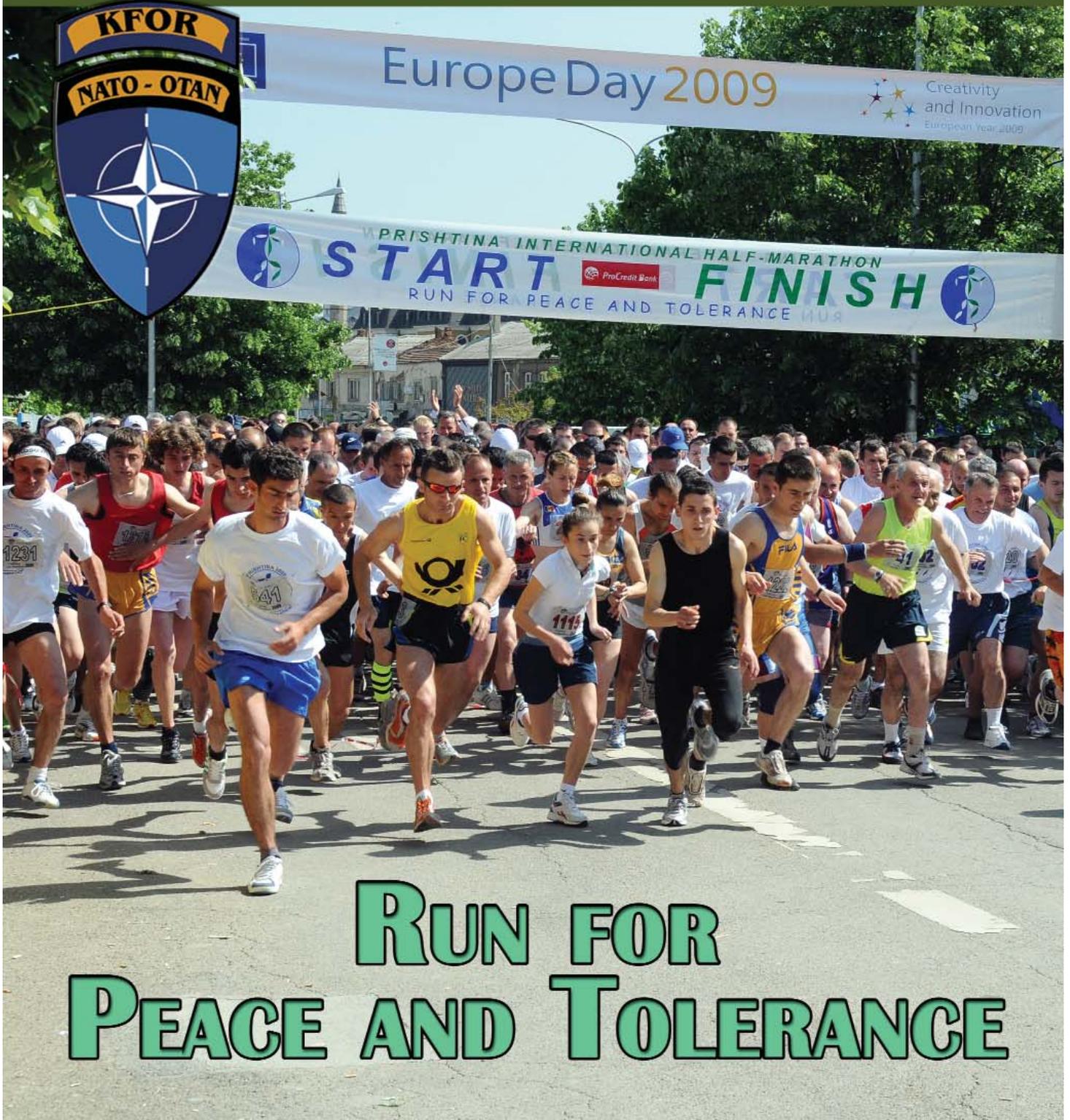


KFOR CHRONICLE



5th Edition

May 31st 2009



RUN FOR PEACE AND TOLERANCE

The General Officer's Perspective

THE COMPREHENSIVE APPROACH (Effects Based Approach to Operations - EBAO)

It is time to change our approach to Operations and try to systematize our holistic mindset into the staff procedures.

Commanders are used to take into consideration the possible variables of the problems they have to solve. So, why all this noise around a concept that is already well known? To be honest I do not know. It could be because we see it as a radical change (and we do not like changes) or because it seems too difficult.

First of all, it is necessary to stress the importance of changing the way we do business.

In the past we were focusing our efforts on forces (friendly and enemy) and terrain, we were also taking into considerations a lot of "minor" additional elements in order to figure out the right solutions throughout the Military Decision Making Process (MDMP). Today we have to understand that the scenario is different, no more, for the time being, symmetric conflicts but asymmetric ones. This implies a completely different focus and a more comprehensive approach. We are not facing Armies; we are dealing with insurgents, opponent groups, guerrilla and terrorists. This is not the "traditional" war-fighting and so we need to adopt a different approach, we need to adapt our Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs) to the new scenario. We have to learn how they fight and develop all the necessary capabilities to counter the different threats. Not merely, while we are conducting kinetic operations supported by Information Operations, the "enemy" is conducting Information Operations, supported by kinetic ones. So it is better to assess who is doing a better job.

Another concept that, in my view, is embedded in the comprehensive approach is the Strategic Communication (StratCom). A lot of discussion and work is ongoing trying to properly define what StratCom is. In my view, StratCom has a pivotal role for the Alliance. We do have to speak with one voice from the political-strategic level till the last soldier on the ground and this implies that words and actions must tell the same story!

Sun Tzu said "know your enemy and know your own ally."

I bet all of you are already criticizing my way of presenting it. But just for a minute, avoid thinking about what you have read or seen with reference to EBAO. I am sure you are thinking the inter-agency coordination and the synchronization of the different domains such as the Political, Military, Economic, Social, Information, and Infrastructure (PMESII) or Diplomatic, Information, Military, and Economic (DIME). Well this is true but before thinking outside our own domain we better try to fix our internal troubles. The Alliance or a coalition is composed of many different nations and mentalities. Multinationality it is a strength only if we are able to exploit our own differences putting together the best of our capabilities to deliver the desired effects, obtain the objectives, accomplish the mission and reach the end state. EBAO is a mindset, the creation of the Joint Effects Center (JEC) is just a way through which we are fostering this approach in order to persuade people and create the mindset. The Effects Tasking Order (ETO) cycle and the Multidisciplinary Working Groups are a means through which we are synchronizing our actions to better deliver the desired effects.

Once we will be able to optimize our domain (the Military) then we will satisfy COMKFOR's requirements encapsulated in his motto "Unity of Effort". From that point on, it will be easier.

Brigadier General Santi Bonfanti



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| Nations within KFOR: | |
| NATO Nations | |
| Belgium | Luxembourg |
| Bulgaria | Netherlands |
| Canada | Norway |
| Czech Republic | Poland |
| Denmark | Portugal |
| Estonia | Romania |
| France | Slovakia |
| Germany | Slovenia |
| Greece | Spain |
| Hungary | Turkey |
| Italy | United Kingdom |
| Latvia | United States |
| Lithuania | |
| Non-NATO Nations | KFOR Structure |
| Armenia | HQ KFOR |
| Austria | MNTF Centre |
| Finland | MNTF East |
| Ireland | MNTF North |
| Morocco | MNTF South |
| Sweden | MNTF West |
| Switzerland | KTM |
| Ukraine | MSU |



UNITY

Photos by OR-4 Marina Dore, Italian Army

May 1, 2009

Kosovo Force Commander bid a farewell to Brigadier General Giovanni Armentani, Multinational Task Force West Commander.



May 5, 2009

Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay, KFOR Commander, hosted Mr. Zenun Pajaziti, Institutions in Kosovo Minister of Interior, during his visit to Kosovo Force Headquarters.

May 6, 2009

COM KFOR attended the Multinational Task Force West transfer of authority ceremony in camp Villaggio Italia, Pec. Brigadier General Giovanni Armentani handed over responsibilities to Brigadier General Roberto Perretti.



May 6, 2009

The Kosovo Force Commander entertained the delegation of Ambassadors of the Council of European Political and Security Committee from 27 European Union member states, on their visit to Kosovo.

May 11, 2009

KFOR Commander, Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay, had a meeting with Mr. Husrev Unler, Ambassador of the Turkish Republic in Kosovo.



May 14, 2009

The Kosovo Force Commander greeted Mrs. Veronika Wand Danielsson, Ambassador of Sweden to NATO (middle) and Mr. Brian Nason, Ambassador of Ireland to NATO (right) in KFOR Headquarters.

EFFORT



May 15, 2009

Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay, KFOR Commander, presented the KFOR Unity of Effort crest to the President of the Italian Senate Defense Committee senator Giampiero Cantoni.



May 15, 2009

COM KFOR attended a farewell event of Multinational Task Force North Commander Brigadier General Philippe Bras and Multinational Task Force South Commander Brigadier General Thomas Starlinger



May 17, 2009

The Kosovo Force Commander Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay together with Supreme Commander of the Swedish Armed Forces General Sverker Goranson, during his visit to KFOR Headquarters.



May 18, 2009

The Kosovo Force Commander received General John Craddock during his farewell visit to Kosovo as Supreme Allied Commander in Europe (SACEUR).



May 19, 2009

COM KFOR Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay hosted Dr. Peter Wichert, State Secretary of the German Federal Ministry of Defence.



May 20, 2009

The Kosovo Force Commander met General Charles Henri Delcour, Belgian Chief of Defence, during his visit to Kosovo.



May 21, 2009

COM KFOR Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay participated in the Multinational Task Force North transfer of authority ceremony in Novo Selo. Brigadier General Philippe Bras handed over responsibilities to Brigadier General Patrick Ribayrol.

Swedish Supreme Co



Story and photos by
(OF-1) Therese FAGERSTEDT, Swedish Armed Forces

The Swedish Supreme Commander Sverker Göranson visited Kosovo and KFOR for two days, 16th and 17th of May, to get a closer situational awareness of Kosovo and to follow the soldiers in their tasks and commitments.

During the 24 hours visit, the supreme commander of Sweden got the opportunity to get a sense of the everyday life of a peacekeeping soldier in Kosovo. And the tour began with the Gracanica Monastery visit, where he joined a Swedish foot patrol around the Gracanica neighborhood.

"It is interesting to see how the soldiers act and work in their assignments, and I'm pleased to say they are very aware and humble in their encounter with Kosovo. The soldiers are very professional and it's obvious they all want to do their best," said the Supreme Commander after the patrol.

Supreme Commander Sverker Göranson also visited the workshops at Camp Victoria in MNTF (C), in which he received a demonstration on how the logistics work and the medical support within the Swedish contingent.

"It is important for me to visit the missions and understand the everyday situation of the contingents. I don't want to hear the stories, I want to see them with my own eyes," said the Supreme Commander as he was being guided around the Swedish camp.

The Supreme Commander also had a meeting with COMKFOR, Lieutenant General Guiseppe E. Gay at the KFOR Headquarters to talk and learn more about KFOR and its overall assignments, a meeting he was very pleased with.

"I feel very satisfied with my visit and the engagement of the peacekeeping soldiers in Kosovo. I'm proud to see their efforts and commitments. It feels very good

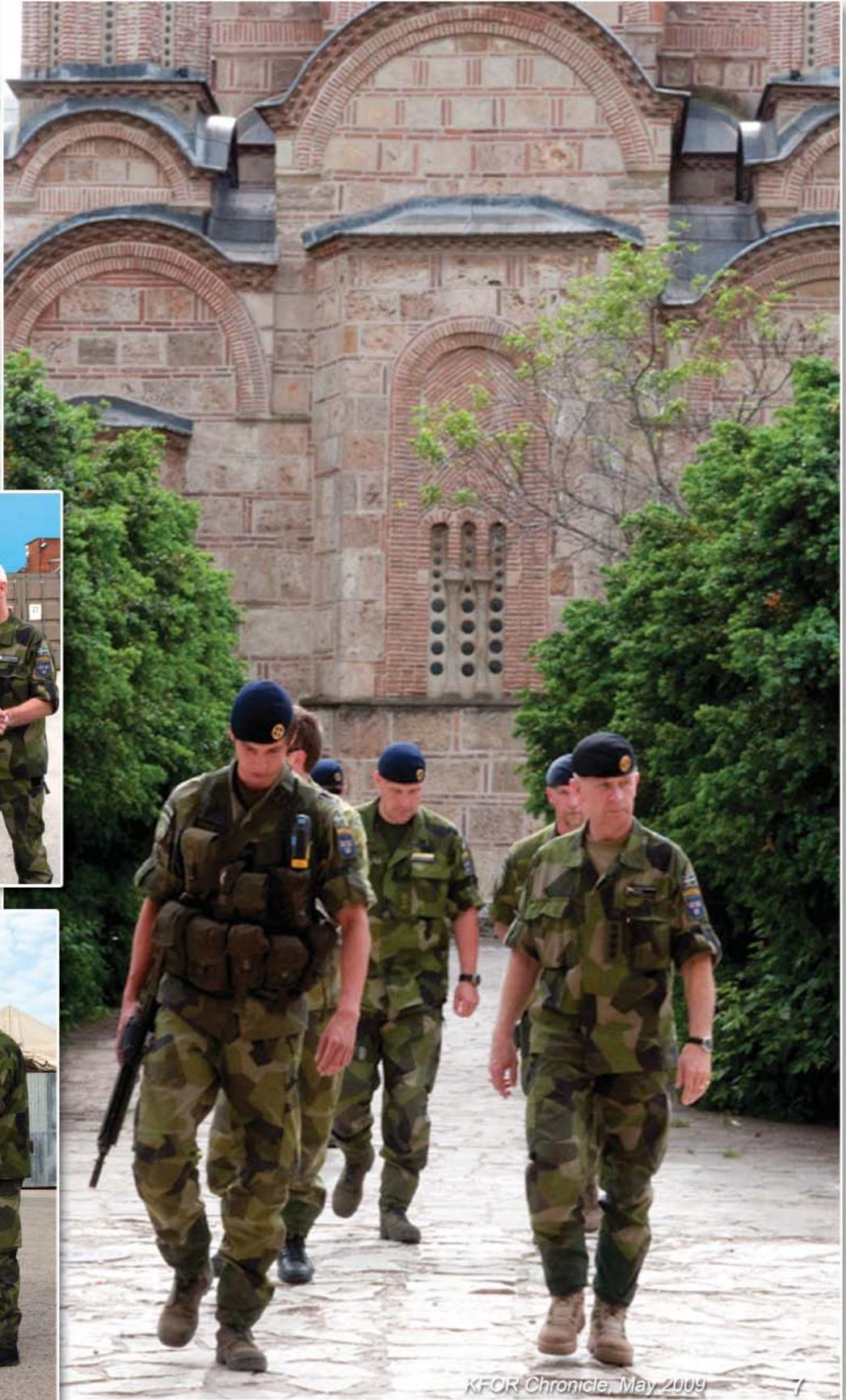


Commander in Kosovo

to be able to go home, to Sweden, and share the good story of the great efforts we all contribute to.

The purpose of the visit was to get an up to date progress report, in order to be able to influence the Swedish Military planning in the right direction and also to increase the support of the Swedish missions abroad.

Just before his visit in Kosovo he went to Afghanistan and Somalia. He met with the Swedish contingents to learn more about the different missions, environments and the needs that they have.



Run for Peace



Local folklore group.



The future generation.

Story and photos by (OF-3) Christian Zankl (Austrian Army)

On May 9th, 2009, the local ministry of sports organized a great running event in Pristina/Pristine according to the motto "Run for Peace and Tolerance". This year also was the first time that KFOR members were officially invited to participate. The Morale and Welfare Activities (MWA) branch under the attentive eyes of the KFOR events manager, OR-9 Manfred Bamberger (Austrian Army), enabled an experience without any difficulty for the 275 KFOR members.

The start of the run was at 10:00 a.m. Approximately 700 participants of both genders representing seemingly myriads of nations attended the 21 km and the 5 km distance runs, in order to socialize and merely be a part of a great idea or even



Forever young!

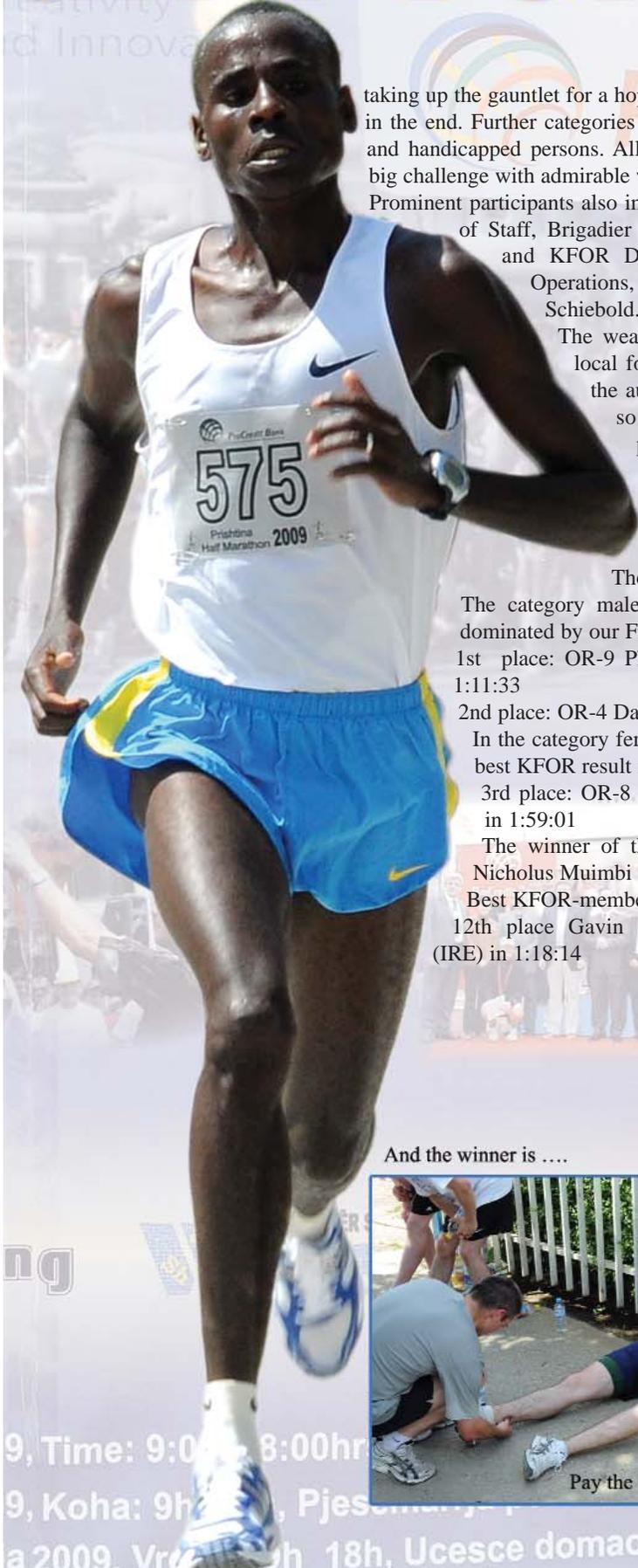


"What is going on here?"



All of them are winners!

and Tolerance



taking up the gauntlet for a hopefully satisfying result in the end. Further categories were for the children's and handicapped persons. All of them mastered the big challenge with admirable willpower and tenacity! Prominent participants also include the KFOR Chief of Staff, Brigadier General David Berger and KFOR Deputy Chief of Staff Operations, Brigadier General Kurt Schiebold.

The weather was beautiful. A local folklore group delighted the audience's eyes and ears so the atmosphere was perfect for the event. Interested spectators all over from Kosovo and abroad, for sure, had lots of fun.

The final results are:

The category males over 40 years were dominated by our French comrades.

1st place: OR-9 Philippe Page (FRA) in 1:11:33

2nd place: OR-4 David Batista (FRA)

In the category females over 40 years the best KFOR result is also in French hands.

3rd place: OR-8 Patricia Legeay (FRA) in 1:59:01

The winner of the general category is Nicholus Muimbi (KENYA) in 1:04:47

Best KFOR-member here:

12th place Gavin Sweeney (IRE) in 1:18:14

The average Austrian sportsman.

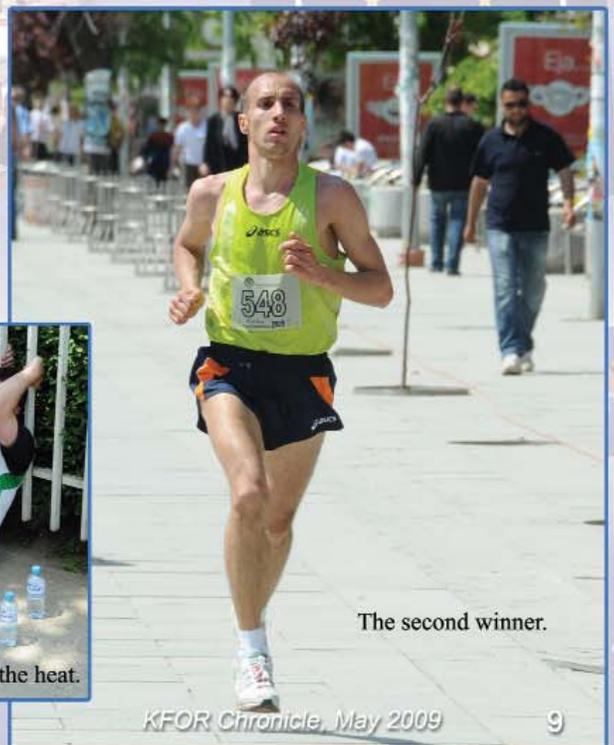


A little tired, but happy.

And the winner is



Pay the tribute to the heat.



The second winner.

MULTINATIONAL TASK FORCE W



Story by (OF-2) Michele Cortese

Photos by KFOR Combat Camera Team and (OF-4) Marina Dore

"I feel the privilege to serve as commander inside the KFOR family." These words were pronounced by Brigadier General Roberto Perretti on the 6th of May, 2009 during the transfer of authority ceremony in the Villaggio Italia compound, Multinational Task Force West (MNTF-W) Headquarters (HQ). The military ceremony of the handing over of MNTF-W NATO flag between Brigadier General Giovanni Armentani and Brigadier General Perretti was attended by political, religious and military authorities at the presence of the troops lined up in the parade square. Bersaglieri's "Fanfara", known all around the world for its famous plumed helmet brilliant trumpeters, gave energetic momentum to the various phases of the parade by blowing in the trumpets playing its military hymns. "I also feel a deep sense of pride in being the commander of soldiers from different countries: Italy, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Spain whose soldiers and units have shown they are well trained, substantial, ready and responsive," said General Perretti. "And I'm confident we will accomplish the assigned

mission following the footsteps traced by my predecessor Brigadier General Armentani, whose constant effort was to ensure a safe and secure environment for everybody in Kosovo, regardless of the social status, religion or ethnic background," he ensured.

The Kosovo Force Commander, Lieutenant General Emilio Gay, over his speech, addressed his thankful commendation to General Armentani, for the outstanding job performed in Kosovo and



Brigadier General Armentani and Brigadier General Perretti give the honors to the fallen.

The force lined up on the parade square.



WEST TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY



wished all the best to General Perretti for his mission as MNTF-W Commander. General Perretti in Italy is the commander of "Aosta" Brigade which constitutes the core of MNTF-W HQ and whose personnel were deployed in Kosovo last year over the sensitive period included between October 2007 and May 2008. "To the local civilian and religious authorities intervened, this morning, to the ceremony to testify their nearness to the MNTF-W, I express my deep recognition for the manifestation of full availability in these months of intense job," said General Armentani after greeting all the attendees. "Always ready to receive me and to talk in a truthful and loyal way. With all of them I have had the possibility to analyze and to face even difficult matters, always perceiving to be on my ease and maintaining the serenity for evaluating the different situations," he added. Brigadier General Perretti, who already served in Albania, Lebanon, Afghanistan and Iraq ended his speech by saying: "I am convinced we will accomplish our common goal thanks to fair cooperation, tolerance, mutual understanding and in continuity with the units that preceded us."



Lieutenant General Emilio Gay shakes hands with Brigadier General Armentani after presenting him with the Non-Article 5 NATO Medal.



COMKFOR hands over the MNTF-W NATO flag to Brigadier General Perretti.

TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY



*Story by (OF-1) Nadia Filhos (French Army)
Photos by (OR-4) Marina Dore (Italian Army)*

On Thursday, May 21st, 2009, Brigadier General Patrick Ribayrol replaced Brigadier General Philippe Bras as the Multinational Task Force North (MNTF-N) Commander. The transfer of authority ceremony, which took place at Camp Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny, Novo Selo, was presided over by the Kosovo Force Commander (COMKFOR), Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay.

During his speech, COMKFOR stressed that Brigadier General Philippe Bras was very successful in maintaining a safe and secure environment in Northern Kosovo, which represents the most sensitive area of KFOR's responsibility.

Before the departure, General Philippe Bras expressed his gratitude to the soldiers from

France, Denmark, Greece, Morocco, Belgium, Luxemburg and Estonia, as well as to the soldiers of the other different Task Forces (TF), who served within MNTF-N under his command on the rotation basis, providing peace and stability in the TF area of responsibility. He also thanked the members of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) Force Police Unit, Kosovo protection Corps, political and religious leaders of the municipality, media and the international community in Kosovo for their cooperation and assistance.

According to KFOR tradition, COMKFOR took the flag of the MNTF-N from Brigadier General Philippe Bras and handed it over to Brigadier General Patrick Ribayrol, having marked the transfer of authority between commanders.

Brigadier General Patrick Ribayrol, the new commander of MNTF-N, came to Kosovo from the



ORITY FOR MNTF-N



position of the commander of the 3rd Mechanized Brigade, located in Limoges (France). He was appointed to that position on August 1st, 2007. Brigadier General Ribayrol's decorations include the Legion of Honor (with the rank of officer), the National Order of Merit (chevalier) and the Silver Honor Cross (Bundeswehr Medal).

The new general of the MNTF-N declared in his speech: "Under the authority of the KFOR Commander, we will carry out our mission in the continuity of the powerful and determined actions conducted by my predecessor Brigadier General Philippe Bras, I am well acquainted with his commitment and I want to pay particular tribute to him as he is about to return to France."

KFOR Multinational Task Force North is comprised of 2,600 soldiers belonging to 8 different contributing nations: France, Morocco, Belgium, Germany, Denmark, Estonia, Greece and Luxemburg. Its area is divided into four manoeuvre units: a French battalion, a Danish battalion, a Hellenic battalion, a Nothing Hill battalion and a Headquarters based in Novo Selo.



TRANSFER OF AUTH

CHANGE OF COMMAND IN KOSOVO: BRIGADIER GENERAL BENEDIKT ZIMMER



Article by (OF-2) Markus Witschnigg
Photos by (OR-4) Marina Dore (Italian Army)

On the 28th of May at 1100 hrs, German Brigadier General Benedikt Zimmer assumed command, over the Multinational Task Force South (MNTF S), from outgoing Austrian commander Brigadier General Thomas Starlinger. For a period of one year, Austria led the MNTF S in Kosovo. Austria was the first non-NATO country given this prominent leadership responsibility.

The change of command ceremony took place at Camp Prizren and was attended by Lieutenant General Günter Höfler (Austrian Army), Lieutenant General Rainer Glatz (German Army), as well as many other national and international guests of honor from the world of economy and politics.

One hour before the MNTF S change of command Brigadier General Benedikt Zimmer assumed command of all German soldiers from the outgoing National Contingent Commander (NCC) Brigadier General Harald



SECURITY FOR MNTF-S

COMMANDER ASSUMES COMMAND OVER THE MULTINATIONAL TASK FORCE SOUTH

Fugger. For the next six months Brigadier General Benedikt Zimmer will command a total of 3700 soldiers from five nations (Germany, Austria, Turkey, Switzerland and Bulgaria).

Italian KFOR Commander (COMKFOR), Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay, presided over the ceremony and handed command over to General Zimmer in front of the lined up troops. During his speech, the former commander, Brigadier General Thomas Starlinger thanked all the soldiers of the MNTF S for their efforts and professional work during the last six months.

At the end of the ceremony COMKFOR awarded the Non-article 5 NATO Medal to Brigadier General Thomas Starlinger.

The mission of the MNTF S is to maintain a safe and secure environment, safeguarding cultural assets and ensure freedom of movement. The MNTF S area of operation encompasses some 2000 km², which is about one fifth of the total area of Kosovo. The German Bundeswehr provides the majority (about 2000) of the 3700 soldiers in the MNTF S, while Austria with 700 soldiers provides the largest contingent of non-NATO nations in the entire Kosovo.



AN EXPLOSIVE

Story by (OF-2) Andrea Krobotova,
(Czech Army)

Photos by (OF-4) Vadym Tymoshenko
(Ukrainian Army)

In Kosovo there are not a lot of findings of unexploded ammunitions, explosives and other dangerous materials these days, but from time to time they are some. Members of the Czech Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team are able to take measure of this survival.

EOD team, which is part of the Delta Company of the Czech Army Contingent, consists of three EOD qualified personnel and one improvised explosive device disposal (IEDD) IEDD/EOD qualified team leader.

Presently, places where Czech soldiers are located and places where they move around are checked. But, it is necessary to always be careful and vigilant. On this account all Czech

soldiers are trained and get acquainted with mine awareness once a month. Every soldier has to be able to describe appropriate findings of unexploded ammunitions, explosives, etc. as much as possible; whereupon EOD qualified personnel are then sent out for the process of destroying dangerous finds.

One in a period, the Czech EOD team organizes demonstrations presenting the impacts of different kinds of ammunitions and explosives for all soldiers serving in KFOR. On Wednesday, April 30th, one of such demonstrations was organized at the Hrtice shooting-range, which is located near the Šajkovac Czech Camp. There were eleven displays set up and all who arrived there could see, for example, the impacts of cherry bombs, mine PMA 1, detonation fuses Np 5, hand-grenades BRM-75, RG - F1, RG - 52, mine PMR - 2, PROM and MRUD and also the impacts of antitank mines. It is good to read about explosives or to see it on the television, but it is not the same to see something of that kind with your own eyes. Destroying parts of the human body, timber formwork broken to splinters and figurines blown to pieces to form granite can make you frisson.



IS NOT A TOY

Safely for a ball

Each week, members of the EOD team visit schools, which are located in the area of responsibility of the Czech Contingent, to inform children about all wiles they can see.

"As a baker bakes a roll and a driver drives a car, so we are the people who try to protect you before these dangerous things," say the chief of EOD, Warrant

Officer Marek Tkáč, to the children. After that he displayed a lot of pictures of the most common kinds of mines. He tried to explain how dangerous these things are, in a common terrain, closed in a color coded area. "In case you are playing with a ball and the ball rolls away to such color coded areas, please do not go there. Call for your parents or teachers, they will inform us and we will arrive to pull the ball out from the dangerous areas," said Warrant Officer Tkáč.

The members of the EOD team showed a play of what would happen if a blast injures them and if they lose their hand. Girls tried to make a braid with only one hand and boys could see how difficult it is to catch a ball with only one hand. At the end of the lesson, Warrant Officer Tkáč said: "Now, you can see that life with only one hand is not easy. If you do not touch these dangerous things which you were shown, you need not to be afraid."

It is sad that children here in Kosovo must be informed about such things as mines, unexploded ammunition, explosives and other dangerous materials instead of only free-minded playing because there is still the risk of serious injury. Thanks to members of the Czech EOD team the children know how to play while thinking safety.



CONSTITUTION DAY CELEBRATION



Story and pictures by (OF-2) Robert Falek,
POLUKRBAT public affairs officer

On May 3rd, Polish people all over the world celebrate the anniversary of the signing of the Polish Constitution. The Polish constitution was adopted on May 3rd, 1791, in Warsaw, Poland. May 3rd is also a Catholic holiday in Poland (The Holy Mary Queen of Poland holiday). On May 3rd, in every country where Polish people live they share their cheerful mood and decorate their homes with the white and red national flag.

The holiday was also celebrated by the 20th rotation of the Polish KFOR contingent, which is stationed at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. The Ceremony began with the Catholic Mass at 0900 in the south Chapel. Mass was given by Major Krzysztof Smolen, a Polish military chaplain. At 1200 the Polish peacekeepers lined up in formation at the barrack square

near their barracks. The Polish-Ukrainian Battalion (POLUKRBAT) Commander Lieutenant Colonel Mariusz Galeziowski then received the report from the POLUKRBAT Chief of Staff Major Ryszard Lechowski. After the inspection of the sub-units the Battalion Commander welcomed the distinguished guests. The event was attended by: Secretary of the Polish Embassy in Skopje, Mrs. Marta Przenioso; Multi-national Task Force East (MNTF-E) Commander, Brigadier General Keith Jones; Task Force HELLAS Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Spyridon Touzopoulos; POLUKRBAT Deputy Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Volodymyr Veremchuk; Lithuanian Platoon Commander, Aivaras Satrauskas; Commander of Kosovo Police Service station in Kacanik, Lieutenant Jaser Jaha and delegations from the Polish Police Special unit from Pristina.

Next in a solemn atmosphere the Polish National Anthem was played and the national flag was raised. Speeches were given by the POLUKRBAT Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Mariusz Galeziowski and MNTF-E Commander, Brigadier General Keith Jones. Both officers stressed the fact that the May 3rd Constitution was the second constitution in the world after the United States constitution, but also the first constitution in Europe. Lieutenant Colonel Mariusz Galeziowski stated in his speech: "Today we as the citizens of a free and independent Poland pay homage to the creators of the May 3rd Constitution and all that Polish patriots who sacrificed their lives defending that constitution." General Keith Jones spoke about the historical connections between Poland and the United States. He added: "By creating and adopting Constitutions both our nations were leaders in the ideals of legal rights for all people." The most important moment of the ceremony was the calling of the roll of honor



ON IN THE POLISH CONTINGENT

and the firing of an honorary salute.

The day was also an opportunity to give the best Polish soldiers awards. 136 officers, noncommissioned officers and privates were awarded coins and letters of appreciation by the POLUKRBAT Commander. Then a contingent of Polish KFOR soldiers laid a wreath at the commemorative plaque

dedicated to Sergeant Piotr Mikulowski and Sergeant Pawel Legenecki, who gave their lives on March 4th, 2003, while conducting the peacekeeping mission in the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia. The ceremony was concluded with a parade by the sub-units of the POLUKRBAT. After the parade, Lieutenant Colonel Galeziowski invited everyone to a grill party at Freedom Park. The grill was organized by the Polish National Support Element. Traditional Polish dishes (pea soup, Polish sausage, bacon and pork necks) were served. The meat was brought all the way from Poland especially for this occasion.

Every national holiday spent on a military mission is not only an opportunity to celebrate but to also present national customs, cuisine and military drill to other nationalities. Introducing century-old cultures, history and spiritual legacy to other nationalities makes all KFOR soldiers ambassadors of their countries.



Dubrovnik "the Pearl of the Adriatic"

*Story by Technical Sergeant (OR-6) Libra Johnson, US Air Force
Photos donated by Dubrovnik trip attendees.*

Imagine the sea breeze on your face as you sip a cold drink at a Mediterranean style restaurant, waiting for your meal, which you handpicked from the chef's "catch of the day" seafood option tray. That is the everyday atmosphere in the city of Dubrovnik, Croatia.

The Morale and Welfare Activities (MWA) office sponsored trip to Dubrovnik.

MWA organizes cultural trips and tours for all eligible personnel assigned to KFOR HQ (that nations will allow personnel to attend). MWA offers day trips and also for personnel on leave or special passes, they have 96 hour pass trips. MWA provides all the necessary arrangements for the trips; will cover the cost of transportation and entrance tickets to museums or other historical places during sponsored cultural trips to the extent that financial conditions of the MWA budget allows for such expenditure.

During the month of April, MWA organized a trip to Dubrovnik. Dubrovnik, also known as "the Pearl of the Adriatic", is a city on the Adriatic Sea coast in the south of Croatia, a Central European and Mediterranean country, bordering Slovenia and Hungary to the north, Serbia to the northeast, Bosnia and Herzegovina to the east, and Montenegro to the southeast.

The history of the region touches the literary roots of the famous European Renaissance writer Marin Drzic, who is from Dubrovnik, and the well known William Shakespeare mentions the Dubrovnik galleon Argosy in two of his plays: "Merchant of Venice" and "Taming of the Shrew".



arl of the Adriatic"

Sightseeing

With its beautiful Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque churches, monasteries, palaces and fountains it is easy to see why this beautiful ancient city was recognized by Shakespeare. The city endured damaged during the 1667 earthquake and fires, then once again in the 1990s during the war. It is still undergoing major restoration, but the city's main fascination is the impressive palace walls that border the coastline while also enclosing the old city.

The City Walls

Old city Dubrovnik has panoramic views both towards the coastline and inside the palace walls. The wall is 1940 meters long and up to 25 meters high. The whole city wall complex consists of an inner and outer section. The walls has fortresses at its four corners (a quadrilateral defense in war times), which are the Minceta Tower, Revelin Fortress, St John's Fortress, and Bokar Bastion. The walls have been preserved to the present day and are still functional, but the history of the fortifications goes back to the early Middle Ages.

Now, if the historical sightseeing of the beautiful Gothic, Renaissance and Baroque churches, monasteries and palaces don't keep your attention the panoramic views and fresh sea air will not disappoint you. The climate is Mediterranean and is one of the sunniest coastlines in Europe.

The MWA has a second trip scheduled to Dubrovnik in the coming month ahead.



MARIN DRŽIĆ
1598-1661
BIOGRAFIJA I RUKOPISI
IZ OBLASTI DRŽAVNE UPRAVE
DUBROVNIKA



Joint Effects Centre

new step towards the Unity of Effort

Article by (OF-4) Zduniak Pawel,
JEC Planning Influence Section Chief
Photos by Naim Shala



Starting from October 2008, the new branch called Joint Effects Center (JEC) - was created in the HQ KFOR. This step can be described as the new, comprehensive Effects-Based Approach (EBA) towards merging all non-kinetic activities into one. The functions such as Information Operations, Psychological Operations (PSYOPS), CIMIC and Liaison-Monitoring Coordination Cell were merged together under one command, in order to increase the efficiency of all non-maneuver forces in Kosovo.

While a safe environment and freedom of movement in Kosovo may be accomplished through kinetic or non-kinetic means, as effects-based thinking is applied, there is likely to be an increased focus on non-kinetic activities. The recent operations have shown its significance by increasing the commander's choice of means, by which effect can be achieved at all stages of a crisis.

However, it is not only the movement towards an effects-based approach that has brought about this new emphasis on non-



kinetic activities. Increased attention on non-maneuver activities is caused due to the realization that we now live in an information-dominated environment. All crises occur under the spotlight of the international media. The impact of real-time media coverage of a crises, the exploitation and manipulation of the media by some parties and the ever-increasing use of technologies such as the Internet have resulted in a world where information and non-kinetic activities play an increasingly important role.

The JEC Branch consists of the staff, one support and four executive elements: PSYOPS Centre, Liaison (LNO) Centre, Information Coordination Centre (ICC) and CIMIC Group South Detachment in KFOR. Although the Public Affairs Office (PAO) does not belong to the JEC, a close liaison is maintained in order to coordinate all KFOR activities related within the information environment.

Within the new structure, Information Operations advises on information designed to affect the will of the approved target audiences. Psychological Operations supports desired information throughout a variety of products, such as printed media, radio jingles and TV spots. CIMIC is contributing to this mission through the coordination of all activities between COMKFOR and civil actors, including the population, central authorities, as well as international and non-governmental organizations and agencies. Finally, the Liaison-

Monitoring Teams (LMT) providing constant feedback of ongoing JEC activities in a given area of responsibility, serving as the KFOR sensors on the ground. "This is a tremendous step forward. The soldiers from several countries with the different backgrounds and experiences are working together in order to achieve a common goal - safe and secure environment in Kosovo," says JEC Operations Chief - Lieutenant Colonel Eugen Popescu.

HISTORICAL AND CULTURAL TREASURES ARE PRICELESS

IT'S UP TO YOU TO PRESERVE THEM FOR YOUR CHILDREN!

KOSOVO HERITAGE
UNITY OF EFFORT

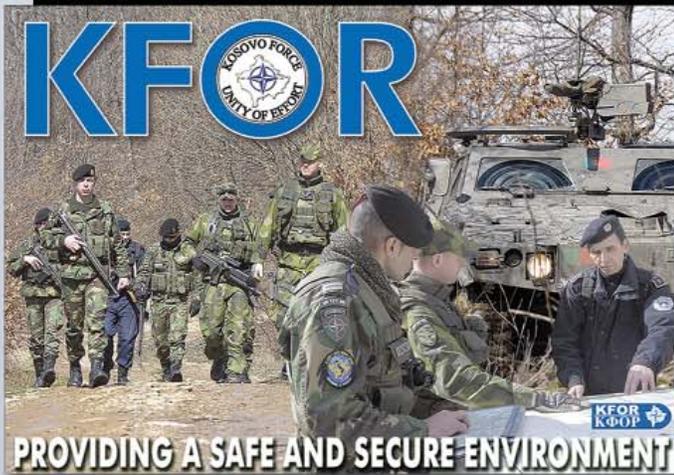
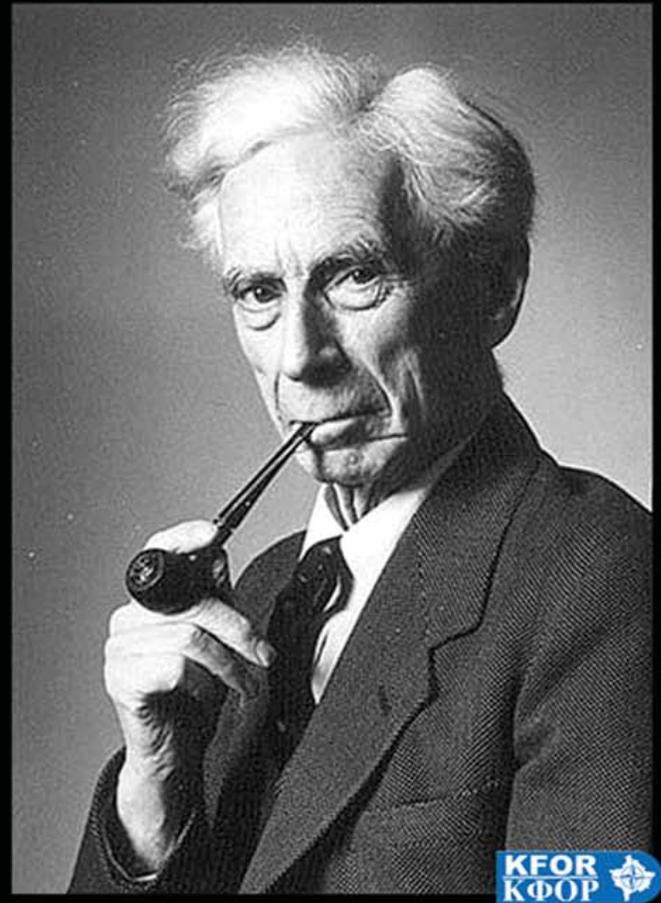
KFOR
KFOR





**"THE ONLY THING THAT
WILL REDEEM MANKIND
IS COOPERATION."**

BERTRAND RUSSELL
ENGLISH PHILOSOPHER 1872-1970



However, the first steps were not easy. "We had to change our approach and way of thinking. Everyone of us arrived to Kosovo to fill a specific position, and suddenly we were informed that from now on, we would belong to the different sections and we would work with different personnel. Nevertheless, after the success of our JEC campaigns supporting the dissolution of Kosovo Protection Corps and creating the Kosovo Security Force, I can assess, that it was the right decision," says one of the most experienced JEC members, PSYOPS center noncommissioned officer - Sergeant Hermann Schnoelzer.

This is just one example of the comprehensive campaigns conducted by JEC throughout all of Kosovo. The future challenges include achieving increased level of cooperation and tolerance among different ethnicities in Kosovo, reducing the inter-ethnic tensions, corruption, environmental pollution, saving Kosovo's cultural heritage, supporting the international community and building local capacity. And finally, as always, for the JEC, the number one priority remains supporting the KFOR image - anytime and everywhere.



MNTF-S EXERCISES CROWD A

Story by (OF-4) Knut Scheutz (Austrian Army)

Photos by (OF-2) Karsten Dyba (German army)

On 22 April, a protection exercise was carried out in the Bistrica Valley near Prizren in the area of responsibility of Multi-national Task Force South (MNTF-S). The target of the exercise was demonstrating the operational capabilities of the KFOR units, in particular at night.

The exercise included the topics of cooperation in a crowd and riot control (CRC) scenario as well as air support and a helicopter medical evacuation of an injured soldier in rough terrain.

Together with the Commander of MNTF-S, Brigadier General Starlinger, the participants of the key leader-training followed the sequence of the exercise.

The starting point of the scenario was an unannounced demonstration in front of the Archangel Monastery. The demonstrators became increasingly violent and refused to withdraw. The KFOR soldiers of MNTF-S, employed in the situation, requested to be reinforced.

In several air landings additional soldiers were flown in by helicopter. It was a special challenge for the pilots of the Joint Army Aviation Force Mercury from Toplicane, to fly in the dark. Not only did the soldiers have to cope with the narrow Bistrica Valley, but they also had to fly with night vision devices and recover an injured person with a rope winch in mountainous terrain. It was very impressive for the spectators to experience the high level of training that was revealed through the exercise. The mobile enforcement made it possible to control the violent demonstrators. In this way, the soldiers were able to prevent the potential destruction of the monastery.

The Commander of MNTF-S, Brigadier General Starlinger, was satisfied and emphasized the importance of the ongoing training. Maintaining capabilities through exercises, especially at night, is the basis for ensuring a safe and secure environment for the people here in Kosovo.



AND RIOT CONTROL AT NIGHT



LEARNING THE

Got ishte ke



Story by (OF-2) Matt Fahrner (US Army)

Photos by (OR-6) Libra Johnson (US Air Force)

"Ketu ju mesoni gjuhën shqipe letrare e jo atë që flitet në rrugë," admonishes Albanian instructor, Mr. Januz Krasniqi to a group of KFOR soldiers. He adds in English, "You will hear many words spoken on the street that are not correct. In this class, you will learn the proper Albanian which is suitable for any occasion." With this introduction, 21 eager, yet tenderfoot students, began an eight week course

entitled "Albanian for Beginners." With half of the class behind us and only five remaining, thus far it has touched on basic greetings, making travel reservations, and daily vocabulary. For the last day of class, it will culminate a real life exercise at a Prishtina restaurant, with the chance for the class to put into practice what they have learned.

According to Wikipedia, this Indo-European language is spoken by nearly six million people, primarily in Albania and Kosovo plus the official language of Montenegro. It has two dialects - Gheg and Tosk. The United States Department of Defense even classifies it as a Category III language, designating it as one of the toughest to learn. Making it even harder, the language has 7 vowels, 29 consonants, 5 declensions and 6 cases.

None of these daunting facts has stopped HQ KFOR personnel from learning the language. One of the first to sign up for the class, OR-5 Agnes Barencon (French) described her motivation for learning Albanian. She said that, "...working in the HQ KFOR Billeting Office, I have to manage the cleaning ladies' shifts. I work with locals and it's easier to understand them if you know what they are talking about." OR-9 Piero Angelo De Ruvo (Italian) has similar objectives. In describing his interest, he wrote, "Some years ago, while I was reading a book, a sentence struck me in a particular way: 'If you want to know a people, you have to know their language.' On assignment for six months in this splendid country, my mind returned to that sentence and as soon as I had the possibility to attend the Albanian class, I enrolled." For De Ruvo, it has enabled him to increase his communication with



people in Kosovo and is enjoyable for him to exchange greetings with locals. Having grown up overseas and being exposed to foreign cultures and languages at a young age, I knew the importance of being able to communicate when abroad. My parents always emphasized learning some basic phrases in the language we were traveling in, ensuring we always were a positive example of the United States. As such, I knew before arriving in Kosovo I would start learning another language. The Morale and Welfare Activities (MWA) office's generous course offerings made it difficult to decide, as French, English, Albanian and Serbian were all possibilities.

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LANGUAGE

tu meser do te "jete" atje.

Fortunately, the locals have been great and exhibited patience as I have practiced with them.

A natural linguist who already speaks Slovenian, French, German, it is no surprise that OF-3 Albert Lakota (Slovenian) decided to learn Albanian. He stated that, "I have taken the Albanian language class because of the specific work of the Liaison Monitoring Team Kosovo wide. It is useful to learn the language of the people for whom we came to protect, help, and to be introduced into a new European society." While it will be helpful for Lakota during his mission in Kosovo, the gained knowledge and Albanian language ability will help him back in his home country of Slovenia in his role in the Special Staff Detachment at the Slovenian Armed Forces HQ.

None of this progress would be possible without the assistance of a dedicated instructor, which we have in Mr. Januz Krasniqi. Working at a Prishtina law firm during the day as a French-Albanian interpreter, he finds true pleasure and "a good experience" in his Albanian instruction to KFOR students. Mr. Krasniqi recognizes that HQ KFOR personnel have daily interaction with people in restaurants and on the streets and his instruction efforts go a long way in enhancing communication. I think that on behalf of all my Albanian classmates, De Ruvo sums it up best. He wrote that "...surely when my mission will end (in Kosovo), my knowledge of Kosovo and the people will have increased and one day I can meet a citizen that speaks Albanian and address them in their native tongue." While we all may not be proficient in the street language of Albanian, as a result of this class, without a doubt, all of us are better ambassadors of KFOR.



THE DANCE



Story by (OF-4) Vadym Tymoshenko,
(Ukrainian Army)
Photos by (OF-4) Vadym Tymoshenko
and (OF-3) Christian Zankl,
(Austrian Army)

On May 16th, 2009, the first in this year, the legendary Danish contingent (DANCON) march was conducted in Kosovo. The DANCON march was attended by 813 participants, including 802 KFOR soldiers from 19 Troop contributing nations, as well as 11 representatives of European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX), who faced the challenge with stable.

The largest number of participants were from the United States - 158, followed

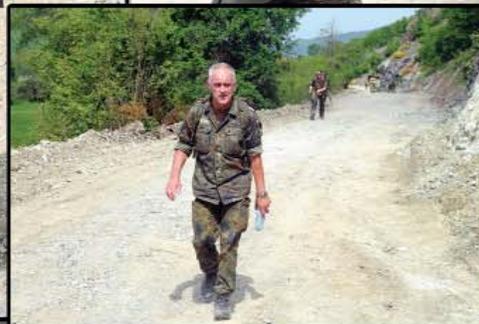
by Italy - 112, Germany - 95, Austria - 86, Czech Republic - 77, Denmark - 50, Switzerland - 49, Poland - 40, Slovenia - 25, Ukraine - 24, Hungary - 22, Spain - 20, Estonia - 18, France - 12, Slovakia - 7, Belgium - 4, Ireland - 2, Greece - 1, and Canada - 1.

Before the start of the march, one of its organizers OF-2 Flemming Pedersen, Danish contingent Leader Contact and Welfare Officer greeted all participants. At 08.30 The Danish contingent's Chief of Staff Lieutenant Colonel (OF-4) Jens Jørgen Hanson, who was in charge as commanding officer, gave the command to start and the march began.

The route was organized according to the geographic locations of the terrain in the shape of a ring - start and finish was located in the Danish camp Olaf Rye. The total length of the route was 25.2 km in the Mitrovica region. . On the itinerary there were four route points where the participants could get water and food, and, if necessary - medical first aid as well. The second part of the route was the most difficult since it was located in the hilly terrain.

According to the terms of the march, each participant was dressed in military attire with high boots, carried backpacks weighing 10 kg and their military issued weapons. Some soldiers complicated their task - they overcame a route in a bulletproof military vest.

The first person to overcome the route (but in running shoes and shorts) was EULEX representative, Kevin Goran, at 54 years old and



ON MARCH



31 years of service with the Irish police. His time was a good example for youngsters!
Among the soldiers of KFOR that took part in the DANCON the results were distributed as follows:

1. Lieutenant Colonel (OF-4) David Kauffman, Senior Attorney Multi-national Task Force East (Camp Bondsteel), US California Army National Guard, with his result 2 h 48 min.
2. Sergeant (OR-5) Pavel Fajfar, squad leader, Slovenian Army, Task Force Sokol, with his result 2 h 52 min.
3. Senior Sailor (OR-2) Victor Futurniuk, Ukrainian Navy, Polish-Ukrainian Task Force, with his result 2 h 54 min.

It should be mentioned, the representatives of the Slovenian Armed Forces demonstrated superb results, having occupied the second and the fourth positions. The Danish hosts provided water, fruits and extended opening hours of the dining facility to help exhausted participants to refresh and regenerate.

After covering the route each participant was awarded the commemorative medal and the corresponding diplomas of participation.

Danish contingent conducts such marches on a regular basis four times per year. This is a great opportunity to check your gear and equipment, as well as personal physical endurance in the field. Also KFOR soldiers can meet new friends from other contingents and exchange experiences. The next DANCON march will be held on the 13th of June.

See you soon, on the march!



KOSOVO POLJE FIELD

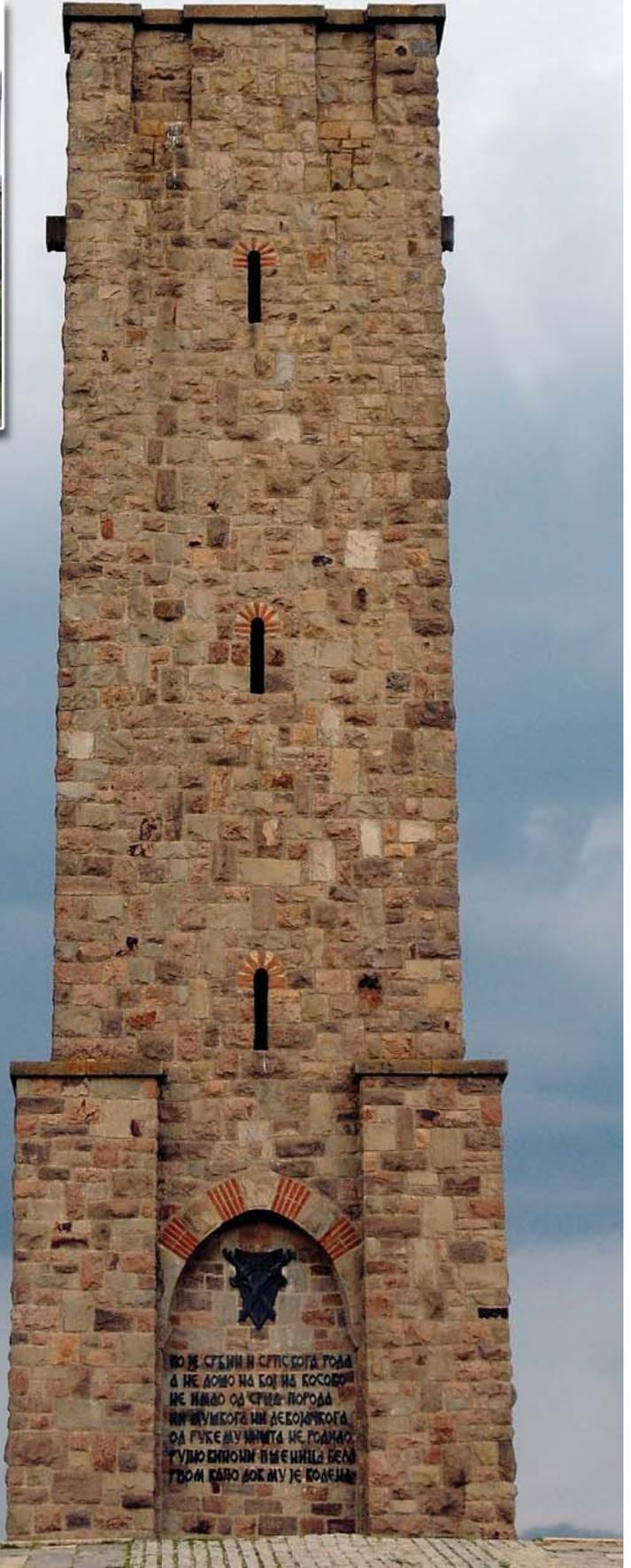


Story by (OF-3) Christian Zankl (Austrian Army)
Photos by (OF-4) Vadym Tymoshenko (Ukrainian Army)

Gazimestan is the name of a monument, situated a few kilometers to the southeast of the Kosovo Polje field, situated on a hill rising some 50 meters (164 ft) above the plain. It was built in 1953 under the authority of the Federal People's Republic of Yugoslavia, in the shape of a medieval tower. That region supposedly is the site of the Battle of Kosovo, which took place on June 15th, 1389, (Julian calendar) or June 28th (Gregorian calendar).

The battle of Kosovo Polje (Plain of Blackbirds) was fought between the Ottoman forces led by Sultan Murad and an allied army led by the Serbian Prince Lazar. Although the battle was an Ottoman victory Serbia did not finally lose its independence until 1459. For the medieval world the battle signalled the might of the Ottoman Empire that was to dominate the Balkans for centuries to come. Either way the battle of Kosovo remains important today and this is reflected in the monument on the battlefield as set out below. Eponymous of the field are the Ottoman Kosovo Province, and the town of Kosovo Polje (some 6 kilometer/4 miles to the southwest of the monument).

The monument is guarded by a Slovak KFOR detachment on a full-time basis as there have been numerous attempts to destroy it.



Peacekeeper's Profiles

Name: Lars Villum Nielsen

Rank: OF-2

Nationality: Danish

Home unit: Royal Danish Air Force - Home Guard

Unit in KFOR: DANBN/STAFF/ACOS S1

About the mission: This is my first mission abroad. I have been in Kosovo for three months now, since mid February. Being in an army battalion is quite a different setting from what I am used to, but it is very interesting and educating. Of course there is a difference in the way Army and Air Force operates as well as in the culture, but I find the insight I get from the cooperation with my Army colleagues, both national and international, very fruitful and very important for my future work in the armed forces. It is also a very exciting experience to be a part of a multinational unit, it is my understanding that all of the three nations in our battalion learn from each other and I am sure that I, when I leave for Denmark again, will treasure the friendships and memories that I have gained from this mission.

Family reaction: My wife was of course, and may I say fortunately, quite sad when I left for Kosovo. But she is also very supportive of me and my job. I know she is having a hard time, when I am away. We keep in contact on a daily basis, so that, and the fact that she is a hard little one helps us through the six months that I am away.

Plans after the mission: I will take my wife on a three week holiday to Mexico, where we are to play golf and scuba dive, not at the same time though. After which I will start a new job in the Danish Defence Personnel Service, which I am looking very much forward to.



Name: Stephanie EXCOFFIER

Rank: Brigadier Chef (OR-4)

Nationality: French

Home unit: 68ème Artillerie Africa Régiment

About the mission: This is my fourth mission abroad, but my first one in Kosovo. During the last ones (Mayetta, Djibouti, La Reunion), I served as a secretary, my usual work in France. In Kosovo I integrate the Liaison Monitoring Team (LMT) in Novo Selo, at the same function. This mission will allow me to discover the country because the LMT is always in contact with the population and the other camps. My job consists to ensure the secretary tasks, to prepare information for the chief's briefing, to support the LMT with equipment and deliver the 4U magazine, in a multi-national environment. This characteristic is a great occasion to improve my English. For me, it's a privilege and I'm sure that I will go back to France with a rich, professional and human experience.

Family reaction: My family is use to me going abroad for several months. My boyfriend is military too, so I think that he understands me. However, they had an apprehension for this mission which was reduced after the briefing I received about the situation in Kosovo. We have regular contacts and finally I know they will always support me in my job.

Plans after mission: My first wish is to see and to enjoy the holidays with my family, my boyfriend and my friends; to share my experience before I return to my mission in France at the end of the year.

For my military career, I'm waiting for an answer for a new contract in the Army and I hope to be near my boyfriend's home in Strasbourg.



NAME: Javier Cabello

RANK: OF-3

NATIONALITY: Spain

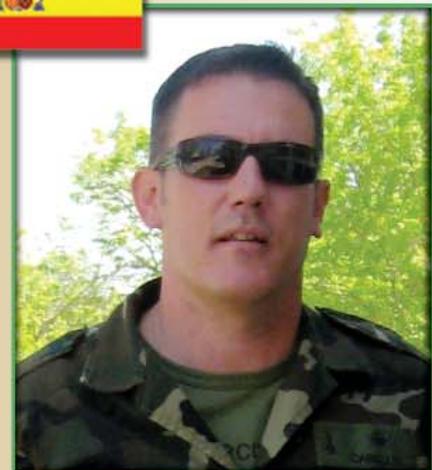
HOME UNIT: Anti Aircraft Regiment n73

UNIT IN KFOR: Chief Media analysis, Public Affairs Office (PAO)

ABOUT THE MISSION: I am ending my third tour in Kosovo and all three times happened to be within Film City: Initially in 2000, working at the Spanish NIC and two times as Chief/Media Analysis section at PAO (2005 and 2009). Many things have changed in Kosovo since 2000, but not so much in the camp. I have met a lot of people here, of various nationalities, but what has been really interesting to me was working with my team in PAO: Translators and analysts from Serbia, Albania and From Kosovo, who gave me the possibility to understand all points of view about the problems before and after the war. As of next September no more jungle Spanish hats will be seen around Kosovo. It is time for me to say goodbye and thank all the people who helped me in my duties.

FAMILY REACTION: I am married and I have three boys and a one year old daughter, to whom I have been a "Skype" father. I am sure that it has been much harder for my wife rather than for myself during the last six months; therefore, I think she deserves the NATO medal more than I do.

PLANS AFTER THE MISSION: I have no special plans for the next months apart from being close to my family, enjoying the sun and the sea in my hometown and in the meantime continue with my tasks as Deputy Commander in my battalion.



Banja



PHOTO:
ALEKSANDAR NARANDŽIĆ