

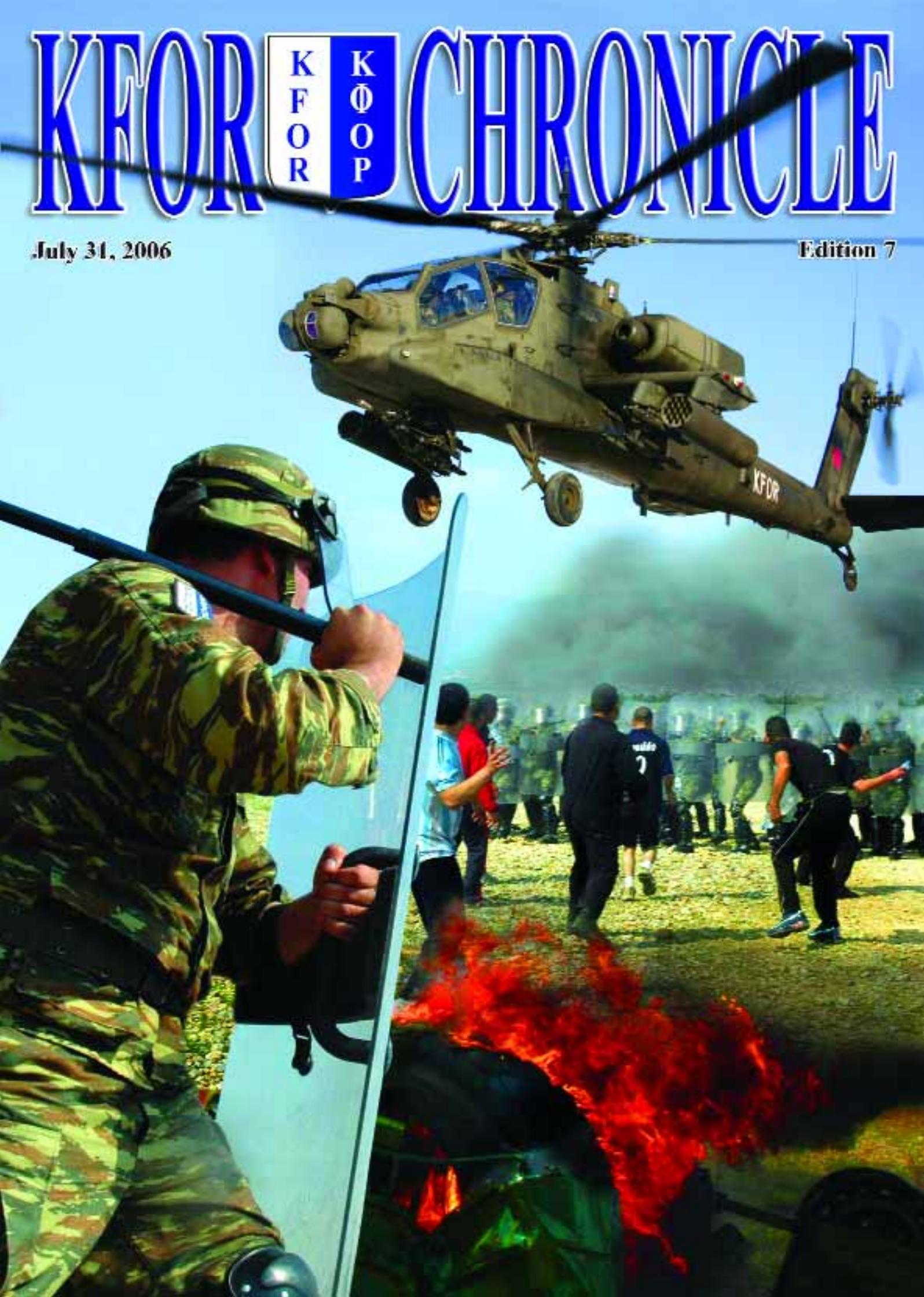
KFOR CHRONICLE

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July 31, 2006

Edition 7



New KFOR Chronicle Editor in Chief

Dear KFOR Members,

My name is Major Alexander Unterweger and it is a great pleasure and privilege for me to take over as the HQ's new Chief Internal Information and Editor in Chief of the KFOR Chronicle magazine. I am Austrian, 36 years old and I live in Vienna.

In addition to my career as an officer, my professional background is a human resource developer and executive trainer. I decided that it was time for a change and time for some new challenges. My military profession is in information operations, I'm a member of the Joint Command and Control Staff of the Austrian Ministry of Defence.

This is my third deployment, but my first time in Kosovo. I've had three years of international experience in Syria working in various capacities with the United Nations.

I would like to thank my predecessor, Major Heimo Gruber and the KFOR Chronicle team for all their achievements. Heimo, I wish you all the best for the future!

The KFOR Chronicle has to stay up-to-date and attractive for all KFOR members to read. This will be the main challenge during my tour. With your support and my range of experiences I am sure that we will achieve this goal.

In this edition you'll find a lot of interesting and informative articles with really fascinating pictures. Only a few weeks in the mission, I'm proud of my team because of the results you are now holding in your hands.

I'm looking forward working together with you to provide you a newsworthy KFOR Chronicle magazine. We'll do our best and I hope you'll enjoy it.

Major Alexander Unterweger



<p>KFOR CHRONICLE</p>  <p>Cover photo by Armend Aqifi</p> <p>Contact KFOR Chronicle: Phone Int: +389 2268 2897 Kos.: (038) 503 603 2897 KPN: 2897, 2402 FAX Int: +389 2268 2752 E-mail: kforchronicle@main.kfor.nato.int Internet: www.nato.int/kfor</p>	<p>Commander KFOR: LTG Giuseppe Valotto, IT Army</p> <p>Chief Public Information: Col Pio Sabetta, IT Army</p> <p>Chief Internal Information & Editor in Chief: Maj Alexander Unterweger AUT Army unterwegea@hq.kfor.nato.int</p> <p>Journalist 1st Lt Maksym Nedria, UKR Army</p> <p>Photographer Mr. Armend Aqifi</p> <p>The KFOR Chronicle is printed by KOSOVA SOT Tel: 038 548 402</p> <p>Special thanks to Ssgt. Chad Padgett, US AF for his invaluable support</p>	<p>The KFOR Chronicle is produced and fully funded by HQ KFOR. It is published for KFOR forces in the area of responsibility. The contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the coalition governments' defence departments.</p> <p>Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Internal Information Section of HQ KFOR's Public Information Office (PIO) in Pristina, Kosovo.</p> <p>PIO HQ KFOR reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.</p>	<p>Nations within KFOR:</p> <table><tr><td><u>HO KFOR</u> Canada Estonia Hungary Netherlands Norway Portugal United Kingdom</td><td><u>MNTF (E)</u> United States of America Armenia Greece Lithuania Poland Ukraine</td></tr><tr><td><u>MNTF (C)</u> Czech Republic Finland Ireland Latvia Slovakia Sweden</td><td><u>MNTF (S)</u> Germany Austria Azerbaijan Bulgaria Georgia Switzerland Turkey</td></tr><tr><td><u>MNTF (N)</u> France Belgium Denmark Greece Latvia Luxembourg Mongolia Morocco</td><td><u>MNTF (W)</u> Italy Argentina Hungary Romania Slovenia Spain</td></tr></table>	<u>HO KFOR</u> Canada Estonia Hungary Netherlands Norway Portugal United Kingdom	<u>MNTF (E)</u> United States of America Armenia Greece Lithuania Poland Ukraine	<u>MNTF (C)</u> Czech Republic Finland Ireland Latvia Slovakia Sweden	<u>MNTF (S)</u> Germany Austria Azerbaijan Bulgaria Georgia Switzerland Turkey	<u>MNTF (N)</u> France Belgium Denmark Greece Latvia Luxembourg Mongolia Morocco	<u>MNTF (W)</u> Italy Argentina Hungary Romania Slovenia Spain
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Katia Ricciarelli warms the

Text and photos by 1st LT Maksym Nedria, Ukrainian Army

Katia Ricciarelli, Italian worldwide known opera singer performed together with gifted Spanish and Italian KFOR members in Djakovica/Gjakove on July 18.

The concert was held at "The Asim Vokshi" Cultural Hall, while the hall was overfilled with KFOR soldiers of different nationalities and representatives of local community. COMKFOR, Lt. General Giuseppe Valotto attended the event.

The concert began with performances by local Latino dancers and continued with a great welcome given to Katia Ricciarelli as she appealed at the stage. Maj. Fernando Ensenat, Spanish Army enjoyed singing duet with the Italian soprano. Their artistic performance caused a storm of applause from opera admirers. Maj. Ensenat, working for J5 SO PLANS, KFOR HQ now, has been studying music and singing since he was 15 years old. He gives several concerts per year in Spain along with his professional military service in the Spanish Armed Forces.

"As the matter of fact," said Maj. Ensenat, "I am a great admire of Katia Ricciarelli. The very first CD with opera I bought 20 years ago was with Katia Ricciarelli and Placido Domingo. The opportunity to sing with Katia Ricciarelli given to me is amazing."

Another man of talent, Danilo Grimieri, OR-9, Chief Graphic, KFOR HQ from Italy took part in the concert and performed a number of songs.

After the concert, General Valotto sincerely thanked Katia Ricciarelli and all the participants for the great pleasure given to KFOR soldiers. Municipal Head of Djakovica/Gjakove presented the Italian soprano with a Mother Teresa portrait.

Katia Ricciarelli was born on January 16, 1946, in Rovigo, Italy. She trained at the Benedict Marcello conservatory in Venice, won several vocal competitions in 1968, and made her professional debut as "Mimi" in "La boheme" in Mantua in 1969, followed by a 1970 appearance in "Il trovatore" in Parma. In the following year, she won RAI's "Voci Verdiane" award. Between 1972 and 1975, engagements followed in the major European and American opera houses including Lyric Opera of Chicago (1972); La Scala (1973); Royal Opera House Covent Garden (1974); and the Metropolitan Opera in 1975. In 1981, she began a decade-long association with the Rossini Opera Festival in Pesaro, thus broadening her repertoire of Rossini's operas.

Beside her many opera performances, she also appeared as Desdemona in Franco Zeffirelli's film version of Verdi's "Otello" in 1986 alongside Placido Domingo and in "La seconda notte di nozze" (The second night of the wedding), Pupi Avati, 2005.



The hearts of KFOR soldiers





Italian Ministry of Defence visited Kosovo

Italian Ministry of Defense, Arturo Parisi and Chief of Defense General Staff, Admiral Giampaolo Di Paola arrived to Kosovo on July 13. Accompanied by COMKFOR, Lt. Gen. Giuseppe Valotto, highest military authorities from Italy visited Italian KFOR in Djakovica/Gjakove. Then, Prof. Arturo Parisi held meetings with PM Agim Çeku, Deputy SRSG Steven Schook and Mr. Oliver Ivanovic, the head of the Serbian List for Kosovo.

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French National Day

On July 13, a ceremony to celebrate the French National Day known as Bastille Day took place in MNTF North HQ, Novo Selo. During the solemn parade COMKFOR, Lt. Gen. Giuseppe Valotto was awarded by Maj. Gen. Philippe Sommaire, DCOM with Légion d'honneur.

The Légion d'honneur (officially Order national de la Légion d'honneur) is a French order of chivalry established by Napoleon Bonaparte, First Consul of the French Republic, on May 19, 1802. It is the premier order of France, and its award is therefore considered a great distinction. The order's motto is Honneur et patrie ("Honor and Motherland").



Italian Army Chief of Staff paid a visit to Kosovo

On July 20, Italian Army Chief of Staff, Lt. Gen. Filiberto Cecchi spent two days at Kosovo. During the first day of his visit, General Cecchi was received and briefed by COMKFOR, Lt. Gen. Giuseppe Valotto about the current situation in Kosovo. That same day Italian Army Chief of Staff had a meeting with President Fatmir Sejdiu and PM Agim Çeku. General Cecchi ensured them about the commitment of the Italian Army to KFOR mission. During the second day of his visit General Cecchi visited Italian KFOR in Camp Villaggio Italia, MNTF West HQ.

Tour with KFOR



Deputy Chief of Staff Operations KFOR Change of Command

On July 24, the new DCOS OPS KFOR BG Giles Fugier, French Army replaced BG Hans-Erich Antoni, German Army. COMKFOR, Lt. Gen. Giuseppe Valotto expressed his great appreciation of the job done by General Antoni over his six month deployment in Kosovo during the KFOR's restructuring process. At the end of his speech General Valotto welcomed General Fugier.



Medal Parade in Hungarian Battalion

COMKFOR, Lt. Gen. Giuseppe Valotto attended the Hungarian Guard and Security Battalion Medal Parade in Hungarian Camp, Pristina/Prishtine on July 24. General Valotto extended his gratitude to the soldiers for their outstanding service; they daily provide security for the HQ KFOR, Film City Camp.



The Allied Joint Force Command Naples Commander visited Kosovo

On July 25, United States Navy Admiral H.G. Ulrich III, Allied Joint Force Command Naples Commander arrived in Kosovo. During his visit, accompanied by COMKFOR, Lt. Gen. Giuseppe Valotto, he met with Mr. Esad Haxhijaha, Municipality President of Orahovec and Mr. Jovan Djuricic, a local Serb leader of Velika Hoca during a visit to southern Kosovo.

"We are particularly sensitive to the concerns of the minority community," Admiral Ulrich said, adding "The role of the local political leaders is indispensable. We expect them to not only speak out against violence, but to actively promote inter-ethnic understanding and a peaceful process."

Admiral Ulrich was also in Kosovo for meetings with commanders of KFOR's MNTFs, Mr. Bajram Rexhepi, senior member of Democratic Party of Kosovo and Ms. Tina Kaidnow, Chief of US Diplomat Office.



“Balkan Hawk V” KFOR

*Text by Maj Alexander Unterweger,
Austrian Army
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

During operational training BALKAN HAWK V, from July 11 through 13, MNTF East tested response capabilities to a violent demonstration. US, Italian, Greek and Armenian reserve units were airlifted from Camp Bondsteel to the hot spot scenario in the Greek Camp Rigas Fereos.

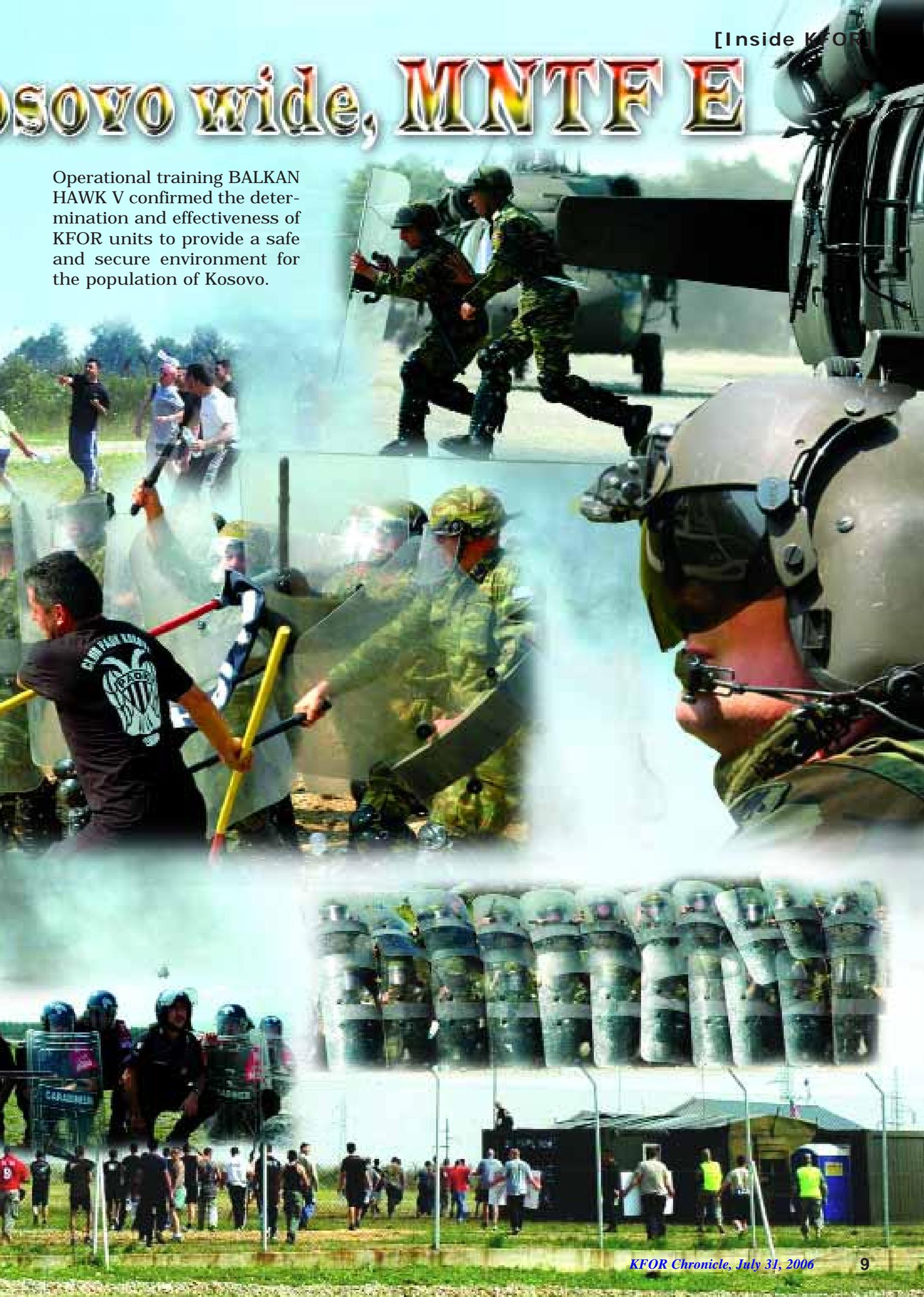
Balkan Hawk V was designed to test the interoperability, sustainability and capabilities of its units and to refine their ability to deploy on short-notice.

Border and minority-protection exercises were also included in the program as well as an evacuation exercise conducted at Camp Rigas Fereos, in the MNTF-E operational area, in close cooperation with UNMIK Police and KPS representatives.



KOSOVO wide, MNTF E

Operational training BALKAN HAWK V confirmed the determination and effectiveness of KFOR units to provide a safe and secure environment for the population of Kosovo.



Bastille Day in Novo Selo

Bastille day is the French National Day, celebrated on July 14 each year, which is called Fête Nationale (National day) in France. It commemorates the 1790 Fête de la Fédération, held on the first anniversary of the storming of the Bastille on July 14, 1789.



Lieutenant General Valotto received the medal of the Legion of Honour with the rank of officer, Colonel Rougemont and Commander Chevalier with the rank of knight. Major Nicolas was awarded as knight in the National Order of Merit. Warrant officers Portal and Bedin received the Military Medal.

By Lt Virginie Meynard, French Army

On July 13, a ceremony gathered about four hundred soldiers and civilian guests on the Novo Selo parade square in order to celebrate the French National Day better known as Bastille Day. The solemn parade was commanded by Major General Sommaire, the French military representative and deputy commander of Kosovo Force.

After the traditional troops review, it was time to present the decorations.

But how to talk about that July 13 without reminding the tragic event which happened the same day in the afternoon, when the armored vehicle of three French soldiers turned over on their way back from operational exercise Balkan Hawk V. Unfortunately, one of them died and the two others were seriously injured.

Of course, everyone on the parade had that tragedy in mind, even those who weren't in Novo Selo at that time. Everyone paid tribute to Caporal-chef Olivier Maria during the ceremony with one minute silence. He was 33 years old and had three children. He served in the 1st mechanized brigade. Major general Sommaire concluded the ceremony with a speech and a special thinking to soldiers who gave their life or were injured in the accomplishment of their mission. He wished their sacrifice serves as an exemple and asked for us to show ourselves worthy of their bravery.



Together We Can



Bridge Training Course

>>> Page 26-27 >>>



An image from the HOBOT camera showing the HOBOT Claw reaching for an IED, placed on a wheel hub. So the IEDD Team can get all the information from a safe distance



IEDD Team Leader deployed in a 45 kg suit taking an x-ray of a device



IEDD Team (from the left): Cpl Mark Carroll, Sgt Damian Patchell, Lt Clodagh Mc Connell and Cpl Darrell Fernandes and HOBOT



Clodagh, the Irish Team leader operates the HOBO Console using the IEDD Claw to manipulate an IED



HOBO has weapons loaded and ready to carry out a controlled explosion to destroy an IED

IEDD - KFOR's Bomb Squads

Military bomb squads are called 'IEDD'-Teams, IEDD stands for 'Improved Explosives Device Disposal'. These teams are trained to examine and dispose various types of improvised bombs and other explosive devices.

*Text by Maj Alexander Unterweger,
Austrian Army
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

The main aim is to disarm a bomb without permitting it to detonate. When suspicious and potentially dangerous items are found, the police usually call a KFOR bomb squad. Lieutenant Claudia McConnell leads the Irish bomb squad based in Lipljan/Lypjan. Moreover she coordinates six IEDD Teams within Multinational Task Force Centre,

namely two Swedish, two Finnish and two Czech.

The team's best friend is the wheeled robot "HOBO", a so-called 'Weapons & Surveillance Delivery System'. HOBO, with its three cameras and a hydraulic arm, is able to examine, to shoot open and thereby disarm suspicious devices without putting a human being at risk. The robot is armed with a kind of water gun called 'disrupter', which can shoot open even hard containers like suitcases. If there is not enough space for

HOBO to operate, Claudia's team has to rely on their personal skills and experience. In such cases, they approach the dangerous items in Canadian made bomb suites weighing 45 kg. Before touching a suspect item, the specialists use the portable x-ray device in order to make photos of the inside.

Batteries, electric circuits or detonators recognized on the x-ray image are then destroyed with remote-controlled water guns.

Aircraft Crash Management

*Text by 1st LT Maksym Nedria,
Ukrainian Army
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

"A Boeing 737 - 400 passenger aircraft is in a standard approach and has a normal landing on runway 35, when the left main landing gear breaks off and the plane skids off the runway, stops near taxiway F and bursts into flames. On board are 56 passengers and four crew members." Based on that would-be situation, Pristina International Airport Mass Casualty Plan was activated during MASCAL exercise SAMARITAN 2006 on July 14 in Pristina Airport. The aim of the exercise was to train coordinated response required among KFOR military and civilian agencies to

a simulated military fixed wing aircraft crash with 60 military casualties when the ammunition aboard the aircraft and a fuel leak cause a simulated fire.

The first intervention was made by the airport rescue and emergency departments. Then KFOR, KPC, KPS and medical personnel of UNMIK contributed into managing the situation aiming reducing loss of life, minimizing suffering and, eventually, restoring a safe and secure environment.

Sixty KFOR soldiers from MNTFs Centre, North and East performed role of military casualties during the exercise. Ten KFOR, KPC and UNMIK ambulances with medical teams were involved in primary triage and rescuing casualties in the spot of the accident, transporting them to Assembly Points for a medical treatment afterwards.

Two UH60-Alpha CASEVAC helicopters and two UH60-MEDEVAC helicopters, MNTF E, one MEDEVAC helicopter, MNTF S and one PUMA MEDEVAC helicopter from MNTF N were transporting casualties to a Hospital simulated at the territory of Camp Vrelo.

The exercise was conducted successfully, validated the fully ability of KFOR in collaboration with UNMIK and local institutions to respond effectively in case of an aircraft crash.





Basic Instincts - Italian

By Maj Heimo Gruber, Austrian
Army

Photos by Armend Aqifi

Since 2003 the Italian Forces employ dogs for various purposes in Iraq, Afghanistan and Kosovo. The Italian 'K9 Unit' for KFOR is located at the MNTF West Headquarters in Villaggio Italia, Pec/Peja.

All Italian military dogs are trained at a base in Grosseto, a small town north of Rome. This is the place where the intelligent animals learn basic skills as well as specialties like detecting explosives, ammunition, mines, patrolling and chasing enemy forces in the terrain.

Currently 11 dog handlers are deployed to KFOR together with their personal dogs. The dog and its handler form a team that is never separated. The handler goes for regular walks, brings the food, trains and plays with his dog. This special relationship of mutual trust and dedication is the foundation for training and operation. Through games dog trainers utilize the animals' basic instincts like hunting, sniffing, searching for something and defending its food or territory. Whenever the dog carries out the desired behavior it is rewarded with playing or a piece of food.

Military police dogs spend several hours of the day in their small box-like cages, especially after eating. Surprisingly this is a very positive and useful procedure. The dog considers the special container his home, in which it feels very safe and protected. Therefore the animals remain calm and relaxed even during transportation in the back of vehicles during operations.

Every dog has its specialty. Those for the general detection of explosives for example sniff with the nose up in the air, while those for mine detection sniff with their nose down on the ground.

The 'K 9' unit in Villaggio Italia has teams for all purposes and dog-teams remain in the theatre for only one month. Missions in Iraq and Afghanistan however last 4 months.



'K9'

Let Their Dogs Out



“Balkan Hawk V”



Kosovo wide, MNTF N

In order to perform a wide variety of tasks linked with a peace keeping mission in support of UNMIK to maintain a safe and secure environment in case of crisis, KFOR conducted operation "Balkan Hawk V" Kosovo wide on July 11-13.

Text by 1st LT Maksym Nedria,
Ukrainian Army
Photos by Armend Aqifi

The operational capability of French battalion in Mitrovica/Mitrovice, MNTF N was temporarily raised with emphasis on short notice deployment and framework operations. The battalion, consisting of four French companies, one Moroccan company and Belgium/Luxembourgian company, in total strength of 800 troops, was involved in a rehearsal concerning manning of the Red and Blue Boxes

Concept in minority protected areas. One KTM company and one company from MNTF C were under the tactical command of the battalion TCP in order to take over the responsibility and to enhance the security situation in the area of Leposavic/Leposaviq during the French battalion engagement for the Balkan Hawk V.

According to Col. P. Esnault, the French battalion commander, there are five ethnic minorities' enclaves in the AOR of his battalion.

"During the operation, keeping a very low profile," said Col. Esnault. "The

concept of the Red and Blue Boxes was activated, VCPs were established within the area of operation, the main supply road FISH was taken under immediate control and numerous patrols ensured secure situation in minority protected areas and in the vicinity of the Mitrovica Bridge."

The Balkan Hawk V operational activities in MNTF N were completed successfully and eventually validated the ability and effectiveness of multinational KFOR units to respond rapidly Kosovo wide in case of crisis.



Visoki Dečani Monastery

*Text by 1st LT Maksym Nedria,
Ukrainian Army
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

Visoki Deçani Monastery is a major Orthodox monastery, situated in Kosovo, 12 km south from the town of Pec/Peje. The monastery is settled in the picturesque valley of the Bistrica River surrounded by mountains and forests. Its cathedral is the biggest medieval church in the Balkans which contains the largest preserved monument of Byzantine fresco-painting.

The monastery was established by King Stefan Decanski in 1327. In 1328 the king died and was buried at

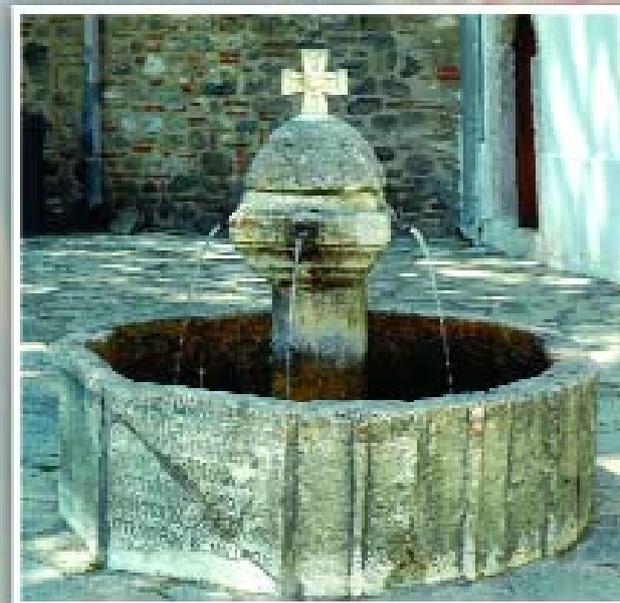
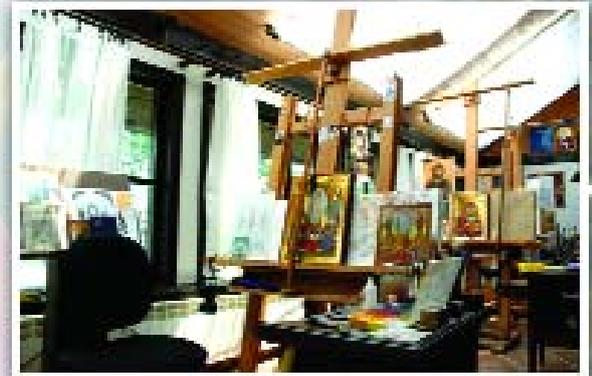
the monastery, which henceforth became his popular shrine. The construction activities were continued by his son Stefan Dusan until 1335. However, the wall-painting was not completed until 1350.

The cathedral dedicated to Christ Pantocrator and built from blocks of red-purple, light-yellow and onyx marble was constructed by master-builders under the Franciscan monk Vitus of Kotor. It is distinguished from other contemporary Serbian churches by its imposing dimensions and obvious Romanesque features. Its celebrated frescoes comprise some 1000 portraits and cover all major themes of the New Testament. The

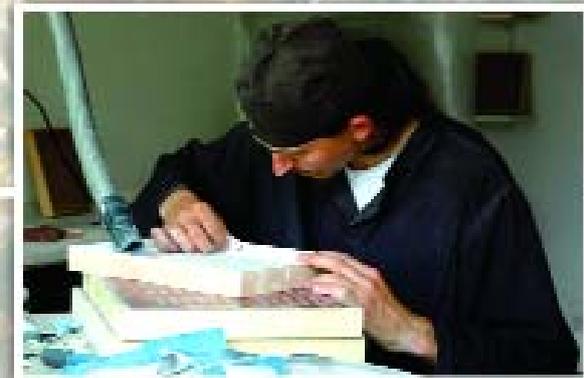
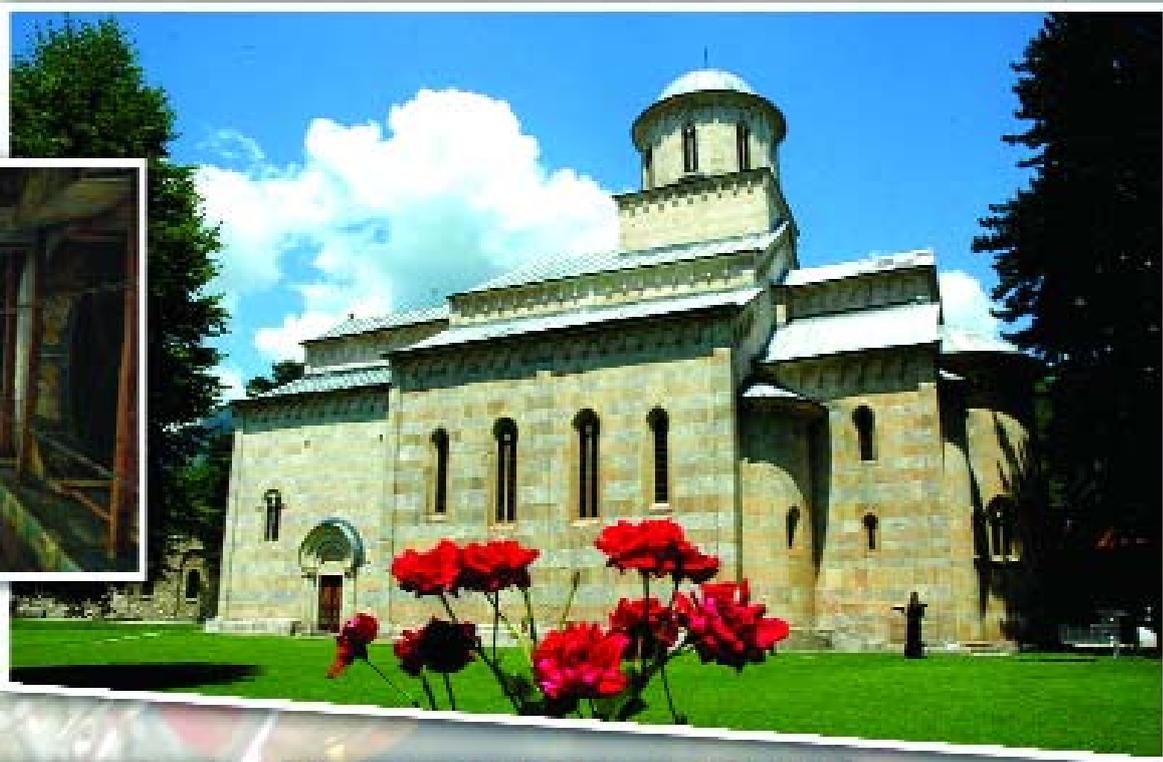
cathedral contains original 14th-century wooden iconostasis, hegumen's throne and carved sarcophagus of King Stefan.

In 2004, UNESCO listed the monastery on the World Heritage List, citing its frescoes as "one of the most valued examples of the so-called Palaeologan renaissance in Byzantine painting" and "a valuable record of the life in the 14th century."

Today a young brotherhood of 30 monks lives in the monastery continuing the centuries old tradition of the past. The brotherhood has developed various activities: wood carving, icon painting, book publishing and is also active in the missionary work.



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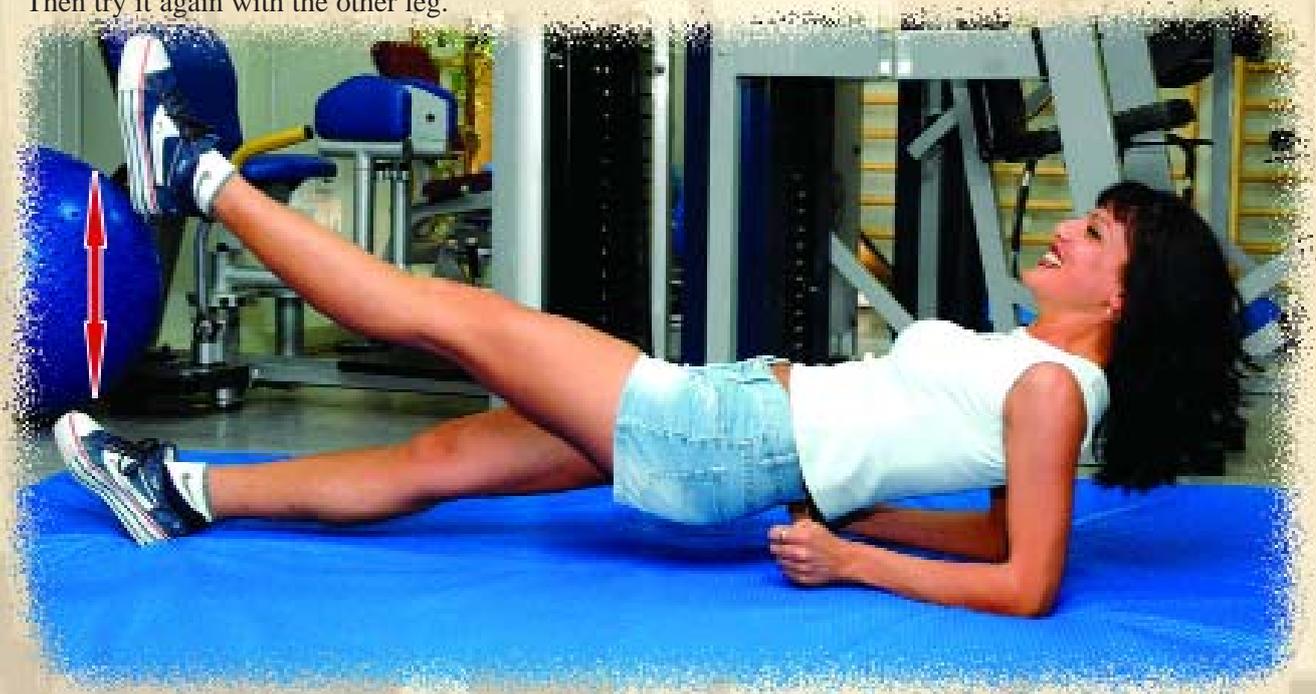
Stay in Shape with Mas

Functional

Functional Gymnastics is one of the best training opportunities for fitness of the whole body. The exercises results are muscles will get stronger in every area you train. Above all, you will strengt it in a stationary way, hold the end position of the active way. At the beginning, start with 15 seconds to a higher level. If you are a beginner, start Okay, let's start

Hip flexor, stomach and the front part of your thigh

Starting position: both legs on the ground, stretched body
Move one of your legs 15 to 20 centimeters off the ground.
Then try it again with the other leg.



Back muscles and gluts

starting position: on hands and knees
Move your leg 10 to 15 centimeters up.
Then change your position and
try it again with the other leg.
Do the exercise two times per leg.





ter Sergeant Klochan

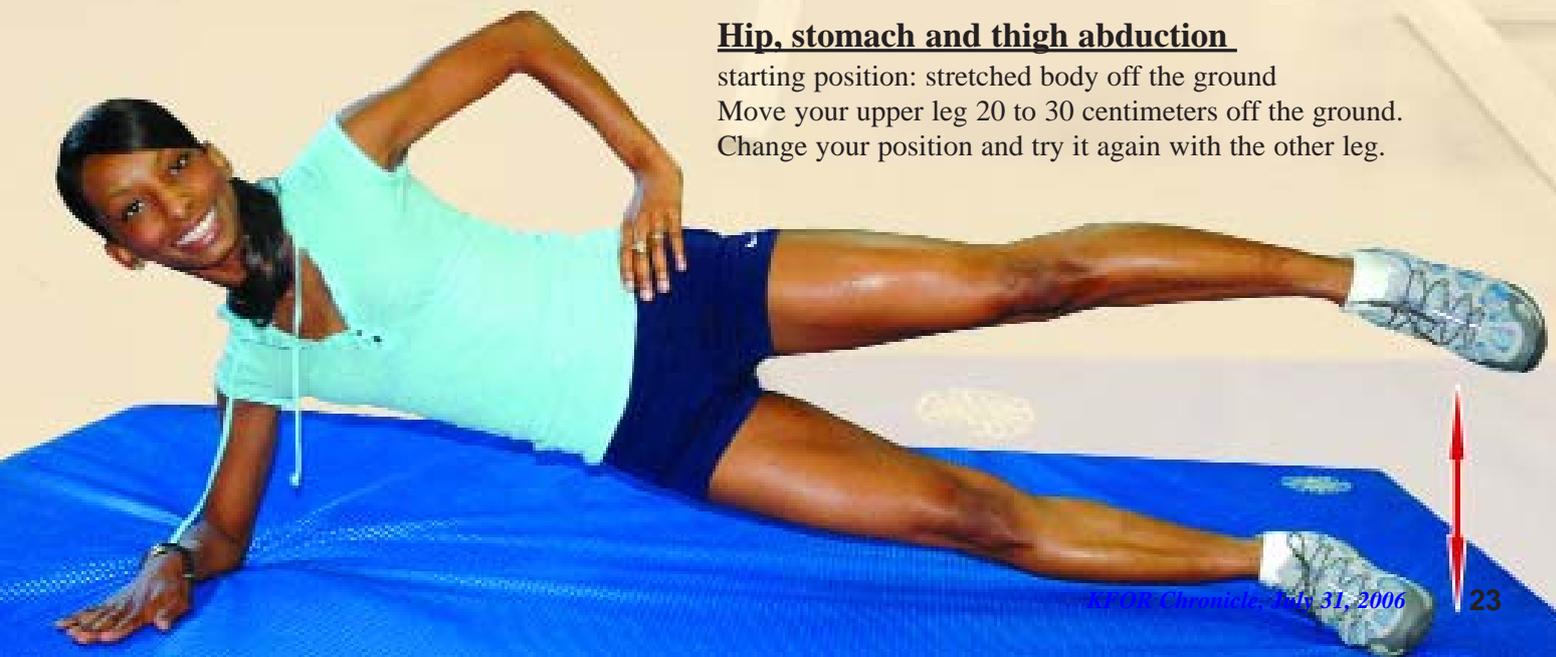
Gymnastics

best thing about it is that you don't need much equipment. Therefore you can do it almost anywhere. hen your stomach, hips and bones. You can do it either in a stationary or an active way. When you do stationary and 10 to 15 repetitions of one exercise in the active way. If you are able to do so, change doing these exercises two times per week. with the training.



Hip, back muscles, thighs and gluts

starting position: stretched body, face down
Move one of your legs 10 to 15 centimeters off the ground.
Then try it again with the other leg.



Hip, stomach and thigh abduction

starting position: stretched body off the ground
Move your upper leg 20 to 30 centimeters off the ground.
Change your position and try it again with the other leg.

Stay in Shape with Master Sergeant Klochan

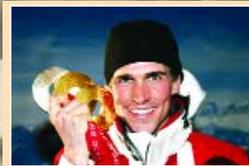
Hi, my name is MSgt Thomas Klochan and I would like to encourage you to participate in some type of physical activity. Let me begin by introducing myself. I'm 33 years old and come from Austria.

I like to do all types of physical activities and achieved my trainer certification for endurance training in 1997.

Here in Kosovo, I serve on the Analyses Team of MNTF South. In Austria, I'm a member of a Sport Centre in the Austrian Armed Forces. I'm the Deputy Commander of a professional sport coy located in Salzburg, which has 44 professional athletics.

I also work as an instructor for physical trainers in the Austrian Army.

I wish you a lot of fun, good training and above all successful results with the following exercises!



One member, Felix Gottwald won two Olympic Gold medals in Turin 2006 Nordic combined. Ludwig Paischer, another member won the Vice World Championship in Judo.



Coming up in the next Edition of the KFOR Chronicle:



Stay in Shape with MSgt Klochan, Part II

Find six differences!

Send your solutions to kforchronicle@main.kfor.nato.int

Among those who send us the correct solution we choose the winner, whom we will then portrait with a "Peace Keeper's Profile" in the next edition of the KFOR Chronicle.

Original



Modified



“Get ‘er done!” – How to La



Engineers of 13 different nations and six KPC members gathered in Camp CASABLANCA, Suva Reka to take part in the 11th KFOR Bridge Operation Course on June 26.

The training was conducted by Bob FULLILOVE from Mabey & Johnson Ltd. England, the company producing the popular Mabey-Johnson Bridge.

*By Maj Heimo Gruber, Austrian Army
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

The aim of this course was to train engineers of all ranks in how to use Mabey & Johnson bridging equipment in planned operations as well as crisis situations to ensure freedom of movement for KFOR troops.

After a day of lessons on the main parts of the bridge and a theoretical introduction, the life bridge launching started Wednesday. Bridge building is a hard and dangerous job and temperatures up to 39 degrees did not make it easier. The 38 attendees assembled all the pre-fabricated parts needed to launch a 9-bay Mabey & Johnson Compact 200 Bridge.

Its length was 27.45 m plus a 6-bay launching nose of 18.3 m. The bridge had a dead weight of 26 tons and is able to carry 80-ton tracked or 70-ton wheeled vehicles!

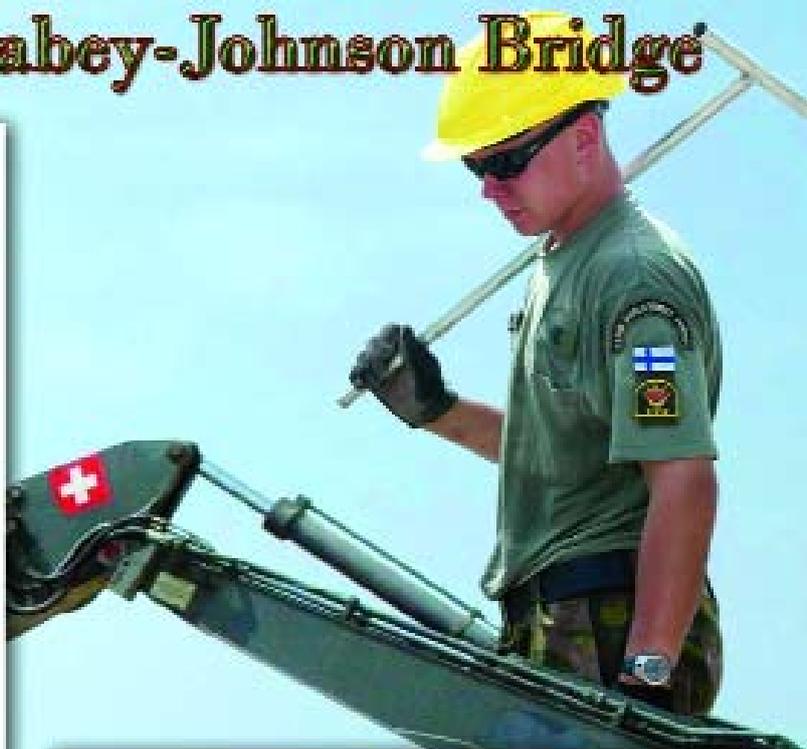
Having finished the ramp the engineers conducted a "load test" with the Swiss 40-ton crane - the bridge was just perfect. In the late afternoon the course dismantled the bridge and stored the parts again in the compound's bridge park.

On the last evening the Swiss Coy invited all attendees for a traditional Swiss fondue dinner in their famous "Swiss Chalet" lodge.

Saturday the engineers inspected a previously erected bridge in Jablanica/Jabllanicë near the city of Pec/Peja.



Launch the Legendary Mabey-Johnson Bridge



Transfer of Authority in TF "TIZONA"



Contingent KSPFOR XVI "Castillejos" replaced Contingent XV "Extremadura" July 10 during a transfer of authority and change of command ceremony in Base España, Istok/Istog on.



By Cpt Cristobal J., OR-8 Pantion C. and Sadete Osmanaj, TF "TIZONA"

The members of the Spanish contingent, who are primarily constituted on the base of the Chivalry Brigade "Castillejos II" in Zaragoza, Spain and AALOG 41, start their six

months mission in Kosovo.

Brig. General Esparza, Commander of the Chivalry Brigade "Castillejos II" and Brig. General Santo, MNTF W Commander headed the solemn ceremony. Authorities of local institutions as well as KPS and KPC attended the event.

Brig. General Santo mentioned both the leaving contingent, by praising their good work, as well as the incoming one, reminding them of the challenge of their mission, especially in the

current situation of change.

The General stressed the good work done by Col. Millán, Commander of KSPAGT XV "Extremadura" and the crucial importance of the TF "TIZONA" in the maintenance of safety and security in the region of Istok/Istog. At the end of his speech, the General welcomed Col. González, Commander of the Contingent XVI "Castillejos" and wished him good luck.



Change of Command in Hellenic Battalion



"You have given an outstanding example of what soldier's friendship and good will can realize," said Brig. General Bart. "Your army and your country can be proud of what you have achieved here in Kosovo. I wish you all the best for the future and a safe return at home."

"This ceremony also enables me to welcome the new team under the command of Col. Koukos," welcomed Brig. General Bart soldiers of the 644 Mechanized Infantry Battalion. "There is still much to be done, here in Kosovo. But, for sure, I can completely rely on your professionalism, on your straight behavior, on your impartiality and your deep respect of human beings."

Text and photos by 1st LT Maksym Nedria, Ukrainian Army

The 644 Mechanized Infantry Battalion took over authority from the 646 Battalion July 20 during a change of command and transfer of authority ceremony in Camp Alexander the Great, MNTF N in Mitrovica/Mitrovice.

The 646 Battalion has been present in Kosovo for 6 months restoring a safe and secure environment for the people of Kosovo.

Brig. General Jean-Jacques Bart, MNTF N Commander headed the change of command. Representatives from different national KFOR contingents, local civilian and religious authorities honored the ceremony.

"Under the outstanding command of Col. Keventzidis you have proved yourselves highly professional soldiers maintaining a safe and secure environment in your AOR," addressed Brig. General Bart leaving Hellenic Battalion.



Where is this bus going?

A drunken man gets on the bus late one night, staggers up the aisle, and sits next to an elderly woman. She looks the man up and down and says, "I've got news for you. You're going straight to hell!" The man jumps up out of his seat and shouts, "Man, I'm on the wrong bus!"

There are lawyers on the flight

An airliner was having engine trouble, and the pilot instructed the cabin crew to have the passengers take their seats and get prepared for an emergency landing.

A few minutes later, the pilot asked the flight attendants if everyone was buckled in and ready. "All set back here, Captain," came the reply, "except the lawyers are still going around passing out business cards."

The wife is not speaking to me

One night, this guy come into a bar and asks the bartender for a drink. Then he asks for another. After a couple more drinks, the bartender gets worried.

"What's the matter?" the bartender asks.

"My wife and I got into a fight," explained the guy "and now she isn't talking to me for a whole 31 days." The bartender thought about this for a while. "But, isn't it a good thing that she isn't talking to you?" asked the bartender.

"Yeah, except today is the last night."

Warning all shoplifters

Warning to shoplifters: Anyone caught shoplifting will be beaten, gagged, whipped and tortured. Any survivors will be prosecuted to the full extent of the law!



Farewell Letter

**1st Lieutenant Maksym Nedria,
Ukrainian Army
Journalist, "KFOR Chronicle" magazine**

After 12 months in KFOR I am about to finish my mission. It was a great experience to be in Kosovo working for the NATO mission as a military journalist.

I loved my job at "KFOR Chronicle," and I have been trying to do my best to have it done well.

I enjoyed very much working with my colleagues in the KFOR Public Information

Office. Therefore, I would like to extend my sincere gratitude to all of them. I would like to express my deep respect to the Chief PIO Col. Sabetta and thank him for his guidance and support.

I would also like to thank my chiefs and editors Maj. Jo Schoepf, Maj. Heimo Gruber and

Maj. Alexander Unterweger, Austrian Army for their supervising. I would like to give special thanks to my partner in "Chronicle business" and friend Mr. Armend Aqifi for his professionalism, kind attitude and invaluable support.

In conclusion, I would like to thank all of you from different nations I met here in KFOR. I would have never been successful without your friendship, cooperation and support.

I wish you the best of luck.



Peacekeeper of the Month

NAME: FARGES Tony

Rank: Corporal

Age: 32

Nationality: French

Home unit: 503d transportation regiment in Martignas sur jalle, Bordeaux

Unit in KFOR: MNTF-N Command Service Support Battalion



Assigned to the command and support company, where he has served as deputy sport teacher in the framework of operation TRIDENT, Corporal Farges, has shown remarkable military virtues. Especially during operation

Balkan Hawk on July 13, 2006, he was singled out for the energy, and the force of will he committed with in the deployment of a radio relay. It is during this operation that he gave first aid to his comrades injured after the fall of their APC in a ravine. Confronted to the seriousness of the situation, he organised first aid with an exceptional reactivity. First on the location of the sinister, he immediately assessed the emergency level and determined the priorities. Helping firstly a young NCO whose arm was severed, he then left him under the surveillance of a team member arrived later to swiftly reach for the APC forty meters below. There, he helped another victim injured at the head and stuck in a daze. With precise moves and assets made from scratch he took care of his wounds before evacuating his comrade from the danger zone. Finally, having stated the death of the third victim thanks to his first-aid training, he dragged its body away to avoid any burning of the body in case a fire would start in the vehicle.

Keeping his cool in an extremely tensed situation and amazingly courageous, Corporal Farges has, by his timely and wise action, contributed with his four comrades (WO1 Duhem, Corporal Verstichel, Corporal Antoinette and soldier Vilon) to preserve the life of two of his injured comrades and the physical integrity of the dead body.

**Colonel Michel ANDRE, French Army
Head of the Command Support Battalion in Novo Selo**

Mirusa / Mirushë Waterfalls

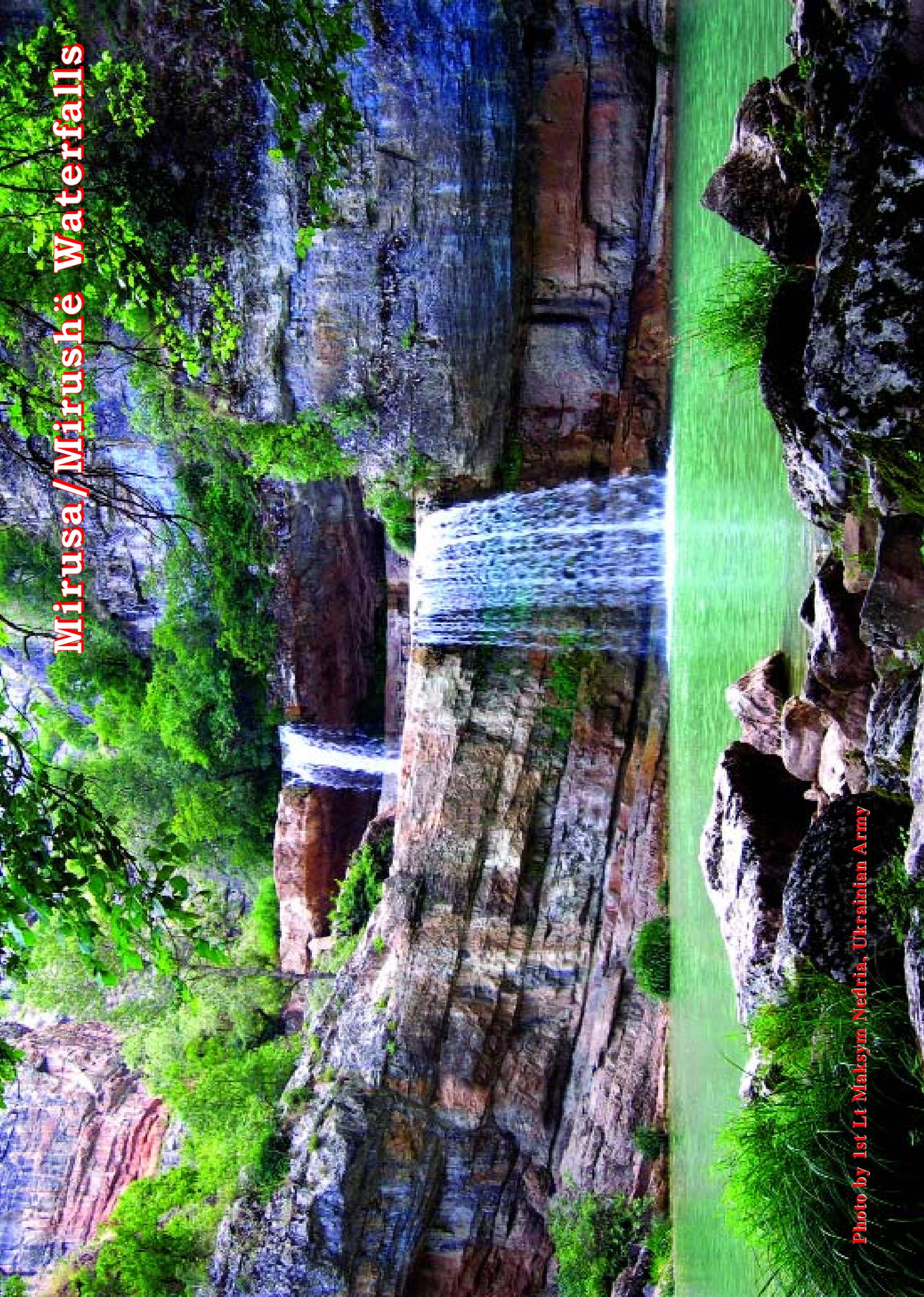


Photo by 1st Lt Maksym Nedria, Ukrainian Army