SACEUR VISIT TO KFOR

Exercise “ICARUS”

www.nato.int/kfor
The “DANCON March” was held for the third time this year at Camp Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny on the 26th of June 2016, with more than 1000 participants.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Page</th>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Content</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>03</td>
<td>KFOR KTM</td>
<td>The “Breacher” Course</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>06</td>
<td>KFOR CIMIC</td>
<td>Education Projects 2016</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>08</td>
<td>DEUCON KFOR</td>
<td>Exercise “Considerate Leopard”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12</td>
<td>KFOR HQ</td>
<td>A Visual Overview</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>16</td>
<td>MNBG-W</td>
<td>Slovenian Contingent</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>20</td>
<td>PICTURES OF THE MONTH</td>
<td>Your Chance to be a Part of It!</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>04</td>
<td>EXERCISE “ICARUS”</td>
<td>Wings Over Kosovo</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>07</td>
<td>MNBG-W</td>
<td>Exercise “Freedom of Movement”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>10</td>
<td>KFOR KTM</td>
<td>MASCAL Exercise “Hot Dust 161”</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14</td>
<td>MNBG-E</td>
<td>Exercise “Poseidon” Dealing with Natural Disaster</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>18</td>
<td>CULTURAL CORNER</td>
<td>Visoki Decani Monastery</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>21</td>
<td>PROFILES</td>
<td>Ines Schoene Carmelo Ricciardo Rizzo Rocco Larocca</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>22</td>
<td>MEDICAL ADVICE</td>
<td>Foot Care General Principles</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>23</td>
<td>MP MESSAGE &amp; KFOR RADIO</td>
<td>90.2 FM and 96.6 FM</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
The “Breacher” course is intended to train troops as the breach element within a team or section in methods of breaching, types and selection of breaching tools, placing special emphasis on mechanical and ballistic break processes.

This training is structured in two main blocks covering theoretical and general concepts on the subject and also the application of these concepts through practical exercises.

This first iteration of Breacher course was composed of twenty students, ten each from both the Portuguese contingent and Hungarian contingent.

Capt. Paulo Gomes,
OF-2 PRT-A
EXERCISE Icarus

From observation to troop movement, aviators are called upon to be reliable professionals who can adapt to a wide variety of missions. Since 1999, Soldiers deployed to Kosovo in support of NATO’s peace support mission understand the importance of aviation all too well.

On June 8, 2016, multinational aviators came together on Camp Bondsteel to test their adaptability by conducting a multinational and multi-ship operation in Kosovo named Exercise “Icarus”.

“The purpose of the operation was to build the alliance between the U.S. and the NATO partners in Kosovo while exercising and assessing internal abilities to respond to complex situations and contingencies,” said Capt. William Hathaway, operations officer assigned to the 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 285th Aviation Regiment.

The event incorporated crews from the U.S., Swiss and Croatian militaries and allowed the allied aviation flight crews, planners and leaders to test their tactics, techniques and procedures alongside one another.

Additionally, Hathaway said the operation allowed the units to access their decision making process all the way from the crew chiefs to the leaders.

“Decisions made during the exercise are not as important as understanding why those decision were made, and the resolve to refine the process that led to a particular decision,” said Hathaway. “Stressing the capabilities of the individual and of the collective team, in a safe manner, is all that is required to ascertain the deficiencies in those capabilities and of the processes in place.”

Understanding these capabilities is important for any organization, but even more so when dealing with multinational allies with different procedures.

“There is the potential when conducting multi-ship operations that something could go wrong with airframes and aircrews with different procedures and capabilities, this possibility is increased,” said Hathaway.

Hathaway said the risk of these hazards decrease when the allied forces improve familiarity and build
trust between the aircrews. With 31 troop contributing nations supporting the Kosovo Force mission, trusting each other plays a vital role for mission success and could be the difference between life and death.

To stress this point, Capt. Hathaway and his team took the training beyond a simple multi-ship formation flying over Kosovo, adding a few potentially catastrophic twists to the scenario. Approximately 45 minutes into the flight, two UH-60 Black Hawks carrying a Turkish reactionary force broke off from the multinational formation and began a simulated plummet towards the surrounding mountaintops.

Two downed aircrafts and multiple casualties made an already difficult mission even harder. “Injecting a two-ship downed aircraft scenario into an already, admittedly, complex flight creates the potential for any error to be compounded,” said Hathaway. “No organization can grow and develop without first determining the areas in which improvement is needed.”

By recognizing these errors in an austere training environment, the unit can prevent them from happening in a real-world scenario, he added.

With almost 5000 KFOR service members relying on the aviation crews for various movements throughout Kosovo, perfecting these skills while eliminating errors directly impacts KFOR’s ability to accomplish its mission. “By working in cohesion with other NATO partners, KFOR’s overall ability to maintain a safe and secure environment in Kosovo is strengthened,” Capt. Hathaway said. “Additionally by stressing the capabilities of medevac helicopter response to mass casualty situations, the medevac unit will be better situated to provide real-world response in the Kosovo area of operations.”

From troop movement to medical evacuation, the aviators of Multinational Battle Group-East and KFOR overcame each obstacle thrown in their direction and proved they were prepared to work together to accomplish any mission. The MNBG-E and KFOR flight crews plan to conduct similar training in the future as they look to refine internal and multi-echelon processes that improve the units overall readiness and, in turn, provide the historical reliability Army Aviation is known for thereby ensuring KFOR’s ability to maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in Kosovo.

Staff Sgt. Thomas Duval
OR-9 USA-A
Education is absolutely fundamental for the development, growth and enhancement of any society.

Great strides have been made in recent years in improving the education system within Kosovo but obviously like any society much more needs to be done.

During the two-week-long “Donation Roadshow”, from 23 May to 03 June 2016 fifteen projects have been developed by involving 10 Liaison and Monitoring Teams (LMT) from 3 Joint Regional Detachments (JRDs), the Transcoy from HQ, the Joint Logistic Support Group (JLSG), the assets and storing capabilities of the Hungarian Contingent (HUNCON) and the Joint Effects Centre (JEC) of Psychological Operations (PSYOPS). This helped facilitate KFORs CIMIC function through the implementation and delivery of quick impact and highly visible Projects directed at 76 schools and more than 3500 pupils. Through the donation of sport material, stationaries and school equipment, the “Roadshow” has reached 34 villages in 10 Municipalities all around Kosovo.

Past experience has proven that CIMIC activities are crucial to enhance the efficiency of KFOR by enabling necessary conditions for the accomplishment of Situational Awareness (SA), Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) and Freedom of Movement (FOM). As part of this and nested within the Comprehensive Approach, this military support to civil actors and their environment, through CIMIC project activities, helps to maintain the local self-sustainment capabilities and contributes to the recognition, effectiveness and the credibility of KFOR and the success of its ongoing operations.

Education is not preparation for life, education is life itself.

John Dewey
The MNBG-W Manoeuvre Battalion conducted Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) “Freedom Of Movement” training exercise in Camp “Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny” (Novo Selo).

The exercise was based on a realistic scenario and it was preceded by one week of preparation and training in Crowd Riot Control (CRC) drills and techniques. The purpose of the exercise was to maintain PAPA Company’s capabilities, testing the recently deployed Multinational Battle Group West units and to enhance the operative integration and flexibility of the units involved in the training.

MNBG-W is the Italian led KFOR Command which is based in Camp “Villaggio Italia”, in the western part of Kosovo. MNBG-W contributing nations are: Austria, Italy, Moldavia and Slovenia. The focus of their operations is to ensure freedom of movement and the maintenance of a safe and secure environment in the assigned area of intelligence responsibility.

Capt. Giuseppe Garagliano,
OF-2 ITA-A
The German Contingent (DEUCON) KFOR rescue exercise “Considerate Leopard” tested the interaction between the Tactical Operations Center with Rescue and Recovery Teams. Umpires and observers witnessed a car being partly scrapped. In case of a real emergency, this exercise brings clear benefits.

“I approached the KFOR vehicle and quickly realized that there had apparently been an accident with a civilian vehicle involved. First of all, I secured the accident site and then established contact with the three injured KFOR soldiers and the injured civilian. Subsequently, I transmitted the accident report to our tactical operations center and took care of the injured until the medical teams arrived.” This DEUCON KFOR Captain was still completely out of breath as he described his experience as first aider at the site of the accident a few minutes later. In the meantime, German Military Police together with Kosovo Police secured the site of the accident and secured any weapons of the injured KFOR personnel on site; while awaiting the arrival of the emergency physicians and ambulance, also accompanied by two fire trucks arrived. The rescue teams took a moment to assess the situation, discussed how to proceed. The emergency physician utilising triage examined the injured and prioritized them according to the medical priority, while the
firefighters started to separate the roof from the rest of the body of the old Opel Kadett car in order to free the accident victim trapped in the car. Shortly after, all the injured were taken care of and aboard an ambulance en route to the German field hospital in Camp Prizren, the only KFOR ROLE 3 field hospital, equipped like a district hospital including an intensive care unit. Col. Siegfried Zeyer, Commander of DEUCON KFOR 44 assessed the scene and was very pleased with how the rescue exercise had proceeded up to that point. “Everything happened very quickly and in a coordinated fashion. What is more, the time between the moment the accident report was received by the tactical operations center and the arrival of the rescue forces was encouragingly short,” commented Col. Zeyer. Lt. Col. (Dr.) Andreas S., senior Medical Officer and umpire in this exercise, agreed with him: “I have worked in air and ground medical evacuation of the Bundeswehr for 25 years, and from this point of view I have to say, good job!” The first aider also received praise. “You have done everything right! One can hardly imagine how strenuous this is, but that's exactly how it is in the real world,” explained Lt. Col. Andreas. The annual first aider training compulsory for all Bundeswehr soldiers paid off during this exercise. The Captain did not make it to his appointment in Pristina on time – where he was originally headed. After arduous work in the midday heat of Kosovo, he was looking all the more forward to taking a shower in the accommodation building before the exercise debrief in the evening. Every minute counts in rescue and vehicle recovery operations. The emergency physician and the emergency medical technicians were already gone and the car taken apart into two pieces when the recovery forces arrived. From then on, the DEUCON KFOR maintenance officer was in command of the accident site. With a crane, his soldiers hoisted the vehicles involved in the accident onto a Bundeswehr MULTI truck that would take them to Camp Prizren. Then the road was swept and the accumulated waste collected, before the road could be opened to traffic again. In this case, the latter was not very urgent, since the affected road is part of the former airfield at Prizren and is hardly ever used these days. Apart from that, every minute counts here, because in a real situation maintaining the freedom of movement for everyone within Kosovo is one of the most important tasks of the KFOR mission in creating and maintaining a safe and secure environment for everyone living in the country.

Capt. Florian Scholzen OF-2 DEU-AF
“HOT DUST 161” was a KTM multinational Exercise where a Mass Casualty (MASCAL) Situation was simulated. A MASCAL can be defined as a situation which there is an excessive gap between the casualty load and medical capabilities for its conventional management. It demands an organized medical approach where the concept of Triage is essential.

The main Objectives of the exercise were:

• to develop joint interoperability through the integration of multinational elements, both in the air and on the ground;
• to achieve coordinated response of KTM command elements and personnel to a medical and security emergency situation;
• to improve the process of Command and Control during a MASCAL Situation;
• to turn ‘chaos’ into an organized emergency situation through proper triage, medical treatment, and evacuation of casualties.

The exercise scenario was based on the simulation of a KTM vehicle been severely damaged in a Road-Side-Bomb (RSB) attack and its 8 occupants suffering a range of injuries with different degrees of severity.

The Primary Target Audience for this Exercise was the Portuguese and Hungarian Medical Team which constitutes KTM Role 1 as well as all Combat Lifesavers of the battalion. We also had the key contribution of the AIRMEDEVAC TEAM (US Rotary Wing) from MNBG-E that has evacuated 2 casualties who were assessed as Priority 1 Patients, as well as Hungarian Medical Team from Camp Novo Selo that has unloaded the patients, simulating a Role 3 Hospital.

The Exercise was attended by JMED Colonel Dr. Annete Frohse and JMED Branch and medical staff from others KFOR Units. The Exercise ended with a static demonstration of KTM Forward Medical Post than can be used if MASCAL situation happens outside the military camp. After
the exercise a “hot-wash-up” was conducted with contributions of all participants as well as the guests.

In balance we consider that the exercise achieved the training and standardization of procedures that should be employed in a MASCAL situation. The main purpose of the exercise was also achieved because KTM were able to identify lessons that should be evaluated and considered for implementation in KTM MASCAL plan. Exercises like this are essential to maintain the readiness of troops and increase the operational flexibility in facing situations that are always unpredictable.

Lt. João Pais
OF-1 PRT-A
08 JUNE 2016
Commander of Kosovo Force Commander, Major General Guglielmo Luigi Miglietta, visited Serbia where he met with the Chief of Staff of Serbian Armed Forces (SAF).

01 JULY 2016
Supreme Allied Commander Europe (SACEUR), General Curtis M. Scaparrotti visited HQ KFOR at Camp “Film City” in Pristina where he was welcomed by Kosovo Force Commander Major General Guglielmo Luigi Miglietta.

02 JULY 2016
KFOR Commander, Major General Guglielmo Luigi Miglietta welcomed the U.S. Senate Armed Services Committee, Senator Joni Kay Ernst, at Camp “Film City” NATO KFOR HQ in Pristina.
A VISUAL OVERVIEW

07 JULY 2016
KFOR Commander, Major General Guglielmo Luigi Miglietta received the Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces, Lieutenant General André Blattmann, at the KFOR Headquarters in Camp “Film City”.

25 JULY 2016
KFOR Commander, Major General Guglielmo Luigi Miglietta, received the Ambassador of Sweden to FYROM, accredited to Kosovo and Albania, H.E. Mr. Mats Arne Staffansson, at Camp “Film City”.

29 JULY 2016
Ukrainian vice Prime Minister for European and Euro-Atlantic integration, H.E. Mrs Ivanne Klympush-Tsintsadze, was welcomed to KFOR Headquarters by Kosovo Force Commander, Major General Guglielmo Luigi Miglietta.
While many may look at natural disasters as an unmatched threat, soldiers from the Multinational Battle Group-East’s (MNBG-E) Southern Command Post welcomed the challenge nonetheless during Operation Poseidon, held in Gjakova, Kosovo, July 14-15.

During the two-day operation, MNBG-E Soldiers responded to notional flooding and mudslides throughout Gjakova, a region of Kosovo that is home to roughly 90,000 citizens; setting their sights on ‘theoretically’ changing Mother Nature’s latent impact on the region.

“By definition disasters are only disasters based on context; they are sudden events that cause great damage or loss of life,” said Capt. Kyle Crom, Assistant Operations Officer for the Arizona National Guard’s, 2nd Assault Helicopter Battalion, 285th Aviation Regiment (2-285 AHB), Task Force Redhawk. “By preparing our soldiers to respond as rapidly and appropriately as possible to the needs of Kosovo citizens, during such an event, we can diminish the potential loss of life. By doing so, U.S. and KFOR partners change the definition of such an event from a natural disaster to an unfortunate phenomenon, which may have resulted in loss of property, but not life.”

Areas of Kosovo with destabilized terrain only add to the fear that significant rain fall could in fact turn into a natural disaster and result in a significant loss of life.

Because of this, Capt. Crom said his unit must prepare for the worst case scenario and more importantly be “available”.

“We train to fight, or in this case, to respond to the worst case scenario possible in order to ensure that when we’re needed, we’re there and we’re prepared,” said Crom. “In my mind the worst case scenario is one in which NATO’s Kosovo Force (KFOR) is unable to respond. By being available and capable, we’re preventing the worst case scenario from occurring.”

To help lessen the impact of any future natural disaster, the 2-285 AHB focused on refining and perfecting their air response and recovery procedures, while also testing the individual capabilities of their medical staff and refueling teams on the ground.

“All skills are perishable,” said Crom, a Chandler Arizona native. “The small training objectives within the bigger framework of the exercise were intended to test and develop the decision making capabilities of junior leaders within the organization. By exercising our skills we ensure that we will actually possess those abilities when called upon.”
The likelihood that Capt. Crom and his team would have to respond to mass flooding is minimal, considering Kosovo has not been subject to such a disaster throughout its history. However, Crom pointed to history as an indication of why it’s better to be ready rather than reactive.

“Nobody thought a mountainous state like Colorado would be host to a massive flood... but the 2013 Colorado Front Range flood did happen and the National Guard did respond,” he said. “We are training in preparation for an all-hazards response, regardless of the likelihood,”

Although they hope the situation never arises, the soldiers must be prepared to do more than just respond to the call. Instead, once on scene they must be able to work hand-in-hand with their Kosovo counterparts, something the U.S. responders said was not an issue during the training.

“Our collaborative processes with the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) are ideal because they know that we’re doing everything we can to ensure our competencies are maintained and at a standard that will be advantageous to their needs, should they ask for it,” Capt. Crom added.

“By improving ourselves as team members we are enhancing the team as a collective.”

Capt. Crom and Moreno agreed, the success of the operation was a testament to the strength of the partnership between the U.S. and KSF in enhancing their core capabilities in dealing with civil protection activities throughout the region.

“I have been very impressed with the KSF,” said Capt. Mikel Moreno, operating base mayor for the exercise. “They know what they are doing and at the end of the day we came together and we made it happen... it’s a great partnership.”

Although the exercise was a success, its not over just yet. Crom and Moreno will make things more challenging as they team up with the KSF and local Kosovars during part two of Exercise “Poseidon” which will include night time operations.

The multinational team will look to synchronize their labors with limited visibility in an effort to increase their overall readiness to answer the call, should Mother Nature set her sights on Kosovo.

Staff Sgt. Thomas Duval
OR-9 USA-A
The first deployment of SVN Armed Forces members to Kosovo was in January 2000. LTC Sirk noted how the SVNCON has personnel in a number of different units throughout the mission. Today, SVNCON consists of 253 members. They are operating in a diverse array of appointments and locations throughout the country, including KFOR HQ, NAT/NLAT, JRD-N, JRD-C and MNBG-W HQ. SVN has 6 LMTs, one helicopter, a Bell 412 deployed as part of the KFOR air component. They also additionally have an MP squad, their own NSE to support their troops and of course a Company as part of MNBG-W. The Slovenian contribution is quite significant with some 253 personnel and is the biggest deployed unit of the Slovenian military outside Slovenia itself. Slovenian troops also serve in Mali, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Lebanon, Afghanistan and in Syria, as well as deploying maritime assets to assist with the refugee crisis in the Mediterranean as part of NAVFOR.

LTC Sirk believes that the KFOR participation of SVN troops is an excellent opportunity and platform for his country’s armed forces to participate in multinational operations under the NATO banner with the enhanced benefits of training with other contingents and developing common Tactics, Techniques and Procedures.
and Procedures (TTPs). Such experience he believes “raises the bar” for all contingents here in Kosovo and is an invaluable learning curve. Interestingly he points out that many of the SVNCON can speak Serbo-Croat, which was part of all School curricula during the former Yugoslavia, additionally many of the troops have served on multiple contingents so know the region intimately, they know the local culture, customs, religions, they are familiar with the wider area of operations. LTC Sirk genuinely feels that the SVN units are highly motivated, “we are aware that we are operating close to our homeland and we are firmly determined to contribute to peace in the Balkans. In doing so, we are investing all the advantages we have as experts in the area and as professionals and trained soldiers.”

Cpt. Miro Spacapan on his second tour with KFOR represents through his own deployments the evolution and development of the mission in addition to the many transformations KFOR has gone through since his first deployment here in 2000 just after the conflict in 1999. In 2000 he was a young 1st Lt. yet uniquely was an acting Major on this deployment. For him the mission today is fundamentally different from then. KFOR then was much more kinetic based, whereas now there is an increasing emphasis on the non-kinetic aspect of the mission as demonstrated by the work and role of the SVN LMTs as part of JRD-C and JRD-N, which attests to the peace and stability that the region is now displaying. Equally Camp Film City then was almost another universe compared to the excellent facilities that now exist. There was a considerable degree of violence in Pristina and other parts of Kosovo as part of tragic ethnic clashes and tensions, minefields were a major concern. There was no operational Airport in Pristina and the main APOD was in Skopje (KFOR Rear), which at the time was a staggering ten hour drive to KFOR ‘Main’ here at Camp Film City. This was because the roads were in appalling condition often due to deliberate sabotage. Then the ‘Batcave’ really was a dark cavernous room, troops were billeted in rudimentary accommodation throughout the then developing camp. There was very little IT, which he feels in a way had no real negative impact as different personnel had to liaise more directly on a face-to-face basis, which if anything enhanced cooperation between different contingents. Unquestionably conditions were both basis and tough but there was fantastic camaraderie throughout this shared experience. There was one bar for everybody; appropriately enough called the “All Ranks Bar,” where many a convivial evening was spent!

Maj. Rory Finegan
OF-3 IRL-A
VISOKI DECANI MONASTERY

Visoki Decani Monastery, situated in Kosovo, 12 km south from the town of Pec. Its Cathedral is the biggest medieval church in the Balkans which contains the largest preserved monument of Byzantine fresco-painting.

This month the Chronicle team had the opportunity to visit this unique and enduring cultural heritage site which was built between 1327 and 1335 by the Serbian medieval king St. Stephen of Decani and was dedicated to the Ascension of the Lord. The monastery is located in the picturesque valley of the Bistrica River surrounded by the mountains and forests of the Accursed Mountains range. It is the largest and best preserved medieval monastery in the region. During its turbulent history the Monastery was an important spiritual centre with highly developed artistic and intellectual activities. Although the monastery buildings suffered damage from the Ottoman period, the church has been completely preserved with beautiful 14th century fresco paintings. Today a young brotherhood of 30 brethren lives in the monastery continuing the centuries old tradition of the past. The brotherhood has developed various activities: wood carving, icon painting, book publishing and is also active in the missionary work.

The monastery was established...
in a chestnut grove by King Stefan Dečanski in 1327. Its original founding charter is dated to 1330, however. Next year the king died and was buried at the monastery, which henceforth became his popular shrine. The construction activities were continued by his son Stefan Dusan until 1335, but the wall-painting was not completed until 1350.

The Cathedral, dedicated to Christ Pantocrator (‘Ruler of All’) and built from blocks of red-purple, light-yellow and onyx marble, was constructed by master-builders under the Franciscan monk Vitus of Kotor. It is distinguished from other contemporary Serbian churches by its imposing dimensions and obvious Romanesque features. Its celebrated frescoes comprise some 1000 portraits and cover all major themes of the New Testament. The cathedral contains original 14th-century wooden iconostasis, hegumen’s throne and carved sarcophagus of king Stefan.

In 2004, UNESCO listed the monastery on the World Heritage List, citing its frescoes as “one of the most valued examples of the so-called Palaeologan renaissance in Byzantine painting” and “a valuable record of the life in the 14th century”.

For centuries Decani with its medieval Romanic architecture and Byzantine Serbian frescoes has been the bridge that connected peoples and cultures, attesting that the sublimity, spirituality and beauty of artistic creations supersedes transient values and political conflicts.

Maj. Rory Finegan
OF-3 IRL-A
Contribute to the KFOR Chronicle!

Just send your photos to: kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int by the 25th of the month explaining where you took the photo and what equipment you used. We will then select one of the submitted images and publish it in the next edition of the Chronicle.

You will be immortalised in the KFOR Chronicle! Is that not something to be proud of?

Sincerely
The Chronicle Team
Military Education: I joined the Swiss Army in January this year, as a volunteer. For three months, we all went through an intensive military training in Switzerland which prepared us for the mission as Peace Supporters. Here in Kosovo we get refreshments on that regularly. Besides, the Swiss Army uses as many of our civil skills as possible.

About the Mission: I am one of nine members in the CIS platoon which takes care of vehicles, radio stations and internet connections and provides WLAN accounts, post and printing services. We cover the MOVCON, movement control office, where we monitor our cars driving through Kosovo, day and night.

Family Reaction: My family and friends support me and participate in what we achieve here. They ask about our camp life and the people in Kosovo. Only my sister was a bit sceptic at the beginning. We had some interesting discussions, though, and now she is positive as well.

Hobbies: As a passionate photographer, the people of India are my favourite subject. I love languages, so I joint the Albanian class. Being a trained swimmer, I take part in open-water races in Switzerland during the summer.

Name: Ines Schoene
Rank: OR-2
Nationality: CHE
Unit: CIS Platoon

Military Education: I joined the Italian Army in May 1979. As a young Officer, I was appointed into human resource with the 3rd Army Corps HQ in Milan and was subsequently in a diverse and wide range of staff and overseas appointments while concurrently undergoing career courses. I was lucky enough to be the recipient of a number of commendations in addition to my service and overseas medals.

About the Mission: I served in the J3 Branch, managing short to midterm planning capability for operational issues, and identifying plans for contingencies. I also contributed to the Staff Planning Group during HQ Crisis Action Team exercises and operations and assisted all other Plans Officers in their duties.

Family Reaction: I’m married and I have two daughters. My family is very proud that I’m in the Army. We remain in contact through social media or we see each other on Skype.

Hobbies: In my free time, I enjoy collecting stamps, coins, postcards, phone cards, cartoon bubbles, biking, riding, running, playing soccer. I like to keep busy.

Name: Carmelo Ricciardo Rizzo
Rank: OF-4
Nationality: ITA
Unit: J-3 Branch

Military Education: After commissioning as Cavalry Second Lieutenant in 1997, I completed a number of career courses and was assigned to the “Genova Cavalleria” (4”) Cavalry Regiment in Palmanova. Following this I served in a number of Staff appointments. I deployed in a number of overseas missions, this my fourth Kosovo, four tours with ISAF in Afghanistan, UNMOGIP in India and Pakistan (2007-2009) and EUTM-S in Mogadishu, Somalia (2013). I also served at the European Operational HQ IT Libya for the coordination, planning and monitoring of the INFOOPS Campaign after the fall of Gaddafi regime in Libya (2011). I am qualified as Armoured Unit Commander and military parachutist with the ‘wings’ of Italy, USA and the Republic of the Philippines. I am fluent in French and English.

About the Mission: This is my fourth deployment to Kosovo since 2000 and for the first time I had the opportunity to work in a high level HQ. My main task was to plan, organize and synchronize future COM KFOR activities, in addition to interacting with all local and international authorities coordinating Key Leader Engagements.

Family Reaction: I am married to Sara Kodric and we have a 5 years old daughter. They looking forward to seeing me back home after more than a year abroad but they perfectly understand the importance of our job here. We keep in daily touch over Facetime and phone calls and I am eager to see them too.

Hobbies: I enjoy travelling and learning about other cultures. I love watching movies and spending good time with my old friends during my vacations.

Name: Rocco Larocca
Rank: OF-4
Nationality: ITA
Unit: MA1/XO to COM KFOR
FOOT CARE – GENERAL PRINCIPLES

Healthy feet are part of your protection and military readiness!

The routine of foot hygiene must be established in camp or barracks and should become a habit, especially in hot and humid weather.

Washing - Feet must be washed at least once a day. Smelly feet will then be the least of your worries and you will be fighting “athlete’s foot” and other mycoses.

Drying - After washing your feet you must dry it properly, particularly between your toes.

Footwear - Boots that have been used all day should not, if possible, be worn the next day, or at least dried and aired for several hours before re-use. The use of boots with clear pattern can help during summer months because they reflect the heat.

Socks must never be used two days running. Socks made from natural materials such as cotton are more comfortable.

Nail Care - Toenails must be kept in good conditions. Cut nails level with the top of the toe and follow its natural shape.

Please refer to your Medical Center if you experience any symptom... don’t try to treat yourself if symptoms continue to persist.

Lt. Pais, João, OF-1 PRT-A
&
Col. Vekerdi Zoltan, OF-5 HUN-A
THINK SAFETY - Protect Yourself!
Force Protection (FP) Measures are designed to protect every member of KFOR and to ensure safety in the Theatre of Operations. Take it seriously!

FP Measures are for the protection of you and your comrades. It is mandatory that every unit applies the measures thoroughly and consistently. This alert status can be heightened at any time depending on the current threat analysis. FP measures allow you work in a safe environment without exposing you to unnecessary danger.

Despite the fact that the FPEC (Force Protection Exemption Card) allows you degrees of derogation to FP measures, it has to be used with constant care and caution. Only specific missions and tasks require the use of the FPEC. Don’t use it without a complete evaluation of your role and function within the mission.

Before using a FPEC, remember…

Does the mission you are assigned really requires force protection exemption?
Do you really need to ride alone?
Force protection is a measure to protect you; you don’t want to be exposed to dangerous situation without protective gear and measures;
FPEC are to be used for duty reason only!

We are never safe enough! Always be Vigilant!