

KFOR

Chronicle



9th Edition

September 30th 2010



Change of Command in KFOR



COM KFOR's Foreword

My dear Comrades,

Since I have taken command over all the NATO Forces in Kosovo on September 1st, we already have managed a lot of challenges and more challenges are coming up in the very near future.

During my numerous visits at different campsites in theatre, I have gained a vivid impression of your capabilities, your professionalism and your dedication to our mission here in Kosovo. Your outstanding performance in many exercises and demonstrations, often in close coordination with the other security players in theatre, strongly convinced me that we will be able to maintain security and freedom of movement within Kosovo as one strong, multinational team.

Let me assure all of you, that the free world is fully aware of the importance of our presence in Kosovo and that we have the strong support of our governments and populations at home!

Over the last years, KFOR has been a real success and I am strongly determined to continue that way. I know very well that I can count on you!

Kosovo Police, the Kosovo Security Force and EULEX day by day improve their capabilities and are more and more able to handle critical situations on their own. But doubtlessly, whenever we are needed, KFOR will stand in the very first row to defend security and freedom of movement.

In fact, KFOR has made strong efforts to reach Gate 2 and I have asked Joint Force Command Naples to accelerate the process. Lasting progress in Kosovo can only be achieved by close cooperation with all stakeholders on the ground. KFOR is an integral part of that concerted effort. So let us face the future challenges following our new motto "Together for Progress"! Together we began this mission and together we will ensure its successful completion.

I wish all of you a fulfilling and challenging tour with the Kosovo Force and a safe and sound return to your families and friends after your mission.

Major General Erhard Bühler
COM KFOR



Handover of the appointment of Editor, KFOR Chronicle

After more than seven years of Austrian officers holding this appointment, let's say good bye to Austria in PAO and now welcome Ireland. Major Michael Keuschnig, Austrian Army, has just come to the end of his term as Chief Internal Information and Editor of the Chronicle. However, Michael is not returning to Austria. He has now taken up an appointment in the J5 branch in KFOR HQ, here in Film City. I am delighted with that, as I will be able to call on Michael's vast knowledge of all things relating to the Chronicle.

Welcome to Ireland in PAO

My name is Commandant (Major) Eugene Doyle, Irish Defence Forces. This appointment is a new departure for me as I have previous experience in the infantry area. If life is about challenges, then this is certainly a new one for me, which I am enjoying already. As part of the Public Affairs Office (PAO) team here at KFOR HQ, I see a huge amount of media activity almost every day. Press conferences, media events, press releases, radio interviews, VIP visits, photo opportunities and the KFOR website homepage are part of the routine of PAO activity. This constitutes the face of KFOR externally, outward to media and all interested outside parties. On the other hand, the Chronicle is an internal communication tool for all KFOR soldiers. Through the Chronicle we learn about Changes of Command, Transfers of Authority, and a myriad of other military and military related activities. Towards that end, I am always grateful to receive articles. Ideally an article should be approximately 400 to 450 words, accompanied by 7 or 8 supporting photographs that tell a story. It is preferable that there is a multi-national aspect to the story. So come on guys and girls, let's have that story.

Finally, I want to say a sincere thank you to my predecessor, Michael, for all his help, guidance, and advice and especially the manner in which he offered it to me.

Have a good and a safe KFOR tour,

Eugene Doyle



Commander KFOR

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Greece	Turkey
Hungary	United Kingdom
Italy	United States

Non-NATO Nations

Armenia	Morocco
Austria	Sweden
Finland	Switzerland
Ireland	Ukraine



TOGETHER FOR

Photos by Master Sergeant Steffen Maluche, German Army



On 05 September 2010, Kosovo Force Commander (COM KFOR), Major General Erhard Bühler, welcomes Mrs. Elke Hoff, Member of Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany to Headquarters KFOR. Mrs. Elke Hoff was the first official visitor to be received by COM KFOR since he took up the appointment of COM KFOR on 01 September 2010

On 08 September 2010, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler, accompanies Mr. Hellmut Königshaus, the German Parliamentary Commissioner for the Armed Forces, to HQ KFOR. During the meeting, they discussed the improved security situation in Kosovo.



On 21 September 2010, Dr. Ralf Brauksiepe, State Secretary in the Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs, visited HQ KFOR and signed the visitors book. In a subsequent meeting, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler and the Minister discussed the current disposition of German troops in KFOR.

On 22 September 2010, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler greets Mr. Roderich Kiesewetter, Member of Parliament of the Federal Republic of Germany. During their meeting, they discussed the security and political situation in Kosovo.





On 27 September 2010, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler, hosted a Press Conference with the Irish Minister of Defence, Mr. Tony Killeen. The Chief of Staff of the Irish Defence Forces, Lieutenant General Sean McCann, was also in attendance.

On 27 September 2010, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler, with Mrs. Iveta Radičová, the Slovakian Prime Minister, attended a memorial ceremony to honour those who died in a Slovakian air crash in the year 2006.



On 27 September 2010, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler, greeted Dr. Alexandr Vondra, the Czech Republic Minister of Defence. During their meeting, they discussed the current situation in Kosovo.

On 28 September 2010, the NATO Military Committee visited Kosovo. Following an exercise at the KEK Power Plant Bravo, a Press Conference was held. Pictured left to right are: Commander Joint Force Command Naples, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, Chairman of the NATO Military Committee, Admiral Giampaolo di Paola, COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler, Minister for KSF, Mr. Fehmi Mujota, and KSF Commander, Lieutenant General Sylejman Selimi.



KFOR Change of Co

Article written by Major Michael Keuschnig, Austrian Army

Photos by Mr. Afrim Hajrullahu

In the early hours of 1 September 2010, many military and civilian vehicles made their way to Camp Film City to attend the official Kosovo Force Change of Command ceremony. Kosovo Force Commander (COM KFOR), Lieutenant General Markus Bentler (German Army) handed over command to Major General Erhard Bühler (German Army). Some of the distinguished guests that attended this commemorative event were the State Secretary at the Federal Ministry of Defense of Germany, Mr. Rüdiger Wolf, Commander Joint Force Command Naples (JFC N), Admiral Mark Fitzgerald and Lieutenant General Roland Kather (former COM KFOR XI). Also in attendance were numerous NATO military authorities, Ambassadors, Heads of Offices of States accredited in Kosovo, the leadership of Institutions in Kosovo, KFOR Multinational Battle Group (MNBG) Commanders and numerous representatives of interna-

tional, national and local media to cover the event. This formal event was held at the helipad, followed by a press conference in the multifunctional tent, and the reception to mark this historic day. The helipad was set up with military equipment and tactical vehicles from all contributing nations of KFOR's troops. The military band, which had been flown in from Germany just for this event, was first on the parade ground and started to perform. Then, formations of all Multinational Battle Groups, KFOR Headquarters, Multinational Specialized Unit, KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM) and Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG), representing all troop contributing nations, marched onto the parade ground.

The ceremony commenced at 1130hrs with the report by Deputy KFOR Commander, Major General Antonio Satta to Commander JFC Naples, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald. The key military leaders then inspected the troops, rendering allegiance to the soldiers. The outgoing COM KFOR, Lieutenant General Markus Bentler, presented his farewell speech. Having thanked his soldiers, Lieutenant General Bentler



Command Ceremony

described the most important events of his period as COM KFOR. A highlight was the progress of the Kosovo Police and the Kosovo Security Force that allowed a steady transfer of responsibilities to these partners. He also expressed his appreciation and admiration to Admiral Mark Fitzgerald for his support and leadership. "Finally, I would like to wish the people of Kosovo a good future with security and prosperity. Let me express my gratitude to you Mr. President and Mr. Deputy Prime Minister for your trust and your support. Thank you also to the Heads of Mission for the sometimes challenging, but nevertheless great and rewarding cooperation. I would like to thank my minister, the German Minister of Defense, for sending me here trusting me and enabling me to gain such great experience. And finally I would like to express my appreciation and admiration to my immediate superior, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald. I thank you for your tremendous leadership. It has been great working with and for you!", said the outgoing Kosovo Force Commander, Lieutenant General Markus Bentler in the end of his speech. Admiral Mark Fitzgerald and

President of Kosovo, Mr. Fatmir Sejdiu underlined in their speeches the role of KFOR in all achievements in Kosovo during the past year. For his outstanding contribution for peace, for a safe and secure environment in Kosovo the President of the Institutions in Kosovo, Mr. Sejdiu decorated Lieutenant General Markus Bentler with the Golden Medal for Military Service in Kosovo. The most decisive point of the event occurred when the incoming Commander Major General Erhard Bühler took over the KFOR flag from the hands of Admiral Mark Fitzgerald. The national Anthem of Germany was played and the new Deputy KFOR Commander, Brigadier General Marco Serronha requested permission from JFC Naples Commander, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald, to end the ceremony. After one year, the "Moving Forward" logo of KFOR XIV Commander, Lieutenant General Markus Bentler, German Army, is replaced with the logo "Together for Progress", belonging to the new KFOR Commander, Major General Erhard Bühler, German Army.



Czech March

*Story by Captain Magdalena Dvořáková, Czech Army
Photos by Sergeant Major Radek Bubeník, Czech Army*

On 28 August, the “Czech March 2010” took place in the Northern part of the Multinational Battle Group Centre Area of Responsibility. The march was organised by the Czech Contingent, fans of traditional military marches, and was located in the area of Podujevo municipality.

Two hundred soldiers and civilian employees of KFOR

and EULEX, from ten NATO countries, participated in the march that traditionally closes the summer season of military marches in Kosovo.

The 22-kilometers-long track led through partly hilly and rough terrain, plains and forest roads, and offered the participants both, a physically demanding walk and also beautiful views of the surrounding landscape, with the start and finish line set at Czech Camp Sajkovac.

The march started at 0800 hrs at the camp’s assembly area, when Czech Contingent Commander, Lieutenant



March 2010

Colonel Martin Kavalir, blew the whistle and wished good luck to everyone . He stated it should be a fun day and stressed the main idea of the international military march - to actively relax and getting to know each other better among and between the contingents.

The rules for a successful completion of the march were simple – the participants had to march in their national uniforms, carry their personal weapons, ten kilograms of extra weight and reach the finish line within eight hours.

First one to comply with these guidelines was a soldier

from the Portuguese contingent who reached the finish line in an amazing two hours and two minutes. First female finisher was a soldier from the Austrian contingent.

The main purpose of the Czech March was fully accomplished. The weather was excellent and everyone greatly enjoyed the walk and chat with friends. E.g. at the refreshment point, which offered, besides beverages and fruits, also a great place to cool down and to meet the other participants and servicemen.



Transfer of Au

Story written by Captain of Italian Carabinieri Carmine Apicella

Photos by Major Michael Keuschnig, Austrian Army

On the evening of 06 September 2010, the ceremony for the Transfer of Authority over Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU), based in Pristina, took place. At the end of his one year tour, the outgoing MSU Commander Colonel Massimo Gianni Cuneo, handed over command over MSU Carabinieri to incoming Colonel Eduardo Russo, from 7th Carabinieri Regiment "LAIVES".

The ceremony was conducted with the presence of Lieutenant General Umberto Pinotti, as representative of Carabinieri headquarters in Rome, COM KFOR Major General Erhard Bühler, and many other distinguished military, religious and civilian guests, such as the Italian Ambassador in Pristina, Michael Giffoni,

Mrs. Elke Hoff, member of the German Parliament, the German Vice Ambassador, Christian Klein, the KFOR Italian Senior National Representative, Brigadier General Enrico Spagnoli, and the representative of the Roman Catholic Diocese of Prizren, Bishop Gjergji Dode.

At the beginning of the ceremony, most of the MSU Carabinieri and representatives of EULEX Police lined up in formation on the parade ground at "An Nassiriya Square" in front of HQ MSU.

During his speech, Colonel Gianni Massimo Cuneo thanked COM KFOR Major General Erhard Bühler's predecessor, Lieutenant General Markus Bentler and the General Director of the Kosovo Police, Behar Selimi. KP cooperates more and more with MSU in order to achieve its operational standards in line with other European Police Forces. Colonel Cuneo also expressed his thanks to the other authorities, e.g. the



Authority at MSU

local media, KFOR HQ Staff, EULEX, KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM) and all Multinational Battle Groups deployed in Kosovo for their precious cooperation. A special greeting was addressed to the civilian employees who work in the base.

The outgoing Commander stated that time has passed by very quickly since he had come to Kosovo twelve months ago, since everybody works with enthusiasm and devotion. Colonel Cuneo sincerely thanked all MSU personnel for their professionalism and sacrifices, made by them while being far away from their own families. He welcomed Colonel Russo, wishing him all the best.

Afterwards, COM KFOR Major General Erhard Bühler addressed words of appreciation to Colonel

Cuneo and remembered the time, when he had already been in Kosovo in 2004 as Commander of what was then called Multinational Brigade South in Prizren.

At that time he had the opportunity to appreciate the high operating standards of the Carabinieri.

The ceremony came to an end when the outgoing Commander handed over the unit's colours to COM KFOR, who, in return, handed it over to Colonel Russo. Finally Colonel Cuneo was conferred the "Non Article 5" Medal directly by COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler, for his one-year duty as MSU Commander.

After his return to Italy, Colonel Cuneo is going to be in command of Comando Provinciale Carabinieri in Rieti, near Rome.



9/11 TR

Story by Commandant Eugene Doyle, Irish Defence Forces

Photos by Master Sergeant Steffen Maluche, German Army

On a quiet Saturday morning, 11 September 2010, in Camp Film City, Pristina, at 0800 hrs, the US contingent remembered the ninth anniversary of what has universally become known as 9/11 (nine eleven). The US contingent was joined by a large voluntary international element, both bodies of troops were formed up

facing the US NSE.

Colonel Jeffrey Klavens commenced the tribute on this solemn day by sharing his own thoughts with the assembled personnel. He spoke about the importance of remembering and honouring those who died on that fateful day, “the worst tragedy in American history”. He recalled the sequence of events, the terror, panic and devastation. How could this be happening in the heartland of such a strong nation with such a powerful military force? Most of us can remember exactly where we were when this news broke, our first thoughts most likely that this cannot be real, more like a horror movie. But it was actually happening before our eyes. 2,979 people were murdered that day, for many of those, no body parts were ever found. “411 heroes, the police, fire and emergency workers, gave their lives so that others might live. Their acts of courage and of selflessness demonstrate the American spirit.... We should never forget this day”.

Major General Erhard Bühler, COM KFOR, was then invited to speak. He empathised with the sentiments expressed by Colonel Klavens. The Colours team then entered and positioned themselves at the base of the



RIBUTE

flag pole. Thereafter, a moment's silence was observed, followed by the bell being struck firmly seven times at 3 second intervals. To the sound of TAPS, the troop's formation responded to the command "Present Arms" and the colours team started to lower the US Flag to half staff. On completion of the last note of the TAPS, the formation returned to the "At Ease" position. Major General Erhard Bühler, COM KFOR, then laid a wreath at the base of the flag pole. Colonel Klavens had earlier spoken

about the importance of remembering, laying the wreath now symbolised that remembrance. Chaplain Weber then concluded the ceremony with the closing prayer.

Suddenly the 9/11 tribute was over, but people were slow to depart, each one pre-occupied with his own thoughts. Camp Film City was coming to life, the birds were busy in the trees, another bright day beckoned in Kosovo.



CRC Course

Story by Commandant Eugene Doyle, Irish Defence Forces

Photos by Mr. Afrim Hajrullahu

On Friday morning at 0900 hrs, 17 Sept 2010, under blue skies at Camp Vrelo, approximately 400 KFOR soldiers and EULEX personnel assembled to undergo the practical part of EXERCISE SILVER SABRE. It is a Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) Exercise that is organized every 3 months in order to ensure common understanding of rules of engagement (ROE) and standardized KFOR CRC procedures.

Major Jaroslaw Klos POL (A), who works at J3 CONOPS, is primarily responsible for preparing and

conducting this Exercise. It is important that KFOR CRC platoon leaders, company commanders and staff officers responsible for CRC activities will possess common knowledge and understanding of CRC procedures, red/blue box concept and anticipated changes in the future.

Prior to the practical part of the course as mentioned above on 17 Sept, the theoretical part of the Exercise was conducted at KFOR HQ by J3 CONOPS on 14 Sept 2010. Subjects covered in the theoretical part included KFOR capabilities, transport support, KFOR ROE's, red/blue box concept, mine awareness and EULEX CRC capabilities.

At the practical Exercise, a large number of observers



Silver Saber

were present. All 5 Battle Groups were represented, as were EULEX and Multinational Support Unit (MSU). There were also almost 50 officers from the Key Leader Training (KLT) course in attendance. KFOR soldiers being exercised were composed of Slovenian, Italian and Turkish platoons. They were supporting 2 EULEX platoons from Poland and Italy. The rioters were drawn from Moroccan, Turkish and Portuguese platoons.

The initial part of the Exercise included a display of MSU techniques against rioters, the employment of dogs and tactics against molotov cocktails. This was

followed by a static display of all available CRC equipment. The tempo then rose very quickly as a full scale riot gradually developed, but this was controlled very tightly by the Exercise controllers. Reinforcements for EULEX were delivered by heli and reinforced vehicles removed road barriers. The heli landing site was secured, and after the KFOR soldiers had engaged with the rioters, the simulated red/blue box area was also secured. Previous experiences in KFOR have indicated the absolute necessity to maintain the highest standards with regard to CRC training.



Kosovo Security Force Start

*Story by Lieutenant Colonel Michael J. Sawyer,
Operations Support Brigade Branch Chief and Senior
Mentor to the KSF Operations Support Brigade,
United States Army
Photos by MCAD*

The Kosovo Security Force (KSF) on July 12, 2010 started a humanitarian de-mining campaign, a first for the KSF. The Ministry of the KSF, working with the KSF Mine Action Coordination Center, decided on the list of locations based on their priorities of assisting the people of Kosovo. There were four initial locations with the primary initial focus on the village of Milaj (located southwest of Prizren). The remaining four locations are the KSF Barracks in Ferizaj, a bunker complex near Halilaj (near the Pristina airport), and the village of Shtime Belince (near Dulje Pass). The village of Milaj was chosen because the local inhabitants have not been able to return to their homes due to

the proximity of the mine fields planted during the war. A fifth location has recently been added, near the village of Kosare.

During a ceremony at the village of Milaj on July 12, the Minister of the KSF (mKSF), Mr. Fehmi Mujota, watched an Unexploded Ordinance (UXO) demolition demonstration and was the one who "pushed the button" to ignite the demolition charge.

The Explosive Ordinance and Disposal Company (EOD COY) of the KSF Operations Support Brigade underwent four months of extensive training from the EOD Detachment of Multi-National Battle Group



ts Humanitarian De-mining

East to achieve this capability. The Mine Action Trust, a non-governmental agency focused on de-mining activities world wide, was also heavily involved with the training of the KSF members. The final course graduated on 9 July with 22 KSF members certified at the Level Four standards in accordance with the International Mine Action Standards. This training for the de-miners consisted of initial training for new members of the KSF and also re-certification training for those who were de-miners in the now defunct Kosovo Protection Corps. As part of the train up process, the EOD COY para-medical members received refresher medical training. Prior to the start of actual operations, the team members conducted mission rehearsals, equipment serviceability checks, and were subject to detailed physical inventories of their equipment by the KSF Civil Protection Regiment and the Operations Support Brigade.

The de-mining teams generally consist of eight personnel and three vehicles but can be modified based on the specifications of the mission. There is a command team of two with one jeep, six de-miners with two cargo trucks, and a medical team of two personnel with one ambulance.

When a UXO is found, the team notifies the mKSF Situation Center who then notifies the KSF Mine Action Coordination Center and KFOR. This notification process ensures KFOR is aware and allows time for the coordination of air space management prior to the demolition of the found item. Since the start of the de-mining campaign, the KSF has found and destroyed two anti-personnel mines, three cluster bombs (BL-755), 58 unexploded ordinances of various types, and responded to over eight EOD emergencies.

The de-mining campaign will continue until the fall when the rain and snow conditions restrict field operations. During the winter months, the KSF will conduct internal refresher training and a three week course in January conducted by the US European Command. The EOD COY will also visit schools as part of the mine awareness education program for the children of Kosovo.



Multinational A

Story by 1st Lieutenant Ronald Philipp, German Army

Photos by MAZ & More

On 19 August 2010, elements of the MEDEVAC and Field Hospital Company commanded by Lieutenant Colonel, Medical Service, Dr. Tobias G. trained Italian rescue forces in Multinational Battle Group West (MNBG W). The exercise, which was conducted for the second time in the Italian Area of Responsibility, aimed at examining the time, which passed by between reception of an accident report, the medical care for the injured, and at supervising the medical treatment. The exercise scenario of "Random Exercise" was a traffic accident including civilians and KFOR soldiers with four people sustaining different serious injuries, on a little used road close to abandoned Camp Bosco, East of Pec. The casualties were played by German and Austrian soldiers belonging to the Medical Task Force's MEDEVAC and Field Hospital Company. The place



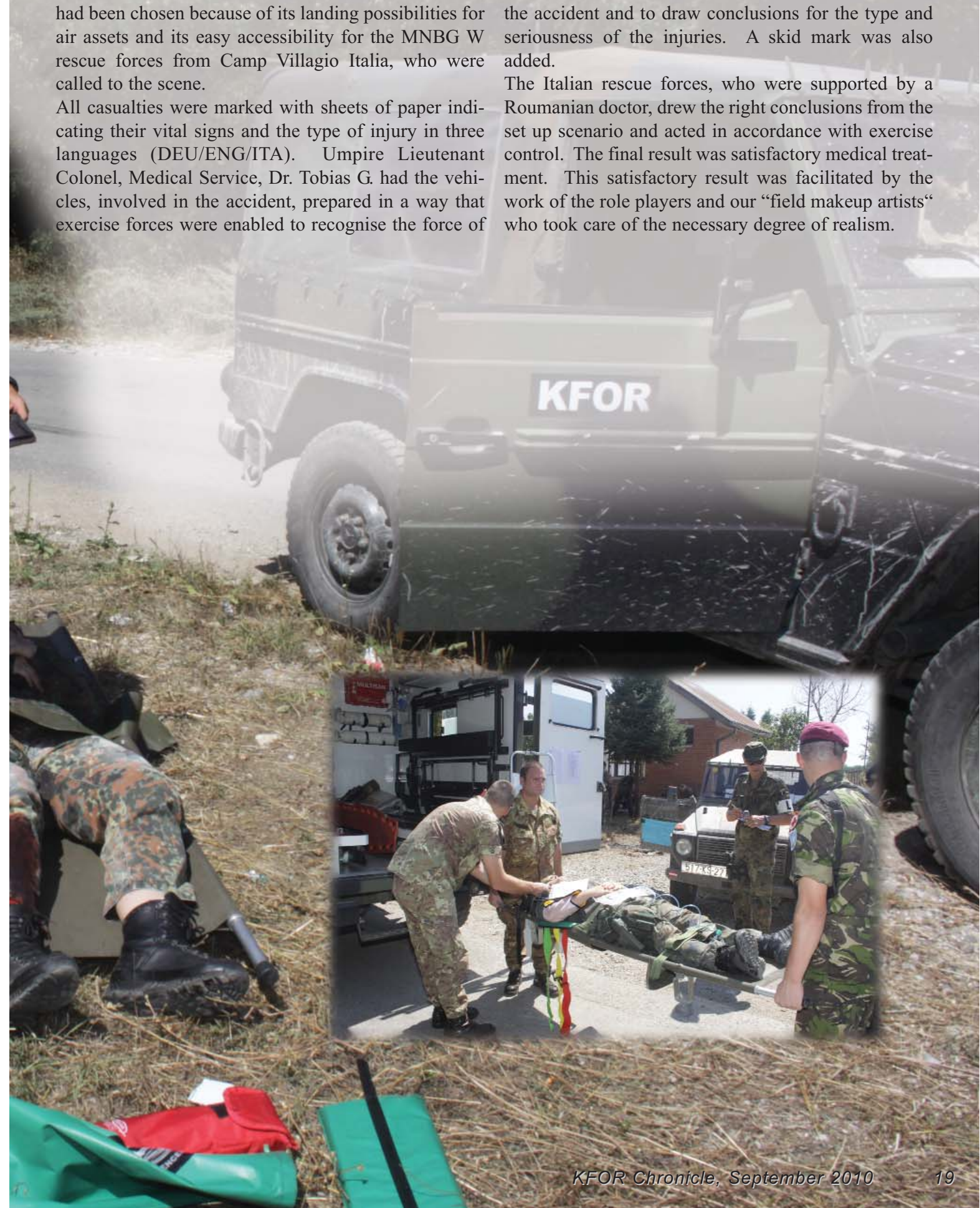
Medical Exercise

had been chosen because of its landing possibilities for air assets and its easy accessibility for the MNBG W rescue forces from Camp Villagio Italia, who were called to the scene.

All casualties were marked with sheets of paper indicating their vital signs and the type of injury in three languages (DEU/ENG/ITA). Umpire Lieutenant Colonel, Medical Service, Dr. Tobias G. had the vehicles, involved in the accident, prepared in a way that exercise forces were enabled to recognise the force of

the accident and to draw conclusions for the type and seriousness of the injuries. A skid mark was also added.

The Italian rescue forces, who were supported by a Roumanian doctor, drew the right conclusions from the set up scenario and acted in accordance with exercise control. The final result was satisfactory medical treatment. This satisfactory result was facilitated by the work of the role players and our “field makeup artists“ who took care of the necessary degree of realism.



The Transfer of Authority over M

*Story by 1st Lieutenant Clarisse Chopin, French Army
Photos by Mr. Afrim Hajrullahu*

Monday, 13 September 2010 was the last time for the children of Picardie “enfants de Picardie” to see the multinational battle group north pennant in their possession. The mandate of this young battalion, which was created in February, reached its end because of the readjustment of KFOR’s troops in Kosovo.

The Transfer of Authority was conducted on that day, with the presence of COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler. Colonel Bellenger, 1st Infantry

Regiment, handed over command to Colonel Barrera of 1st Marine Infantry Regiment.

General Bühler stated, he was grateful for the good job that the battalion had done during its presence in Kosovo.

The 1st Infantry Regiment’s track record in KFOR was very positive after a summer, full of hard working in the Area of Responsibility in North Kosovo.

In fact, despite being stable, the multi-ethnic region of Mitrovitca is still tense. For that reason, the companies were assigned to patrol their AOR on both sides (North and South) of the Ibar River in order to maintain a safe



Multinational Battle Group North

and secure environment and freedom of movement for all communities.

Two major events have marked the mandate of 1st Infantry Regiment. On 30 May while on duty at the Main Bridge in Mitrovitca, the battalion faced an escalation in aggression from both communities. This necessitated that the unit acted firmly in order to keep the violence at a subdued and manageable level.

Thanks to this action the battalion was able to create a calm environment until the end of the mandate. The second major event that forced the battalion to remain

in an alert posture for several days was the advisory opinion delivered by the International Court of Justice (ICJ) on 22 July 2010.

As far as 1st Marine Infantry Regiment is concerned, they have arrived with great enthusiasm and a serious focus, in order to strengthen the cooperation with EULEX and the KP. General Bühler took the opportunity, whilst attending the TOA ceremonial event, to express his complete confidence in this incoming battalion.



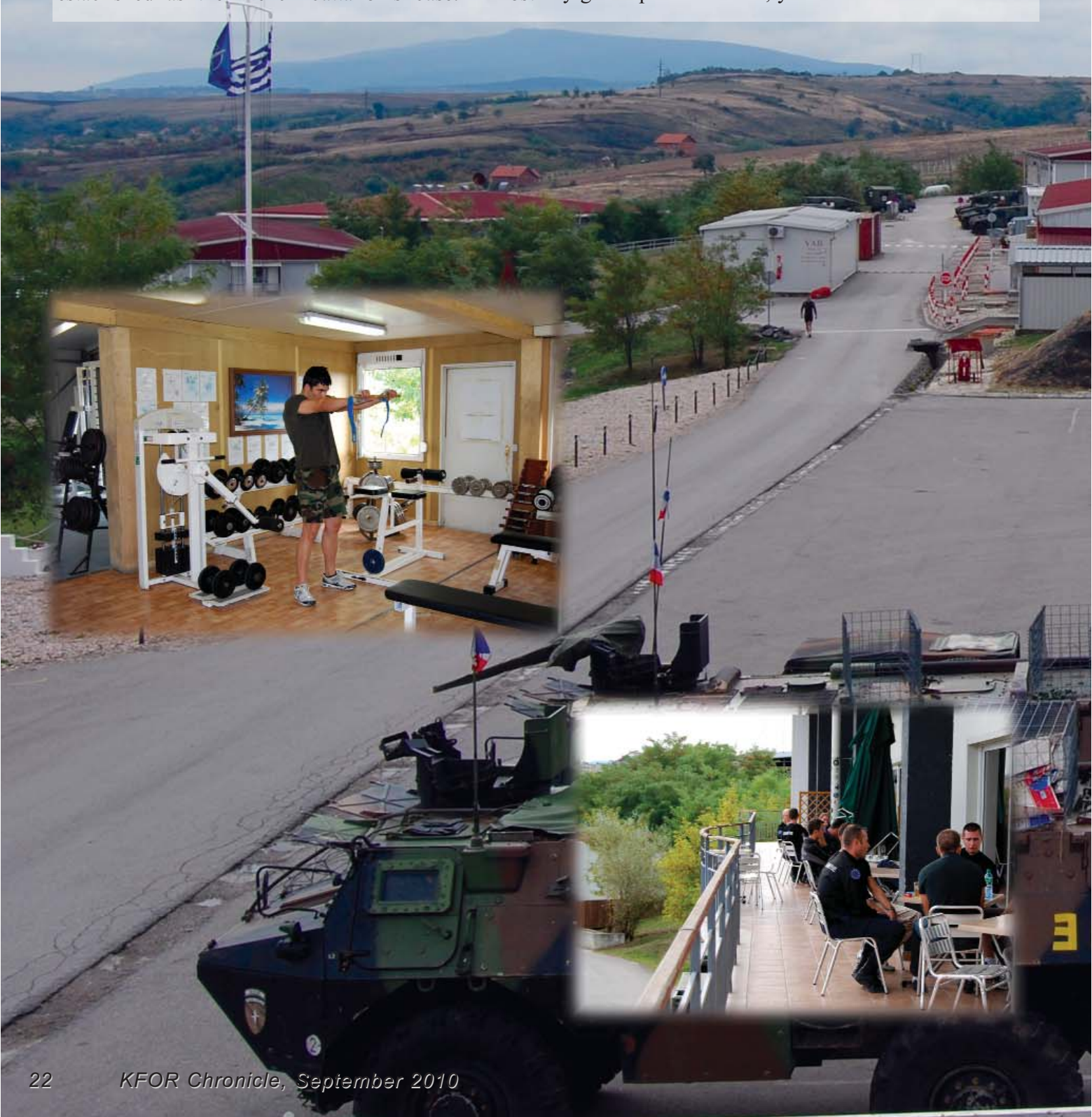
ABOUT CAM

*Story by 1st Lieutenant Clarisse Chopin, French Army
Photos by French Contingent*

Camp Belvedere is located in the South of Mitrovica. Established on a hillock, it was, prior to 1999, the location of an old ammunition depot of the Serbian army. It took two years to decontaminate the area and then subsequently build the camp at this place. Officially opened during the winter of 2001, it became rapidly established as the French battalion's base. Almost

1000 soldiers are living there now. This camp is intimately linked with the destiny of Mitrovica because it is this camp which has provided most of the patrols and the Quick Reaction Force in the city for the last 10 years. Today, it's the anchor camp of the Multinational Battle Group North. Both, KFOR soldiers and EULEX members, live here.

Camp Belvedere is a nice place to be! Thanks to really good sports facilities, you can choose to do cardio-



P BELVEDERE

training, bicycle-trips around Mitrovica, a run through the beautiful countryside near the camp, or simply play basketball or football with your friends. If you feel a bit nervous, there is even a Dojo for some close combat, boxing or karate.

The other really good thing in the camp is the welfare. If you come to Mitrovica, you can pay a visit to the French restaurant, called "Panoramique", where you can find the finest dishes and wines, or simply enjoy a coffee on the balcony. For the soldiers living in the

camp, television and internet are provided in every room, a great opportunity for a little talk with their families after work.

Most of all, the general atmosphere is really good. All contingents live together in a friendly atmosphere, and every evening one can take a drink at the bar, and discover other cultures. So don't hesitate to make a little stop at camp Belvedere, if you have to go to Mitrovica; you will not regret the stop!



Transfer of Authority Cere

Story by Captain Rui Soares, Portuguese Army

Photos by Master Sergeant Steffen Maluche, German Army

On 21 September 2010, the Portuguese KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM) conducted a further Transfer of Authority (TOA) Ceremony at Camp Slim Lines. The 2nd Parachute Battalion (2PARABn) was replaced by the 1st Parachute Battalion (1PARABn). The ceremony was presided over by COM KFOR, Major General Erhard Bühler. Also present were the DCOM KFOR, Brigadier General Marco Serronha, members of the HQ Staff, and other distinguished guests, both military and civilian, who kindly accepted invitations to this significant event. The ceremony, simple but of great significance and symbolized by national values, marks the biannual rotation of the Portuguese Contingent within KFOR.

The TOA started with the handover of the Portuguese National Flag, given to the incoming 1PARA Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Paulo Abreu, by the outgoing 2PARA Commanding Officer, Lieutenant Colonel Nuno Moreira. This represents the National TOA between National Contingent Commanders. Afterwards, COM KFOR took the KTM flag from the outgoing Commander and handed it over to the incoming Commander, representing the Change of Command. In his farewell speech, Lieutenant Colonel Nuno Moreira expressed his gratitude to all, who have supported his battalion throughout the last six months, and wished the best of luck to 1PARA's soldiers.

Speaking to his soldiers of 2PARA, Lieutenant Colonel Moreira referred to their proficiency and professionalism and remembered that they were at the "end of our tour with the satisfaction of having fully



Ceremony at Camp Slim Lines

accomplished our mission. We did what was asked of us, we were always ready, with the certainty that we would have surely risen to whatever challenge might have been presented". One important issue was to facilitate the SASE in Kosovo and that was why he was "proud to have been your commander. It has been my honour and privilege to have served with you once again". He also thanked the incoming battalion.

Speaking about 1PARA, Lieutenant Colonel Abreu said that "we are aware of the responsibility and honour which weighs on our shoulders so I would like to assure you that we will commit to maintaining the high standards of performance set by those that have preceded us in the same role". Because of that, KFOR and its Commander became proud of the Portuguese Tactical Reserve Maneuver Battalion. He thanked LtCol Moreira for helping with the handover-takeover process, "which has given us the best head-start possi-

ble for the beginning of our tour" and remarked that the work that 2PARA had done was now in good hands, the hands of your "Brothers in Arms".

The DCOM, Brigadier General Serronha, said that 2PARA deserved to be acknowledged with "sincere gratitude for the highly meritorious and professional way you have performed your mission". He wished them a safe return home. To the 1PARA he said that "you have the responsibility to maintain the standards of your predecessors, allied with the quality of your commanders, this will ensure your success. He wished all of them good luck.

COM KFOR acknowledged the professionalism of 2PARA and referred to the qualities of flexibility and immediate reaction capability, as the KTM's assurance of success. COM KFOR ended his speech, wishing a successful mission to the new KTM in support of KFOR's efforts.



Joint Patrols with the Serbian Army on the Administrative Boundary Line

Story written by 1st Lieutenant Damijan Špelič, Slovenian Army

Photos by India Company, Slovenian Army

The Slovenian Company, called India Company, in its Area of Responsibility (AOR) Istok, monitors the Administrative Boundary Line (ABL) between Kosovo and Serbia. Monitoring involves setting up observatories at dominant points, also during bad weather, and carrying out joint patrols with the Serbian army.

Because of the high altitude areas of the ABL and a lot

of snow in late spring, India Company sets observatories at dominant points in the vicinity of the ABL. Members of the patrols report the situation to the joint operations center of KFOR which controls all activities and has established liaison with representatives of the Serbian army in Novi Pazar.

After the snow melted, in late spring, India Company began to conduct joint patrols with Serbian soldiers along the ABL. Roads leading to the ABL are steep and in a very bad condition, so that the journey to meeting points with Serbian patrols is quite an achievement. Paths leading to the very point of the meeting can be



Administrative Boundary Line between Kosovo and Serbia

travelled upon only with cross-country vehicles or tractors. Slovenian troops on the way met different people - shepherds with livestock, hunters, smugglers of various goods, as well as legal and illegal wood cutters. During the patrols at the ABL, information has been exchanged between KFOR and the Serbian army. Also, different level meetings have been held, attended by the Commander of India Company, senior representatives of Multinational Battle Groups West and North

and KFOR representatives. The meetings took place either in Kosovo or Serbia (Novi Pazar, Kopaonik). At these meetings information could be shared, and the dates and meeting points of joint patrols of KFOR troops and the Serbian army could be coordinated. So far all patrols have taken place without incident and there is a good cooperation with the Serbian soldiers, which will hopefully continue in the future.



Swedish Armed Forces Entertainers

Story by Lieutenant Evelina Bomark, Swedish Armed Forces

Pictures by Lieutenant Evelina Bomark and Captain Mårten Martinsson, Swedish Armed Forces

Swedish Armed Forces Entertainers is a voluntary organization and since 1953 they have entertained the Swedish soldiers both in Sweden and abroad. As far back as 1957, the first group of artists entered the international scene.

Last week the band "Out of Bounds" and stand-up comedian Kristoffer Appelquist visited the unit in Kosovo in order to give them a break from the normal

routines. They offered entertainment at the highest level. Singer Maria Johansson has worked a lot with Swedish Armed Forces Entertainers in Sweden and had also been in Afghanistan once.

"We are here to give the unit a break and to give them more energy to go back to normal routine with more passion" she says.

During the week "Out of Bounds" played four times at Camp Victoria and Camp Ville. In collaboration with the unit's chaplain, one of the gigs was held as a mass with music by the band U2. The week ended with a festival on Saturday. Two local camp bands, "Nuggets" and the "Moose Brothers", also played at the festival.



entertainers rock Camp Victoria

Approximately 300 people from among the Swedish, Finnish, Italian, Slovenian and American troops were in the audience.

A basic requirement for a Swedish Armed Forces Entertainer to operate internationally, is to do one of the Swedish Armed Forces Entertainers courses that are available on three levels. The entertainers participate as troops and wear uniforms just like everyone else. During the week of the visit to the Swedish contingent, they were on patrol with Bravo Company, participated in the work of the medevac squad and got a briefing by one of the Swedish Liaison Monitoring Teams.

"I had read a lot about Kosovo before and it is interesting to see what has happened here, to witness the successful operation. I like to broaden my perspectives" said Maria Johansson.

Maria believes that there are many reasons why musi-

cians, actors and comedians choose to become Armed Forces Entertainers.

"There is a certain amount of adventure but also a different way of working and an opportunity to meet other musicians" she says.

The musicians had not played together as a band, before they did their training for going to Kosovo. The director is in charge of selecting members of the band and he or she tries to get a mix of musicians, both in terms of musical styles and previous experience abroad. Maria Johansson is very content with the week at Camp Victoria.

"It's been a big week in my life. It's fun to hang out at the mess hall and in the dining hall and chat with people, but there is also an awareness in the unit. There is incredible knowledge and a genuine interest in the unit to preserve the rights of people" she says.



Peacekeeper's Profiles

NAME: Kate Hanrahan

RANK: Captain

NATIONALITY: Irish

HOME UNIT: 4 Western Brigade Headquarters (Infantry Officer)

UNIT IN KFOR: HSG

MILITARY EDUCATION: Cadet School 2000-2002, University Degree (Science) 2006, Young Officer's Infantry Course 2006.

ABOUT THE MISSION: I hold the appointment of HSG S4 PAO (Property Accounting Officer). I am responsible for all accountable and non-accountable (expendable) property on charge to HQ KFOR. I am responsible for all billeting within Film City. I am responsible for the Facilities Management branch; these are the people who deal with repairs and improvements within accommodations. I have a supervisory role over TRANSCOY within HSG. Again, I also have a supervisory role with the Dining Facility (DFAC). Over eight-hundred (800) people are accommodated in Film City so it is an extremely busy job.

FAMILY REACTION: My family have always been very supportive throughout my military career, this is my second trip overseas (KFOR 2007) so they have been through the separation before. I will travel home twice on leave to see them.

PLANS AFTER THE MISSION: I plan to work in Defence Force Headquarters in Dublin on my return but have not been given a specific appointment as of yet. One of my main priorities when I return home is to complete the six (6) month Junior Command and Staff course; if successful, this will qualify me for promotion to Major.

HOBBIES: Volleyball is my main sport; I have been playing for the Irish Senior Team for a number of years and recently competed in the European Championships (June 2010). I also like cycling and hill walking. I keep quite fit and this is made much easier with the excellent facilities here in HQ KFOR.



Name: Pavel Hlávek

Rank: Sergeant Major

Home unit: 152nd Engineer Battalion Rakovník

Current position in KFOR: Chief technician of Logistic Company of 16th Contingent of Czech Armed Forces in KFOR.

Education: Military high school, engineer specialization in service and repair of equipment and machines.

Military background: I am in the military since I was a teenager and entered the Military technical high school in Nitra, in former Czechoslovakia. My specialization was service and repair of equipment and machines. Ever since I left the high school I was serving in the engineering branch. My home base is located in Rakovník city with the 152nd Engineer Battalion.

I fulfilled my dream to combine my hobby and job in one. I am now serving in the Czech Army as a technician for twenty three years.

About Kosovo experience: This is my second deployment to Kosovo. I was here for the first time in 2002. I had also served here as a technician of the Logistic Company at that time. I can honestly say I can fix anything that is on wheels.

After mission in Kosovo: I am about to finish my mission here in Kosovo. The roads of Kosovo kept me busy for the past eight months in workshops fixing the vehicles. When I get home I am looking forward to having some spare time and maybe reading some books. I like science fiction and thrillers.

Future plans: My plans are simple. I am married with two kids who are almost grown-ups, so I think I will take my family for some winter vacation. Then I will go back to my battalion to continue in my military career.



Civilian's Profile

Name: Armend Dumani

Job Title: Carwasher

Position: HQ KFOR – Car Wash

Experience: qualified as accountant, working in KFOR since 2001

Language: English, German, Albanian, Serbian

Job in progress:

I worked for DynCorp and was a craftsman, caretaker and driver and I looked after requirements in these areas. I also carried out repairs and maintenance. In the beginning there were fewer buildings, and with time it became bigger and they built more containers. We also built the tents in HQ for the Quick Reaction Force of KFOR.

Since 2008, I have been employed by KFOR in Headquarters Support Group in the section Car Wash.

It is fun to talk to the soldiers from different nations and meet many people. During a normal day I wash approximately 35 vehicles including Passats, Touaregs, mini-buses, trucks and forklifts from the National Support Elements, KFOR and the Transcoy. The service covers both washing outside and cleaning inside. When there is a lot of traffic then there is unfortunately sometimes a short delay until your vehicle's turn is the next one.

The only thing I can't change, is that the result of my work doesn't last for a long time and the cars become dirty again very soon.

Family reaction: I am married and we have three children from two months of age up to eight years of age.

Hobbies: football, jogging.



KFOR Chronicle Sudoku

Amateur

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

Profi

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

Solution
August Edition

Amateur

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

Profi

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

Prizren



Photo by Afrim Hajrullahu