



Ohio Adjutant General's Department

TED STRICKLAND, GOVERNOR

MAJOR GENERAL GREGORY L. WAYT, ADJUTANT GENERAL

Media Advisory
May 21, 2007
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For immediate release

Media Advisory ***Media opportunities with Serbian Chief of Defense***

Lt. Gen. Zdravko (*Pronounced Drav-ko*) Ponos, chief of Defense for the Republic of Serbia, will visit Ohio as part of the National Guard's State Partnership Program (SPP). The program links U.S. states with partner countries for various joint activities including bilateral familiarization, training exercises, fellowship-style internships and civic leader visits.

The program's goals reflect an evolving international affairs mission for the National Guard, using the unique civil-military nature of the Guard to interact with both active and reserve forces of foreign countries.

The visit by Ponos is part of an emerging partnership between the Ohio National Guard and the Republic of Serbia, which was initiated last Sept.

WHO: Lt. Gen. Zdravko (*Pronounced Drav-ko*) Ponos, chief of Defense for the Republic of Serbia.

WHAT: Lt. Gen. Ponos and members of his delegation will travel to Ohio to meet with Ohio National Guard leadership, Ohio legislators and visit various Ohio National Guard facilities and installations. There are two scheduled "media availability" sessions.

WHEN:

- 4:40 – 5:30 p.m. Wednesday May 23 (Columbus)
- 6 – 7 p.m. Thursday May 24, (Cleveland)

HOW: If you are interested in scheduling time to interview Lt. Gen. Ponos please contact the Ohio National Guard public Affairs Office at (614) 336-7000 or James Sims at (614) 336-7126.

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