

KFOR CHRONICLE

The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

May 2014

"SILVER SABRE" EXERCISE



THE PRESIDENT OF
KOSOVO VISITED
KFOR HQ

www.nato.int/kfor





PICTURE: Afrim HAJRULLAHU

German Bilateral Mechanic Training with KSF Technical Students.

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SUCCESSFUL CONTINUANCE OF NLAT's MISSION

NATO Liaison and Advisory Team (NLAT) continues its successful mission in advising and supporting the Kosovo Security Force. Advisors and SMEs of NLAT from 15 different nations are helping the KSF in its development as a partner in providing stability and security for all the people of KOSOVO.

After achievement of Full Operational Capability (FOC) of the Core Capabilities (Search and Rescue, Hazardous Materials, Explosive Ordinance Disposal and Firefighting) on July the 9th 2013, NATO has assessed the requirement to further support the development of the KSF beyond FOC as an effective way to prevent the tensions in the region and to contribute to internal security and confidence building among regional actors. Men and women of the NLAT are executing this task. Their role is to advise and support the KSF at Brigade level and above. In fulfilling this task, they coordinate their activities with the NATO Advisory Team (NAT), which focuses on advising the Ministry of the KSF.

KSF has become a valuable supporter of all ethnic communities in KOSOVO. The KSF-Engineers and Pioneers are developing and executing different building projects in Kosovo-Serbian communities such as NOVO BRDO and the DECANI Monastery. In NOVO BRDO they are re-constructing the road leading to the farm of the NGO "Majka devet Jugovica" which provides supplies for the soup-kitchen for the poor in the area. The project was initiated by the Municipality of NOVO BRDO, financed by the EU as well as the British and Swedish Embassies, coordinated by the International Organisation for Migration (IOM) and executed by the KSF. In the DECANI Monastery, the KSF has built two bridges, contributing to the process of establishing trust between the Serbian-orthodox church and the institutions in KOSOVO.

This project is of an essential importance as DECANI Monastery is the last Property with the Designated Special Status (PrDSS) which is still secured by KFOR.

Also in the Kosovo-Albanian communities, KSF is participating in humanitarian construction projects. The latest of these projects was re-building a bridge in the municipality of KLINA in May 2014; ensuring progress for the local agriculture.



Beside humanitarian projects, KSF is also performing its core capabilities in support of the people of KOSOVO. During the floods in April 2014, KSF has performed operations in order to help the citizens of PRISTINA and surrounding areas.

As of 28th March, NLAT has entered the second Phase of its development. With this transition, NATO HQ has assumed direct command and control over NLAT, even though NLAT is formally not part of the KFORs Chain of Command anymore, it continues to support the mission with its work, hearts and minds. True to the slogan "More together", KFOR and NLAT remain one force in fulfilling their task of improving the security and political situation for a stable, democratic, multi-ethnic and peaceful KOSOVO and providing the stability in the region.

**BRIGADIER GENERAL
UDO SCHNITTKER
DIRECTOR NLAT**

THE PRESIDENT OF KOSOVO MADAME ATIFETE JAHJAGA VISITED KFOR HQ

On 21 May the President of KOSOVO Madame Atifete JAHJAGA visited KFOR HQ at Camp Film City in Pristina and was met by an honor guard and COM KFOR, Major-General Salvatore FARINA, who welcomed the President of Kosovo.



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)

This is the first time that the President visited officially the NATO HQ in Pristina. The President and COM KFOR had a four eyes meeting during which General FARINA presented the general security situation in Kosovo, the Balkan areas in general and the latest developments of KFOR activities, and also pledged KFOR's support to the Belgrade-Pristina dialogue under the endorsement of the European Union.

COM KFOR underlined the substantial progress in the security and Freedom of Movement that have been made in parallel with the increased capabilities of KP and KSF. Madame JAHJAGA also visited





PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)

the Joint Operations Center (JOC) and she was briefed on KFOR's role as third responder in the upcoming general elections, and also about the fruitful cooperation with the Kosovo Police and Kosovo Security Forces.

Madame JAHJAGA thanked General FARINA for the full support and the outstanding contribution of

KFOR to the process of stabilization and for the great professionalism of all KFOR soldiers. General FARINA confirmed the commitment of KFOR in order to ensure the accomplishment of the NATO mission aimed to guarantee security to all citizens of Kosovo.

The visit of Madame JAHJAGA was

also an occasion to hold a ceremony during which the President of Kosovo and COM KFOR laid a wreath at the monument in memory of all the fallen soldiers lost by KFOR during its 15 year mission here in Kosovo.



COM KFOR MEETS THE NORTHERN MAYORS

On 30 April, the Kosovo Force Commander (COMKFOR) Major General Salvatore FARINA hosted, for the first time in KFOR HQ in Camp “Film City” in Pristina, the Mayor of MITROVICA North, Mr Goran RAKIC, the Mayor of ZUBIN POTOK, Mr Stevan VULOVIC, the Mayor of LEPOSAVIC, Mr Dragan JABLANOVIC and the Mayor of ZVECAN, Mr Vucina JANKOVIC.



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI (2)

General FARINA and his guests discussed the general situation in Kosovo with specific focus on the North. They gave great importance to mutual cooperation and the transparency in the relationship between the four Municipalities and KFOR.

Speaking about the current security situation in the North, COM KFOR remarked on the importance of the role of the Kosovo Police as the first responder and EULEX as the second responder.

“KFOR will continue to provide a secure environment in the North and in the rest of Kosovo, ready to intervene, as third responder, if

required”, General FARINA said.

COM KFOR underlined the improvement in the overall security situation in Kosovo after the 19th April Belgrade - Pristina agreement and confirmed the continuous effort of the NATO KFOR mission to maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement for all the people in Kosovo.

At the same time General FARINA thanked the four Mayors for the constant efforts, made so far, by

their respective municipalities and assemblies and asked them to do more together in the future in order to enhance the stability through the dialogue and the cooperation.



ARRIVAL OF MOLDOVAN FORCES TO KFOR

On May 11, 1999, a new military unit for international peacekeeping missions called the “22nd Peacekeeping Battalion” was established in the National Army of the Republic of Moldova.

At the same time, considering the need to carry out peacekeeping missions in the security area of the Republic of Moldova with the aim of maintaining stable and peaceful situation between the Moldovan population and Russian minorities along the river Nistru, the 22nd PK Battalion has been in charge of a sector of this region for a long period of time, starting in 2000.

Regardless of the internal peacekeeping missions in Moldova, the unit also deployed few contingents to Iraq to take part in operation “Iraqi Freedom”. In addition, many officers of the battalion have been participating as observers in the United Nations missions in Africa.

Considering the necessity of training troops according to the international standards, the unit is annually engaged in a series of national and international joint



PICTURE MNBG-W (2)

and combined exercises, where the Moldavian soldiers train all their capabilities in facing the possible incidents that may occur in a real crisis response operations scenario.

Some of these training exercises are as following:

- “Peace Shield” conducted in Moldova;
- “Lancer Longbow” conducted in different countries starting in 2006;
- “Sea Breeze” conducted in Ukraine starting in 2007;
- “Rapid Trident” conducted in Ukraine starting in 2008;
- “Saber Guardian” conducted in different countries starting in 2013;
- ISAF troops Rotational Exercises in Germany, at “Hohenfels” training area, starting from 2012.

The Unit has steadily trained to international standards and has been certified to NATO approved level.

More than one and a half years later, as a result of the agreement signed between Republic of Moldova and Italy, on March 8 2014, a contingent of peacekeepers con-

sisting of an infantry platoon, and EOD team and a staff officer, was deployed to the KFOR mission. This is the first NATO mission in which Republic of Moldova, as a Partner for Peace member, has taken part.

In the last two months in the Balkan area, the Moldovan contingent carried out joint patrols together with the Italian contingent as well as guaranteed the security in compound “Villaggio Italia” together with Italian, Austrian and Slovenian colleagues belonging to MNBG-W. Meanwhile, the EOD team conducted a practical exercise on detection, identification, transportation and disposal of unexploded explosive devices.

In the future, the contingent will be involved in joint training with international colleagues and will carry out other tasks along with them as required.

More Together!

OF – 4 ROMAN CEBAN



SILVER SABER CRC EXERCISE: ON THE TRACK TO FULL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY

Following the rotation completion by some KFOR units during their Handover/Takeover periods in the beginning of 2014, J3 CONOPS TRAINING conducted a three day Instruction, Training and Exercise period including CRC courses and a synthesis exercise.

The exercise called “Silver Saber” 2014-1, occurred on 14, 15 and 16 May 2014 in Camp Vrelo, a Kosovo Police (KP) compound located 15 km from Pristina near the International Airport. This exercise was organized to familiarize KFOR units recently arrived in theatre with current CRC tactics, techniques and procedures, in order to improve their capability to relieve in place EULEX with KFOR acting as third responder according the “1st,2nd,3rd Responder Doctrine” where the Kosovo Police(KP) is first responder, EULEX is second responder, and KFOR is third responder.

The three day exercise began on 14 May with a theoretical training bound to chief detachments, company commanders and platoons



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)

leaders to present them updated CRC basic knowledge.

The second exercise day, on 15 May, was dedicated to technical skills as Relief in Place with the KP, helicopter

embarking/disembarking, freedom of movement and EOD, fire phobia and psy-ops and, finally, a static display where each unit presented its CRC assets and equipment.

On 16 May, the main exercise took place which involved Multinational Battle Group East (MNBG-E), Multinational Battle Group West (MNBG-W), KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM), Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU), Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG) and a Tactical Psyops Team (TPT). The over 700 participants and opposing forces including 110 policemen from the Kosovo Police/Operation Special Unit, with 100 vehicles and APCs, 9 helicopters (UH60, MI 171, Cougar) and 2 UAVs having been deployed to support the exercise. Six companies took part in the manoeuvre (Portuguese, Hungarian, Austrian, US, Slovenian, Kosovo), one Italian MSU platoon, one Ukrainian Freedom of Movement Detachment,





PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI

one Danish Tactical Psyops Team (TPT). HQ Support Group, ASDA, IMP and Role 1 provided the required support.

Based on a realistic situation scenario divided into three phases, the exercise started with a heli-borne action conducted by MSU. After a relief in place, KP/MSU conducted phase 1, repelling demonstrators before being bypassed by KTM task force which continued the manoeuvre, using UAV, FOM detachment and being reinforced with another heli-borne company.

After having received air and EOD support, MNBGE units closed the exercise by breaching a heavy roadblock.

By the end of the exercise, COMKFOR expressed his satisfaction to the troops and emphasized the close cooperation between KFOR and KP.

As EULEX participation had been postponed for operational reasons, KFOR continued the exercise by relieving in place the Kosovo Police. That particular situation did not affect the exercise.

On the contrary, it allowed better mutual comprehension, better procedures understanding, and was particularly realistic because that kind of situation might occur. From an operational point of view, this constitutes the main lesson learned: KFOR CRC procedures allow the units to be autonomous and interchangeable, while maintaining a high level of efficiency and capability. COMKFOR stressed that this successful exercise enhances cohesion which allows KFOR to act "More together".

The liaison, communication and relief in place of the various responders are a crucial part of the exercise.

LIEUTENANT-COLONEL
BAUMSTARK OFFICER IN CHARGE /
J3 CONOPS



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE

CSMS FRAMEWORK OF ACTIVITIES-CAMP VILLAGGIO ITALIA VISIT AND ORIENTATION TOUR FOR NEW CSMs

As part of the framework of activities for KFOR Sergeant Majors, a familiarization visit to Camp Villaggio Italia, home of Multi-National Battle Group West (MNBG-W), took place on 30 April 2014.



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI (2)

The meeting was organized by the KFOR CSM in cooperation with the MNBG-W CSM, Francesco VALLONE.

The visit was an excellent

opportunity to familiarize and give the opportunity to many Senior CSMs to visit Camp Villaggio Italia and to become familiar with operations throughout the

MNBG-W Area of Operational Responsibility. 21 Senior CSMs from 16 different countries took part in the activity. The agenda included an operational briefing, a tour of the camp and a visit to the Decane Monastery.

The visiting NCOs expressed their sincere appreciation to MNBG - W Commander Col. Antonio SGOBBA for hosting the meeting and his warm words of welcome and briefing on the activities done by MNBG - W and to CSM Francesco VALLONE, for the cooperation, commitment and the outstanding contribution made for this successful day.

The familiarization visit was yet another successful part of the KFOR CSM framework of activities and it brought to the attention of many the commitment of KFOR MNBG-W.



BATTLEFIELD CIRCULATION

On 19 May, in the framework of KFOR CSMs activities, a flight was organized to give the possibility to a few new CSMs to visit Gate 1, FOP 31, Camp Cabra and Camp Nothing Hill so as to give a brief explanation of the situation and the orientation and commitment of KFOR in the North of Kosovo.

The CSM group was given the pleasure and opportunity to experience a flight on a UH-60 Black Hawk helicopter. Special thanks go to the U.S. Task Force Aviation that made it all possible and to MNBG-E CSM Bernardo SERNA for the coordination of the trip.

It was indeed a very successful day; a late lunch in Camp Film City to end the activity was organized by COM KFOR CSM Francesco CASCELLA. I would like to state my support to this great family of KFOR as a team outgrows individual performance and learns team confidence; excellence becomes a reality, empowering and developing trust and underlining that teamwork is the ability to work together toward a common vision and the ability to direct individual accomplishments toward organizational objectives. It is the fuel that allows common people to attain uncommon results. Sharing together, working together, succeeding together, working “More Together”, is definitely a success.

OR-9 CASCELLA



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)

PRISTINA HALF MARATHON

The Pristina Half Marathon took place on Sunday 11 May. This was the event's fourteenth year and the weather was very warm and sunny and made conditions pleasant, if a little challenging, for the participants.

The event was run under the banner "Run for Peace and Tolerance" which promotes development in Kosovo through moving toward an integrated peaceful country,

The event had a number of races taking place simultaneously. There was a wheelchair race, a five-kilometre race and a large number of children also ran, making the event inclusive for all. It was a highly entertaining event for the spectators also; to see such a range of races for all people, all running to participate, some running to compete. The ages of participants ranged widely also, from the under tens to the over seventies.

Approximately 1400 runners took part in this large event. The President of Kosovo, HE Atifete JAHJAGA opened the event and ran the marathon. KFOR was strongly represented in the event



with approximately 200 participants (including COM KFOR that completed the full distance in 2 hours and 12 minutes) from Units across KFOR's AOR. The marathon was a focus for KFOR personnel's

fitness and a variation in their routine, giving them the chance to participate in an important event in the Kosovar sporting calendar, and to contribute to Kosovo through taking part in something other than



PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu



PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu

a purely military event. As can be seen, all ranks of KFOR were well represented in this enjoyable and familial event.



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (3)



HRH GRAND DUKE HENRI DE LUXEMBURG VISITED KFOR HQ

On 28 May HRH Grand Duke Henri DE LUXEMBURG visited KFOR HQ at Camp 'Film City' in Pristina.

The honor guard and COM KFOR, Major-General Salvatore FARINA, welcomed The Grand Duke that was accompanied by The Deputy Prime Minister and Minister of Defense, Mr Etienne SCHNEIDER, a parliamentary delegation and other dignitaries among them The Ambassador in Kosovo, Mr Leon DELVAUX, and The Chief of Defense, General Mario DAUBENFELD.

COM KFOR and The Grand Duke discussed the general security situation, the latest developments in Kosovo and in the Balkan area and the support to Belgrade-Pristina dialogue.



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)

His Royal Highness and the Luxembourg delegation were then briefed by the multinational staff about the present posture of KFOR and the condition based future plans.

In addition General FARINA informed The Grand Duke about the involvement of KFOR as third responder to the upcoming general elections.

HRH Grand Duke Henri DE LUXEMBURG confirmed the full support of his country for the implementation of the agreement for the normalization of relations between Pristina and Belgrade and the support to KFOR efforts in order to ensure the accomplishment of the

NATO mission in Kosovo.

COMKFOR expressed his appreciation for the contribution of Luxembourg, highlighting the professionalism and commitment of its troops.

On completion of his visit, HRH Grand Duke Henri DE LUXEMBURG visited the Luxembourg contingent in Camp NOVO SELO and attended a ceremony to award the Luxembourg contingent with the NATO Medal.

Maj. Gen. FARINA thanked The Grand Duke for the visit.



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI

KFOR CHRONICLE

NEWS IN BRIEF

ITALIAN MINISTER OF DEFENCE AND ITA CHOD VISIT KFOR AND MEET KOSOVO AUTHORITIES

Minister Roberta PINOTTI, accompanied by Admiral BINELLI MANTELLI, was welcomed in KFOR HQ, Camp "Film City", by Major General Salvatore FARINA on 06 May after which she conducted an office call and a briefing where the overall situation in Kosovo was discussed with COM KFOR and his international staff.

COMKFOR discussed the importance of the regular meetings with the CHODs of the four countries bordering the KFOR Area of Responsibility, namely Albania, FYROM, Montenegro and Serbia.

During the visit, the Italian Minister of Defence met the senior political representatives of Kosovo including the President, Atifete JAHAGA, the Prime Minister, Hashim

THACI and the Minister of Kosovo Security Forces, Agim CEKU. With whom, she signed a "Statement of Intent" in which they expressed their aspiration for mutually beneficial cooperation, based on mutual interests for the security of the area.

Minister PINOTTI also met the Italian Ambassador in Kosovo, visited the Italian Army Units in Camp "Villaggio Italia" and DECANE monastery where she met the Abbot of the DECANI orthodox monastery, Father Sava JANJIC. She also overflew Northern Kosovo and to visit the KFOR Camp at GATE



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI (2)

1 where she attended a briefing by the Commander of Multinational Battle Group East.

At the end of her visit, Minister PINOTTI greeted members of the Italian contingent, where she emphasised the importance of KFOR in the delicate context of the Balkans and the need to continue to accomplish the NATO mission for the Security and the progress of all the people in Kosovo.

GERMAN FEDERAL MINISTER OF DEFENCE VISITS KOSOVO

On May 15th, 2014, Major General Salvatore FARINA (COM KFOR) met with the German Federal Minister of Defence in Camp Film City in Pristina.

COM KFOR and the German Minister discussed the general security situation, the latest developments in Kosovo and the Balkans and the support to Belgrade-Pristina dialogue.

In addition, General FARINA informed the minister about the involvement of KFOR as third responder to the upcoming general elections.

H.E. Mrs. Ursula VON DER

LEYEN confirmed the full support of her country for the implementation of the agreement for the normalization of relations between Kosovo and Serbia and the support to KFOR efforts in order to ensure the accomplishment of the NATO mission in Kosovo.

Major General Salvatore FARINA thanked the Minister for the outstanding contribution of the German contingent to the KFOR mission and underlined their great professionalism.



Germany is one the most important NATO Contributing Nation, with 712 soldiers deployed in Kosovo. German troops are in HQ in Film City, Novo Selo, Prizren, and Bondsteel. Maj. Gen. FARINA thanked the Minister for the visit.

JRD-S SCHOOL PROJECTS

In an effort to improve the relationship between NATO KFOR and the KOSOVO population, the Joint Regional Detachment – South (JRD-S) has taken on various projects to improve schools in the southern area of responsibility



five (5) desks and thirty (30) chairs were delivered to a Ferizaj Pre-School by the CIMIC staff. These donations and efforts were welcomed with open arms. The aim of this kind of projects is to provide a better learning environment for all current and future students. Projects like this also show that KFOR isn't just here for security, but for the future education of Kosovo and its population.

OF-4 SMETANIUK SERHII

One of these projects was recently completed on Friday April 25th, 2014 by delivering one hundred (100) desks and three hundred (300) chairs to KUVENDI LEZHES HIGH SCHOOL in Pozaranje, VITINA/VITI Municipality.

The project cost totalled €6,800.

The school equipment was donated by JRD-S Commander on behalf of KFOR in the presence of the VITINA/VITI Mayor, Director of Education, teachers, students, and other JRD-S members. Associates of the school expressed gratitude and appreciation for KFOR.

However, KFOR was not done with its generosity. Later that afternoon,



PICTURE: JRD-S (3)

KFOR-18 MEMBERS CELEBRATE POLISH CONSTITUTION DAY

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo—May 3 was a cloudy Saturday morning, but nearly 50 people gathered to run the Polish Constitution's Day 5K Race at Camp Bondsteel to commemorate and celebrate Poland's Constitution Day. A Constitution Day run has been a Polish tradition since 1990 and it is very common in Poland for everyone to take part in a run.



PICTURE: MNBG-E (2)

This year's race, held at Camp Bondsteel, began at 7 a.m. at the Polish compound. The participants were in good humor when Polish National Contingent Commander Lt. Col. Sawczuk began the race, and even though some participants were running just for the fun, or to win a T-shirt, the pace of the race was very fast—and on unfamiliar ground, as the race followed a different route from past races.

Steep hills were included in this race and at the first hill, leaders in the race were Col. Evan Trinkle, Maj. Christopher Browning and Cpt. Maciej Rakowski, battling through the sweat and determination on the track with all the other runners—all for a good cause—fun!

There was a good showing of runners. There were 2 categories (male and female), with medals

provided to the top three participants in each category. The fastest female runner was 1st Lt. Christine Sutton, who finished the race at 22:40 minutes, averaging just over a 4.4 minute kilometer.

Second place was awarded to 2nd Lt. Sylwia Klimkiewicz with a time of 23:00; and third was Maj. Nancy Clauss with a time of 23:45.

The fastest male runner Pfc. Artur Kwapisz, who finished with 19:29, averaging just over a 3.8 minute kilometer. Second was Sgt. 1st Class Maciej Szczepanowski with a time of 19:58, and third place was Master Sgt. Siejwa Kazimierz with a time of 20:10.

"I am so happy, winning is always very nice. I love challenging myself and now I am aiming to the Skopje marathon. My goal

is to finish the Skopje Marathon in 3 hours and 20 minutes," said Kwapisz at the finish line.

However everyone who reached the finish line was a winner and got a t-shirt, then everyone gathered and had a group commemorative photograph.

The event was organized to celebrate the Polish Constitution which was established in May 3rd, 1791.

LT. CMDR KRIS GRUNERT



INFORMATION, MEDIA AND PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE (PAO)

“That’s the beauty of argument, if you argue correctly, you’re never wrong”

In recent years , the development of technology has made it possible to exchange information faster and to a wider audience, largely due to the variety of resources available for exchange of all kinds of data.

Television, newspapers, radio and especially internet have developed a kind of “mass media culture”, accessible to everyone at all times. The news is transmitted in real time via photos, videos, social networks (Facebook, twitter, google+, etc.) altering the response time of the Press Offices.

Most of us read the news first on Facebook, in real time, rather than on the newspapers. However, to have a lot of information does not guarantee being informed.

The information does not consist of a cluster of indistinct data. The information, as such, must be actually useful and usable information to those who receive it, a sort of added value to the data, which in itself is of no use without that added information. When it comes to information, one must always take account of the context to which the data relates, and only on the basis of this framework it is possible to decode them and give them a special meaning.

Who, what, where, when and why are the basis of correct and precise information.

Generally Public Affairs Office is a term for the formal branches whose purpose is to deal with the media and community issues. The term is also used for numerous media relations offices. In the

military, field Public Affairs Office plays a key role in contingency and deployed operations. The typical Public Affairs Office (military) is led by an officer who is in charge of planning, executing and evaluating the effectiveness of public affairs programs and provides public affair advice, counsel and support for commanders and senior staff members.



The Public Affairs Office is responsible for developing a working relationship with reporters and other media representatives, maintaining a robust community relations program, keeping contact with the government agencies, international organizations, and keeping internal and external audiences informed on issues that may affect them. “In this regard it is very important to keep in mind that a journalist could be an accomplice, a “tool” used to release our master message, but he is not a friend. Everything you say to a journalist could be published.”

Known as “PAO’s” for short, they are expected to provide accurate information in a timely manner, to

ensure that information provided is consistent, complementary and coordinated. PAOs work mindful of multinational sensitivities and respectful of the local and regional environment.

Public Affairs Officers are responsible for preparing information on unit participation in military operations, world events, and environmental matters through news releases, special activities, photographs, radio and television, and other informational material. They also review materials such as speeches, news articles, and radio and television shows for security policy review and integration with the objectives of the military, and determine appropriate topics. They produce speeches and act as ghost writers for commanders, often completely developing a commander’s public persona. Additionally, Public Affairs Officers oversee the production of base newspapers, magazines, and internal information produced by enlisted Public Affairs specialists which includes coordinating media visits (as required) and writing stories to share with fellow deployed personnel as well as audiences back home, both military and civilian. The office tracks and responds to incoming media queries, develops strategies for effective information about military activities, and approves advertisements for exhibitions and public programs and outside media releases by agencies and donors.

DEPUTY CHIEF PAO HQ KFOR
OF-3 MASSIMILIANO RIZZO
MAJ. ITA-A

LEGAL FRAMEWORK OF THE DELIMITATION OF THE KFOR MISSION

KFOR operates under the mandate outlined in UNSCR 1244, based on Chapter VII of the UN Charter, which includes, among other things, that the responsibilities of the international security presence is to establish, to contribute, and to maintain a Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) for the benefit of civilian population and the local security institutions.

The meaning of Safe and Secure Environment has no legal definition, but the lawyer's task is to interpret and explain the law, which in this case is international law. This phrase would "prima facie" be labelled "police work" rather than referred to as usual activities managed by armed forces.

The legal interpretation of the term "Safe and Secure environment" is linked, of course, to the UN approach and therefore in the context of the Resolution, focused on the civilian population and IOS/NGOs. Nevertheless we have to think of the terms of the UNSCR in relation to the current context, taking into account the most updated high level NATO documents and the evolved situation in Kosovo 15 years after the UN Resolution adoption.

The secure environment then is that one is characterized by an end to large scale fighting, an adequate level of public order and where the population has physical and territorial security. The aim of KFOR is to maintain a "secure environment" adequate for the continued consolidation of peace and stability, until the institutions can take responsibility for this task.

However the UN-mandate has never been modified since it was adopted in 1999, and although there are no subsequent UN-Resolutions, there have been some significant changes through the years and KFOR continues to operate to give stability and security in its AOR and has altered to adapt to the development of Kosovar institutions. This is coupled with the initiation

of the Eulex mission with its own specific mandate and Kosovo's Unilateral Declaration of Independence, which was not foreseen since KFOR's initial involvement and has impacted on the role of KFOR. The European Rule of Law Mission



in Kosovo was initiated in 2008 to monitor, mentor and advise Kosovo authorities in the rule of law area commonly referred to as Security Sector Reform (SSR), specifically in the police, judiciary, and custom areas, under the general framework of UN 1244.

KFOR's action must be synchronized with Eulex, considering KFOR's 3rd responder role stepping for direct action only after Kosovo Police (KP) and Eulex. Besides KFOR acting as 3rd responder, a further limitation to the KFOR mandate is that law enforcement activities are outside the mandate currently given by NAC but KFOR does provide within its mandate means and capabilities in the context of SASE and freedom of movement (FOM) in Kosovo for local security institutions and interna-

tional organisations responsible for those tasks. KFOR must also operate in an environment where the UN-mandate did not anticipate Kosovo's unilateral declaration of independence in February 2008. This is legally significant, and cannot be dismissed as "just semantics". For KFOR, NATO's view on the independence of Kosovo is legally significant. KFOR can conduct monitoring along the ABL, for the purpose of SASE.

Maintaining SASE on the borders and the ABL has been consistently focused on inspections, to stop weapons, ammunition and related material, but not normal commerce or the smuggling of contraband, as that is viewed as a law enforcement function, which is outside of KFOR's current mandate. The Declaration of Independence and all relevant Kosovo legal acts, like the Kosovo Constitution, show acceptance of the international military presence in Kosovo. These are clear and coherent legal texts which fully guarantee that "Institutions in Kosovo" are bound to respect the presence of International Organisations. Therefore, even though KFOR operates with new local organisations in a changed environment, KFOR's operations in Kosovo are mutually supported by local and international legislation, ensuring cooperation, and allowing all parties to achieve "More Together" for Kosovo.

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COL. ITA-A

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NATO Nations within KFOR
Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Cro-
atia, Czech Republic, Denmark,
Estonia, France, Germany, Greece,
Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxem-
bourg, Netherlands, Norway, Po-
land, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia,
Turkey, United Kingdom, United
States.

**Non-NATO Nations within
KFOR**
Armenia, Austria, Finland, Ireland,
Moldova, Sweden, Switzerland,
Ukraine.

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CANADIAN CONTINGENT

As we continue to strive to aid the people of Kosovo, the Canadian Contingent of Operation KOBOLD took to heart the dual role that exists for all UN/NATO missions: the military assistance under the official umbrella of the parent organization, and the humanitarian aspect provided at the personal level by the members of any deployed operation.



During the course of our tour, Task Force Pristina Roto 9 identified a need with the disadvantaged women and children in Pristina, Kosovo, and wished to support the Pristina Centre of Rehabilitation for Women and Children, a not for profit organization assisting women and their children. This centre had previously been supported by Roto 7 and the members of Roto 9 wanted to raise money to help.

As the only member in Camp Film City with an uncommon style of moustache, I had generated a large amount of discussion as to whether or not it suited me and the modern man. Many debates were had and opinions expressed. At one point a vote was suggested, and through discussions and friendly ribbing, the decision to take a vote in the form of donations to the Centre was to be taken. The Swiss Engineer Platoon,

having participated quite vocally in many of the discussions for and against the moustache, mobilized their wood shop and built a donation box.

For a month, I kept the donation box close at hand, lending it out to those who wanted to gather votes/donations. KFOR showed their compassion and expressed their opinion in one of the many elections (although not observed by OSCE) in Kosovo and raised over 1000 Euro for the Centre and by a very large margin, in favour of keeping the moustache. As a consolation prize, and on advice of my personal chain of command at home in Canada, for those who voted to shave my moustache, I shaved my head after the counting of the votes/donations.

MAJOR STEVEN BOYCHYN



Name: Di Genua, Ciro
Rank: OR-9
Nationality: Italy
KFOR Unit: MSU

MILITARY EDUCATION: I started my military career in the Italian Army in 1994 and after 3 years I joined the CARABINIERI Corp. After 3 years of courses (1 year at the CARABINIERI SCHOOL of Rome and 2 years at the WARRANT OFFICERS school of Florence) I was assigned to the CARABINIERI Station of Agliana (a small town near Pistoia - in Tuscany) where I still hold the task of Deputy Chief

ABOUT THE MISSION: This is my third mission abroad after one in Lebanon (2009 – as member of the Special Investigation Section) and one in Iraq (2011 – as trainer for the Iraqi Police).

Currently I hold the position of Liaison Officer for the MSU at the KFOR HQs; this is a very interesting experience that is giving me the opportunity to grow professionally and to make new friendship with colleagues from different countries.

FAMILY REACTIONS: I'm married since 2001 and at the moment my wife and I have 2 children aged 11 (girl) and 7 years (boy). Though it can be hard being away from them so long, they support me and my military service day by day!

HOBBIES: I am passionate about vintage motorbikes; I like to restore them by myself (especially the VESPA by PIAGGIO) and use the oldest ones in rallies and gatherings with my family.



Name: Gavalekas, Fotios
Rank: OF-2
Nationality: Greek
KFOR Unit: Greek Guard CFC

MILITARY EDUCATION: I joined the Hellenic Military Academy in 1997 and Graduated in 2001. In addition to my military studies there I also covered a number of academic subjects including English. I graduated with honours and was commissioned as 2nd Lt into the Artillery Corps. Since graduation I have completed other artillery courses and have done specialist courses in anti-aircraft and Field artillery weapons in the Greek Army. I have also done parachuting, advanced infantry and special tactical courses.

ABOUT THE MISSION: I am the Deputy Commander of the Guards. It is a privilege for me to come here and to work in such a varied multinational environment. We are gaining excellent experience through our training here and from working and learning with other nationalities and seeing how other forces operate. Prior to coming here we did pre-deployment tactical training.

FAMILY REACTION: I am married with two sons, one six years old and the other three years old. It is my first time on a NATO mission since having children but I have daily contact with skype and that helps us get over the absence. I had advance notice of the mission but regardless, my wife was always aware that foreign deployment and time away from home is part of a military career and she was prepared for it. My end of tour will be in September and I look forward to seeing my family again.

HOBBIES: I hunt and fish. I also enjoy swimming, scuba diving and snorkelling, and mountain climbing and hiking. Generally I enjoy all outdoor pursuit activities.

slightly

6	8	4			7			
			8	9		5	6	
1								7
9					2	8		
	4	3				9	2	
		1	9					4
7								2
	2	6		7	9			
			6			7	9	3

medium

				2	8		5	3
			4				6	1
		1	5	3			2	
					3			6
4	2			6			3	8
3			9					
	3			9	7	1		
1		2			4			
9	6		8	1				

difficult

					4			3
1		6			8	5	9	2
9			2	5		8		
	7			9		6		
				8				
		1		3			2	
		3		4	9			1
2	1	5	8			9		7
4			1					

very difficult

4	2	1	9			8	5	
	3		5		2	6		
	8					2		
			3				9	
8								2
	7				4			
		8					2	
		9	7		3		6	
4	3				6	9	1	5

Rules:

The standard consists of a grid Sudoku field with 3×3 blocks, which are each divided into 3×3 fields, a total of 81 fields in 9 rows and 9 columns. In some of these fields at the beginning digits 1 to 9 are registered ("targets").

The task is to fill in the blanks of the puzzle so that in each of nine rows, columns and blocks of each digit from 1 to 9 appears only once.

The three areas (row, column, block) are equally units or groups.

Solutions April

4	3	1	7	2	8	9	5	6
8	7	9	5	3	6	1	4	2
5	6	2	9	4	1	3	7	8
6	4	3	1	9	2	5	8	7
9	1	5	6	8	7	2	3	4
7	2	8	3	5	4	6	9	1
2	5	7	4	6	9	8	1	3
1	9	6	8	7	3	4	2	5
3	8	4	2	1	5	7	6	9

SLIGHTLY

2	8	5	7	4	3	6	9	1
4	7	9	5	1	6	8	2	3
3	1	6	9	8	2	4	7	5
8	4	2	1	9	5	3	6	7
9	5	1	3	6	7	2	8	4
7	6	3	8	2	4	5	1	9
5	2	8	4	7	9	1	3	6
1	3	7	6	5	8	9	4	2
6	9	4	2	3	1	7	5	8

MEDIUM

9	4	2	3	5	7	8	6	1
7	1	6	4	8	9	2	3	5
3	8	5	1	6	2	7	9	4
6	5	7	8	9	4	3	1	2
1	9	3	7	2	6	4	5	8
8	2	4	5	1	3	6	7	9
2	7	1	6	4	5	9	8	3
5	3	9	2	7	8	1	4	6
4	6	8	9	3	1	5	2	7

DIFFICULT

4	7	2	9	3	6	5	1	8
6	3	1	4	8	5	9	7	2
9	5	8	1	7	2	3	4	6
2	6	4	5	9	1	7	8	3
5	8	7	3	2	4	1	6	9
3	1	9	8	6	7	4	2	5
8	4	5	6	1	3	2	9	7
7	9	3	2	4	8	6	5	1
1	2	6	7	5	9	8	3	4

VERY DIFFICULT



PICTURE OF THE MONTH

May 2014

Contribute to the KFORChronicle!

Just send your photos to kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int by the 25th of the month explaining where you took the photo and what equipment you used. We will then select one of the submitted images and publish it in the next edition of the Chronicle.

You will be immortalised in the KFOR Chronicle !
Is that not something to be proud of?

Sincerely
The Chronicle Team



May 2014

Sunday morning
downtown Pristina

Equipment used:
Smartphone

Fabrizio RUSSO
OF-4 ITA/A
J2 CHIEF COLLECTION

