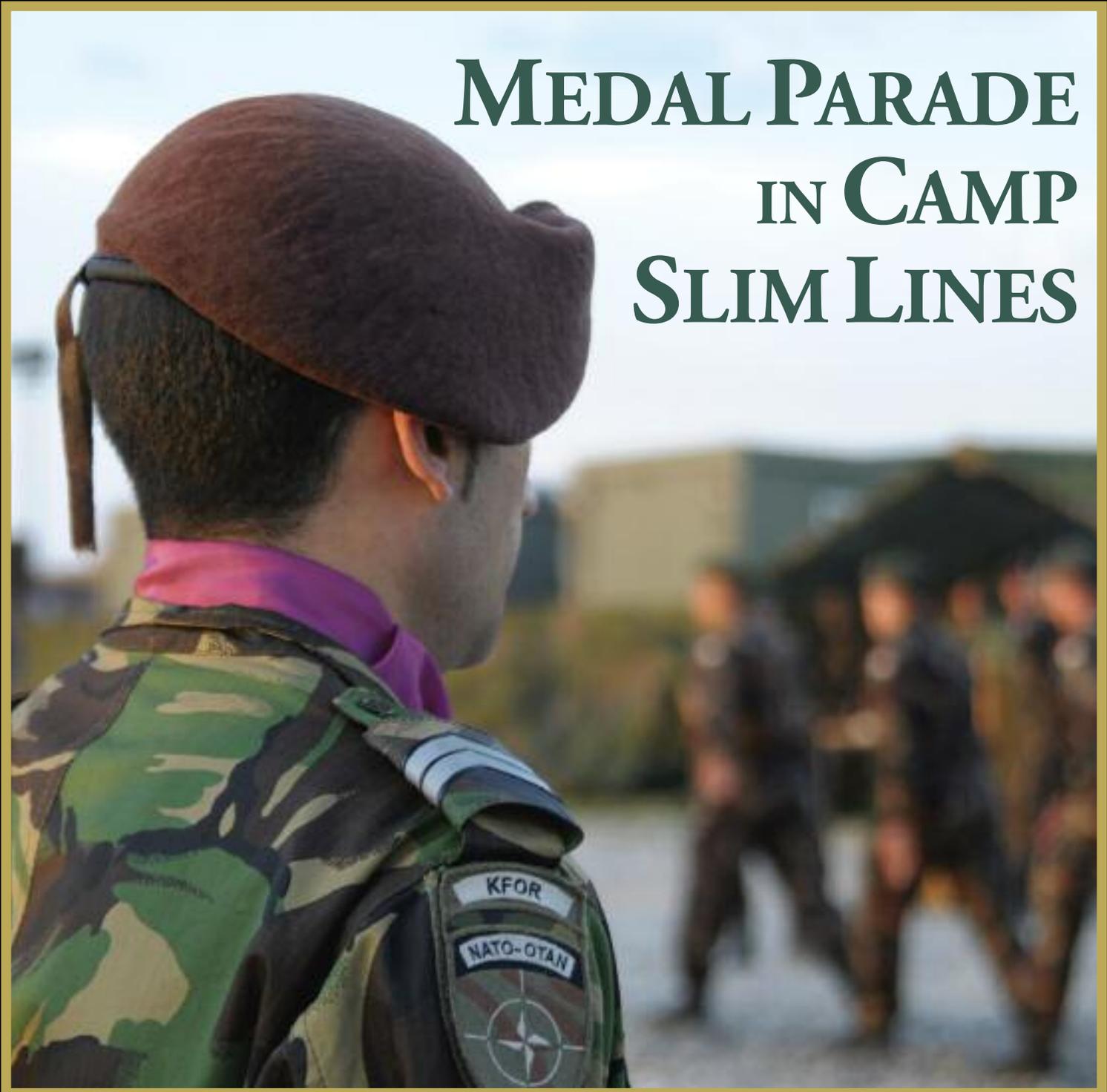




KFOR CHRONICLE



MEDAL PARADE IN CAMP SLIM LINES

**CHANGE OF COMMAND
WITHIN JRD CENTER**

**MOROCCANS
CELEBRATE
"THRONE DAY"**

**DONATION FOR
HOSPITAL FROM MSU**

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WITH THE SEPTEMBER CHANGE OF COMMAND QUICKLY APPROACHING, I WOULD LIKE TO TAKE THIS OPPORTUNITY TO PERSONALLY THANK EACH AND EVERY ONE OF YOU FOR A JOB WELL DONE.



I really appreciate your engagement, your teamwork, and your contributions to KFOR and to the people in Kosovo. I am proud to have served with and led such a fine organization.

When NATO started its activities in Kosovo twelve years ago, the situation was unthinkable bad. The violent conflict between the different ethnicities endangered not only the lives of all Kosovan people, but also threatened to turn into a multi-ethnic large-scale fire that could engulf the entire Balkans. Most buildings had been destroyed, there was little or no infrastructure, no medical supplies, people were beset by hunger, and nearly half a million people were on the run.

Kosovo was a region without civil law and in which the people only fought for survival. During that dark time only one rule might apply: “the law of the jungle”. Nearly twelve years after NATO’s entrance into Kosovo, the situation has changed decisively.

In most parts of Kosovo the situation is sustainable and stable, and peace has become the norm. Kosovo’s society is now a multi-ethnic one.

In many villages Albanian, Serbian, Roma, Ashkali, Egyptians and other Kosovan ethnicities live peacefully together and respect each other. There has also been a marked improvement in the infra-

MAY WE ALL GO ON TO WORK “TOGETHER FOR PROGRESS” UNTIL OUR MISSION FINALLY COMES TO AN END.

structure of Kosovo. Since the war ended, more than 50,000 buildings and 1,400 km of roads have been built, as well as hospitals, universities and schools.

Additionally, strides have been made to implement the rule of law, ensured by independent courts and based on the constitution of Kosovo. There are only a few regions in the world where such progress, made in only one decade, is as visible as in

Kosovo. The region has been thoroughly transformed and is today an important factor of peace and stability in the whole Balkan area, with a clear vision of becoming a part of European Union.

Dear comrades: Let me assure you, the progress in Kosovo is the success of KFOR. It is a success story made by all of you and your predecessors as part of the big KFOR-family. Many schools, bridges, roads and other vital construction projects, which were built up in post-war Kosovo, bear the seal of KFOR. The soldiers of this mission set the conditions for the breath of life to be breathed back into Kosovo, while always extending the hand of friendship, bringing people together, and reconciling citizens of different ethnicities.

Your presence here in Kosovo sustains the conditions for further advancements. Your teamwork and engagement are the guarantors for success and peace in Kosovo.

In closing, I would like to thank you all for your close contributions. May we all go on to work “Together for Progress” until our mission finally comes to an end. ■

COM KFOR Major General Erhard Bühler

PICTURE: 1ST LT. CASEY STAHLEI



Members of the New Mexico National Guard's 44th Army Band, who volunteered for the Kosovo Forces mission and serve in various capacities throughout Multinational Battle Group East, volunteered to come together and spend their free time practicing for the Dog Town ribbon cutting ceremony.

PICTURE: STAFF SERGEANT ELISABETH SCHÖNEBERG



On 24 August 2011, COM KFOR met Prime Minister of Croatia, Mrs. Jadranka Kosor in Camp Film City, Pristina.

PICTURE: LIEUTENANT COLONEL STIG-OLOF SKOTT



On Sunday 17 July, the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) arrived in Nijmegen, The Netherlands for participating in the famous 4-day march.

TOGETHER FOR PROGRESS

PICTURE: AFRIM HAJRULLAHU



On 05 Aug 2011, COM KFOR hosts a joint press conference with Mr Agim Çeku, Minister for Kosovo Security Force, and Mr Dardan Gashi, Minister for Environment and Spatial Planning (article p.18).

PICTURE: STAFF SERGEANT STEFANIE HOFFMANN



On 09 Aug 2011, Commander Kosovo Force (COM KFOR), Major General Erhard Bühler, and Commander Joint Regional Detachment East (JRD E), Colonel Daniel Stark, meet with the Head Imam, Musa Vila and the mayor of Hani I Elizit/General Jankovic, Mr Rufki Suma.

PICTURE: STAFF SERGEANT STEFANIE HOFFMANN



COM KFOR introduces Commander Multi National Battlegroup East (MNBG E), Colonel Michael Schwartz, to Mr Guido Westerwelle, German Federal Foreign Minister, during a field visit.

MOROCCAN CONTINGENT CELEBRATES “THRONE DAY”

On 30 July 2010, in Camp “Marechal de Lattre De Tassigny” in Novo Selo, the Moroccan contingent celebrated “The Throne Day”. This national holiday is a very significant day in the life of all Moroccan citizens inside or outside the country, and they celebrate it with great joy. In Kosovo, it is another opportunity for the Moroccan contingent, as a KFOR member, to demonstrate its hospitality and generosity towards all other KFOR-contributing countries. “The Throne Day” is a national celebration marking the enthronement of His Majesty Mohammed VI, God bless him, from his honoured ancestors. In fact, “The Throne Day” renews the connection between the people and the throne, reinforcing the symbiosis between the king and the citizens, and confirming the historical continuity of the monarchy as a sacred institution of Moroccan society.

On the occasion of “The Throne Day”, His Majesty Mohammed VI addresses a speech to Moroccan people, in which he communicates the ongoing projects that the state is undertaking, as well as plans for the development of the nation. It is worth mentioning that since the accession of His Majesty Mohammed VI to the throne in 1999, the Kingdom of Morocco has undertaken diverse development projects which focus on economic development, promotion of democracy, and human rights. Each “Throne Day”, the king of Morocco presides over a variety of activities: as commander in chief and chief of staff of the Royal Armed Forces, the king presides





over the swearing-in ceremony of new promoted officers from different high military schools; and he also presides over the ceremony of allegiance, commonly called “Al Bayaa”.

On this occasion in Novo Selo, the Moroccan National Contingent Commander (NCC), Lieutenant Colonel El Hassane El Bouzidi, thanked all the participants who responded to his invitation to share this day with the Moroccan Royal Armed Forces.

“It is a great opportunity and pleasure for the Moroccan contingent to have the international community celebrating this “Throne Day” with us”, he said.

He also took the opportunity to detail the commitment of the Moroccan contingent to uphold KFOR’s mission of ensuring a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in for all in Kosovo.

“I reiterate that the Moroccan contingent, especially during the ongoing events and the increased tension in the north of Kosovo, is more committed than ever to fully carry out the mission entrusted to it, in order to maintain the esteem that has always characterized the Moroccan soldiers”, said the Moroccan NCC.

The ceremony, the highlight of which was a traditional Kosovo music and dance group invited specially for the occasion, clearly demonstrates the harmonic atmosphere which exists between KFOR contributing countries.

This national celebration was a great success and ended with a lavish reception prepared in the honour of the distinguished guests. ■

LIAISON AND MONITORING TEAM N2 SHARES ITS “SAVOIR FAIRE” WITH

During a recent pulse patrol, Mr Murati, the manager of the Non-governmental Organization (NGO), Youth Action for Kosovo (YAK) asked the Swiss Liaison and Monitoring Team (LMT) N2 to devise an activity that would benefit young people in the area of the Municipality of Vushtri/Vucitrn. After careful consideration, LMT N2 leader decided that a course of basic first aid instruction could be useful.

On 06 July 2011, LMT N2 travelled to the “Mustapha Venhari” to provide instruction to a group of youngsters aged between 16 and 21. The aim of this activity was to give the youngsters some basic skills to deal with many of the emergency medical situations they may encounter in life. It



also was a great opportunity to help them develop confidence and leadership skills. This three hour medical course was divided into two parts. The first part was theoretical. Two members of LMT N2 presented all the details concerning first

aid, hygiene and personal safety. The second part was more practical; the members of the YAK association were asked to simulate and handle some medical emergencies. The teenagers approached this course very enthusiastically as they learned that with simple procedures, lives can be saved.

The feedback from this medical course has been largely positive, so much so that the organization is planning to incorporate this into a forthcoming summer camp. The contribution of LMT N2 was deeply appreciated by both the teenagers and the manager of YAK. Mr Murati was happy that the LMT agreed to conduct this activity for the benefit of the youngsters. The LMT members were pleased too, because they trained those youngsters to do something which could be helpful for them if faced with emergency situations, and, for sure, this proficiency has the potential to be transmitted to their fellows. Therefore, the beneficiaries of this activity could be more than simply the 13 students who attended the course.

Questioned about their feelings after this course, Lieutenant Pierre and Lieutenant Kevin, two officers from LMT 2, said: “We had a very good impression, because we think the young people were interested and motivated.”

Through this kind of activity LMTs make and maintain very close contact with the population of Kosovo. This story demonstrates that the daily work of an LMT does not solely consist of patrols and traditional military activities, but also on these instructive activities that bring new knowledge to the local populace. Youth is the future, opening their minds to new horizons is a big step toward the development of Kosovo. ■





JOINT REGIONAL DETACHMENT NORTH'S FIRST MEDAL PARADE

On 15 July 2011, Lieutenant Colonel Darius Nobs, Acting Commander Joint Regional Detachment North (JRD-N), presided over a medal parade held for the Slovenian Liaison and Monitoring Team (LMT) N7 that was due to leave Kosovo after six months of deployment. The ceremony was held at 0800hrs in front of the JRD-N Headquarters where the new leader of LMT N7 was standing next to his new Swiss and Slovenian comrades. After each member from the exiting LMT N7 was presented with the NATO Non - Article Five medal as well as a certificate from JRD-N, Lieutenant Colonel Nobs highlighted the professionalism and efficiency of the Slovenian LMT and stated that he felt privileged to have worked with them. He then took the opportunity to wish all members of N7 a safe return

back to their homeland and the best wishes for their return to 'normal' life. Lieutenant Colonel Nobs then used the occasion to

“...THE JOB OF THE LMT IS NOT AN EASY ONE. IT IS A JOB THAT REQUIRES HARD WORK AND DETERMINATION...”

formally welcome the new LMT N7; he stressed that the job of the LMT is not an easy one. It is a job that requires hard work and determination; however, he said that he is convinced that he can rely on the new team.

The members of the outgoing LMT N7 were deployed in Kosovo in January 2011. For more than 6 months, the team leader, Captain Yanis Krampac, and his soldiers performed pulse patrols, security meetings and visits. Through their activities they contributed very positively to KFOR'S image and JRD-N's footprint in the municipality of Leposavic, particularly after the Gate 2 transition. The other key role for the LMT is to enhance the situational awareness of higher HQ by accurately gauging the atmosphere of the municipalities in their region, and providing accurate and timely updates. The entire JRD-N took the opportunity to officially say goodbye to their Slovenian comrades, who leave behind many memories of good friends and a significantly enhanced reputation. ■



The departure of Czech troops from their base in Šajkovac is getting closer and is evident throughout the camp - the almost empty motor pool, which two months ago was full of military equipment and containers; the fuel station, which used to accommodate tens of thousands of liters of fuel, is now almost empty; the ordnance store, which held almost a thousand weapons and tons of ammunition, has now been dismantled.

The motor repair pool and dozens of storage containers, comprising hundreds of tons of assets are consigned to history and no evidence of their presence exists. Only a few pieces of equipment set aside for disposal and containers ready to move back to the Czech Republic now remain.

Accommodation areas that had capacity for almost eight hundred people at the beginning of this year, now hold the one hundred personnel of KFOR's Army of Czech Republic Task Force (ACR TF).

Each building and store has had to be dismantled and assets sorted out according to their future use - some are to be sent back to the Czech Republic, whereas some are to be transferred to coalition partners or humanitarian organizations.

All the resultant waste is then sorted and shuttled off to certified disposal companies.

It is painstaking work; the hands of every soldier are needed.

However, the most remarkable building to be dismantled in Šajkovac is a unique structure – the military chapel.

This chapel is the first one constructed by the Army of the Czech Republic during overseas deployment.

It was established in 2004 by the 5th Czech-Slovak KFOR battalion comprised mainly of members of the 42nd mechanized battalion ▶





from Tábor. The significance of this chapel is demonstrated by the presence of the Military History Institute from Prague who, together with Czech soldiers, painstakingly disassembled the chapel prior to its return to the Czech Republic. 1st Lieutenant Miroslav Jordanek was Chaplain when the chapel was established and recalls that its preparation took about two months. During this time he could rely on the wholehearted and dedicated support of the soldiers of the camp, in particular the carving skills of

Staff Sergeant Milan Líbal, who created the cross, tabernacle, altar and the inscriptions on the walls of the chapel.

After the tragic crash of the Slovak plane returning home from Kosovo on 19th January 2006, he created a plaque that Czech soldiers devoted to their Slovak colleagues.

Lieutenant Jordanek recalled that “the idea of building a chapel in Šajkovac did come from the military chaplains, as one might expect, but rather from the soldiers themselves. Until the chapel was constructed,

soldiers mostly gathered for religious services in the library. A few days prior to the decision to build the chapel, one of the officers came to me and asked for a prayer service for his mother on the anniversary of her tragic death.

We met in the library and during the prayers we were interrupted several times by personnel who were passing through.

This prompted the soldiers to request a purpose built chapel; not just as a place of worship, but also as a place of silence where one could always have privacy, a place of prayer, where one will not be disturbed.

A few days later they emptied the room above the library and the Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Antonín Genser gave permission for the construction of a chapel there. On 12 November 2004, the dedication of the chapel took place, led by KFOR Chaplain Colonel Lars Hedberg from Sweden.”

Today, because of the imminent closure of the camp, the chapel no longer exists. Before its removal, which took four days, it was first photographed, and then every part of the walls, ceiling and floors were marked in order to allow the chapel be reconstructed in an exact copy of its original state.

The chapel will be moved to the Czech Republic and rebuilt in the Military History Institute in Lešany.

It will be the only object that is kept from the base Šajkovac. The chapel will be fondly remembered by the personnel who served in Šajkovac as a sanctuary that certainly helped soldiers in difficult situations caused by separation from their families and loved ones, especially during the many Christmases served in Kosovo. ■

CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY JRD CENTER

On 26 July 2011, the first Change of Command (CoC) ceremony for the Joint Regional Detachment (JRD C) took place in JRD C's Liaison and Monitoring Team's (LMT) Field House in Pristina. Captain (N) Kalevi Wikström, the inaugural commander of the JRD C, handed over command to his successor Captain (N) Bengt Lundgren in front of a large gathering of invited guests, both military and civilian.

JRD C was the first JRD to be established, and therefore Captain (N) Wikström had the onerous task of establishing roles, functions and procedures for his team without any precedent. ▶





Captain (N) Wikström(right) handing over the NATO flag to Captain (N) Lundgren (left)

Captain (N) Wikström forged a team of Swedish, Czech, Finnish, Hungarian and Turkish soldiers who went out into the towns and villages of their sector providing help and a sense of security to the local populace, while at the same time providing increased situational awareness for higher headquarters. The LMT is the main liaison between KFOR and the principal civilian actors in every municipality, so the ability to gain the trust of these people is a vital part of the success of KFOR.

The personnel of JRD C have spent countless hours taking the pulse of the residents of municipalities such as Podojeve, Obelic, Glaconac, Lipljan, Gračanica and Pristina. Captain (N) Kalevi now returns home to Stockholm for a well deserved rest while his successor

assumes responsibility for JRD C. Captain (N) Lundgren arrives in KFOR having held a wide variety of appointments in his 25 years of military service. He has held numerous staff and command appointments in the Swedish Navy, and previously served as aide-de-camp to His Majesty Carl Gustav, King of Sweden.

Captain (N) Lundgren is also a masters degree graduate in history and economics as well as a graduate of the Swedish and United States Naval Colleges.

The CoC ceremony began with a short address from a representative from the Pristina Young Ambassadors Group who offered “a word of thanks to KFOR for the safe and secure environment it provides and the really hard work of JRD C”. This was followed by a

colourful display of traditional dancing by the Children’s Culture Centre, Pristina. Captain (N) Wikström then addressed the audience saying, “I would like to express my gratitude to all the contributing nations within JRD C for (your) excellent performance. All team members and staff officers in JRD C have fulfilled your responsibilities ... in the most confident and trusted way”. He concluded by wishing his successor and all members of JRD C the best of luck now and in the future. After the address, there was a symbolic hand over of the flag to represent the formal transition of command from Captain (N) Wikström to Captain (N) Lundgren. The ceremony was then brought to a close with a song from the Children’s Culture Centre.

On 25 July 2011 KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM) and the KFOR Hungarian Contingent held their NATO KFOR Service Medal Parade, in Camp Slim Lines, Pristina. The Portuguese and Hungarian military from the multinational KTM Battalion were joined by other Hungarian military serving in Kosovo for this event. The current Portuguese Contingent began its mission in KFOR on 23 March 2011, whereas the Hungarian Contingent is in theatre since the 28 February 2011. The Ceremony was presided over by the Commander, Joint Forces Command, Hungarian Defence Forces, Major-General József Kovács, and Kosovo Force Deputy Commander (D COM KFOR), Brigadier General Marco Serronha. The Hungarian Consul, several senior representatives from KFOR Headquarters, Senior National Representatives and Commanders were also present at this event. The NATO non-article 5 medal was presented to the soldiers who have served their tour in support of KFOR, in grateful recognition of their service while on duty in Kosovo, as pointed out by both Major-General Kovács and Brigadier-General Serronha in their respective speeches to the assembled guests. On the recommendation of the Hungarian Contingent Commander, Colonel Laszlo Takács, the Hungarian Minister of Defence, Dr. Csaba Hende authorized the decoration of Commander KTM, Lieutenant Colonel Jose Augusto Amaral Lopes, and nine other Portuguese officers with the Hungarian Peacekeeping Service Medal in recognition of “their outstanding performance and exceptional behaviour worthy of highlight during support to peacekeeping operations thus contributing for the peace and stability in the region”.



PICTURE: CORPORAL LISANDRA ALBUQUERQUE



PICTURE: STAFF SERGEANT ELISABETH SCHÖNEBERG



PICTURE: STAFF SERGEANT ELISABETH SCHÖNEBERG





On the 05 August 2011, the Multinational Specialised Unit (MSU) Regiment based in Pristina, delivered medicine and health supplies to the authorities at the Mitrovica North Hospital. The donation was collected in Italy over the last few months in support of the Kosovar people by the International Italian Association Regina Elena (ONLUS) of Palmanova, a town in province of Udine.

The donation from the MSU Carabinieri Regiment was carried out with the assistance of the Swiss Liaison Monitoring Team (LMT) from Joint Regional Detachment North (JRD N), who coordinated the delivery of the supplies with Doctor Milena Cvetkovic, Sanitary Director of the Hospital.

The donation consisted of a wide variety of medicines, furnishings and hospital beds, wheelchairs, crutches, a hydraulic lift to assist handicapped or incapacitated patients and waiting room furniture.

At the delivery of the donation, Dr Cvetkovic thanked the MSU Carabinieri Regiment's CIMIC activity coordinator and Medical Section Chief; and asked that her appreciation be passed on to the Italian people for their generosity. Dr Cvetkovic noted that the timing of this donation was very appropriate, as maintaining sufficient funding for the hospital is always challenging.

She also expressed her hopes that this established relationship between MSU and the Mitrovica North Hospital can become an enduring collaboration into the future.

This is not the first donation the CIMIC Unit of MSU has made on behalf of ONLUS to hospitals in Kosovo: on 04 April 2011, the MSU made a similar donation to this one to the University Clinic Centre of Pristina. MSU's Carabinieri Regiment will continue to facilitate the delivery of aid and assistance from the people of Italy to worthy causes across Kosovo. ■

**“WE OURSELVES
FEEL THAT WHAT
WE ARE DOING IS
JUST A DROP IN
THE OCEAN. BUT
THE OCEAN
WOULD BE LESS
BECAUSE OF THAT
MISSING DROP.”**

MOTHER TERESA

HAZMAT RESPONSIBILITIES DEVOLVED FROM KFOR



On 05 August 2011, KFOR hosted a ceremony at the Pristina Water Works that marked a very significant milestone in the development of Kosovo and further underlined the continuing close cooperation between the Institutions of Kosovo (IiK) and KFOR.

As a result of the agreement signed, the Ministry of Environment and Spatial Planning (MESP) will now take responsibility for the inspection

and safe management of most Toxic Industrial Material (TIM) sites Kosovo-wide, thereby assuming the task of providing a safer environment for all the citizens of Kosovo.

Since 1999, the TIM inspection program has been administered by KFOR and, in this time, had identified one hundred and seventeen sites across Kosovo that currently constitute a TIM hazard. During the last number of years, the KFOR

Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear (CBRN) teams have been conducting TIM site inspections in close coordination with MESP inspectors.

Over time, this program continued to evolve, and began to encompass not only MESP but also the Agency of Emergency Management and the Ministry of Kosovo Security Force (KSF).

This active participation has been welcomed as the KFOR mission



Left to right: Mr. Agin Çeku (Minister for KSF), MG Erhard Bühler (COM KFOR), Mr. Dardan Gashi (Minister for MESP)

continues to transform; and through an intensive training, mentoring and monitoring process, KSF has now developed its own capability in regard to TIM management. As part of this capability development, and with approval of the MESP, KFOR will now transfer the responsibility for the inspection of the low and medium risk TIM sites to MESP, and simultaneously hand over the related TIM database, which records the recent history of the sites.

During the preparation process for this handover, all identified TIM sites were reviewed and those sites which are considered a high risk, or pose a threat to a safe and secure environment, will remain a KFOR responsibility.

This accounts for twenty three of the one hundred and seventeen sites.

As MESP continues to gain experience and increases its inspection and monitoring capabilities, KFOR

will establish a date at which MESP can assume full responsibility for the remaining twenty three sites. The transfer procedures, responsibilities and future coordination procedures have all been drafted and approved by KFOR and MESP as part of a joint working group.

This ceremony marked a very significant point in the sustainable development of Kosovo and is something that KFOR was very proud to facilitate. ■

COMPLETION OF KSF BASIC TRAINING COURSE

The Kosovo Security Force (KSF) Training & Doctrine (TRADOC) Command's mission is to train KSF members and design, develop and integrate capabilities,

Deputy Chief of Staff, Chief MCAD, Brigadier-General Enrico Spagnoli; Mr. Shemsi Veseli, Deputy Minister for KSF; Lieutenant General Sylejman Selimi, Commander KSF;

theory and practice, communications training, and first aid.

The 60-day course was delivered through a mix of classroom based lessons as well as outdoor training



concepts and doctrine in order to build up a force that is a versatile mix of tailorable, adaptable, and networked organizations; operating on a rotational cycle for civil protection operations.

The KFOR Military-Civilian Advisory Division (MCAD) supports KSF in achieving this mission and provides mentoring and training for KSF personnel and units.

On 12 August 2011, a ceremony to mark the conclusion of the Basic Training Course for the new KSF recruits was held at the KSF TRADOC Command, in Ferizaj. The presence of Kosovo Force Commander (COM KFOR) Major General Erhard Bühler and KFOR

and Major General Rrahman Rama, Commander KSF Land Force Command-underlined the importance of this course.

The KSF TRADOC delivered a syllabus of training to 148 KSF members at Ferizaj barracks from 13 June until 11 of August 2011. The recruits were divided into 5 platoons consisting of different ethnic groups, including Ashkalis, Egyptians, Albanians, Turks and Gorani.

The course concentrated on the following main topics: mines/UXO awareness, code of discipline, search & rescue techniques, human rights, physical fitness, police training, land navigation, weapons

activities and exercises. Under the command of Colonel Giuseppe Finanza, KFOR's TRADOC Mentoring & Advisory Team (MAT), which is part of MCAD, provided training assistance and advice to all level KSF members, in order to further develop their professional forces and their capabilities in civil protection and humanitarian aid operations. By accelerating progress toward a self-sustaining and capable KSF, KFOR TRADOC Mentoring & Advisory Team demonstrates KFOR's deep commitment to transitioning towards Kosovo's ownership of its own safety/security and affairs. ■

NUNZIATELLA FORMER CADETS IN KFOR

“Besides being a military training institution, Nunziatella is a place of great cultural and civil heritage. Here the whole history of our country is summarized. I believe that the Republic of Italy has to treasure all its great military and civil traditions which originated in the country even when it had not still reached political unity. Therefore, my presence at Nunziatella is intended to pay homage to Italy and its whole history.”

Francesco Cossiga, President of the Italian Republic,
Naples, 18 November 1989

The Military College “Nunziatella” (so named for the chapel annex on the grounds of the academy - literally, “Little Church of the Annunciation”) of Naples is one of the oldest institutions of military education in the world.

The School was founded on November 18th, 1787 as the Royal Military Academy by Ferdinand IV of Bourbon, at a time of renewal and strengthening of military institutions in the Kingdom of Naples during the second half of the eighteenth century.

The academy was established in a pre-existing building that dated from 1588, originally built for Anna Mendoza Marchesana della Valle, a noblewoman who subsequently gave the building to the Jesuit Order. The premises served in a religious capacity until the Jesuits were banned from the kingdom in the mid-18th century.

The most illustrious student ever to attend Nunziatella was the future king of Italy, Victor Emmanuel III. Moreover, Nunziatella gave to Italy a high number of Prime Ministers, Ministers, a President of



Colonel Cipullo



Ferdinando IV di Borbone



the Constitutional Court, and a huge number of top-ranking officers of the Italian Armed Forces.

However, it is, the lesser known graduates - such as doctors, biologists, architects, engineers, geologists, physicists, lawyers, notaries, judges, diplomats, economists, teachers, professors, journalists and Armed Force officers -who remain the great source of pride for Nunziatella. What is more, among the former cadets of this school

there are 38 gold medals for military valor, 147 silver medals for military valor, a gold medal for ‘Army Value’, a gold medal for civil valor and a civil merit medal.

Furthermore, the school flag was awarded the bronze medal for ‘Army Value’ in 2008.

On a serene, warm, starry evening on August 6th, 2011, a social gathering of former Nunziatella cadets who are serving in KFOR took place at Camp Film City, in ▶

Commander KFOR

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German Army

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NATO Nations within KFOR

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

Non-NATO Nations within KFOR

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

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Pristina. The event was attended by a number of officers from several KFOR units, including: Comamnder Multinational Specialised Unit (MSU), Colonel Eduardo Russo; Commander Multi National Battle Group West (MNBG W) Colonel Vincenzo Cipullo; Lieutenant Colonel Fabio Cucurachi, MNBG-W; Major Giosuè Tortorella, MCAD; Captain Nicola Dell'Anno, MCAD; Captain Giuseppe Votto, MNBG-W; 1st Lieutenant Pasquale Visconti MNBG-W; and, 1st Lieutenant Daniele Mainieri, MNBG-W.

So, in a friendly atmosphere and in memory of shared experiences and traditions, the KFOR officers enjoyed a wonderful dinner. This meeting allowed those officers to spend a few hours together, reminiscing about their experiences, now more and more distant in time, at the "Red Mansion" (as Nunziatella affectionately is called).

Following the classic "souvenir pictures", the evening came to a close with several warm embraces and a heartfelt farewell until their next encounter. ■

"FOLLOWING THE CLASSIC "SOUVENIR PICTURES", THE EVENING CAME TO A CLOSE WITH SEVERAL WARM EMBRACES AND A HEARTFELT FAREWELL UNTIL THEIR NEXT ENCOUNTER."

STORY AND PHOTO: MAJOR GIOSUÈ TORTORELLA



Name: Tom Werkhoven
Nationality: The Netherlands
Unit in KFOR: Provost Marshal
Language: Netherlands, English and German

Experience:

I am from the KONINKLIJKE MARECHAUSSEE, which is a police organisation with a military background. My average work is 90% civil police work and the rest is Military Police work. Originally I am from the ARMY and I started in 1979 with my military (police) career.

Job in Progress:

As the Provost Marshal I should be the police advisor of COMKFOR. Due to the lack of an International Military Police Commander I combine both Jobs. The result is that in Film City they call me the Sherriff, dealing with speeding, parking tickets but also the investigations on big cases and advising KFOR about Police business. I like the job very much because it is very interesting. Speaking with many people and dealing with all kind of different challenges makes the time going fast and gives me a busy and positive feeling.

Family Reaction:

This is my second mission. My family got used to it also because I was many times on all kind of exercises. My two kids like it when I am on mission because at this moment they can use my car at home. Thanks kids!



Name: Shemsije Mehmeti
Job Title: Cashier, Ciano's and Bar Manager, Irish House
Languages: Albanian, English, Italian

Job in progress:

My job is to ensure that we provide high quality customer-oriented services to our patrons. My colleagues and I offer a relaxed and friendly atmosphere for our guests who are of multi-national backgrounds and who visit Ciano's in the morning before a busy workday begins, or right after they conclude an important and difficult meeting, or in the evening at the end of another demanding day. Several nights a week I work in the Irish House, where I bring my expertise in the field of catering to the soldiers, not only of the Irish contingent, but to all those who choose the Irish den to spend a less formal evening enjoying "the craic" with friends.

Family reaction:

My family are very supportive of me as my job requires me to work long and irregular hours; but they understand that this job is important for me and my well-being.

Hobbies:

I enjoy travelling to different places and meeting new people. I enjoy reading, music and socialising.

