KFOR CHRONICLE

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Change of Command COMKFOR

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COMKFOR
LTG Roland Kather

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HEADQUARTERS KOSOVO FORCE
Roland KATHER
Lieutenant General
COMMANDER KFOR

Ladies and gentlemen, dear friends of our KFOR-family!

We all can feel the pulse of history during these days in Kosovo. Negotiations for Kosovo's final status are ongoing to pave the way to a better future. At the same time, right now 16,000 soldiers from 34 nations have one common goal: To ensure a safe and secure environment for everybody in Kosovo, no matter what gender, religion or ethnic background.

Within the last year, KFOR has strengthened its efforts in developing a personal relationship with citizens and leadership in Kosovo through intensive communication and constructive dialogue. All the while, KFOR maintained its focus on the execution of the mission. The KFOR family welcomes everyone who shares our values of tolerance, mutual respect and peaceful coexistence. However, there has and will be no tolerance for anyone who would threaten the safe and secure environment that we all achieved. Thus we continued the work of my predecessor as my successor will do.

The wonderful people of Kosovo deserve a decision so that it will be possible for them to shape their future in Europe by their own hands. I am sure that one day all residents of Kosovo will live their lives in political, social and economical stability.

Of course, there is still hard work ahead of us. But this is simply for the benefit of the young generation of Kosovo. It is worth all our efforts to give them a perspective of peace and prosperity.

I would like to thank all the people of Kosovo and the local authorities for their hospitality during my time as Commander Kosovo Force. And I thank all members of the international community for their outstanding cooperation.

It has been a great honor for me to serve as the head of the KFOR family. I want to thank every member of this family for their outstanding performance during the last year. Every single soldier has been a true professional, using his skills to enable a better future for all people of Kosovo, true to our motto,

"SHAPING THE FUTURE".

Lieutenant General ROLAND KATHER

HEADQUARTERS KOSOVO FORCE

Roland KATHER

Lieutenant General

COMMANDER KFOR

Albanian Language

Të gjithë e ndjejmë pulsin e historisë gjatë këtyre ditëve në Kosovë. Negociatat për statusin final të Kosovës janë në vijim për të hapur rrugën një të ardhmeje më të mirë. Në të njejtën kohë, tani 16,000 ushtarë nga 34 vende kanë një qëllim të përbashkët: që të ofrojnë ambient të qetë dhe të sigurt për të gjithë në Kosovë, pa marrë parasysh gjininë, përkatësinë fetare ose etnike.

Gjatë vitit të kaluar KFOR-i ka shtuar përpjekjet në zhvillimin e marrëdhënieve personale me qytetarët dhe udhëheqësit në Kosovë përmes komunikimit intensiv dhe dialogut konstruktiv. Mbi të gjitha, KFOR-i ruajti përqëndrimin e tij në përmbushjen e misionit. Familja e KFOR-it mirëpret të gjithë ata që ndajnë vlerat tona të tolerancës, respektit të dyanshëm dhe bashkëjetesës paqësore. Sidoqoftë nuk ka dhe nuk do të ketë tolerancë për askënd që do të kërcënonte ambientin e qetë dhe të sigurt të cilin e kemi arritur të gjithë. Prandaj ne vazhduam punën e paraardhësve të mi siç do ta bëjnë pasardhësit e mi.

Populli i mrekullueshëm i Kosovës meriton një vendim, që do të mundësonte të gjithëve formësimin e të ardhmes së tyre në Evropë me duar të veta. Jam i sigurt se një ditë të gjithë banorët e Kosovës do të jetojnë në stabilitet politik, social dhe ekonomik.

Natyrisht se ka ende punë të vështirë para nesh. Por kjo thjesht është për të mirë të të rinjve të Kosovës. Ja vlejnë të gjitha përpjekjet tona që t'u ofrojmë atyre perspektivë për paqe me dhe prosperitet.

Dëshiroj të falënderoj të gjithë popullin e Kosovës dhe institucionet vendore për mikpritjen e tyre gjatë kohës sime si Komandant i KFOR-it. Falënderoj të gjithë anëtarët e komunitetit ndërkombëtar për bashkëpunimin e tyre të shkëlqyeshëm.

Ishte nder i madh për mua që të shërbej si udhëheqës i familjes së KFOR-it. Dëshiroj të falënderoj çdo anëtar të kësaj familje për punën e palodhshme gjatë vitit të fundit. Çdo ushtar ishte profesionist i vërtetë, dhe shfrytëzuan aftësitë e tyre për të mundësuar një të ardhme më të mirë për tërë popullin e Kosovës, me moton tonë "Ta formësojmë të ardhmen".

Serbian Language

Ovih dana na Kosovu svi osecamo puls istorije. Pregovori o konacnom statusu Kosova su u toku i otvorice put ka novoj buducnosti. Za to vreme, 16 000 vojnika trenutno ima isti cilj, da pruž i sigurnost i bezbednost za sve na Kosovu, bez obzira na pol, religiju ili etnicku pripadnost.

Tokom prošle godine, KFOR je pojacao napore da razvije licne odnose sa gradjanima i rukovodstvom Kosova kroz intenzivnu komunikaciju i konstruktivni dijalog. KFOR je svo to vreme ostao usredsredjen na izvršavanje misije. KFOR porodica prihvata sve koji dele iste vrednosti tolerancije, uzajamnog poverenja i mirnog ž ivota u zajedništvu. Medjutim, nije bilo, a nece ni biti tolerancije prema onima koji ugroze sigurnost i bezbednost koju smo svi mi postigli. Dakle, nastavljali smo rad svojih prethodnika, što ce isto uraditi i moj naslednik.

Divni ljudi Kosova zasluž uju odluku, da bi mogli da oblikuju svoju evropsku buducnost sopstvenim rukama. Siguran sam da ce jednog dana svi stanovnici Kosova ž iveti u politickoj, društvenoj i ekonomskoj stabilnosti.

Naravno, još uvek nas ceka dosta posla. Ali ovo je jednostavno za dobrobit mlade generacije Kosova. Pruž iti im perspektivu mira i prosperiteta vredno je svih naših napora.

ž elim da zahvalim svim ljudima Kosova i njihovim lokalnim vlastima na gostoprimstvu za vreme mog služ bovanja na mestu komandanta KFOR-a. Takodje zahvaljujem svim pripadnicima medjunarodne zajednice na sjajnoj saradnji.

Bila mi je cast da služ im na celu KFOR porodice. ž elim da zahvalim svim clanovima ove porodice na njihovom izvanrednom radu tokom protekle godine. Svaki vojnik se poneo kao pravi profesionalac i koristio svoje znanje da pruž i bolju buducnost svim ljudima Kosova, dosledno našem sloganu "Oblikovanje buducnosti".

Program overview
Change of Command ceremony

10:50 Marching in of the KFOR troops

11:00 Deputy Commander KFOR (DCOMKFOR) MG Gerhard STELZ will report the troops to Commander KFOR (COMKFOR) LTG Roland KATHER

11:03 COMKFOR will address the parade

11:09 The military band will play the ensemble "Grosser Kurfürst Reitermarsch"

11:11 COMKFOR will report the troops to Commander Joint Forces Command, Naples (COMJFCN) ADM H. G. "Harry" ULRICH III

11:12 Inspection of the Troops (COMJFCN, ADM H.G. "Harry" Ulrich III and COMKFOR, LTG Roland Kather)

11:15 COMJFCN will address the parade

11:21 Presentation of the Non Article 5 Medal to COMKFOR

11:23 The military band will play the ensemble “York’scher Marsch”

11:26 President of Kosovo Mr. Fatmir SEJDIU will address the parade and present the “Gold Medal” for military service in Kosovo to COMKFOR

11:31 The military band will play the ensemble “Marche du Soldat”

11:34 The handover of the KFOR flag begins

11:40 The KFOR flag will be marched to the troops

11:45 The military band will play the German and the French national anthem

11:50 The German Honor Guard will march out

11:55 DCOMKFOR will report the end of the ceremony to COMJFCN, following this, invited guests will leave the parade ground to the reception in the gymnasium

Structure of KFOR

Contributing Nations

Kosovo Force

The Headquarters of Kosovo Force is located in Pristina/Prishtinë, the capital city of Kosovo. It supports a NATO-led mission of five Multinational Task Forces, 34 nations and 16,000 peacekeepers in their effort to provide a safe and secure environment for all citizens living in Kosovo. Since September 1, 2006, Lieutenant General Roland Kather has been Commander Kosovo Force (COMKFOR).

Previously known as Multinational Brigade Centre (MNB C), this area of operation was renamed Multinational Task Force Centre (MNTF C), January 17, 2006. The MNTF's Area of Responsibility (AOR) is 2,200 square kilometers, from Podujevo/Podujeve in the North to Stimlje/Shtime in the South. MNTF C consists of six nations. The NATO countries are represented by the Czech Republic, Latvia, and Slovakia, whereas the Partnership for Peace nations within MNTF C structure are Ireland, Finland and Sweden. The role of MNTF C lead nation was assumed by Ireland in July 2007.

The MNTF E area of responsibility borders Serbia to the east and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the south and covers 2,000 square kilometres with eight municipalities. Besides the United States contingent as lead nation, MNTF E is also comprised of Hellenic and Armenian soldiers who form Task Force Hellas, Ukrainian, Polish and Lithuanian soldiers who form Task Force POLUKRBAT.

Previously known as MNB North (MNB N), it was renamed Multinational Task Force North (MNTF N), December 1, 2005. Today, with soldiers from seven nations, France, Morocco, Estonia, Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark and Greece, MNTF N is composed of four maneuver units. MNTF N's AOR spreads over 2,000 square kilometers.

May 15, 2006, within the scope of the transformation, MNB SW was split into two area Multinational Task Force West (MNTF W) established its Headquarters in Villagio Italia (Pec/Peja). Currently, the AOR of MNTF W is divided into three AORs of the Maneuver Task Forces (TF): TF Aquila operates under Italian command and is supported by Romanian soldiers; TF Tizona is under Spanish command; TF Sokol operates under Slovenian command and is supported by Hungarian soldiers; TF Ercole is placed at Gjakova Airfield, providing Italian and Slovenian helicopters to MNTF W. Overall, the five nations of Italy, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Spain currently contribute to the mission of MNTF W.

The second MNTF created from MNB SW is Multinational Task Force South (MNTF S). Now troops from seven nations, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Germany, Switzerland and Turkey, cooperate in the accomplishment of their mission. MNTF S consists of three Manoeuvre Battalions, a Multinational Helicopter Unit, a German Signals Battalion and support units.

The KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion is composed of the Portuguese 1st Paratrooper Battalion, with almost 300 men and women. KTM functions under COMKFOR's operational control.

The Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU) is a police force with military status, with an overall police capability. The MSU Headquarters is located in Pristina/Prishtinë under the Italian Carabinieri Command. The MSU is COMKFOR's military specialized asset for the management of law enforcement and civil disturbance issues. The MSU is composed of Italian Carabineri and French Gendarms.

Das Wachbataillon - The

No other Bundeswehr unit appears on photos as often as the Federal Ministry of Defence's Guard Battalion. State visits, wreath laying ceremonies or the Grand Tattoo - the Guard Battalion in perfect formation lends a ceremonial atmosphere to every occasion.

The Federal Republic of Germany regularly greets its official guests with military honors by mounting an honor battalion, for instance, composed of personnel from all three services. The differences in formation, movements and size reflect national customs, training traditions, the host's rank according to protocol and the reason for the visit. In addition to guests of the Federal President, guests of the Federal Chancellor, the Federal Minister of Defence, the Chief of Staff, Bundeswehr, as well as of all chiefs of staff are entitled to honor guards commensurate with their rank.

In order to comply with international protocol, the Guard Battalion with the Federal Ministry of Defence was set up in Rheinbach near Bonn on February 16, 1957, making it one of the Bundeswehr's oldest units. Following several relocations, the battalion is now based in Berlin and Siegburg. The Honor Battalion was the first Bundeswehr unit to be awarded its own organisational flag in 1965 by former Federal President Heinrich Lübke as a visible sign of common fulfillment of duty in the service of the country and its people. The unit was awarded its first streamer by Queen Elizabeth II of Great Britain as a token of her recognition. The tradition of the battalion dates back to Prince Elector Friedrich and Count Lottum in 1673. Immediate precursors of the Guard Battalion are the "First Guard Regiment on Foot" and the "First Battalion of Infantry Regiment 9".

Guard Battalion

Its motto "SEMPER TALIS", meaning approximately "Always the same (high standard)", was taken over from the guard battalion of the First Guard Regiment on Foot.

Today, the battalion comprises the battalion staff, a HQ and supply company, and six almost identically structured protocol companies. There is no replacement company active in peacetime. The Guard Battalion comprises a total of 1,490 personnel. Eighty per cent of the battalion's personnel are conscripts. They spend two-thirds of their service time performing protocol duties, including training and protocol appearances. The battalion includes members from all three services - Army, Air Force, and Navy. With the exception of the commander and his deputy, all members of the battalion are kitted out with uniforms of all three services so that all three services can be represented at any time. Requirements for admission to this unit are full physical fitness and a height of between 1.78 and 1.95 metres. In accordance with international protocol practices the wearing of beards and spectacles is not allowed.

The course of training for a conscript in this unit is fundamentally different from that of other units. From the very beginning, special emphasis is given to the various protocol tasks. After three months the soldiers have acquired all the necessary protocol skills, but must still catch up on some other aspects of general basic military training. Subsequently, each member of the guard battalion is capable of applying what he has learned as a member of a flag squad, escort of honor, guard of honor, as a member of an honor company or honor battalion or on the occasion of a Grand Tattoo.

Wehrbereichsm

On April 1, 1991, in the course of the German reunification, the 'Wehrbereichsmusikkorps' (Orchestra of the Military District III) of Erfurt was created under the name 'Heeresmusikkorps 70' (German Army Band 70) and is the orchestra of Military District VII and the 13th Infantry Division.

On July 1, 1994, the orchestra was renamed "German Army Band 13". Because of changes in the structure of the army, the orchestra was moved to Military District III in October 2001. Hence, the "German Army Band 13" is now called "Orchestra of the Military District III of Erfurt".

Not only at home do the military

nusikkorps III

musicians of Thuringia have an excellent reputation - they are, as well, praised and held in high esteem abroad. Ever since their creation, they performed in international music festivals and concerts in Belgium, France, Great Britain, Canada, Poland, Sweden, Switzerland, the Czech Republic and the Netherlands. Their first visit to the USA in October 2002 was both extraordinary and moving.

Apart from the symphonic wind orchestra, which is at the very heart of the Orchestra of the Military District III of Erfurt, they have at their disposition several ensembles (e.g. the Brass and Reed Quintet) and a so-called "Egerländer" band for different kinds of events.

Performances at military ceremonies of the army as well as at beneficiary (open-air) concerts are the main tasks of the orchestra. Their range includes traditional military music, classic pieces, compositions arranged originally for symphonic wind orchestras and Big Band Music. Since March 2007, the orchestra has been directed by Lt. Col. Roland Kahle, an experienced conductor of great reknown.

Lieutenant General Roland Kather

Commander Kosovo Force

CV

Lieutenant General Kather is 58 and was commissioned in the German Army Armoured Reconnaissance Corps in 1968.

He served in various regimental appointments in Panzeraufklärungsbataillon 6 in Eutin, Germany, followed by General Staff training at the Führungsakademie der Bundeswehr in Hamburg from 1979 to 1981. On graduation, he served as Chief G4 with Panzerbrigade 18 in Neumünster, Germany, and then attended the General Staff Course of the Spanish Army in Madrid, Spain, from 1983-84. From 1984 to 1987 Lt. Gen. Kather served in the German Army Staff, Ministry of Defence, (MOD) Bonn.

There then followed an appointment as plans officer of the G3 division Supreme Headquarters Allied Power in Europe (SHAPE) in Mons, Belgium, before assuming command of Panzeraufklärungsbataillon 6 in Eutin, Germany. In 1991, Lt. Gen. Kather was again appointed to MOD Bonn where he served as Executive Officer for the Chief of Staff of the Armed Forces Staff. From 1995 to 1997, he was appointed as Chief of Staff, HQ 7. Panzerdivision/Army District Command III in Düsseldorf. During this period he was deployed to Trogir, Croatia, as Chief of Staff, German Contingent IFOR. In 1997, he became Deputy Director of the Armed Forces Joint Operations Centre at MOD Bonn. From 1999 through 2001, he commanded Panzerbrigade 42 in Potsdam. During this tour he was again deployed to the Balkans, this time as Commander Multinational Brigade South in Prizren, Kosovo.

From 2001 to 2003, Lt. Gen. Kather served as Chief of Staff at HQ German Army Operational Command in Koblenz.

Before assuming command of KFOR, Lt. Gen. Kather commanded 13. Panzergrenadierdivision in Leipzig from 2003 to 2006.

Lt. Gen. Kather is married to Christiane.

His interests include politics, contemporary history and classic cars.

Lieutenant General Roland Kather

Commander Kosovo Force

CV/Albanian Language

Gjeneral Lejtnant Kather është 58 vjeçar dhe është rekrutuar në Armatën Gjermane në vitin 1968 në Trupat e Blinduara të Zbulimit.
Ai ka shërbyer në pozita të ndryshme regjimentale në Panzeraufklärungsbatalion 6 në Eutin, në Gjermani, pastaj prej vitit 1979 deri në vitin 1981 ka vazhduar trajnimin për stafin e përgjithshëm në Führungsakademie der Bundeswehr në Hamburg. Pas diplomimit, ai ka shërbyer si shef i G-4 në Panzerbrigade 18 në Neumünster, në Gjermani, kurse gjatë viteve 1983-1984 ka ndjekur kursin e stafit të përgjithshëm të Armatës Spanjolle në Madrid. Gjatë viteve 1984 - 1987, Gjen. Lejt. Kather ka shërbyer në Stafin e Armatës Gjermane në Ministrinë e Mbrojtjes në Bon.
Pas kësaj, ai është caktuar oficer për planifikim të divizionit G-3 në Shtabin Suprem të Forcave Aleate të NATO-s në Evropë (SHAPE) në Mons, Belgjikë para se të merrte komandën e Panzeraufklärungsbatalion 6 në Eutin, Gjermani. Në vitin 1991, Gjen. Lejt. Kather përsëri është caktuar në Ministrinë e Mbrojtjes në Bon, ku ka shërbyer si oficer ekzekutiv i Shefit të Shtabit të Forcave të Armatosura. Prej vitit 1995 - 1997, ai është emëruar si Shef i Shtabit në Shtabin e 7-të Panzerdivision / Komanda e Distriktit të III Ushtarak në Düsseldorf. Gjatë kësaj periudhe, ai ka shërbyer në Trogir, Kroaci, si Shef i Shtabit të Kontingjenti Gjerman në IFOR. Më 1997, ai u emërua Zëvendës Drejtor i Qendrës së Përbashkët të Operacioneve të Forcave të Armatosura pranë Ministrisë së Mbrojtjes në Bon. Prej 1999-2001, ai ka komanduar Panzerbrigade 42 në Potsdam. Gjatë kësaj kohe, ai sërish është dërguar në Ballkan, këtë herë si Komandant i Brigadës Shumë-Kombëshe Jug në Prizren, Kosovë.
Prej vitit 2001 deri në vitin 2003, ai ka shërbyer si Shef i Shtabit të Shtabit të Ushtrisë Gjermane, Komandës Operacionale në Koblenz.
Para se të merrte komandën e KFOR-it, prej vitit 2003-2006, Gjen. Lejt. Kather ka komanduar Divizionin e 13 Panzergrenadierdivision në Leipzig.

Gjen. Lejt. Kather është i martuar me Kristianën.

Ai është i interesuar për politikë, histori bashkohore dhe vetura klasike.

CV/Serbian Language

General-potpukovnik Kather ima 58 godina, i 1968-me godine je pristupio oklopnom izvidjackom korpusu nemacke vojske. Služ io je na razlicitim pukovskim zaduž enjima pri 6-om oklopnom izvidjackom bataljonu (Panzeraufklärungsbattalion 6) u Eutinu, u Nemackoj, nakon cega je pohadjao generalštabnu obuku na Akademiji za glavni štab i komandu vojnih snaga Republike Nemacke (Führungsakademie der Bundeswehr), u Hamburgu od 1979-te do 1981-ve godine. Nakon diplomiranja, služ io je kao nacelnik uprave G4 u 18-oj oklopnoj brigadi (Panzerbrigade 18) stacioniranoj u Nojmunsteru, u Nemackoj, a zatim je od 1983-ce do 1984-te godine pohadjao generalštabni kurs Španske Armije u Madridu, u Španiji. Od 1984-te pa do 1987-me godine, general-potpukovnik Kather je vršio služ bu u nemackim odbrambenim snagama, pri Ministarstvu odbrane u Bonu.
Nakon toga je sledila služ ba na mestu oficira za planiranje pri upravi G3, u Glavnom Stabu Združ enih Snaga Evrope (SHAPE) u Monsu, u Belgiji, a zatim preuzima komandu nad 6-im oklopnim izvidjackim bataljonom (Panzeraufklärungsbattalion 6) u Eutinu, u Nemackoj. General-potpukovnik Kather je 1991-ve godine još jednom bio naimenovan u služ bu pri Ministarstvu Odbrane (MOD) u Bonu, gde je služ io kao izvršni oficir nacelniku generalštaba oruž anih snaga. Od 1995-te do 1997-me godine je naimenovan na duž nost nacelnika generalštaba, glavnog štaba 7-me oklopne divizije (Panzerdivision) pri okruž noj vojnoj komandi III u Dizeldorfu. Tokom tog perioda je bio poslat na služ bu u Trogiru, u Hrvatskoj, kao nacelnik generalštaba nemackog kontingenta pri medjunarodnim snagama za implementaciju (IFOR). 1997-me godine je postavljen za nacelnika združ enog operativnog centra odbrambenih snaga pri Ministarstvu odbrane (MOD) u Bonu. Od 1999-te do 2001-ve godine je vršio komandu nad 42-om oklopnom brigadom (Panzerbrigade 42) u Potsdamu. Tokom te služ be je još jednom poslat na služ bu na Balkanu, ovoga puta kao komandant multinacionalne brigade - Jug, stacionirane u Prizrenu, na Kosovu.
Od 2001-ve do 2003-ce godine, general-potpukovnik Kather je služ io kao nacelnik generalštaba pri glavnom štabu operativne komande nemackih vojnih snaga u Koblencu.
Pre preuzimanja komande nad medjunarodnim mirovnim snagama na Kosovu (KFOR), general-pukovnik Kater je vršio komandu nad mehanizovanom divizijom (Panzergrenadier Division) u Lajpcigu od 2003-ce do 2006-te godine.

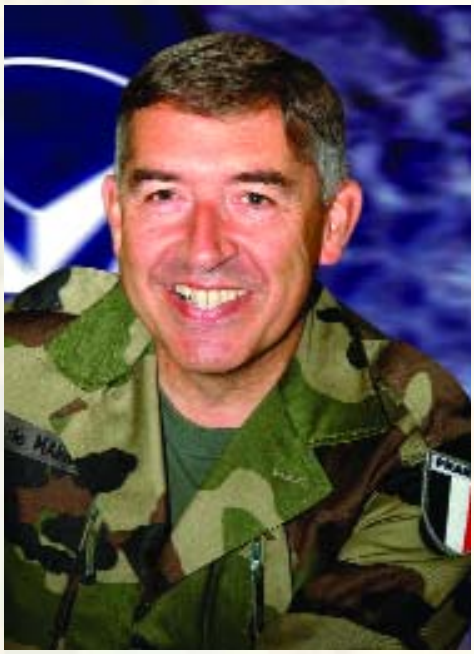
General-potpukovnik Kather je ož enjen Kristijan (Christiane).

Njegova interesovanja ukljucuju politiku, savremenu istoriju i klasicne automobile.

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac

Commander Kosovo Force from August 31, 2007

CV



Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac was born on July 7, 1951 in Trier, Germany.
He was commissioned through the French military academy of Saint-Cyr in 1971 and chose to serve in the Armor and Cavalry branch.

As a cavalry lieutenant and captain, he served in two different light armored regiments, and commanded a recce company in the 4th Hussars regiment. Later, as colonel, he commanded the 6/12 Cuirassiers (tank) regiment.
He also spent four years as special operations forces team leader in the 1st Marine infantry airborne regiment.

But his career is mostly characterized by frequent assignments in different intelligence units, branches or agencies.
He successively served in the 13th Dragoons airborne regiment and in G2/1st (FRA) Army headquarters. Between 1993 and 1996, he worked as intelligence adviser to the French defense minister. And from 1999 to 2004, he was deputy director and director for operations in the French intelligence agency (DGSE).

Lt. Gen. de Marnhac has a great international experience. He was assigned twice in Germany and spent one year in the USA to attend the command and general staff course.
He performed many missions in a dozen African countries, in most of European countries, as well as in Middle East and Central Asia.
From August 2005 to February 2006, he was assigned in Kosovo as deputy commander KFOR.

After studies in the joint center for advanced military studies (CHEM) and in the institute for higher national defense studies (IHEDN) in Paris, he was promoted brigadier general in 2001.
From 2005 to 2007, as major general, he assumed command of the deployable force headquarters No 2 in Nantes.
Promoted to lieutenant general, he is designated to take the command of KFOR on 31, August, 2007.

Lt. Gen. de Marnhac is married and has five daughters and four grand-children.

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac

Commander Kosovo Force from August 31, 2007

CV/Albanian Language

Gjen. Lejtnant Xavier de Marnhac është i lindur me 7 Korrik 1951 në Trier të Gjermanisë.
Atij i është caktuar detyra pranë Akademisë ushtarakë Franceze të Saint-Cyr në vitin 1971, dhe ka shërbyer në njësinë e blinduar dhe të kalorësisë.
Si Lejtnant dhe Kapiten në degën e Kalërimit, ai ka shërbyer në dy regjimente të ndryshme të blinduara lehtë, dhe ka komanduar një kompani të zbulimit në Regjimentin e katërt Hussars. Më vonë si kolonel ka komanduar Regjimentin tankist Cuirassiers 6/12.
Ai gjithashtu për katër vjet ka qenë udhëheqës i ekipit të forcave speciale operacionale në Regjimentin e parë të marinës këmbësorike parashutiste.
Karriera e tij është e karakterizuar me caktime të shpeshta në njësi, sektore apo agjensione të ndryshme të intelegjencës.
Ai ka shërbyer suksesshëm në Regjimentin ajror Dragon 13 dhe në Shtabin e Ushtrisë Franceze G2 / 1st . Në mes të viteve 1993 dhe 1996 ai ka punuar si këshilltar i intelegjencës për Ministrin Francez të Mbrojtjes. Nga viti 1999 deri në vitin 2004, ai ka qenë zëvendës drejtor dhe drejtor i operacioneve në Agjensinë Franceze të Intelegjencës (DGSE).
Gjen. Lejtnant de Marnhac ka një eksperiencë të madhe ndërkombëtare. Ai ka qenë i caktuar dy herë në Gjermani dhe ka kaluar një vit në USA për të përcjellë kursin për komandim dhe shef të shtabit të përgjithshëm.
Ai ka shërbyer në misione të shumta në shumë shtete të Afrikës, në shumicën e shteteve Evropiane dhe gjithashtu ka shërbyer edhe në Lindje të mesme dhe Azinë qendrore.
Nga Gushti 2005 deri në Shkurt 2006 ai është caktuar në Kosovë si zëvendës Komandant i KFOR-it.
Pasë përfundimit të studimeve në qendrën e përbashkët për studime ushtarake të avancuara (CHEM), dhe në institutin për studime të larta kombëtare mbrojtëse (IHDN) në Paris, ai është promovuar me gradën Gjen. Brigade në 2001.

Nga 2005 deri më 2007, si Gjen. Major, ai ka udhëhequr komandën e forcave zbarkuese Nr 2 në Nantes. I promovuar në Gjen. Lejtnant ai është caktuar për të marrë komandën e KFOR-it me 31 Gusht.

Gjen. Lejtnant de Marnhac është i martuar dhe ka pesë vajza dhe katër nipa/mbesa.

CV/Serbian Language

General-potpukovnik Xavier de Marnhac rodjen je 07.07.1951, u Trieru u Nemackoj. Cin oficira je stekao na Francuskoj Vojnoj Akademiji Saint-Cyr 1971. godine i opredelio se za služ bu u oklopnom i konjikom rodu.

Kao porucnik i kapetan konjice, služ io je u dva razlicita laka puka, i komandovao izvidjackom cetom u 4. Hussars puku. Kasnije kao pukovnik, komandovao je 6/12 Cuirassiers (tenkovskim) pukom. Takodje je proveo cetiri godine na mestu vodje tima za specijalne operacije u 1. pomorsko-pešadijskom vazdušnodesantnom puku.

Ali njegovu karijeru su najviše obelež ili cesta angaž ovanja u raznim obaveštajnim jedinicama, ograncima ili agencijama.

Uzastopno je služ io u 13. Dragoons vazdušnodesantnom puku i G2 upravi pri štabu 1. (Francuske) Armije. U periodu izmedju 1993 do 1996 radio je kao obaveštajni savetnik ministra odbrane Francuske. Od 1999 do 2004 bio je zamenik direktora i direktor za operacije francuske obaveštajne agencije (DGSE).

General-potpukovnik de Marnhac ima bogato medjunarodno iskustvo. Dva puta je služ bovao u Nemackoj i proveo je godinu dana u Americi, gde je pohadjao komandni i generalštabni kurs. Bio je na vecem broju misija u nekoliko africkih zemalja, u vecini evropskih zemalja, ali takodje i na Bliskom Istoku i u Centralnoj Aziji.

Od avgusta 2005 do februara 2006, bio je rasporedjen na Kosovu, kao zamenik komandanta KFOR-a.

Posle studija u Združ enom centru za napredne vojne studije (CHEM) i Institutu za više studije nacionalne odbrane (IHEDN) u Parizu, unapredjen je u general-brigadira 2001 godine.

Od 2005 do 2007, kao general-major, preuzeo je komandu glavnog štaba pripravnih snaga broj 2 u Nantu. Nakon unapredjenja u cin general-potpukovnika, imenovan je da stupi na duznost komandanta KFOR-a 31. avgusta.

General-potpukovnik de Marnhac je ož enjen, ima pet cerki i cetvoro unucadi.

Highlights September 2006

SEP 5 - COMKFOR visited the Prime Minister of Kosovo

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather visited the Prime Minister of Kosovo, Mr. Agim Çeku. After the visit General Kather gave a press conference, which took place in the Pristina/Prishtine government building.

SEP 25 - Donation of PC

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather donated 20 personal computers to the "Aleksander Xhuvani" school during a visit to Podujevo/Podujeve.

SEP 8 - COMKFOR visited MNTF C

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather visited MNTF C HQ in Camp Ville. During the visit, COMKFOR was briefed about the framework of MNTF C and attended two checkpoints conducted by Irish soldiers.

SEP 10 - COMKFOR visited ORF battalion

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather visited the Operational Reserve Force (ORF) Battalion. German Task Battalion 104 is a part of the division which General Kather commanded until September 2006.

Highlights October 2006

OCT 20 - Visit of the NATO Military Committee

The most important NATO military institution, the NATO Military Committee composed of 32 generals and representatives of NATO nations, visited HQ KFOR. They were briefed by SRSG Dr. Joachim Ruecker, COM JFC Naples Admiral Harry G. Ulrich III and COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather.

OCT 14 - Visit of United Nations Development Fund for Women (UNIFEM) representatives

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather met with Noeleen Heyzer, executive director of UNIFEM, and UNIFEM Goodwill Ambassador Nicole Kidman at the Grand Hotel Pristina.

OCT 17 - High level meeting in Podgorica

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather visited the Chief of the General Staff of the Army of Montenegro, Lieutenant Colonel General Jovan Lakcevic.

OCT 23 - Transfer of Authority at Multinational Task Force West

The TOA of MNTF W took place at Camp Villaggio Italia. COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather handed over command from Brig. Gen. Vincenco Santo to Brig. Gen. Claudio Borreca.

OCT 26 - Visit of Danish Minister of Defense

Danish MOD Soren Gade visited COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather and confirmed his country's commitment to continue the good cooperation with KFOR.

Highlights November 2006

NOV 4 - Russian Commemoration Ceremony
COMKFOR and the Russian Head of Mission visited the Camp Vrelo monument dedicated in memory of fallen Russian comrades between 1999 and 2003.

NOV 8 - High-level seminar with KPC leaders
This seminar took place at HQ KFOR and was organized in cooperation with UNMIK and KPC.

NOV 13 - Visit of Supreme Allied Commander Europe
"Kosovo remains a high priority for NATO," said the Supreme Allied Commander Europe, General James L. Jones, during a farewell visit to Kosovo.

NOV 17 - Visit to MNTF N

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather met with paratroopers conducting Operation "Priluzje Jump" in MNTF N.

Highlights December 2006

DEC 22 - Weapon found in MNTF C
COMKFOR General Kather congratulated soldiers of MNTF C with successful operation result of finding a large amount of weapons.

DEC 21 - Italian CHOD visit
Admiral Di Paolo, Italian CHOD, wished all of KFOR a Merry Christmas during his visit to Kosovo.

DEC 30 - COMKFOR visited Dakovica
Lt. Gen. Kather took part in "Future of Kosovo" campaign during his visit to Dakovica/Gjakova.

DEC 31 - New Year in Film City
"Happy New Year" by COMKFOR General Kather to KFOR Family and to all Kosovo.

Highlights January 2007

JAN 14 - Hungarian medal parade
General Kather said "goodbye" to the Hungarian guard before their end of tour.

JAN 19 - Meeting with KEK's Managing Director
COMKFOR and KFOR Chief of Staff visited KEK. During the visit, they talked with KEK's Managing Director, Mrs. Pranvera Dobruna Kryeziu.

JAN 16
Visit of the new SACEUR
The SACEUR, General John Craddock, visited KFOR for the first time along with JFC Naples Commander, Admiral Ulrich.

JAN 19 - Wreath-laying ceremony at KFOR HQ
General Kather salutes fallen Slovakian soldiers during a wreath-laying ceremony at KFOR HQ.

JAN 21 - Serbian Parliament elections
COMKFOR visited a Serbian polling station in Lipljan/Lipjan during the elections for the Serbian Parliament.

Highlights February 2007

FEB 2 - COMKFOR met with Mr. Ahtisaari

UN Special Envoy Martti Ahtisaari presented his proposal for Kosovo's status during a meeting to COMKFOR, SRSG and Kosovo authorities.

FEB 6 - COMKFOR visited MNTF S troops

COMKFOR Lt. Gen. Kather visited MNTF S troops. During the visit, he was briefed by the Turkish troop commander in the Dragash area.

FEB 10 - Kosovo Unity team met with COMKFOR

During this visit, COMKFOR and the Kosovo Unity team made a trip to MNTF N and Camp Nothing Hill.

FEB 15 - NATO Secretary General visited KFOR

NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer visited Kosovo. During the visit, he met with COMKFOR Lt. Gen. Kather.

Highlights March 2007

MAR 13 - Commanders Conference
The KFOR Commanders Conference took place at KTM HQ Camp Slim Lines.

MAR 11 - CSM TOA ceremony
COMKFOR Lieutenant General Roland Kather attended the Transfer of Authority ceremony for the KFOR Command Sergeant Major.

MAR 12 - SACEUR's visit
SACEUR General John Craddock visited Kosovo and met with Orthodox authorities at the Decani/Decan monastery.

MAR 22 - KTM TOA ceremony
COMKFOR General Kather attended the KFOR Tactical Reserve Maneuver Battalion Transfer of Authority ceremony at Camp Slim Lines.

Highlights April 2007

APR 2 - NAC visit to Kosovo
A briefing in HQ KFOR during North Atlantic Council visit, accompanied by Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, NATO Secretary General, General John Craddock, SACEUR and Lt. Gen. Karl W. Eikenberry, Deputy Chairman of the NATO Military Committee.

APR 6 - Civilian Easter reception
General Kather at the civilian Easter reception at HQ KFOR.

APR 5 - Argentinean Flag-Lowering Ceremony
COMKFOR bids farewell to the last Argentinean Contingent leaving Kosovo.

APR 24 - COMKFOR's visit to the ORF Battalion
General Kather met with soldiers from the German ORF Battalion in the AOR of MNTF C.

APR 27/28 - Visit by Members of the UN Security Council
COMKFOR with the members of the United Nations Security Council during their visit to Kosovo.

Highlights May 2007

MAY 2 - Opening ceremony Military apron
COMKFOR General Kather took part in an opening ceremony of the Pristina/Prishtine airfield and military airport.

MAY 9 - JFC Naples commander's visit
Admiral Harry Ulrich, JFC Naples commander, met with COMKFOR General Kather during his visit to KFOR.

MAY 15 - Visit of Slovenian President
President of the Republic of Slovenia, Dr. Janez Drnovsek, met with COMKFOR Lt. Gen. Kather during his visit to KFOR.

MAY 17 - Klina Church visit
COMKFOR attended a religious service at the Catholic Church in Klina/Klinë.

MAY 28 - French MoD visit
COMKFOR General Kather with Mr. Herve Morin, French MoD, during his visit to Kosovo.

Highlights June 2007

JUNE 11 - 8th KFOR Memorial Day
COMKFOR General Kather presided over a celebration of the 8th KFOR Memorial Day at HQ KFOR, supported by Darovica Children's Choir.

JUNE 12 - Incoming COMKFOR took part in KLT
Lt. Gen. Kather welcomed Maj. Gen. de Marnhac, incoming COMKFOR, who attended Key Leader Training.

JUNE 18 - Meeting with the K4-Family winners
COMKFOR General Kather took part in a reception for the winners of the K4-Family Radio Campaign.

JUNE 20 - COMKFOR visit to Italian ORF Battalion
Lt. Gen. Kather visited the Italian ORF Battalion operating in the AOR of MNTF N.

JUNE 21 - Bridge Construction Training
COMKFOR visited multinational Bridge Construction Training conducted by HQ KFOR personnel in Camp Casablanca.

Highlights July 2007

JULY 3 - Ukrainian MFA visit
COMKFOR Lt. Gen. Roland Kather met with Mr. Arseniy Yansenyk, Ukrainian Minister of Foreign Affairs, during his visit to HQ KFOR.

JULY 4 - Visit to KTM
Lt. Gen. Kather visited the VCP in MNTF S AOR, organized by the KTM, during his meeting with the KTM commander.

JULY 5 - Visit to MNTF E
COMKFOR Lt. Gen. Roland Kather took part in an LMT-forces patrol in Urosevac/Ferizaj during his visit to MNTF E.

JULY 7 - COS KFOR TOA
Lt. Gen. Kather took part in the COS KFOR Transfer of Authority ceremony in Film City.

Highlights August 2007

02 Aug - Shooting Training
COMKFOR General Kather practices his shooting skills with his Close Protection Team.

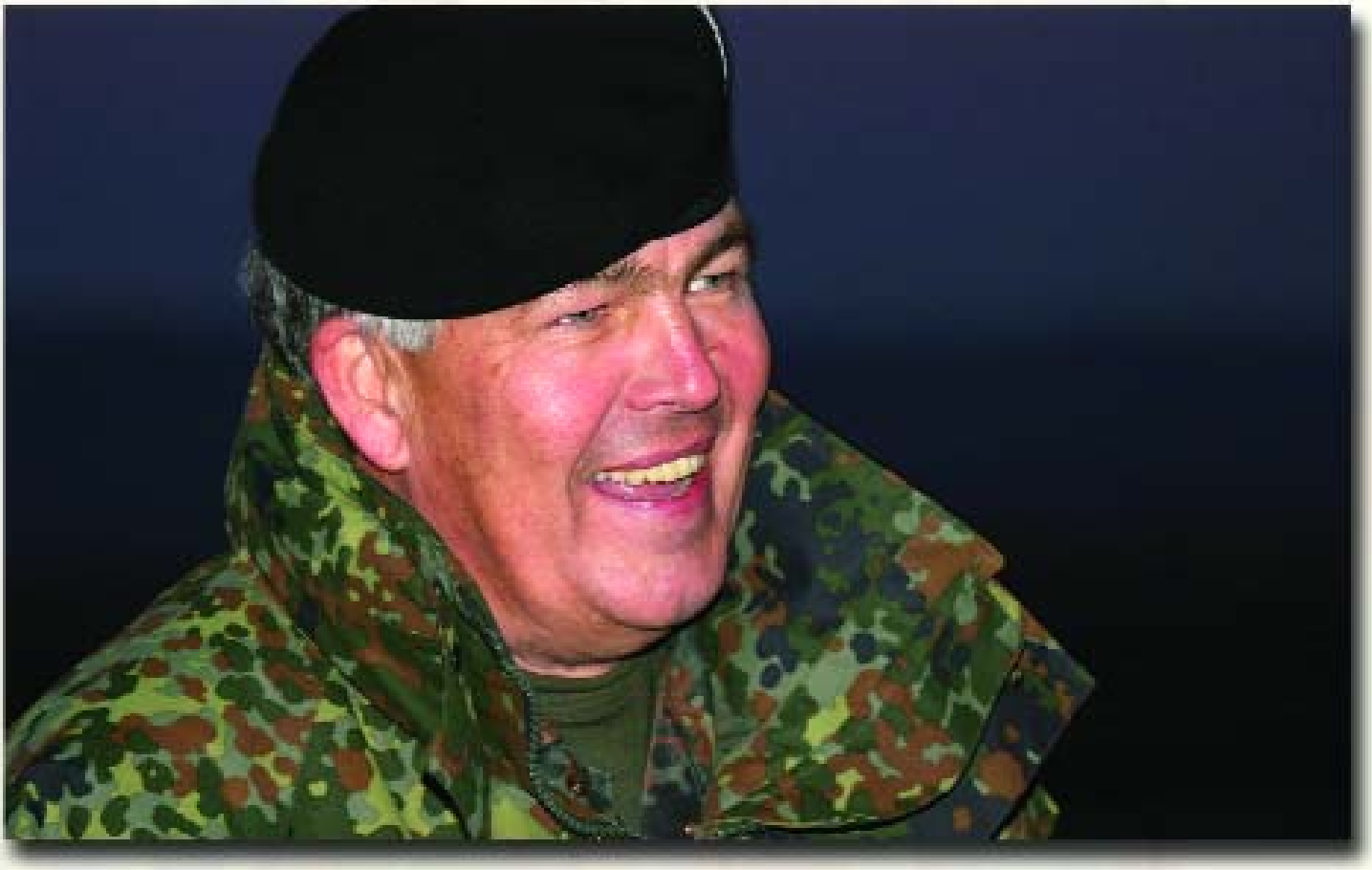
10 Aug - Farewell visit to MNTF N
Lt. Gen. Kather pays a Farewell visit to MNTF North as a COMKFOR.

11 Aug - TROIKA in HQ KFOR
COMKFOR General Kather welcomes the members of the Troika during their visit to Kosovo.

14 Aug - High level meeting in Nis
Lt. Gen. Kather and the Chief of Defense of the Serbian Armed Forces, Lt. Gen. Ponos, met during the last High level meeting in Nis, Serbia.

16 Aug - Farewell visit to KTM
General Roland Kather says goodbye to his soldiers from the KTM Battalion.

Shaping the Future



THE COMMANDER KOSOVO FORCE
KFOR
KΦOP

In Memoriam

As a last thought to the 161 KFOR soldiers who lost their lives in Kosovo: "You will always be remembered"

Lieutenant General ROLAND KATHER

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GE Army
Pristina – KOSOVO
2006 - 2007