



**As.So.Di.Pro.**

## **NATIONAL REPORT APRIL 2020**

I apologize for not following the format for the Euromil national report but in this case I really think that an exception can be applied without any doubt.

The Defense made available - in case of need and at the request of the competent authorities on the coronavirus emergency - a total of about 2,200 rooms and about 6,600 beds, distributed throughout the national territory, in favor of citizens who must eventually undergo the period surveillance.

The Ministry, on the recommendation of the Minister of Defence, is also available to provide emergency support through a portion of its medical staff, if a specific request is received and compatibly with the operational needs that these personnel are already called to carry out in the Defense field - in Italy and in missions abroad.

The military engaged in missions and operations abroad follow the directions of the Ministry of Health in the same way as those employed nationally. The Interforces Summit Operational Command (COI) has drawn up, for some time, a directive, coordinated in synergy with Igesan and the Ministry of Health, which concerns the precautionary measures to be adopted for the COVID-19 emergency. In this situation, while respecting the tasks assigned to maintain the adequate level of effectiveness in carrying out the missions, contacts with the local population and with any foreign cooperating Armed Forces are limited to a minimum, as is the case for those who work in Italy.

The Italian military have an increasing role in the management of the pandemic Covid 19. These are the latest initiatives implemented by employing troops and vehicles.

**As ordered by the Minister of Defense to speed up the distribution of health devices, the Army immediately made available to the Commissioner Mr. Arcuri and Civil Protection personnel, helicopters, land vehicles and infrastructures.**

In particular, it has identified some useful infrastructures for the storage and subsequent distribution in the southern regions of materials necessary for the fight against COVID 19, the deposits identified in the cities of Bari, Lamezia Terme, Palermo and Cagliari, insist along the main roads and near ports and airports with great strategic value for receiving and sending medical devices.

Two field hospitals were built by the Alpine Corps in 72 hours.

The Army, immediately at the forefront in combating the expansion of the virus, has made the utmost commitment to tackling the epidemic, providing health personnel in support of civil hospitals, specialized structures for the reception of the sick, materials, men and means for territorial control and emergency management.

As part of its activities to combat COVID 19, the Military Navy, at the specific request of the Defense General Staff, has since yesterday used the Riflemen of the Navy, San Marco Brigade also to control the territory.

In addition to guaranteeing continuity in the surveillance and control of the Repatriation Stay Center (CPR) / Restinco Asylum Seekers Reception Center (CARA), San Marco integrates the devices in place within the "Safe Roads" operation in competition with the competent Prefectures and Law Enforcement, assisting the Carabinieri, Police and Guardia di Finanza in the control of access gates to the province of Brindisi.

With this further commitment, the Navy increases, in full inter-agency and inter-agency spirit, its contribution to the country within the framework of measures to combat the spread of Covid 19.

As for the recent activities assigned to the Air Force, a C-130J of the 46th Air Force Brigade transferred yesterday from Fiumicino to Malpensa about 5 tons of masks and other medical material destined for hospitals in northern Italy.

The flight is part of the military transport plan made available by the Defense to speed up the distribution of medical material in favor of Civil Protection.

With yesterday's, the number of transport of medical material and equipment carried out by Air Force aircraft since the beginning of the CoVid 19 emergency 19 rises to five.

On the other hand, 13 air transport missions carried out by the Air Force to safely transfer patients from one hospital to another, thus alleviating the pressure on treatment centers in northern Italy at this time most affected by the problem.

The structures and crews are in a state of operational alert, 24 hours a day, ready to leave in a very short time. The activities are coordinated by the Air Operations Command of Poggio

Renatico (Ferrara), the nerve center of the Air Force who, through its Air Operation Center, is responsible for receiving and evaluating requests that can from time to time come from hospitals, prefectures or, in this case in a centralized way, by the Civil Defense, translating them into mission orders for the designated flight departments.

For years the ASSO.DI.PRO has been fighting for the recognition of the rights of the Italian military, including the right to health.

Given the serious events that occurred in the recent past to the detriment of the members of the armed forces which are still subject to judicial procedures, which are expensive, complex and very painful, faced by staff for service reasons and exposed to chemical, radioactive and carcinogenic agents with fatal or invasive consequences with permanent damage, in this particularly delicate phase we think it is not possible to overlook the effects of the ongoing pandemic, which does not produce injuries but lethality (you die or heal).

In this emergency many members of the armed forces (including members of the military police forces), in the initial phase, carried out services of all kinds, often without any DIP assistance, therefore exposed to risks of contagion to date not even ascertained and in any case still employed in each area and awaiting suitable health protocols or if already issued, simply not known.

This Association intends to closely monitor the conditions of employment of members of the armed forces, which more than others it is necessary to protect both for their own and for others' safety, precisely for the very essence of the Defense tasks.

In this regard, every possible effort by the Head of Armed Forces is requested with strength and immediacy to ensure the safety of workers, with prevention and protection works in the various work / operational phases, and through an essential and accurate risk assessment .

The ASSO.DI.PRO. Delegate

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