training cycle in line with the ARC Training Plans of individual echelons, MoD policy and actual manning levels of the Active Reserve Component. The Regional Military Headquarters (RMHQ) perform individual and specialist training in the first phase. Phase two involves team level training and phase three focuses on platoon level training. That training cycle is crowned with a tactical platoon exercise with live fire. In other branches, the ARC units are trained for the performance of the primary missions of their organic units. The aim of the ARC units at the RMHQs is the train the ARC infantry companies for securing the critical defence infrastructure and reinforcing of Police of the Czech Republic and other components of the Integrated Emergency System in performance of their duties. The ARC training is designed to attain the training standards of their organic units, support and



reinforcement of specific capabilities of the Czech Armed Forces and augmentation of peacetime manning levels in case required by the Czech Armed Forces. The training of ARC units is organised in the Military Training Areas, at garrison training sites and in specialised lecture rooms with simulation technologies.

The Coronavirus pandemic impact on ARC training

Most of the ARC training exercises were cancelled due to the aggravated epidemiological situation in 2020. In the autumn, the training took on the form of e-learning courses in order to maintain the abilities and knowledge of the AR personnel as a substitute for the cancelled field training exercises. It was for the first time for ARC members to make use of e-learning.

Individual e-learning courses lasted nine days and the ARC personnel took them based on their rank, attending the enlisted and junior Non-Commissioned Officer course, senior NCO course and commissioned officers course.

The e-learning courses are designed both to expand the theoretical knowledge and harmonise the basic knowledge of ARC personnel across the Czech Republic. The contents of individual course was always specific for individual rank corps, and included basic knowledge and skillset the personnel should be familiar with. That involved the rudiments of defence legislation, international humanitarian law, weapon and equipment, all-arms and tactical training, basics of cyber security and indeed information on the service personnel's basic duties and commander's rights and duties.

In total, the e-learning course was completed by 1,897 members of the Active Reserve Component.





MODERNISATION

MODERNISATION

The modernisation projects are based on the 2030 Czech Armed Forces Development Concept (CAFDC), which defines the primary requirements for combat forces, combat support and combat support service forces in the 2025 and 2030 milestones and defines specific steps to achieve the planned capabilities.

CBRN defence – the first S-LOV-CBRN and LOV-CBRN II light armoured vehicles designated for radiation and chemical sampling and identification were acquired. Eighty vehicles will be delivered to CBRN defence units and subunits in 2021-23. The year 2020 saw a modernisation of some of the detection, identification and monitoring instrumentation and systems. Specific research, development and innovation projects were focused on forensic sampling, detection of specific warfare agents, decontamination of sensitive and interior surfaces of military vehicles, equipment and materiel including handguns, as well as on the development of new individual protection equipment. In 2020, the development, training and certification were successfully completed of the Czech Armed Forces CBRN defence units for the Combined Joint Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence Task Force (CJ CBRND TF) assigned to the NATO Response Force 2021.

Artillery – the achievement of capabilities continues in line with achieving capabilities pursuant to the Czech Armed Forces Development Concept and realisation of interconnecting all elements of the Czech Armed Forces artillery within the SG2 Shareable (Fire Control) Software Suite (S4) architecture. Intensive contractual negotiations took place with the supplier of the NATO self-propelled artillery gun. As part of the artillery Fire Control System (FCS) project, a framework contract was executed with the national integrator for the



selection of the FCS and its implementation. Procurement of the systems for fire support coordination post and the light armoured reconnaissance vehicles was in progress in line with the plan and the relevant contracts. Amendments were approved in the strategic project of the artillery including ammunition vehicles and artillery maintenance vehicles. Preparations started for the modernisation of the PAB-2A artillery compass to the effect of transitioning to the NATO arc system (6,400 mils). The development continued of the project of implementation of radio-sounding systems on the wheeled PODTEO platform, the 60 mm SMK-LD shell and the 60 mm ILL-LD shell project and the project of the Czech Armed Forces' artillery reconnaissance systems carrier and maintenance vehicle.

Cyber forces – the development continued of the Cyber Forces and Information Operations (CFIO). In subordination to the Cyber Forces and Information Operations Command (CFIOC), the Cyber Forces and Information Operations Group was formed as an executive component with the mission to operate in the cyberspace, perform information engagement and support of psychological operations and civil-military cooperation. Service posts of cyber forces specialists were embedded into the structure of the Land Forces, Air Force and Training Command – Military Academy. Preparations started for transferring the computer incident response capability from the Communication and Information Systems Agency. To achieve its mission, the CFIO cooperates with all branches and services in the Czech Armed Forces, MoD components as well as partner nations and components in NATO and the EU.

Mechanised forces – the project continued of modernising the equipment of the 7th Mechanised Brigade through the acquisition of the Tracked Infantry Fighting Vehicle (TIFV) in seven modifications in the total quantity of 210 units. The Land Forces' units introduced to their inventory the command/control and communication vehicles on the Pandur platform. The contract was performed



for the delivery of 42 units of command/control vehicles and communication vehicles on the TITUS platform with deliveries scheduled in 2022–23. A contract was signed for an upgrade of T-72M4CZ Main Battle Tanks to span until 2025. The tests were carried out of the Model 2018 protective ballistic vests (VOBU II), which will be introduced with the Land Forces. Following military tests, the deliveries were finished of the model 2017 ballistic helmets for the units of the mechanised forces. A framework contract was signed for the replacement of handguns in the whole MoD. The verification and military tests were successfully completed of the calibre 9×19 NATO CZ P-10 C and CZ P-10 F pistols, calibre 5.56×45mm and 7.62×51 NATO BREN 2 assault rifles. Deliveries are scheduled for 2021–2025.

Ground Based Air Defence – at the end of the year 2020, the first batch of eight Robotsystem 70 Next Generation (RBS-70NG) air defence systems were delivered and operators, instructors and technical specialists were trained. The project is designed to introduce to the inventory the total of 16 units of this system by the end of 2021 to replace the 9K35M Strela-10M2D/IFF (SA-13 Gopher) system. The strategic project for the acquisition of Short Range Air Defence (SHORAD) with deliveries scheduled for 2024–2027 (as a replacement of the 2K12 KUB SA-6 Gainful system) involved negotiations with the supplier of the SPYDER air defence system. The contract is planned for signature by the end of 2021.

Radio technical service and Aerospace Surveillance and Control System (ASACS)

– from 2023 on, the service will have eight mobile 3D Multi Mission Radar (MMR) ELM-2084 units including the deployment of those systems in support of NATO operations in line with the Czech Republic's membership commitments. The expansion commenced of the Multifunction Information Distribution System (MIDS) ground terminal network commenced to provide the Link-16 tactical communications. The preparation continued for the modernisation of the ground air radio communication system – the Second Generation Anti Jam Tactical UHF Radio for NATO (SATURN). Mode 5 IFF was implemented on the Fixed Air Defence Radars to acquire the Identification Friend or Foe capability including the certification of the capability with NATO partners. The project of modernising voice and communication services has been finalised.

Air Traffic Management and air radio navigation service –the modernisation and development of the service systems was realised in line with the Czech Armed Forces Development Concept and the requirements of the Single European Sky/ Single European Sky ATM Research (SES/SESAR). The acquisition case started to procure four units of the Instrument Landing System/Distance Measuring Equipment (ILS/DME) systems for military airfields as a replacement of

the existing systems that is well past its service life. The LETVIS upgrade project is being finalised so as to provide interoperability with the new Air Traffic Management System of the Czech Republic. Preparations were ongoing for the modernisation of the standby power sourcing systems for military airfields and renovation of the International Civil Aviation Organization (ICAO) CAT I airfield lighting system at the Prague-Kbely airfield. The contract was signed for the delivery of equipment for the Joint Terminal Attack Controller (JTAC) unit.



Tactical air units – abbreviated military tests were carried out of the Link-16 secure data communication system, the secure voice communication system for the JAS-39 Gripen supersonic aircraft and special flight equipment (pilot vest and ejection seat survival kit) for the pilots of L-159. The development continued of input documents for entering into contract for an upgrade of the JAS-39 Gripen fleet, which will include the integration of IFF Mode 5 to improve the aircraft identification capabilities. The introduction of the new standard Second Generation Anti-jam Tactical UHF Radio for NATO (SATURN) radio communication system was in the making. An integrated working team was tasked to deal with the issue of the future of tactical air force units after 2027 when the lease of the JAS-39 Gripen aircraft expires.

Helicopter and transport air units – preparations were completed for the upgrade of the Mi-171Sh rotary wing aircraft fleet to maintain personnel and materiel airlift capability in support of the Land Forces and performance of the missions of Special Operation Air Task Unit (SOATU). The modernisation of the CASA C-295M transport aircraft was launched relative to the SES/SESAR project, and the contract was signed for the procurement of two new C-295MW aircraft. The Yak-40 aircraft were decommissioned. The Czech Republic became a member of the Multinational Multi Role Fleet (MMF) program to assure access to the shared air mobility and in-flight refuelling capabilities represented by the Airbus A-330 MRTT aircraft.

Airborne forces – the development started of the new airborne regiment formed on the basis of the 43rd Airborne Battalion homebased at Chrudim at 1 October 2020. Based on the unit development plan, the documentation and specifications were prepared to enable the

renovation of immovable infrastructure in the Chrudim garrison and progressive acquisition of military equipment and materiel for the nascent regiment.

Engineer service – in order to support the operations of units performing Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) combined with chemical, biological or radioactive materials, the Dragon Runner 10 and 20 (DR10/DR20) robots were acquired as well as several types of detectors of chemical warfare agents and home-made explosives and narcotics. To the effect of increasing the force protection, the engineer units performing IED-D road clearing received command line detectors to search improvised explosive devices and the night vision devices. In addition, the specifications were developed for the procurement of ballistic resistant earthmoving machines. Based on a contract executed with an independent contractor, the development started of the feasibility study to acquire the single medium ballistic resistant wheeled platform for the Engineer Service.

Military medical service – major projects included the procurement and delivery of 19 units of the light offroad medical evacuation vehicle and modernisation of the Biorover superstructures (6 units). Obsolete instrumentation and personnel individual protection equipment were replaced on the Biorover vehicles.

KEY STRATEGIC PROJECTS

2021

2022

2023

2024

Attaining the Czech Armed Forces' capabilities

UH-1Y VENOM and AH-1Z VIPER HELICOPTERS

In 2020, negotiations were underway on the logistic support, recruitment of personnel and requirements for realigning immovable infrastructure to accommodate the operation of the H-1 helicopter system (8 units of UH-1Y and 4 units of AH-1Z rotary wing aircraft).

MOBILE AIR DEFENCE RADAR

The contract with the Ministry of Defence of the State of Israel for the procurement of 8 units of the 3D ELM-2084 Multi Mission Radars was executed in 2019. The preparations were underway in 2020 for the delivery of the radar units to individual sites including the finalisation of construction works.

NATO ARTILLERY GUN

The preparations for the acquisition case began along with negotiations on the contract and price with NEXTER to the effect of signing the contract and starting the realisation in 2021. The total of 52 gun pieces are intended for delivery by the end of 2026

TRACKED INFANTRY FIGHTING VEHICLE

The preparations for the acquisition case began in 2020 to the effect of contract signing and starting the realisation in 2021. The total of 210 vehicles are intended for delivery by the end of 2027.

SHORAD

The negotiation with the supplier of the air defence system started in 2020. The contract is intended for signature by the end of 2021 and the deliveries in 2024-27.



Contract signature



Deliveries completed

2025

2026

2027

2028

2029

2030



Images are for illustrative purposes only.





NEW CAPABILITIES

The Czech Armed Forces develops new capabilities to meet the requirements it is faced with. Those involve organisational redesign of the command and control system and the development of forces capable of meeting further requirements and missions.

Command and Control

1. Restructuring of the General Staff. The MoD Support Division was dismissed and the MoD Logistics Division was newly created as well as the MoD Communication and Information Systems Division and the MoD Military Medicine Division. The Reconnaissance and Electronic Warfare Department was reorganised into the MoD Czech Armed Forces Intelligence Support Division. Those components achieved full operational capability at 1 January 2020.

2. Transition from the two-echelon command and control system to the three-echelon system comprising the strategic, operational and tactical level. The operational level was formed, represented by the Operations Command (OpsCom). The OpsCom achieved its Initial Operation Capability at 1 January 2020 and the Full Operation Capability will be achieved at 1 January 2022.



3. Tactical level

- **Land Forces Command (LFC)**

Having relocated from the Prague garrison to Olomouc, the LFC achieved its Initial Operation Capability at 1 January 2020 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2021. In its force provider role, the LFC mission is to train and prepare land task forces for tactical assignments in the territory of the Czech Republic and abroad, as well as for other statutory tasks in the home territory.

- Air Force Command (AFC)

The AFC achieved its Initial Operational Capability at 1 January 2020 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2022.

Force Development

1. Cyber Forces and Information Operations Command (CFIOC)



Based at Brno, the CFIOC achieved its Initial Operational Capability at 1 January 2020 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2025. Its primary mission is to strengthen the Czech Republic's security and defence in the cyberspace and information environment with the capability of protecting own elements in the cyberspace, performing information operations, information operations in cyberspace, psychological operations and civil-military cooperation.

2. Territorial Command (TerCom)



Based at Tábor, the TerCom achieved its Initial Operational Capability at 1 January 2020 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2025. The TerCom provides policy and specialist guidance to the Regional Military Headquarters as concerns calling up the Active reserve Component personnel for preparation, field training exercises and operational deployment including their equipment.

3. Airborne Regiment



Based at Chrudim, the 43rd Airborne Regiment achieved its Initial Operational Capability at 1 October 2020 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2026. The Airborne Regiment will have the capability to act as an immediate reaction force for managing contingencies that require a military response in the territory of the Czech Republic as well as abroad. The Regiment will be able to deploy as part of NATO task forces into hybrid environments with both military and non-military actors.

4. Unmanned Systems Battalion



Based at Prostějov, the 533rd Unmanned Systems Battalion was formed on 1 January 2020; it achieved its Initial Operational Capability at 1 October 2020 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2025. The Battalion will have the capability of assigning modular elements with specific categories of unmanned systems in support of tasks forces.

5. Deployable Forces Support Battalion



Based at Rakovník, the Battalion was formed on 1 January 2020, will achieve its Initial Operational Capability at 1 January 2022 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2025. The Battalion will have the capability of providing Host Nation Support; Reception, Staging, Onward Movement – Staging Area and Convoy Support Centre (HNS, RSOM-SA, RSOM-CSC) in support of the Czech Armed Forces and NATO nations' forces both in the home territory and abroad.



6. Medical Battalions

Based at Hradec Králové, the 6th Medical Battalion was formed on 1 January 2020, will achieve its Initial Operational Capability at 1 January 2023 and Full Operational Capability at 1 January 2026. The Battalion's mission will be to provide comprehensive medical support to task forces.







REORGANISATION AND BASE REALIGNMENT IN 2020

REORGANISATION OF THE CZECH ARMED FORCES IN 2020

The year 2020 was the year of stabilisation with only essential measures realised. Components directly reporting to the Chief of General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces performed an assessment of the process of reorganisation, mobilisation and basing changes implemented in 2019 in conformity with the policies authorised by the Government of the Czech Republic (Czech Armed Forces structure and authorised personnel strength, Czech Armed Forces Development Concept 2030), and by the Minister of Defence (Command and Control system optimisation and development of new components).

At 1 July 2020

- Land Forces Command was relocated from the Prague garrison into the Olomouc garrison.

At 1 October 2020

- The organisational core for the formation of the airborne regiment was reorganised into the 43rd Airborne Regiment.

At 31 December 2020

- The 43rd Airborne Battalion was dismissed.

At 1 January 2021

- The Communication and Information Systems Agency was reorganised - the CIRC was incorporated into the Cyber Forces and Information Operations Command.
- The Cyber Forces and Information Operations Command was reorganised.
- The Operations Command was reorganised.



- The Regional Military Headquarters were transferred from the command of the MoD Capabilities Planning Division into subordination of the Territorial Command.
- The Communication and Information Systems Agency was reorganised.
- The 41st Mechanised Battalion was reorganised.
- The 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence Regiment was reorganised.

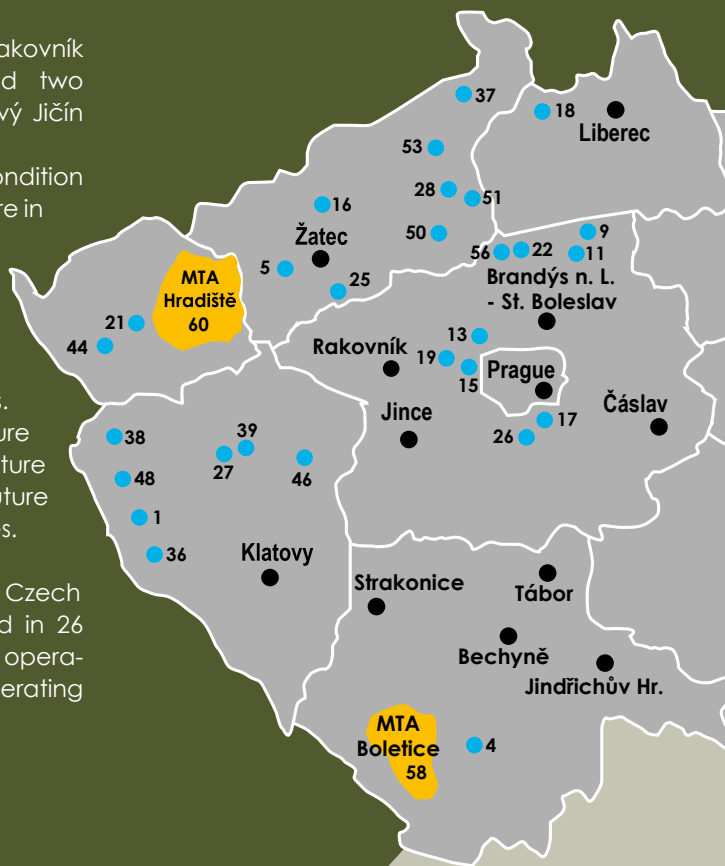


Basing 2020

The year 2020 saw the Rakovník garrison established and two operating locations – Nový Jičín and Loukov.

In order to improve the condition of immovable infrastructure in the selected bases and garrisons of the Czech Armed Forces, projects were developed for the renovation of facilities at specific high priority bases. The objective is to make sure the immovable infrastructure meets current and future needs of the armed forces.

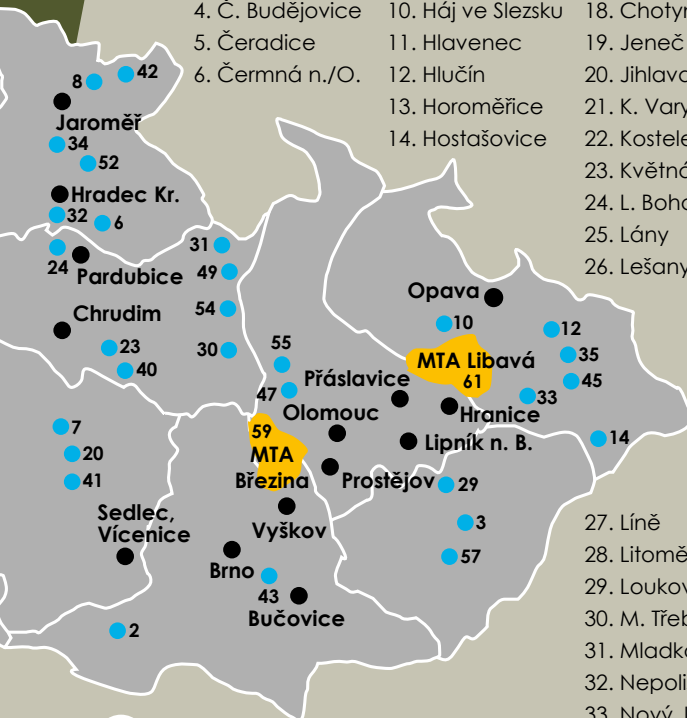
At 31 December 2020, the Czech Armed Forces was based in 26 garrisons, 19 standalone operating locations and 42 operating locations.





Standalone operating locations and operating locations

1. Bělá n./R.
2. Božice
3. Bystřice p./H.
4. Č. Budějovice
5. Čeradice
6. Černá n./O.
7. Dobronín
8. Dobruška
9. Dolní Slivno
10. Háj ve Slezsku
11. Hlavenec
12. Hlučín
13. Horoměřice
14. Hostašovice
15. Hostivice
16. Hrušovany
17. Chocerady
18. Chotyně
19. Jeneč
20. Jihlava
21. K. Vary
22. Kostelec n./L.
23. Květná
24. L. Bohdaneč
25. Lány
26. Lešany
27. Líně
28. Litoměřice
29. Loukov
30. M. Třebová
31. Mladkov
32. Nepolisy
33. Nový Jičín
34. Nový Ples
35. Ostrava
36. Pec
- Česká Kubice
37. Petrovice
38. Planá
39. Plzeň
40. Pomezí
41. Rančňov
42. Sedloňov
43. Sokolnice, Újezd u Brna
44. Sokolov
45. Stará Ves n./O.
46. Strašice
47. Štěpánov
48. Tachov
49. Těchonín
50. Trávčice
51. Trnovany
52. Týniště n./O.
53. Ústí n./L.
54. Ústí n./O.
55. Újezd
56. Vodochody
57. Zlín
58. MTA Bolešice
59. MTA Březina
60. MTA Hradiště
61. MTA Libavá



Garrisons



Military Training Areas (MTA)





ACTIVE RESERVE COMPONENT

ACTIVE RESERVE COMPONENT



The Active Reserve Component (ARC) is a part of the reserves of the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic in peacetime and comprise reserve soldiers

and airmen assigned to the ARC based on their voluntary acceptance of their liability to conscription in accordance with the Act No. 585/2004 Coll., on Liability to Conscription and its Ensuring (the Defence Act), as subsequently amended.

The Active Reserve Component is earmarked for augmenting the Armed Forces of the Czech Republic. The course of military service of ARC personnel is regulated by the Act No. 45/2016 Coll., on the Service of Reservists.

In 2020, the ARC personnel were assigned to 60 combat, combat support and combat support service unit and AR units at RMHQs. Further, service posts were established for the ARC personnel in the staffs of military units and components while specific ARC service posts were created.

ACTIVE RESERVE COMPONENT



Active Reserve Component units



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Prague Capital



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Prague (Central
Bohemia)



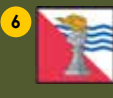
ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ České Budějovice



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Plzeň



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Karlovy Vary



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Ústí nad Labem



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Liberec



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Hradec Králové



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Pardubice



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Jihlava



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Brno



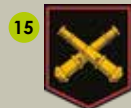
ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Olomouc



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Ostrava



ARC Infantry Company
RMHQ Zlín



ARC Fire Battery
13th Arty Regt Jince



ARC Decon Platoon
31st CBRN Regt Liberec



ARC 5th Commando
43rd ABn Regt Chrudim



ARC Mechanised Company
41st MechBn Žatec



ARC Mechanised Company
42nd MechBn Tábor



ARC Mechanised Company
44th LMBn Jindřichův Hr.



ARC Mechanised Company
71st MechBn Hranice



ARC Mechanised Company
72nd MechBn Přáslavice



ARC Tank Company
73rd TBn Přáslavice



ARC Mechanised Company
74th LMBn Bučovice



ARC Reconnaissance Coy
102nd RecceBn Prostějov



ARC Supply Company
141st SupBn Pardubice



ARC Transport Equipment
Maintenance Platoon
142nd MainBn Klatovy

28



ARC Rescue Company
151st EngrBn Bechyňe

29



ARC Pontoon Company
152nd EngrBn Bechyňe

30



ARC Rescue Unit
153rd EngrBn Olomouc

31



ARC Jamming Platoon
532nd EWBn Opava

32



ARC Combat Support Service
company 21st TAFB Čáslav

33



ARC Aviation Flight
21st TAFB Čáslav

34



ARC Technical Flight
21st TAFB Čáslav

35



ARC Combat Support
Service Company
22nd HAFB Náměšť n.O

36



ARC Aviation Flight
22nd HAFB Náměšť n.O

37



ARC Technical Flight
22nd HAFB Náměšť n.O

38



ARC Combat Support
Service Company
24th TAFB Prague Kbely

39



ARC Aviation Flight
24th TAFB Prague Kbely

40



ARC Technical Flight
24th TAFB Prague Kbely

41



ARC Combat Support
Service Company
25th ADM Regt Strakonice

42



ARC Combat Support
Service Company 26th
C2S Regt Brandýs n.L

43



ARC Guard Platoon
Airfield Administration
Pardubice

44



ARC Air Traffic
Management Unit Airfield
Administration, Pardubice

45



5th Reserves Center
601st SOFG Prostějov

46



ARC Special MOS Unit
TraCom-MA Vyškov

47



ARC unit
MilMedAgcy Těchonín

48



ARC Field Hospital
Support Unit,
Hradec Králové

49



ARC Unit CIS Agcy
Brno, Lipník nad Bečvou

50



ARC Unit
Garrison Command
Prague

51



ARC Operations Support
Company, Pardubice

52



ARC Territorial
Command, Tábor

53



ARC Cyber Forces and
Information Ops, Brno

54



ARC Deployable Forces
Support Battalion,
Rakovník

55



ARC Guard Company
Castle Guard Prague

56



ARC Unit Military
Intelligence, Prague

57



ARC Section Military
Police, Prague

58



ARC Criminal Service
Section, Prague

59



ARC 6th Military Police
Section Olomouc

60



ARC Section Military
Police, Tábor



ARC units of the Territorial Forces



ARC units of the Air Force

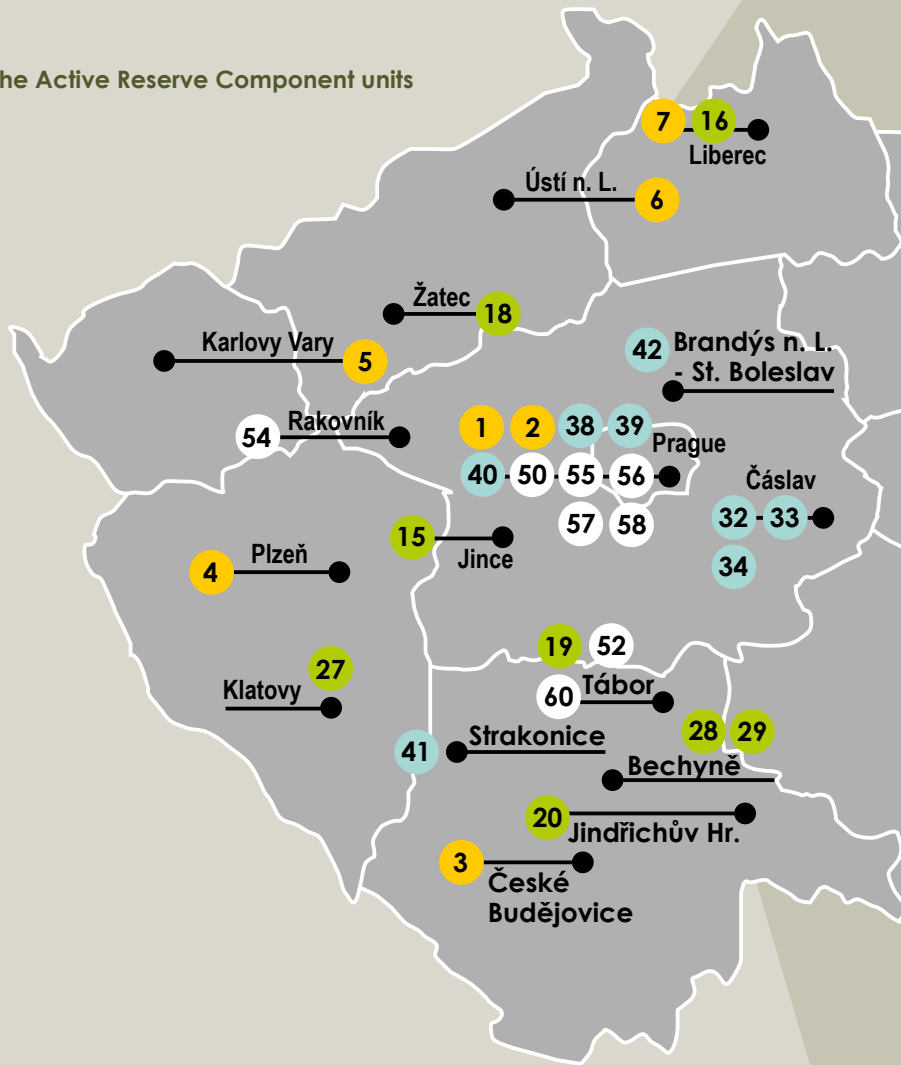


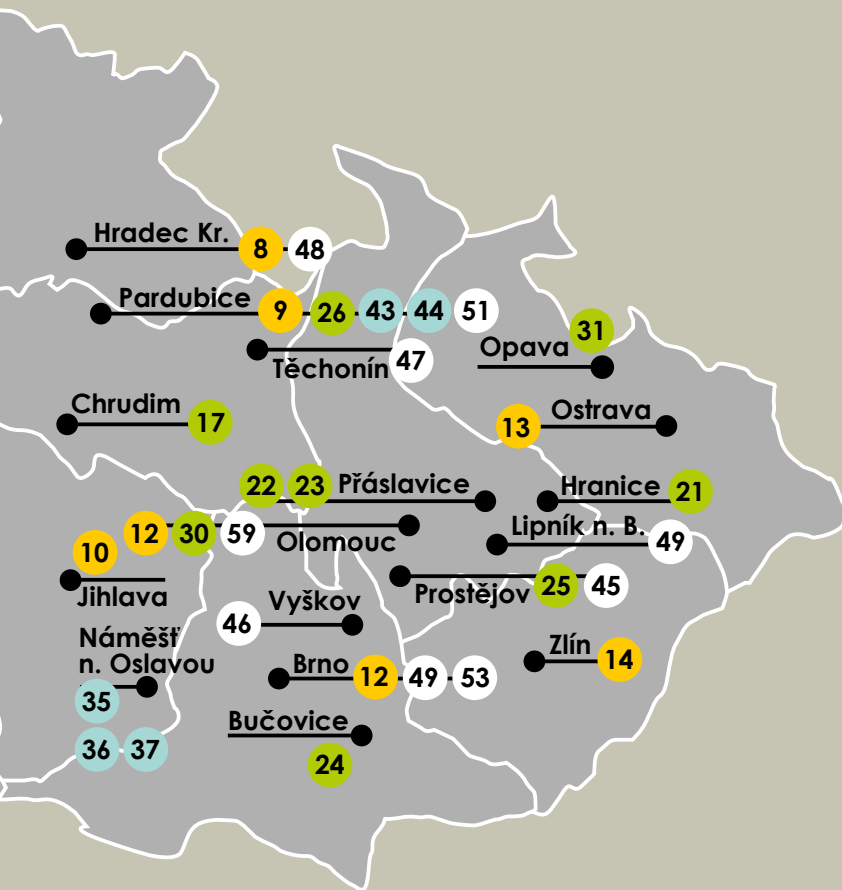
ARC units of the Land Forces



Other ARC units

Basing of the Active Reserve Component units









**THE CZECH ARMED
FORCES COUNTERING
THE CORONAVIRUS
PANDEMIC**

THE CZECH ARMED FORCES COUNTERING THE CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

At the end of January 2020, the World Health Organisation had declared a Public Health Emergency of International Concern due to the COVID-19 epidemic. On the 11th of March, the WHO qualified the spread of the disease as a pandemic. In the Czech Republic, first cases were reported on March 1st. The Czech Armed Forces joined the fight against COVID-19 the very next day, on the 2nd of March. On March 12th, a state of emergency was declared, which lasted until May 17th (the first wave). During the second wave, the state of emergency was declared on the 5th of October and lasted till the end of 2020. Fifteen thousand military professionals were engaged in both waves.



FIRST WAVE

OPERATION BORDER SUPPORT

The task was to secure selected border crossings. The operation commenced on 10 March and ended on 17 March. A total of 84 personnel and 11 vehicles were deployed at border crossings.

OPERATION EYE

In accordance with the requests of the Police of the Czech Republic, the Czech Armed Forces commenced the mission of temporary reestablishment of internal border control in the Czech Republic. The Czech Armed Forces deployed in 11 task forces: Brno, Zlín, Ostrava, Olomouc, Pardubice, Hradec Králové, Liberec, Ústí nad Labem, Karlovy Vary, Pilsen and České Budějovice. The task was performed either in combined teams with the members of the Police of the Czech Republic or separately under the command of a member of the Police of the Czech Republic. The operation commenced on 14 March with border crossings survey. The deployment lasted 10 days and was preceded by compulsory quarantine. The Czech Armed Forces assigned a total of 9,074 personnel and 1,171 vehicles in ten rotations.

OPERATION COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT

The goal of the operation was to provide sufficient capacity and logistic support to deployed Czech Armed Forces units, Integrated Rescue System units, State Material Reserves Administration, and community authorities. The most important task was the transport of medical materiel and protective equipment to the Czech Republic via the Salis airlift system onboard the An-124 Ruslan aircraft.

- SALIS 1 – 134 m³ of medical materiel
- SALIS 2 – 135 m³ of medical materiel
- SALIS 3 – 135 m³ of medical materiel
- RUSLAN 1 – 135 m³ of medical materiel

Military personnel provided the distribution of medical materiel from the stocks of the State Material Reserves Administration. The lack of personal protective equipment and medical equipment was resolved by procurement from the People's Republic of China. The operation commenced on 18 March and ended on 15 June.

The effort involved 400 personnel and the following equipment:

Trucks	309
Truck trailers	74
Offroad vehicles and vans	72
Buses	10
W-3A Sokol helicopter	1
CASA C-295 airplane	1

During the first wave, military personnel travelled over 50,000 km and transported more than 200 tonnes of materiel during the distribution of medical materiel from the State Material Reserves Administration stock to medical facilities. As part of this operation, the Czech Armed Forces assigned both personnel and equipment in 94 individual cases of distribution of medical materiel and 8 cases of unloading of aircraft and subsequent transport of the materiel to the State Material Reserves Administration stock.





CORONAVIRUS PANDEMIC

OPERATION SMART QUARANTINE

The Czech Armed Forces formed the Smart Quarantine Central Control Team. The team was inter-ministerial, which was a new concept. Military personnel set up the system and organisation of health threats crisis management in the Czech Republic, cooperated with National Agency of Communication and Information Technologies agency on the creation of a specialized software for the Smart Quarantine and prepared personnel for work with new types of data and information. Along with other entities, the team had prepared a Smart Quarantine 1.0 system to manage health threats in the Czech Republic, and, at the same time, prepared a proposal of the organisational structure of the Ministry of Health's crisis management, which would serve as a permanent basis for the management of health threats under the Ministry of Health and as part of the National crisis management system. Major General Petr Procházka was the head of the Smart Quarantine and later the Central Control Team for the duration of the operation. The Smart Quarantine was designed by COL Petr Šnajdárek. In the first wave, military personnel were deployed in 33 decontamination detachments from the 31st Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Defence Regiment, who carried out a total of 14 decontaminations. Ninety-two military personnel were selected to support 14 regional stations. In the second wave, 14 test teams of two personnel each were deployed, and later were upgraded to 30 teams of 60 personnel in total. Some 30 personnel assisted in regional hygienic stations and 10 in the command of the Central Control Team. This operation lasted until the end of the year and was under the command of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic since June 23rd. Military personnel were also involved in contacts tracing of infected persons.

A total of 71,064 tests were carried out.



**First wave:**

March	11
April	8,239
May	17,197
June	2,289
Total	27,736

Second wave:

June	2,493
July	3,339
August	3,228
September	10,390
October	16,470
November	4,223
December	3,185
Total	43,328

OPERATION LITOVEL

Based on the request of the Olomouc region, the Czech Armed Forces deployed the Military Health Service and Military Police to provide outpatient assistance for children and adults in the towns of Litovel and Uničov, which were struck by the epidemic. A mobile medical unit was set up in the Nové Zámky community. A total of 18 persons were given medical treatment. Ninety-five personnel and 49 units of equipment were deployed daily in this operation. The rotations took place in 4-day intervals with 12-hour night shifts. The operation commenced on 19 March and ended on 6 April.

OPERATION ASSISTANCE

The Czech Armed Forces deployed personnel and equipment to perform crisis countermeasures in order to provide assistance in regional social facilities and in facilities offering inpatient care. The Czech Armed Forces formed 50 assistance teams and 20 disinfection teams (360 personnel) to aid regional social facilities between 7 April and 15 June. Military personnel were deployed in Alzheimer Centre in Ostrava (15 April – 15 June) and Long-term Care Facility – Hospital in Mariánské Lázně (28 April – 31 May). Thirty-seven personnel and 5 vehicles were assigned for this operation. The Operation commenced on 7 April and ended on 31 May.

OPERATION SHELTER

The aim of this operation was to provide housing and support to homeless people in the Capital. The operation was based on the request of the Prague City Council. The operation was nevertheless never launched due to the development of the pandemic.



OPERATION COMMUNICATION

The Czech Armed Forces assigned members of the Cyber Forces and Information Operation (CFIO) to support the operational communication and provide timely information regarding the deployment of the Czech Armed Forces in COVID-19 related operations. The teams carried out 92 operational records at border crossings, testing facilities, Regional Hygiene Stations and Regional Military Headquarters. During the second wave, 21 members of the CFIO provided communication support. The teams carried out over 70 operational records in medical and social facilities.



OPERATION SECURITY

The aim was to provide personnel and equipment to maintain public order and safety (880 personnel were on standby). Members of the Czech Armed Forces were to fulfil their tasks in combined with the members of the Police of the Czech Republic or separately, under the command of a member of the Police of the Czech Republic. This operation was never launched.

OPERATION TRIAGE & TRIAGE I

The aim of Operation Triage was to strengthen the testing facilities, manage the testing strain in military medical facilities and to facilitate triage (the sorting of patients) in the Military University Hospital in Prague. Eight personnel were deployed in the operation. The aim of Triage I was to facilitate triage in the Military Hospital in Olomouc. Six personnel were assigned for the operation. The operation commenced on 4 May and ended on 13 May.

ACTIVATING THE BIOLOGICAL DEFENCE DEPARTMENT IN TĚCHONÍN

Experts from the Biological Protection Department in Těchonín actively assisted civil medical and social facilities during the first wave. Input documents were prepared for some civilian segments to manage counter epidemic measures. Lab personnel, who were assigned to the Military University Hospital, took part in the building of a COVID-19 laboratory and the creation of work procedures. They significantly contributed to the smooth running of the Military University Hospital. Throughout the pandemic, the Biological Protection Department served as a nationwide key facility for the detection of antibodies in plasma. The Department also fulfilled extraordinary tasks for the Czech Special Forces.



SECOND WAVE

The number of COVID-19 positive persons in the Czech Republic was rising in September 2020. By the end of the month, roughly 145,000 cases were registered and further growth was expected. As a result, the Czech Government declared a state of emergency on 5 October 2020, followed by other restrictions.

OPERATION ASSISTANCE

The mission was to help manage the running of medical and social facilities during the second wave, and it commenced on 8 October with the assignment of 10 drivers to the Emergency Medical Services



of Prague. Service members were later assigned to a total of 73 medical and social facilities (hospitals, retirement homes, aftercare centres, social facilities and one children's home). A total of 1,689 military personnel were assigned to that operation.

OPERATION COMPREHENSIVE SUPPORT

This mission included for example the transport of materiel from the State Material Reserves Administration stock in Osová Bítýška to the Military University Hospital in Prague, the transport of equipment and materiel to the Military University Hospital in Prague, and the reconfiguring of the testing facility on the hospital premises. Furthermore, material aid from Italy was airlifted to the Czech Republic (60 ventilators).

OPERATION CLS

On 10 November, the maximum amount of military personnel assigned was increased to 900. Some 400 of them were military professionals – Combat Lifesavers (CLS) able to help out as medical aids in the National Dispatch of Inpatient Care of the Ministry of Health of the Czech Republic.

The Czech Armed Forces personnel were assigned as follows:

- Land Force Command – 200 personnel (5 as reserve)
- Air Force Command – 110 personnel (5 as reserve)
- Special Forces Directorate– 35 personnel (5 as reserve)
- Training Command – Military Academy – 40 personnel (5 as reserve)
- Military Police Command – 40 personnel (5 as reserve.)

The assignment of CLS experts commenced on 18 November 2020. By 31 December 2020, a total of 609 CLS and 24 units of equipment were assigned to 56 hospitals.

OPERATION ANTIGEN TESTING CENTER SUPPORT

The operation to provide support to antigen testing centres in hospitals commenced on 18 December, with 56 CLS military professionals being assigned to 21 hospitals.

FOREIGN MEDICS ENGAGEMENT

Due to the deterioration of the epidemic situation, the Government approved the assignment of military medics from EU and NATO member states (up to 300 personnel). The military medics were assigned to the Military University Hospital in Prague, Military Hospital in Brno and Olomouc, to posts corresponding to their expertise. The medics were engaged in the Czech Republic between 30 October and 4 December 2020.

OPERATION STANDBY FIELD MEDICAL FACILITY

The Czech Armed Forces provided the building and management of a standby field medical facility on the premises of PVA Expo Prague – Letňany. The facility included 500 inpatient beds, with 10 intensive care placements and 490 standard care placements. The construction began on 18 October and it was reported ready on 25 October. A total of 284 military personnel, including 25 doctors, 143 medical personnel and 80 medical assistants were assigned to the medical facility in case of its activation. The construction took 8 days and 70 military personnel of the 6th Medical Battalion and 30 personnel of the Prague Garrison Command were involved. A total of 49 ISO containers with 340 tonnes of materiel were transported on 81 vehicles.

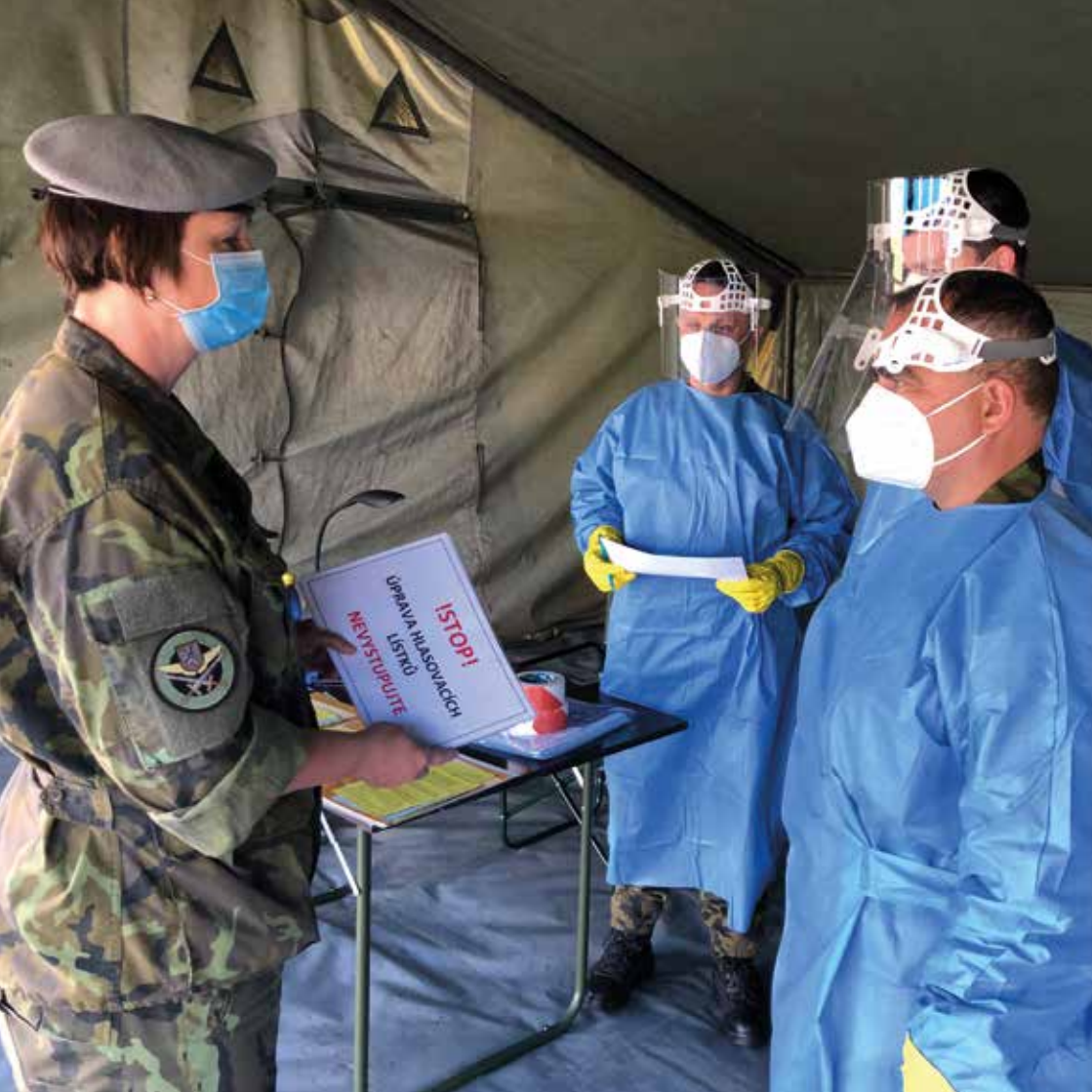
EXTRAORDINARY VOTING IN THE 2020 REGIONAL AND SENATE ELECTIONS

The elections with extraordinary voting methods took place in the first round between 30 September and 3 October and in the second round between 7 October and 10 October. The Czech Armed Forces provided support with the elections in all 76 electoral districts as well as three others in Prague, as follows:

- Drive-in voting;
- Voting at the housing location;
- Mobile ballot box voting.

Service members of the Land Forces, Air Force, Communication and Information Agency, Logistics Agency, Military Medicine Agency and Prague Garrison Command worked in the election committees. A total of 2,092 military personnel were gradually assigned to manage elections between 20 September and 10 October 2020. In the regional and Senate elections, 3,672 persons voted in the drive-ins, 150 persons voted in housing location and 1,776 cast their ballot in the mobile ballot box. The turnout in the second round was lower, as expected (moreover, only one third of the country was eligible to vote). 513 voters used the drive-ins, 23 persons voted at housing location and 390 applied for a mobile ballot box. Extraordinary voting methods were used by 6,524 citizens. The capacities of voting committees were set to approximately 16 thousand voters.







KEY MISSIONS OF THE CZECH ARMED FORCES IN 2021

- Provide the building and development of the Czech Armed Forces' capabilities
- Realize the training of the Active Reserve Component
- Develop logistic capabilities
- Replenish materiel stocks in facilities and units
- Prepare, deploy and sustain forces and assets for standby systems and operations, both in the Czech Republic and abroad.

Czech Armed Forces 2020

by the Public Diplomacy Section, General Staff of the Czech Armed Forces

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