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PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE

Press release

KFOR expects peaceful behavior

At approximately 1300 hrs today, a civilian vehicle attempted to force the gate at the Jarinje Check Point (Gate 1) on the Kosovo/Serbia border.

KFOR forces, deployed in support of EULEX in the area of Jarinje Check Point, acted to prevent the breach and a KFOR soldier was injured by the vehicle. During the incident an attempt was made to seize the soldier's weapon and, after a verbal warning, a KFOR soldier fired a shot; injuring the civilian attempting to steal the weapon. The civilian was taken from the scene by civilian ambulance and we are not aware of his current condition.

The situation then deteriorated and a number of pipe bombs were thrown at KFOR personnel, causing minor injuries. There have also been confirmed reports of shots fired at KFOR personnel in the vicinity.

The situation is currently tense but under control.

KFOR is committed to ensuring a safe and secure environment and will use all necessary means under its mandate. We are deeply convinced that the majority of the population wants peace and stability and acts such as these, whether by individuals or groups, are a serious threat to the safety of inhabitants in the area.

Commander KFOR Major General Drews appeals to all peaceful people of Kosovo to abstain from violence and to support a peaceful solution to the current crisis.

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