



KFOR CHRONICLE

The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

July 2017

KFOR EOD CONDUCTS UXO CLEARANCE OPERATION



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Members of the Kosovo Security Force and U.S. Army Soldiers, assigned to Multinational Battle Group-East's Southern Command Post treat a casualty during medevac training in Pristina, Kosovo, June 28.



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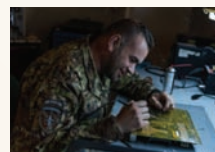
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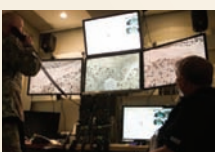
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KFOR PROMOTES LIVING TOGETHER AND TOLERANCE THROUGH MUSIC

KFOR host Charity Concert at the National Theatre of Pristina



The song “We are the World” brought together Kosovo Serbs and Albanians to promote living together and tolerance among different communities in Kosovo.

A Charity Concert organized by KFOR for music schools “Prenek Jakova” from Pristina and “Stefan Mokranjac” from Gracanica, coordinated by Radio K4, was held in the National Theatre in Pristina on July 1.

“Throughout these years, KFOR has proven that it is in Kosovo to help, cooperate and stand with all people of Kosovo whenever required. This concert proves this fact. It united two schools in two communities and through donation gave a hand to the pupils of the respective schools,” said Emina Hyseni from Radio K4.

Some of the music pieces performed during this evening were Chopin “Polonaise”, Pablo de Sarasate “Zigennerweisen”, Andre Verhuren - Mizet, Franz Schubert - Musical moments etc.

COMKFOR, Major General Giovanni FUNGO opened the event

saying that “music is the universal language we all speak and understand, so today we are gathered here to promote living together and tolerance through music.”

“Music is a bridge, and you know that KFOR is good at building bridges. Every time a bridge is built, it’s good news. We are building another bridge today, through music,” COMKFOR assessed during his opening speech.

Since this concert was organized to promote tolerance, but also to raise funds for these schools in support of development of talented children, General FUNGO thanked all attendees for their generosity.

Meanwhile, the conductor of “Prenek

Jakova” school, Adelina NDRECA KOLAJ, said that there was no problem whatsoever in organizing the concert. “The children from both schools didn’t hesitate at all, they were very cooperative,” NDRECA KOLAJ stated.

The concert was organized by KFOR to emphasize the role of the younger generation supporting all the initiatives aimed at improving integration.

The total amount of the contributions is planned to be donated to both music schools.

Vjosa Loshaj
PAO Media Analyst
&

Emina Hyseni
New Media Editor Radio KFOR



APOD RIBBON CUTTING CEREMONY

Friday 07th July 2017 marked the completion of the Rotary Wing Deployment Operation Base (RWDOB) project four years on from its initial inception. COM KFOR, Major General Giovanni Fungo presided over the ribbon cutting ceremony of the new rotary wing hanger at the APOD facility. The ceremony began with the arrival of three (3) helicopters which form the part of the KFOR Rotary Wing assets, each helicopter passed under a water cannon salute provided by the Civilian Airport Rescue and Firefighting Service Unit.



In Late 2013 it was established that a Rotary Wing Operation was required to support KFOR Air operations in Kosovo. It was decided that the current APOD at Pristina International Airport (PRN) would be the most logical location as the airport is located at a central position in Kosovo and already provides an excellent location to base Rotary Wing assets due to the existence of published procedures, infrastructures and services including flight safety procedures.

This project was not just about the construction of the NATO Hanger it was about a number of services and structures that have improved the service and facility's that the APOD can offer. We now have the following structures and units,

1. C2 (management offices) and AGL Building (Airfield Ground

Lighting)

2. MTF (Role 1 Medical Treatment Facility)

3. The helicopter Apron (November Apron) is capable of handling up to five Mi-8 / Mi-17 helicopters at any one time.

4. MEDEVAC PADS (CROUS & MAGUIRE)

5. Maintenance Hanger (NATO Hanger)

6. Wash Rack Facility

7. Watch Towers



During this project over 106,000 m³ of soil has been removed from the APOD.

The main organisations and KFOR branches responsible who have taken a key role in this project from the start to finish are (NSPA, HSG, JENG, JLSG, J3 AIR, JMED, and J8). It would also be remiss not to mention Mr Lewis Smith the previous Airport Manager who was involved with the project from the very beginning.

The APOD can now support full, FW (Fixed Wing) and RW (Rotary Wing) Air operations to the KFOR mission, with the new RW Operation now in place, missions can be dispatched rapidly anywhere in Kosovo at any time 24hrs a day, 365 days a year, this will maintain a SASE and FOM which forms the core mission of KFOR. With both Aprons now fully operational (L/N Apron) this gives nations the benefit of using both FW and RW to move military personnel around Kosovo more efficiently.

Mr. Lawrence Peel

SEP 2015



JUN 2016



AIR MEDEVAC FTX IN JRD-N

On the 29th of June 2017, an Air Medevac Exercise took place at the road to CRNUSHA. The Exercise was organized by JRD-N and was conducted in order to evaluate procedures that will be followed in case of an accident consisting of multiple injuries. Military from Slovenia, Switzerland and US were involved along side the Slovenian LMTs who had the lead as the first responders on place.

Members from EULEX also observed the Air Medevac Exercise. The Exercise started at 0700 in the morning with multiple briefings for the trainees, instructors and the actors. A series of wounds and injuries were simulated on the actors bodies in order to increase realism of the exercise. The scenario included a serious car accident of two JRD-N LMT cars with six casualties in combination with a low manning of JRD-N TOC. The purpose of the exercise was the evaluation of the effectiveness of the procedures from the time of the accident until all elements were secured in base.

The complexity and tasks of the



PICTURE: OF-2 Lorenzo GOTTARDI, Swiss Army, JRD-N/S OPS

exercise were on a relatively high level. In combination with the harsh weather conditions of that day, the overall exercise got even more realistic and challenging. Exercise personnel were responsible for securing the area, to accurately report the accident with a 9-line medevac report to TOC JRD-N. In addition they had to identify and report the multiple injuries sustained by personnel and treat the wounds and stabilize victims, practicing CPR over 40 minutes. Lastly they had to

transport the unconscious casualties to the Helicopter landing area.

The scenario started at 0800 in the area of KICIC Shooting Range where instructors were constantly monitoring the response of the trainees and injecting incidents according to the scenario. Main concern of the exercise was the safety of the participants and the simulation of realistic conditions. The Air MEDEVAC Crew intervened with an hoist extraction and two litter patients at two different sites.

After the return of the participants to CMLT the FTX was concluded with an extended debriefing phase where lessons learned and operational procedures in the TOC were analysed and improvements initiated.

This was the third exercise of this kind in the last 4 months for JRD-N.

Capt. Evangelos Xepappas,
OF-2 GRC ARMY



MEDICS OF THE MEDICAL CENTER CFC PRACTICE AIR MEDEVAC TRAINING

On the 9th of July 2017 medics of the Swiss-Austrian MedCenter in Camp Film City participated in an Air Med Evac training. The training was led by the US Med Evac Team. OR-7 Nadine ALTWEGG, Chief Nurse and Sergeant Major of the SWISSCOY, organised the training and did the request for the extended first-aid measures with the Black Hawk. The training started with a detailed introduction into the equipment, the handling of the patient litter and the procedure of an Air Med Evac. After this theoretical introduction all participants conducted multiple loading and unloading exercises with and without simulated casualties. This training should prepare for a “hot loading”. The external hoisting winch capacity of the “Black Hawk” was shown as a further technic of evacuation. It allows the Med Evac team the evacuation of 2 persons without landing. The advantage of the light and sustainable Sked Stretcher has been described while packing or wrapping a patient like a taco. This stretcher consisting of duroplastic is equipped for horizontal hoisting by helicopter. The Air Med Evac assets have been explained efficiently by the professional US-Air MedEvac Team. As a highlight of the training the soldiers had the opportunity to catch a view over Kosovo during a flight with the UH-60. The flight was combined with a loading and unloading scenario of a simulated casualty.

Lt. Eszter Deak
OF-1 AUT ARMY



BRIG GEN PATRICIA M ANSLOW SHARES HER THOUGHTS AND EXPERIENCES IN HER CAPACITY AS COS KFOR WITH THE CHRONICLE

After 13 months on the mission, I am filled with mixed emotions. I have seen progress and disappointments.... I have made great friends, some of which I know I will see again, but several for which I know our paths will never have the opportunity to cross again....together the staff has turned challenges into opportunities.... and for this I am most grateful. Each day I lived the motto work hard, play hard

I am extremely grateful to MG Fungo, COMKFOR for this opportunity to serve under his command. He has always provided clear guidance and direction. He never yielded – always demonstrating his commitment to the mission. By trusting the staff he quickly gained the team's trust, respect, and devotion. He is a Soldier's Soldier and we would follow him to hell and back if necessary to accomplish the mission.

I feel fortunate to have worked with many talented partners in Kosovo. KFOR and KSF had many opportunities to work together this past year. Just last week KFOR engineers in close cooperation with KSF engineers started a joint project to create a training facility for a multi-ethnic football (or as we yanks like to say soccer) team in the Srbica/Skenderaj municipality. We have trained together along with other Kosovo Police, EULEX, and EMA during two Silver Sabre exercise and an upcoming mass casualty exercise. KFOR staff has found these joint operations and exercises challenging and rewarding. And we look forward to the chance to inspect and repair the Mabey-Johnson Bridge in South Mitrovica. KFOR partnerships with the international community

organizations in Kosovo has been equally fruitful. For me personally having the opportunity to work with fellow chiefs staff, in our jokingly termed "COS Cabal" has provided me an chance to learn from them and most importantly work diligently to align our efforts and reduce waste and duplication. Thank you for the friendship and partnership.

This is the finest multinational staff I have ever had the honor and pleasure to serve with. Even when the days were long, the outcomes were uncertain, and even when the scenarios and probabilities seemed endless none of you faltered....

Thankfully the J2 and personnel stayed paranoid and suspicious – thus giving us the predictability necessary for the J5 and J3 to develop well-resourced plans. The leadership of the J2 branch also worked feverishly with the J6, J8 CMLT C2, and others to ensure the ISR Battalion was fully operationally capable, actually doing so a few weeks before originally scheduled. This critical assets continues to provide direct support to the maintenance of a safe and secure environment.

Under the steady hands of the JOC Directors COMKFOR, the



DCOM, and the entire Command Group had real-time oversight into every one of our operations and exercises. None of this would have been possible without the unit LNOs, along with the constant buzz of the LMTs in all three of our Joint Regional Detachments and the watchful eye of the MSU's Carabinieri. During the past year that command and control included 2 Silver Sabre exercise, numerous field, table top, and crisis action team exercises, 4 Operational Reserve Rehearsals, 2 MASCAL exercise, two national elections, never ending force protection and deterrence patrols to include Multinational Battle Group West's overwatch of the Decani Monastery. And we shall not forget the tireless efforts of the

J3 Air to fight forest fires and fight the paperwork in order to ensure a lifesaving MEDEVAC was executed between Pristina and Belgrade.

This past year the JEC, J5, JIC, J2, and J3 joined efforts to formulate a fused staff process to ensure intelligence drove our operations and that we were always focused on achieving strategic effects. This helped KFOR achieve some historic results, such as when the Multinational Battle Group East conducted the first joint patrol with KP up to the ABL and without limits. This will serve as a hallmark for other staffs to follow.

Equally impressive was the ACOS Support and his engineers and support staff who helped to construct the Bridge 167 ensuring freedom of movement between Mitrovica and Leposavic. The de-launch of the Mabey Johnson Bridge at that site and storage of the bridge at Camp Nothing Hill gives KFOR the flexibility to use it in the future to provide increased accessibility and productivity. Final operability of the RWDOB at the APOD in Slatina also gives us confidence that our military operations can provide sustained movement of personnel and equipment. This increases our abilities to re-inforce our efforts quickly and efficiently. This also centralizes our MEDEVAC operations and co-locates our multinational air fleet.

With the great efforts of the staff we also ensured everyone was fed, all contracts were paid, awards were delivered on time, the sick were healed, we washed on hands upon entry to the DFAC, we always knew when it would rain, we never wore



shorts or sandals on Sunday, and we were consistently reminded that STOP means STOP!

I state again - this is an extremely impressive staff – and I will serve side by side, anywhere at any time with every one of them. Another tremendous benefit of operating in a NATO peace keeping mission is the opportunity to work and learn from other allies and partners. The 29 nations supporting KFOR are a true blessing and it has made this mission very memorable for me.

I want to thank my personal staff – my military assistants COL Salkowski and then COL Shillcutt, my always hard charging aide de camp CPT Gumm, and the Marines and Army National Guard who comprised the Admin and Driver support. Together we concurred 5 DANCON marches, 1 28th Division march for the fallen, the Edelweiss, the 1-33rd Spur Ride, along with travel in 12 countries. I could not have succeeded in this mission without them, and their hard work. I am forever grateful. I also want to express my appreciation to BG Reiner, DCOM KFOR and BG Mosmann, Director

of the NATO Advisory and Liaison Team for your great mentorship and friendship. I think we made a great team. I will cherish the memories and wish you all the best as you finish your missions here. As I close this chapter, I look forward to the chapter being created by Brigadier General Randy Powell the incoming Chief of Staff. He is more than ready and willing to take on the charge. He will bring great professionalism and expertise to the position. I know he will take the staff to a new level and for that I am grateful.

As I look back on this mission, I am reminded of the quote by Nelson Mandela.

“For to be free is not merely to cast off one’s chains, but to live in a way that respects and enhances the freedom of others.” ~Nelson Mandela

It has been my great honor and privilege to serve with each of you during this noble tour of duty. The mission of KFOR is just and our actions are right. Thank you for all you do, every day!

Patricia M Anslow
Brigadier General, USA-A
COS KFOR (24 Jun 16 – 21 Jul 17)

A VISUAL OVERVIEW



27 JUN 2017
KFOR Commander, Major General Giovanni FUNGO, welcomed the Chaplain-General of the AUT Armed Forces, MG Karl-Reinhart TRAUNER, at KFOR HQ.



28 JUN 2017
KFOR Commander, Major General Giovanni FUNGO, welcomed the Commander 1st Hellenic Army, LTG Dimokritos ZERVAKIS, at KFOR HQ.



09 JUL 2017
COMKFOR, Major General Giovanni FUNGO, attended the Mini Olympics 2017 organized by OSCE and supported by KFOR at the Kosovo Academy for Public Safety (KAPS), in Vushtrri/Vucitrn

A VISUAL OVERVIEW



11 JUL 2017
KFOR Commander, Major General Giovanni FUNGO, welcomed the Assistant Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces, Brigadier General Peter O'HALLORAN, at KFOR HQ.



13 JUL 2017
KFOR Commander, Major General Giovanni FUNGO, welcomed the Secretary of State of the German Federal Ministry of Defence, Dr. Katrin SUDER, at KFOR HQ.



21 JUL 2017
KFOR Commander, Major General Giovanni FUNGO, welcome the Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), General Curtis M. SCAPARROTTI, at KFOR HQ.

MULTINATIONAL BATTLE GROUP WEST MOLDOVAN EOD

Moldovan and Ukrainian EOD personnel carry out UXO clearance operation



KFOR troops continue to be committed to maintaining a Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) and ensuring Freedom of Movement (FOM) throughout Kosovo. It is as part of enforcing this mandate that KFOR soldiers were involved in EOD (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) activities.

Since September 2015 the Moldovan EOD team of MNBG-W has been carrying out a huge number of activities. Unexploded ordnance, such as mines and submunitions can represent a serious threat to both KFOR personnel and civilians because they remain armed and lethal long after the conflict has ended.

In this period the Moldovan EOD team conducted their fundamental activities in the area of Mount Civilijen nearby PRIZREN in

close coordination with Ukrainian soldiers in the southern part of Kosovo. The aim of the operations is

to reduce the UXO hazard in Kosovo in order to ensure and maintain a Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) and Freedom of Movement (FOM) throughout Kosovo. The EOD Team of KFOR composed by Moldavian and Ukrainian soldiers conducted a joint recce activity at Monte Civilijen in order to make safe the ground as a helicopter landing zone.

KFOR and the International Community have been proactive in cooperation with the Kosovo Security Forces in establishing a professional ability in the sphere of Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD). During the last 17 years the coordinated efforts on demining between KFOR and KSF has successfully reduced the number of dangerous areas and as a consequence has prevented possible deaths and traumatic injuries that can be caused by



caused by mines and unexploded munitions.

The Moldovan contingent consists of 41 soldiers divided into an Infantry platoon and an EOD team both from the 22nd Peacekeeping Battalion of Moldavian National Army based in the capital of the Republic of Moldova, Chisinau. This Battalion is a specialized unit tasked to provide soldiers which take part in International Peace Support Operations.

The current Moldovan contingent in Kosovo is based at the compound "Villaggio Italia" in Pec and is part of the MNBG-W, embedded in the Italian PAPA coy. Its main operational activities includes training, joint patrols and security to the Decani Monastery where KFOR maintain responsibility as 1st responder.

Maj. Antonio Bernardo
OF-3 ITA ARMY



EULEX HEAD OF MISSION ALEXANDRA PAPADOPOULOU

Can you tell us a little something about your professional background and experiences to date?

First and foremost, I would like to thank the KFOR Chronicle for inviting me to contribute to your monthly publication; the first of which I understand was published in 1999. The Chronicle is both of interest to a specific, but broad audience, as well as instrumental to showcase the significant accomplishments of NATO and contributing nations to KFOR. Indeed, given the robust history of the KFOR Chronicle, I am impressed with the depth and breadth of the quality of the information you have conveyed – with an almost 18 year tradition.

And now, to answer your initial question ... Just like the many nations who continue to send uniformed personnel – men and women – as well as subject matter experts to KFOR, EULEX, the largest EU Common Security and Defence Policy (CSDP) Mission in the world and the only mission with executive powers, is the direct product of the strong commitment of EU Member States to the Rule of Law in Kosovo and their willingness to support this Mission with the adequate resources, both human and material.

As a Greek diplomat, I have served with the Greek Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA) for over 35 years. I have extensive experience in the Balkans, including right here in Pristina where I set up the Greek Liaison Office back in 2000. I served as the Deputy Permanent



Representative of Greece to the United Nations, as well as the Head of the Greek Liaison Office in Skopje for over five years. Most recently, I was the Permanent Representative of Greece to the European Union in Brussels, and, right before that, Director General for EU Affairs in the Greek MoFA during Greece's 2014 Presidency of the EU, to name but a few most recent assignments. My work with the Greek MoFA has been both exceptionally challenging and professionally rewarding – bringing me to places as diverse and rich in experiences as New York, Brussels, Skopje, Pristina, Toronto, Amman (Jordan), even New Orleans (Louisiana/USA), my first post, and Montevideo (Uruguay), my last. But I have to say that in some ways, Kosovo is quite a unique experience for me as I have been able to witness firsthand the enormous changes which have taken place from then in 2000 to now – a rare opportunity for

many of us in the diplomatic corps.
When was EULEX established and Why?

As part of the greater European Security and Defense Policy strategy, EULEX is one of the CSDP missions operating around the world to support peace and stability in post-conflict or crisis situations. EULEX, in particular, was created with a specific mandate in the rule of law using an embedded structure, that is, EULEX subject matter experts are embedded in Kosovo rule of law institutions. The EU Joint Action of February 2008 that established EULEX directed the Mission to assist Kosovo judicial authorities and law enforcement agencies to develop an independent multi-ethnic justice system and multi-ethnic police and custom services, ensuring that these institutions are free from political interference and adhering to internationally recognised standards and European best

practices. In short, EU Member states made a firm commitment to help Kosovo build the Rule of Law sector. And this commitment holds firm to this very day.

Since establishing a presence in KOSOVO, what have been the main challenges that EULEX has faced?

I think management of expectations has always been and continues to be a crucial issue. From the very beginning, EULEX had a specific mandate, i.e. to assist the new Kosovo Rule of Law institutions to build up, take shape and form, create institutional backbone and build long term credible and viable structural foundations. EULEX was not meant – how could it be possible after all? – to come and miraculously somehow solve all of Kosovo's challenges in the Rule of Law sector. EULEX was never meant to replace or substitute for Kosovo institutions. EULEX was in Kosovo to review, advise and assist. In the same context, we all have to remember that large scale reforms in areas like Rule of Law take time to be initiated, implemented, take roots and bear fruits. Managing expectations therefore entails also time considerations as to what can be achieved and what to expect within a certain timeframe.

What have been your main achievements to date?

Our achievements are the achievements of Kosovo's Rule of Law institutions. And the fact that gradually these institutions are considered matured enough to move from crisis to regular operational mode is indeed a testament to what has been achieved so far. These exact achievements have led

to the downsizing of the Mission (in the two previous mandates) and allow us to talk about the eventual phasing out of EULEX. The end of EULEX's mission will be based upon the unanimous view of the 28 EU Member States that Kosovo has made great strides in strengthening its institutional and operational capacities in managing and delivering effective rule of law, up to a level that no longer warrants the presence of an EU mission with embedded subject matter experts and executive responsibilities. And while it can be envisioned that EU support for Kosovo will continue long after EULEX has departed, EU assistance will be more limited and focused on more strategic interventions in key areas. Or put another way, the very fact that EULEX is gradually completing its mission demonstrates the EU's trust in Kosovo rule of law institutions. And thereafter, the so-called "legacy" of EULEX's achievements will remain in Kosovo long after we have departed.

How has the professional relationship been between KFOR and EULEX and how do you see it developing going forward?

As a matter of fact, after the Kosovo Police, EULEX acts as the second security responder while KFOR acts as the third responder in providing a safe and secure environment in Kosovo. And I think that one of the reasons why the EULEX-KFOR working relationship has been so strong and successful is because of the historical precedence of systematic engagement. That is, we talk to each other – all the time, at all levels. We exchange views before, during and after critical events. Additionally,

KFOR embeds a Liaison Officer in EULEX HQ which can be viewed as a "best practice" with a long-standing successful precedence. The EULEX-KFOR relationship has been continues to be, and it will continue to be strong. After all, although from a different perspective, our long term strategic goals are similar and our tasks complementary to each other.

The current EULEX mandate is due to terminate in June 2018. Do you see this being extended beyond this date here in Kosovo?

I am often asked this question – when will EULEX end? The answer is relatively simple and straightforward – it will be the EU Member States who will take the ultimate decision, on the level of commitment and scope of the mission mandate moving forward. From now until the end of its current mandate in June 2018, however, the Mission is focused on a progressive and responsible transition of functions and responsibilities in strengthening or monitoring, mentoring and advising activities to local authorities as well as other EU actors, while the transfer of judicial files to our local partners continues to be among our top priorities.

But, please allow me to underline one basic fact, i.e. as long as we are here, we will always continue to work towards assisting Kosovo Rule of Law institutions. Our commitment continues to be strong and our determination unwavering. And, this will hold true until the moment the last EULEX staff member leaves Kosovo.

Maj. David Farragher
OF-3 IRL ARMY

KFOR SUMMER FESTIVAL 2017

A beautiful sunny Friday afternoon signalled the beginning of the KFOR Summer Festival this year. In excess of fifteen hundred KFOR civilian employees and their families attended. The successful organisation of this event was carried out by the organisational committee of the HSG. Proceedings began with the official opening of the festival by Maj Gen Giovanni Fungo at 1400 hrs.

Stands from all contributing nations were on display in the Rub hall, and a variety of national games were on offer for the local children in the landing heli landing area. Despite soaring temperatures in excess of thirty degrees both military and civilian personnel taking part enjoyed a wonderful afternoon.

All stands within the rub hall were adorned with Photos and trinkets from the contributing nations. Throughout the event children could be seen rushing around with bags of candies collected from all

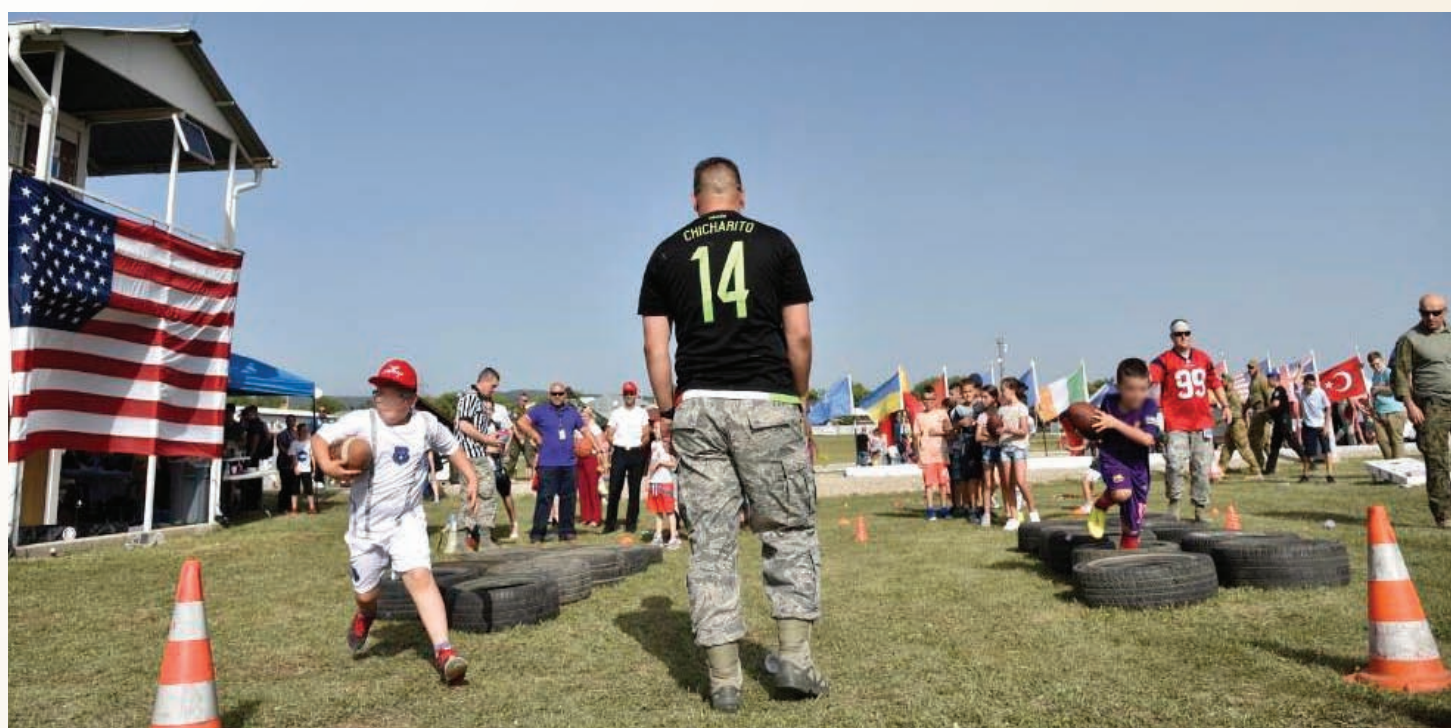


the stands in the Rub hall. Clowns wondered around the rub hall entertaining the children with balloons and face painting, while musicians played there national music in various stands.

Outside adults had the option of a variety of food supplied by Ecolog and ample soft drinks and water was available for all participants.

The annual event is designed to invite the local community to experience KFOR and show the variety and diversity of the contributing nations first hand. This was certainly achieved and a wonderful afternoon was had by all.

BQ. Martin O'Regan
OR-9 IRL ARMY



ITALIAN SIGNAL COMPANY PROFILE

Multinational Battle Group West - Camp Villaggio Italia



On the 14th of June 2017 at Camp Villaggio Italia Multinational Battle Group West (MNBG-W) change of command took place. The ceremony was marked by the official transfer of responsibilities between the outgoing Signal Coy and the ingoing Signal Coy too.

“The sky is the limit” is the motto of the 7th Signal Regiment of the Italian Army, who deployed the new MNBG-W C4 Coy.

After serving in Kosovo in 2013 and after several deploys such as Bosnia (Althea), Afghanistan (ISAF), Lebanon (UNIFIL) and Djibouti

(BSN), the 6a Signal Company, under the command of Captain Piero Dreossi, left Italy on the 8th of June.

The mission of the C4 (Signal) Coy is to provide seamless, secure, continuous and dynamic communications and information systems to support the Multinational Battle Group at all levels of command as well as the Italian National Contingent Command.

Located in Camp Villaggio Italia, Belo Polje, the personnel of C4 (Signal) Coy integrates tactical, strategic and sustains base communications, information processing and management systems into a seamless information network.

The C4 Coy signalers are daily involved from Decane to Golesh Mounting, from Belo Polje to Novo Selo till Pristina. Their main goal is to provide network operations (information assurance and network management) and to manage the electromagnetic spectrum covering all aspects of data communications installing networks that employ single (Iridium) and multi-channel satellite (Sicral 1B and Sicral 2), terrestrial microwave, switching, messaging and video-conferencing.

The Signal Coy is made up of highly specialized personnel with many experiences and rich professional luggage, as well as young soldiers at their first experience abroad.

There are also two female soldiers among them.

OR4 Marta ALÒ joined the army 7 years ago: “After many professional



experiences monitoring the territory with the civil authorities in the “Safe Streets” Operation in Italy, now I’m working as Intranet Service Desk operator in camp Villaggio Italia. What strikes me mostly is the strong bond created between all the colleagues. This experience will be crucial to my professional and personal growth.” “ I’m very proud of my soldiers, women and men”, said Cpt. Dreossi, “no commander can fulfil his duties without highly motivated personnel”.

Among them, there is also a veteran of Kosovo veteran. OR4 Tralli came back to Pec/Peja for his fourth time “Every time I come back to this proud land I see a worker people that work hard for the continuous evolution and improvement of their land.”

Capt. Piero Dreossi
OF-2 ITA ARMY
&

Sgt. Daniel Paciarelli
OR-4 ITA ARMY



VIRTUAL TRAINER ASSISTS SOLDIERS READINESS IN KOSOVO



CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo – The lights are dim. The tension is so thick someone could cut it with a knife. The rattling sound of firing ammunition comes from out of the darkness. The gunner charges the M2 .50 caliber machine gun. Locked and loaded and she begins to scan the...screen?

Walking into the Reconfigurable Vehicle Tactical Trailer is like walking into a giant three-dimensional gaming system. The RVTT is made up of a series of trailers that house full size Humvees. On the Humvee is mounted a M2 .50 caliber machine gun, or a M249 squad automatic weapon. The trailer walls are lined with large screens that display a simulated video scenario.

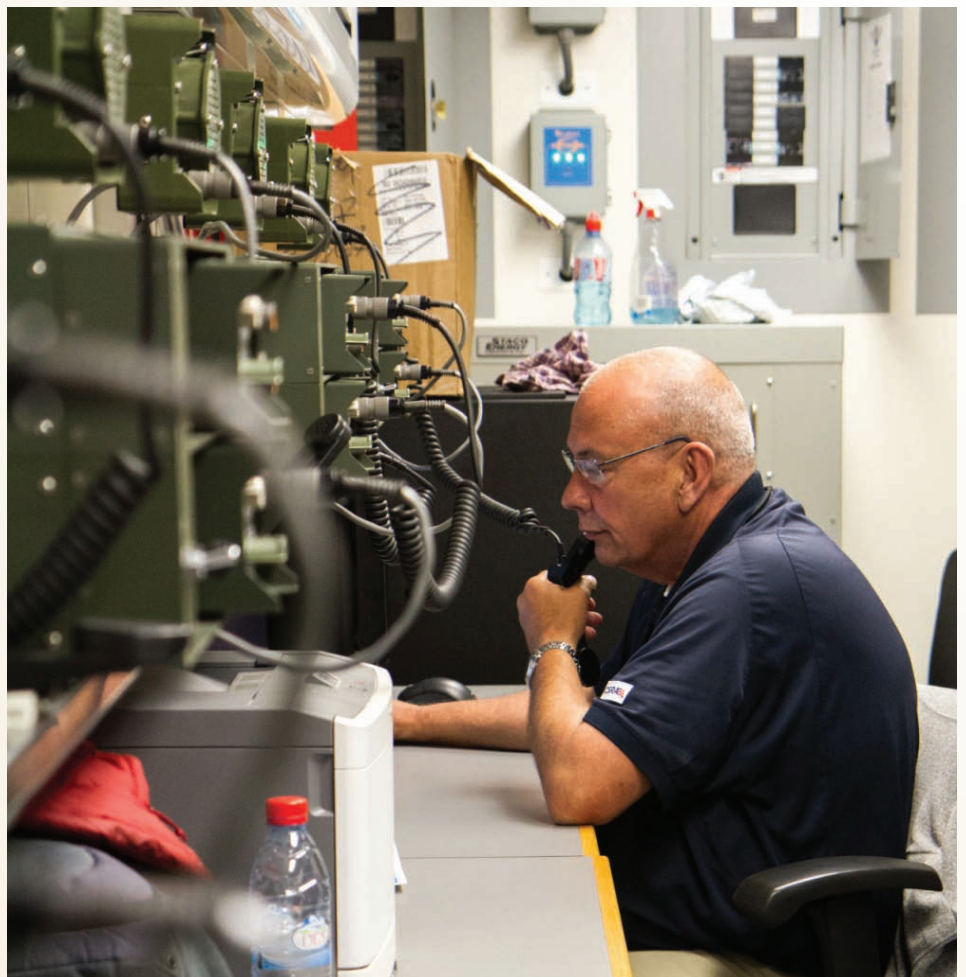
Soldiers are virtually transported to any location ranging from missions in Afghanistan, to basic range target practice at any military installation. The screens which surround the Soldiers, display

terrain, roads, and even civilians walking in the villages. The Soldiers

scan the screens at 360 degrees for enemy while they talk on the radios to other members of their platoon, and “drive” the Humvee on the roads.

The Military Police detachment assigned to Multinational Battle Group-East, took full advantage of the opportunity to utilize the first-ever RVTT deployed to Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, from Grafenwoehr, Germany.

“Our primary mission in Kosovo is law enforcement,” said Sgt. 1st Class Brandon Hatchell, platoon sergeant of the MP detachment assigned to MNBG-East. “Our Soldiers who came together 90 and 120 days prior to our deployment to Kosovo did not train on our tactical





mission set that we would normally conduct in Afghanistan or Iraq. By conducting the RVTT it assists in hitting those objective measures of training and coming up with those proper tactics, techniques, and procedures.”

The primary mission of the RVTT, when it was first fielded in October of 2009, was for Soldiers to practice convoy operations to prepare them for missions in Afghanistan and Iraq. Now, with upgrades to the

systems, units can use the RVTT for missions at home station such as gunnery ranges and drivers training, explained Bruner Caudill, the project manager for the RVTT system.

This system allows for units to maintain their combat readiness even in a deployed environment such as Camp Bondsteel, where there are a limited amount of tactical training resources.

“It saves the units a lot of time and

money on resources,” said Caudill. “It reduces all the resources that a unit has to have to practice things with their real world equipment from dispatching vehicles, ordering ammunition, drawing weapons from the arms room, and all the things that they will need from the S4.”

Not only does the RVTT conserve resources, but it allows units to continue to train to better enhance their skills while mitigating risk of injury. They can rehearse over and over until it’s time to execute, says Caudill.

“I have a lot of junior Soldiers in my platoon that have not deployed to a combat environment,” said 2nd Lt. Shamara Nichols, platoon leader of the MP detachment. “This was a good first step for them to do this simulation where our lives are not in danger, in order to get those good tactics, techniques, and procedures in and work on our convoy operations.”

The Army has come a long way, Caudill explained. He recalled a time when he was a 1st Sgt. in the U.S. Army and had to paint the Hohenfels, Germany terrain on his unit’s parking lot in order to rehearse battle drills with this company.

“We have such a great asset, such as the RVTT, for our troops to train with, it’s just incredible how far the military has come,” stated Caudill.

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OF-2 U.S. ARMY

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PICTURE OF THE MONTH

July 2017



"Villaggio Italia "

Equipment Used:
Lenovo P2
Lens 3.59 mm F/18 ISO 120

Raphael Tyrarj
OR-2 AUT

Contribute to the KFORChronicle!

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

Sincerely
The Chronicle Team





Name: Taranu Andrei
Rank: OF-4
Nationality: MDA
Unit: MDA SNR

Military Education: I joined the Republic of Moldova military College in 1995 studying artillery. I was commissioned as an officer in 1999. I have assumed various appointments throughout my career, starting from platoon commander, battery commander, and different positions in A3 and A2 branches. In 2014 after graduating Chinese command and staff College, I was appointed as chief of staff in the air defense regiment and in 2015 as a deputy regiment commander. I fluently speak Russian, English and French.

About the Mission: This is my second mission abroad. I previously completed one 12-month tour in Ivory Coast as military observer under the UN mandate. Since June 2017, I have been assigned for the next 6 months as SNR (Senior National Representative) and Contingent commander for the Moldavian contingent participating in KFOR mission. I think it is a great opportunity for me to discover a new environment and work together with different nations for improving the stability and peace in this region.

Family: I was born in Stefan Voda on 16h of June 1979. I'm married to Lilia and we have two children. Sons Andrei (10) and Victor (7). My family support and understand the requirement to serve on abroad missions. We keep in regular contact by Skype, Viber or phone.

Hobbies: My family is very close to my heart and I dedicate a lot of time to them. I really enjoy go fishing with my sons, as well as keeping active by playing football, basketball, and volleyball.



Name: Aaron Behan
Rank: OR-8
Nationality: Irish

Military Education: I enlisted in the Irish Defence Forces on 3rd of October 2001 as a 16 year old Aircraft Technician within the Irish Air Corp. I Trained for 4 years as a technician and fulfilled the role as an aircraft mechanic for 1 year before doing My NCO course. On completing a year as an NCO I/C of aircraft my career changed path and I became a military Instructor for new recruits and junior leaders. I did this for 2 years before becoming a SERE(survival evasion resistance extraction) Instructor in the Military training survival school. Currently I serve as Logistics Sergeant in a Helicopter squadron where I hope to be promoted to Company Quartermaster Sergeant soon.

About the Mission: This is my second overseas tour of duty having previously served in CHAD, Central Africa back in 2008 as an aircraft fuel inspector. The KFOR Mission is very different, especially serving in a HQ appointment. My role is PSYOPS Ops And Plans NCO . PSYOPS is a new role for me and I am finding it very interesting and rewarding.

Family Reaction: I have a son 9 years old and he understands my job and that I must serve overseas sometimes and he is cool with that and very supportive. My siblings and parents are also well aware of the job as my father also served overseas numerous times.

Hobbies: I love all sports and working out in the gym I play football at home as well as coach my sons under 10 football team.

