

KFOR

Chronicle

01st Edition



January 31st 2010



More Agility
Battle Group Structure



The General Officer's Perspective



Dear comrades of KFOR,

I want to take advantage of this opportunity to thank all our allies who join us in this mission. You represent many nations, cultures, continents, races, faiths and traditions. Nevertheless, in spite of your diversity, with your close cooperation in the name of peace you have set an example for all those who refer to ethnic intolerance and narrow nationalism.

Thanks to you and those who served before you, the people of Kosovo are able to live safe and securely; thanks to you this region is improving its integration with Europe, even if there is still more work to do.

We are adapting KFOR structures and capabilities to the new and improved security environment. Of course, not all challenges require a military solution, but military presence is still crucial for the proper development of remaining shortfalls. In this view, it is essential that the Alliance maintains its military edge and that our member Nations continue to support this mission with the necessary investment and flexible and agile forces, properly equipped to fulfil their mission. We are making rapid and effective progress.

NATO has a vital interest in European stability. We have been called upon to ensure that Kosovo remains stable and secure, a place where Kosovar Albanians, Serbians, and other minorities can live together in peace. Each and every day, your work is important for all people in this region. Our goal is a lasting peace, effective and transparent institutions that assume full responsibility. Only then NATO forces can go home. That is our mission and we stand to that goal.

Our job is not accomplished yet, together we can achieve our objectives; we only have to...move forward.



Major General Antonio Satta
Italian Army
Deputy Commander of KFOR





Unity is worth it!

When you are trying to clean up a big personal failure, where do you start?

This is a question that preoccupies some of us now, or will one day in the future. If we can learn something useful from the experience of others, then here are a few thoughts on the matter.

The first step, which should be obvious to everyone, is to recognize our failure and our responsibility. No escape or healing is possible if we do not begin by being honest with ourselves. It is a moment to take stock of our pride, our sensitivity but especially of our suffering and what makes us fall. It is the point where we must put our finger on what is wrong.

As a chaplain and counselor, our approach is clear; we are not there to judge, but to consider everyone who comes to us as a person who is suffering. Suffering is a sign that we are at the heart of things and not at the surface. Suffering takes hold of us and we feel that we have been taken hostage, deprived of our liberty.

What consequences should someone who has "fallen," face?

There are at least three elements:

- Solitude (suffering isolates)
- The consequences of his acts
- His inner wounds

Indeed when someone fails, it injures the inner self. The depth of this wound depends on the person's maturity and on his spirituality.

"I am not what I thought I was; I have done something terrible that I did not think I was capable of". My self-image has been shaken and hurt, not to mention the feeling of guilt and loss in confidence.

What attitude should we adopt with regard to others and our religious community?

We must first ask ourselves, what place our family and our community of belonging have in our lives. Do they play the role of intermediary between us and our understanding of life or of God? When you speak to one of this community's spiritual guides, it is good to consider your motivation: Why do you want to do this? What do you really expect? Am I ready to ask for and receive help?

While it is inevitable for the believer to reply to the voice of his conscience and to confess to God, I do not believe that public confession should be systematic; there are so many different situations where confession in public would do more damage than good, e.g. in the case of an extra-marital relationship.

Finally, whatever our failures may be, life is still worth living, because it offers us a multitude of possibilities every day and every hour.



Carmine Arienzale was born on the 21st of September 1960. He is married and has two children. Pastor Carmine Arienzale serves as military minister in the French armed forces and is the organizer of the annual international meeting of Protestant soldiers in southern France.

<p>Commander KFOR Lieutenant General Markus Bentler, DEU Army</p> <p>Chief Public Affairs Office Lieutenant Colonel Hans Peter Buch, DEU Army</p> <p>Chief Internal Information & Editor Captain Martin Wieland, AUT Army</p> <p>Journalist Lieutenant Colonel Serhiy Panchenko, UKR Army</p> <p>Webmaster Staff Sergeant Mejia Ezrick, US Air Force</p> <p>Photographer and Design Mr. Afrim Hajrullahu</p> <p>E-mail & web: kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int www.nato.int/kfor The KFOR Chronicle is produced and fully funded by HQ KFOR. It is published for KFOR</p>	<p>forces in the area of responsibility. The contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the coalition governments' defense departments.</p> <p>Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Internal Information Section of HQ KFOR's Public Affairs Office (PAO) in Pristina, Kosovo.</p> <p>PAO HQ KFOR reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.</p> <p>The KFOR Chronicle is printed by RASTER Tel: 038 601 606</p>
--	---

Nations within KFOR:	
NATO Nations	
Belgium	Lithuania
Bulgaria	Luxembourg
Canada	Netherlands
Croatia	Norway
Czech Republic	Poland
Denmark	Portugal
Estonia	Romania
France	Slovakia
Germany	Slovenia
Greece	Turkey
Hungary	United Kingdom
Italy	United States
Non-NATO Nations	
Armenia	Morocco
Austria	Sweden
Finland	Switzerland
Ireland	Ukraine



MOVING I

Photos by Captain Martin Wieland, Austrian Army and Sergeant Stefanie Willuweit, German Army



December 29, 2009

The Deputy Kosovo Force Commander, Major General Antonio Satta, welcomed the Alternate Minister of Defense of Greece Mr. Panayotis Beglitis. During the meeting issues concerning the current security situation and rights of national minorities' in Kosovo were discussed.

January 08, 2010

Commander Allied Joint Force Command Naples, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald discussed the features of the security situation in Kosovo with Kosovo Force Commander, Lieutenant General Markus Bentler, during his visit to the HQ KFOR.



January 08, 2010

COM KFOR Lieutenant General Markus Bentler greeted the Chief of Planning and Coordination Center for Operations of the French Armed Forces, Brigadier General Patrick Lefebvre. During the meeting Lieutenant General Markus Bentler, explained the event-driven transition process to and through the future force adaptation.





January 14, 2010

The Deputy Kosovo Force Commander, Major General Antonio Satta, welcomed the Deputy Commander of the Ukrainian Land Forces. Lieutenant General Rauf Nurullin discussed the current situation in Kosovo and issues relating to Ukraine's contribution to KFOR.

January 21, 2010

The Deputy Kosovo Force Commander, Major General Antonio Satta, greeted the Commander of the Austrian Armed Forces, Lieutenant General Günter Höfler. The issues concerning event-driven transition process to and through the future force adaptation and Austria's contribution to KFOR were discussed.



Cultural and Historical To

Story and photos by Lieutenant Colonel Christopher Mey, German Army

On 12 December 2009, a historical and cultural trip with a group of German soldiers took place in Greater Pristina. LTC Mey activated his contacts from previous missions and organized the trip in close cooperation with cultural officials from Kosovo, professor of archaeology, Kemajl Luci, and support from the German NSE. Almost 20 comrades met in front of the German NSE at lunch and took the bus to the Archaeological Museum in downtown Pristina. They were welcomed by the

assistant Professor Luci and Berusha Milot, who was assisted in his presentation by Shehide Tahiri, a civilian employee of the German NSE, who translated.

Numerous excavations throughout Kosovo point out the extensive historical meaning of this region. Among other exhibits, the "Goddess of Kosovo", a clay figure from around 4500 years before Christ is a must-see. Then, the group walked through the cold to the Ethnological Museum of Kosovo, which is located approximately 300 meters away. It was established in a former house of a wealthy merchant from the 18th Century. It outlines the lifestyle and



Tour in the Area of Pristina

traditions of the people living in this region.

After a guided tour through the Ethnological Museum, we went to Ulpiana, an excavation site near Gracanica. In Roman times, this was a major trading center, whose foundations are still visible. Berusha Milot, who is employed as Field Director, told the group that the city covered about 36 hectares and was in the middle of the trading routes from east to west and from north to south. In addition, there is an annual international youth camp, founded by Professor Luci. During summer vacation, young people from all ethnic groups dig at the excavation site and spend their free time together. It is a great example of living peacefully

together in Kosovo.

Finally, when it began to get dark, the group went to the "Silur" restaurant (which is close to a lake), for a dinner. As the final highlight, wild boar (pork) was served in the typical, traditional style of Kosovo. The unanimous opinion was that this event, organized and conducted by LTC Mey, was truly worthwhile.



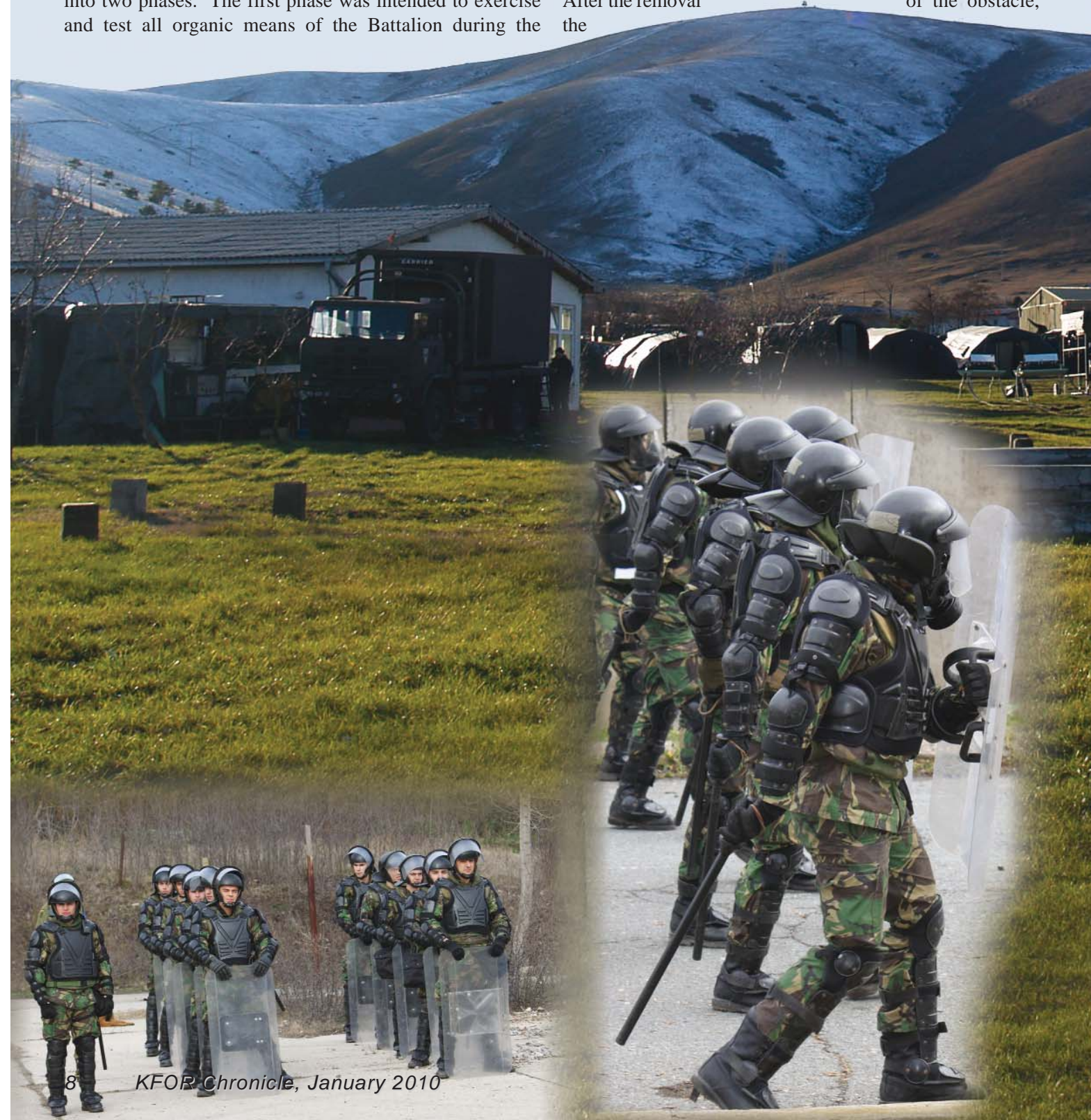
KTM Exercise

*Story by Major Renato Assis, Portuguese Army
Photos by Captain Paolo Rodrigues, Portuguese Army*

On the 28th and 29th of December 2009, in Camp Vrelo – Pristina region, the KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM), planned and organized the STRONG RHINO 01 Exercise, under KFOR supervision – J3 CONOPS, attended by KFOR Chief of Staff (COSKFOR), Brigadier General David L. Harris. The exercise was divided into two phases. The first phase was intended to exercise and test all organic means of the Battalion during the

assembly of a Forward Operating Base (FOB). In the second phase, the main objective was to train and test coordination and Command and Control (C2) amongst KFOR and EULEX forces.

After EULEX requested support, the Command Group, two Special Operations Detachment teams and Bravo Coy, with the support of the Freedom of Movement Detachment (FOM) and one K9 team, were deployed by land and when moving towards the PrDSS were barred by a roadblock. After the removal of the obstacle, the

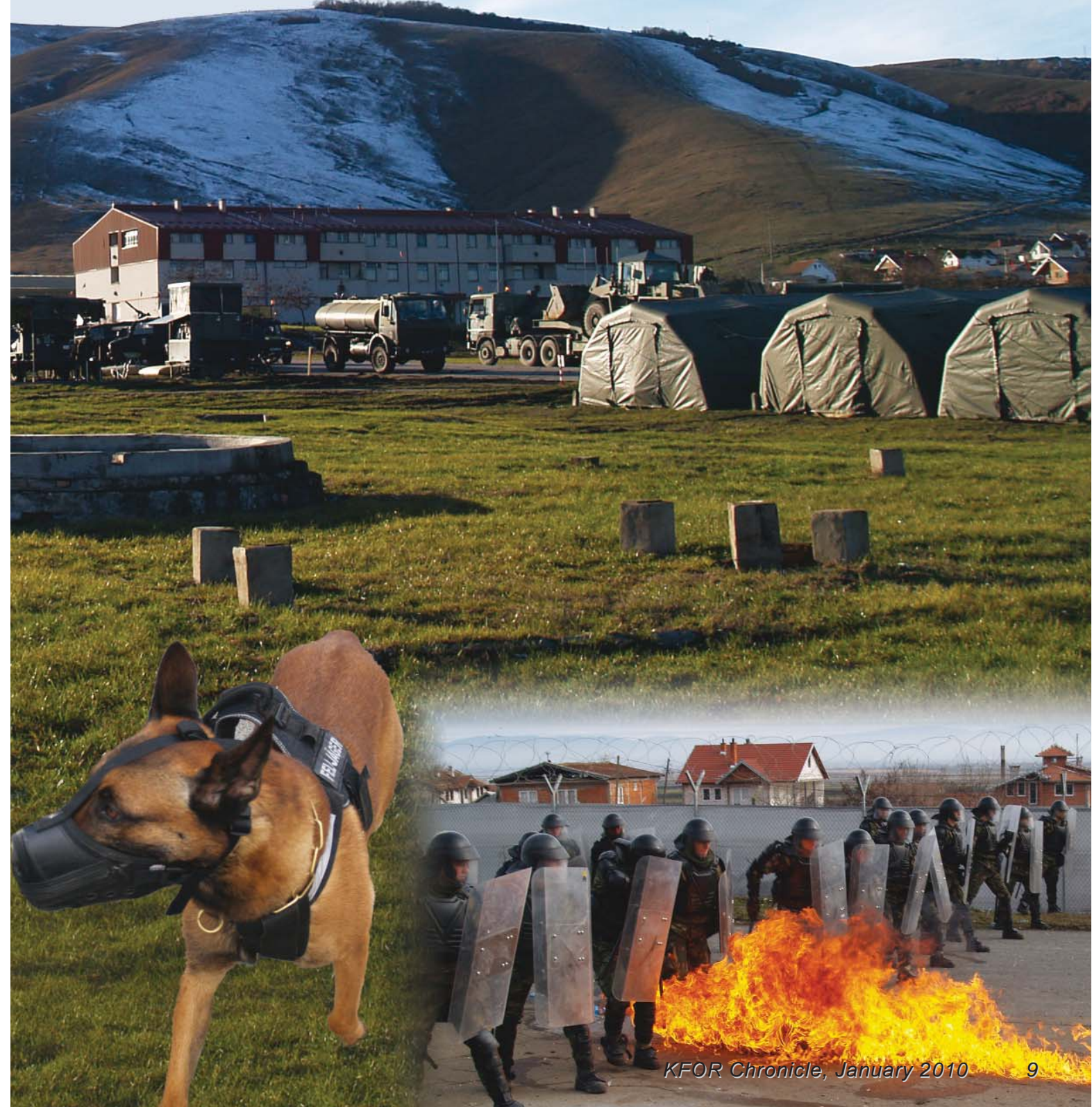


STRONG RHINO

Red Box was established, and the Blue Box, only after scattering some rioters. Charlie Coy, supported by a K9 Team, maintained the Freedom of Movement on the access route. The rioters' pressure continued until being pushed away, and concentrating in another route. After detection by Airscan, Charlie Coy was ordered to "clean" the other route. To do this, the removal of yet another roadblock was in order, and the scattering of two more demonstrations ensued. During the execution of the exercise, casualty evacuation and damaged material land evacuation

procedures were executed.

Other than KTM, other forces gave their contribution toward the success of the exercise, namely: EULEX forces – one Polish Police Squad; from MNTF-N – the FOM Detachment; from MNTF-E – two Platoons (US); from MNTF-S – two K9 Teams; and finally the Imagery Intelligence Team (IMINT) and KFOR Airscan.



Busy Days in the Hun

*Story by Master Sergeant Andras Farkas,
Hungarian Army*

Photos by Sergeant Gabor Fülöp, Hungarian Army

We would like to introduce the Hungarian Civilian and Military Cooperation (CIMIC) staff. It is a brand new division in the Hungarian Army's structure. The foundation stone was laid on the October 2000. Since then, we have learned a lot from the different nations belonging to NATO. The Hungarian CIMIC teams working in worldwide hot spots (Iraq, Afghanistan, Kosovo, etc.) are doing a really good job...we can say that many lessons have been learned. Here in Kosovo, the Hungarian CIMIC

team is doing its best! These guys are working hard to accomplish their mission and lead every project to success. They have fulfilled several CIMIC projects in the last 5 months and are still full of ideas. The following are some of the logistical plans these guys have implemented in this short period of time.

On the 10th of September 2009, the CIMIC team handed over several school kits for the students of Dubovo/Dubove Elementary School in the presence



Hungarian CIMIC's Life!

of their parents and teachers.

On the 10th of October, the same team came out with another project in Klina, where the Hungarian CIMIC team, in collaboration with the teachers of the local school, organized a football tournament at a sports center in Zlocucane, a small village near Klina City. In the tournament, Albanians, Serbians, Slovenians and Hungarians all took part.

Plenty of children were waiting for donations during the last week of October, when the team handed over school equipment for the Albanian Hysni Zajmi Elementary School. The donation was so large that the team had to deliver it with a military truck.

On the 4th of December, at the Albanian Trepca Elementary School, located in Pecka Banja, the team taught the local students

about environmental protection and healthcare and also provided them background information about Hungary. The ceremony was opened by Mr. Sadik Hajdaj, the director of the school.

On the 9th of December, members of the Istog/Istok Young Women's Handball Team received equipment from the Hungarian CIMIC team, in order to provide them with the opportunity to race in better conditions.

We can say we have been lucky until now, because it wasn't really cold until the beginning of December. However, now that the snow and the chilly weather is here, a new project warmed the hearts of those people who needed our help. The CIMIC team provided 28m3 firewood for the Serbian minority living in Istog/Istok.

On the 15th of December, the CIMIC team brushed up the Istog/Istok Youth Center. There are Internet rooms where the local youth can come together for receiving information about world events. There are also two other rooms for children that were recovered. Mr. Luan Hasanaj, the director of the youth center mentioned that one of the rooms will be opened for arts and crafts.



About Camp

*Story by Lieutenant Colonel Serhiy Panchenko,
Ukrainian Army and Sergeant Major Bo Eriksson,
Swedish Army*

*Photos by Sergeant Major Bo Eriksson,
Swedish Army*

Camp Victoria is located in the vicinity of Graçanice/Graçanica, lies 13 km south of Pristine/Pristina on the Pristina-Gnjilane highway. Graçanice/Graçanica's single main road is lined with shops, cafes, restaurants, bars and car washes. Graçanice/Graçanica has an electro-technical secondary school, a medical secondary school,

pedagogic secondary school, primary school and a kindergarten.

From a historical and cultural point of view, this settlement is known as a place where the Serbian Orthodox monastery ("Manastiri i Graçanicës/Manastir Graçanica") was founded by Serbian King Stefan Milutin in 1321.

On 13 July 2006, it was placed on UNESCO's World Heritage List under the name of Medieval Monuments in Kosovo.

Camp Victoria was established in 1999. It has the capacity to hold 550 troops. The camp now



mp Victoria

accommodates 270 soldiers, including guests from the NATO Training Team.

The camp's dining hall was designed for 300 persons and provides excellent food, especially brunches on Sundays. In addition, there are 2 mess halls inside the camp which are open all day, with a billiard table, welfare rooms with Internet, telephones, computers, library and a cinema section.

For maintaining one's physical health, there is a well equipped gym, which is open 24/7. Inside the camp, there is a track for running, which measures the length of 1300 m.

In addition, several running trails are available outside

the camp.

There is considerable attention given to health care as well. The Health Center is well equipped and manned with 1 Senior Medical Officer, 1 Duty Doctor, 8 Registered Nurses and drivers.

For Religious needs, the camp has a chapel that offers 2 services a week.

Furthermore, there are workshops for cars, a Main Store, a spare parts department and 2 washing stations for washing the troop's uniforms and personal clothes inside the camp.



MSU - CRC

Story by Brigadier of Italian Carabinieri

Massimo Panizza, Italian Army

Photos by Brigadier of Italian Carabinieri

Degiuseppe Dario, Italian Army

On 14 January, 2010 in Camp Vrelo (15 km from Pristina), the MSU Regiment conducted a CRC Exercise, attended by the MSU Commander, J3 CONOPS Training Officer, Leszek, the KTM S3 Deputy and the Austrian DCOS Provost Marshal. The goal of the exercise was to train and test the response of the unit against an attack by rioters.

The scenario was set in a town where an individual had been taken hostage. The MSU's goal was to scatter the riots and set the hostage free.

The first part of the exercise was conducted with a peaceful demonstration on a road. Then suddenly, the crowd of people got excited, took a hostage, and

brought him into a house. The hostage had to be set free and the platoon moved toward the riots and the house. The rioters, (protected by some barricades), launched stones and other objects, but the "testuggine" was immediately performed by the platoon, the barricades were dismantled with the "RG12 armored vehicle" and the final charge achieved the goal of sending away the rioters. Next, a part of the platoon, with the help of a S.I.G. (Special Intervention Group) Squad, went inside the house and set the prisoner free. Under escort, they brought him inside an ambulance in order to provide him with medical assistance.

Near the end of the exercise, the platoon reached their vehicles and left the place in safety.

It was a good opportunity for the soldiers to train and practice their tactical operations, with great results. They know how best to respond, if "push comes to shove".



C Exercise



Moving Forward - Introducing

Story by Captain Juerg Hostettler, Swiss Army

Photos by Captain Martin Wieland, Austrian Army and Staff Sergeant Philippe Knaus, Swiss Army

In June 1999, after the NATO intervention in Kosovo, the Austrian Government decided to send a contingent of 500 soldiers to the region. At the same time, the Federal Council of Switzerland made the fundamental decision that Switzerland should participate with military means in the Kosovo Force on the basis of UN Resolution 1244. Austria and Switzerland intended to address the acute problem of refugees and displaced persons, to ensure immediate aid in Kosovo and to help stabilize the region.

Together, they formed the manoeuvre battalion Dulje

(Man Bn Dulje) and can now look back to 10 years of successful duty. With the positive evolution and the gradual adaptation of KFOR structure, the Task Forces will become Battle Groups at the beginning of February. Due to the continual rise of indications of confidence in local capacity and responsibility, Battalion structures are no longer needed.

The call for more flexible operations within KFOR also made it possible for Battalion Dulje to give up its existence on January 21. The command of the Austrian and the Swiss Infantry is now with the HQ of Battle Group South in Prizren. The festivities in Camp Casablanca were led by the fading Maneuver Battalion Commander Lieutenant Colonel Gaiswinkler of the



ing the Battle Group Structure

Austrian Army. A delegation of Swiss Officers, distinguished guests, high ranking politicians of Austria and Lt General Höfler, the commander of the Austrian Armed Forces participated in the ceremony that took place with temperatures of freezing minus 10 degrees Celsius. The round of the KFOR troop adaptation took place in the Ö-Hof, where the Austrian and Swiss kitchen crew proved yet again with an amazing buffet, that they're also moving forward.



From the Task Forces Transfer of Authority

*Story by Lieutenant Colonel Serhiy Panchenko,
Ukrainian Army*

Photos by Captain Martin Wieland, Austrian Army

On 10 January 2010, at Camp “Villagio Italia” in Bellopoje/Belo Polje the Transfer of Authority Ceremony took place. It was a very special ceremony, because it symbolized not only the change of command between outgoing Brigadier General Roberto D’Alessandro and incoming Colonel Vincenzo Grasso, but also signified the beginning of the KFOR-transition from the Task Forces to Battle Groups structure, as the next step in moving forward to a safe and secure environment for all the people in Kosovo.

At the beginning of the ceremony, all the guests were familiarized with the history of the “Pinerolo” Brigade

of the Italian Army, which finished its mission in Kosovo and the 9th Infantry Regiment of the Italian Army, that replaced their comrades at Camp “Villagio Italia”.

After the parade of outgoing and incoming units was held, Kosovo Force Commander (COMKFOR), Lieutenant General Markus Bentler inspected the formation. The COMKFOR then awarded Multinational Task Force – West Commander, Brigadier General D’Alessandro with the NATO “Non Article 5” Medal. In a solemn atmosphere, the NATO Flag, which symbolized the transfer of authority, was transferred from Brigadier General Roberto D’Alessandro to Colonel Vincenzo Grasso. At the end of the ceremony, the participants honored all the fallen soldiers with a minute of silence.



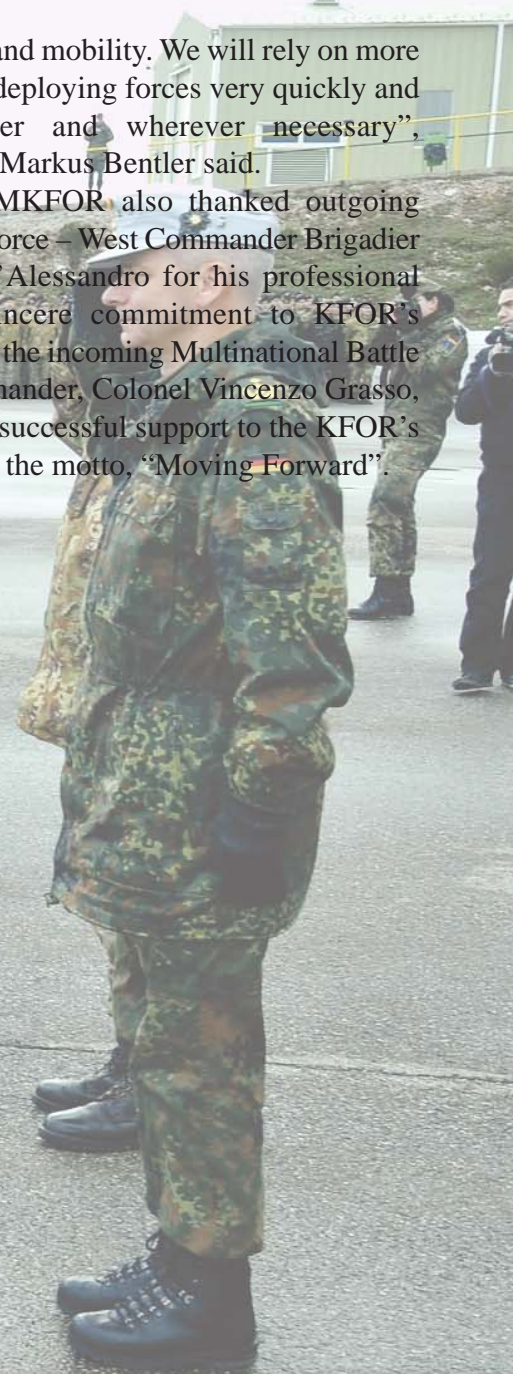
s to the Battlegroups ty in MNBG - West

According to COMKFOR Lieutenant General Markus Bentler, the transition from the Task Forces to the Battle Groups means that KFOR's capabilities and posture will be adapted to suit the requirements for the current security environment. It was possible to start this transformation because of the positive achievements in the security situation's development. The latest important sign of this was the successful municipality elections in Kosovo that were considered to be the expansion of democracy in Kosovo. In contradiction to the Task Forces, the Battle Groups are going to operate with a slightly smaller number of troops. Nevertheless the main goal of the Battle Groups remains the same, to provide a safe and secure environment throughout Kosovo.

"KFOR's adaptation of the Battle Group structure will

lead to more agility and mobility. We will rely on more flexible operations, deploying forces very quickly and decisively whenever and wherever necessary", Lieutenant General Markus Bentler said.

In his speech, COMKFOR also thanked outgoing Multinational Task Force - West Commander Brigadier General Roberto D'Alessandro for his professional contribution and sincere commitment to KFOR's mandate and greeted the incoming Multinational Battle Group - West Commander, Colonel Vincenzo Grasso, with the hope of his successful support to the KFOR's efforts of embracing the motto, "Moving Forward".



KFOR Soldiers Train to Provi

Story by Sergeant 1st Class Mike Hagburg, US Army
Photos by Specialist Joshua Dodds, US Army

CAMP BONDSTEEL, Kosovo - Soldiers from Multinational Task Force East's (MNTF-E) Quick Reaction Force tested their skills in a day of exercises near Biti e Poshteme/ Donja Bitina and Crep/ Crepana, Kosovo. The exercises were designed to ensure that KFOR Soldiers stay ready to face the kind of unexpected incidents they might encounter as part of their QRF duties in responding quickly and decisively anywhere in Kosovo.

The QRF plays a key role as MNTF-E transitions into a Multinational Battle Group on February 1, 2010. As a result of the adjusted troop levels through deterrent presence, the QRF must have the flexibility to move out and react to incidents in the Multinational Battle Group area of operations at a moment's notice. Beginning their test, QRF Soldiers reacted to a simulated

vehicle accident near Biti e Poshteme/ Donja Bitina. Multiple vehicles were involved in the accident and several Soldiers required medical attention. The QRF Soldiers were required to locate the scene of the accident and react to the simulated injuries and damage at the scene.

In the afternoon, the QRF confronted a simulated helicopter incident near Crep/Crepana. A UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter reported that it was making a precautionary landing, and then communications were lost with the aircraft. Testing its ability

to move quickly to address the incident, the QRF launched from Camp Bondsteel in two UH-60 helicopters, located the downed helicopter, and treated injured Soldiers at the scene.

As both scenarios involved injured Soldiers, the training tested not only the QRF team's ability to quickly react to an incident and to provide first



Take Quick and Decisive Action

aid, but their skills at calling in additional medical assistance and evacuating casualties from the scene. In the morning scenario, the QRF had to call in ground and air ambulances. In the afternoon, the QRF summoned an air medical evacuation team that arrived on the scene quickly by helicopter.

The scenarios were wide in scope, so the training benefitted the QRF Soldiers and also Camp Bondsteel's military police, aviation crews, medics and coordination with Kosovo Police. The military police secured the incident scenes while

awaiting assistance from the QRF, the air crews flew helicopters both to transport the QRF Soldiers and to recover simulated injured Soldiers, and the medics gained experience in treating accident victims on the scene and in

moving them back to Camp Bondsteel.

"As Multinational Task Force-East adjusts troop levels through deterrent presence, it is vital we exercise our ability to react quickly and decisively anywhere in Kosovo as a third responder behind Kosovo Police and EULEX," said Brig. Gen. Al Dohrmann, MNTF-E commanding general. "Today's exercise tested those actions and our coordination with Kosovo Police. As we continue through changing times, these exercises validate the progress in Kosovo."



Footbridges

Story by LNO Team - JOC

Photos by Captain de Clermont-Tonnerre, French Army

The focus of this article is to give to the majority of the KFOR population one very light view about the Liaison Officers in the KFOR HQ (LNO). The most often asked question what is an LNO, what is his job, where does he work and purpose for his existence

One of the first questions is who he is! The LNO is a person who facilitates communications between elements from the sending unit to the receiving to ensure mutual understanding. Liaison is the fastest technique employed to establish and maintain close, continuous,

physical communications between commands .

The LNO's may perform several functions depending of the range military operation, of the mission and the charter establish by the sending organisation. Concerning the usual life job, the LNO has four basic functions: monitor, coordinate, advice, and assist.

1. Monitor: he must be able to monitor all operations, the ongoing operations of the higher, adjacent and lower units and understand how each can affect his own and he can anticipate potential problems.
2. Coordinate: his incessant monitoring and the understanding of the situation and his unit, helps to smooth the progress of the synchronization from his



in the Shade

sending unit operations and future plans integrated in the receiving unit operation.

3. **Adviser:** the LNO is the expert on the capabilities, limitations, tactics, technics, procedures and assets of his unit. For that reason he is the perfect advisor, to the employment of his unit.

4. **Assist:** the LNO must act as the conductor between his Multinational Task Force Commander (MNTF) or Tactical Reserve (TACRES) and the multinational received force, attending to meetings, planning sessions and ensure that the decisions related to his Force are informed decisions.

The LNOs are the personnel and official representative

of their MNBG/TACRES units, sometimes considered as their ambassadors to the Multinational receiving Force, as the messenger from his Unit commander and Staff, and the received unit HQ and commander, LNO's have the special confidence of their commanders and the received organization commander. They are not staff augmentees or watch officers assigned to the Joint Operations Center (JOC), or full time planners. The LNO must retain flexibility and freedom of movements required to perform their job to achieve the success for their units mission.



MSU Donates

*Story by Lieutenant Colonel Serhiy Panchenko,
Ukrainian Army*

Photos by Afrim Hajrullahu

On 20 January 2010, the Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU) organized a special donation for the Kosovo Police Service (KPS). It included the transfer of three dogs to the K9 Department of the Kosovo Police. The three new dogs are specialized in anti-drug, explosives and crowd and riot control. The dogs are German shepherds named Mic, 2.5 years old, who is trained in crowd and riot control, Don, 2.5 years old, trained in anti-explosives and King, 2 years old, who is trained in anti-drugs.

Help from the Carabinieri

The same dogs, together with their handlers, will now enter into a training course involving acclimatization and specialized training by dog trainers from the Arma dei Carabinieri in Italy. This course will be conducted from June-July 2010.

According to the Chief of the Kosovo Police, General Sheremet Ahmeti, this donation will greatly assist the police unit and will play an important role in the process of establishing the rule of law in Kosovo.

History of Italian K9

The Cinofili Service (K9 squad) of the Arma dei Carabinieri was created in 1957 and is centered in Florence. Its purpose is to assure the employment of



Dogs to KPS

handlers and dogs in police activity and other operations where support is required.

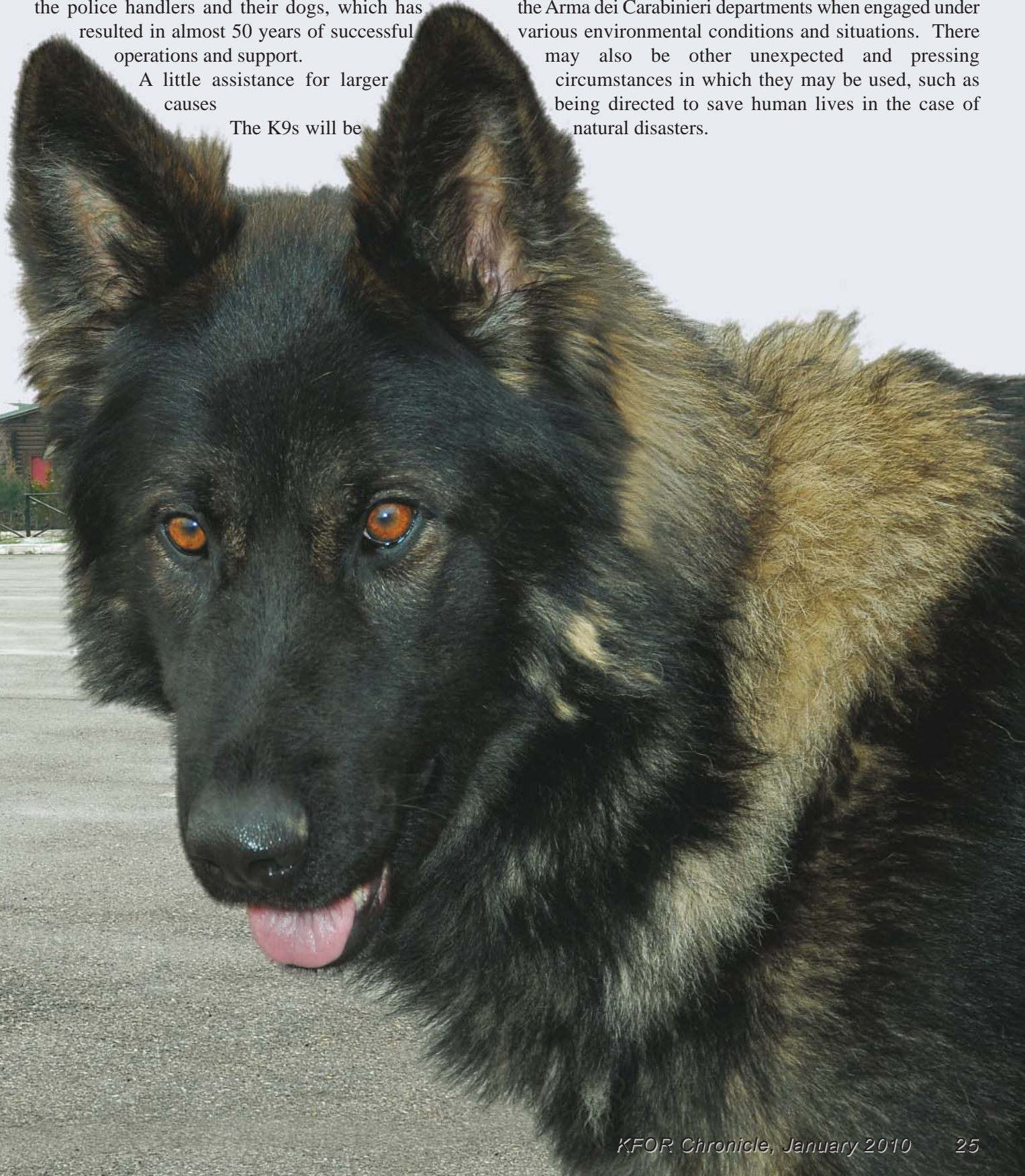
A high-level of training characterizes the employment of the police handlers and their dogs, which has resulted in almost 50 years of successful operations and support.

A little assistance for larger causes

The K9s will be

used to locate and follow the trace of criminals on objects or clothes, or in difficult places, as well as to pursue and stop escaping suspects. They may also be used to assist the Arma dei Carabinieri departments when engaged under various environmental conditions and situations. There

may also be other unexpected and pressing circumstances in which they may be used, such as being directed to save human lives in the case of natural disasters.



Drill Exercise "Engine on Fire"

*Story by Captain Simon Pavlovic, Austrian Army and Corporal Oliver Beck, Austrian Army
Photos by Sergeant Michael Kroboth, Austrian Army*

On the 12th of January 2010, the Austrian-Swiss fire brigade and paramedic relief units were put to the test by the helicopter squadron of Task Force Mercury. A simulation of a burning engine, on a German helicopter "Bell UH-1D", required all the skill and know-how of all the professionals. The scenario, a helicopter signaling "Engine on Fire," was forced to an emergency landing in Camp Casablanca on account of the precarious mine situation on the Dulje Pass, that tragically ended in

a crash-landing...

Swift reaction of the "Chain of survival"

The relief units of the camp fire-brigade, the emergency paramedic unit and the emergency command and recovery unit were put to the test. Short communication channels and faultless coordination are imperative in such an emergency. Air safety Officer, Captain Peter Axenbeck, said: "The flying squadron has to instruct the local site relief units, as a burning helicopter can explode at any time!"

Special training for the camp fire brigade

Special safety regulations have to be taken into



Fire” in Camp Casablanca

account in rescue operations involving burning aircraft. Corporal Florian Seibert from the camp fire brigade has had special training in aircraft rescue: He said: “We can interrupt the fuel supply and shut down the rotor system. This then allows for the on-board fire-extinguisher to put out the engine fire.”

danger zone.” MEDEVAC ensures the evacuation and transport of the casualties, as well as their subsequent medical care. Austrian and Swiss doctors jointly work for the MEDEVAC team.

MEDEVAC – The multinational paramedic team

The exercise was a thorough success as the rescue units were on site in less than four minutes. Master Staff Sergeant Reinhold Wakonig, serving in the MEDEVAC unit (MEDical EVACuation), said: “We have to adhere to the directions given by the fire brigade as they are in charge of securing the



Impressions of Winter

Story by Master Sergeant Gerhard Groeneveld, German Army

Photos by Captain Dominik Westerkamp, 1st Lieutenant Jasmin Zenger and Private 1st Class Sven Scheibner, German Army

Prizren. It had already been heralded by days of haze and the weather forecast. The weather was about to change fundamentally and the temperatures were about to plummet. So the snow began to fall, and the official vehicles were quickly covered with ice. At times, the vehicles could only be operated with snow chains. However, the winter scenery did put our comrades in the right mood for the approaching Christmas season and the New Year. Then, just shortly before Christmas Eve, the snowy splendour melted away, so

our drivers were again clear to go.

New Year's Eve and New Year's Day; a day like any other during the mission? Basically yes, but small groups in Camp Prizren gathered to welcome the New Year.

At midnight, there was a controlled fireworks demonstration supervised by the EOD forces. There were fireworks in the square in front of the white HQ building, a central location, which served to welcome in the New Year, and drive away the ghosts of the old year. The display of private fireworks within Camp Prizren was prohibited for safety reasons.

Many persons made resolutions for the upcoming year, and took them along into 2010. Only time will tell if the resolutions will make it through the year.



r in Southern Kosovo

In most European languages, Silvester is the name of the last day of the Gregorian calendar. Silvester is followed by New Year's Day, 1 January of the following year. Some regions in Germany, being the counterpart of the following New Year's Day, the day is also known as Altjahr (Old Year's Day), Altjahrsabend (Old Year's Evening) or Das Alte Jahr (The Old Year).

The bonfires at the end of the year have old Germanic roots. The Romans used to celebrate the end of the year, and did so for the first time in January 153 B.C.

The given name of Silvester (Latin "silva" = forest) literally means "man of the woods".

The association of the end of the year with the name of Silvester dates back to 1582. In that time, the Gregorian calendar reform moved the last day of the year from 24 to 31 December, the anniversary of the death of Pope Silvester I

(† 31 December 335). The liturgical calendar has also listed that day as his Saint's day since 813.

According to a 5th century legend, Silvester is said to have baptized Emperor Constantine the Great, and healed him from leprosy. It is controversial among historians as to whether this legend is actually true.



Portuguese Blizzards at the Czech March

Story and Photos by Captain Juerg Hostettler, Swiss Army and Captain Martin Wieland, Austrian Army

A total of 655 women and men of KFOR and the European police mission of EULEX participated with excitement in the Czech March, on the 23rd of January 2010, near Shajkofc/Sajkovac. Troops from 17 Nations had the opportunity to pass a physical challenge in a beautiful snow covered landscape. The participants carried their personal weapon, helmet and a backpack, weighing at least 10 kilos. Icy and snowy trails made it very difficult for the participants. The 4 refresh stations on the distance of 24 kilometers were especially convenient for first timers. Staff Sergeant Marco Bernardo and Corporal Antonio Almeida both of the Portuguese Army were the champions of this third Czech March and finished after only 2 hours 20 minutes and 36 seconds, reaching the finishing line as a team.



KFOR Chronicle Sudoku

Amateur

5	9				8		6	
2				1	3			
		7				9	2	8
4		1	2	3		6		
8			4		5			7
		3		9	1	2		5
3	4	8				7		
			6	7				2
	6		3				5	1

Profi

		5	9	1		6			
3									5
				5	3			9	
1	8	4							
			3				1		
							4	6	7
		1			2	5			
4									9
				7		9	6	3	

Peacekeeper's Profiles

Name: Kristian LEIBFARTH

Rank: Captain

Home unit: CC-Land, Madrid

Unit in KFOR: JLSG, Information Manager

Education: Texas Tech University, bachelors' degree in Telecommunications and Infantry Officers Basic Course, Signal Captain Career Course, Information Systems Management Course.

About the mission: This is my first mission in Kosovo, but not my first mission overall. Before I was deployed here, I took part in operations in Iraq, where I was involved in counter-insurgency operations as well as some CIMIC activities. Since my arrival here in Kosovo, I along with the rest of the Joint Logistics Support Group have been working to establish the Headquarters on our first operational deployment. The JLSG has a very important role here in Kosovo. Once the JLSG is fully implemented in theatre, we as a HQ, will be able to greatly assist in the move towards Minimum Presence.

I've spent just two months of my half-year mission to Kosovo, and have already made many of new friends and it has been my privilege to work with some very talented Officers and NCOs from many Nations. I'm sure that being here provides all members of the KFOR-family the opportunity to start new friendships and develop themselves personally and professionally.

Family reaction: I'm single and have a girlfriend. I had no worries about joining the operation here in Kosovo. At the same time, I have made a lot of friends who support me here, just like at home.

Hobbies and free time: I enjoy travelling and the experiences I have on my journeys. I lived in Korea and Iraq for one year each. In addition I have backpacked across western Europe and have had the opportunity to visit Albania, Azerbaijan, The Republic of Georgia, Montenegro, and Poland to name a few. Here in Kosovo I spend my free time playing sports and maintaining contact with my family and friends in the United States.

Plans after the mission: I will return to my home unit and continue my service to NATO and the United States Army. This summer I plan on spending three weeks exploring France.



Name: Michal CERNY

Rank: Staff Sergeant

Home unit: 142 repair battalion, Czech Army

Unit in KFOR: Support Company, special works team

Education: Secondary Military School in Czech Republic.

About the mission: This is my second mission. The previous one was in Iraq when I acted as an instructor on the use of military equipment. During that mission I had a lot of opportunities to meet the local people as well as learn their customs and culture. Here in Kosovo, I'm faced with more changeable tasks that require quick and right responses for the various challenges. My skills have broadened when tasked to repair vehicles, structures and electrical and water supply systems. From my point of view this mission is, first of all, for gaining experience by learning something new and sharing my knowledge.

Family reaction: I have a girlfriend and we are raising 11 years old twin girls. Nevertheless, it was just a half a year between my previous mission and this mission. My family accepted my decision to join KFOR. I had been in a reserve role before I joined this mission, so they had some time to get accustomed to me being gone. They support me and we talk via Skype and cell phone.

Hobbies and free time: I dedicate my free time to sports activities, like running and working out at the gym.

Plans after the mission: I think it is a good idea to have some rest after this mission and I'm going to spend my vacation with the family. At the same time, I know that it is not my last mission and I will have possibility to expand my knowledge in the future.



New Year's Eve in Pristina/Prishtine

