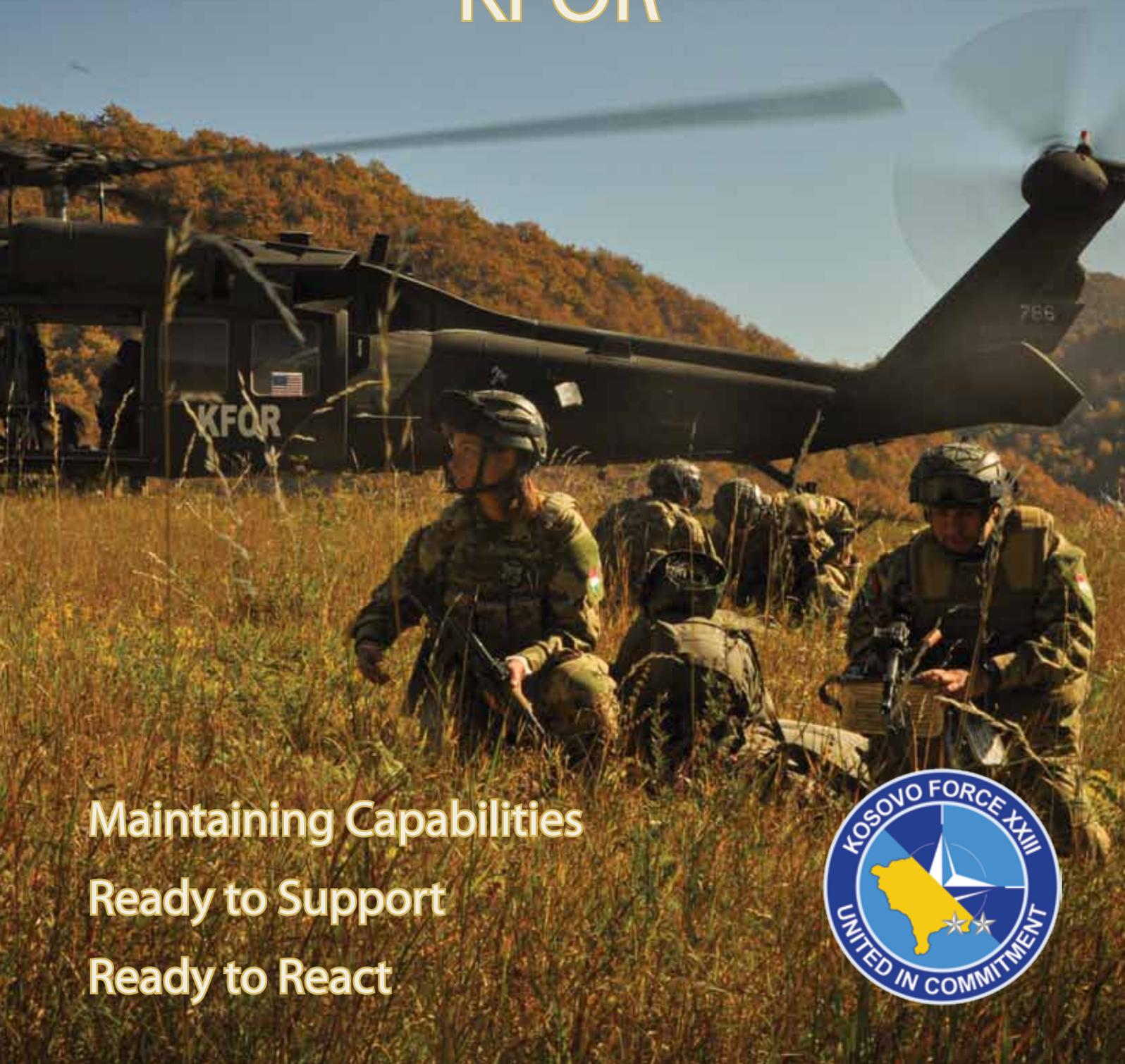


# KFOR CHRONICLE

“HEAR THEM, SEE THEM”  
KFOR



Maintaining Capabilities

Ready to Support

Ready to React



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*Exercise Amber Castle III (RC-E), October 19, continued preparation and readiness.*



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# SHAPE PODCAST



In celebration of NATO's 70th anniversary, several 'SHAPIANS' came together in 2018 to plan, record and produce SHAPE's first-ever podcast series on NATO and SHAPE history called 'An Enduring Alliance.' As the end of 2019 quickly approaches, the final episode of the series was released on 06 September 19.

The conclusion of the 13-episode series titled 'NATO Today, NATO Tomorrow,' explores the future of the Alliance, the importance of partnerships and the impact of missions around the globe. Since its inception in 1949 NATO has become the world's most effective and successful Alliance and the series has taken a chronologically historic look at the foundations and events that led to the organisation standing today.

Communication Specialist Brett Dodge states that "the podcast holds incredible value in learning the history of the organisation and is a priceless asset to keeping that history alive".



During 2018, Dr. Stella Adorf, SHAPE's Chief Historical Advisor, alongside Master Sergeant Alex Burnett, a SHAPE Public Affairs Specialist and Dr. Linda Risso, a history consultant, came together to begin planning and researching for the newly formed idea of a comprehensive NATO/SHAPE podcast.

The team has travelled extensively throughout the continent to interview major players in the history of NATO and SHAPE. There are also currently plans to promote the series through academic institutions, military academies, museums and also ambitions to submit the series for national podcast awards. The complete series of 'An Enduring Alliance,' can now be found on most major podcast application (iTunes, Podbean, Spotify), SHAPE's official website or follow the links on SHAPE's social media pages.

Allied Command Operations  
SHAPE  
Integrated Communications Plan



## STANDING SIDE BY SIDE, BROTHERS IN ARMS

As the temperatures noticeably begin to drop approaching the winter in Kosovo, it seemed to suitably stabilise on the morning of the 05 October 19, for the Transfer of Authority (ToA) Ceremony between the outgoing Austrian DCOM KFOR Brigadier General Reinhard Ruckenstuhl and the incoming Swiss DCOM KFOR Brigadier General Laurent Michaud.

At 1100hrs, DCOM KFOR Brigadier General Reinhard Ruckenstuhl attended his last official engagement on completion of his one year deployment with KFOR. The ToA ceremony was commanded by Colonel Mark Hearn, HSG Commander. Outgoing DCOM KFOR Brigadier General Reinhard Ruckenstuhl addressed the audience by saying,



“we went through quite interesting times and we achieved a lot, I personally will leave this theatre a better soldier”. He thanked “everyone for your fellowship, friendship, partnerships and leadership, I have appreciated every moment here in KFOR and in Kosovo”. He also acknowledged working closely with COM KFOR and all the other members of the KFOR team over the last year. “We stand here, side by side” stated General Reinhard Ruckenstuhl, “as brothers in arms to achieve mutual reconciliation paving the way for a

positive onward perspective for the future”.

COM KFOR Major General Lorenzo D’Addario then took to the stand to address all those in attendance. He stated that “what is very important to me is that the deputy commander is the main advisor to the commander...he is, in the headquarters, the best person to put himself in the commander’s shoes and to give him honest and important advice”. Concluding his speech, Major General D’Addario kindly acknowledged the support



# DCOM KFOR



offered throughout by Brigadier General Reinhard commenting that “you have not only been a great advisor and a really fantastic leader, but also a great comrade”. In conclusion and in line with KFOR ceremonial tradition, all in attendance witnessed the final moments of the ceremony with the transferring of the NATO flag from the outgoing DCOM KFOR to the incoming DCOM KFOR in order to effectively demonstrate that the full Transfer of Authority (ToA) had taken place and welcoming Brigadier General Laurent Michaud as the new DCOM KFOR.



Joanne Naughton  
OF-3 IRL-A  
PAO Chief Internal Information  
(outgoing)



# EXERCISE AMBER CASTLE

On 21, 24 and 28 October 19 Castle III in order to increase respectively, the Kinetic Battalion inter-operability and exercise of RC-E conducted Exercise Amber multinational capabilities. In

essence, the purpose of Amber Castle was to exercise joint-operability through air insertions, sling loading, and rapid response security through multinational cooperation and collaboration. Key tasks throughout for RC-E soldiers included identification and reconnaissance of Heli Landing Sites (HLS), joint US/KTRBN patrolling, conduct of Sling Load operations, Explosive Ordnance Demolition (EOD), clearance of suspected VBIED's, and full co-ordination throughout with TF AVN, EOD, and KTRBN. Exercise Amber Castle III was supported by KFOR HQ Public Affairs Office (PAO) through press release, informing the local population of



# RC-E



KFORs continued preparation and readiness throughout Kosovo.

Photo Contribution;  
Amelia Thatcher  
OF-2 USA-A  
RC-E PAO  
& U.S. Army Staff Sgt.  
Nicholas Young

*Exercising joint-operability*

*Exercising multinational capabilities*

*Rapid Response Security*

*One Force: Ready to Support, Ready to React!*



# FULL OPERATIONAL CAPABILITY

The KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion (KTRBN) conducted its scheduled rotation after a six (6) month deployment to Kosovo during September 19. During this period and in the immediate aftermath of the rotation, the Battalion's incoming manuevere companies achieved Full Operational Capability (FOC) through a series of strenuous exerisces.

First, ALPHA Company KTRBN was put to the test and conducted the FOC exercise on 11 September 19 at Camp Vrelo . Subsequently,



on 21 September 19, BRAVO Company KTRBN also successfully completed their FOC exercise. As a result, the full Battalion, who is under the direct command of COM KFOR was now fully prepared for operational tasks as necessary in order to continue to support the KFOR misison and to provide a safe and secure environment throughout Kosovo. All KTRBN sub-unit's were also fully involved in and supported all elements of the FOC exercise.



# KTRBN



The co-ordination of all unit's throughout the exercise required detailed planning, preparation, operational tasking, information release, logistics support and medical assistance. In addition, the KTRBN companies that performed the Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) played a pivotal role throughout the exercise.

Piroska Kozák  
OF-2 KTRBN  
PAO



# CHANGE OF COMMAND

# MSU

## “MSU: 20 years in a leading role”

On 16 October 19 the MSU Change of Command (CoC) and Transfer of Authority (ToA) Ceremonies took place at MSU Camp in Pristina. After over one (1) year, Colonel Ruggiero Capodivento handed over the Command of the MSU Regiment to Colonel Paolo Pelosi. COMKFOR, Major General Lorenzo D’Addario and Carabinieri General Commander, Lieutenant General Giovanni Nistri, attended the ceremony along with several high-level civil, military and religious authorities. The event was a suitable occasion to acknowledge the wide range of MSU activities performed since its deployment to Kosovo in 1999. During last twenty (20) years, the MSU has played a leading role in supporting the society of Kosovo, training the Kosovo Police (KP) and conducting CIMIC projects in support of institutions and population regardless of ethnicity and religion. COM KFOR in his address appropriately outlined the importance of the



role played by the Regiment within the KFOR mission and for the “stability policing” activities which is the “genetic vocation” for the Carabinieri Corps. Overall, the occasion was a fitting tribute to the unit’s achievements.

Luigi Scalingi  
OF-2 MSU  
S3 Chief / PAO



## OPERATIONAL ACTIVITIES

## RC-W

**After the recent Regional Command West (RC-W) restructure effectively changed its Command and Control (C2) structure, RC-W has increased both the kinetic and non-kinetic operations conducted within its Area of Responsibility (AoR).**

Since the inauguration ceremony that took place on the 15 August 19 at KFOR HQ sanctioned the new KFOR restructure, RC-W has been increasing its activities in order to strengthen the operations conducted by its kinetic and non-kinetic battalions. Due to the fact that before this restructure was implemented, the two primary units had never been under the same Chain of Command, RC-W's Commander Colonel Daniele Pisani's intent was to increase both the operational activities and training exercises in order to maintain cohesion and raise spirits among the units composing RC-W.



This increase in operational activities has been focused on the accomplishment of RC-W's Full Operational Capability (FoC). The conducted of these operational activities aims to employ simultaneously both kinetic and non-kinetic units. Helicopter-inserted patrols, combined and joint patrols in close cooperation with the Kosovo police (KP) and mounted and dismounted patrols are among some examples of RC-W's kinetic activities. Along with the above-mentioned, RC-W also conducts numerous non-kinetic activities such as key leader engagement between Commander RC-W and local leaders, and also Liaison Monitoring Teams (LMTs) who on a daily basis maintain contact with local representatives from the different institutions in Kosovo and with the citizens in order to maintain a

continuous awareness of the atmosphere throughout RC-W AoR. Furthermore, it is important to note that RC-W maintains a constant presence at the Deçan/Dečani monastery, one of the most important religious sites in Kosovo where KFOR acts as the first responder.



The range of different operational activities conducted simultaneously within RC-W, by skilled staff and highly trained units coming from both NATO countries and Troop Contributing Nations continue to ensure the maintenance of a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement within RC-W AoR. Seven different nations and one united force, all operating under the same United Nations mandate supporting a peaceful and stable environment where multiethnic groups continue to live together.

Stefano De Santis  
OF2 ITA - A  
RC-W PAO



## A VISUAL OVERVIEW



26 SEP 2019  
KFOR Commander Major General D'Addario welcomed Brig Gen Klemen Medja ACOS J4 JFCNP to KFOR HQ.



02 OCT 2019  
KFOR Commander Major General D'Addario hosted H.E. Christoph Weidinger, Austrian Ambassador to Kosovo at KFOR HQ.



02 OCT 2019  
KFOR Commander Major General D'Addario hosted H.E. Jens Erik Grondahl, Norwegian Ambassador to Kosovo at KFOR HQ.

# COM KFOR



04 OCT 2019  
KFOR Commander  
Major General D'Addario  
welcomed Lt Gen Dr. Karl  
Schmideder, General  
Staff Director General IV  
Operations to KFOR HQ.



18 OCT 2019  
KFOR Commander Major  
General D'Addario hosted  
H.R.H. the Countess of  
Wessex Mrs. Sophie Helen  
Rhys-Jones at KFOR HQ.



18 OCT 2019  
KFOR Commander  
Major General D'Addario  
welcomed Gen Bjørn  
Ingemann Bisserup, Chief  
of Defence Denmark to  
KFOR HQ.

## BAILEY BRIDGE DONATION

# RC-W

**A Bailey bridge built for the local population and for military purposes has been donated by the Italian Contingent of Regional Command West (RC-W) to the citizens of Deçan/Deçani**

RC-W Italian Contingent donated a Bailey bridge to the Deçan/Deçani municipality on 10 October 19. The donation ceremony was conducted by the RC-W's Commander Colonel Daniele Pisani, along with the Mayor of Deçan/Deçani Mr. Bashkim Ramosaj. The Italian ambassador to Kosovo Mr. Piero Cristoforo Sardi and COM KFOR Major General Lorenzo D'Addario along with numerous representatives of other local authorities attended the ceremony.

The Bailey bridge, which is located nearby the Visoki monastery, was initially assembled in May 15 by units of both the Italian Engineer Corps and the Kosovo Security Force (KSF). The bridge was assembled in order to guarantee a



higher level of mobility to KFOR's forces conducting mounted patrols in order to ensure and maintain a constant protection to religious heritage sites where KFOR remains today as the first responder.

Since its construction, the Bailey bridge has been used very effectively, not only for military purposes, but also by the local population. In a kind gesture, the local population has appropriately renamed the bridge "the Italian's bridge". The bridge is an impressive twenty-four (24) meters long

and four (4) meters wide and was donated after appropriate maintenance activities were conducted by specialised Italian soldiers last September.

In his speech, RC-W Commander Colonel Pisani highlighted the importance of the Bailey bridge donation. He further stated that the donation represents an important step in the continued cooperation between KFOR's units and the Institutions in Kosovo. This cooperation commenced in 1999 when NATO troops were initially deployed to Kosovo for the first time in order to restore a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement for all citizens. Concluding his speech with a kind gesture, Colonel Pisani informed all representatives of the local Institutions that the donated Bailey bridge would symbolise an important link between all of the ethnic groups living in the area.



Stefano De Santis  
OF2 ITA - A  
RC-W PAO

## SOLDIERS REACH OUT

## RC-E

**CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo: if the future is a tapestry, the children of a community hold the needle and thread in their hands.**



U.S. Army Captain Caitlin Williams and U.S. Army Sergeant Elizabeth White, both members of Task Force Medical, visited children at Skender Emerllahu School in Ramjan, Kosovo, to read children's books aloud and answer questions about their Army experience on 15 October 19. As part of recognition for International Day of the Girl, an international observance day declared by the United Nations, the school dedicated a week to gender equality. Williams and White were there to represent equality by introducing the children to the female Soldier perspective.

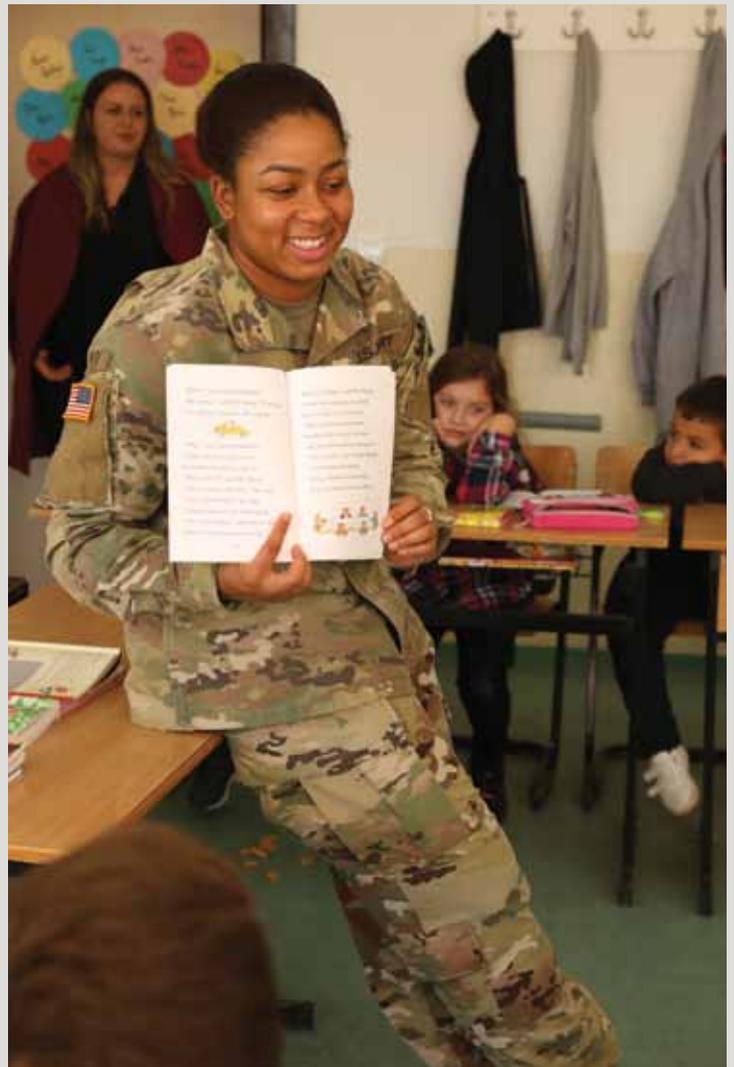
"I believe it's important that we show our face in a positive manner in the outlying community so that they can get a positive image of the U.S. and the mission that we are trying to accomplish here," White, a licensed practical nurse said. She further added, "The kids were amazing and hilarious...they loved the Soldiers, and they are the future of Kosovo."

Two classes of third graders filled the room with laughter as Williams and White read about storybook characters Amelia Bedelia and Clifford the Big Red Dog. Afterwards they then spoke with the small scholars about each book. "It was really fun," Williams, a veterinarian said. "I hadn't really gotten a chance to engage with the community by and large, besides the people who come on to base and work with us and it gave me a better perspective of how much they love each other." Liaison Monitoring Team (LMT) personnel orchestrated the school visit as one of their continuous initiatives to engage the people of Kosovo. LMTs are responsible for monitoring the people's socioeconomic, political, government and security concerns.

After their time in the classroom, Williams, White and the LMT Soldiers joined the older kids outside for a game of volleyball. Williams said the overall welcoming nature of the children and the sense of community among all of the students and faculty at the school impressed her. "I had this perception of cultures like this one where women don't really go out and play co-ed sports, so it was fun getting to play with the male and female students," she said. "Today was just really great."

Amelia Thatcher  
OF-2 USA-A  
RC-E PAO

(Story & photos by Spc. Lynnwood Thomas  
40th Public Affairs Detachment)



## CHANGE OF COMMAND

# HSG

**“A symbolic transfer representing the passing of trust and wellbeing”**



On 26 October 19, the Headquarters Support Group (HSG) Change of Command (CoC) Ceremony took place between Colonel Mark Hearn and Colonel Brendan McGuinness of the Irish Defence Forces. The soldiers on parade represented the twelve (12)

different nationalities comprising the HSG. The ceremony was duly presided over by COM KFOR, Major General Lorenzo D’Addario who inspected all soldiers on parade. Colonel Hearn acknowledged the important contribution of all elements within the HSG commenting that “they have carried out their tasks in the most professional, patient and diligent manner”. DCOM KFOR, Brigadier General Laurent Michaud sincerely thanked Colonel Hearn for his “outstanding visible and fruitful engagement together with your soldier’s and civilian specialists”. The KFOR family wishes Colonel Hearn the very best for the future while offering a sincere welcome to Colonel McGuinness.



Alan (Jack) Crowley  
OF-3 IRL-A  
PAO Chief Internal Information

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

# JLSG

**On 04 October 19, KFOR witnessed the Change of Command (CoC) Ceremony between one of it’s primary units, the Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG).**

secure environment and freedom of movement, effectively, synchronising resources to ensure the maximum effectiveness and efficiency. The symbolic handover of flags from Colonel Peter Schinnerl to Colonel Markus Hoefler appropriately signified the Transfer of Authority (ToA) to the new Commander of the JLSG. The KFOR family wishes both Commanders the very best of luck for the future.



For the past six (6) month period, the JLSG has been commanded by Colonel (OF-5) Peter Schinnerl. The full event was presided over by COM KFOR Major General Lorenzo D’Addario. As an integral component of the KFOR mission, the JLSG’s 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



Alan (Jack) Crowley  
OF-3 IRL-A  
PAO Chief Internal Information

## CHANGE OF COMMAND



On 19 October 19, the 39th Slovenian Contingent conducted its medal parade in RC-W Camp "Villaggio Italia". Forty-eight (48) Slovenian service members were awarded with the NATO Non-Article five medal. Soldiers from

the 39th Contingent have been deployed to Kosovo since 28 April 19.

On 25 October 19, the Slovenian Contingent held its Change of Command (CoC) Ceremony in RC-W's Camp "Villaggio Italia". The ceremony was presided over by COM KFOR Major General Lorenzo D'Addario. After six (6) months of outstanding service, the outgoing Slovenian Commander Lt. Col. Jure Krejač handed over responsibility to the incoming Commander of the 40th Slovenian Contingent, Lt.



Col. Peter Čuden. The KFOR family wishes both Commanders the best for the future.

Stefano De Santis  
OF2 ITA - A  
RC-W PAO

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

On 10 October 19, Swiss Contingent 41 held its Change of Command (CoC) Ceremony at the military APOD.



COM KFOR Major General Lorenzo D'Addario offered his sincere thanks to all the soldiers for their efforts and at the same time welcomed the new Swiss Contingent to the KFOR family. The standard pennant/flag of SWISSCOY was then handed over from the outgoing Contingent 40 Commander Colonel GS Xaver Sailer to the incoming Contingent 41 Commander Colonel GS Dirk

## SWISSCON

Salamin representing the full Change of Command. A Swiss Super Puma helicopter then flew over the heads of all soldiers on parade in a fitting tribute to the outgoing Contingent 40 and welcoming the incoming Contingent 41.

Kathrin WYSS  
OF-2 SWISS-A  
Press & Info Offr SWISSCOY 41

## CHANGE OF COMMAND

On 17 October 19, the Transfer of Authority (ToA) between the Commanders of 20 and 21 Canadian Rotations (ROTO) took place at the Canada House, Film City.

The event was presided over by COM KFOR Major General Lorenzo D'Addario. Commander of 20 CANCON Lt Col (OF-4) Caroline Chartier opened with some very poignant words commenting



that "three of us had served in other missions before, where we unfortunately witnessed the return home of fallen comrades" before thanking COM KFOR for his leadership throughout their deployment. COM KFOR paid

## CANCON

testimony to the consistent attitude of CANCON throughout their deployment, wanting always to give their very best and achieving outstanding results. He offered his sincere thanks Lt Col Chartier, her staff and the Canadian nation and welcomed Commander 21 CANCON Cdr Peter Robichaud.

Alan (Jack) Crowley  
OF-3 IRL-A  
PAO Chief Internal Information

## MAKING A DIFFERENCE

**OP KOBOLD - A Small Contingent who makes a difference. OP KOBOLD is Canada's contribution to the NATO mission in Kosovo, and with rotation 20 quickly coming to a close, Canadians can be proud of the positive influence that this small contingent has afforded to the citizens of this region.**

In addition to our primary obligations of maintaining a safe and secure environment, as well as freedom of movement, this particular group has completed numerous civilian/military cooperation projects. These initiatives, predicated on empathy and compassion, have made a significant and lasting improvement. Our initial project was in support of a medical facility dedicated to helping those suffering from emotional and mental health issues. Our contingent procured a full workstation, consisting of a laptop computer and multifunctional printer/scanner. Major Lavigne and Sergeant Guillemette, the OP KOBOLD J6 and Chief Clerk respectively, were our representatives and delivered the equipment.



On 20 August 19, Lt. Col. John Haylock presented on behalf of the Canadian Contingent through Boomers Fund, twelve (12) fire extinguishers to the Women's Wellness Center in Pec/Peje Municipality. The center provides shelter for women victims and women with children from family violence across Kosovo. The center is responsible for this service in four (4) municipalities and covers over 300,000 residents of both Albanian and Serbian ethnicities. None of the residents or staff had actually used a fire extinguisher in the past, and KFOR Fire chief provided one-on-one



training. There was a lot of excitement as the resident women and the children that were there had a chance to actually use the equipment.

On 03 October 19, Major Jean-Raphaël Fleury and Lt. Col. Caroline Chartier donated a defibrillator, pressure measuring devices and blood sugar level measuring devices to the Health Center of Osojane. This health center is located in a Serb enclave, in North West of Kosovo, in the municipality of Istok, district of Peć. The health center provides medical services to 800-1000 residents who are in great need. With his Engineering eye, Major Fleury saw future opportunities for CIMIC projects, helping them repairing their outdated ambulances, and Lt. Col. Chartier identified future possibilities in helping with additional medical supplies. The smile on their faces and their extreme gratefulness was priceless.

I am truly delighted with what OP KOBOLD 20 has accomplished, both in terms of our commitment to NATO and through our donations to local community activities. It has truly been an honour to work with this contingent, these people are my colleagues, my friends and for the last 190 days, my family. We can depart from this mission knowing that we all made a real and positive difference here.

Tyler Lavigne  
OF-4 RCAF  
OP KOBOLD

## BLOOD DONATION

## RC-E

**CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo – A Soldier's life or death can depend on the amount of blood on-hand. Task Force Medical (TF MED) initiated a Stored Whole Blood Program at Camp Bondsteel during October 19. The program seeks Soldiers with O negative blood, because the medical community refers to them as "universal donors," meaning their blood is compatible with every blood type.**



overall resiliency of Regional Command – East (RC-E) Soldiers. "I feel like it's important to give back any way that I can," said Sergeant Wood. She further added that "I think it's a great way to give back to others and to keep Soldiers in the fight."

Sergeant Wood further added that she donates as often as possible and doesn't take lightly the short time required to give blood and how giving has such a large impact. "While we're here on a peacekeeping mission, you never know what can happen," she added. "Somebody can get in a simple automobile



TF MED is using this program to increase the amount of stored blood units available on Camp Bondsteel, in case a situation requiring blood transfusions occurs. "It's the most useful blood to have in an emergency situation," according to U.S. Army Captain Joshua Oliver, Brigade Surgeon for TF MED. "If someone's dying in front of you, you don't have to cross-check their blood types, you can just give them the blood." Potential donors arrived at the base medical facility to have a sample of their blood drawn for screening, which will validate them as donors. "We have four units of packed red blood cells on hand most of the time," Captain Oliver said. "But if somebody was dying in front of us and we couldn't evacuate them right away, we would need more blood in order to save lives... We have a pool of people here on Camp Bondsteel that we can get that blood from."

Sergeant Mary Wood, behavioral health specialist with TF MED said she donated from a place of charity, knowing that their contribution benefits the

wreck... it's a way that you can help save someone's life... that to me is one of the most important things we can do as human beings, help each other."

TF MED urges any RC-E troops, with O negative blood, who are interested in becoming a donor to seek out their local clinic or visit the medical facility on Camp Bondsteel. "Every Soldier that donates a unit of blood is a life saver," Captain Oliver said, further commenting that "that's just the way it is... there is nothing that can allow us to save a life more than a unit of blood."

Amelia Thatcher  
OF-2 USA-A  
RC-E PAO

(Story and photos by Spc. Lynnwood Thomas)

TESS

ACCI

# Terrorism, Espionage, Sabotage, Subversion

*Learn to Identify the Threat and Report Suspicious Activities!*

*For more Information or to Schedule a TESS Brief, Contact: 049 750 535*



## Kosovo Detachment

### IS IT WORTH THAT?

**There is Time Enough to Come Home Safe!**



IMP

Cold season is coming and road conditions are getting more and more challenging. Fog, fallen leaves, dirt, ice and snow will have an impact on your vehicle and your driving skills. So if you do not want to have an accident, be aware of the road conditions, check your vehicle and equipment and follow these simple rules:



- From 15 November 19, you should have winter tires on your vehicle (Ref: SOP 3135 and SOP 4050)!
- Turn on your lights throughout the day and night!
- De-ice and clean all windows!
- Remove all snow, also from your roof!
- Special attention to bridges and in shady areas!
- Special attention on MSR to Skopje!
- Check all snow chains and train how to mount!
- Mount snow chains before it's too late!
- Enough anti-freeze liquid in cooling- and washing system?
- Reduce speed when the road is slippery!

**In case of accident – 24/7 call IMP DESK 049 785 350/KPN: 681-2735**

## SOLDIER OF THE MONTH

**Name:** Denis Tojnko  
**Rank:** OR-1  
**Nationality:** SVN  
**Unit:** SVNCON, Sierra  
 Coy, RC-W  
**Serving As:** Rifleman

**Back ground And Personality:** Private (OR-1) Denis Tojnko is 22 years of age and is served with the KFOR mission in the appointment of automatic riefleman, Slovenian Contingent, Sierra Company, RC-W. He commenced his deployment to Kosovo in April 2019 and completed his deployment in October. Pte Tojnko's appointment within his unit is an automatic rifleman, who is responsible at all times for the highest standard of weapon handling. Pte Tojnko has proven that he can excel at his basic weapon handling throughout a variety of operational and training tasks. Furthermore, within the mission area, he has further developed his military and leadership skills as a result of excellent mentorship from senior unit leaders and has the ability to independently lead sqad tasks such as patrolling.

**Motivation:** Overall, Private Tojnko has distinguished himself within the Slovenian Contingent (SVNCON 39) for professionalism, comradship and diligence. His military and leadership knowledge has offered a distinct advantage to his unit and he is recognised as a potential leader. As a potential squad leader, he has the ability to use his initiative and follow his commanders intent.



Furthermore, through this professional approach, Pte Tojnko assists both himself and his unit members to achieve the highest standards and goals.

In August 2019, Pte Tojnko participated and performed effctively in the tactical exercise KFOR Readiness Rehearsal. He was also part of the Slovenian Team for a weapons display. Pte Tojnko has represented his country and also RC-W to the highest standard and has received acknowledgement from the KFOR Chief NCO. Private Tojnko is an example of a soldier on whom his superiors can always rely and who does his best to contribute to the good results of his unit and to that of the KFOR mission. Congratulations Denis on being a truly worthy winner of the Soldier of the Month Award.



# PHOTO OF THE MONTH

## October 2019



### Contribute to the KFORChronicle!

Just send your photos to: [kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int](mailto: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.

"Blackhawk at Dusk" Film City  
OF-3 David Clarke  
IRL-A, J4  
Samsung S10



**Commander KFOR XXIII**  
Major General  
Lorenzo D' Addario,  
Italian Army

**Chief Public Affairs Office & COMKFOR Spokesperson**  
Col. Pio Sabetta,  
Italian Army

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**NATO Nations within KFOR**  
Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, 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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## PROFILES



**Name:** Gokhan Ozturk  
**Rank:** OF-5/Col  
**Country:** Turkey  
**Appointment in KFOR:**  
**J3 CONOPS & Training**  
**Chief**

**Military Career and education:** My military career started at 14 years of age at Kuleli Military High School in Istanbul and continued with Land Forces Academy in Ankara. I graduated as an Artillery Officer from Artillery and Missile School/Ankara in 1997. I served as Platoon Commander in different artillery units until assignment as an Artillery Battery Commander in 2006. I served eight years in different artillery batteries as a commander such as M52 155 mm S/P How and M110 A2 203mm S/P How, etc. I was assigned as a 122 mm MLRS Battalion Commander in 2014. This was a great honour for me. I served four years in this mighty and magnificent unit. After this mission, I attended the Land War Academy and graduated as a Staff Officer in 2019. Now, I am still serving in Missile and Artillery School as Ops & Training Branch Chief.

**Overseas mission:** My first mission was to EUFOR Operation ALTHEA. I served within a Multinational Battalion S3 branch as Plans Officer between 2010 to 2011. This is my second overseas mission. These missions have assisted me in gaining great experience about working in a multinational environment. I have always had a great pleasure working coherently with my colleagues.

**Family reaction:** My family is very proud of me. They always supported the development of my personal career. They feel a little bit of loneliness but they know it's not permanent.

**Hobbies:** I like to read about archaeology, history and gemmology. I also like to play basketball and table tennis.



**Name:** David Clarke  
**Rank:** OF-3 / Major  
**Country:** Ireland  
**Appointment in KFOR:**  
**Real Estate Staff**  
**Officer, J4 KFOR HQ**

**Military Career and education:** I joined the Irish Defence Forces in October 2000. At home I have served in Artillery Regiments as a Command Post Officer (Lieutenant), an Adjutant (Captain) and more recently as a Battery Commander (Major) of a Surveillance and Target Acquisition Battery. I have also served in Defence Forces Headquarters as a Finance Officer and in the Officer Training Wing of the Military College as an Instructor. In 2010 and 2011, I served in a European Union Nordic Battlegroup as the Artillery ISTAR Commander. I hold a Bachelor in Electronic Engineering (2009) and a Higher Diploma in Leadership, Defence and Contemporary Security (2013). I have completed courses in Operations Planning and Crisis Analysis in the European Security and Defence College, in Security Sector Reform and in Critical Incident Stress Management

**Overseas mission:** This is my 5th Overseas Mission and my appointment is Real Estate Staff Officer in J4, ACOS Spt Branch. I am responsible for advising the Command Group, RCs and TCNs on all Real Estate matters. I liaise with various municipalities, the Kosovan Cadastral Agency and UNMIK in relation to Real Estate matters. I have previously served as a Platoon Commander in Liberia (2005), as a Military Observer in Western Sahara (2009), as a Logistics Staff Officer in Lebanon (2014) and as an Intelligence Analyst in Democratic Republic of Congo (2016).

**Family reaction:** My family is well used to me deploying overseas and being away from home and they also know that I love my job. Comparing the technology today with 2005 (my first mission), it is much easier to stay in touch daily with family and friends.

**Hobbies:** I am a big football fan and support Liverpool FC. I also enjoy music, motorsport and going to the gym.



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