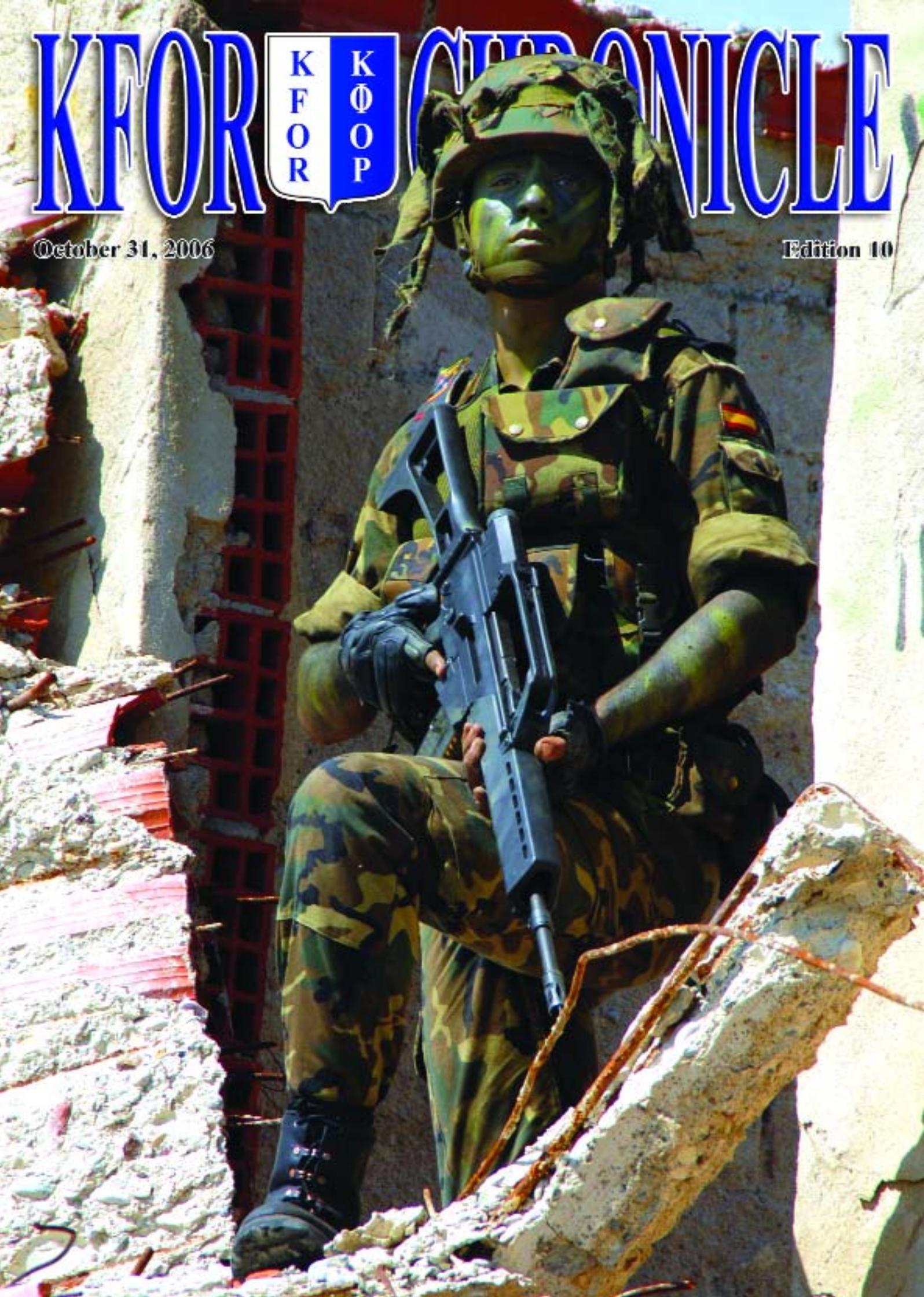


# KFOR CHRONICLE

October 31, 2006

Edition 10



# Symbol of Honor

## NATO Non Article 5 Medal

It is a symbol of honor.  
 A sign of respect for a job well done.  
 An emblem of thanks for fulfilling the peacekeeping mission.  
 A representation of gratitude from the long-suffering Balkan population.  
 It is NATO Non Article 5 Medal.

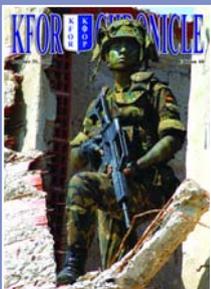
This medal was created in January 2003 by the North Atlantic Treaty Organization to reward personnel who have participated in NATO-led operations in the Balkans.

This medal symbolizes the amalgamation of all Balkan operations into one operational whole.

Every person who participates in the Balkans peacekeeping operations for more than 30 days can receive this medal. Since the establishment of this medal thousands of people have been awarded and honored with the Non Article 5 NATO medal.



### KFOR CHRONICLE



Cover photo by OR-9 Vincente López-Brea, Spanish Army

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 Hungary  
 Netherlands  
 Norway  
 Portugal  
 United Kingdom

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Germany  
 Austria  
 Azerbaijan  
 Bulgaria  
 Georgia  
 Switzerland  
 Turkey

#### MNTE (C)

Czech Republic  
 Finland  
 Ireland  
 Latvia  
 Slovakia  
 Sweden

#### MNTE (W)

Italy  
 Argentina  
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 Slovenia  
 Spain

#### MNTE (E)

United States of America  
 Armenia  
 Greece  
 Lithuania  
 Poland  
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#### MNTE (N)

France  
 Belgium  
 Denmark  
 Greece  
 Luxembourg  
 Morocco



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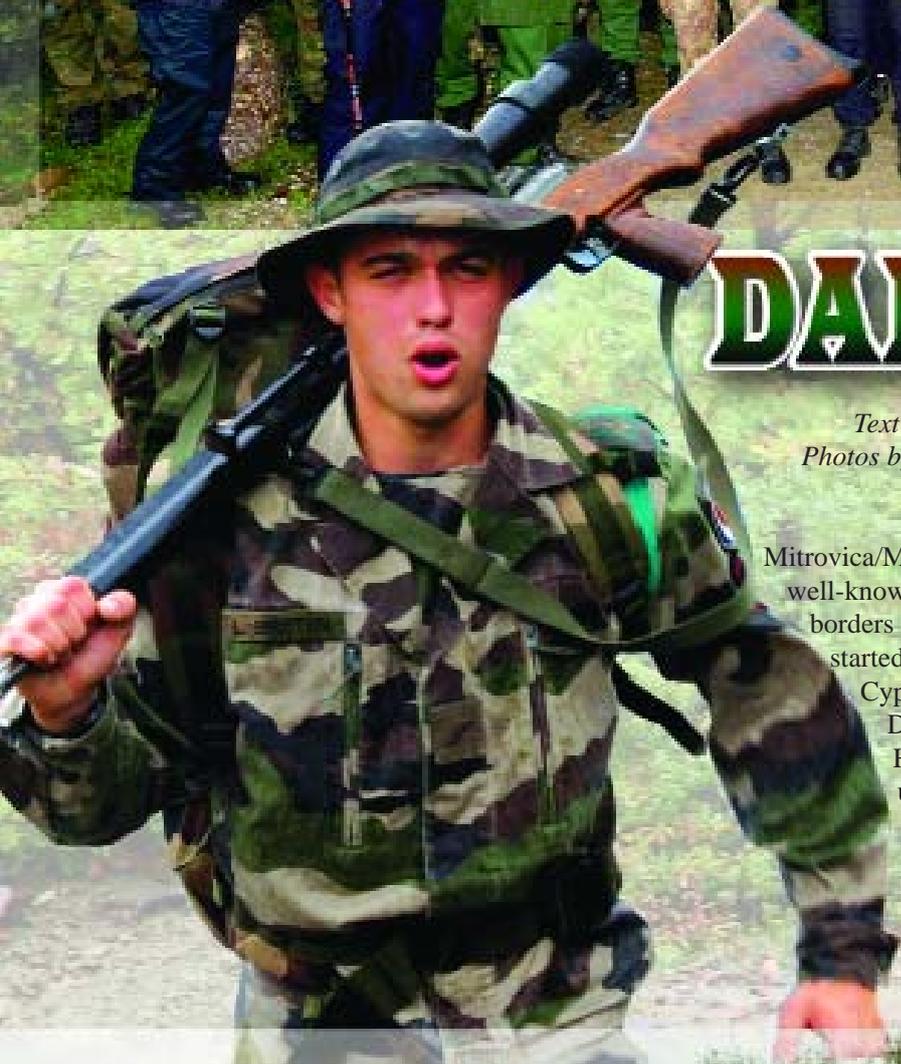


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# DANCON March

*Text by 1st Lt. Maksym Klunyk, Ukrainian Army  
Photos by OR-5 Sven Shwarze, Combat Camera Team and  
PIO Danish Battalion*

Mitrovica/Mitrovicë, MNTF North - The DANCON March is a well-known tradition among Danish units serving outside the borders of Denmark. It has been a tradition since 1972. It started with the Danish contribution to the UN mission in Cyprus. In every peacekeeping mission since then, every Danish contingent has had its own DANCON march. Here in Kosovo the march follows a 25 km route, usually in the terrain close to the Danish Camp Olaf Rye. The main rules of the march are that you must carry at least 10 kg of gear, your personal weapon and to be in good health condition. And, as an unspoken rule, the participants should be in good mood. However, the main purpose for the soldiers attending the march, besides the physical aspect, is to meet their friends, find new ones, have a few laughs, and break the daily routine of work in an atmosphere of camaraderie and respect. As a DANCON March is traditional, so too is the rainy weather. On this day, October 8, the clouds do their best to provide the rain in order to not break this tradition. So the preconditions were good to make the day interesting and exciting. The march started with a pyrotechnic explosion. After this signal, more than 1,000 men and women from more than 30 different countries began the hard challenge for their bodies and their spirit. I recognized a lot of representatives from different nations not only from KFOR but also from the UNMIK organization.



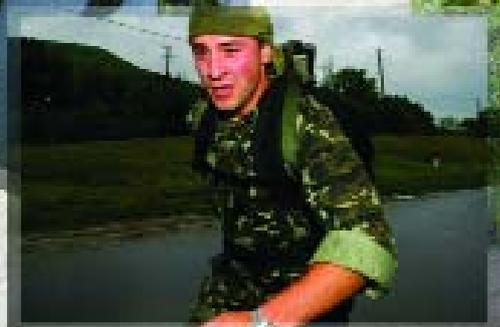
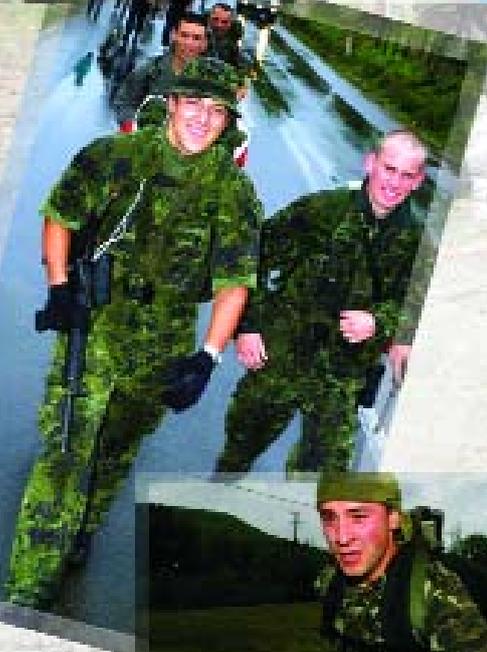


Walking 25 kilometers poses no problem for a well-trained soldier. But carrying a weight of 10 kg on your back and climbing up a steep mountain from the level of 450 meters up to 770, and down again, within hours, requires

some extra effort.

The line of participants spread across five kilometers. It was also really hard for the soldiers to fight against the wind. Their uniforms were absolutely wet and dirty because of the rain and mud. It impeded their personal movement. I saw some soldiers trying to help their friends keep going and finish the march. By the last five kilometers almost every soldier was very tired and weak.

The most interesting thing for me was that nevertheless many participants were smiling and joking; they didn't care about their tiredness. They were just enjoying the conversation and the good friendly atmosphere. And as a result, it was impossible to recognize the leaders of this march because people crossed the finish line by small teams, hand in hand. They were tired, but they were still smiling.



# ON T wi COM



**DSACUER General Sir John Reith visited Kosovo**

**OCT 2,3** DSACUER General Sir John Reith visited COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather.



**Meeting with DSACEUR and Prime Minister of Kosovo**

**OCT 3** COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather and DSACUER General Sir John Reith held a meeting with the Prime Minister of Kosovo, Mr. Agim Ceku, at the governmental building in Pristina.

## Visit of Dr. Otto von Habsburg-Lothringen

**OCT 7** Dr. Otto von Habsburg-Lothringen, Honorary President of the Paneuropean Union, visited COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather.



## High level meeting in Podgorica

**OCT 17** COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather visited the Chief of the General Staff of the Army of Montenegro, Lieutenant-Colonel General Jovan Lakcevic.



# Tour with KFOR



**Visit of the NATO Military Committee**

**OCT 20** The most important NATO military institution, the NATO Military Committee composed of 32 generals and representatives of NATO nations, visited HQ KFOR. They were briefed by SRSG Dr. Joachim Ruecker, COM JFC Naples Admiral Harry G. Ulrich III and COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather.



**Transfer of Authority at Multinational Task Force West**

**OCT 23** The TOA of MNTF W took place at Camp Villaggio Italia. COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather handed over command from Brig. Gen. Vincenzo Santo to Brig. Gen. Claudio Borreca.

## Meeting with the Leader of PDK

**OCT 24** COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather met the leader of PDK, Mr. Hashim Thaci, in a line of talks to all political and informal leaders of Kosovo.



**Visit of Danish Minister of Defense**

**OCT 26** The Danish MOD Soren Gade visited COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather and confirmed his country's commitment to continue the good cooperation with KFOR.

# Brigadier General Duquesne takes comr

*Text by Lt. Virginie Meynard,  
French Army  
Photos by Combat Camera Team*

MNTF North transferred authority from Brigadier General Jean-Jacques Bart to Brigadier General Marc Duquesne in Novo Selo/Novo Sellë on September 27. The ceremony was presided over by KFOR Commander Lieutenant General Roland Kather.

Battalions were lined up on the parade square, most of them belonging to the 11th Airborne Brigade commanded by Brig. Gen. Duquesne in France. French regiments working under the new commander, but also Danish, Moroccan, Greek and Belgian battalions, and a platoon from Luxembourg, attended the ceremony, as well as civilian officials and guards of honour and flags. The ceremony began with Colonel Grisolle's, MNTF N Deputy Commander Support, troop presentation to Brig. Gen. Bart. The MNTF N outgoing commander made a speech in which he expressed deep gratitude for the reactivity and vigilance of his soldiers who performed a very good job in maintaining a safe and secure environment, through daily patrols and close contacts with the population. He also thanked the whole members of UNMIK, OSCE and of the police for their good cooperation and the friendship they developed in a true team-spirit in order to work for the future of the Mitrovica/Mitrovicë region. He also thanked the people of Kosovo for their generosity and energy. To General Kather he expressed his thanks for his trust, the very helpful guidance and advice provided to him, and wished his successor all the best for the future and an excellent 23rd mandate.

General Kather reviewed the troops after the playing of the French national anthem and then expressed his complete satisfaction to the outgoing commander, Brig. Gen. Bart, for the successful work achieved during the 22nd mandate. He presented his whole trust to Brig. Gen. Duquesne and assured the 23rd mandate would follow the successful work undertaken until now.

After Brig. Gen. Bart was awarded the Non-Article 5 NATO Medal, the official transfer of authority was held. Then Brig. Gen. Duquesne concluded the ceremony with his arrival speech.

He asked the officers, NCOs and soldiers of MNTF N "to keep in mind three words: calm, vigilance and reactivity".

He ended his speech saying he was relying on "their professionalism, straight behavior, impartiality and respect of the local population, in the service of peace in Kosovo".



# Command of Multinational Task Force North



Text and photos by OR-7  
Renee Kirkland, U.S. Air Force



Gnjilane/Gjilane - Task Force Medical Falcon XII and the 353rd Civil Affairs Command (both from Multinational Task Force East) held a mass casualty exercise to test the capabilities of the police, fire, ambulance and medical communities of Gnjilane/Gjilane and Kamenica/Kamenice on October 16. The exercise tested first responders and the Gnjilane/Gjilane Regional and Kamenica/Kamenice Hospitals' ability to handle casualties on a mass scale. The exercise began with a call to the Gnjilane/Gjilane and Kamenica/Kamenice police stating that an "earthquake" had hit the area and that injuries had been reported at the Gnjilane/Gjilane theater and the Kamenice/Kamenica Cultural Center. As first responders rushed to the scene, members of Camp Montieith's Task Force Houston were posed around the buildings to simulate various injuries to test the skills of the emergency personnel. According to U.S. Army Colonel Jay Griffin, TF Medical Falcon commander, Serbian

and Albanian scripts detailing injuries were placed on the victims to help responders know what they were dealing with.

Prior to the exercise, the task force provided a four-day combat lifesaver course/first responder course to the participants. The purpose of this exercise, according to OR-7 John Craemer, 353rd Civil Affairs Command, was to give the fire department, KPS and hospital staff a chance to further train on the skills they learned in the course.

According to U.S. Army OR-9 Albert Garcia, TF Medical Falcon Command Sergeant Major, within 10 minutes of arrival on scene all the victims had been located and their condition accessed. After another 15 minutes the victims had all been triaged and were ready for transportation to the Gnjilane/Gjilane Regional Hospital.

"Our intent was to overwhelm the hospital staff and see how they would be able to handle a large influx of patients in a short period of time,"

# Mass Casualty Exercise Sh





# Makes Up Gnjilane / Gjilane

OR-7 Rodney Glass, TF Medical Falcon assistant chief ward master and trainer.

Doctor Begush Calk, a specialist in emergency medicine, was on hand to receive the patients. "The exercise went good," he said. "Normally we don't have as many patients to see, especially not those in life-threatening condition."

Chief nurse Sevdije Jashari-Ramadani said that "everything was perfect and went according to plan. There is always a need for this training, so that we can learn a lot of things."

Gnjilane/Gjilane Regional Hospital executive director Ukshin Ismadli said, "I was a little nervous about how it would turn out, but everything went fine. We will sit down with the staff and come up with conclusions to see what we messed up and hope to do more

training in the future to make improvements."

Not to be out-done, the exercise also progressed smoothly at Kamenica/Kamenice where U.S. Army Major Scott Byers, TF Medical Falcon Operations and Planning Officer, was on hand to observe the exercise.

"It was rewarding to see everyone working together to include Albanian and Serbian firefighters, who responded to the scene," Maj. Byers said.

Exercises like this are just one step in making the people of Kosovo self-sufficient and enabling with the knowledge and training to better serve their people.





# The 'Big Duke'

Text and photos by OR-5  
William Smith, U.S. Army

Early in the morning Soldiers representing every Task Force of Multinational Task Force East took on the challenging climb to the summit of Mount Ljuboten; also known as "Big Duke".

"Big Duke", at a height of 8,193 feet towers over eastern Kosovo with views of the surrounding countryside and the administrative boundary line between Kosovo and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. "Big Duke" is a well known landmark to almost all MNTF E soldiers and is looked at as a popular photo backdrop, but to some soldiers of MNTF E the mountain was viewed

in a different way; it was viewed as a challenge.

The Ground Command lead by 1st Sergeant Rene Barboza, Company B, TF Alamo, was ready and waiting for the first group of soldiers. After an extensive safety briefing, the first group of soldiers started the long climb to the summit. As the first group of climbers faded into the rough terrain, more soldiers were inserted, briefed, and sent up the mountain.

With no roads or trails to follow, the climbers picked their way through the rough, steep landscape. Conversation quickly turned to heavy breathing as the effects of the thin air, and higher elevation began to wear down the soldiers.

After an hour of the tough climb, the soldiers were relieved to see the last

few hundred meters of ridgeline leading to the summit ahead of them. The soldiers pace began to pick up through the less elevated terrain, as they took advantage of the thin trail that followed the sheer ridgeline to the top of the mountain.



# Climbing Trip

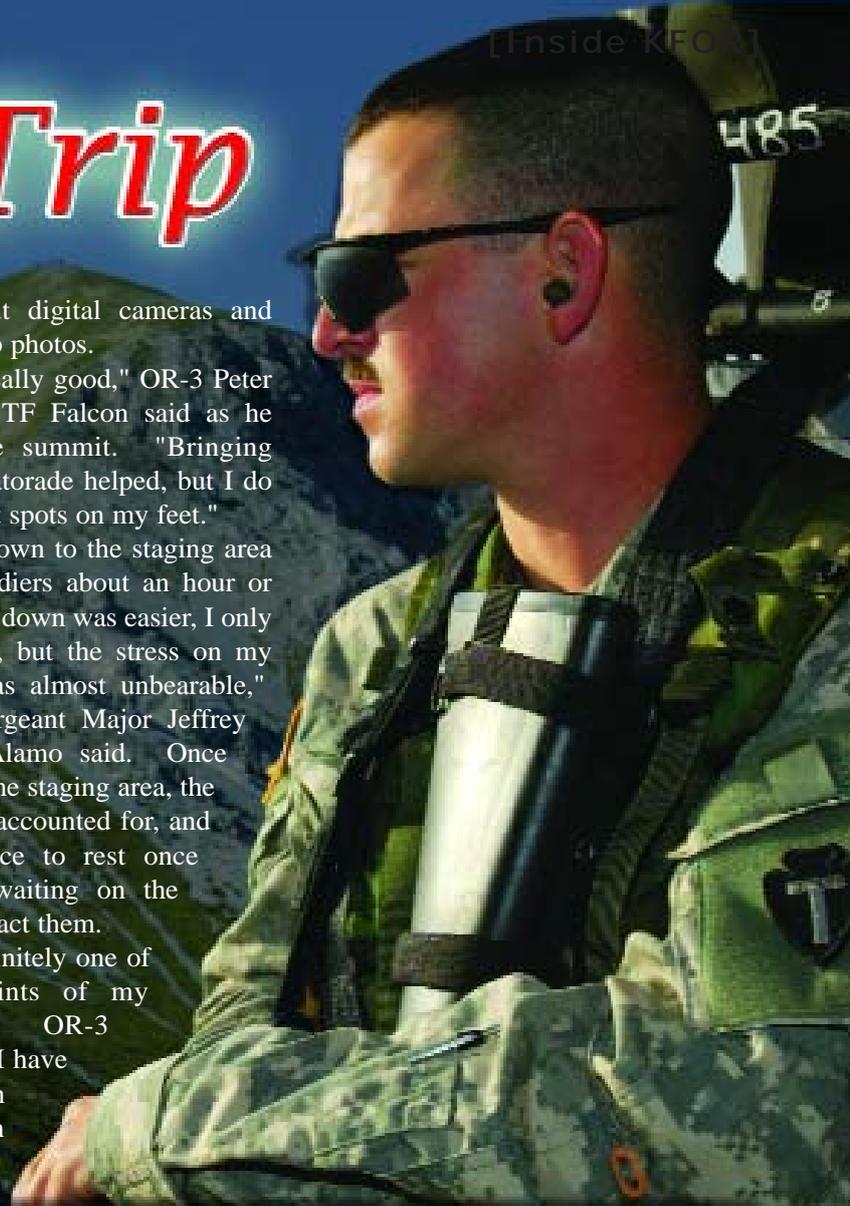
As the climbers hit the final, steep upgrade, spirits were high, and there were sounds of relief as the group finally made it to summit of mountain. At the top, soldiers began to break out Meals Ready to Eat and snacks to eat before heading back down, while

others got out digital cameras and flags for group photos.

"I'm feeling really good," OR-3 Peter Rucker, G-1, TF Falcon said as he rested on the summit. "Bringing snacks and Gatorade helped, but I do have a few hot spots on my feet."

The descent down to the staging area took most soldiers about an hour or more. "Going down was easier, I only stopped twice, but the stress on my lower legs was almost unbearable," Command Sergeant Major Jeffrey Merrill, TF Alamo said. Once they reached the staging area, the soldiers were accounted for, and given a chance to rest once again while waiting on the aircraft to extract them.

"This was definitely one of the high points of my deployment", OR-3 Rucker, said "I have always been interested in mountains."



# Blue B

*Text and photos by OR-6 Jorge Ferreira, Portuguese Army*

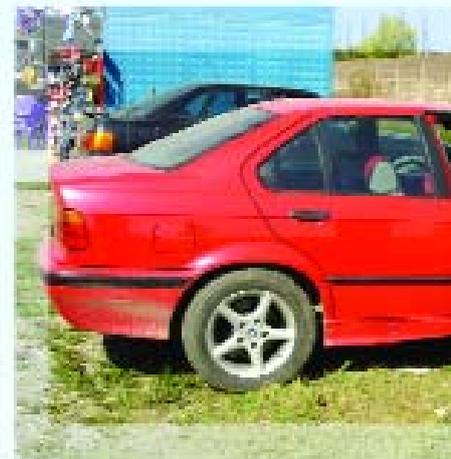
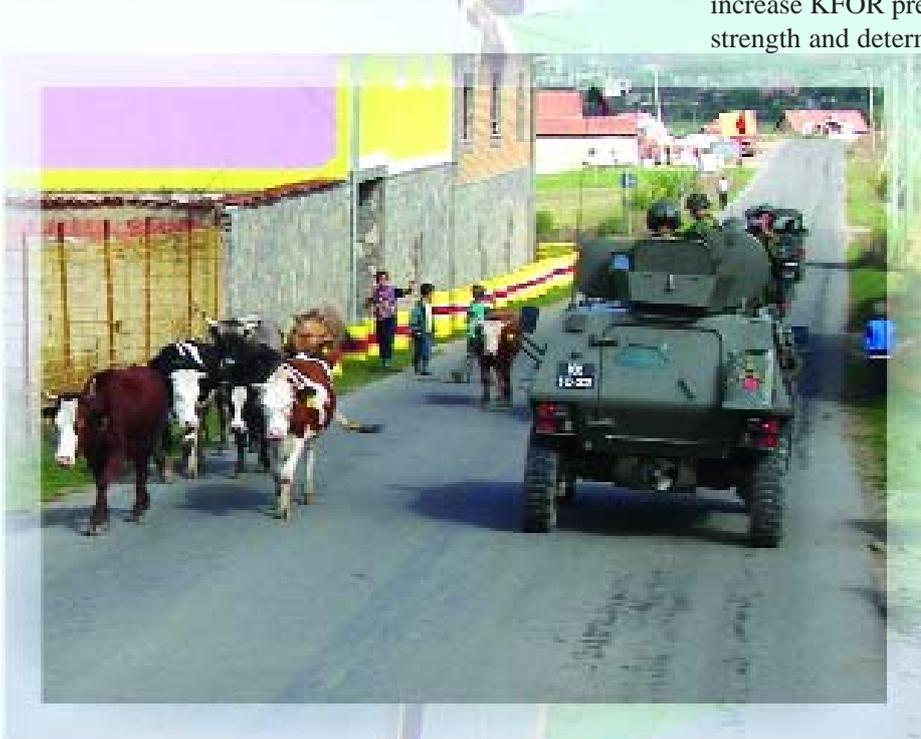


From October 3 to 6, 1BIPara/KTM/KFOR, performed its first operation after its arrival to Kosovo. 1BIPara was employed in this operation under tactical command of Multinational Task Force South. Regarding the final definition of Kosovo's political status, this operation had the aim to increase KFOR presence in Malisevo/Malisheve area showing strength and determination.

During this operation 58 motorized patrols, 17 foot patrols, three check-points, 130 vehicle check-points and 26 company cages were performed. Besides this 429 vehicles and 723 persons were searched.

It was just another day, we started earlier driving towards Malisevo/Malisheve area to accomplish another daily patrol. On the way I was admiring the nature, the sky, the mountains and the most incredible sunrise I had ever seen in my life. Suddenly it came to my mind: What the hell happened at this beautiful place? War? Why? What for?

Some kilometres further I saw some children crossing the street waving to us



# ackup

and trying to touch our hands. Our patrol leader ordered us to stop and the children approached with smiles on their faces. They looked so poor and dirty and I still remember their big shining eyes looking at us as if they were asking for something. I didn't know what to do or to say. One of them asked for food. It was then that I took out my pack meal - I gave it all to them. It was nice to see their happiness and somehow it made my day. Starting the patrol again their faces were still in my mind and for me it was hard to imagine how this can be possible? We live in the 21st Century! Is this the result of the war? How many minds do we need to change to avoid situations like this? It was just another day in Kosovo daily routine...

TRIPARA





# KFOR Multination

20



*Hallo*



*Gruezi*

## "Seven Nation



*Zdravey*



*Gamarjoba*

# al Task Force South

06



*Servus*

Task Force  
"One Team"



*Marhaba*



*Salam*

Say **HELLO**  
to **MNTF S!**

# Sokolica Monastery

*A place fit for angels*



*Text by OR-7 Renee Kirkland,  
U.S. Air Force  
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

One thing about being in Europe is the rich culture people can experience if they are willing to explore the region in which they are stationed. Just outside of Mitrovica/Mitrovicë is the Sokolitsa Monastery. The monastery's history goes back to the 14th century, when the facility was built by the Duke of Zvečan. The church was built before the 1389 battle of Kosovo Field. A long winding and narrow road leads up to the monastery.

Nestled into the mountains, the gates of the monastery are guarded by Greek KFOR soldiers as the site holds a Properties Designated Special Status (PrDSS).

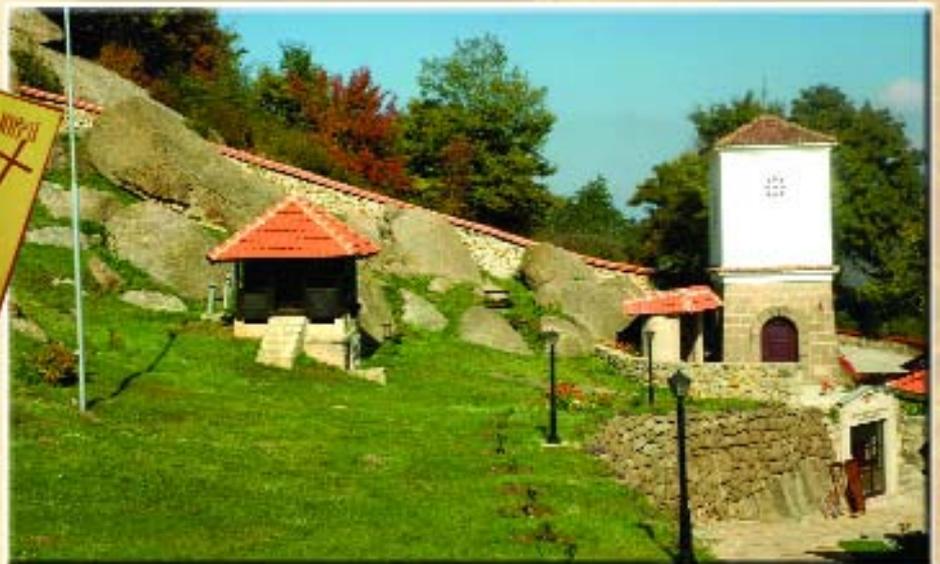
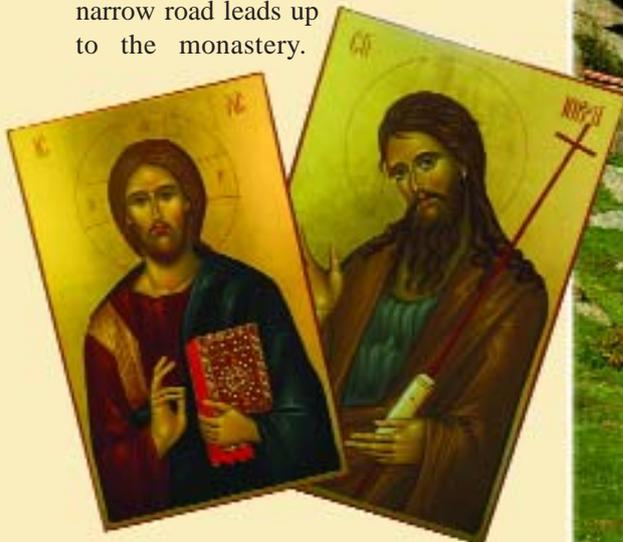
The Serbian monastery used to be surrounded by Serbian neighbors but now its neighbours are Albanian. The buildings are surrounded by a waist high stone fence and the entrance is through large wooden doors attached to stone arch. Passing over the threshold you experience a sense of peace. The pollution from city factories doesn't

reach this high up the mountain. The sky is blue and clear. The smell of flowers and the chirping of birds both contribute to the peaceful feeling of the place.

The monastery consists of several buildings set in a picturesque setting among the clouds. It's a curious mixture of the old world and the new. On the grounds are a small church, which is currently under construction, a tower, guest facilities, a garden and the main building. The current residents are a group of less than 10 nuns.

Dressed from head to toe in black, with only their face and hands visible, the nuns quietly go about their chores. While praying, cooking, cleaning and manufacturing clothing for each other is done here, the main work being done here is painting. The highly educated nuns replicate frescos and their own rendition of religious icons which they take on tour around the world and sell in order to raise money to operate the monastery. Their work has been on exhibit in the United States and in France. The exhibition entitled the "Captured Beauties of Angels" will head to Cyprus and Australia in the near future.

The head nun is Dr. Milista Obradovich, or as she is also called, Mother Makarija. Mother Makarija is a professor in Belgrade and holds



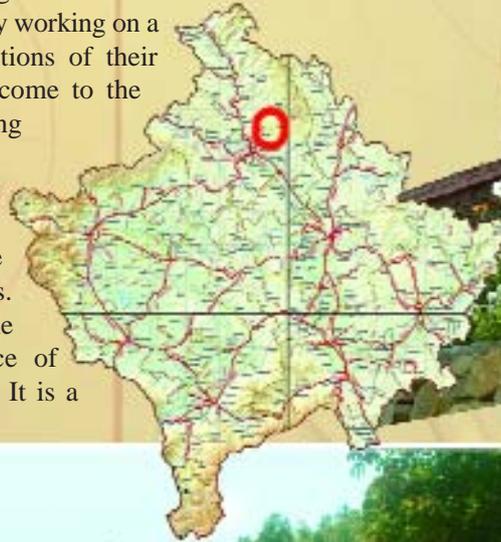
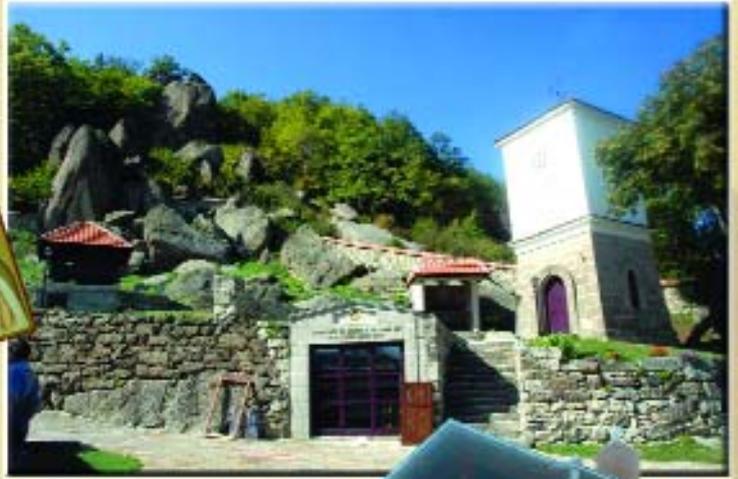
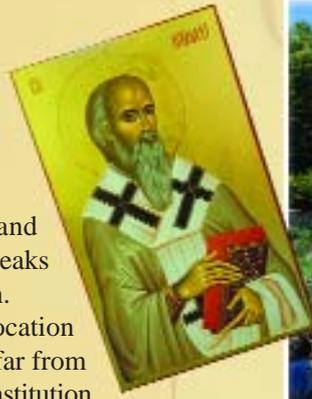
# stery

doctorate degrees in chemistry and theology. The Serbian nun also speaks English, French, Greek and German.

"Our monastery was built in this location because it is peaceful territory, and far from civilization" she said. "This is an institution, a house of prayer. We hold meeting here for the Council of Peace and Tolerance. Our purpose here is to make bridges among the people."

Mother Makarija led us through the main building to a seating room where she explained the purpose of the monastery and the work that goes on there. On the wall are canvases all featuring winged angels. Mother Makarija tells us that she is the artist. She uses her degree in chemistry to help mix the correct shades of paint needed for the sisters' paintings.

The paintings are of angels, the Virgin Mary and the Trinity. The vibrant colors of the paintings reach out to observers and grab them with a sense of realness. The nuns are currently working on a putting a book together featuring renditions of their paintings. They even have artists that come to the monastery to learn the art of icon painting from them. The gardens are ripe with bright red, yellow and pink blossoms. The entire facility with its benches strategically placed throughout the grounds projects a feeling of calmness. The monastery was untouched by the violence of 1999 and remains a place of welcome to both Albanians and Serbs. It is a place fit for angels. Angels of peace.



# CRC AT

*Text and photos by  
Lt. Massimiliano David, Italian Army*

The importance of drilling soldiers in crowd and riot control procedures, while performing mainly operational tasks such as patrols, vehicle check points and observation posts, has been deeply increasing during these last years, with regards to the ultimate concept of the



# ALL LEVELS

ongoing operation. For example since the G8 meeting in Genoa and the street fightings in Paris of the last year, it became crystal clear that the training level of the units, made in order to face rather large numbers of people rioting, wasn't sufficient. It became more and more relevant to employ troops well equipped and well aware of the capacities of assets other than those using lethal force, which are still



necessary but used only as last chance effort.

The 1st Regiment "Granatieri di Sardegna" stationed in Rome, has experience achieved while acting with the mission to defend the capital. Here in Kosovo it is named Manoeuvre Group Aquila and it agrees with the nowadays purpose of KFOR to work with Coys Crowd Riot Control fully equipped, stressing units on the level of preparation, training every squad and platoon to be deployed everywhere possible even by helicopter and on short notice.

To increase this performance, combined activities are also conducted as well as special training courses at commander level in order to exchange techniques between different units of different nations. An example of this could be the operation "Podujevo Plus" that took place in Istok, which involved the Italian 3rd Coy Palermo of the Manoeuvre Group Aquila and a

platoon of the Spanish Brigade Castillejos, both under the command of the MNTF W. All of these means and equipment are evolving and better constructed, thanks to the increasing experience on the ground and of the new material used to produce helmets, visors, sticks, shields, elbow pads, knees and body protection items.

Important objectives have been achieved and above all the safety of the civilians to be protected in areas where violent demonstrations are taking place. Basically, the defence of a PrDSS (Properties Designated Special Status) which is one of the main tasks of KFOR here in Kosovo is of great importance. Those defence efforts can lead to an evacuation of important people from a building in a restricted area. In this particularly occasion our units could be tasked to realise a safety area, to be interposed between the rioters and to protect and to evacuate the people.



# A Transfer of Authority

*Text by 1st Lt. Maksym Klunnyk,  
Ukrainian Army*

*Photos by Combat Camera Team*

The transfer of authority ceremony took place at Multinational Task Force West, October 23 in Camp Vilaggio Italia, Pec/Peje. During the ceremony Brigadier General Attilio Claudio Borreca replaced Brigadier General Vincenzo Santo as MNTF W commander.

This day started very tough. Because of the dense fog, the KFOR Chronicle team took more than two hours to reach Camp Vilaggio Italia. It looks like the weather would do everything to disturb the ceremony. When we reached the Camp, the fog became even stronger. All felt that the ceremony could be postponed because of the awful weather conditions.

The interesting thing is that the fog helped to make a perfect show.

When the music started to play, we saw the accurate formations of the soldiers, who sprung up before our eyes like from nowhere. In five minutes the ceremony was supposed to start and all guests were ready for ceremony.

After the troops occupied the fixed positions on the parade square, we saw different armored vehicles, that moved to their positions after the troops with a lot of noise. In five minutes the ceremony started. The local and Italian photographers paid a lot of attention to this event. We recognized more than 15 representatives; there was no empty space in the parade square because of the large number of photographers present. Every second was a photo opportunity, as the photographers stood amongst the troop formations as they fought for the perfect shot.

COMKFOR Lieutenant General

Roland Kather headed the ceremony. During the ceremony General Kather thanked Brig. Gen. Santo and his soldiers for the work well done and welcomed Brig. Gen. Borreca.

A lot of different distinguished guests visited this event. I recognized the Italian Deputy Minister of Defense, Mr. Marco Verzaschi, representatives from UNMIK, Kosovo government and local religious authorities.

Outgoing TF commander, Brig. Gen. Santo, was awarded with different medals as a sign of respect from different countries for the work well done, during the TOA ceremony.

Toward the end of the ceremony the weather became better and Brigade Pinerolo changed to Brigade Aosta. We wish them to be an example of support for the Kosovo environment and peace as were their predecessors.



# Priority ceremony in Fog



# Saving lives in

*Text by Capt. Adam Folcker,  
Swedish Army*

*Photos by Military Officer  
Mirva Brola, Finnish Army*



The children watch the soldiers with smiles and big eyes. The atmosphere is playful, but the subject of the lesson is deadly serious.

It is an ordinary October Wednesday in an Emin Duraku School classroom in Stimlje/Shtime. But today both the subject and the teacher are anything but ordinary. The teacher is from KFOR and the subject is injury and death - or rather how to avoid it.

"What should you do if you see one of these objects"? asks OR-5 Ossi Haarus from the Finnish EOD of MNTF C as he shows pictures of mines and UXOs on the blackboard. Lots of hands raised in the air indicate that the pupils know the answer.

"We should tell our parents and the police or KFOR" says one girl. OR-5 Haarus looks pleased but not quite satisfied. "And we should never touch it" adds the girl.

OR-5 Haarus smiles. That addition sums up the most important part of the lesson and is the reason he and his colleagues from KFOR are in the classroom this autumn day.

"It is very important work, because kids can pick up whatever they may find on the ground", explains OR-5 Haarus.



# the classroom



Finnish, Irish and Czech EOD units from MNTF C do regular lessons in all schools in MNTF C AOR in the autumn - to raise awareness when the kids go to and from school - and also in late spring to prepare them for what they could find when they are out and about during the summer holidays.

"The older ones, the teenagers, are a bit harder to get the attention of, but especially the younger kids are very interested in the information" OR-5 Haarus says.

And the questions are many. "Who puts out the mines"? asks one pupil. OR-5 Haarus thinks a bit before he answers: "Bad people".

Thankfully there are good people like OR-5 Haarus and his colleagues there to remove them.

"If by holding all these lessons we can stop even one child from getting hurt, it is more than worth it", he says as the children noisily file out of the classroom. Outside the next class is already waiting for their lesson.



# MID-PO

Once the first half of the mission is over, the Spa

*Text by Capt. Jose Luis Cristóbal Barcón, Spanish Army*

*Photos by OR-9 Vicente López-Brea, Spanish Army*

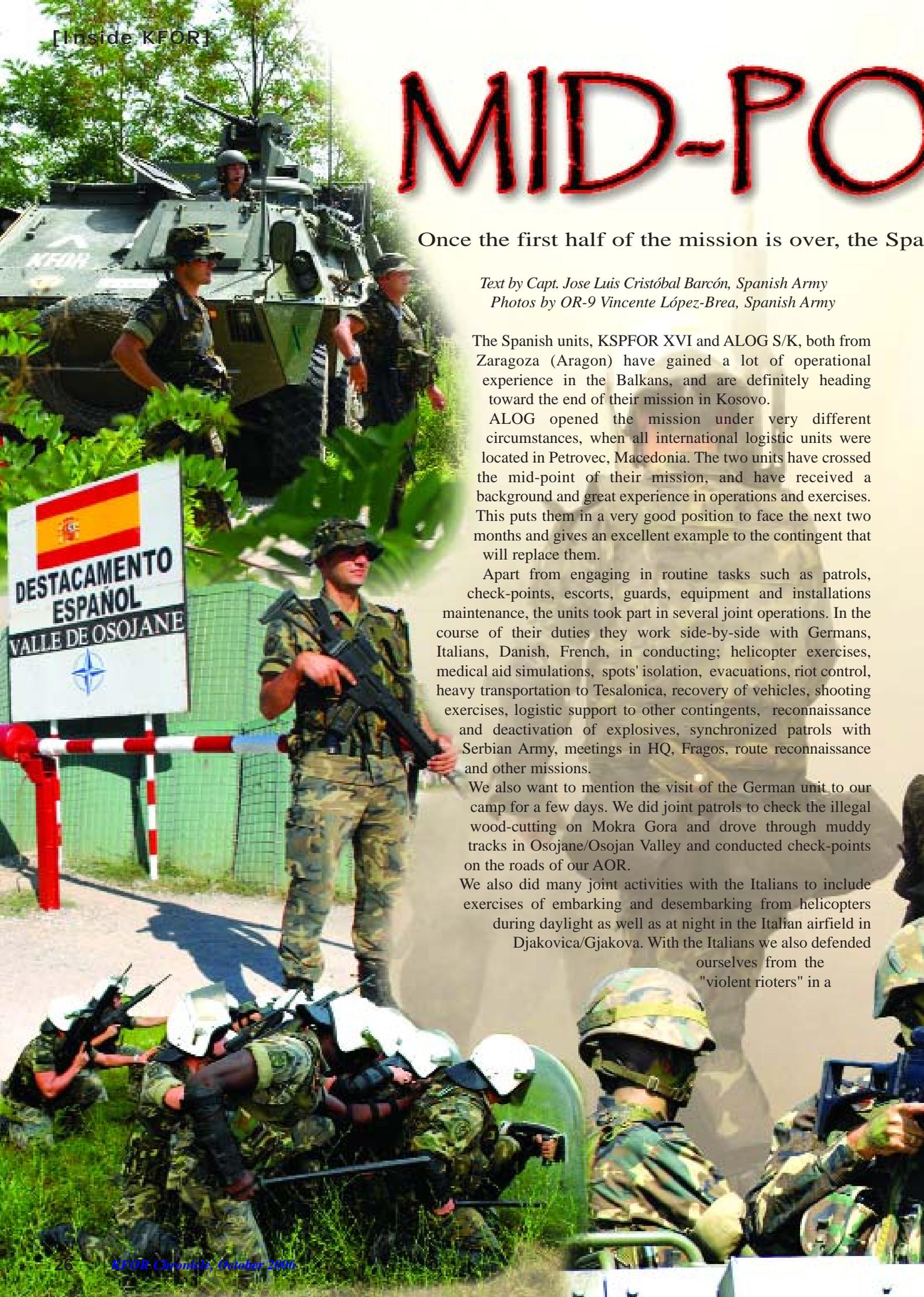
The Spanish units, KSPFOR XVI and ALOG S/K, both from Zaragoza (Aragon) have gained a lot of operational experience in the Balkans, and are definitely heading toward the end of their mission in Kosovo.

ALOG opened the mission under very different circumstances, when all international logistic units were located in Petrovec, Macedonia. The two units have crossed the mid-point of their mission, and have received a background and great experience in operations and exercises. This puts them in a very good position to face the next two months and gives an excellent example to the contingent that will replace them.

Apart from engaging in routine tasks such as patrols, check-points, escorts, guards, equipment and installations maintenance, the units took part in several joint operations. In the course of their duties they work side-by-side with Germans, Italians, Danish, French, in conducting; helicopter exercises, medical aid simulations, spots' isolation, evacuations, riot control, heavy transportation to Tesalonica, recovery of vehicles, shooting exercises, logistic support to other contingents, reconnaissance and deactivation of explosives, synchronized patrols with Serbian Army, meetings in HQ, Fragos, route reconnaissance and other missions.

We also want to mention the visit of the German unit to our camp for a few days. We did joint patrols to check the illegal wood-cutting on Mokra Gora and drove through muddy tracks in Osojane/Osojan Valley and conducted check-points on the roads of our AOR.

We also did many joint activities with the Italians to include exercises of embarking and disembarking from helicopters during daylight as well as at night in the Italian airfield in Djakovica/Gjakova. With the Italians we also defended ourselves from the "violent rioters" in a



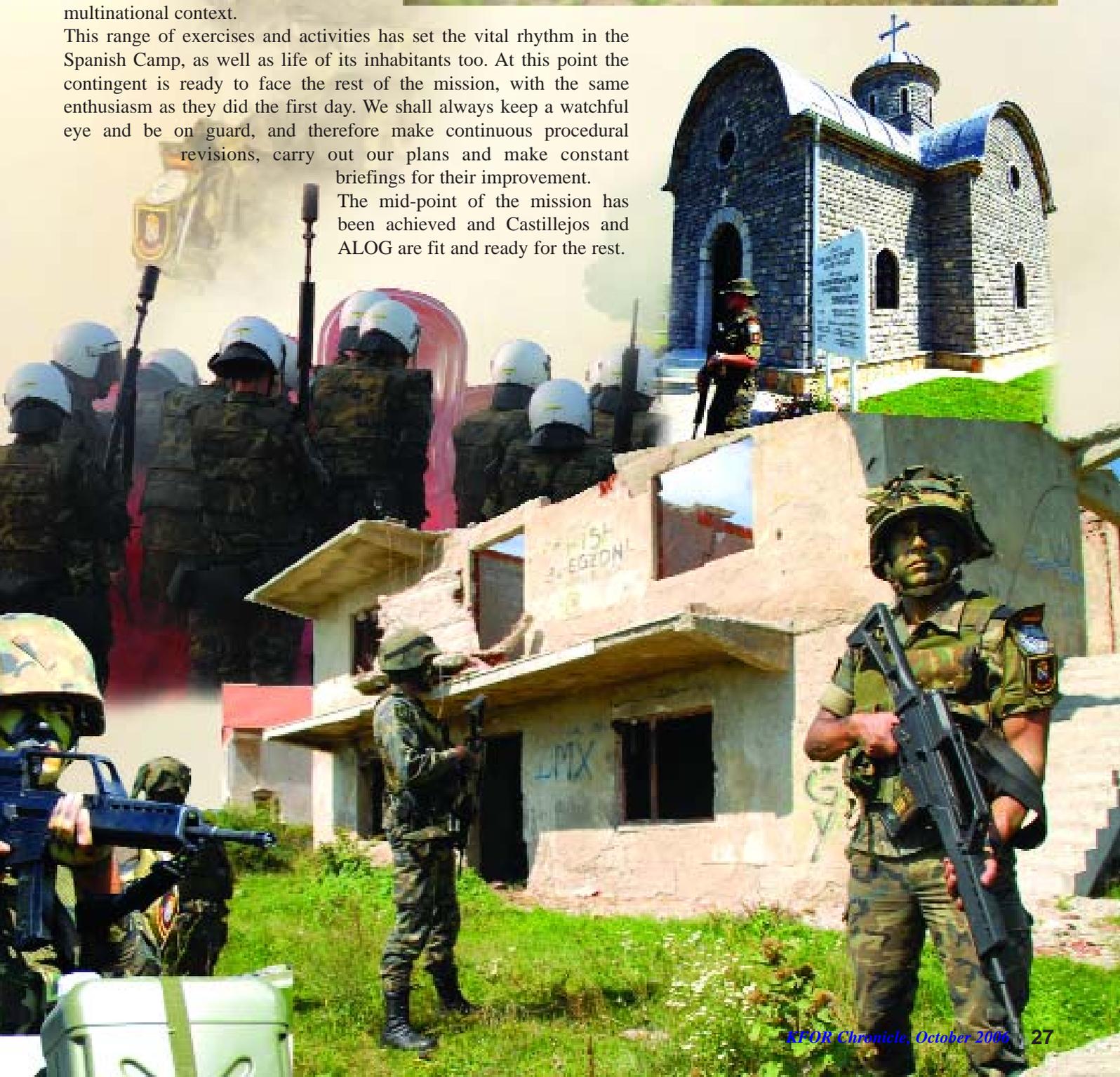
# POINT

## Spanish Contingent makes review

CRC exercises. Meanwhile, we are in constant touch with the Danish since we do joint patrols almost every week. All these activities are an excellent occasion to prove our capacity, to shape operations and to guarantee a complete integration of our units within a multinational context.

This range of exercises and activities has set the vital rhythm in the Spanish Camp, as well as life of its inhabitants too. At this point the contingent is ready to face the rest of the mission, with the same enthusiasm as they did the first day. We shall always keep a watchful eye and be on guard, and therefore make continuous procedural revisions, carry out our plans and make constant briefings for their improvement.

The mid-point of the mission has been achieved and Castillejos and ALOG are fit and ready for the rest.



# Spanish National Day

*The Spanish National Day was celebrated in camp Base España in the presence of delegations from several KFOR countries and local authorities.*



*Text by Capt. Jose Luis Cristóbal Barcón,  
Spanish Army  
Photos by OR-9 Vicente López-Brea,  
Spanish Army*

On October 12, Spain and all the Hispanic world celebrated Columbus Day, in memory of the same day in 1492, when the American continent was discovered, and in this way came to be part of the western civilization and of Spanish culture. On this day several international and national ceremonies are held in Spain, but the most significant one is the Military Forces parade, presided over by the King of Spain, in the presence of the highest Spanish authorities and several international guests. Of course, in camp Base España, the Spanish National Day was celebrated as well. Representatives from all the KFOR countries, as well as local authorities and representatives of all the ethnic groups were invited to the military parade. The ceremony was presided over by the Italian Brigadier General Vincenzo Santo, commander of MNTF W, who was accorded the honors befitting his position. The MNTF W Deputy Commander,



Colonel Pruñonosa Gil, took the floor and reminded people of the importance of the events which took place on this day in history, highlighting the fact that over 300 million people speak Spanish and that Spain and Latin America are joined by great ties. During his speech, the colonel suggested this transatlantic tie is an example of a harmonic and peaceful coexistence between folks despite cultural, linguistic, ethnic or ideological differences. There was also



a special mention for the Peruvian soldier, who died on active service as member of the Spanish contingent in Afghanistan last July.

After the colonel's intervention, a very moving tribute was paid to those who gave their lives for Spain. As last, the different units marched past before the guests. Once the military parade was over, all the guests were invited to cocktails.



# Find six differences!

Send your solutions to [kforchronicle@main.kfor.nato.int](mailto:kforchronicle@main.kfor.nato.int)

A winner will be chosen at random and featured in the "Peace Keeper's Profile" in the next issue of KFOR Chronicle.



**His military Etiquette**

Officer: Soldier, do you have change for a dollar?

Soldier: Sure, buddy.

Officer: That's no way to address an officer! Now let's try it again.

Do you have change for a dollar?

Soldier: No, SIR!

**The ugly Baby**

A woman gets on a bus with her baby. The bus driver says: "That's the ugliest baby that I've ever seen. Ugh!" The woman goes to the rear of the bus and sits down, fuming. She says to a man next to her:

"The driver just insulted me!"

The man says: "You go right up there and tell him off - go ahead, I'll hold your monkey for you."

**Discharge from the Army**

A general noticed one of his soldiers behaving oddly. The soldier would pick up any piece of paper he found, frown and say: "That's not it" and put it down again. This went on for some time, until the general arranged to have the soldier psychologically tested. The psychologist concluded that the soldier was deranged, and wrote out his discharge from the army.

The soldier picked it up, smiled and said: "That's it."

**Redneck Wins the Lottery**

A Redneck buys a ticket and wins the lottery. He goes to the lottery office, where the man verifies his ticket number.

The Redneck says, "I want my \$20 million."

To which the man replied, "No sir. It doesn't work that way. We give you a million today, and then you'll get the rest spread out for the next 19 years.

The Redneck said, "I want all my money RIGHT now! I won it, and I want it."

Again the man patiently explains that he would only get a million that day and the rest during the next 19 years.

The Redneck, furious with the man, screams out: "Look, I want my money!! If you're not going to give me my \$20 million right now, then I want my dollar back!"



"We're not invading Film City. We just bought it on eBay!"

**Name:** Stanislav Galov  
**Rank:** Lieutenant  
**Nationality:** Bulgarian  
**Home Unit:** 15th Regiment ES Gorna Orjahovitca  
**Unit in KFOR:** J2X HQ KFOR

**About the mission:** This is my first mission. It is an honor and privilege for me to take part in it and given the opportunity to give my fair share of contribution to J2X HQ KFOR. Although my assignment here is a little different from my previous one, I willingly accepted the new challenge, from which I have gained great experience. This mission gave me not only the opportunity to improve my language skills and meet people from other countries, but it granted me additional professional knowledge and a better appreciation of the Kosovo environments as well.

**Family reaction:** My family always gives me support in whatever decision I ever take. Six months ago they were, though, somewhat concerned about my participation in missions abroad. It is a fact, however, that they have always been proud of me and the way I deal with every issue I am confronted with.

**Plans after the mission:** As it is natural, after day comes night and after a sunny day comes a cloudy one, the first thing I am going to give my attention to after half a year abroad is to spend a good amount of time with the people who have always been next to me, no matter if in good or bad days. Along with that I will continue my service for the safety of my country and the welfare of our society.



**Name:** Fátima Pereira  
**Rank:** Private  
**Nationality:** Portuguese  
**Home Unit:** 1st Paratrooper Infantry Battalion in Tomar  
**Unit in KFOR:** Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM)

**About the mission:** This is my second mission; the first one was in Bosnia in 2004. I began this mission in Kosovo on September 21 in KTM at Camp Jubilee Barracks in Pristina as the KTM Commander's driver. This work is very interesting because I have the opportunity to travel a lot in Kosovo and therefore I have the opportunity to see different places and meet different people almost every day. Here I have also the opportunity to improve my English and meet a lot of soldiers from other nations.

**Family reaction:** My family is very proud of my being here because they believe that I'll give my small contribute to develop the peace in Kosovo. Nevertheless they miss me a lot.

**Plans after the mission:** I will start getting ready to face a new step in my life because my contract in the army is over and the civilian life is waiting for me.



**Name:** Antonino Garozzo  
**Rank:** 2nd Lieutenant  
**Age:** 29  
**Nationality:** Italian  
**Home Unit:** Military Geographic Institute, Florence  
**Unit in KFOR:** HQ MNTF W/G2 Chief Geographic Officer

**About the mission:** This is my first mission and I think this experience in Kosovo will be very fruitful for me. My responsibility as Chief Geographic Officer is to maintain geographic support for MNTF W. My Geo Cell, with Sergeants Rizzi G. and Loria P., elaborates geo-products in order to satisfy specific geo-requests and we warrant map supply.

**Family reaction:** My parents, Sebastiano and Lina, my brother Luca and my sister Sara always support me because they know that I'm proud of my job. A special thank goes to my sweet girlfriend Francesca because she gives me love and serenity.

**Plans for the future:** In January 2007, at the end of my mission, I will go for a vacation in my wonderful Sicily and I will look for buy a house because I would like to marry Francesca next year.



# Svanjski Most/Ura e Fshejtë

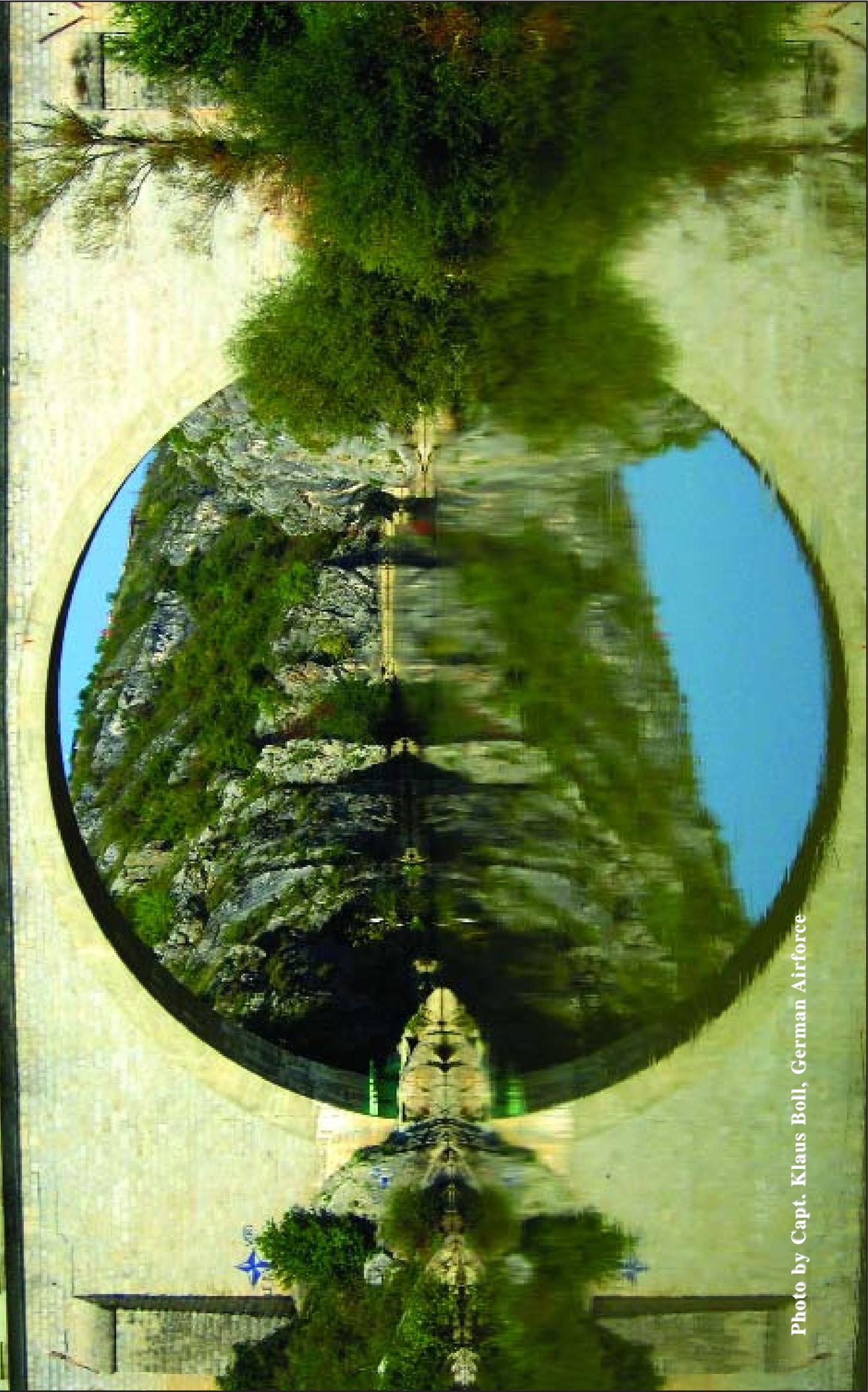


Photo by Capt. Klaus Boll, German Airforce