



# KFOR CHRONICLE



## Change of Command Ceremony

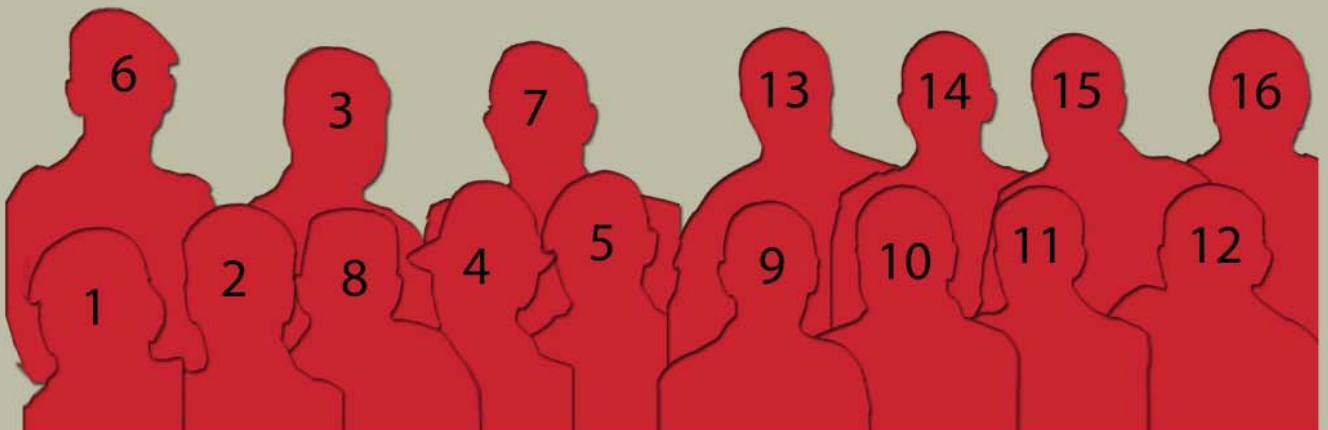
## COMKFOR's IN KFOR

- 1 Lieutenant General Mike Jackson **United Kingdom** from 9. June 1999 to 8. October 1999
- 2 Lieutenant General Klaus Reinhardt **Germany** from 8. October 1999 to 18. April 2000
- 3 Lieutenant General Juan Ortuño **Spain** from 18. April 2000 to 16. October 2000
- 4 Lieutenant General Carlo Cabigiosu **Italy** from 16. October 2000 to April 2001
- 5 Lieutenant General Thorstein Skiaker **Norway** from April 2001 to 7. February 2002
- 6 Lieutenant General Marcel M. Valentin **France** from 7. February 2002 to 4. October 2002
- 7 Lieutenant General Fabio Mini **Italy** from 4. October 2002 to 3. September 2003
- 8 Lieutenant General Holger Kammerhoff **Germany** from 3. September 2003 to 31. August 2004
- 9 Lieutenant General Yves de Kermabon **France** from 1. September 2004 to 31. August 2005
- 10 Lieutenant General Giuseppe Valotto **Italy** from 31. August 2005 to 1. September 2006
- 11 Lieutenant General Roland Kather **Germany** from 1. September 2006 to 31. August 2007
- 12 Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac **France** from 31. August 2007 to 29. August 2008
- 13 Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay **Italy** from 29. August 2008 to 8. September 2009
- 14 Lieutenant General Markus Bentler **Germany** from 8. September 2009 to 1. September 2010
- 15 Major General Erhard Bühler **Germany** from 1. September 2010 to 9. September 2011
- 16 Major General Erhard Drews **Germany** from 9. September 2011 to 7. September 2012





# Together as One



# PEACEKEEPERS IN KFOR





# Together as One



**Madam President,  
President of the Assembly of  
Kosovo,  
Mister Prime Minister,  
Excellencies,  
Generals,  
My fellow soldiers,  
Distinguished guests,**

**I**t is a true honor to have you all join this event today as I complete my tour of duty and welcome the next commander of KFOR.

Of all the positions and assignments an officer can hold; Commander is the most coveted, and my time as the Commander of Kosovo Forces has by far been the most memorable for me. To have been selected to serve as COM KFOR has been both an honor and a privilege for me. Leading soldiers from 30 different nations and working side by side to provide conditions for progress has been our objective all along. As COM KFOR I had the opportunity to travel throughout all of Kosovo. I have met individuals and visited municipalities, cities, towns and villages. I found their hopes and dreams of family, peace and prosperity to be universal. I had the great pleasure to have partaken in the many traditions that reflect the rich and diverse heritage of Kosovo. I have witnessed

as Kosovo continued to develop and improve and I am impressed with the great strides it has made in spite of all the challenges it continues to face. Even considering all these challenges I have every confidence that Kosovo will one day serve for others as an example to see how people coming out of a situation of terrible fear and political deadlock, join forces in working for these common dreams of prosperity, ambitions realized and values respected.

Kosovo has endured many changes over the years but I think it is fair to say that, for the past 13 years, KFOR has remained a constant. Consistently contributing to a safe and secure environment throughout Kosovo, KFOR has solidified its reputation as a professional force committed to progress. I am honored to have had the opportunity to command this force.

I also want to express my respect to competent police officers and hard working KSF members that work with a professional vision and with an awareness of the great responsibility that lie with those that serve the public. Your contribution to Kosovo is vital.

Admiral Clingan, Sir: It has been an honor to work for

NATO and I want to thank you for your leadership over the past months. Your support and the confidence you have shown in KFOR have played a large role in the success of KFOR and the progress we made. Thank You.

Please allow me now to shortly address my fellow soldiers:

As I close out my tour here in Kosovo I reflect back on the question all soldiers – especially those being wounded - ask themselves at one time or the other: “Did I make a difference?” Without hesitating I say to you: “Yes, you did make a difference!” Given the accomplishments of KFOR over the past year I assure you that KFOR has contributed significantly to progress and security, especially in the North, where the situation was at times challenging. A commander cannot achieve anything without his troops and I want to express my sincere pride and appreciation for the outstanding manner in which the soldiers of KFOR have performed their duties and supported me over the past year, even in critical situations. My dear soldiers, you have always put the mission and the team first. I thank you for that! I am proud



to have led such a capable force.

And now to my German comrade who will take the reins of KFOR. Gen Halbauer, as the next COM KFOR you will soon lead the highly capable, motivated and professional troops of KFOR and I am sure the soldiers of KFOR will support you in the same outstanding manner that I have experienced. In parting, I have no doubt that you will lead KFOR on to

new heights and I wish you all the best.

To see troops from nations the world over soldiering side by side and to work alongside with them for progress in Kosovo was an experience best reflected in our motto: "TOGETHER AS ONE"

However, all commands come to an end and the time has come for the changing of the guard. You, General Halbauer, chose a new motto maintaining the team

spirit and continuing the proud tradition of KFOR: your motto is "FORWARD TOGETHER".

In closing; I wish you, General, KFOR and all people in Kosovo continued success as you move "FORWARD TOGETHER".

Thank you very much for your attention.



## Contribute to maintain a Safe and Secure Environment and Freedom of Movement

As a result of the deterioration in the security situation north of the Ibar river, KFOR was challenged directly to confront the threat to Freedom of Movement posed by the erection of barricades on many of the main roads there. KFOR's resolve was self-evident in light of violence offered by a mi-

nority of self-interested individuals. KFOR responded to the aggression and provocations with two principles in mind: achieving the tactical objective and minimizing the number of injured. As a result of KFOR actions there is only barricade left and that is on Austerlitz Bridge in Mitrovica. Full Freedom

of Movement on all the transit roads throughout northern Kosovo has been restored.



## Enhance cooperation with the Institutions in Kosovo and International Civilian Presences

The improving situation in southern Kosovo allows KFOR to transfer responsibility for the safeguarding of Religious and Cultural Heritage Sites to the Institutions in Kosovo. Following a decision by the North Atlantic Council, the responsibility for the protection of Devic Monastery was handed

over from KFOR to the KP in June 2012. This is the seventh site of nine Properties with Designated Special Status to be handed over since March 2010, the aim is to facilitate a dignified monastic culture as it has been part of Kosovo for centuries. Another significant step in fulfilling tasks of the second

line of operation took place when KFOR actions jointly with EULEX and KP, greatly assisted the OSCE facilitated balloting process during the Serbian elections in Kosovo in May. This was an example of what the International Community as a whole together with the Institutions in Kosovo can achieve.





## Conduct proactive and comprehensive communications

Through coordinated actions, messages and products, at many levels, information about KFOR's plans and activities was always effectively available to local and international media representatives. Many high level meetings were organized in KFOR Headquarters, throughout Kosovo

and abroad. All these activities had a positive effect on the security situation in Kosovo. As part of the Key Leader Engagement process, KFOR leadership conducted regular meetings with the highest authorities in the Institutions in Kosovo, religious leaders, municipality representatives and city

mayors. The regular coordination of communication and cooperation with others were designed to provide coherent and harmonised support to the other three Lines of Operation.

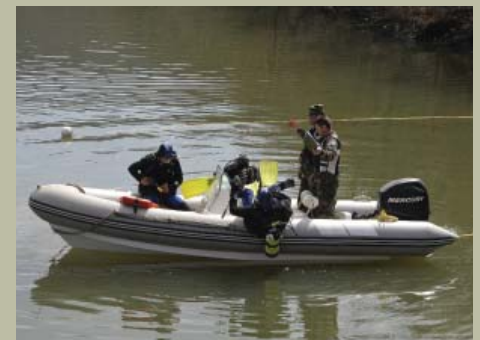


## Assist to strengthen the Kosovo Security Force / ministry of the Kosovo Security Force capabilities

KFOR's Military Civil Advisory Division (MCAD) supervises the monitoring, mentoring and advising of the KSF until the force is judged by a NAC decision to be capable of operating, in accordance with internationally-set standards, without NATO-led support. The KSF received COM-

KFOR's recommendation towards reaching Final Operational Capability (FOC) but this does not represent the end of the development of KSF. Indeed more effort is required, the KSF is still some way off the self-sustainable levels according to NATO-set standards. Notwithstanding, their performance

in assisting the civilian population is vital as evidenced in Restelica in February in a successful rescue operation during severe snows when avalanches had already claimed 10 lives in the worst winter in Kosovo since 1984.



## Commander KFOR

Major General Erhard Drews,  
German Army

## Chief Public Affairs Office & KFOR Spokesman

Lieutenant Colonel Uwe Nowitzki,  
German Army

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## NATO Nations within KFOR

Albania, Bulgaria, Canada, Croatia,  
Czech Republic, Denmark, Estonia,  
France, Germany, Greece, Hungary,  
Italy, Luxembourg, Netherlands,  
Norway, Poland, Portugal, Romania,  
Slovenia, Turkey, United Kingdom,  
United States

## Non-NATO Nations within KFOR

Armenia, Austria, Finland, Ireland,  
Marocco, Sweden, Switzerland, Ukraine

The KFOR Chronicle is produced and fully funded by HQ KFOR. It is published for KFOR soldiers in the area of responsibility. The contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the coalition governments' defence departments. Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Internal Information Section of HQ KFOR's Public Affairs Office (PAO) in Pristina, Kosovo. PAO HQ KFOR reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.

# ALL THE KFOR UNITS

## Multinational Battle Groups, Joint

### Multinational Battle Groups

KFOR has been in almost constant transition since its arrival, downsizing in response to the increasing levels of stabilisation in the safety and security situation. This on-going process is aimed at improving the effectiveness of the forces and their ability to operate flexibly throughout Kosovo without restriction. KFOR's Task Organisation changed from four Multinational Brigades (MNB East, Centre, Northeast, Southeast) to five Multinational Task Forces (MNTF) in June 2006. In January 2010 in light of further troop reductions the MNTF's were restructured into five Multinational Battle Groups (MNBG). Slightly over a year later this was reduced to two, MNBG-East located at Camp Bonsteel and MNBG-West in Camp Villagio Italia. KFOR current strength is barely over ten per cent of the original number of fifty thousand that entered in June 1999.

### Joint Regional Detachments

Liaison and Monitoring Teams (LMTs), now operated in five separate Joint Regional Detachments (JRDs). These are the forward sensors of KFOR, with its soldiers meeting daily with the inhabitants of Kosovo. This important interaction allows the LMTs to gain a timely appreciation of their feeling regarding issues on the ground.

### Joint Logistic Support Group (JLSG)

The JLSG is the second of the two Support Subordinate Commands, responsible for the specific tailoring of engineer, transport and ordnance capabilities, amongst others, to support KFOR operations.



## Regional Detachment and Subordinate Units



### **Multinational Specialised Unit (MSU)**

The MSU is a police force with military status, with an overall police capability. The MSU headquarters is located in Pristina/Prishtine under the Italian Carabinieri Command and patrols extensively in Mitrovica.

### **KFOR Tactical Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM)**

The KTM is a Portuguese Hungarian Manoeuvre Battalion designed to respond quickly to potential changes in the security situation. Located in Camp Slim Lines in Pristina/Prishtine under the operational control of COMKFOR. It was assigned crowd and riot control tasks in relation to roadblock removals in northern Kosovo and the provision of an important deterrent presence in Mitrovica.

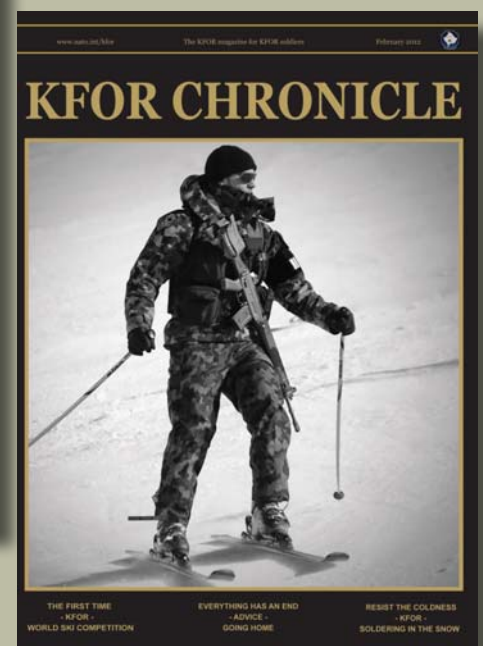
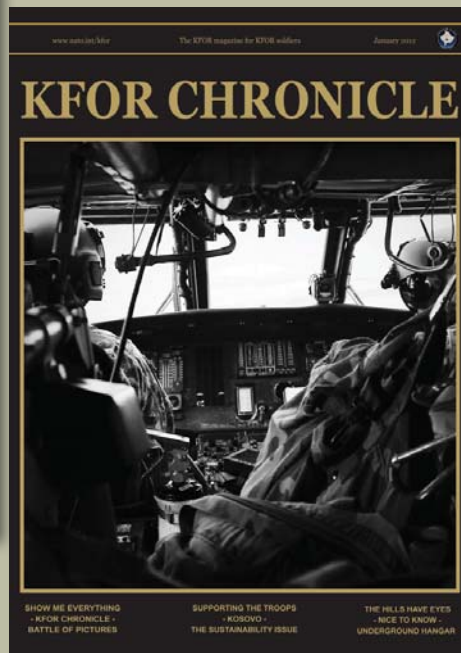
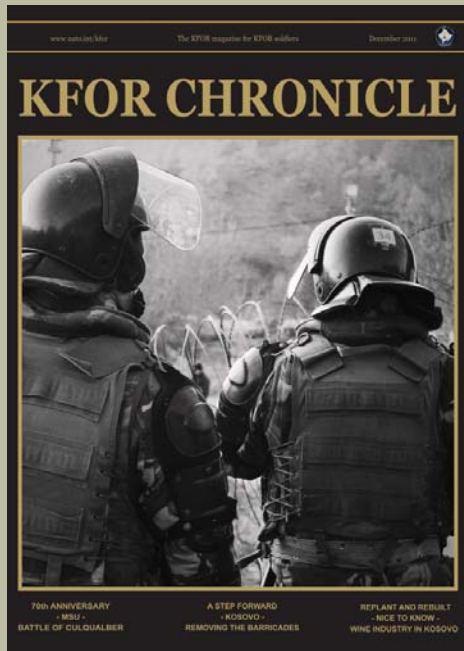
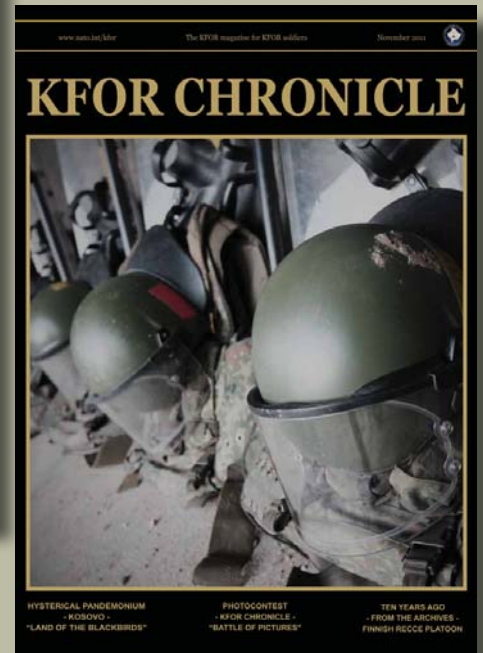
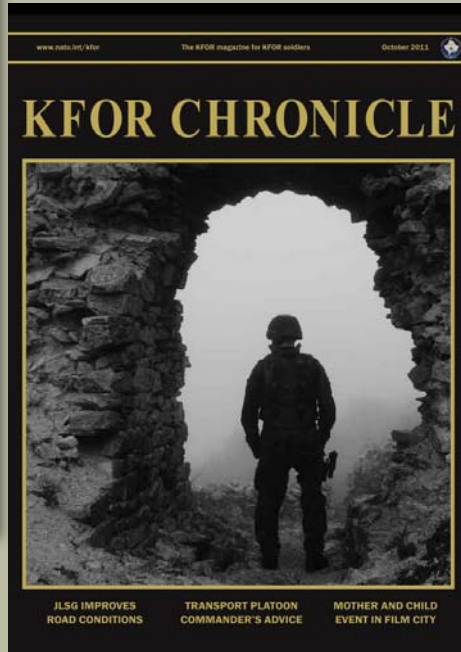
### **Operational Reserve Force (ORF)**

This on-call, over the horizon, quickly deployable Reserve Force remained available to support KFOR if necessary. Such was deemed to be the case in August 2011 and they were decisively employed to good effect since, particularly in roadblock removal operations in Jagnjencia (Nov 2011) and Rudare (June 2012).

### **Headquarters Support Group (HSG)**

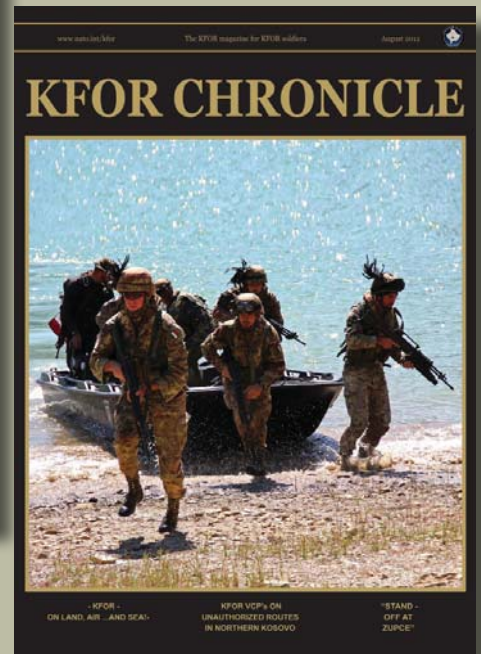
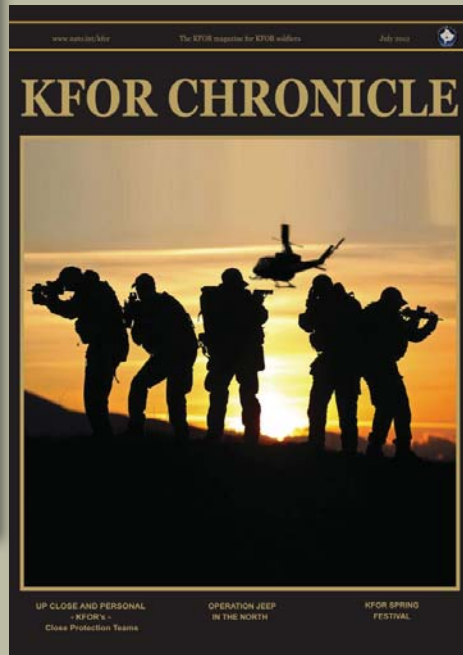
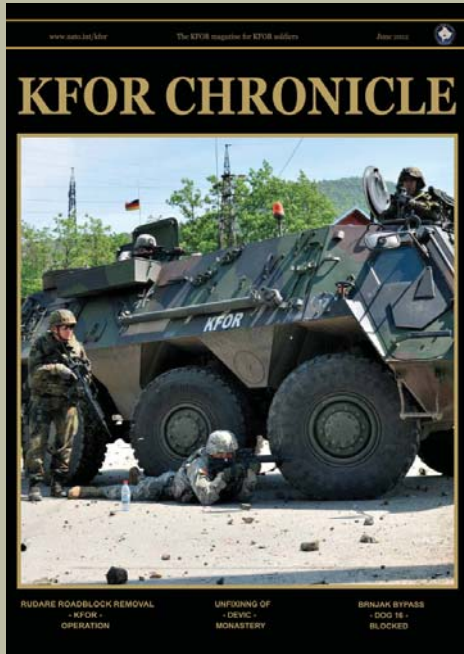
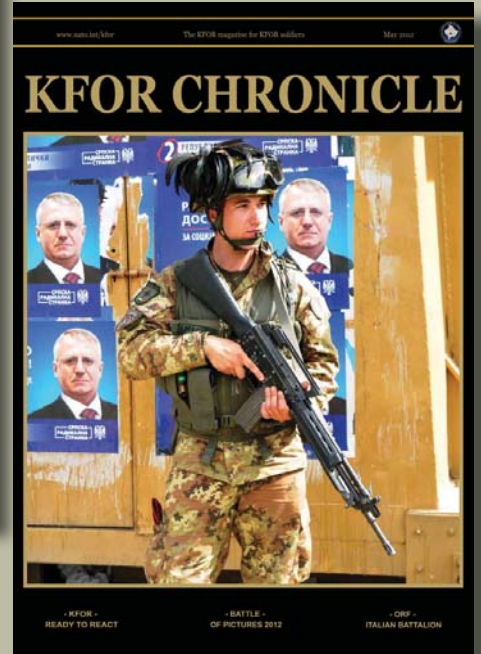
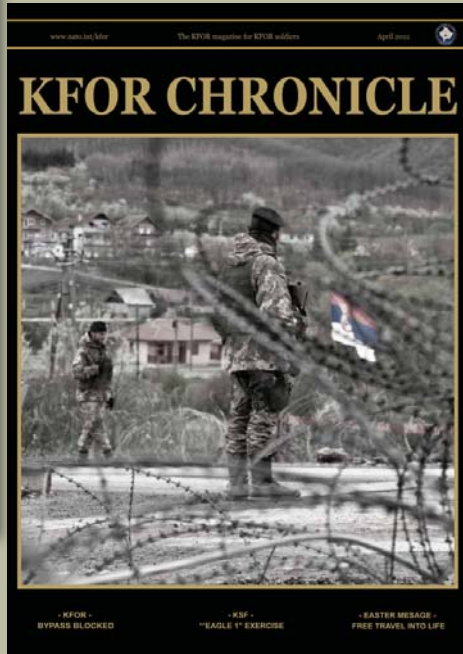
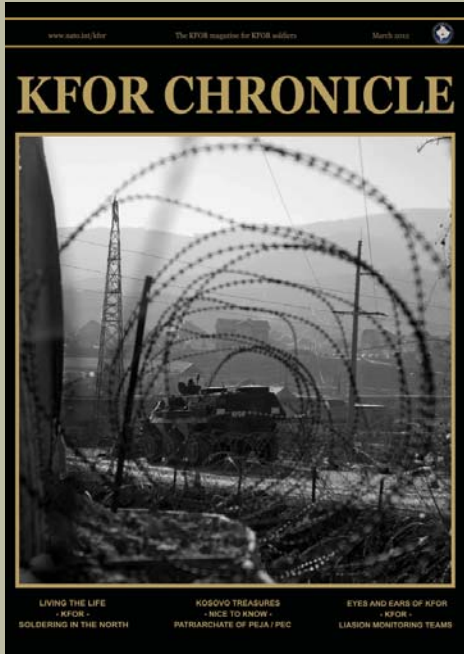
KFOR has Manoeuvre Commands, Geographic Commands and two Support Subordinate Commands, of which HSG is one. The HSG provides real-life Service Support to HQ KFOR and also has outside concerns with responsibility for Camp Nothing Hill and Mt. Goles.

# ONE YEAR OF KFOR IN PICTURES





# Together as One



**CV - incoming COMKFOR Major General Volker R. Halbauer**





# Forward Together

Born on 17. December 1955  
married / 2 children

01.08.75	Joined the German Army as an Officer Cadet in the Airborne Infantry
10/76 - 03/80	Armed Forces University, Masters in Business Administration
1981 - 1983	Platoon Leader, Airborne Infantry Bn 252, NAGOLD
1983 - 1985	S2 Officer Airborne Infantry Bn 253, NAGOLD
1985 - 1987	CoyCdr 3rd Coy Airborne Infantry Bn 253, NAGOLD
1987 - 1989	Attended the 30th General Staff Officer Course at the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College (Führungsakademie), HAMBURG
1989 - 1991	G2 1st Airborne Divison, BRUCHSAL; including 11 months as G3
1991 - 1992	Command and General Staff College (CGSC), FORT LEAVENWORTH, USA
1992 - 1994	G3 Airborne Brigade 26, SAARLOIS, including:
05/93 - 07/93	G3 and G5 Advance Party GECONFORSOM, SOMALIA
07/93 - 11/93	Chief of Staff 1st Contingent GECONFORSOM, SOMALIA
07/94 - 04/96	Cdr Airborne Infantry Bn 283, MÜNSINGEN
1996 - 1997	Fellowship Course at the School of Advanced Military Studies (SAMS), FORT LEAVENWORTH, USA
1997 - 1999	Syndicate Leader General Staff Officer Course at the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College (Führungsakademie), HAMBURG
1999 - 2000	Desk Officer Armed Forces Staff at the MOD, BONN
11/00 - 01/02	Course Director General Staff Officer Course at the Bundeswehr Command and Staff College (Führungsakademie), HAMBURG
01/03 - 09/04	Chief of Staff 10 <sup>th</sup> . Armor Division, SIGMARINGEN
10/04 - 07/06	Branch Chief Army Development, Army Staff at the MOD, BONN
08/06 - 11/08	Cdr Air Manœuvre Brigade 1, FRITZLAR
12/08 - 03/10	Director Army Staff III, the Operations and Concept Division at MOD, BONN
Since 03/10	Chief of Staff Army Staff, BONN

