

# KFOR CHRONICLE

The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

December 2013

## Christmas in KFOR



**MNBG-W  
CoC**



**JVB  
Ministerial Visits to  
KFOR**

[www.nato.int/kfor](http://www.nato.int/kfor)



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE



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# COM KFOR's Christmas Address

**The New Year is just around the corner. The joyous and blissful festivals of the holiday season and for some of us Christmas time, reminds us of beautiful moments and happy memories celebrated in the past, giving us another chance to relive them and to create new ones.**

It is good to reflect upon the past year during this holiday season, not only the reflections of the changes in our lives but also the changes that our predecessors and the changes we soldiers of KFOR have contributed to progress here in KOSOVO.

Our deployments here are an exceptional example of people from a multi-national organization, putting the needs of others before our own. KFOR Soldiers are competent and professional and are always willing to take on responsibility, even during the most demanding situations and even through the holidays. Our capabilities are on the highest level. Our dedication to duty is evidenced by the maximum effort we afford all tasks throughout our service to the people of KOSOVO.

I encourage you to take time to think of how you will use this holiday season to gain a perspective on your life and how you will fill next year with peace and hope. Contemplate how you can share and give to the people you have been sent here to assist in their restructuring. The New Year, and for some of us Christmas, is not only a holiday season. There is in the air a feeling or state of mind. Stay positive and look for opportunities to share the holiday and solidarity spirit.

Even though most of us will be far away from our families for this holiday and Christmas season, we should take pride in knowing that we are fulfilling the positive spirit by helping others here in KOSOVO. Our duty away from our families this year speaks volumes to our character as men and women who truly believe in doing good for our fellow men.

Let us all find happiness with our NATO family this year and enjoy the many celebrations that will take place. Let us join, as brothers in arms and support each other with love and kindness as we all accomplish our mission here in KOSOVO by doing "More Together".

I wish all of you the best for the holiday season and a Happy New Year.

MAJOR-GENERAL  
SALVATORE FARINA  
COM KFOR



PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu



# MINISTERIAL VISITS ENSURE THE JVB ARE JUST VERY BUSY

The Joint Visitors Bureau (JVB) is the branch of the KFOR HQ responsible for VIP visits as well as coordinating ceremonies participated in by the HQ KFOR Staff.

December was a particularly busy period as there were 3 Change of Command ceremonies, in MNBG-W, JRD-C and the MSU, and a total of 16 VIP visits to KFOR HQ.

December is an opportune time of year for high ranking political and military figures to review the performance and participation of their troops in KFOR, to thank their personnel and to exchange season's greetings.

There were 6 visits scheduled by Ministers of Defence from Troop Contributing Nations to KFOR during December, all of which received a protocol ceremony on their arrival. The protocol ceremony entails a Guard of Honour by the Greek Guard after which they are greeted by the relevant Senior National Representative (SNR) and the KFOR Command Sergeant Major.

December's first political level visit occurred on 10 December with the visit by H.E. Thomas De Maiziere, the German Minister of Defence. He was accompanied by four members of the Bundestag from different political parties and by Lt-Gen. Markus Kneip, the former commander of German troops in Afghanistan, now in charge of German Armed Forces Strategy and Development. After the formal meetings he had a Christmas celebration with the German troops from Prizren, Camp Novo Selo and Camp Film City.

Three days later the Hungarian Minister of Defence, Dr. Csaba Hende, conducted his visit to Kosovo. In addition to the Office call with Major-General Farina the



H.E. Thomas De Maiziere is greeted by COM KFOR

minister greeted the Hungarian Staff Officers and later met with the



Dr. Csaba Hende receives a Guard of Honour at KFOR HQ





PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE

**The Italian Minister of Defence, Senator Mario Mauro meets with President Jahjaga.**

Hungarian contingent in camp Slim Lines where the Hungarian troops are part of the Kosovo Tactical Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM).

On the 16 of December the Italian Minister of Defence, Senator Mario Mauro, visited KFOR. This is the first ministerial visit by an Italian since Italy assumed command of the mission in September. The KFOR HQ staff conducted an international briefing on the operational situation and activities in theatre. The visit to Kosovo also provided the Italian minister with the opportunity to meet with Kosovo President, Mrs. Atifete Jahjaga, and her Prime Minister, Mr. Hachim Thaci, along with the Minister for the Kosovo Security forces Mr. Agim Ceku. Following the political

engagements, Casa Italia was the location for the exchange of seasonal greetings with the members of the Italian contingent drawn from all

over Kosovo.

The Slovenian Minister of Defence, H.E. Mr. Roman Jakič, conducted his visit on 18 December when he met



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI

**The Slovenian Minister of Defence H.E. Mr. Roman Jakič.**



PICTURE: GIOVANNI DELLE CAVE



**The Portuguese Minister for Defence Mr. José Pedro Aguiar Branco**

with the Minister for the KSF, Mr. Agim Ceku and with COM KFOR. Minister Jakič received a brief from Col. Tomaž Okršlar (SNR), and travelled to Villaggio Italia to greet the Commander of MNBG-W and the Slovenian troops stationed there.

The Austrian Minister of Defence

and Sports was scheduled to visit on 18 and 19 December, accompanied by the Joint Chief of Staff of the Austrian Army. Unfortunately the visit of H.E. Mag. Gerald Klug was cancelled at the last moment as widespread fog prevented his aircraft from landing. Nevertheless

the planning and preparation for the visit had been conducted by JVB personnel.

The final Political level visit was conducted on 20 December when the Portuguese Minister for Defence, Mr. José Pedro Aguiar Branco arrived. The schedule for the visit included an audience with the President of Kosovo, and the Minister Ceku. Later in the afternoon he met with our commander and discussed the future of the mission in Kosovo and the Portuguese contribution to KFOR.

The coordination of visits is a complex task requiring detailed planning and preparation involving multiple sections within KFOR HQ and requires liaison with external organisations and groups. The success of the visits and ceremonies within KFOR are testament to the professionalism and commitment of the JVB staff and to their chief Col. Marco Cenni. Such was their dedication during December that serious consideration should be given to renaming them “Just Very Busy” (JVB).



PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu

**Members of the KFOR JVB outside the HQ**



# EFFECTS OPERATIONS JEC CONFERENCE

On 05 December the XIII Joint Effects Cell (JEC) conference took place in the JEC Coordination Room at KFOR HQ.



PICTURE: Naim SHALA

**The conference brought together JEC branch members, all the Joint Regional Detachment (JRD) commanders and additional JRD representatives, the KFOR HQ Political Advisor, KFOR HQ J3 and KFOR HQ Public Affairs representatives.**

The Conference is the result of an initiative set up in 2011, at that time designated a "Coordination Meeting", aimed at increasing the coordination and synchronization between the JEC and JRDs and at improving situational understanding and awareness.

The conference started at 0900hrs with opening remarks from COM KFOR, Major-General Salvatore Farina and ended at 1500hrs as planned, in a very open, cooperative and friendly environment. During the conference,

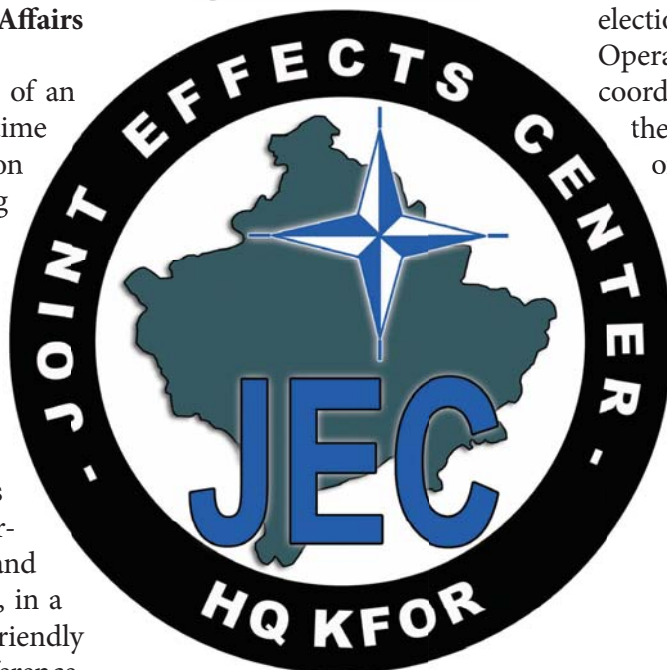
chaired by Colonel Carlos Sernadas from the Portuguese Army, several presentations were provided by the participants, followed by open and fruitful discussions.

The agenda for the XIII JEC

conference included a presentation and discussion about JRD assessment tools, the JRD merging processes, their challenges and solutions, JRD contributions during the Kosovo municipal and mayoral elections 2013, the Information Operations coordination, Psyops coordinated public opinion survey, the production and dissemination of 4U magazine, CIMIC liaison issues and projects.

At the end, all participants were highly satisfied with the results and agreed that it was a very fruitful and beneficial conference and will contribute to achieving the KFOR mission.

COLONEL  
CARLOS SERNADAS





# KFOR Senior NCOs Visit the North of Kosovo



**The KFOR Command Sergeant Major (CSM), Francesco Cascella, organised a familiarisation tour of Northern Kosovo for KFOR senior Non-Commissioned Officers (NCOs) on 21 November.**

The objective was to increase situational awareness among the senior NCOs in relation to KFOR operations in the North of Kosovo. The familiarisation tour was a great opportunity for the participants to

increase their knowledge and for some it was the first time they flew in a Black Hawk helicopter. Special thanks go to the United States Task Force Aviation for making the two UH-60 helicopters available for the afternoon. CMS Sheryl Lyon coordinated the trip while CSM Brian Hester conducted the briefings at the camps visited.

It was a memorable and special day and will contribute to the

operational effectiveness of the units and contingents represented on the tour.

I'm glad that I brought the situation and the commitment of KFOR in the north to the attention of so many senior NCO's. It is my pledge to the KFOR family to bring us closer together as our motto says, 'MORE TOGETHER'.

KFOR CSM  
FRANCESCO CASCELLA



PICTURE: GIOVANNI DELLE CAVE(4)



# MNBG-W CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

On 13 December the ceremony to mark the Change of Command of the Multinational Battle Group West (MNBG-W) took place in Camp Villaggio Italia, near Belo Polje.



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI

**MNBG-W is a KFOR unit made up of Italian, Slovenian and Austrian soldiers, operating in the west of Kosovo in order to guarantee a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in close coordination and cooperation with the local security forces and International Organisations.**

The headquarters of the MNBG-W, "Villaggio Italia", are located in the area of Belo Polje, on the foothills of the Bjeshket and Nemuna mountains (the "cursed mountains") that dominate the city of Pec / Peja. The Battle Group has a number of manoeuvre companies including combat support and combat service support units designed to deter and if required to react to threats to the implementation of the KFOR's mandate. Since 1999, KFOR's leadership of the Western sector of Kosovo has always been the responsibility of Italy, with contributions from Spain, Argentina, Portugal, Hungary and Romania. The ceremony was attended

by numerous dignitaries, representatives of international organisations, civilian and religious leaders and the Italian Chief of Defence, Admiral Luigi Binelli Mantelli. The impressive ceremony was conducted in beautiful sunshine against the magnificent backdrop of the snow-capped mountains.

During the ceremony Colonel Antonio Sgobba, and the 52nd Artillery Regiment "Torino" from Vercelli, took over the Battle Group from Colonel Pierpaolo Giacomini Tiveron and the 5th Rocket Artillery Regiment "Superga".

Colonel Tiveron thanked Major-General Farina and his predecessor Major-General Halbauer for their exemplary leadership. He outlined his appreciation to the representatives of the authorities in Kosovo and to the Kosovo Police Regional Director Colonel Shala and Captain Bozovic. Colonel Tiveron emphasised the significant contribution of the civilian staff but saved his highest praise for the 700 soldiers drawn from Austria, Italy

and Slovenia under his command who he said were "Outstanding". COM KFOR awarded Colonel Giacomini Tiveron with the NATO "non-article five" Medal and praised his professionalism and the professionalism, flexibility and adaptability of the MNB-W staff, commanders and soldiers. COM KFOR highlighted the significant contribution made by MNB-W over the last 7 months before welcoming the new Commander, Colonel Sgobba, to begin an exciting assignment at a time of significant change in Kosovo.

OF-2  
GIANLUCA GRECO



PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu (2)



# TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY IN MSU

On Saturday 07 December, in the presence of the Italian Ambassador of Kosovo, H.E. Andreas Ferrarese, Major-General Salvatore Farina, Commander of Kosovo Force (COM KFOR) and Brigadier-General Sebastiano Comitini, Carabinieri 2nd Mobile Brigade Commander, the Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU) celebrated the Transfer of Authority and Change of Command ceremony in the MSU Base, Prishtine/Pristina.



COM KFOR hands the NATO flag to Colonel Gregorio De Marco

**The MSU Unit is a Regiment of 150 personnel and is part of the KFOR tactical reserve. It conducts police/military police specific tasks all over Kosovo with its main area of responsibility in the north, focused on Mitrovica.**

On a cold but sunny day, the MSU Carabinieri Regiment attended the heart felt ceremony for the Carabinieri National Contingent Commander Transfer of Authority and Change of Command.

After one year of command, Colonel Mario Di Iulio, outgoing commander of the MSU, under the endorsement of Brigadier-General Sebastiano Comitini handed over the National Flag to Colonel Gregorio De Marco, incoming MSU Commander who became the new Carabinieri National Contingent Commander.

The ceremony reached its highest moment when Colonel Mario Di Iulio gave back the NATO Flag to

COM KFOR, who then handed it over to Colonel Gregorio De Marco. During their speeches, Brigadier-General Comitini and Colonel Di Iulio underlined the great job performed and the professionalism shown by the unit as well as the important operational achievements reached. Colonel Di Iulio expressed his deep gratitude to COM KFOR for his important support and advice.

Major-General Salvatore Farina, sincerely thanked Colonel Di Iulio for the excellent job done during his period of command and wished Colonel De Marco the best in his sensitive command and good luck for the future.

COM KFOR utilised the opportunity during his speech to thank the Kosovo Minister for Internal Affairs, Mr. Bajram Rexhepi, for the professionalism, competence and dedication of the Kosovo Police evident during the recent election period. COM KFOR stated that the elections demonstrated the democratic spirit and maturity of the Kosovo people as well as excellent cooperation between KFOR, EULEX and the Kosovo Police.

At the end of the ceremony, Colonel Mario Di Iulio and the MSU soldiers, who were going to end their tour of duty in Kosovo, were awarded by the Italian Ambassador to Kosovo and COM KFOR the NATO Non-article 5 Medal for the Balkan campaign.

MAJOR  
LORENZO RANSINI



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)



# JRD-C CHANGE OF COMMAND

On Tuesday 10 December, Major-General Salvatore Farina, Commander Kosovo Force (COM KFOR), presided over the Change of Command ceremony for the Joint Regional Detachment Centre (JRD-C).

The ceremony was held in the multifunctional tent in Camp Film City and was attended by a large number of dignitaries including the Italian Ambassador in Kosovo, H.E. Andreas Ferrarese, and representatives from local civilian and religious organisations.

The JRD-C Area of Responsibility was increased following a merger with JRD-W on 20 October and it now operates 10 Liaison Monitoring Teams (LMTs) covering 13 municipalities in Kosovo. These LMTs are key players to 'feel the pulse' of the population within Kosovo and are a critical element in the creation and maintenance of permanent and trusted links between KFOR and the local population. The LMTs main task is to contribute to KFOR's situational awareness through their liaison with local institutions, international organisations and the local population.

The outgoing Commander, Colonel Antonio Pellone, an Artillery Officer from the 5th Artillery Rocket Launcher Regiment in Portogruaro Italy. During the ceremony he passed the NATO colours to Colonel Luca Andreani from the Italian Piemonte Cavalry Regiment. The passing of the colours, from one commander to another, represents the formal Transfer of Authority and the completion of the Hand-Over, Take-Over process.

Colonel Pellone expressed his appreciation to his Swedish colleagues from JRD-W, to his National Contingent Commander and the National Contingent Commanders from Slovenia, Finland, Hungary



PICTURE: Vittorio SIMONELLI (2)

and Turkey. He thanked the staff at KFOR HQ and Major-General Farina for his support and guidance and for providing him with the necessary freedom to exercise his command.

COM KFOR outlined the important role played by the Colonel Pellone and personnel of JRD-C in influencing and shaping the conditions necessary for a better future for the people of Kosovo. Major-General Farina highlighted the successful transfer of responsibility for the Serbian Orthodox Patriarchate of Pec/Peje from KFOR to the Kosovo Police and the construction of a pedestrian bridge by the Kosovo Security Forces at the Serbian Orthodox Monastery

in Decani as significant achievements for JRD-C.

COM KFOR awarded Colonel Antonio Pellone with the NATO Non-Article 5 Medal and praised his professionalism. He welcomed Colonel Luca Andreani and wished him all the best as the new commander of JRD-C.

"I want to express my appreciation for your service and professionalism", COM KFOR said, referring to Colonel Pellone and his soldier's performance during which they supported KFOR and each other in order to achieve "More Together".







# "KFOR Anniversary Competition"

## Do you have really special photos?

Can you see things differently or can you take a really good photo?

Do you really want to win a great prize?

Then the MWA/Chronicle publishes your photo.

Send your photos to [kforchronicle@hq.mil](mailto:kforchronicle@hq.mil)

that the selection committee awards you a prize.

## Guidelines for

Capture the atmosphere of a moment; KFOR humanitarian activities or leisure activities.

Submissions should include the digital photo and a short caption.

The winners will be published in the February issue together with any other entry meriting special mention.

Readers may submit up to five photographs. The competition will be judged by Chief PAO, and the photographic staff of the KFOR Command.

The winner, runner-up and third place will receive prizes.





# Annual Photo Competition 2013"

## Special photographs?

Can you capture the atmosphere in a single photograph?

Can you win a prize and have your photograph published?

This photo competition is for you.

Submit your photo to [hq.kfor.nato.int](http://hq.kfor.nato.int) by 25 January and hope

to win one of the three MWA sponsored prizes.

## Topics for applicants:

KFOR troops, Kosovo culture, landscape, daily life.

Submit your photograph, photographer's name and a short bio.

The February 2014 edition of the KFOR Chronicle will feature a special mention.

For more information, contact the Editor of the KFOR Chronicle for inclusion in the competition. The

Editor, MWA, a representative from MWA, the Editor of the KFOR Chronicle. The Judges decision is final.

The winners will receive a prize sponsored by MWA.





# PRIZREN – A MUSEUM UNDER THE SKY

Prizren, Kosovo's "second city", with over 200,000 inhabitants is commonly regarded as the cultural capital of Kosovo. An ancient town it straddles the River Lumbardh/Bistrica and has the Sar/Sharr Mountains and national park as its backdrop.



**According to the Prizren league, archaeological research proves that the city is one of the oldest inhabited towns in Southeast Europe.**

It has rightfully been described as a "City Museum" a museum under the sky and its architecture demonstrates the merging of cultures on this historically significant and strategically important east-west trading route. Bulgarians, Slav migrants, Byzantium and Ottoman rulers all had their periods of control and even though Prizren was the historic capital of the Serbian Empire from 1346 to 1371 it holds a special place in the history of the Albanian National Movement. The League of Prizren, the Albanian Nationalist movement, was founded in Prizren in 1878 and sought the unification and liberation of Albanians within the Ottoman empire and it defended

the national identity of Albanians.

The most striking and obvious attraction in Prizren is the fortress. Perched high up on the dominant south-eastern precipice it is a UNESCO World Heritage listed

attraction. This once massive medieval citadel will probably prove to be the highlight of your visit. Impressive in itself because of its sheer size but spectacular also because of its prominent



Old Stone Bridge, Prizren

PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu (2)



position it presents an unforgettable picturesque and panoramic view over Prizren. In need of restoration it is of immense importance in architectural, archaeological, heritage and cultural terms, not just for Kosovo but for the South-Eastern

it demonstrates compactness, gracefulness, and elegance. Thanks to its location and proportions, complemented by its graceful minaret, it dominates the surrounding part of the town. The mosque stands on a higher level

with geometrical designs, still life paintings, and draperies. The mosque still retains its original stone flooring, interior decoration and with its podium and carpentry work it is one of the most attractive monuments in Prizren.



Europe. Its preservation could open a plethora of potential uses as a vibrant centrepiece for a range of cultural events and festivals.

Prizren's 16th century bridge over the Lumbardh River is another major attraction. It was severely damaged during flooding in 1979; and was later rebuilt and fully restored so that today it provides a distinctive and picturesque character to the town.

"Apart from many historical sites, it is worth visiting, the monuments that make Prizren distinctive and combine different cultures," said Ms. Nora Arapi a Prizren native and architect by profession.

Ms. Arapi described a number of other attractions to the KFOR Chronicle. These included the Sinan Pasha mosque. Built in 1615,

overlooking the main street in the historical part of Prizren. The interior of the mosque is decorated

The Gazi Mehmet Pasha Hamam (Turkish bathhouse) is an early Ottoman-era monument in which



Ljeviška church, which dates from 1307, the Church of the Holy Salvation.

PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu (2)



PICTURE: Afim Hajrullahu (2)



**The Prizren League complex dating back to 1878**

oriental and local traditions combine. The bath was founded in 1573 and is currently undergoing extensive restoration work. The building is beautifully constructed from rubble stones and lime and it is primarily used for cultural exhibitions and chamber music concerts.

The church of The Holy Virgin of Ljeviska, just west of the city centre, is one of the most important Churches to have survived in the entire region, and one of the finest examples of late Byzantine architecture. The church dates back to the 9th century and the original construction was a three-aisled basilica. In 1306 it was remodelled by King Milutin of Serbia when a cross-in-square design was incorporated into the central nave of the old basilica.

The Church's most famous feature is its decorative wall paintings, which include scenes such as the Wedding at Cana, Healing of the Blind, and the Holy Mother of God with Christ the Guardian. Some of the paintings were damaged during the 2004 riots, and since 2006 Ljeviska church is on the UNESCO world heritage list. During the Ottoman rule the church was turned into a mosque and a minaret was placed on top of

the tower, but after the departure of the Ottomans in 1912 it was reversed and the minaret was removed in 1923.

The Cathedral of Our Lady of Perpetual Help is a Roman Catholic church situated on the western side of the city centre, a five minute walk from Shadërvan square. It was built in the late eighteen hundreds in the time

of the Archbishop of Skopje, Dario Bucciarelli. This church belongs to a Neo-Romanesque style. The cold stone exterior of the building is a contrast to its colourful interior of marble and paintings. The portraits of Gjergj Kastrioti "Skënderbeu", a national Albanian hero, and John Hunyadi, a Hungarian commander at the north-west side of the church are of a national significance.

Prizren, the "museum under the sky" has the potential to unite communities in an effort to create sustainable cultural, and heritage development for tourism. Sharing the participation in the development of cultural heritage, irrespective of the ownership of such sites, has the potential to bring the diverse community together under a shared tourism and development banner. It is in everybody's interest that the culture and heritage of this magnificent city is not only maintained but is developed for future generations and for sustainable tourism and employment in the region.





# PUBLIC AFFAIRS CONFERENCE – FILM CITY

KFOR HQ Public Affairs Office (PAO) hosted a conference in the Camp Film City on 06 December for Public Affairs Officers and Contingent Points of Contacts.



The conference, the first for a considerable time, is important to ensure that the KFOR contingents and Public Affairs community within KFOR are aware of the current NATO Public Affairs procedures. The focus topics covered during the conference were drawn from the NATO Public Affairs Handbook and emphasised the con-

tribution of PA towards mission success.

The conference provided the platform to ensure commonality in messaging to ensuring that KFOR Troop Contributing Nations align national communication activities with NATO and KFOR's policies and procedures.

Chief of KFOR PAO, Col Angelo Morcella, welcomed all the

participants after which the PAO staff gave detailed presentations on PAO Planning, Communications Strategy, Daily Media products, Media outlets in Kosovo, Press Conferences, Media Lines and Press Releases among other public affairs topics. It was an intensive morning with some lighter moments being provided by Captain Antonio Petralia's novel instructional aids.

An open discussion after the presentations provided a very fruitful exchange of knowledge and experience in relation to the PA environment. The conference was a great success and all participants learned a considerable amount and improved their capability as a result. KFOR personnel requiring guidance or assistance in relation to Public Affairs should contact the KFOR HQ PAO situated in the Madrid Building Camp Film City or KPN 2299.



PICTURE: Afrim Hajrullahu (2)



# CHARITABLE DONATIONS TO KLINA ORPHANAGE

On 08 December the KFOR Command Sergeant Major (CSM) led a group to the orphanage in Klina in order to deliver charitable donations.



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)

The orphanage was set up by a married couple from Italy who met in the aftermath of an earthquake in Italy in the 1980's and decided to devote their lives to helping the less fortunate. In 1999 they started helping the refugees in camps inside the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia after this they followed KFOR into Kosovo and opened an orphanage in Pristina and later moved to Klina.

Massimo and Cristina now look after 40 children from different ethnic backgrounds, and their own 4 children in 3 houses. They are currently raising funds to build a

purpose built orphanage in order to house all the children in one location. The children range in age from 2 to 20 years old and the objective is to ensure that they have the skills and knowledge to be self-sufficient before leaving the orphanage.

COM KFOR, who participated in the donation, and CSM Francesco Cascella expressed their gratitude to the contingents that participated in the event, in particular the Italian, Portuguese, Romanian and Slovenian contingents along with the Multinational Specialised Unit who have a special relationship with the Klina orphanage.

The donation, in the Christmas spirit of giving and receiving, brought great happiness to the less fortunate children and to the donors, which is so important at this time of year.

KFOR CSM  
FRANCESCO CASCELLA







PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (3)



**Commander KFOR XVIII**  
Major General Salvatore Farina,  
Italian Army

**Chief Public Affairs Office &  
KFOR Spokesman**  
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Italian Army

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**NATO Nations within KFOR**  
Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia, France, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania, Luxembourg, Netherlands, Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania, Slovenia, Turkey, United Kingdom, United States.

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

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# CHRISTMAS SPIRIT IN CAMP FILM CITY

Occupants of Camp Film City will have noticed the arrival of the Christmas spirit over the last few weeks.



Soldiers deployed on operations always find a way of making this time of year very special even when family and loved ones are not with them. The Christmas spirit is most visible in the decorations, lights and atmosphere successfully created by the Head Quarters Support Group, local traders, National Support Element buildings, individuals rooms, the Film City Christmas Tree and last but not least the fantastic Christmas market.

COM KFOR tuned on the Christmas tree lights in Camp Film City on 07 December and the large

crowd that gathered were delighted to see that Santa Claus made a very special appearance. The mulled wine and mince pies were a huge attraction with the multinational crowd. The Christmas Market organised in Camp Film City by the German, Austrian and Swiss contingents has been very successful and has attracted large crowds and raised valuable funds for worthy causes.

The spirit of Christmas has brought us closer over the festive season and has enabled us to achieve 'MORE TOGETHER' within Kosovo.



PICTURE: Giovanni DELLE CAVE (2)





**Name:** Brenda Hunt  
**Rank:** OR-7  
**Nationality:** Canadian  
**KFOR Unit:** HSG

**MILITARY EDUCATION:** I am employed at home as the Chief Clerk at the Canadian Forces Base (CFB) Halifax. I joined the Canadian Forces (CF) in May 1988 in Toronto. Over my career I have been posted several times to CFB Petawawa, CFB Halifax and to National Defence HQ in Ottawa. I have completed all of the CF occupation training requirements for Resource Management Support (RMS) Clerks up to an including my 6A qualification. I am in the process of completing my Intermediate Leadership Qualification.

**ABOUT THE MISSION:** This is my first outside of Canada on a mission. I find this mission and Canada's role in it to be challenging and rewarding. I am working at HSG (Headquarters Support Group) as the Customs Representative. Being a small contingent, all the Canadians are double tasked to work both within our mission role as well as at the NSE (National Support Element) as the Chief Clerk for the Canadian Contingent.

**FAMILY REACTIONS:** My family were a bit nervous when they first heard about my deployment for this mission because they remember Kosovo from the coverage of the conflict here. Once they were reassured that the conflict had been over for quite some time, they were very proud of me for deploying. My extended family and friends support me and offer me great strength during my time away.

**HOBBIES:** When I'm not busy working I enjoy walking, playing with my two dogs, gardening, music and socialising with my friends.



**Name:** Igor Svečak  
**Rank:** OR-8  
**Nationality:** Slovenian  
**KFOR Unit:** NLAT

**MILITARY EDUCATION:** I joined the Army in 1991 after the Slovenian independence war. My first appointment was as a Squad Leader Instructor. Later, having completed a military police course, I was appointed as a Military Police Squad Leader. I then completed a degree and moved into the logistics area and became a Platoon Commander, but then decided to attend the Sergeant Major Academy in the Croatian Armed Forces and became Command Sergeant Major of the Logistics Brigade within the Slovenian Armed Forces and this is my current appointment at home.

**ABOUT THE MISSION:** This is my first operational deployment. My appointment is the Senior Enlisted Advisor in the NLAT Command Advisory Branch. I am responsible for advising senior Command Sergeant Majors in the KSF. I also alternate the KFOR Command Sergeant Major when necessary, a task which I am very proud and happy to perform.

**FAMILY REACTION:** I have a wife, Anci, and two children, Tajda and Nejc, aged 16 and 20. They are very supportive of my deployment and I am very grateful to my wife and family for their all their continued support.

**HOBBIES:** In my free time I enjoy all sports particularly cycling, running and basketball. I really enjoy motorcycling to the seaside where my family and I spend a lot of our time.



slightly

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

medium

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

difficult

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

very difficult

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

**Rules:**

The standard consists of a grid Sudoku field with  $3 \times 3$  blocks, which are each divided into  $3 \times 3$  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 NOVEMBER**

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

SLIGHTLY

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

DIFFICULT

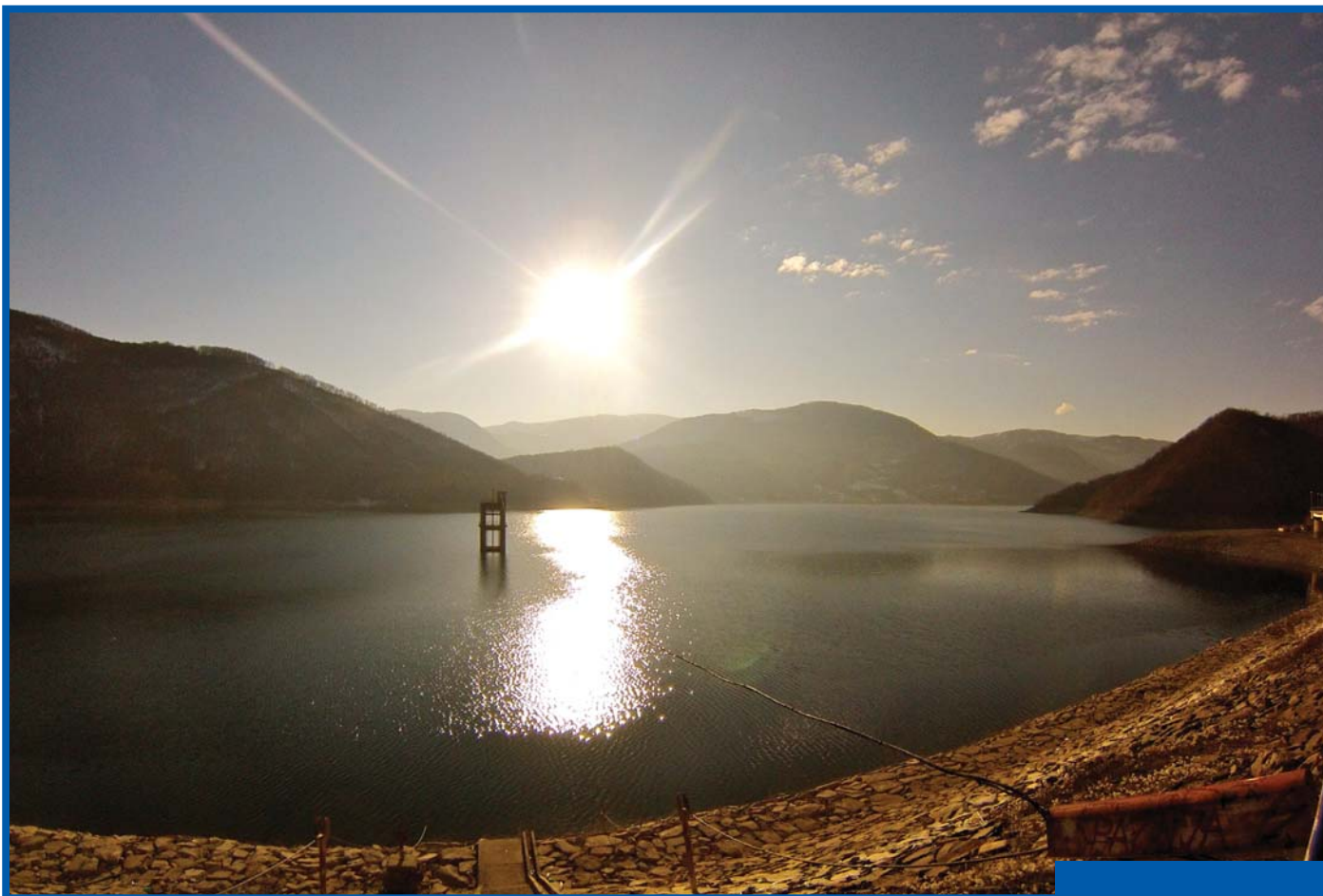
3	8	4	2	9	6	7	1	5
9	7	6	1	5	3	8	4	2
5	2	1	7	4	8	3	9	6
4	5	8	6	7	1	2	3	9
1	9	7	3	2	4	6	5	8
6	3	2	5	8	9	1	7	4
7	6	9	4	3	2	5	8	1
8	1	5	9	6	7	4	2	3
2	4	3	8	1	5	9	6	7

MEDIUM

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

VERY DIFFICULT





## PICTURE OF THE MONTH

# DECEMBER 2013

### Contribute to the KFORChronicle!

Just send your photos to [kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int](mailto: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 that edition of the Chronicle.

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

CSM Igor Svečak was attributed to the wrong contingent in an article in a previous Chronicle. Please see Igor's profile on page 21 for his full details.

Sincerely  
The Chronicle Team



## DEC 2013

GAZIVODE dam  
in ZUBIN POTOK.

Equipment used:  
GoPRO HERO 3 SILVER

2LT  
Robin Studer  
JRD-N  
LMT N4



