Special Forces, extreme Arctic training. Alpini Paracadutisti 24 hours up to –70°C

Published on 24/12/2025

The Operators of the Special Forces of the **4th Alpini Paracadutisti Regiment** are engaged in an advanced high-intensity training cycle in a **mountain-Arctic environment**, one of the most selective and complex scenarios in the military field.

The training activity aims to perfect the technical-professional skills of the Rangers, a unit of the **Italian Army Special Forces** specialized in operating in extreme climatic environments.

Physical endurance and psychological resilience

The training tests not only the physical and technical preparation but also the **psychological resilience** of the operators, who are called to operate in prohibitive climatic conditions typical of high mountains and the Arctic. In such environments, adaptability, stress management, and decision-making clarity are crucial for mission success.

The activities include prolonged periods on **snowy and rugged terrains**, with heavy load transportation, planning and conducting tactical actions, as well as specific acclimatization cycles to low temperatures.

Training in transporting an injured person in extreme temperature conditions - Copyright photo Italian Army

Snow mobility and dedicated vehicles

Particular attention is given to **snow mobility techniques**, essential to ensure safety, speed, and operational autonomy. The Rangers refine the use of:

- **Snowmobiles**
- **ATVs (quads)**
- **Light Tactical All Terrain Vehicles (LTATVs)**
- **Skis, snowshoes, and sleds for load transportation**

The goal is to ensure maximum movement effectiveness even on unstable, icy surfaces or those subject to sudden environmental changes.

Training with snowmobiles - Copyright Italian Army

Climatic chamber: training up to –70 °C

An integral part of the training cycle is the use of a **climatic chamber**, where operators are subjected for 24 continuous hours to extreme temperatures ranging from **–40 °C to –70 °C**, replicating the lowest temperatures recorded on earth, particularly in the Northern/Arctic hemisphere: **Siberia -67.7ºC (Oymyakon)** and **Greenland -69ºC**.

In this context, the following are tested:

- **equipment and materials**
- **operational procedures**
- **management of clothing and individual protection**
- **ability to maintain operational efficiency under physical and mental stress**

An essential training to validate men, means, and procedures in realistic and highly selective conditions.

Equipment in the climatic chamber - Copyright Italian Army

Operational readiness without compromise

Thanks to this training path, the Rangers of the 4th Alpini Paracadutisti Regiment confirm a **very high operational readiness**, proving capable of intervening effectively in any operational scenario, national and international.

A unit that expresses standards of professionalism, determination, and resilience, representing a strategic asset of the Italian Army at the service of the country.

News link: https://www.esercito.difesa.it/comunicazione/i-ranger-dellesercito-in-ambiente-montano-artico/126435.html