



# the CHRONICLE

## KFOR's Magazine

January 2023



# CONTENT

- |    |   |    |  |
|----|---|----|--|
| 3  | Letter from the Editor                            | 16 | Is your Drink O.K or K.O?                    |
| 4  | KTRBN - Interoperability                          | 18 | Keeping the Family Who Flies Tradition Alive |
| 6  | The Advantages of a Mixed LMT                     | 20 | Book Review: Shake Hands with the Devil      |
| 8  | Leadership - MSU                                  | 21 | CSM Corner                                   |
| 10 | Cyber Security - Phishing                         | 22 | Snapshots                                    |
| 12 | Over the Horizon Force Redeployment Operations    | 24 | Photo of the Month                           |
| 14 | Ask Yourself If You Were Trained Well for Reality |    |  |

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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, the Chronicle T-Shirt is awarded each month to the winning photographer. You will be immortalised in the Chronicle!

Is that not something to be proud of?

Sincerely,  
The Chronicle Team.

**NATO (20)** Nations within KFOR; Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia, Czech Republic, Denmark, Germany, Greece, Hungary, Italy, Latvia, Lithuania, Montenegro, North Macedonia, Poland, Romania, Slovenia, Turkiye, United Kingdom, United States.

**Non-NATO (7)** Nations; Armenia, Austria, Finland, Ireland, Moldova, Sweden, Switzerland,

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***Dear reader,***

**H**appy New Year and welcome to January's edition of the Chronicle. The photograph on the front cover comes from Cpl. Skyler Schendt of 111th Public Affairs Detachment, Nebraska National Guard, Regional Command-East (RC-E) and depicts Sgt. Jacob Anderson, with the Arizona National Guard, hoisting Sgt. Kimberly Young during training at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo.



In this month's edition of the chronicle OF-1 Bence VISNYEI of the KTRBN discusses interoperability from the perspective of a Tactical Reserve Battalion and outlines examples of how interoperability was trained for, improved and maximized during their deployment to date.

SWISSCOY LMT discusses the advantages of a mixed LMT within the AO and the importance of having gender diversity when dealing with the local population.

OF-2 Lorenzo PERTILE of RC-W describes in detail the topic of Phishing with regards to cyber security while also listing preventative strategies to limit the risk of becoming affected by a Phishing attack.

OF-4 Nicholas ARTHUR of J4 describes his planning, experiences and strategies employed in the recent Over the Horizon Forces re-deployment operation involving the 1st Royal Regiment Fusiliers.

OR-9 Paolo PANICCIA discusses his experience of Mission Command during a previous deployment to Afghanistan and how he motivated his personnel following an IED attack.

IMP discuss a Safety Awareness Campaign regarding 'Knockout Drops' and outline the signs, effects, consequences and preventative strategies to limit the risks of becoming a victim.

OR- 7 Herschel TALLEY interviews Capt. Tyler MOULDER for his article titled 'Keeping the Family who Flies Tradition Alive' and details how Capt. MOULDER has followed in his father's footsteps by becoming a Pilot in Command (PC).

In the book review segment we review 'Shake Hands with the Devil' by Lt-Gen. Roméo DALLAIRE. We really hope you enjoy reading this month's edition of the Chronicle.

***Sincerely,  
Your KFOR HQ PAO Team.***



# KTRBN - Int



The KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion (KTRBN) provides a permanent combat reserve for the KFOR Commander, in order to be able to reinforce Regional Commands (RCs) and to replace other KFOR forces. Fulfilling these tasks requires close cooperation with other nations therefore, interoperability is essential. NATO defines „interoperability“ as the ability for allies to act together coherently, effectively and efficiently to achieve tactical, operational and strategic objectives. Interoperability enables forces and systems to operate together allowing them to communicate and share common doctrine and procedures along with each other's infrastructure and bases. It enables pooling of resources meanwhile producing synergies among all entities and whenever possible with other NATO countries.

Interoperable solutions can only be achieved through effective employment of standardizations, training, exercises and demonstrations. NATO militaries have achieved a high level of interoperability through decades of joint planning, training and exercises. Working together is not an easy task for nations that are participating in KFOR missions therefore coordinating and being aware of the interoperability difficulties is crucial. We need to understand that nations have different resources thus it is necessary to be aware of the systems and procedures of our allies in order to greatly facilitate communication, manoeuvring and joint work. Interoperability ensures the wise use of KFOR's available resources to minimize the waste of capabilities and enabling burden share between nations.

KTRBN is made up of Hungarians who are maintaining friendly relations with the nations participating in the KFOR mission. Joint trainings, sport events and meetings forged us together. These contacts help us to understand the attitudes and strengths of other



nations and with this understanding together we easily overcome challenges.

Here I will present you some of these challenges and tasks that KTRBN and other KFOR units had jointly faced in the past 5 months.

1. Exercise Golden Sabre 2022 – The first huge exercise we participated in was Exercise Golden Sabre 2022 which took place in CNS in September. The aim was to develop the capability of KFOR units to operate in a combined arms scenario using NATO tactical planning procedures and to evaluate MEDEVAC procedures in accordance with KFOR directives. With two platoons EULEX forces also participated in the Exercise acting as 2nd responders in order to measure the effectiveness of the existing KFOR-EULEX joint operations procedures. For the duration of the Exercise all units acted under RC-E command. In the interest of establishing the communications between KTRBN and RC-E a Hungarian Liaison Officer (LNO) was integrated into the RC-E Command Post. The executive unit of KTRBN took the RC-E orders through the LNO. The continuous communication was of prime importance regarding the operation because the executive forces used several avenues of approaches during the Exercise. Coordinating the manoeuvre of these units were vital to the success of the Exercise.

2. LEVEL 2 Exercise – The primary aim of this training was to practice KTRBN's command and control (C2) and Tactics, Techniques and Procedures (TTPs) within troops, Forward Command Post (FCP) and Main Command Point (MCP). The secondary purpose of the Exercise was to maintain KTRBN's LEVEL 2 CRC capability. The third goal was to improve KTRBN's interoperability with other units in KFOR Area of Operations (AO).

3. Weapons handling training at RC-E – Together with

# eroperability



the different nations of RC-E, we organized weapons handling training in Camp Novo Selo to learn the effectiveness and capabilities of each other's weapons and TTS's. After the static display several live fire exercises (LFXs) were conducted using each other's weapons at the Golesh shooting range.

4. Show Force Admin March – In December, we carried out an admin march consisting of three columns. The second column contained Armoured Personnel Carriers (APC) of KTRBN and trailers provided by the Freedom of Movement Detachment (FOM-D). The other two columns contained light vehicles of the first and the second manoeuvre companies (MAN COY). During the planning process of this operation the crucial point was the close cooperation with the FOM-D commander in terms of selecting, where heavy vehicles are able to pass through. We received help from JLSG and RC-E to identify which roads and bridges could be used with these vehicles, and what speed to drive. It was important that we were able to integrate FOM-D to KTRBN's C2 system therefore communication was ensured during the march.

5. Roadblock Removal - During the existence of the barricades, we did not have to carry out an operation, nevertheless KTRBN was constantly waiting in readiness. KTRBN's Notice to Move (NTM) was reduced several times. By the end of December most of the roadblocks were dismantled by locals, but two were set on fire by unknown persons and remained. The removal of these obstacles was planned, organised and conducted by KFOR . Since we fortunately did not have willing opposition to the operation, we went out with a Level 1 force with kinetic and CRC capabilities, one FOM-D and one TPT detachments. After the assembly area was occupied, the EOD team started to search the burnt wreckage for any explosive devices. To support their efforts



KTRBN were providing close protection, security and assistance in traffic management. It was important to know the TTP's of EOD, as during the inspection the on-scene commander was able to follow the process of work based on cross trainings conducted, choose the equipment, and dislocate the force protection elements and other safety rules to be applied during the operation. After the EOD determined that there were no explosive devices on the vehicles, the security and force protection was also provided by KTRBN to the FOM-D while it was towing and transporting burnt vehicles. The vehicles that were part of the roadblocks were handed over to the Kosovo Police after removal. Thanks to the joint preparations and trainings, we carried out the removal of the roadblocks smoothly without major problems.

In a mission where the locals are determined by strong contrasts, cooperation is even more important for the peacekeepers. In order to show them that all conflicts can be mitigated different nations must work together, with common strength, for a common goal.

To fulfil our mission, we are confident that different nations with common strengths can achieve a common goal under KFOR mandate.

Bence VISNYEI  
OF-1  
HUN  
KTRBN PAO



# THE ADVANTAGES OF A MIXED L



**The main task of the Liaison und Monitoring Teams (LMTs) in Kosovo, is to establish a connection between KFOR, the local population and their Area of Responsibility (AOR). The LMTs contribute to KFOR mission by improving knowledge and understanding of Kosovo society. However, one part of society that is not as easy to reach is that of the female population.**

The Swiss LMT in Mitrovica/e that consists of three female and six male members agrees that in order to best reach the female population it is important that each Liaison and Monitoring Team has both, female and male members. "We have determined through experience that women and children tend to be more open towards female LMT members." To give an example, during a women's protest, the team decided to send out a female-only patrol, in order to be more approachable and to stand out less from the crowd. "Men are partially a little friendlier and more relaxed in our presence. However, there are definitely situations where we are taken less seriously than our male colleagues," say the women of the LMT Mitrovica/e. Thus, a team of two that consists of a man and a woman and harmonizes well together is able to switch leadership roles depending on the situation,

so that the contacts feel taken seriously, understood and as safe as possible. "As women we generally are able to observe certain situations differently than our male colleagues." Diversity in a group increases the variety of perspectives, which then advances the team.

The gender topic is always present in the everyday work of the LMTs. In Mitrovica/e the team is divided into sub-teams, which are assigned various topics. A sub-team, for example, works on topics that concern schools and non-governmental organizations (NGOs). "Here it is very easy to get in touch with the different parts of the population. We are able to meet school directors, older people who live in nursing homes, as well as disadvantaged children", explains one of the sub-teams. Over the next few months, this sub-team will be looking at the issue of maternity leave and wants to find out how young mothers are protected under labor law and what kind of support they get through the system. However, especially in the areas of security, politics and business, the relevant sub-teams rarely come into contact with women and the issues are proven to be rarely gender-oriented. That in itself however, is already an important finding.

# SAISON AND MONITORING TEAM



The LMT members are able to use their own experiences made at work during their assignment in Kosovo. "As women, we can better put ourselves in certain situations. We understand how challenging it can be for a woman to assert herself in a male domain." Although it may be easier for the female LMT members to access their female contacts than the men, it still needs some time to gain trust and to talk about topics that really bother them.

The members of the LMT Mitrovica/e have gained various experiences with women's issues in the local society. Meeting young children at a school left a lasting impression on Pte LEIBZIG, one of the female team-members. The children were very interested in the female soldiers and asked many questions; what it is like to be a woman in the military? and what interest KFOR takes in their school? This gave Pte LEIBZIG for the first time the feeling, that she is doing important work, talking to the youngest generation about issues that are important to them. For Pte LICHTENSTEIGER a meeting with police officers on the occasion of the awareness campaign 16 Days against Violence against Women was particularly lasting. The police-women argued that women are just as strong as men. Women should not question themselves and let

others drag them down as they have many resources to draw from. Through the work on the ground, Pte BRUHIN has met many strong women, including the deputy mayor of North Mitrovica/e. "Not all women dare to use their own voice. This makes it all the more important for female role models who are in the public eye," says Pte BRUHIN.

In each Swiss LMT one of the members is assigned the role of the Gender Focal Point. This person is responsible for the monthly gender reports. In the LMT Mitrovica/e, Pte LICHTENSTEIGER chooses a topic every month. Then the other team-members are sensitized to the topic and, if possible also ask questions on this topic in their meetings. Last month, for example, the topic was domestic violence as part of an awareness campaign. Special meetings are also organized to further analyze and investigate a topic in more detail.

Iris PROBST  
OR-6  
SWISSCOY PAO



## LEADER



**H**ow is a leader defined in today's society? Is it being the chief, the guide of a certain group? A leader has to be true and credible and also will have considerable responsibilities towards the reference organization. How does this transfer across to the military environment?

In a military organization the leader may have command of a single department, several departments, single groups, internal divisions of the department, up to the top of the organization itself, depending on the degree reached. It is synonymous with seniority, experience and skills demonstrated in service.

The Commander is, therefore, the figure around which departments, men and women, revolve. The Commander is responsible for human resources which are identified as technical means for the achievement of institutional goals, for financial resources or for all elements capable of making the organization itself live.

The designated leader is entrusted with a command, a precise responsibility, a fundamental task, a series of objectives to be achieved in the most brilliant way possible. Sometimes, if not always, these objectives should be well-achieved within a certain time, more or less short. To ensure this happens, the commander must empathize with the staff and be able to optimize the best of each of them. The commander sometimes must utilize emotional intelligence to better understand the feelings of their associates.

But what about emotions and feelings? How important are they in a work environment? How important are they in the creation of an organizational climate? A common mistake of many commanders is precisely considering "lost time". Consideration should be given to the physical and mental well-being of their associates/personnel, and to their "desire" to work. Personnel should feel part of a work project. A leader attentive to these aspects can succeed in having significant and, in some ways, unexpected advantages. The leader who focuses on these personal aspects first of all will have willing, convinced, motivated collaborators by his side who will work for someone or for something rather than just under contract, and will be able to perform their daily tasks much better.

Naturally, all this must not overlook the main institutional mission to which a commander is assigned. A commander must make decisions in favor of the supreme good of his/her own institution which he/she serves and for the achievement of which he/she is remunerated. A commander of any order and rank always has these concepts clear, which blend well with the ideals of loyalty, justice and sense of duty proper to the oath sworn to the State.

However, it often happens that the "chief" does not match with the term "leader". In fact, the concept of leadership presupposes the exercise of a series of specific skills, which then make the difference between the capable leader and the one who is not



# ERSHIP



in practice. Therefore, it may not be obvious that a Commander exercises real leadership over the group of people, over the commanded department. There could be the risk that he is only a commander, on paper, according to a higher rank in the organization system.

Another clear difference should be made for leadership and management sometimes considered as opposite concepts. By "management" we mean "getting others to take the necessary actions", while "leadership" means "persuading others to take the necessary actions". Management is often based on purely hierarchical power and is based on a relationship of authority. Leadership, instead, is based on personal power, on the ability to communicate a goal to be pursued sharing it with his collaborators. The leader's main aim is to obtain the maximum commitment from his personnel, motivating them professionally and supporting them in times of difficulty even in personal life. This is why the exercise of leadership actually implies specific skills, which should belong to the leader.

What are the peculiarities of a good leader?

First of all personal and relational skills. Personal because he/she should be himself/herself without revealing their emotions, transmitting maximum serenity to the staff even in his darkest personal moments. The previous concept can be explained better by stating that everyone could have personal problems but, the leader in this case, should be able

to separate the problems emanating from his/her personal sphere and the work environment. Leader should not allow a negative state of mind dominate him/her and consequently condition negatively his/her command action. He/she should always be neutral, impartial and correct.

Relational skills develop through listening and communication. Many commanders make the mistake of considering listening to their collaborators as a waste of time. Instead, thanks to listening and communication from a general point of view, the leader has an extraordinary opportunity to get to know his collaborators and their qualities more deeply, in order to also employ them in the proper way, according to their skills, in duty activities. A chief who is a leader, succeeds in establishing a serene working climate and therefore the whole department's performance would benefit from it.

*"There are only two ways to influence human behavior: you can manipulate it or inspire it!"*

Simon Sinek

Vincenzo Orlando

OR 8

ITA

MSU

9

# CYBER SECURITY

The evolution of information technologies has challenged KFOR in equipping itself with information systems and automated Command and Control capabilities, which permit the storage and exchange of an enormous quantity of information in "real time" or with small delays: data.

All of this data has created a cybernetic space - the set of interconnected IT infrastructures (hardware, software and users), as well as the logical relationships, established between them.

Nowadays, it therefore includes Internet, communication networks, the systems throughout the computer process are based on, and mobile equipment, such as VHF Communication Networks, with a network connection.

The cybernetic space today is a virtual domain of strategic importance for the economic, social and cultural development of nations and this environment has made NATO forces particularly vulnerable about the risk related to the security of the systems and information therein contained, coming from both external and internal threats to the organization itself. Hence the necessity to adapt the organization and procedures in force clearly emerges, in order to effectively counter face the "cybernetic" threats to its networks and telecommunication systems.

Cyber threat means the set of contraindicated behaviors that can be carried out, inside and through cyberspace or projected to the detriment of the latter and its constituent elements. The threat is implemented through cyber-attacks. These are quite automated actions on networks done by individuals or organizations, institutional or non- institutional, aimed at destroying, damaging or hindering the regular functioning of systems, networks or compromising the authenticity, integrity, availability and confidentiality of the data stored or transiting through them. One of the most common and easy ways to perform a cyber-security attack is Phishing.

Phishing is a type of cyber-crime in which a target or targets are contacted by email, telephone or text message by malicious actors pretending to be a legitimate institution or trusted person. The aim is to lure individuals into providing sensitive data, such as personally identifiable information, banking and credit card details, credentials and passwords. Phishing represents the most collective type of social engineering, and it is a general term describing



attempts to manipulate or trick computer users. The most common phishing attack types anyone could suffer are:

## **Spear phishing**

A well conducted attack against a user or a company, which aims to collect information on the victims in order to increase the probability of the attack's success. This kind of behavior is the most used one on Internet.

## **Clone phishing**

This attack takes advantage of the user's trust. A fake and modified email with the same structure and content of the original one is sent with several attaches or hyperlink.

## **Whaling**

The target of this type of attack is a whale: a big "fish" of a company, for example a manager. The approach is always the same: collecting information of the user, create a false message and require private information or ask to download attaches or software.



# TY – PHISHING



According to a report conducted by the American Check Point Software Technologies Ltd, one of the main companies acting on the informatics business, email phishing was the most common type of branded phishing attacks, accounting for 44% of attacks, and web phishing, as a fake web page, a close second. Currently, anti-phishing solutions, called anti-phishing security toolbars and phishing filters, suffer from several drawbacks. However, the true success of anti-phishing techniques mainly depends on recognizing phishing websites accurately and within an acceptable timeframe. The most effective and unique countermeasure for phishing attacks is the user.

Overall, considering these aforementioned traps and the tricky system of informatics abuses, a set of safety measures should be ensured to mitigate the risk and eventual consequences. The same considerations are relevant both for civilian people and in the military contest but particularly in the military, where security issues are one of the Force Protection variables.

Therefore, how is a phishing attack identified? First of all, look for something that is off or unusual. Ask yourself if the message passes the “smell test”. Trust your intuition, but don’t let yourself get swept up by fear. Phishing attacks often use fear to cloud

your judgment. You can recognize the sender, but it is someone you do not talk to or it is suspicious if it is someone you do not commonly communicate with. The message could sound scary or request personal data. Responsible organizations do not ask for personal details over Internet. The message could contain strange hyperlinks or unexpected/unusual attachments which could contain malware, ransomware or another online threat.

So stay vigilant, take precautions and look out for anything phishy. If you have any kind of suspicion for a phishing message on your device, immediately inform your network administrator or your cyber security team. Only by following this path with conviction will it be possible for KFOR forces to continue to operate effectively in our Area of Responsibility even in future operational scenarios, countering any type of threat, including phishing attacks.

Lorenzo PERTILE  
OF-2  
ITA  
RC-W.

# OVER THE HORIZON FORCE R



The 1st Royal Regiment Fusiliers took part in an Operational Rehearsal (OPREH) Level 2 from September to November 2022. The OPREH Level 2 involves the Battalion Headquarters (HQ) core staff elements and a minimum of one Maneuver Company for each Reserve Force (RF) Battalion. Over The Horizon Reserve Forces (OTHRF) conduct OPREHs in order to prepare for activation and deployment. Rehearsals are used to review deployment plans and familiarize Strategic Reserve Forces (SRF) with KFOR HQ, the Area of Operations (AOO), and other in-theatre troops. OPREHs start with an Activation stage as part of the exercise and then move through the following stages; Deployment, Employment, and Redeployment. This article will focus on the Redeployment stage for the 1st Royal Regiment Fusiliers.

One month prior to the end of the operational exercise, planning was already beginning for the 1st Fusiliers Redeployment operation. Redeployment involves the reverse process of the Reception, Staging, and Onward Movement (RSOM) as a logistical operation and is known as a Rearward Movement, Staging and Dispatch (RMSD) logistical operation. The 1st Fusiliers developed a nine phase Redeployment operation ensuring a safe and effective movement back to Great Britain involving numerous personnel, various vehicle types and models, trailers, and containers including CL V (Ammunition) and hazardous goods. Several planning meetings and rehearsals took place involving the Joint Logistic Support Group (JLSG)

Movement Team, KFOR J4 Movement and Plans, Albanian HNSCC support, and the KFOR J4 LNO for customs. Movement Request Forms (MRFs) were filled out and submitted, reviewed and approved through JLSG. JLSG coordinated the necessary Albanian Military Police escorts for all convoy movements into Albania.

1st Fusilier Soldiers finalized operations, consolidated their vehicles, conducted preventative maintenance, packed unit equipment, and packed their personnel equipment to get ready to fly home from the Pristina APOD. This is done during the Rearward Movement and Staging stages of RMSD. Troop Contributing Nations are responsible for coordinating their own transportation home whether via Air, Sea, or Ground movement. With the first flight of personnel gone, execution continued by staging vehicles into convoys to move to the Durres, Albania Seaport of Debarkation (SPOD). This part of the operation is known as Dispatch in the RMSD process. Chalks of convoys of 20 vehicles moved over two days through the Kosovo/Albanian border crossing point along with JLSG transportation assets with ISO containers to rendezvous at the Durres, Albania SPOD. Prior coordination was made with the Albania Port Authorities to stage these vehicles on the port until the Roll On/Roll Off (RORO) ship could arrive to transport the equipment back to Great Britain approximately 20 days later. Customs paperwork was documented, reviewed, and verified for all staged equipment. The CL V container was



# REDEPLOYMENT OPERATIONS



moved to Camp Novo Selo by JSLG transportation assets and stored there until the RORO arrived at the port. CL V is not allowed to sit at the port for an extended period of time due to the explosive nature of the material. All of these events were happening in parallel along with the start of the temporary camp being disassembled by the contractor, ITBM Group. ITBM Group had provided for the base services prior to the 1st Fusiliers Deployment stage and needed to tear the camp back down to the raw land provided initially by Camp Bondsteel. As the last of the personnel flights occurred, ITBM Group was already removing tents, the temporary DFAC, showers and toilets from the site.

The night before the RORO arrived at the SPOD, a small team of drivers, medics, mechanics, and a special port operation team flew in from Great Britain representing the 1st Fusiliers Redeployment team and ensured the vehicles were fueled and would start for movement the following day. JLSG Movement and J4 Plans meet the team at the port as reach back support throughout the Redeployment operation. The Albanian Navy worked with the RORO ship to pilot the ship into the port. The heavier logistical support vehicles (LSVs) were loaded first on the lower deck followed by some Land Rovers. All ISO containers and the remaining Land Rovers were loaded on the upper deck. The CL V container arrived at the exact right time for loading during the ISO container loading. It was transported from Camp Novo Selo by JSLG

transportation assets to the Albania/Kosovo Border Crossing (BXP) where it was met by the Albanian Military Police to escort it through Albania to the Port of Durrës. The remaining Land Rovers were loaded and all vehicles and ISO containers were secured on the RORO. The loading operation took five hours to complete. The longest part of the operation was the loading of the ISO containers due to the need of loading, offloading, stacking, and securing this equipment. The loading of the ISO containers was done by a specialized contractor whom the Albanian Port Authorities use because of their expertise in these type of loading operations and familiarity with RORO ships.

As you can see logistical Redeployment operations known as Rearward Movement, Staging and Dispatch (RMSD) are complex operations and must be planned for. Coordination is necessary across multinational logistic services in order to support a Redeployment operation. The entire operation operated over several days and involved ground, air and sea movement. Several multinational logistical communities needed to work together across international borders to achieve a flawless execution by safely redeploying all Soldiers and equipment to the Troop Contributing Nation.

Nicholas ARTHUR  
OF-4,  
USA,  
J4.

# ASK YOURSELF “IF YOU WERE



**M**ilitary personnel will have different experiences of Mission Command and each of us can learn greatly from the experiences of others. I was a team leader, a platoon commander and I can say that I have gained some experience. I have earned my rank, demonstrated my duty and commitment and am proud to say that it was all attained from humility.

**You must train as if you were in reality, because when you find yourself in reality, you will act as you have trained.** Being part of a command line or in command of a minor means being united to live and belong to it, to devote themselves at all costs and to serve it without limits. In recent years, there has been talk of centralized and decentralized command, but in my opinion, this has always existed. I, like others, have always received and issued orders logically based on principles and adapted to the intent of a commander. During my career, I was trained by personnel who have transmitted passion on this job. Over time, I have also attained experience, participating in many varied training activities. I have served my country in homeland operations; I have carried out missions abroad for both NATO and UN whilst always looking for examples and a point of reference for my soldiers, colleagues and superiors.

**Afghanistan RC-W “Task Force Centre” August 2010:** My platoon had already been quite tested by attacks suffered in the previous months, but

fortunately always without casualties or injuries. Each time we went out into the operation, my soldiers had the look of fear. I could not afford to have the look of fear, could not afford to be tired, but above all I had to be the person who at the end of the briefing of the operation had to reassure the soldiers that this time everything would go according to the plan. The intent was to carry out a sweep in a hostile village about forty kilometers from our base. The orders received were very clear. My platoon had to move in the night, reach established positions and to guarantee area security. We had to close the access routes to the village and be ready to intervene on call to support ‘another unit’ that was inserted by helicopters. We approached the village clearing it house by house, looking for three known characters and weapons to be seized. We spent the entire day getting orders and warnings and then getting ready. We set up vehicles, weapons and equipment and coordinated with the other units’ in order to perform the operation effectively. As always, everything that is planned must be rehearsed prior to execution. We departed the base at 2300 hrs and moved in our known direction. We were in tactical trim without lights and used night vision systems. I was the first half of a unit of “about 12 vehicles”. After about fifteen kilometers while approaching a couple of curves on a secondary road, we were blinded by a flash and consequently hit by a strong explosion,



# TRAINED WELL FOR REALITY”



which was an IED. Stunned and blinded, I tried to contact, by radio, the last vehicle that closed the convoy but strangely, they did not respond. At the same time, after about ten seconds, I recovered the ability of vision after the shock. In the total silence, we heard the screams and requests for help of the affected. We made a check of the surrounding area with the hope that no one was preparing a combined attack of an IED and ambush. At the same time, I was contacting the operations room, which despite my radio communication, had already seen everything that happened through the predator. The whole set-up was in panic, but once the area was secured, I asked everyone not to move and keep the observation and shooting sectors. I walked towards the point of explosion, but as I approached, I noticed the vehicle of the Company Commander destroyed and steaming. It no longer had the front but fortunately, the crew members were conscious and answered my questions, but needed care. I reassured the wounded and organized, with the agreement of the operating room, a ground Medevac with two vehicles of the same convoy. In the meantime, I requested the QRF for support as we left the destroyed vehicle and continued to operate. After we loaded four wounded personnel, we started the return movement for the ROLE 1. During the movement, there was only silence in that atmosphere of suffering, incredulity, which increased that anger of motivation in reaching and completing the task up to any cost. Back at the base, all of our colleagues were ready to help and encourage us, but at that moment, we had to think about leaving the wounded, restarting and tidying up the device to continue the operation.

We set off again from the base in order to reach the rest of the unit. The people who had remained there on the hotspot along with the QRF set-up, hoped for a clearing of the operation. Following a briefing we

tidied up and continued the movement again, leaving behind the destroyed vehicle under the control of the QRF. We were now two hours behind the timeline. At 0230 hrs we reached the positions, and although they were tired and tired, we began to monitor and secure the area safely for the insertion phase of the units by helicopters until the first light of dawn. When the helicopters arrived, we held our positions, under a sandstorm caused by their arrival. Once the units' helicopters left and the roundup activity began, we remained until the end of the capture of the three known characters, equipped and ready to intervene, even if the tiredness began to be felt. This was mostly completed under a single scorching temperature that exceeded 50 degrees that had begun to stress us. We received communication and we made contact with a unit of the local police that took custody of the three characters. This began the phase of withdrawal and we knew that we would be the last people to withdraw but this did not demoralize us. One final effort had to be made. There was nothing left but to defend ourselves from the threats that could be revealed in every corner of our return, but at the same time, I counted on the trust of my soldiers and those who were in base ready to move to come to support me. Following the principles of mission command, even after the IED strike and if we had been in the absence of communication with command, we would have acted as mission command intended, because we had perfectly understood the commander's intent. This is how the Junior Leader performs the concept of mission command.

Train hard, understand the mission, orient, decide and act are always the dark crystal secret to accomplish the mission.

Paolo PANICCIA  
OR-9  
ITA

# Is your drink O.K. or K.O

For victims of “knockout drops”, hours of life sink into darkness. What happens during this time is often traumatizing; and a crime!



**Protect your drink, yourself and your buddy!**



Robbery, sexual abuse and even rape. There are no reliable figures on how often “knockout drops” are mixed into drinks. However, it is also widespread in the mission area and does not stop outside the walls of KFOR. The risk exists always even in the operational environment. The consequence is dangerous and humiliating with the intended effect most likely being propaganda related.

It is not a prank, but an assault!

## **Substance knowledge / use:**

Various substances are summarised under the term “**knockout drops**”. The most common active ingredients include mixtures of benzodiazepines, chloral hydrate and barbiturates. The **party drugs GHB and GBL** are frequently used. These are better known as **Liquid Ecstasy, Bottle, Liquid X, Fantasy, Soap, Liquid E, Gamma etc.**

## **Voluntary drug (mis-)use**

As party drugs, the substances are usually consumed voluntarily with the aim of achieving a depressant, relaxing and sexually stimulating effect. Their effect cannot be compared with the rather stimulating effect of ecstasy/amphetamines. While GHB falls under Narcotics (i.e., possession, purchase, trafficking, dispensing administration is punishable), the pre-

substance GBL is an easy to obtain acid that is used as an industrial chemical.

## **Involuntary consumption**

Party Drugs and Knock Out drugs are applied by offenders against unsuspecting victims. Different motives can be the thrill of harming someone or further criminal intent. The aim of using the drugs on someone is to render a person submissive prior to committing the intended crime, which can be robbery, sexual assault, or social media related mobbing and to harm one’s reputation.

The substances are **secretly administered in food and drinks**. They are mostly **odorless** and **colorless**, and have a **slightly bitter, salty or soapy aftertaste**, which is often **not noticeable in an alcoholic or mixed drink (cocktail)**.

## **Sequence of Effects:**

- GBL/GHB is dissolved in drinks. The effect starts after about 15 minutes and can last up to 4 hours.
- Ketamine has an almost immediate effect.
- GBL/GHB initially causes a feeling of well-being and relaxation, similar to a champagne intoxication. The effect, however, is strongly dependent on the person.
- It becomes **incalculable when mixed with alcohol** for example, and in extreme cases, can be life threatening.
- Side effects observed are **nausea, vomiting, dizziness, shortness of breath, headache, seizures, muscle cramps and confusion**.

Affected persons describe the course and symptoms as follows:

- Foggy feeling
- Teary-eyed appearance when consciousness resumed
- Abrupt loss of memory – the memory loss is not foggy as compared to alcohol intoxication, it is almost total.
- Doubts that the film tear was caused by their own alcohol consumption.
- Concentration problems (even days later)





# ..? Don't get knocked out!

• Strong doubts about suddenly appearing inner images and feelings, especially when there is no objective evidence of physical or sexual assaults or injuries.

## **Consequences of consumption:**

GHB/GBL is used - especially in **combination with alcohol** - to make women and men sexually submissive.

Due to the **memory-influencing effect**, the victims may no longer be able to remember what happened. The possibility of GHB/GBL intoxication should be considered in cases of unclear unconsciousness with opiate-typical symptoms.

## **Detectability:**

The detection time in blood is about 6 hours and in urine about 6 -12 hours after consumption. After that, a distinction from the natural GHB level is hardly possible. Generally, blood and urine samples should be taken as soon as possible. **When in doubt, possible victims should secure a sample of their urine immediately after regaining consciousness.** Important for the preservation of the urine sample: approx. 100 ml. The samples should be sealed and stored refrigerated, until an analysis is arranged. As an immediate indication, a normal drug test from law enforcement or any medical facility serves as an indicator.

## **Measures in case of suspicion:**

If a patient or a friend has the suspicion that he or she has been drugged with "knockout drops" and may have been the victim of a crime, the main problem is the often the frequent lack of memory and the effects of personal shame. The delayed realization that one self or a friend became a victim contributes further to the high count of unreported crime.

## **Don't ask, don't tell and suck it up!**

However, unreported assault with knockout drugs will:

- encourage perpetrators to continue unhindered,
- may lead to lasting psychological effects on the victim,
- may have physical harm untreated.

For this reason, careful anamnesis, observation and analysis are of particular importance.

Some basic questions:

- Memory disturbance?
- Drowsiness (as if in absorbent cotton)?
- Feelings of willfulness and motionlessness?

- Perception of altered taste of a beverage?
- Being offered drink or food?
- Left drink unattended?
- Sudden, unexplained change in condition?
- Minor or absent injuries in general or genital/rectal?

## **Help and support:**

If you are ashamed, in doubt, afraid, hesitant – **at least tell a friend.**

Affected individuals may develop post-traumatic symptoms even if they have no memories of the event. To reduce the risk of chronic post-traumatic stress disorder, victims should be offered help as soon as possible.

## **Victims have the right to confidentiality**

## **PROTECT YOUR DRINK - YOURSELF - KFOR!**

### **In a bar**

- \* Limit your drinks
- \* Don't leave your glass unattended
- \* Tell a friend to watch your drink
- \* Use a drink-cap
- \* Decline obtrusive invitations
- \* Feel uncomfortable – leave (with a friend)
- \* Feel foggy, nausea, confusion, headache, dizziness – unnatural to the amount of consumed alcohol – tell a friend, report, and seek medical attention – IMMEDIATELY
- \* Woke up with memory loss – secure your urine and seek medical attention or a friend's help.
- \* Use an anonymous urine self -test to gain certainty (Medical Facility or MP)
- \* You observe suspicious behavior or activity – be a friend and prevent!
- \* Trust your instincts

### **On a mission**

- \* Ask for closed bottles or cans in shady locations
- \* If politeness requires consumption – at least one team member must be safe
- \* Watch your drink and don't leave it unattended
- \* Be sure you report your location
- \* You feel foggy, nausea, confusion, headache, dizziness – unnatural to the consumption – report to your commanders – evacuate to a secure location and seek medical attention – immediately
- \* You observe suspicious behavior or activity – be a friend and prevent!
- \* Trust your instincts

# KEEPING THE FAMILY WHO



*Maj.(Ret.) E. Dennis Moulder's go-bag that he carried with him in Vietnam when he was a captain. (Courtesy Photo)*



*Capt. Tyler Moulder standing by one of the Kosovo Force Regional Command East's UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter, at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo, on Jan. 15, 2023. (Photo by OR-7 Herschel Talley, 111th Public Affairs)*

That was the text message Capt. Tyler Moulder sent to his father, with a picture of the logbook entry, after he received his official call sign as a Pilot in Command (PC). Moulder earned his designation while deployed, like his father, Maj. (Ret.) E. Dennis Moulder did when he was deployed in Vietnam from 1972 to 1973. Many people join the Army to keep the family tradition of service going. For Moulder, of the Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st of the 131st Aviation Regiment, Arizona Army National Guard, it meant following in his father's footsteps, or in this case, the pilot seat. "My Dad's a Vietnam Era Huey [helicopter] pilot, so that was the way I was raised; off of those stories and all the fun, interesting and wild things that the Vietnam era pilots got into," Moulder said.

Their family has a history of flying, with Moulder's father being the first, and his brother was a Blackhawk helicopter pilot for the Army as well before switching over to the Coast Guard. By becoming a PC, a pilot is allowed to choose their call sign. Typically, in the Army, it is the unit's organization call sign, and then a number designation that is chosen by the PC. "My

father was Bulldog 26 in Vietnam, so I am Hammer 26," Moulder said. The Task Force is currently known as Task Force Yellow Hammer, but upon transitioning back to the states, Moulder's call sign will be Champion 26. Moulder said his father is the greatest man he knows and he feels honored to continue the legacy while conducting operations in Kosovo, albeit they are not as dangerous as the ones his father flew in Vietnam. "He's got a good story about trying to deliver water up to an outpost, slinging water buffalos [wheeled water containers]. Our mission a few weeks ago, slinging loaded pallets of water, I was flying that, so it's just very cool parallels and it just really makes me smile," Moulder said. Achieving the designation of (PC) means Moulder is the final decision maker for the aircraft. "They're the ones that the command has placed faith in when things go wrong, or even when they go right. They make the decision and they make the right decision," Moulder said.

Pilots are not typically looked at for PC until they reach the 500 flight-hour mark, and have gained that experience. The pilot's maturity is also considered in the decision making process. The training includes a



# O FLIES TRADITION ALIVE

series of check rides and progressions to see what the pilot would do in certain situations, and ultimately, bring the crew and passengers home alive. "I'm very honored and very blessed that the command and all the senior pilots in the organization have that level of faith in me, to go out there and take some of these younger guys and gals in the aircraft, and put that faith in me to bring them back," Moulder said.

Moulder took an interesting route to becoming a pilot. He began his career after graduating from Marion Military Institute's early commissioning program in Alabama, but was unbranched for several years as a lieutenant. "I kind of had to go into a holding pattern until I could board and get a flight school date, so I was actually a chemical officer prior to going to flight school," Moulder said. Serving for three years as the battalion chemical officer for the 131st, he worked in the operations staff, learning everything he could about the aviation community. In January of 2017, Moulder began flight school at Fort Rucker, Alabama. "I got to fly the OH-58 [Kiowa helicopter] which is

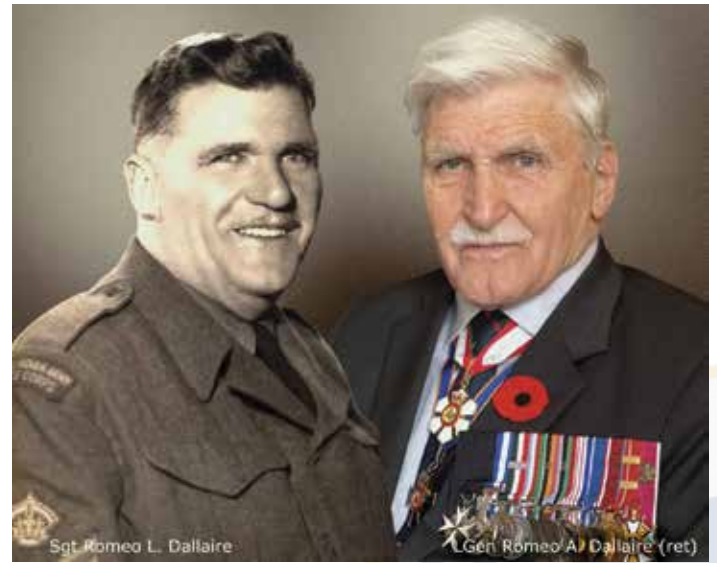
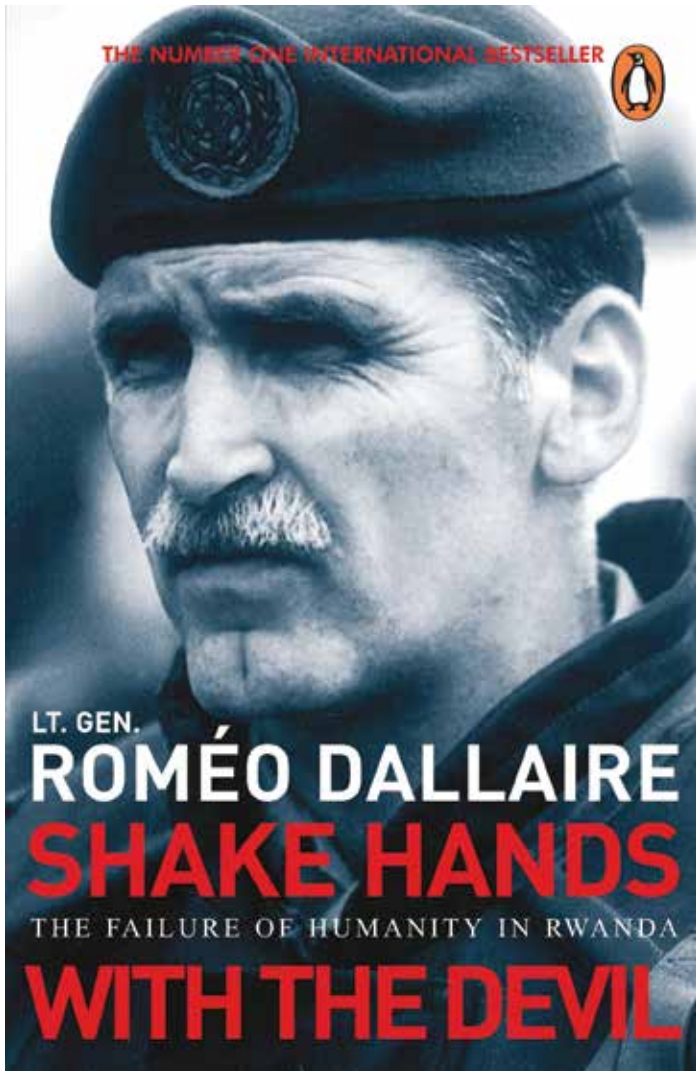
really the only aircraft still in the army inventory that my father was rated in, so that was pretty neat, and then went into the Blackhawk course" Moulder said. He returned to the unit in February of 2018 and served as a flight company platoon leader for nine months before moving to various positions in the battalion before being selected for an Active Guard Reserve slot in the logistic operations. For anyone who wants to get into aviation he encourages them to just dive right in. Despite all the learning and the time commitment, Moulder says it is all worth it to be able to fly. "It's my dream. It's always been my dream, so every opportunity I get to get in an aircraft, just makes everything else in the world okay," Moulder said.

Herschel TALLEY,  
OR-7  
USA,  
111th Public Affairs Detachment, Nebraska National  
Guard



*Maj. (Ret.) E. Dennis Moulder in the front row with his classmates in 1972 at the U.S. Army Primary Helicopter Center, Ft. Wolters, Texas. (Courtesy Photo)*

# SHAKE HANDS WITH THE DEVIL



On the 10th anniversary of when UN peacekeepers landed in Rwanda, Random House Canada proudly published the unforgettable first-hand account of the leader of the mission of the genocide witnessed. Digging deep into shattering memories, Dallaire has written a powerful story of betrayal, naivete, racism & international politics. His message is simple, undeniable: Never again. When Lt-Gen. Roméo Dallaire was called to serve as force commander of the UN intervention in Rwanda in '93, he thought he was heading off on a straightforward peacekeeping mission. Thirteen months later he flew home from Africa, broken, disillusioned & suicidal, having witnessed the slaughter of 800,000 Rwandans in 100 days. In *Shake Hands with the Devil*, he takes readers with him on a return voyage into hell, vividly recreating the events the international community turned its back on. This book is an unsparing eyewitness account of the failure by humanity to

stop the genocide, despite timely warnings. Woven through the story of this disastrous mission is his own journey from confident Cold Warrior, to devastated UN commander, to retired general engaged in a painful struggle to find a measure of peace, hope & reconciliation. This book is a personal account of his conversion from a man certain of his worth and secure in his assumptions to one conscious of his own weaknesses & failures & critical of the institutions he had relied on. It might not sit easily with standard ideas of military leadership, but understanding what happened to him & his mission to Rwanda is crucial to understanding the moral minefields peacekeepers are forced to negotiate when we ask them to step into dirty wars.

**Roméo Antonius Dallaire** (born June 25, 1946) is a Canadian humanitarian, author, retired senator and Canadian Forces Lieutenant-General. Dallaire served as Force Commander of UNAMIR, the ill-fated United Nations peacekeeping force for Rwanda between 1993 and 1994, and attempted to stop the genocide that was being waged by Hutu extremists against the Tutsi people and Hutu moderates. Dallaire founded The Roméo Dallaire Child Soldiers Initiative to help prevent the recruitment and use of child soldiers. He is a senior fellow at the Montreal Institute for Genocide and Human Rights Studies (MIGS) and co-director of the Will to Intervene Project which published a policy recommendation report, *"Mobilizing the Will to Intervene: Leadership and Action to Prevent Mass Atrocities"*.



# SOLDIER OF THE MONTH

## **OR3 ADAM KOTOWICZ, Polish contingent, Man Coy**

He is distinguished by his complete dedication to professional excellence and devotion to duty. During one of his patrols in MITROVICA in the North of Kosovo, he spotted a woman lying down who was being administered first aid in an incorrect way. OR3 KOTOWICZ seeing the threat to her life immediately proceeded to correct the situation, which was very well received by the people around him. His untiring work ethic and devotion to duty is continuously evident in the mission.



# NCO OF THE MONTH

## **OR6 SANTELLI DANIELE, Carabinieri Transport Team Leader from Multinational Special Units**

Constantly produces high results and regularly performs to a very high standard in his appointment and tasks. He provides pragmatic solutions to contribute significantly to the success of the unit and satisfaction of everyone. He regularly takes the initiative in solving problems which is very much appreciated from his colleagues, subordinates and hierarchical superiors. His expertise, outstanding performance and support during more than seven months in KFOR MSU has significantly contributed to the mission accomplishments.







KFOR DCOM and Head of Liaison Office of Slovakia in Pristina at the Commemoration Ceremony held on 19 Jan 2023 in Camp Film City for the Slovakian Aircraft crash in Hejce, Hungary. The crash occurred as personnel were returning home from a peacekeeping mission in Kosovo on 19 Jan 2006.

*Photo by Cpl. Skyler Schendt, 111th Public Affairs Detachment, Nebraska National Guard*



KFOR DCOM and HSG CDR pictured during the Armenian Medal Parade and Change of Command Ceremony held on 16 Jan 23 in Camp Film City.

*Photo by: OR-4 Antonio RUSSO, PAO Branch.*



545 Soldiers from 21 nations participated in the traditional DANCON March of 24.27 kilometers near Camp Novo Selo, on 07 Jan 2023.

*Photo by Cpl. Skyler Schendt, 111th Public Affairs Detachment, Nebraska National Guard*



A Soldier from RC-E surveys the surrounding countryside during hoist training recently conducted in Camp Bondsteel.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Anna Pongo, 111th Public Affairs Detachment, Nebraska National Guard

Italian Troops on a recent patrol IVO ABL in RC-W AO.



Photo by: OR-4 Rachele Stewart, PAO Branch RC-W

A Latvian LMT patrolling Gazivoda Lake Dam



Photo by: OR-4 Antonio RUSSO, PAO Branch.



*Back Cover Photograph provided by OR-4 Daniel Paciarelli, PAO Branch*