

KFOR CHRONICLE

The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

October 2018



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The German KFOR Contingent said farewell with a ceremony on the Shatervan in Prizren on October 4th 2018 to mark the end of their nineteen (19) years in Prizren.



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FIRE FIGHTERS CONDUCT EXERCISES IN CAMP FILM CITY



In KFOR HQ, Camp Film City, Fire Fighters held exercises in association with “Fire Prevention Week”. This year’s theme was “Look, Listen, Learn, be aware Fire can happen anywhere”.

As part of their annual training program and in conjunction with Fire Prevention week, the HQ Firefighting service conducted several realistic scenario type emergency exercises throughout the week encompassing our different capabilities such as:

- * Automobile accident
- * Technical rescues
- * Live Fire Corimec burn
- * Helicopter simulated crash
- * Emergency medical intervention
- * Hazardous material spills
- * Simulated Fire scenarios

As the photographs depict, they were certainly realistic. Well done to all involved. On lookers realised the vital role these personnel play providing a safe and secure environment in Camp Film City!!!! (i.e from Fire)



AUSTRIAN CONTINGENT AND JOINT LOGISTICS SUPPORT GROUP CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY

On October 6th, on a beautiful autumn day, in front of the Multi-functional tent, in Camp Film City, the Austrian (AUT) Contingent (CON) had a ceremony to mark the Change of Command of Col. Stefan Lampl to Col. Shahim Bakhish.

On the morning of Oct 6th, the square in front of the multi-functional tent was readied. Flag poles had been erected and the flag of KFOR JLSG troop contributing nations flags was on display. Both the AUT CON and JLSG representatives were on the square to mark this occasion, where the AUT and JLSG Commander COL Stefan Lampl was completing his mission and handing over command to Col. Shahim Bakhish.

The Chief of Staff of the AUT CON, Col Steingresz was the parade Commander. The order to present arms was given by the parade commander for the arrival of the official party, led by COM KFOR Major Gen Salvatore Cuoci.

The JLSG was established within KFOR in 2010. The aim of which



was to bring the JLSG concept into practice and exploit it in NATO operations. Its mission is to ensure theatre level logistics support to KFOR by employing organic Combat Support

and Combat Service Support capabilities in order to facilitate a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement, effectively, synchronising resources to ensure the maximum effectiveness and efficiency. On this occasion, the JLSG rotated from 17th to the 18th. The Austrian Armed Forces have supported KFOR for many years. Today they are the third highest troop contributing nation in KFOR. On this occasion the 38th CON handed over to the 39th CON.

The outgoing AUT CON commander Col Stefan Lampl addressed the distinguished guests and fellow KFOR soldiers. In his address, as both the AUT CON and JLSG Commander he emphasised the “exceptional formation of the JLSG in KFOR in a NATO operation”, “comprised of logisticians, engineers, fuel and





KFOR, as KFOR Commander, I can state that the 38th AUT CON really distinguished itself, thanks to its immense experience, impressive professionalism, constant dedication and brilliant operational skills.” COM KFOR highlighted Col Lampl’s leadership commenting that he showed “the capability to lead their will, to concentrate their efforts, showing his capabilities and trustworthiness and never leaving a task undone”. COM KFOR spoke about the JLSG, stating “is responsible for logistics support across the entire Balkans, is a quick deployable power in the hands of COM KFOR.... I always knew that your soldiers were ready to support me, whatever I would request, you never quit and you always provided your assessment and support.” The ceremony concluded by the traditional handover of the flag, in this instance two, the AUT and JLSG.

EOD experts... consisting of a small but multinational team, with fourteen (14) different nations”, “The JLSG provided 7.4m litres of fuel, handled 570 flights into Pristina APOD supporting 3,500 soldiers to deploy, responded to 200 EOD events, destroying 70 UXOs on top of other routine duties in the last six (6) months”. Col Lampl speaking in German spoke about the achievements of the AUT CON, “The relocation of the Operational Reserve Force (ORF), the

preparedness for future AUT CON activities within KFOR, in addition to the routine tasks of security measures at Decani Monastery, patrols and surveillance”. He finished by thanking both the JLSG and AUT CON for their dedication and professionalism and wished the new Commander success for his mission. COM KFOR addressed the assembled audience, stating “that as the largest CON among non NATO contributing nations in

Comdt. Keogh
OF-3 IRL -A



THE END OF THE MISSION BUT THE BEGINNING OF ANOTHER

On October 4th, in Camp Film City's Gym the Transfer of Authority of Deputy Commander Brigadier General Janos Csombok took place in front of distinguished guests and fellow KFOR soldiers.



As the clock struck 1100hrs, DCOM KFOR Brigadier General Janos Csombok attended his last official engagement during his mission here in KFOR. For the past twelve (12) months Brigadier General Csombok was the Deputy Commander of KFOR. He commenced his mission on 29th Sept 2017. As DCOM he strove to ensure that COM KFOR's vision was enacted.

The Transfer of Authority ceremony comprising of soldiers from the Greek guard, the Austrian and Hungarian Contingents, commanded by the parade Commander Col Ray O'Lehan, were readied for the ceremony. The ceremony was attended by numerous Ambassadors, Commanders within and outside KFOR, representatives from EULEX, UNMIK, OSCE and other international organisations

and representatives from the institutions of Kosovo.

A compilation of music from Hungary and Austria greeted the Distinguished Guests on their arrival. The official party led by COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci arrived with the Parade Commander rendering honours. On completion of both the Hungarian and Austrian national anthems, DCOM KFOR Brigadier General Janos Csombok addressed the audience. He began by saying, "As an unknown thinker said "I started with a simple hello but ended with a complicated good bye"."

Brigadier General Csombok continued his speech acknowledging, "How blessed I feel to have the privilege to serve as the second Hungarian DCOM KFOR

during the last one year. Some ten years ago I already had the chance to serve in KFOR as a young Lieutenant Colonel in the MNTF-W at that time. This has provided me a great opportunity during my tour as DCOM KFOR to recognise the huge improvement Kosovo made during the last decade."

Brigadier General Csombok continued by stating the role he played throughout his mission here in Kosovo, thanking the respective International Organisations, UNMIK, OSCE, the EU office and EULEX deployed in Kosovo. He also thanked the HSG, Armenian, Danish and Greek guard units for their roles in securing KFOR facilities.

Brigadier General Csombok spoke about his close links with "the leaders of the Kosovo Security

Organisations. I was really impressed by your openness, motivation, willingness and determination to improve your organisations' capabilities to be able to serve all the people in Kosovo. You can be proud of your achievements and the great progress you made." Brigadier Csombok thanked the Unit Commanders that served throughout his tenure, acknowledging their professionalism and dedication to the mission.

He completed his speech by personally thanking Major General Salvatore Cuoci COM KFOR and Major General Giovanni Fungo (previous COM KFOR) "for their guidance and the freedom of action in my assigned areas of responsibility."

COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci took to the stand to give his speech. He began by saying, "Allow me first to say farewell to the outgoing Deputy Commander who has been to me not only an honourable and experienced military leader, but also a friend. Janos, thanks to your broad range of experience in the Balkans, you have constantly provided me with a deep comprehensive knowledge of the region that highly supported me in leading the Kosovo Force. I want to also thank you on behalf of Lieutenant General Fungo since your awareness and your continuous dedication have been vital for both KFORXXI and KFORXXII, in order to achieve our critical objectives in a constantly demanding and complex environment."

COM KFOR spoke about the success Brigadier General Csombok achieved in enhancing the cooperation between KFOR and its partners. "As you well know, Brigadier General Csombok has continuously worked on the stage



and behind the scenes conducting key leader engagements with UNMIK, the EU office, EULEX, OSCE, the overall international community, the leaders of the Institutions in Kosovo, the KP, the KSF, and all Kosovo security organisations demonstrating an amazing networking capability thanks to both his generous and dutiful behaviour. Janos, I recognise how tirelessly you acted in close cooperation with my staff and our sub unit commanders in order to fulfil all my tasks and acting always as a force multiplier for the commander.”

COMKFOR went on to further state, “I want to also thank you, Janos, for your outstanding performance in supervising all KFOR training activities and for the dedication you demonstrated in coordinating the planning and the organisation of the “Silver Sabre” exercises. Last but not least, I want to recognise you for your personal and professional perspectives and for leaving behind a program of exercises that will continue into the future, preparing KFOR units and our partners for any challenges ahead. Definitely, your service as Deputy COM KFOR was a brilliant demonstration of



KFOR’s “Enduring Commitment” to a brighter future for Kosovo and its people.”

COM KFOR went on to welcome the new incoming Austrian DCOM Brigadier Reinhard Ruckentstahl to the KFOR family. COM KFOR concluded by wishing Brigadier Janos Csombok, “my friend Janos, and to your staff all the best as you return home to your families and loved ones.”

During the ceremony, to highlight the achievements of Brigadier General Csombok’s time as DCOM KFOR, he received four (4) medals, the Non-article 5 NATO Medal,

the KSF Medal of “Selfless Service” with motivation, United States of America Legion of Merit (Degree of Officer) Medal and the Italian Medal, Military Commemoration Cross.

The ceremony concluded in typical military fashion, by transferring the NATO flag to demonstrate the Transfer of Authority from the outgoing DCOM to the incoming DCOM.

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL-A



SILVER SABRE 2018-2 "THE CPE"

For two weeks in October, the focus of KFOR HQ is on the Gym, where the Silver Sabre 2018-2 Command Post Exercise (CPE) took place. This time around, the Silver Sabre 2018-2 Exercise (SS18-2) became a CPE. All the institutions of Kosovo, EULEX, UN, NATO Advisory Liaison Team and other international organisations along with KFOR were involved.



The SS18-2 was divided up into two one week blocks, where during the first week a number of lectures and workshops took place to align all involved as to what was expected of them. The Public Affairs Regional Centre in Skopje gave some valuable advice to the key leaders across communication and media management involved during this time.

The second week, exercise week, began with final preparations being undertaken prior to the commencement of the SS18-2 on Tuesday, 16th October. DCOM Brigadier General Reinhard Ruckstuhl opened the exercise, and conveyed the training objectives to the assembled exercise participants. With the commencement of the SS18-2, serials

action throughout the exercise. On completion of the decision making process, those decisions were then relayed to their Operations centres across Kosovo. On hand were members of the UK Defence Forces, from the 77th Brigade to mentor the key leaders and assess their responses and some students from AAB College, Pristina, who played the role of journalists for realistic media engagements.



surrounding the GEO-Strategic situation whereby, as a result of heavy rains, the main infrastructure of Kosovo is coming under increasing strain in conjunction with the ongoing security situation, socio-economic conditions, ethnic relationships etc. Injects were fed into the Exercise at a rapid pace to test the CPE participants. With seventeen (17) of Kosovo's institutions on hand in KFOR HQ's Gym on top of international representatives, their work was cut out, to comprehend, analyse and decide on courses of

The Exercise, once again proved a success, with COM stating, "I'm proud to say that this year we managed to involve a total number of twenty two (22) different institutions... the focus of Silver Sabre from field training to developing procedures and improving cohesiveness in managing emergency situations... Indeed, I think we can say that this event is a good example of the level of enhanced collaboration, coordination and integration that can be achieved among all relevant actors and organisations responsible for the safety of every citizen in Kosovo in case of natural disaster or large scale emergency... This is precisely under the KFOR mandate to contribute to local capacity building and improve the level of coordination amongst all stakeholders... I can state that this joint and international effort was a success."

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL-A

RECOGNITION OF KFOR HQ CIVILIAN STAFF SERVICE

Civilians are an integral part of this mission. Their contribution on carrying daily activities, duties and tasks, as well as on the wellbeing of soldiers and maintenance of military facilities is well-known and highly appreciated by the KFOR HQ Command.

“Thank you for a job well done”, said Brigadier General Lawrence R. Powell to the KFOR HQ civilian community.



With approval of the Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) on Recognition of Civilian Staff Member Service on Feb 15th 2018, the former KFOR Chief of Staff (COS) Brigadier General (Brig. Gen.) Lawrence R. Powell, US Army, immediately initiated organising formal recognition ceremonies with the civilian community. In this respect, from beginning of

April until mid May 2018, on behalf of COM KFOR, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, the COS personally thanked 376 civilians working for KFOR HQ, either as a civilian contractor or as a staff member. Recognitions were organised in different locations with smaller groups of employees, in order to closer communicate the appreciation COMKFOR and the



organisation has for this important category of staff members.

The very first meeting took place in Camp Nothing Hill, in the northern part of Kosovo on April 10th 2018. Employees of the contracting company “Ecolog”, which provides catering services to the soldiers of this camp, and to KFOR staff members of Headquarters Support Group (HSG), who provide cleaning and site administration of the camp, were the first civilians to be thanked in person by Brig. Gen. Powell.

Individual letters and tokens of appreciation were handed out by Brig. Gen. Powell, giving the opportunity to each staff member to shake his hand and personally communicate any concern, request or ambition over a coffee and cake.

In return the gesture was highly appreciated and assessed to be the first one of its kind, i.e. that such a high-ranking Commander had personally thanked them in such a fashion. Needless to say, this gesture highly motivated this civilian community in Leposavic.

There were a further seven (7) separate gatherings that took place in Camp Film City, in the dining facility, Hollywood Centre, Conference Rooms and Bistro-L. The gratitude and respect were felt throughout these ceremonies. The warmth in Brig. Gen. Powell’s speeches was pleasantly perceived and personalities were touched.



It was pleasant to see the personal interaction of the COS with different civilians, either calling them by their nick names or alluding to duties they carry with noticeable compassion.

Civilians serving the organisation for a few months all the way to those serving it from the first days in 1999 were provided with a letter of appreciation.

Those who provided their contribution for over 5 years were handed out lapel pins, whereas those over ten years received a KFOR leather notebook as well. Civilians with over 15 years of contribution received a personalised KFOR plaque with the national flags of all the troop contributing nations as a sign of their appreciation from each and every one of them.

Civilians of all categories, levels, professional backgrounds and nationalities were appreciated.

Next year, NATO KFOR mission will be celebrating its 20th anniversary. The established formal recognition process will inevitably be carried out by the Command. However, Brig. Gen. Powell will be remembered among the thankful civilian community as the first COS to have thanked them institutionally and individually at this scale and fashion.

On behalf of the civilian community thank you to COMKFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci for this recognition and in particular, to KFORs COS “on behalf of all the Civilians in KFOR Thank You for your thoughtfulness Brig. Gen. Powell!”

Mr. Arian Ballanca
 ICC-7 Civilian HR Manager J1
 Branch HQ KFOR

A VISUAL OVERVIEW



17 SEP 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met USA Commander of the 40th INF DIV B.G. Mark G. Malanka, at Camp "Film City" NATO KFOR Headquarters.



17 SEP 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met Italian Chief of Defence, General Claudio Graziano, at Camp "Film City" NATO KFOR Headquarters.



18 SEP 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of the Italian Defence Minister, Elisabetta Trenta, at KFOR Headquarters.

A VISUAL OVERVIEW



21 SEP 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit Mr. Enver Hoxhaj, at KFOR Headquarters.



03 OCT 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of the Swedish Ambassador, Karin Hernmark Ahliny, at KFOR Headquarters.



16 OCT 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of the Military Committee NATO Chairman, Air Chief Marshal Sir Stuart Peach, at KFOR Headquarters.

UNSCR 1325 ON WOMEN, PEACE AND SECURITY AND GENDER PERSPECTIVE



On October 31st 2000, the United Nations Security Council adopted the Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security. The resolution reaffirms the important role of women in the prevention and resolution of conflicts, peace negotiations, peace-building, peacekeeping, humanitarian response and in post-conflict reconstruction and stresses the importance of their equal participation and full involvement in all efforts for the maintenance and promotion of peace and security.



Resolution 1325 calls on all parties to take special measures to protect women and girls from gender-based violence, particularly rape and other forms of sexual abuse, in situations of armed conflict. In the month of the adoption of the Resolution 1325 the chronicle team spoke with the Gender Advisor to COM KFOR, Lt-Colonel Suzana Tkavc, PhD (SVN).

The Resolution 1325 was adopted in October 2000, and addresses many aspects of the security situations related to women. How would you describe it, why is it important and what are the most important aspects?

UN SC resolution 1325 is the first resolution of the United Nations which acknowledges and addresses significant and disproportionate impact that armed conflict or other conflict-related security situations has on women. Furthermore, there are seven more resolutions adopted and each of them addresses aspects of 1325, for example 1820 which addresses conflict-related sexual and gender based violence. Awareness and understanding on the three themes of the resolution: protection, participation, and prevention as well as what it means in practice is important. Not in all security situations those three themes have the same priority, but it does not mean that one is more important than other. During armed conflict prevention and participation might be the most important, while in post-conflict prevention measures arise. Participation of women is essential in all phases and situations.

NATO has a policy, directives and SOPs on the implementation of the Resolution 1325 and gender perspective integration. While 1325 speaks about

women, how is it considered gender perspective then, does it include also men?

Resolution 1325 speaks about women because the situation or roles of women are often forgotten, not seen, recognised, or taken under consideration due to gender roles within their respective society. It depends of the level of gender equality, women's rights, influence of religion, place of living, and other factors which place the position of women within the community, and society. If women are not included, they are not considered. Another factor is mission success, if both female and male security needs are not considered, here the answer on gender perspective lies. Different perspectives taken under consideration enhance capabilities, and contribute to mission success. To have a gender perspective means to detect, see, hear and consider the impact of a variety of security situations on different gender groups due to their gender roles within their society. Therefore in the military context, when speaking about gender perspective it is about women, men, girls and boys. Bearing in mind the population is not one entity.

You were deployed almost a year ago in the position of Chief Liaison and Monitoring Team Coordination Centre at the KFOR HQ, and later took over as Chief Gender Advisor. How relevant is gender perspective integration in the work of Liaison and Monitoring Teams (LMTs). How can situational awareness be increased through gender perspective?

Participation can only occur through engagement



with the local population. LMTs are in daily contact with the population, therefore the Resolution 1325 in practice is implemented through the work of LMTs. Due to gender roles within the society, men and women have a different daily rhythm, obligations, patterns of movement, different information, points of view, etc.



Therefore it is essential to liaise with men and women in order to increase situational awareness, to detect different security situations or concerns. Regarding positions, they are different. My experience as Gender Advisor could be marked as an enabler on the gender perspective, while having a gender perspective means awareness in all areas of work. Being gender aware as Chief LMT Coordination Centre, I observed frequently gender issue, and implemented improvements for gaining a comprehensive situational awareness. Furthermore, developments, guidance, and practical examples were implemented into lectures for LMTs' training. Having comprehensive information is an important initial input for effective planning and further decisions in order to fulfil the mandate of the KFOR.

What was been accomplished with respect to women, peace and security implementation in KFOR during the recent period? Which events would you highlight?

On March 6th 2018, KFOR organised the KFOR International Conference on Women, Peace and Security in Kosovo with two panel discussions on security situation of women in Kosovo and more than

180 participants. The KFOR International Day on July 1st 2018, where children and youth attended different activities, with some Kosovo organisations having the opportunity to present themselves, some of them were organisations who support survivors of conflict-related sexual and gender-based violence. Additionally, KFOR units are very active, MNBG-W organised the 1st interagency meeting with women's and youth organisations on April 4th 2018, in order to enhance collaboration and support. MNBG-E organised the Women's Equality Day on August 25th 2018, with a panel discussion on sharing different experiences of women. Also KFOR is supporting different initiatives of Kosovo and international organisations, like "Be My Voice Campaign for survivors of conflict related sexual and gender based violence in Kosovo, and sixteen (16) days of activism against gender based violence "Orange the World"."

What is the situation on gender in Kosovo, what are most relevant topics Kosovo wide?

Gender Equality Law, National Action plan on implementation of the Resolution 1325, Law on Inheritance and other legislative acts gives basis for equal rights. However, there are still many habits driven by traditions which are harmful for women and girls, and there is a low rate of employment among women and youth - both represents most marginalised gender groups. However, in politics women representation is increasing, and there are powerful influential women in politics. There are influential and powerful female Key-leaders whether in Institutions of Kosovo or in organisations, who are taking actions for justice, and women's rights Kosovo wide. We could consider them as real actors for peace.

To conclude, what would be your message to readers?

We are all, women and men, girls and boys influenced by values and norms within our societies. Opening horizons, raising awareness and acceptance of each other through respect and equality can contribute towards peace and security. Awareness is also, a choice of each individual.



JOINT REGIONAL DETACHMENT – WEST (JRD-W) CIMIC ACTIVITIES

KFOR’s Joint Regional Detachment – West (JRD-W) recently made two donations of supplies and equipment to schools in its area of responsibility as part of its ongoing Civil-Military Co-Operation (CIMIC) initiative.



On September 20, JRD-W donated eight wood-fired stoves to schools in the Dragas Municipality of southern Kosovo. The stoves were then divided among six predominantly Gorani schools to provide much-needed heat during the cold winters of the mountainous region.

machine for use in the facility.

The donation was requested by the schools through JRD-W’s Turkish Liaison Monitoring Team (LMT) in Dragas to address the schools’ longstanding need. The LMT leader, Lt. Safa Cagri Yilmaz, worked with the JRD-W Headquarters to outline requirements for the donation and ultimately received approval from KFOR based on its ability to make a meaningful impact.

The kindergarten’s head instructor, Violeta Muskolaj, stated the donation would greatly contribute to her program’s ability to provide instruction and care to its students, who range from six (6) months to six (6) years old.

On October 3, JRD-W partnered with the Kosovo Security Forces (KSF) to donate a range of vital supplies to a kindergarten in Decani Municipality. The donation, which was coordinated by JRD-W’s Italian LMT in Decani, included building materials for a new fence around the school grounds and a new washing

JRD-W will continue to engage with the people and institutions of Kosovo with CIMIC activities as a means of fostering relationships, building trust and demonstrating KFOR’s commitment to all the people of Kosovo.

Fatih Erkilic
OF-1, TUR ARMY
JRD-W CIMIC OFF
&
Michael Bobbe
OF-2, US ARMY
MNBG-E LNO to JRD-W



KFOR COMMITTED TO SEARCH AND RESCUE TRAINING



rescuers to reach wounded persons from a higher position, lowering a stretcher down a rocky wall, and implementing an emergency ropeway.

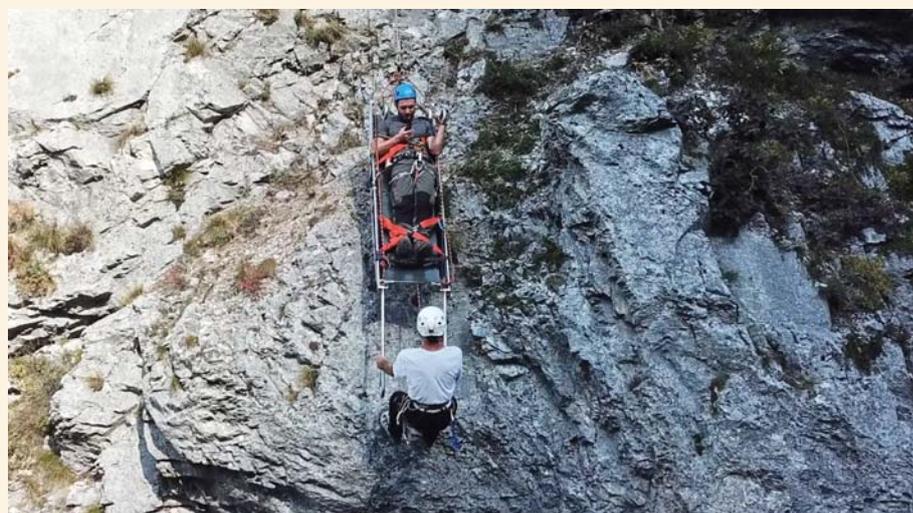
A well-trained mountain rescue team is indispensable to allow Kosovars to live in a safe mountain environment. The 5th Alpine regiment are proud of being a part of this process!

Capt. Francesco D'aniello
OF-2 ITA ARMY

Mountain instructors of the Italian 5th "Alpine" Regiment serving in Multinational Battle Group-West (MNBG-W) provided various training lessons for the Peć/Peja Mountain Rescue Team (MRT). The Peć/Peja MRT is a volunteer-based association that works closely with the Peć/Peja municipality and the regional Kosovo Police. Together, their purpose is improving search and rescue operations in the Rugova Valley.

The Peć/Peja MRT originated in 2015 after a similar CIMIC activity during a previous deployment in Kosovo by the 5th "Alpine" Regiment. The Alpine Regiment trained the local rescue team in basic rescue techniques including necessary life support procedures in a challenging mountainous environment.

Since this initial training phase in 2015, the local rescue team upgraded their capabilities in search and rescue operations. Among their capabilities they have now accomplished several training activities enabling them to improve their rescue techniques, such as descending to a group of



THE 2ND BATTLE OF THE CAMPS COMPETITION

On October 14th, thanks to Multi National Battlegroup – West particularly, the Italian Contingent for hosting the second annual event of this mental and physical test in Camp Villaggio Italia.



On a beautiful Sunday, KFOR teams from around each of the camps in Kosovo converged on Camp Villaggio D'Italia to compete in and enjoy this military and personal physical skills challenge and to socialise.

Each team consisting of seven (7) members, five (5) men and two (2) women comprised a squad with four (4) men and one (1) woman on a team with the others as reserves. Ahead of them was set seven (7) tasks which they had to compete in;

1. Recognition of Vehicle and or weapons, (successfully recognise five (5) vehicles or weapons).
2. Log cutting with a hand saw, (Cut two slices from a log, quickest time wins).
3. Hammer nails into a log (Sounds easy but they were only allowed to hammer in the nails using the wrong end of a Pick Hammer.)
4. Push an Armoured Personnel Carrier (Pandur) fifty (50) metres.
5. Chin ups.
6. Turtle run carrying 23Kgs across



1st. Place Team- Camp Villaggio Italia, Pec/Peja

#	First name	Last name	Rank (NATO)	Nationality	Branch of Arms
1	VERENA	PLATTNER	OF3	AUS	ARMY
2	ION	MOCANU	OR8	MDA	ARMY
3	INGRID	QUALIZZA	OR5	ITA	ARMY
4	YURI	PAGANIN	OR4	ITA	ARMY
5	MATTIA	CALÌ	OR4	ITA	ARMY
6	ANŽE	GOLOB	OR2	SVN	ARMY
7	MIHA	KOSEC	OR2	SVN	ARMY



2nd. Place Team-Camp Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, (CMLT) Novo Selo

#	First name	Last name	Rank (NATO)	Nationality	Branch of Arms
1	Sylwia	Sikora	OF-1	POL	Air Mobile
2	Árpád	Nagy	OR-1	HUN	Infantry
3	Dominik	Stelmacher	OR-1	POL	Air Mobile
4	Kamil	Kubera	OR-1	POL	Air Mobile
5	Ivan	Blonskyi	OR-2	UKR	Engineer
6	Sabina	Kecavonic	OR-4	SVN	Infantry
7	Primoz	Rzen	OF-1	SVN	Infantry



3rd. Place Team-Camp Film City, Pristina

#	First name	Last name	Rank (NATO)	Nationality	Branch of Arms
1	Andrea	Mannavola	OR-8	ITA	Navy
2	Julius	Marquardt	OF-2	DEU	Air Force
3	Manuel	Balconi	OR-9	ITA	Army
4	Davide	Suppa	OR-9	ITA	Army
5	Andrea	Arcioni	OF-1	ITA	Army
6	Nadja	Šibila	OR-6	SVN	Army
7	Annarita	Di Matteo	OR-4	ITA	Army



a 1.17Km run. (Remember Camp Villaggio Italia is on a hill!!!)

7. Physical fitness test. (In a jute bag, hop 50m, then flip a tire for 50m and finally throw practise hand grenades.) The competition was intense but also fun. The lead changed hands several times throughout the day, but alas there could only be one winner. Well done to Camp Villaggio Italia on winning the event for the second

year in a row. Well done to all who competed.

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL-A

SWITZERLAND’S (SWISS) CONTINGENT (CON) CHANGES ITS COMMANDER

On October 11th, at Slatina Airport, the Change of Command Ceremony took place between Colonel Christian Berger and Colonel Christian Chollet. As one of the bigger non NATO troop contributing nations, the SWISS CON is a big part of the KFOR family.



Members of the 38th SWISS CON took parade for this occasion. During the ceremony COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci specifically thanked the members of the 38th CON, “In particular, the SWISS Liaison Monitoring Teams (LMT) in the Joint Regional Detachment – North and West with both performing a fundamental role towards the success of the KFOR mission.” Included in COM KFOR’s speech for particular mention were, “the skills of the Explosive, Ordnance, Disposal (EOD) Team, the SWISS Reconnaissance (RECCE) Detachment, the dedication of the SIWSS Medical Team and the Role 1 at Camp Film City, the capacity of the SWISS pilots and of the aviation Detachment technical Team, your National Support Element and staff in KFOR HQ in Camp Film City”. COM KFOR, thanked Col. Berger’s leadership and wished him good luck and a safe journey back home. He welcomed the new Commander, and concluded by

stating, “I truly thank you all for your determination and commitment that always guaranteed a very high level of standards... you have been great ambassadors for your country and are well deserving of NATO’s appreciation.”

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL -A



Soldier of the Month

Name: Markus Schoenwald
Rank: OR-7
Nationality: German
Unit: EVACUATION CELL COORDINATOR, JMED



Over the last month, OR-7 Schoenwald provided critical medical support to JMED when the time was vital to keep the office afloat. Serving as the Patient Evacuation Cell Coordinator (PECC), he flawlessly prioritised assets and monitored ground and air medical evacuations; while providing close support and coordination to STRATAVAC capability. He monitored patient movement for fourteen (14) troop contributing nations in support of twenty eight (28) nations within KFOR. He directed and monitored MEDEVAC and CASEVAC missions for Commander’s decision making. He is the lead medic for every 9liner 101, 201, and 301 training when it comes to PECC coordination. He is a JOC medical SME to ensure medical coverage during every protest, every visit and every challenging

situation the JOC may have. He is all things medical, including the administration support, security manager and system administration support. He was a leadership tower of strength during BGEN Stefan Kowitz’s visit from SHAPE; his work was so outstanding he was coined by BGEN Kowitz for his outstanding abilities. OR-7 Schoenwald ensured JMED was prepared to cover a number of areas to include visits to the Role 2B, visits to ITA Role 1 and a visit to the German national support element. Additionally, he has also supported the Preventive Medicine section during the water assessment missions in Greece. OR- 7 Schoenwald, is JMED’s true rock star.



KEEP PREPARED & be ready for the Winter

#ice #snow #preparing #bevisible #staysafe #winteriscoming

Even when the temperatures are still agreeable, winter will soon arrive. Therefore as a member of KFOR and as vehicle user, you must at all times consider:

- The possible **presence of ice and snow**
- The possibility of your **vehicle slipping /skidding**
- The **reduction of visibility**
- The **stopping distance requirement increases**



*Prepare the vehicles for winter conditions
 Do you know how to fit the snow chains?
 Remove all snow
 De-ice all windows
 Turn on the lights both day and night*



Do this and, wintertime will remain a great season...

...and you will avoid, having to call the IMP/MP due to an accident.

24/7 - CALL IMP DESK 049 785 350

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Italian Army

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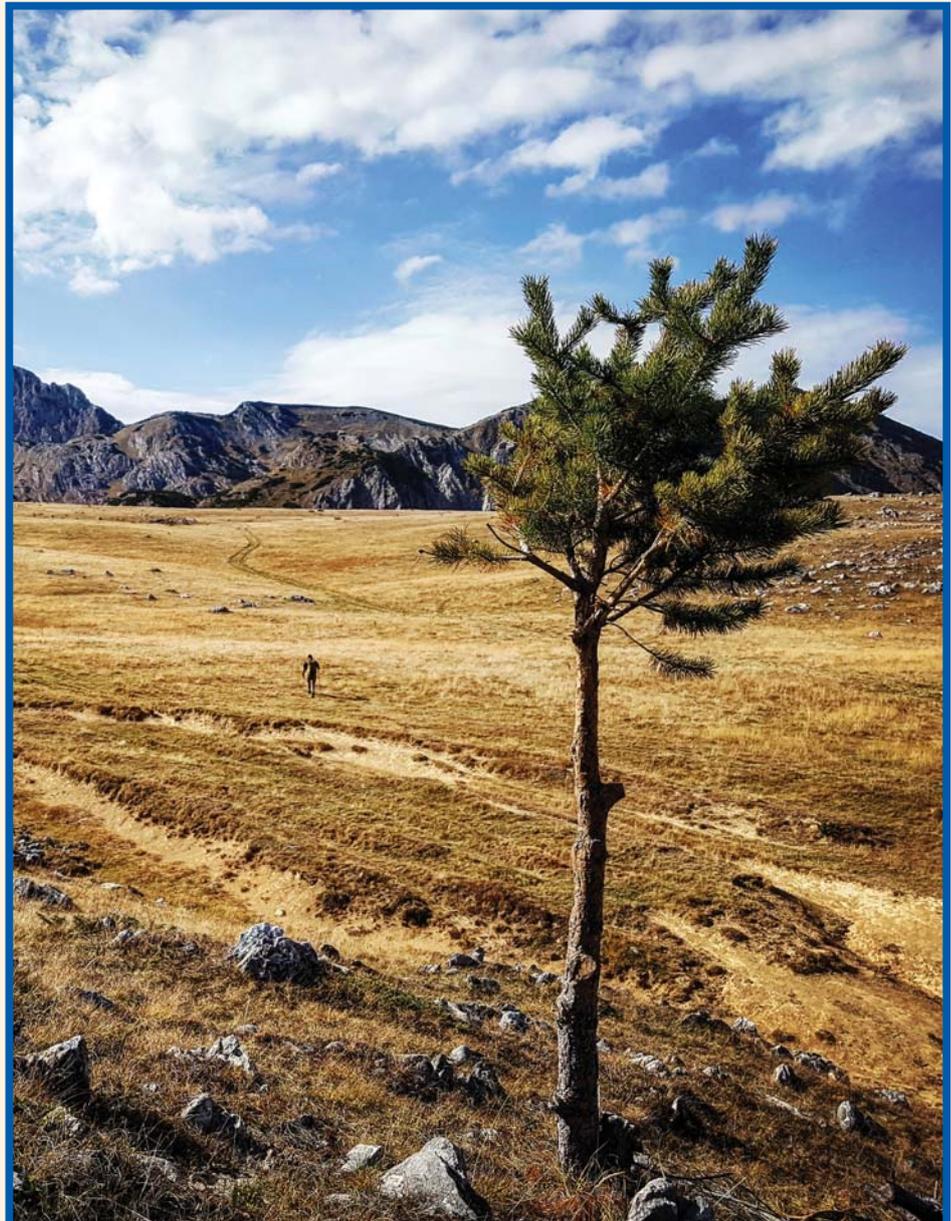
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NATO Nations within KFOR
Albania, Bulgaria, Canada,
Croatia, Czech Republic,
Denmark, Estonia, Germany,
Greece, Hungary, Italy, Lithuania,
Montenegro, Norway, Poland,
Portugal, Romania, Slovenia,
Turkey, United Kingdom, United
States.

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

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PICTURES OF THE MONTH October 2018



Contribute to the KFORChronicle!

Just send your photos to:
kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int by the 20th
of the month explaining where you took the
photo and what equipment you used. We will
then select one of the submitted images and
publish it in the next edition of the Chronicle.
A KFOR Chronicle T-Shirt is awarded each
month to the winning photographer.
You will be immortalised in the KFOR
Chronicle!
Is that not something to be proud of?
Sincerely
The Chronicle Team

"Rugova Valley "
OR-9 Andrea Vazzaz
Equipment- Smartphone Samsung S7





Name: Marko Mrkus
Rank: Cpt (OF-2)
Nationality: Croatian (CRO)
Unit: Croatian Aviation Detachment

Military Education: I joined the Air Force Academy in 2004, graduating as a military pilot on Bell-206 helicopter, and was promoted to the first officer rank - 2nd Lieutenant in 2009. Upon graduation, I was assigned to the Transport Helicopter Squadron in the Croatian coastal city of Split where I started my training on Mi-8 family of helicopters. I was then transferred to the Multirole Helicopter Squadron in Zagreb where I finished my training on Mi-171 Sh helicopter. To this day I'm very proud to be part of that Squadron with a great tradition of Homeland Security. I finished a couple of flying related and other kind of training in Croatian Air Force (CAF). As a part of multinational cooperation programs, I was sent by the CAF to USAFE Inter European Air Force Academy (IEAFA) Squadron Officer School (SOS), where I successfully graduated in 2017.

About the Mission: This is my 4th KFOR mission as a helicopter pilot with the Croatian Aviation Detachment. We are supporting all kinds of air transportation in the KFOR AOR. My first mission in KFOR was in 2011. Since then many things have changed for the better in Kosovo, due to KFOR's involvement in peacekeeping. I am proud to be a small part of that endeavour.

Family Reaction: My family is very supportive of me particularly concerning my role, they are proud that I am representing Croatia internationally in an activity that has a noble cause. Of course, they would be happier if I was more at home, but they are already quite accustomed to it and understand the reason for this. We are in contact every day via the internet and that helps us to feel closer.

Hobbies: I trained in martial arts before and I also have done some parachuting, but every year there were more obligations and less time for hobbies. Now I only occasionally and recreationally play football with my friends or do a workout in the gym. I really like skiing during the winter season. I also enjoy playing volleyball and watching good movies. I am happy that I can intensify those activities during my deployments here as part of KFOR.



Name: Tormod Overland
Rank: OF-3
Nationality: Norwegian
Unit: J3 JOC

Military Education: Tormod grew up as the oldest of five (5) brothers on a remote farm in central Norway. The 46 year old started his military career as a Physical Training instructor in the Royal Norwegian Air Force, in the early 90s. After some years he specialised in Force Protection and has been working within that branch of the Air Force for most of his career. He completed his higher military education in the Norwegian Air Force Academy and the Norwegian Defence Staff College. His assignments have taken him all around Norway, and also abroad; one deployment as a liaison officer for the UN in Sudan and 2 deployments with NATO in Afghanistan. His last tour was fifteen (15) months as a gender advisor in the headquarters of ISAF and Resolute Support mission, which made him one of the most experienced gender advisors in NATO.

About the Mission: As one out of four shift directors in the Joint Operation Centre he works twelve (12) hour day- and night shifts and has a good overview of what's happening in the region. He is proud to serve with KFOR.

Family Reaction: As Tormod had multiple deployments before applying for service in KFOR, his family is used to him going abroad when he wants to explore new parts of the world, or a shift in his career. They know how much he likes working in a thriving international environment, and to see and learn about other cultures, but of course they miss him when he is away.

Hobbies: He is a part time politician in his municipality and county in Norway, a hobby that takes a lot of his spare time. He is also a dedicated atheist and humanist, volunteering in activities by The Norwegian Humanist Association. In the winter he loves skiing, both cross country and downhill, and in the autumn hunting in the Norwegian forests is another favourite activity. As he has ended up as a "computer warrior" he also enjoys doing manual work for hobbies when he has time off. His three old cars constantly need tender loving care, as does his house and a cabin he just bought in the Norwegian mountains.

