

KFOR CHRONICLE

The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

July 2018



International Day at KFOR



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KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci met a delegation of students from the "Luiss Summer School", University of Rome during their programmed visit to Kosovo



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HUMANITARIAN LAW CENTRE KOSOVO

“GONE BUT NEVER FORGOTTEN”

The Chronicle Team had the opportunity to meet up with representatives from the Humanitarian Law Centre of Kosovo recently, to find out what they have been tirelessly working on over the past number of years, to hear what they had to do and to highlight their products. It was a fantastic experience for the Chronicle team to see how this organisation has helped those in Kosova society that require the most assistance.

In 1992, Nataša Kandić established the Humanitarian Law Centre (HLC) in order to document war crimes committed during the armed conflicts in former Yugoslavia and record human rights violations in Serbia and Montenegro. At least 130,000 people died or were forcibly disappeared in the wars waged between January 1991 and June 1999 and in Kosovo from June 1999 to the end of 2000; thousands were interned in camps and millions obliged to leave their homes and country.

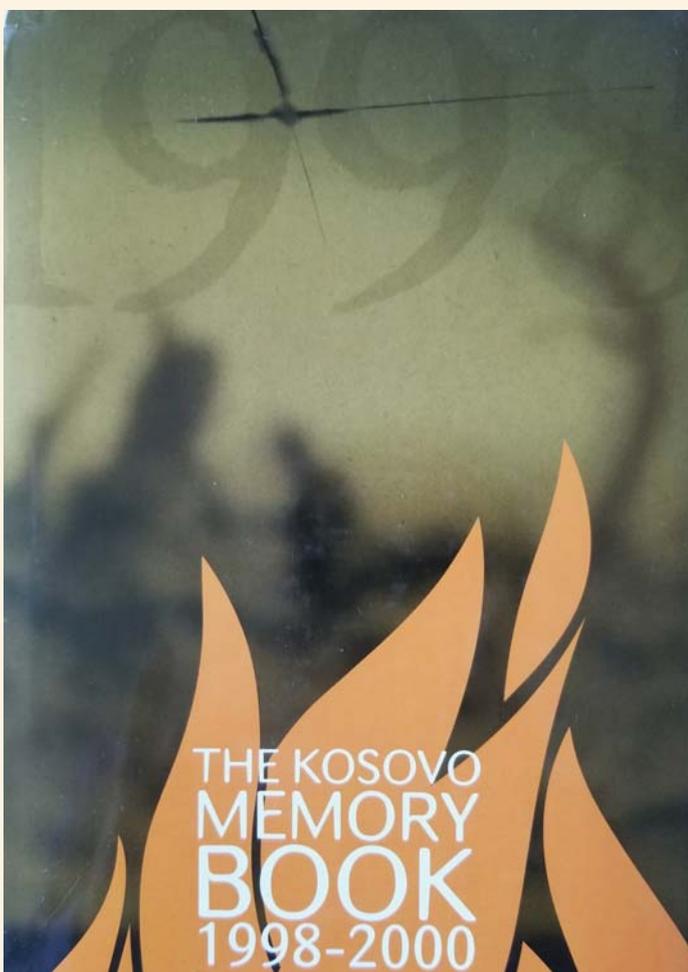
In May 1997, the HLC opened an office in Priština/Prishtinë, Kosovo. Up till the beginning of the NATO campaign in 1999, it was staffed by Albanian and Serb human rights researchers. Prior to the outbreak of armed conflict between forces of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia and the Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA)



in February 1998, the HLC documented widespread police interrogation and repression of Albanians, examining cases of torture, illegal imprisonment and political trials. From February 1998, the Centre began to investigate war crime cases of murder and forced disappearance in Kosovo.

The Kosovo office of the HLC was moved to Montenegro during the NATO intervention of 1999. There it continued to document war crimes, primarily taking statements from Albanians whom the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia forces had driven out of Kosovo. Following the Kumanovo Agreement that marked the end of the intervention in June 1999, the HLC returned to Priština/Prishtinë, where it continued to investigate war crimes against Albanian civilians committed by Federal Republic of Yugoslavia forces during the NATO campaign. It also began to investigate the murder and forced disappearance of Serbians, Roma and Albanians who were perceived by the Kosovo public to be collaborators. In Serbia meanwhile, a team of lawyers was formed to visit Albanian detainees (2,200 of them) held in Serbian prisons and to represent Albanians in politically motivated trials.

Keenly aware of the need to compose a Kosovo Book of Remembrance, in early 2006 the HLC began to check the data collected on war crimes, forming teams of researchers and analysts in Kosovo and Serbia who would examine the circumstances of death and forced disappearance during the period January 1st 1998 to December 31st 2000.





The HLC was still pursuing its mission in Kosovo after the withdrawal of the Federal Republic of Yugoslavia army and police, and the arrival of international forces, at a time when the idea of a Serbian organisation continuing to work there was almost inconceivable. The researchers, Albanians, Serbians and Bosnians, went on working as a team, documenting war crimes despite the many obstacles and hostilities existing between the ethnic communities and political elites in Serbia and Kosovo. From today's perspective, it all seems easy, but in 1999 and 2000, team work of this kind was a high-risk occupation.

In August 2009, the HLC initiated proceedings to make the Kosovo office independent. These were finalised in April 2011 with the registration of the Kosovo HLC as an independent non-government organisation. The Belgrade and Priština/Prishtinë offices have continued to work together to produce the Kosovo Book of Remembrance, and as members of the coalition responsible for founding RECOM (Regional Commission Tasked with Establishing the Facts about All Victims of War Crimes and Other Serious Human Rights Violations Committed on the Territory of the

Former Yugoslavia in the period from 1991-2001). The Kosovo Humanitarian Law Centre documents the lives lost during and immediately after the Kosovo conflicts, monitors and analyses war crimes trials and other politically or ethnically motivated acts, promotes and protects the rights of ethnic communities and their integration into Kosovo society and carries out an informal youth-centred programme of education on the recent past.

The vision of HLC Kosovo is a society that faces the past and where rights are respected equally. HLC Kosovo seeks to fulfil its mission by contributing to Kosovo's ability to establish the rule of law, face the past and restore the dignity of victims.

The Kosovo Memory Book is one such element to document, report and illustrate what Kosovars (Serbian and Albanian) faced during this period. It is a monument to the victims of war crimes (civilians, the wounded and prisoners of war), persons killed in battle



(soldiers) and those who were forcibly disappeared in Kosovo in the period January 1st 1998 – December 31st 2000 during the armed conflict between the Serbian police and the Yugoslav Army on the one hand, and the Kosovo Liberation Army on the other. This monument is alive yet indestructible. It calls everyone to pause in





front of it, to read each name and find out who these people were and how they died. It urges people to remember people. In time, when the data on the fate of those who are still missing are finally obtained, with information about secret mass graves and new evidence of crimes and victims, the Kosovo Memory Book will have become one of the most reliable witnesses to Kosovo's recent past.

The researchers and historians of the war crimes were given factual material from several independent sources, which they could check by names, locations and events.

For the first time in the history of the Balkans, figures have been replaced with names. This will prevent manipulation, minimisation or exaggeration. Each story in the book corresponds to the life of the person it refers to.

In March of this year, The Humanitarian Law Centre (HLC), in cooperation with the SENSE Centre for Transitional Justice (Pula), the Documentation Centre Kosovo, and Documenta - Centre for Dealing with the Past held an exhibition called "ICTY: the Kosovo Case 1998-1999", in Belgrade.

Through video materials and selected documents, this multimedia exhibition showed how crimes committed during the 1998-1999 armed conflict in Kosovo were investigated, reconstructed and prosecuted by the International Criminal Tribunal for the former Yugoslavia (ICTY). It presented facts about the crimes committed by Serbian military and police forces against the Albanian population in 1999, as well as the crimes of the KLA during 1998. It is a stark reminder of the events that took place, that have led all of us to be where we are today.

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL ARMY

4TH OF JULY CELEBRATIONS AT CFC

On July 4th 1776, the continental congress approved the Declaration of Independence which declared the colonial states of North America Independent of England and created the formal name of the United States of America. This day is honoured as the U.S. national day and known as Independence Day or 4th of July. Independence Day is a great reminder to Americans to be thankful for their freedom. It is often celebrated with picnics, festivals, parades, barbecues and most of all fireworks.



In Camp Film City the U.S. contingent celebrated the day by starting with a joint military formation run,

while singing cadences to show pride in their nation. Following the run they held a volleyball tournament



that was open to all nations. The evening of July 4th was a large celebration with food, drinks, cornhole, and live music. For a perfect end to the day of festivities there were firecrackers to bring some U.S. tradition to Kosovo. It was a very successful celebration to the U.S. National day.

TSgt Lynsey K. Huckeba
OR-6 USAF

Photos by: Cpl. Andres Guzman

KFOR'S INTERNATIONAL DAY 1ST JULY 2018



KFOR held its annual International Day on July 1st 2018. This year's event ethos was to promote a multi-cultural society.



Each KFOR TCN held their own event, with a static display reflecting the multi-ethnicity within each of their own individual countries to highlight, where peoples can live in harmony.



Additionally, many TCNs in line with COM KFOR's intent had food and drink for sampling with some music and sporting activities to entice the local Albanian and Serbian children to come, play and enjoy this year's International Day.



The day was a massive success with over 2,000 attendees, who sampled the multi-ethnic cultural society we all live in today.



Photos by: 1st Mar. Luigji Cirillo OR-9 ITA Army
C. le Magg. SC. Fabio Mocerino OR-4 ITA Army



KFOR'S INTERNATIONAL DAY 1ST JULY 2018



KFOR'S INTERNATIONAL DAY 1ST JULY 2018





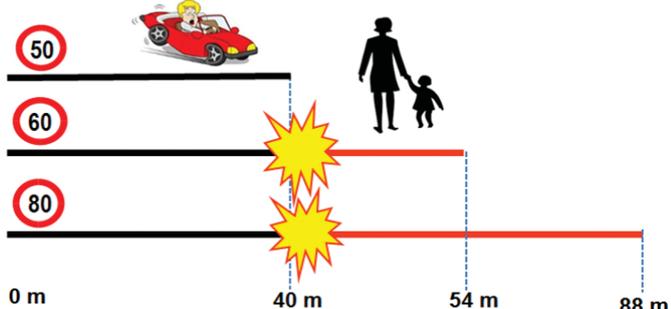
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- have your emergency card and remember the 9-liner
- always **focus on the traffic around you!**
- **drive defensively** and adjust your driving style to the circumstances – better safe than sorry, and

ALWAYS BE READY TO BRAKE !

References : SOP 3135 TRAFFIC REGULATIONS IN KOSOVO

JLSG HOSTS ANNUAL RSOM CONFERENCE

The Reception, Staging and Onward Movement (RSOM) conference is an annual event hosted by the Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG) KFOR, aimed at bringing together the logistical military stakeholders in the whole Balkan Joint Operations Area (JOA) for the purposes of networking and co-ordination in order to gain a better common understanding of the factors influencing of the deployment of forces in this area.

The JLSG KFOR is a mission-tailored branch which provides theatre-level support to deployed components, across the full range of operations and coordinates all

logistic functions that are under the authority of COM KFOR, or that a Troop Contributing Nation (TCN) is willing to support with national assets or that a Host Nation can offer. This year's conference took place on Tuesday, June 26th and it took the form of structured presentations and informal discussions with an emphasis on gaining a greater understanding of the roles and capabilities of each of the stakeholders.

Hosted by the JLSG Commander, Col. (OF-5) Stephan Lampl (AUT), the conference attracted over a dozen attendees representing numerous organisations from both

within and beyond the KFOR area of operations (AO). Represented were: Movement Coordination Centre Eindhoven (MCCE), EUFOR (Bosnia and Herzegovina), COMMZ South (Greece) and the Albanian Host Nation Support Co-ordination Centre (HNSCC) (Albania), as well as various KFOR elements from the HQ, KTBRN and JLSG.

All attendees attested to the value of the experience, noting that having the right people from the right organisations all together to exchange information will surely lead to a smoother operation should either of the contingency plans be activated. In short, thanks to the participation of the various stakeholders, the conference was a success!

Lt. Col. M.C. Southern
OF-4 CAN



"A CLOSER LOOK AT KFOR HQ FIRE FIGHTING SERVICES"

The Chronicle Team caught up with Fire Marshal Ben Banks, from Canada to take a closer look at what KFOR HQ Fire services do.

Q. What are KFOR's Camp Film Cities (CFC) Fire Brigade tasks and objectives?

Ben. The CFC Firefighters comprise of over thirty (30) highly qualified personnel. They are broken into four (4) crews, ably assisted by five (5) watch keepers or alarm room attendants, on standby 24 hrs a day.

We have the necessary Firefighting equipment to assist us in our tasks. We are responsible for HQ KFOR Main, APOD and Camp Nothing Hill (CNH) involving Helicopter responses, structural or building fires, automobile extractions/fires, hazardous material responses and technical rescues.

Q. From evidence, has there been many incidents in KFOR HQ or the other locations?

Ben. On average there are approximately five (5) fires per year. We respond to four hundred (400) fire alarms between CFC and CNH. In addition, we assist Pristina's Fire Service 2-3 times a year.

This year, so far, there have been four (4) fires in the HQ main building or on HQ main property and two (2) in CNH. With regard to the fires in CFC, our crews assisted fires in the DFAC (January), Film City Bar (February), ASDAS electrician's office (March) as well as being on standby to a VCN site fire.

Q. In Order to fulfil the role, the firefighting crews of CFC must be highly qualified. What type of qualifications do they have?

Ben. The HQ Fire service is a very diverse Fire station that can and has responded to some very dangerous situations involving major fires both on camp and downtown Pristina.

The HQ Firefighters have been certified to the international Fire service accreditation congress (IFSAC) in Firefighter level one (1) and two (2), IAW NFPA 1001, hazardous material operations and responder IAW NFPA 472, Fire Inspector IAW NFPA 1031, and Supervisors/Managers to Fire Officer IAW NFPA 1021 in order to deal with the differing scenarios that could be placed in front of us.





throughout the structure, making visibility very tough. As the team advanced it was noted that the fire was hidden from view, and that it had advanced upwards into the fake ceiling tiles. The fire had spread into the ceiling spreading to all areas of the building. The duty crew chief was Ahmet Osmani, who once told of the deteriorating circumstances inside, ordered the attack team out and called for a defensive attack from the exterior as conditions were not safe to enter the structure. Once the defensive perimeter was established the whole structure flashed over and the fire had spread to all areas. The Fire was brought under control at 1630 hrs and extinguished at 2000 hrs with no injuries or casualties reported.



Q. On February 19th, there was a fire in CFC. Where did it occur?

Ben. At 1517 hrs, we received a notification via telephone, indicating that there appeared to be smoke exiting from the Film City Bar located in HQ main. These buildings are made of wood and or steel, and delivered in a containerised type structure. The Film City Bar was constructed in this manner, which housed two (2) concessionaire bars in a single storey structure.

Q. On arrival what were the Fire Brigade faced with?

Ben. Fire crew on arrival, could clearly view smoke coming from the Film city bar portion of the building. Hose lines were laid, an interior fire attack team was readied and forcible entry was established through the main door. Once it was confirmed that the electricity was shut off to the building the fire attack team advanced into the room. Dark, dense smoke was evident

Q. What caused the fire?

Ben. Since the incident an investigation has taken place as to how this fire occurred. The investigation concluded that the fire was started as a result of an electrical fault.

Q. What message would you like to pass onto members of KFOR?

Ben. The above real example shows how dangerous fires can be. This is a good reminder to everyone. Fires in Military camps do happen and happen more often than most realise. The structures you are working, eating and sleeping in are temporary. This means the materials these structures are comprised of, are in no way fire resistant, they will burn, give off very toxic gases and burn extremely fast. In the past we have lost three (3) major structures involving fires in HQ main and the average time span from fire inception through, to total involvement, to the decay phase is approximately seventeen (17) mins as seen during the movie on ITT and KLT sessions.

Fire is a major threat and we ask everyone to be vigilant.

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL ARMY



A VISUAL OVERVIEW



08 JUN 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met H.E. Ambassador Chryssoula Aliferi Head of Liaison Office of Greece, at Camp "Film City" KFOR Headquarters.



18 JUN 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met Deputy Commander, Italian Joint Operations Headquarters in Roma, Maj. Gen. Nicola Lanza de Cristoforis, at KFOR Headquarters.



27 JUN 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met Admiral James G. Foggo III Commander Allied Joint Force Command Naples, at KFOR Headquarters.

Photos by: 1st Mar. Luigi Cirillo OR-9 ITA Army & C. le Magg. SC. Fabio Mocerino OR-4 ITA Army

A VISUAL OVERVIEW



02 JUL 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of Mrs. Ulrika Richardson-Golinski UN Development Coordinator and UNDP Resident Representative, at KFOR Headquarters.



02 JUL 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of the Paolo ALLI President of the NATO Parliamentary Assembly, at KFOR Headquarters.



05 JUL 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of the Deputy Commander NRDC-GR MG Dimitar Krumov Iliev, at KFOR Headquarters.

MAINTAINING DISCIPLINE, WITH FAITH AND HONOUR



The History of KTRBN

KFOR is the leading peace support operation in Kosovo since 1999 and has been contributing towards building peace and stability in the region ever since. Though there have been many changes during the years, one thing is constant: the presence of NATO military personnel continues to make the local people feel at ease, as we reinforce their safety and promote peace.

We have seen the Multinational Battlegroups (MNBGs) from both the Western and the Eastern part of the Area of Operation (AO) and they are a shining example of KFOR's – and indeed, NATO's – strength: the collective power of multinational cooperation. However, we often forget about those, that stand guard with discipline; the men and women, who are ready at a moment's notice to go anywhere in the Area of Kosovo, as the silent power of KFOR: the KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion,



or KTRBN for short.

KTRBN has been around for a while now – a few years ago, it was called KFOR Tactical Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM), and it was a joint unit of Portuguese and Hungarian Soldiers. With the Portuguese unit leaving KFOR, there was a moment of uncertainty – who would take up the mantle of being the backup, being the reserve? After careful consideration, Hungary decided to increase its troop contribution to KFOR and to take up the role of being the reserve – thus becoming the unit we call KTRBN.

The role of KTRBN

Most soldiers in KFOR know that personnel are from near and far away – it is hard to miss the red, white, and green flag with the large letters KTRBN written on their right shoulders. But what is it that they do? What is their MO (Modus Operandi – “the way someone does something”), and how do they do that?

As you can guess from the name, the KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion's primary function is being the Reserve, directly under the command of COM KFOR's Tactical Control. Their capability is wide: they are capable of performing security operations, road control,



convoy escorts, surveillance and reconnaissance. On top of this, the composition of battalion is made up by the infantry system – and they are ready to do any infantry tasks as well. As with all units, KTRBN has a specialty: they are specifically trained in Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) Operations, and they are the only certified trainers of fire phobia – something that is being taught to our allies almost every other week.

KTRBN can be deployed anywhere in the theatre of operations and perform any mission for an unlimited period of time – making it a major unit within the



structure of KFOR. Though in the unit there are only Hungarian personnel, most of these professional soldiers do speak English, making it easier to cooperate with other units and ensuring good relations with our friends and allies.



The Current Contingent

Hungarian troops serve in a 6-month-rotation system, which means that there is a new contingent twice yearly. The contingents are mostly made up from the same Brigade; however there are more than a few positions that need to be filled up from different units. To ensure a good working environment, Hungarian Contingents have a preparation period of about 3-4 months prior to their deployment – and by the time they are “combat ready”, they know each other well and can work together

to the high standard set by our predecessors. This is the 18th Hungarian Contingent in Kosovo, and it is commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Sándor Horváth from the Hungarian Defence Forces 25th "Klapka György" Infantry Brigade – as is the majority of the Contingent. Under his leadership, the men and women of KTRBN have successfully completed many tasks and operations during their time in Kosovo:

- Successful FOC exams for both manoeuvre companies;
- Constant patrols that are vital towards KFOR's mission success;
- Participation in KFOR's largest exercise this year, Silver Sabre 2018-1;
- Cooperation with MNBGE and MNBGW in CRC Training;
- Cooperation with MNBGW in the Exercise Western Blizzard.

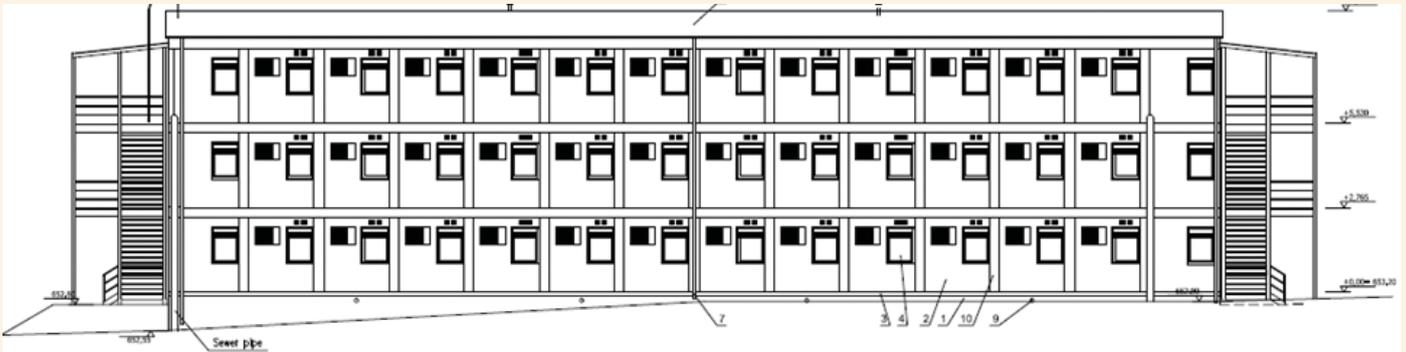
This list is expanding every day, as KTRBN continues to uphold the highest standards of military excellence. Being the Tactical Reserve, these soldiers are ready to go at a moment's notice, day and night, be it the searing sun of summer, or the freezing blizzard of winter – whatever the situation may be they stand ready, vigilant. The job they have done has been exemplary and they have been performing their duties – as the home Brigade's motto goes – with Faith and Honour.

2LT Gábor Horváth
OF-1 HUN, KTRBN PAO



CONSTRUCTION WORKS IN CAMP FILM CITY

For those of us living in Camp Film City over the past number of months, one could wonder if we were living on a building site. Construction works having been proceeding at pace with no end in sight. The Chronicle team had a chance to find out what has been, is and will be going on in CFC over the next number of months. A special thanks to Russell Austin of NSPA and Besnik Fandaj JEng Br, KFOR for their valuable assistance.



For the next number of months there will be trucks and diggers moving about, with banging and clattering of workmen going on, all around Camp Film City. As all of us who live here now realise, under the leadership of Supreme Headquarters Allied Powers Europe (SHAPE), with NATO Support and Procurement Agency (NSPA) overseeing, the renovation of the accommodation blocks around Camp Film City is ongoing. This project has been talked about and planned out for some time now. This article will explain the reasoning

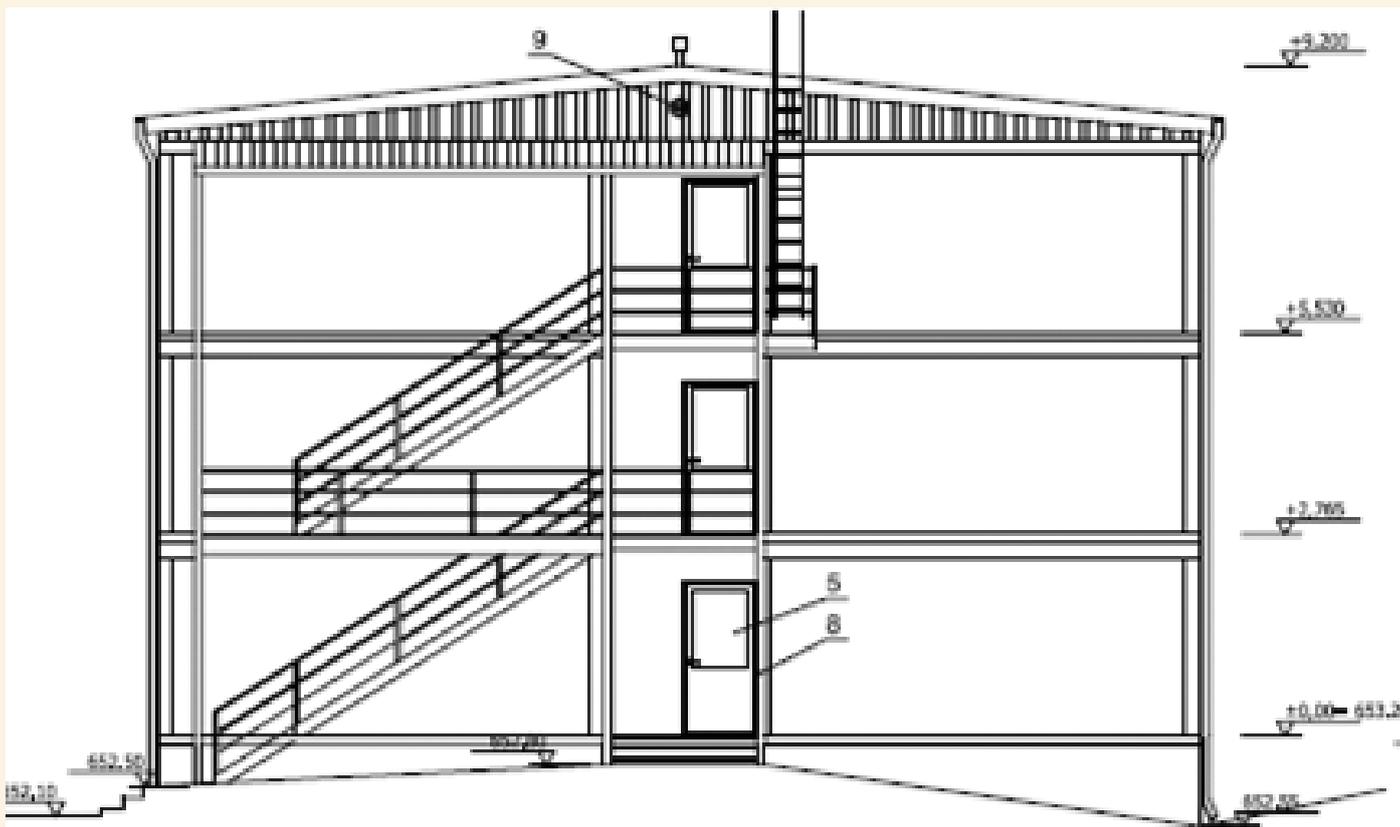
behind why this project is a necessity and what the plan is to improve living standards in HQ KFOR.

The reasoning:

The existing accommodation blocks in Camp Film City are now approximately (15) fifteen years old, well beyond the normal life expectancy of about (10) ten years with some in bad technical condition. The operational and maintenance costs are increasing exponentially. The life span of the existing containers cannot be extended through the upgrading

of the existing containers. The configuration layout of the existing containerised village constitutes a fire hazard. The distances between accommodation blocks are between 3m and 3.8m, which are not sufficient for fire protection and has been a continuous concern for various Fire Chiefs in Camp Film City. Therefore, the decision was to replace the existing containerised village with that of new blocks and reconfigure the village to satisfy Fire protection concerns. Over the past couple of years,

Construction Phase	Number of Beds				Remarks
	Existing	Demolished	New	Final	
I	976	0	222	1,198	Erect new buildings no. 41 and 42
II	1,198	144	0	1,054	Demolish "Lisbon" buildings (Blocks 75/A, B, C and D)
III	1,054	0	146	1,200	Erect new buildings no. 75/A and B
IV	1,200	144	0	1,056	Demolish "Paris" buildings (Blocks 63/A, B, C and D)
V	1,056	0	234	1,290	Erect new buildings 63/A and B
VI	1,290	149	0	1,141	Demolish "Washington" (Blocks 64/A and C) and "London" (Blocks 66/B and D)
VII	1,141	164	0	977	Demolish "Rome" (Blocks 50/a and C) and "Berlin" (Blocks 51/B and D)

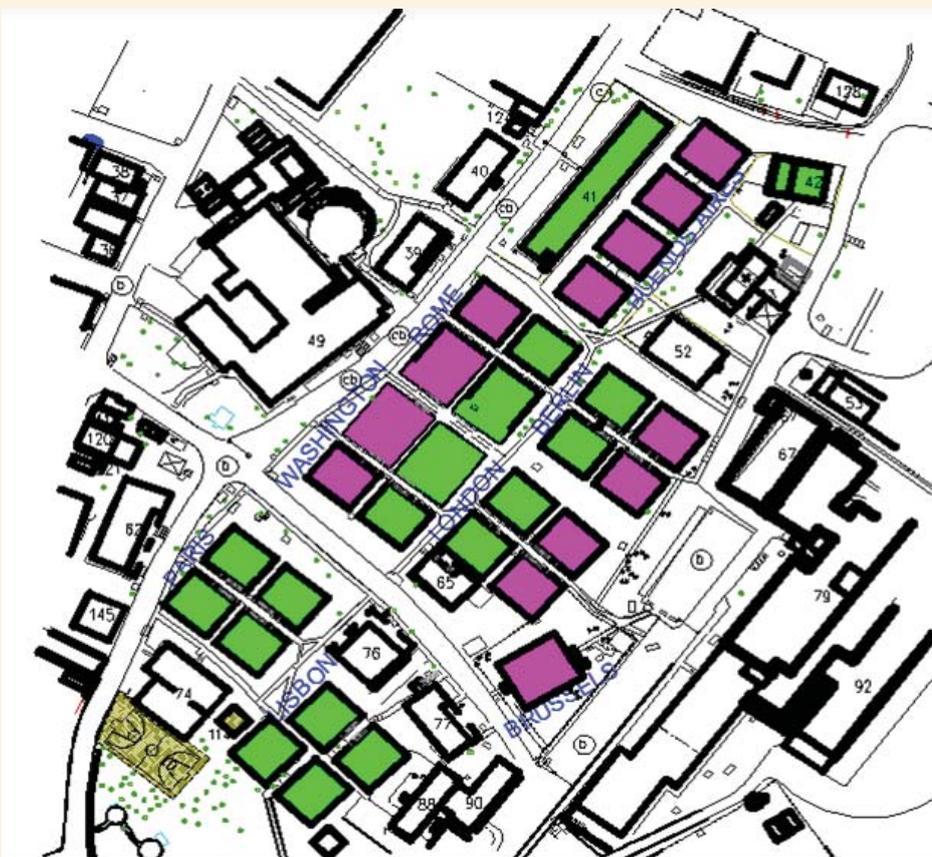


designs of how this project will pan out have been designed, discussed and finally agreed upon.

The Project:

The project consists of replacing (602) six hundred and two beds, in

containerised facilities, including the demolition of some existing buildings and replaced by new ones, including all civil, electrical, plumbing, electromechanical, fire –systems and control works. It was one of the biggest projects to be undertaken since the original building of Camp Film City. The project has been broken down into phases to accommodate the fact that many soldiers and civilians have to live on site during this period. The Project has been broken down as follows:



The project has just completed phase I and the commencement of phase II is undergoing as this article has gone to print, with a number of

Nr. Demolished Beds	601
Nr. Preserved Beds	375
Total number of beds	976



soldiers and civilians having been moved from their accommodation in Lisbon to commence phase II. The new accommodation will have the necessary Fire alarm system with smoke detectors, temperature sensors, LED lighting, manual call systems all connected to a central control point with a PA system. All rooms will have local area network (LAN) connections and all new rooms will be fitted out with new furniture, courtesy of Facilities management in CFC.

The End:

When this project reaches its conclusion, the accommodation village will have been transformed. All fire protection concerns will have been addressed. The accommodation itself will have been completely overhauled, leaving it in a very good state for the years to come. There will be designated green areas beside the accommodation blocks. After all that has been said, a bit of banging and clattering is something we all have to put up with in order to get a modern up to date accommodation village to enable soldiers and civilians to live in good conditions going forward.

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL Army

- Remains - Non Accommodation
- Remains - Accommodation
- New - Accommodation

Nr. of Beds Installed	602
32 Single Bedrooms	32
285 Double Bedrooms	570
Nr. of Beds Preserved	375
Total number of beds	977



KFOR SOLDIERS RENDER AID TO MOTORCYCLE ACCIDENT VICTIM

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo – Three Soldiers from Kosovo Force Multi-National Battle Group – East’s Task Force MED were driving off Camp Bondsteel on July 7th when a motorcycle accident occurred in front of them.

“Everything happened so fast,” said Sgt. 1st Class Bertanya Scott, Task Force MED patient and administrative non-commissioned officer in charge. Scott, who was driving, saw the motorcyclist enter a roundabout at a high speed and lose control. The motorcyclist veered in front of her and crashed headfirst into a guardrail. In the vehicle with Scott were Task Force MED patient administrator Capt. Eric Callens and Task Force MED medical director Capt. Alicia Evans, M.D.

“His helmet saved his life, without a doubt,” Evans said. Callens called the Camp Bondsteel Joint Operations Centre battle desk who granted his team permission to render first aid. A group of civilians had gathered around the victim. Evans instructed them not to move him. She conducted a head-to-toe assessment while



Callens retrieved a first-aid kit from their vehicle and Scott provided security.

“The patient’s eyes were open but he wasn’t really there,” Evans said. “He was unresponsive.” Evans cut away his blood-stained jeans and found two open wounds. The man’s leg was badly broken. Evans bandaged his wounds as Callens and the civilians, some of whom spoke English, assisted.

“Everybody was super helpful and appreciative,” Evans said. “It reminded us why we’re here—to help the people of Kosovo.” A local ambulance soon arrived and transported the victim to the hospital.

“Multi-National Battle Group – East medical providers are trained professionals ready to execute our mission in Kosovo and respond to emergency situations wherever they occur,” Task Force MED Commander Maj. Christine Harris said. “Dr. Evans, Capt. Callens and Sgt. 1st Class Scott are leaders who understand the operational environment. Their quick response to this incident is an example of that.”

Multi-National Battle Group – East is deployed to Kosovo on a nine-month security and stabilisation mission. The 155th Medical Detachment, 261st Medical Battalion, 44th Medical Brigade, from Fort Bragg, North Carolina, is serving as Task Force MED, which is the battle group’s medical provider and runs a hospital on Camp Bondsteel.

As Scott, Callens and Evans drove away from the scene, a local man driving a truck waved them down and gave them pastries. “That was just his way of saying thank you,” Evans said. “The people here trust us and they’re happy we’re here.”

Capt. Jason Sweeney
OF-2 US Army

CROSS TRAINING EXERCISE: MNBG-W AND KTR BN TOGETHER TO ASSURE THE ABILITY TO REACT TO A CROWD CONTROL OR RIOT SITUATION.



In Camp Marechal De Lattre de Tassigny (Novo Selo) a cross training activity took place involving the manoeuvre battalion belonging to MNBG-W and the KTR Bn, between the 17th to the 19th of July.

The exercise was intended to test the capabilities expressed by the S – COY (SVN - MNBGW) and the A – COY (HUN - KTR) to cooperate in crowd and riot control operations, together with the Ukrainian FOMD and the Tactical Psyops Team (TPT).

During the first two days of the exercise, soldiers attended platoon and company level training in order to hone their procedures. On July 19th the real exercise took place, involving over 200 soldiers: it was conducted as realistic as possible, with over 50 soldiers employed as

OPFOR, throwing Molotov cocktails and other objects (simulating a real crowd riot). Road blocks were built in the training area... that established the perfect operative situation to employ the Ukrainian FOMD (Freedom of Movement Detachment). This KFOR asset is capable of removing improvised barricades and road blocks; FOMD also includes K9 and IEDD assets to detect and dispose any explosive traps. To guarantee the battlefield surveillance, the Hungarian sniper team of KTR Bn was detached in an elevated area, dominating the training field.

The exercise was a success: the Coys have showed their professionalism together with well-oiled drills in anti-riot capability, together with good coordination among the various actors employed from different nations.

These kinds of cross training exercises are very important for our coalition because in case of joint military tactical operation it is necessary that every soldier adopts the same procedures instead of the national ones, to make the intervention more effective: “This is a great challenge for every soldier employed in KFOR, but surely it brings a great professional growth to everyone”, said Lt. Col. VODEB (SVN), MNBG-W DCOM and exercise director.



Cpt Francesco D'ANIELLO
OF-2 ITA ARMY

Photographer: OR-4 Paolo Massardi ITA ARMY

Soldier of the Month

Name: Roland Zsolt Sándor
Rank: (OR - 6)
Nationality: Hungarian
Unit: DCOM CPT



Staff Sergeant (OR-6) Roland Zsolt Sándor is a highly educated, job oriented and well trained professional soldier. He was born on July 1st 1990 in Mezőtúr, Hungary. After finishing his studies in 2008 as a Security Technician at Szolnok High School, he joined the military in 2009 as a Rifleman posted to the HDF 88 Light Infantry Battalion, based in Szolnok. From 2011 to 2014 he served as a Squad leader for the 25th Klapka György Infantry Brigade. From 2014 to 2015 he was deployed to the United States of America, where he worked for the Hungarian Embassy in Military Intelligence in Washington DC. On return, he worked for the Jász-Nagykún-Szolnok County State Prison as a Special Prison Officer. Since 2016 he's a Military Police Non-commissioned Officer for the HDF Military Police Centre. Staff Sergeant Sándor completed numerous courses within the Hungarian Army. During his military career, he has been deployed twice abroad (in 2012 in Afghanistan, in 2014 in the Hungarian Embassy in the United States of America). He is fulfilling his 3rd deployment. During his service, he has been awarded with several National and International Medals and Awards. He is an addicted sports man, who loves doing outdoor activities in his free time.

Staff Sergeant Sándor's role is as Close Protection Team Personal Security Officer (PSO) for DCOM KFOR. This role entails fighting against routines and habits in order to ensure the life, health, security and physical integrity of DCOM KFOR is safe, using the necessary and appropriate measures, Rules of Engagement (ROE) issued and stated in KFOR's SOP. His excellent coordination skills have been

tested vigorously, executing escort missions in close collaboration with the International Military Police (IMP) and the Italian Close Protection Team (ITA CPT) for COM KFOR. While dealing with such a complex job, many times in difficult environments, handling hazardous emerging obstacles, he never misses to pay attention on planning, executing and analysing the team's missions and performances.

On December 11th 2017, DCOM KFOR was taking part with a Joint Patrol in the Northern part of Kosovo in rough terrain in poor visibility. On completion of the patrol and on returning back to Camp Film City, on the highway, a 40x40 centimetre ice cube slipped off a truck's roof. The ice penetrated through the wind screen of the first vehicle, driven by Staff Sergeant Sándor. Thanks to his excellent skills, he didn't lose his composure, successfully slowed down and manoeuvred the vehicle to the edge of the road, preventing a front on crash with other road users.

The Commander of the DCOM's Close Protection Team, Lt. Gábor Simon described Staff Sergeant Sándor as a qualified military professional with more than 4 years of experience in the military and security field with invaluable experiences gained in Force Protection, Convoy Escort, Protection and Urban Warfare in hostile environments. He is very good at problem solving, decision making and has the ability to develop and implement effective action plans. He has very good communication and presentation skills. He is a good team member and committed to detail in completing his job.

Commander KFOR XXII
Major General
Salvatore Cuoci,
Italian Army

**Chief Public Affairs Office &
COMKFOR Spokesperson**
Col. Vincenzo Grasso,
Italian Army

**Chief Internal Information &
Editor KFOR Chronicle**
Comdt. Damien Keogh,
Irish Defence Forces
keoghd@hq.kfor.nato.int

Design & Photographer:
Mr. Afrim Hajrullahu

Cover Photo:
1st Mar. Luigji Cirillo OR-9 ITA
Army & C. le Magg. SC. Fabio
Mocerino OR-4 ITA Army

E-mail and Web
kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int
<http://jfcnaples.nato.int/kfor>

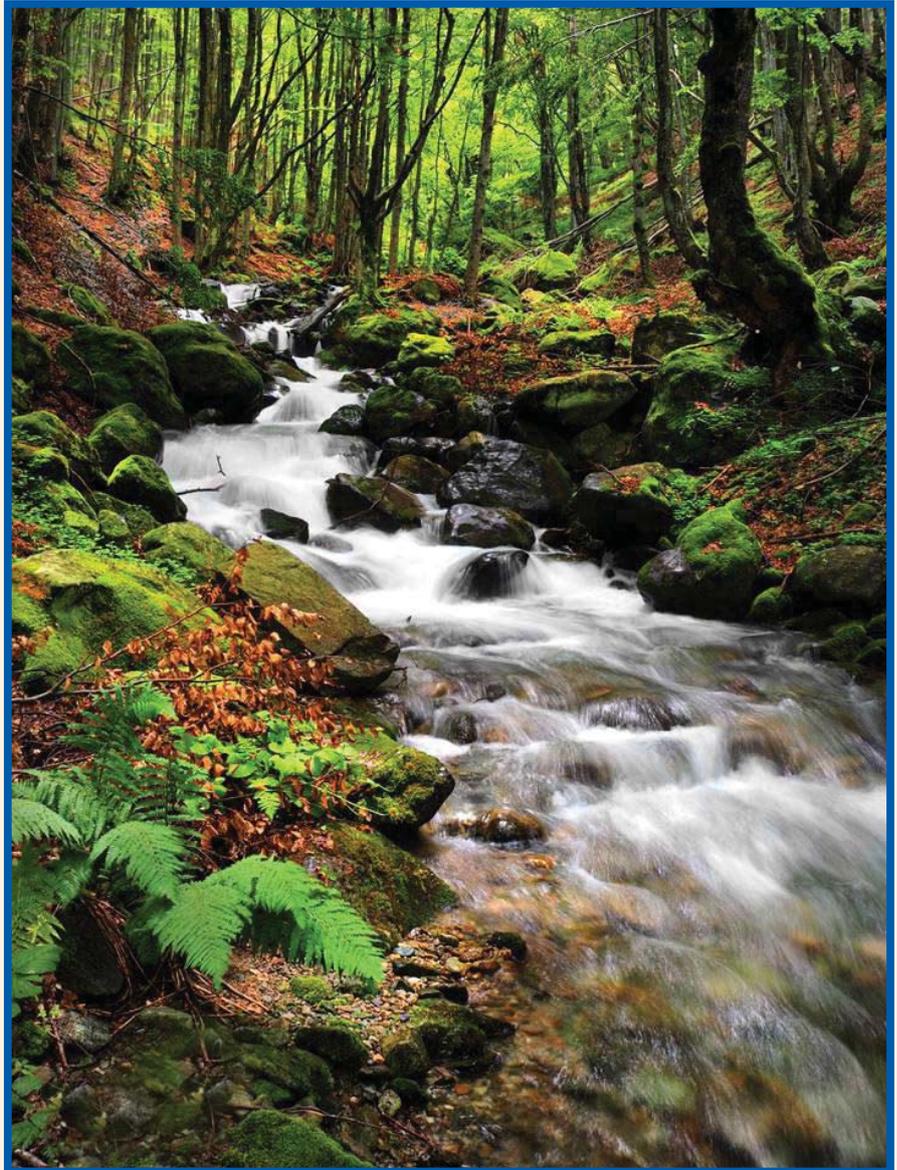
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PICTURE OF THE MONTH July 2018



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"Mountain Breeze!"
Equipment Used:
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Photo by: Mr. Naim Shala





Name: Kris Hjalmarson
Rank: OF-3 (Maj)
Nationality: Canadian
Unit: ACOS J6

Military Education:

I joined the Canadian Armed Forces (CAF) in June 2003 and graduated from the Royal Military College of Canada with a Bachelor’s degree in Space Science in 2007. I graduated from the CAF School of Communications & Electronics in 2008. I am currently taking a Master’s of Science postgraduate degree in Space Policy.

About the Mission:

Op KOBOLD is the CAF mission name in Kosovo and consists of five Canadian military personnel - all serving at Camp Film City. Together, we Canadians provide support to KFOR through JLSG, HSG and ACOS J6. My role in J6 is to provide technical advice to commanders on Information Security, setting policy and safeguarding information for all communication information systems throughout the KFOR area of operations. This is my second time deploying with NATO; my first time was in 2011, deployed to JFC Naples for OP UNIFIED PROTECTOR – the Air campaign on Libya. I have also worked alongside the USAF for the NORAD mission, spending three years in Alaska, USA.

Family Reaction:

My family is very supportive and happy, that I have once again chosen to represent Canada internationally and they’re extremely proud to see me contribute to Canadian peacekeeping in the Balkans.

Hobbies:

In enjoy volleyball (where I played at the University-level for 3 years); Skiing; Akido; and Geocaching!



Name: Manuel Dantas Pereira
Rank: OR - 8
Nationality: Portuguese
Unit: Joint Effects Commission (JEC)

Military Education:

I enlisted in the Portuguese Army in January 1985. I then completed a 2-year Army Sergeants Course, choosing armour as my service.

I was posted to the “Regimento de Cavalaria nº 6” in Braga, where I served as a Section Commander in the Recce Coy and as a Pl Sgt. I was also the RQMS, the Sqn Commander’s Assistant and the direct assistant of the Commander of the Reconnaissance Company.

I have completed countless training courses. One of the most important ones was the M48A5 Tank Commander’s Course. I am a specialist in armoured vehicles in use in the Portuguese Army. I completed various computing courses. These skills played an important role in implementing two programmes into the Portuguese Army. In addition, I have completed the Marksmanship Instructor Course, the Signals Course and the Orienteering Course.

I have served in Bosnia Herzegovina, as a Recce Pl Sgt. I also served in East Timor (UNTAET) between Oct 2001 and Jul 2002. I have participated in 5 international deployments.

About the Mission:

I was part of the initial peacekeeping mission involving Portuguese troops in Kosovo. In 2000, I was stationed in Klina and again a few years later, in 2008, in Slime Lines under KTM force.

Family Reaction:

I am married to Rosa Barros since 1993, who is a Civil Engineer. We have two children. The eldest (a 23-year old girl) has a degree in Business Management and the youngest; a boy is currently studying Economics at the university in the city of Braga.

Hobbies:

I enjoy spending my free time with my family. I have a dog and some cats. I participate whenever possible, in the cultural activities and events organised in my local parish. I have been quite active in my community centre and I participate in numerous leisure and sports events, promoting individual and community involvement and wellbeing.

