



the CHRONICLE

KFOR's Magazine

January 2025



CONTENT

- 3 Letter from the Editor
- 4 Kinetic Battalion: Cooperation And Synergy Between KFOR Operational Units
- 6 KFOR Task Force Medical Conducts Recertification Training
- 8 Fire Phobia Training by KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion
- 10 KFOR German Contingent Hosts Multinational Interoperability Training at Camp Bondsteel
- 12 Kosovo Force Troops, Complete Gruelling DANCON March
- 14 Feel the Pulse with NKBN : Monitoring AOR and Atmospherics
- 16 Gender Stereotypes Project in Dragash
- 18 NSE Conference
- 19 Military Police Corner
- 20 Snapshots
- 22 Transfer of Authority and Medal Parade
- 23 CSM Corner
- 24 Photo Of The Month
-

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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.

Sincerely,
The Chronicle Team.

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Dear reader,

Welcome to the January Edition of the KFOR Chronicle. As the New Year unfolds, I hope many of you remain resolute in your New Year's commitments. This month's Chronicle is packed with articles and updates that reflect the hard work, dedication, and camaraderie of our personnel.

From the field, we bring you highlights from Regional Command West, where both the Non-Kinetic Battalion (NKBN) and Kinetic Battalion (KNBN) continue their crucial efforts. In Regional Command East, the German Contingent showcases Multinational Interoperability Training, while KFOR medics demonstrate their readiness through recertification exercises.

In the spirit of teamwork and perseverance, we feature the incredible determination of 800 KFOR personnel who undertook the grueling DANCON March earlier this month. Additionally, the Kosovo Tactical Reserve Battalion (KTRBN) emphasizes the critical importance of Fire Phobia Training—an essential preparation for our troops.

This edition also includes contributions from Col. VAUTRAVERS, Commander of the Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG), who provides insights into the recent NSE Conference held at CFC. Elisabeth SCHLEICHER, SO GENAD, discusses the innovative Gender Stereotypes Project conducted in Dragash, highlighting progress in inclusivity and awareness.

January was also marked by several troop rotations. On behalf of the KFOR HQ Public Affairs Office (PAO), we extend our best wishes to all contingents and commands transitioning into new roles. Whether stepping into mission responsibilities with KFOR or returning home to resume national duties, we salute your unwavering commitment to service.

We hope this month's edition offers a comprehensive view of the extraordinary work being carried out across KFOR. Thank you for your continued readership, and we look forward to sharing more of your stories and achievements in the months ahead.

“Unitas Omnia Vincit” –“Unity of People wins all”



Check out our social media platforms to like, subscribe and follow.

Kinetic Battalion: Cooperation KFOR Operations



In this article, Lt. Col. Bartolomeo TESCIONE, Kinetic Battalion Commander RC-W, introduces a highly relevant topic related to the outstanding level of cooperation and synergy between KFOR operational units and the stakeholders involved in the stability of the region.

First of all, it is important to start from the mission and the activities carried out by my units on the ground. The Kinetic Battalion (KN BN) is the Regional Command West's operational soul, and together with the Non Kinetic Battalion and the Combat Service Support Battalion contributes to fulfilling Regional Command West's (RC-W) mission. In particular, based on the four principles established by COMKFOR, impartiality, the moral compass guiding every soldier of the KN BN, unity of effort, shared understanding and readiness, it conducts stability operations in the assigned area of responsibility, ensuring Freedom of Movement (FOM), providing a Safe and Secure Environment

(SASE) securing VISOKI DECANI Monastery in order to lay the foundation for long-term stability of the region.

The Kinetic Battalion is able to accomplish a wide range of tasks, operational and training, intelligence-driven manoeuvring and conduct Crowd Riot Control (CRC) if required by Kosovar authorities. Over recent months, we have conducted approximately 950 patrols per month, ensuring a constant and widespread presence in the sector of competence, from the main Border Crossing Points, on the main supply route, in the urban and rural areas among people, to the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL), side by side with Kosovo Police (KP) and Kosovo Boundary Border Police (KBBP) and with Serbian Armed Forces (SAF) with a high sense of impartiality and competence. In order to carry out our operations in the best possible way, a lot of theoretical and practical training is necessary.

Integration And Synergy Between International Units



This preparation is not only aimed at the knowledge of tactics, techniques and procedures typical of military units for which the KN BN regularly carries out activities with other KFOR units such as Kosovo Theatre Reserve Battalion (KTR BN), Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU), Joint Logistic Support Group (JLSG) and Regional Command East (RC-E), but it also requires the acquisition of a mind-set and awareness of the operational environment across all domains fundamentally to being accepted by the people. The KN BN is a large multinational unit, based on 62nd Infantry Regiment "SICILIA" and composed of soldiers from Albania, Bulgaria, Croatia, Italy, Macedonia and Moldova, and this multicultural characteristic is the added value of this unit and its points of strength.

In fact, stability operations require the units to demonstrate cultural understanding and a deep appreciation of the myriad stability tasks to determine which are fundamentally essential to mission success. In an operational environment

like Kosovo, being able to count on more and different "sensitivities" and points of view in the approach to activities and with people is the key to success and to the acceptance of force. From this perspective, the unit that I have the honour to lead, is an example of integration and harmonious coexistence between peoples, and itself while serving to promote peaceful cohabitation. To highlight the operational results achieved throughout the mandate, both in terms of synergy with local actors and in terms of recognition of the impartial, silent and dedicated work of my units I can say well done guys, we have to continue on this path for the integration and peaceful living of all the communities present in Kosovo which is the only way for the future of this region.

Author :
OF-4 ITA-A Bartolomeo TESCIONE

KFOR Task Force Medical Co



For every mission or training exercise held at Camp Bondsteel and throughout KFOR, you will find combat medics present and ready to respond to medical needs. The combat medic soldiers, also known by their military occupational speciality as 68W's, are responsible for a variety of tasks including the day-to-day operations of the clinics within the KFOR camps.

The missions and operations in Kosovo would not be possible without the support of Task Force Medical and their team of combat medics.

Maintaining proficiency and skills is important, especially in a deployed environment. Soldiers working as a combat medic must recertify every other year to maintain the requirements of their 68W military occupational specialty, or MOS. In order to meet this requirement, soldiers with KFOR Regional Command - East's Task Force Medical team hosted a recertification training in Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo on January 7, 2025.

U.S. Army Sgt. Andrew POE, organized the event and speaks of his mission in Kosovo and portions of the planning that was involved in preparation for the recertification event.

"Task Force Med's mission is to provide health service support and force health prevention to the U.S. soldiers in the Balkans region," said POE. "As the 68W recertification NCO, I made numerous preparations, such as cross referencing with the regulations, ensuring proper scenarios and ensuring the participants had time to study the criteria for the hands-on Table Eight training."

There are eight tables of training coordinated with the National Registry of Emergency Medical Technicians, also referred to as NREMT, that combat medics must undergo to ensure competence on the most current evidence-based medicine and treatments. Table eight is the skills qualification portion and involves trauma and

Conducts Recertification Training



medical scenarios encompassing tables 1-7 of training.

U.S. Army Capt. Andrew MEDINA, is the officer in charge of the Task Force Medical clinic at Camp Bondsteel. MEDINA says that the NREMT recertification is essential to ensuring the combat medics are providing the best possible care to soldiers in the field. He knows the soldiers on his team are multifaceted and prepared for their ongoing mission in Kosovo.

"Our medics are versatile soldiers," said MEDINA. "They possess extensive knowledge and skills in Tactical Combat Casualty Care, and are trained to perform various clinical functions including taking x-rays, conducting laboratory tests, and assisting other departments."

The soldiers who recertified during the event were required to wear full combat gear and engage with role-players as though they were real patients

experiencing a medical emergency.

Meanwhile, their skills and responses were being observed and graded.

U.S. Army Sgt. Scott MILLER, was recertified during the event and says he has enjoyed working at the clinic, and working during events in Kosovo that have allowed him to meet international Allies and partners. He reiterated the importance of training and maintaining his skills.

"Whether doing medical lanes or trauma, the practice helps keep our skills sharp," said MILLER. "Emergencies have no schedule, so like the motto of the Guard, we've got to be always ready and always there!"

Author & Photos
OR-5 Cheryl MADOLEV
RC-E PAO

Fire Phobia Training by KFOR



The “Fire Phobia Training” is a specialized training designed to prepare KFOR units to respond effectively to the threat of improvised incendiary devices or weapons, such as Molotov cocktails. A Molotov cocktail is a handheld incendiary device made from a fragile container, typically a glass bottle filled with flammable liquids and sealed with a cloth wick. When the wick is ignited and the bottle is thrown, it shatters upon impact, spreading flames as the fuel ignites.

In Kosovo, every Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) capable kinetic unit of the NATO-led Kosovo Force (KFOR) is required to undergo Fire Phobia Training as part of their In-Theatre Training (ITT). This training helps soldiers familiarize themselves with special techniques for crowd and riot control, teaching them how to manage the stress caused by fire and how to advance through real

flames. The purpose of this training is to enhance soldiers’ abilities to respond correctly when faced with flammable materials. It provides them with the skills and confidence necessary to maintain operational effectiveness and carry out their mission safely.

The training is led by Hungarian instructors from the KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion (KTRBN), and it is a critical component for KFOR units to achieve Full Mission Capability. Hungarian soldiers, during their pre-mission preparation, not only practice for tasks arising from the security situation in Kosovo but also receive special training from Fire Phobia trainers for the KFOR forces. Such training sessions are not without risks, as many factors must be considered to ensure safe execution. For example, the strength and direction of the wind, the terrain characteristics, and other weather

R Tactical Reserve Battalion



conditions. In addition to the trainers, assistants are also present on-site to respond immediately if the participants' attention becomes overly narrowed. Safety is first during the training. Fire extinguishers are on hand in case of an emergency, and a medical team with an ambulance is always present during the training.

The training consists of two phases: the "cold" phase, where water-filled plastic bottles simulate fire, and the "hot" phase, where real flames are involved. Training begins at the individual level, progressing to pairs, squads, and eventually larger units like platoons or companies. In the cold phase, participants improve their reaction times and learn the steps necessary to extinguish fires using their protective gear. In the hot phase the soldiers face Molotov cocktails. Instructors emphasize that staying calm and following the

correct procedures will keep them safe, even when surrounded by flames.

This type of training significantly reduces the risk of injury and reinforces the importance of trust in protective gear. By the end of the training, participants will know how to respond effectively to incendiary attacks and handle similar situations in the future. The KTRBN has trained hundreds of KFOR soldiers each year, providing them with the essential experience and skills needed to succeed in their missions.

Author:
Szilvia MARKOVITS
OF-1
KTRBN PAO

KFOR German Contingent Interoperability Training



KFOR conducts operations daily and holds training focusing on interoperability on a regular basis to ensure a safe and secure environment for all people living in Kosovo.

Recently, the German contingent of KFOR Regional Command-East, also known as RC-E, hosted a two-day training event for Polish and U.S. soldiers at Camp Bondsteel. During the training, German soldiers familiarized the multinational forces with German-specific vehicles, medical supplies, personal protective equipment and special emphasis placed on weapon systems.

The soldiers were given basic knowledge of various German issued weapons including the Heckler & Koch-manufactured MG4/MG5 rifles, MP7 submachine gun and the G27 and G28 rifles. Additionally, special instruction was placed on the Heckler & Koch P8A1 pistol and the G36 A1/A2 rifle because on the second day of training the hosted soldiers were able to shoot these weapons on the range.

OR-7 Marvin GASTEL, a German infantry soldier, organized and coordinated the event with the intention of not only educating the other KFOR

contingent's soldiers on German equipment and procedures, but also as a way of developing new relationships and comradery. Many of the KFOR RC-E Polish forces travelled from Camp Novo Selo to Camp Bondsteel for the event. This allowed the forces to interact in ways they are unable to as part of their usual day-to-day missions.

"I think it is important to meet with the other nationalities here in Camp Bondsteel," said GASTEL. "You can see what capabilities they have, the kinds of materials they have, and this is important knowledge for leaders."

During the first day of training, the German troops displayed multiple tactical vehicles. Soldiers climbed inside a vehicle named DINGO 2, a patrol and security vehicle, and observed as the German subject matter experts educated them on the truck's communications systems, amphibious capabilities, and the various ways the German Forces utilize the vehicle. The GFF Yak Wasserwerfer, commonly known as water cannon, is a vehicle that gathered the interest of the U.S. and Polish forces. This vehicle is utilized for crowd riot control training, and is an example of a German capability that is unique to their

nt Hosts Multinational g at Camp Bondsteel



nation's military while serving in Kosovo.

Leaders from the Polish contingent appreciated the opportunity to be educated on German technologies and operations. Lt. Gabriel WOZNY, a KFOR RC-E Polish platoon commander, spoke highly about the two-day training event.

"As a Polish officer, I believe training with international partners is essential to the KFOR mission because it enhances operational readiness and supports mutual understanding among allied forces," said WOZNY. "By sharing experiences, tactics, and best practices, we can build a stronger operational bond and improve our ability to respond effectively to challenges encountered in a theatre of operations."

The U.S. Soldiers were impressed at the level of professionalism and patience shown by the instructors throughout the event and especially at the range. West Virginia Army National Guard Staff. Sgt. Mickey MILLER, a KFOR RC-E Public Affairs non-commissioned officer, had never shot the German weapons prior to the training and gained confidence after the familiarization.

"I was thoroughly impressed by every German instructor out there," said MILLER. "GASTEL ran the range very well. It felt like a very non-competitive and instructional day where we were just helping each other be better soldiers."

Interoperability is imperative to the success of the KFOR mission, and multinational training has many benefits for all involved. GASTEL is pleased to have met the other soldiers and knows he gained new friendships.

"I think it is always a good idea to link up and start communications with other people," said GASTEL. "On missions it is important to know that you not only have another nation on your right and left side but that it is your neighbour and you know their faces."

Author & Photos by
OR-5 Cheryl MADOLEV
RC-E PAO

Kosovo Force Troops, Partner Organizatio



Over 800 participants from more than a dozen countries of KFOR and Kosovo Security Organizations joined together January 5, 2025, with one goal in mind: complete the Danish Contingent March, also known as the DANCON.

The DANCON, a timed 23 km ruck march while carrying a 10 kg rucksack and a service weapon, is a tradition with roots stretching back to the early 1970s, and is hosted when Danish soldiers are deployed in support of international operations. Soldiers and security officials who volunteer to take on the challenging feat must complete the march in less than six hours.

The event, which raised funds for Danish veteran organizations in Denmark, as well as for equipment at a technical school in Vushtrri, Kosovo, was organized in part by Danish soldier OR-8 Magnus Højrup GUSTAFSSON.

GUSTAFSSON, a member Regional Command –

East, Danish Guard Detachment, expressed how pleased he was with the overall execution and participation of the 2025 DANCON.

“All the participants and the volunteers were in high spirits, which is a key success factor, in my opinion,” said GUSTAFSSON. “Moreover, the DANCON March is about bringing nations together – and I must say we’ve succeeded in that.”

Despite the frigid temperatures and snowy conditions, participants put their best foot forward and made lasting relationships along the way.

For U.S. Army Spc. Angel TORRES, 2nd Battalion, 162nd Infantry Regiment, 41st Infantry Brigade Combat Team, Oregon Army National Guard, the ability to complete the march alongside Allies and partners was the true reward.

“A great experience that the DANCON offered

ns, Complete Gruelling DANCON March



was the ability to interact and complete the ruck alongside other nations," said TORRES. "I can recall at least one experience while completing the ruck that I was approached by another runner, who gave me some encouragement before running, passed me. While I eventually caught up to him, he and many others offered the extra push I needed to finish the race."

Although all are deployed in support of the same mission, due to operational obligations it's not often that so many soldiers from so many nations join together at the same time in support of a physical fitness journey.

The ability to be out in the community and interact with locals while working towards the same goal was also invaluable to the participants and event organizers.

"I think the unity among soldiers and nations is a main driver, along with the will to contribute

to the local area – which both are the goals of the DANCON march," said GUSTAFSSON. "Additionally, I think, that it is an experience for many participants that creates memories to take back home - along with a cool medal, of course."

TORRES, the first place finisher from the U.S. contingent of KFOR RC-E, had a strong message to troops that did not participate in this iteration of the DANCON.

"The DANCON was a great experience that I think everyone should do at least once while in Kosovo," said TORRES. "It allowed me to work on my mental fortitude while experiencing the everyday roads of the city. I would definitely recommend the DANCON to any soldier, even if they walk the whole way.

Author and Photos by
OF- 2 James MASON
RC-E PAO

Feel the Pulse with NKBN : Mon



Introduction

The mission of Non-Kinetic Battalion (NKBN) is to provide Situational Awareness (SA) to COM KFOR. SA is achieved through liaison activities. NKBN uses Liaison Monitoring Teams (LMTs) to interact with the local population. Even though all KFOR forces are responsible for contributing to SA, LMTs are one of the key players to 'Feel The Pulse' of Kosovo. LMTs provide Tactical Effects Center (TEC) with information by providing timely and accurate reports. These reports must then be analysed.

General Overview on LMTs' activities and Structure

Each day, members of LMTs operate within their assigned AOR, monitoring organizations involved in the municipality. Projects performed so far

include; UXO campaigns, CIMIC donations, Fire Drills in Municipality, No Cost CIMIC Projects with Eng. PLT, Coordinated Patrols with KP and KNBN, Language Workshops, Gender meetings and Awareness training to young women, Radio and TV station visits, 4YOU Magazine disseminations and swift rescue with KNBN. The structure of the NKBN in RC-W consists of a command group (Turkish-led) and 12 LMTs, which form the battalion's main strength.

Contribution of NKBN to Security in AOR

RC-W has prioritised supporting the local population and institutions facing mine risk mainly in border areas. For this reason, information exchange campaign – UXO (unexploded ordnance) has been conducted to increase awareness about the topic and inform all people

Monitoring AOR and Atmospherics



on the risk and on the behaviour to use in case of emergency to discover it.

Traffic training has proven to be highly effective. Positive and constructive collaboration was observed among students, teachers and KP. Activities like Fire Drills improve thoughts on force protection and improve KFOR's perception, building a trustworthy relationship. After some dangerous incidents happened in North Kosovo, RC-W and NKBN have increased awareness levels due to the possibility of another incident involving critical infrastructure in west of Kosovo as well.

Population Perception Of NKBN And LMTs, Lessons Learned and Future Planing

The population deeply appreciates all that KFOR has accomplished and continues to provide. Not only providing security to the area with daily patrols of the LMTs and KNBN activity but also in supporting the institutions including CIMIC donations and aid to civilians. CIMIC projects have positive impacts on the community.

Providing Radio Stations with information about RC-W activities can contribute to increase the trust and the reputation of KFOR.

Language workshops are excellent tools for strengthening bonds between KFOR and educational institutions.

4YOU Magazine dissemination finds clear enthusiasm in receiving the magazines.

Visiting War Veteran Assosiations built up respect towards KFOR and its presence in Kosovo.

No cost CIMIC projects like cleaning canals and opening roads within the capabilities of ENG PLT improve the living conditions and positive perception of KFOR.

Coordinated patrols with KP strengthen KFOR's perception and built up trustworthy relationships between participants.

As future projects we are looking forward to plan in expanding KFOR partnership with the municipality department of education and schools to conduct workshops that benefit younger generations following the model of succesful Environmental Educational Workshops already done.

Conclusion

The constant presence posture and profile of NKBN is to ensure impartialty. Security and stability is much appreciated by all communities. All dedicated activities help to increase trust and consensus towards RC-W in the multinational environment of Kosovo. NKBN will continue to monitor the situations in the AOR and maintain constant situational awareness in order to detect any indicators that could signal changes in the securty situation.

Author:
OF-4 Hüseyin KOLAKOĞLU
NKBN CDR

Gender Stereotypes



Gender stereotypes can limit the roles that boys and girls see for themselves in life and can prevent them from realizing their full potential. The world today would be very different if Marie CURIE had accepted that women could not work in physics or chemistry, two fields in which she won the Nobel Prize.

What are gender stereotypes?

Gender Stereotypes are oversimplified and overgeneralized beliefs about characteristics or roles of boys and girls. Traditional cultural norms, that are often present in rural areas, shape young people's views. For example, which professions

are appropriate for women, men, boys, and girls.

To confront gender stereotypes and empower both boys and girls to reach their full potential, the GENAD Office, in close cooperation with the Turkish LMT K27 and the Gender Equality Officer of the municipality in Dragash, organized an awareness campaign on gender stereotypes.

What was this campaign about?

From the age of three, children already distinguish between occupations associated with women and men. Children unknowingly adapt the gender stereotypes passed on by the people and culture around them as part of their socialization process.

Project in Dragash



Children's books, films, as well as toys, reinforce stereotypical ideas about men and women at work: men are associated with manual work, automobiles, business and politics, while women are associated with health care, social services, the arts and personal care.

"The campaign offers information sessions on gender stereotypes. The goal is to encourage boys and girls to think outside the box and challenge their views on "what is typically female or male", explains MAJ Rea TANNER, Chief GENAD.

As part of the workshop, children were asked to draw a police officer, a soldier and an athlete. Many of the kids drew men in these professions, while only some drew women. The KFOR team entered the school room with the first and only female police officer from Dragash, male and female soldiers, as well as a female basketball player from Kosovo. This caused a positive surprise moment for the children and triggered their curiosity. They asked questions about what it is like to work in this area as a woman, their challenges, and the support they received in pursuing their dreams.

"It was refreshing to see the children's eyes light up when they were able to engage and to take pictures with these role models. I believe that we were able to challenge preconceived gender stereotypes and to help them see themselves, young girls in particular, in different roles." LMT K27 explained.

Is it wrong to conform to stereotypes?

Not necessarily, it is perfectly fine for a girl to love dolls for instance or for a boy to love race cars and football. However, gender stereotypes should not limit the goals of anyone. Especially at a young age, individuals are susceptible to conforming to gender stereotypes without realizing it. Hence, it is important to give children the freedom from a young age to choose for themselves. The key is awareness that these stereotypes do exist.

Author:
MCIV-5 Elisabeth SCHLEICHER,
SO GENAD

NSE Conference



On 14 January 2025, the traditional National Support Element (NSE) Conference was held in Camp Film City, organized by the Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG). The event was successful, with over 40 participants and most Troop Contributing Nations (TCN) represented.

KFOR's commander, Major General Enrico BARDUANI, welcomed this "excellent opportunity to discuss among partners, a platform for information exchange". He highlighted the need for flexibility and adaptability, in order to respond to the rapidly changing security landscape.

The presentations focused on today's capacities and organisation. But participants were also allowed insights and were able to discuss the plans for the improvement of means, capabilities and processes.

Logistics is essential to every mission. Everything stops after a day, when logistics have not been properly planned or is not available. The logistics community in KFOR is an enabler community. It works as a strong team, and as a chain.

At the Headquarters level, the J4 "shop" is responsible for the long-term planning, liaison with higher echelons, rotation and organisation, as well as troop basing. JLSG is responsible for 3rd line logistics, combat support, fuel, the coordination and support of reception, staging, onward movement as well as redeployment processes (RSOM/RMSD) - in other words, it supplements the capabilities of NSEs.

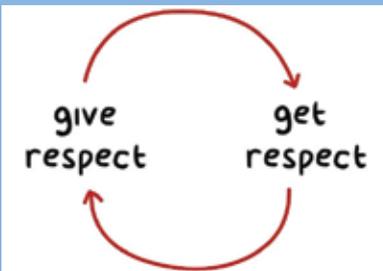
In principle, logistics remains a national responsibility within NATO. Most TCNs operate with an NSE in Kosovo, mostly collocated in Camp Film City, close to KFOR's headquarters. These essential national assets were presented. Experience and lessons learned were shared during the course of the conference. A solution-oriented mindset, interoperability and the willingness to cooperate are central to the development of a successful, reactive and resilient logistics chain.

JLSG's commander, Colonel Alexandre VAUTRAVERS, summed up the day: two objectives were fulfilled. Firstly, logistics experts and liaison persons met and developed a strong, close sense of community and unity. In times of crisis, knowing who to speak to, who can help, having access, contact and trust, are essential to sustain and succeed in our mission. The second objective of the day was the presentation, exchange and discussions between KFOR and national assets, logistics planners and NSE commanders. Asking questions and discussing the issues is essential to anticipate, develop and implement the best solutions. The coordination and mutualization of logistical assets, as well as the optimization of tasks, allows better support to the troops and the mission.

Author:
OF-5 Alexandre VAUTRAVERS
COM JLSG



KEEP CALM & Respect the Rules



Stick to the rules, especially in CAMP FILM CITY

Try to remember not to "cross the line" of camp regulations and social rules. We are all in KFOR together! Respect individual needs!

Remember:

- Quiet hours from 2230hrs to 0600hrs
- Avoid inappropriate behavior, especially when you consume alcohol.



Due to latest incidents, reference is made to the accommodation rules:

- In NATO accommodations with shared sanitary facilities dedicated solely to females or males, visits of personnel of the opposite sex are strictly prohibited.



CAMP DUTY OFFICER will enforce the respective regulations and ask for MP support if needed.

References : INS 5-7 CAMP FILM SITE RULES



"WHO YOU GONNA CALL?"

Bulgarian soldiers of the Regional Command West conducted a shooting exercise with the individual weapons in their possession. The soldiers carried out static and dynamic shooting training to increase and perfect their ability to use the weapons.



U.S. and Swiss soldiers assigned to the Regional Command East collaborated to conduct joint aviation and MEDEVAC capabilities training on U.S. Black Hawk helicopters at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo.



Even during extreme winter conditions KFOR, continues to conduct operational activities. The Kinetic Battalion of Regional Command West conducted a series of patrol and surveillance activities in the municipality of Istog/Istok.



German and Latvian soldiers assigned to the Regional Command East conducted a joint patrol in Northern Kosovo. Patrolling together allows the two nations' militaries to collaborate and enhance safety and security..

Latvian soldiers assigned to the Regional Command East conducted crowd riot control training at the Kçiç/Kicic Shooting Range in Kosovo. This training exercise enables soldiers to familiarize themselves with equipment and learn the tactics needed to handle potential riot situations, ensuring they are ready to accomplish any mission.



U.S. soldiers assigned to the Regional Command East conducted security and dismounted patrols in Northern Kosovo as part of the ongoing operation to ensure the safety and security of critical infrastructure throughout Kosovo.

Recently, DCOM KFOR, Brigadier General Cahit IRICAN, visited U.S Liaison Monitoring Team soldiers of KFOR Regional Command East in Vitina.



COM KFOR, Major General Enrico BARDUANI, and the Ambassador of Czech Republic to Kosovo, H.E. Bohumil MAZANEK, attended a commemoration event in CFC to remember and honour the victims of a Slovak aircraft crash in Hejce. On 19 January 2006, forty-two soldiers of the Slovak contingent lost their lives in a plane crash. The soldiers were returning home having concluded their duties within the KFOR mission. KFOR will continue to honour their memory.

Italian Troops from KFOR'S reserves arriving in theatre to support the KFOR mission. Troops from the Italian Mechanised Infantry Brigade "Sassari" will carry out a range of activities, together with KFOR troops and will be deployed in response to any relevant developments in the security situation.

Transfer of Authority and Medal Parade



Soldier of the month

OR-4 SHERIDAN is the J2 GEO senior analyst. Impressively, he stood up as the J2 GEO Chief and covered the responsibilities of an OF-4, including briefing DCOM on the map he had created showing known obstacles in the contested area. Whilst managing the GEO department on his own, he received a task to plot polling sites for the upcoming election period – a total of 941 data points. The expectation was that this would take up to a week, OR-4 SHERIDAN completed it in an afternoon. This is not an isolated example of his commitment to the mission, on another occasion he created 150 maps for RC-E in a single day during a HOTO period. His positive, can-do attitude is infectious and he is a shining example of how a motivated junior soldier can have a huge impact on operational outputs.



NCO of the month

OR-5 SARNOFF is an NCO from the Texas National Guard who arrived in theater with KFOR 32. She has extended for her third tour in Kosovo because of her belief in the KFOR mission. OR-5 SARNOFF conducted countless hours of research to assist the targeting officer in developing baseball cards for key leader engagements. She accurately assessed risks to SASE and FOM with high confidence. She is responsible for producing the weekly RC-East intelligence summary. OR-5 SARNOFF developed a deep-dive intelligence product on Kosovo organized criminal groups. She was chosen to mentor new soldiers who rotate into her office.



