

The Politics of Special Forces Podcast Show Notes

Episode 9 – POL TDF

Summary

In our ninth episode, we speak with the deputy commander of the Polish Territorial Defence Forces (TDF), Brigadier General Maciej Klisz. Our conversation examines what constitutes the TDF and draws connections between territorial defence and unconventional warfare, suggesting that territorial defence – especially in militaries that have focused on expeditionary operations, is in many ways a form of special operation.

About the Guest

Brigadier General Maciej Klisz is Deputy Commander of the Polish Territorial Defence Forces (TDF) and an experienced SOF leader. He enlisted in the Polish Armed Forces as a cadet in the Officer School of Mechanized Infantry in 1991. Upon graduation in 1995, he was commissioned as a second lieutenant and was assigned to the 6th Airborne Brigade, where he served as a rifle platoon leader, staff officer, and rifle company commander. In 2001 he successfully completed the Airborne School, Pathfinder School, and Ranger School in Fort Benning, GA (in the US). In 2005 he graduated from the National Defence Academy in Warsaw and he completed the Post-Graduate Operational and Tactics Studies. In 2006, BG Klisz joined the Polish Special Operations Forces, where he served for eleven years in strategic (the General Staff of the Polish Armed Forces), operational (the Polish Special Operations Command), and tactical (the JWK Commando Unit) level positions. He was also assigned to the NATO and European Union Response Forces Operations Command (RFOC) in Germany (2007-2010), where he served as a Special Operations Forces Advisor (SOF Advisor).

BG Klisz is a graduate of the Program on Terrorism and Security Studies (PTSS) at the George Marshall Center in Germany as well as the NATO Operational Planning, NATO Special Operations planning courses, Special Operations Aviation Planning Course, and the strategic projects' management courses and the US Army War College. BG Klisz has deployed experience in Bosnia-Herzegovina twice as a platoon leader and rifle company commander (1996-1997 and 1999-2000) and Afghanistan as a Chief of Staff of the NATO Special Operations Component Command (NSOCC- A).

BG Klisz is an author of numerous articles, analyses, and papers on special operations policies and operational employment, professional military education, international military cooperation, strategy development, and territorial and volunteer formations.

Audio credits

From Storyblocks (<https://www.storyblocks.com/>) and the song is called "A Taste of Victory" by Valentina Gribanova. Produced with Apple's GarageBand by the hosts.

Further Reading

Stringer, Kevin D. "Building a Stay-Behind Resistance Organization: The Case of Cold War Switzerland Against the Soviet Union" *Joint Forces Quarterly* 85, Second Quarter, 2017, pp. 109-114.

Stringer, Kevin D. and Glennis F. Napier, eds. *Resistance Views: Essays on Unconventional Warfare and Small State Resistance* (MacDill AFB: JSOU Press, 2018)