

Annotation

This rigorous thesis is based on my PhD thesis “Psychological and Social Aspects of Foreign Peacekeeping Missions”, defended in 2009 at the Department of Military Hygiene and Preventive Medicine at the Faculty of Military Health Sciences in Hradec Králové, University of Defence in Brno. The original PhD thesis was extended with the issue of the military environment in the Czech Armed Forces, with uniqueness and particularities of interpersonal relationships in the Czech Armed Forces, with the issue of combat stress and combat fatigue and with the burn-out syndrome. New objectives were added to the original ones and new hypotheses related to the topic were determined according to the supplemented research. The bibliography was extended as well.

The main objective of the research was to judge the selected psychological and social aspects of foreign peacekeeping missions of the Czech Armed Forces Medical Service which can impact on changes of soldiers' quality of life and interpersonal relationships. The psychological and diagnostic methods of DZP, IES-R, DŽS, BM, SVF-78, EOD-A and ŠSA were used to find out partial objectives of the research.

The Czech Armed Forces foreign peacekeeping mission is assessed in the thesis as a specific military activity which can impact on development of the posttraumatic stress disorder symptoms, the burn-out syndrome, combat stress and combat fatigue.

No similar work has been published in the same extent yet. Some works merely dealt with partial phenomena of studying mental state of soldiers who took part in a foreign mission. Therefore this study could be a contribution to the branch of military psychology and a base for working up the psychological training for soldiers leaving for foreign peacekeeping missions.

Keywords: The Czech Armed Forces, The Czech Armed Forces Medical Service, military foreign peacekeeping mission, posttraumatic stress disorder, burn-out syndrome, combat stress, combat fatigue, coping with stress strategy, life satisfaction, soldier's personality factors, interpersonal relationships.