“KFOR conducts Exercises to ensure readiness”
Over the period 02-05 Aug KFOR conducted a number of planned exercises. The above picture shows the gathering of troops and vehicles in Camp Maréchal de Lattre de Tassigny (CMLT) prior to commencement of exercises across Kosovo.
THE GENERAL’S PERSPECTIVE

1. Sir, on assuming the appointment of NALT Director, what was your understanding of that role?
First of all, let me highlight that it has been an honour and a privilege for me to lead the NATO Advisory and Liaison Team (NALT) as its Director over the past ten months here in Kosovo. I have had the opportunity to travel across the breadth of this beautiful country and to meet people from all walks of life. This has enabled me to develop a thorough understanding of the environment in which we operate and the people we are here to support, in particular, in the case of the NALT, the Security Organisations in Kosovo.

From the outset, my approach and that of every single NALT official and advisor is to meet the needs of our Kosovar colleagues and partners. Such a partnership has ensured that our counterparts are enabled to drive a demand-driven process. Our advisors and I listen carefully to our partners in the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) and beyond to ensure our full understanding of their requirements.

During my tenure, I have engaged Kosovar political leaders and officials, including Prime Minister Haradinaj, the Minister for the Kosovo Security Force Mr. Berisha and Commander of the Kosovo Security Force Lieutenant General Rama on a constant basis.

2. What have been your main areas of responsibility as NALT Director?

The mission - the core objectives of NALT and our main areas of responsibility - is to support the development of the Security Organisations in Kosovo. We focus on capacity-building, education and training co-ordination, including the provision of advice and assistance.

NALT also plays a leading role in implementing the Enhanced Interaction between NATO and Kosovo, which was agreed by the Alliance at the request of the Institutions in Kosovo to have regular political dialogue and access to some of NATO’s cooperative practical activities.

According to this, our main tasks are to enable NATO to support further developments of the Kosovo Security Organisations, to provide advice and support to the Kosovo Security Force, to coordinate with bilateral partners and other international organisations, and to transmit NATO’s key messages and deliver strategic communication.

3. How has your previous service prepared you for this role?

Throughout my career as an Airforce officer, I was trained in the Communication and Information Systems (CIS) domain, held numerous positions leading troops, as well as conceptual work and policy development assignments, from platoon leader up to higher staffs, including branch head in the Federal Ministry of Defence, Germany. My multilateral experience includes posts to NATO Headquarters Supreme Allied Command Transformation (SACT) in Norfolk, United States, and being deployed to Headquarters ISAF in Kabul, Afghanistan. This background and experience prepared me for the role as Director of the NALT, which reports directly to NATO HQ in Brussels.

4. What were the main priorities for you as NALT Director during this tour of duty?

The NALT was created on August 28th 2016 and I assumed command on October 16th last year. During my assignment, I have prioritised the consolidation and streamlining of the structure of the NALT to ensure it meets the needs of the Kosovo Security Organisation that it is here to help.
The NALT represents the future of NATO’s engagement in Kosovo, which is likely to increasingly focus on advising and capacity-building. Much progress has been made by the Institutions in Kosovo, in particular the Ministry of Kosovo Security Forces, since 1999 and we must now help further build on the progress already achieved. The partnership between the NALT and the KSF is an important sign of progress in Kosovo and the Western Balkans in general. The KSF has become the most trusted Institution in Kosovo amongst its citizens.

One of my goals has been to further develop the already close relationship between NATO and Kosovo through the NALT. In particular, the NALT has helped to further strengthen the Enhanced Interaction with Kosovo through the organisation of practical activities and facilitation of political dialogue.

5. What are the biggest challenges NALT faces?
As mentioned, my team and I have an excellent working relationship with our Kosovar colleagues and this relationship will continue to develop. In the future, with an increasingly capable Ministry for the Kosovo Security Force, it will be critical for the NALT to adapt to meet the evolving requirements of our Kosovar colleagues.

6. How can NALT prepare itself to deal with these challenges?
We continue to appraise the capability of the institutions with which we work. As a result, we will be able to plan to ensure that our advisors and team structure is able to meet evolving challenges.

7. As NALT is NOT part of KFOR, has this hindered the activities of either KFOR or NALT?
Not at all. We work very closely with KFOR on a daily basis. And we are very grateful for the enduring support we receive from COM KFOR and his committed Headquarters Staff. We have also conducted many joint activities together, such as the main exercises Silver Sabre and Eagle 6 and our common KSF / NALT / KFOR Senior Leadership Meetings. Both entities benefit from one another’s work and need the support of each other because, after all, we constitute two distinct yet coherent parts of NATO’s overall effort in Kosovo.
INSIDE KFOR HQ DINING FACILITY

Food safety, quality and policy of the food we eat are of fundamental importance to our health and wellbeing. Food being at its heights of safe consumption is becoming a great challenge to all the food industries as well as food management systems. Providing safe food for all is the main mantra needed to be kept in mind of all the food handlers eliminating biological, chemical and physical food hazards that continues to pose significant menace to food safety across the globe. Food safety possesses no boundary. Food safety challenges are not at all limited to any phase that will pose considerable risk to provide safe food for all around the globe. Maintaining and following hygienic practices right from the industry level ensures a safer food for all.

All services in Camp Film City (CFC) Dining Facility (DFAC) are in accordance with the KFOR Food Sanitation Hygiene Standard Operating Procedure (SOP) 4099 and all catering services and supplies meet European Union standards as stated in (EC) 853-2004. Prevention of food-borne disease is of the utmost importance and in the DFAC of CFC we ensure that methods on handling PHF (Potentially Hazardous Foods) are in accordance with Hazard Analysis Critical Control Points (HACCP) regulations.

Hazard analysis critical control point (HACCP) plan is generated by Ecolog International based on ISO 22000:2005 food safety standards. All food safety procedures are monitored by Ecolog’s Quality & Safety Supervisor and KFOR HQ Catering Officer who monitors on a daily basis, the performance of the contract and verifies that the contractor (Ecolog) performs the technical requirements of the contract in accordance with the contract terms, conditions, and specifications.

The entire process of the Food Production is overseen, monitored and documented starting from food deliveries, storage, preparation to the final product which is ready for consumption by the customers. Regular tool box trainings, re-fresher trainings and on spot trainings are carried out by Quality & Safety Supervisor and DFAC Management to all DFAC personnel, to increase their knowledge about food safety procedures to be followed. All Ecolog’s personnel adhere to food safety standards and are in possession of a “Fit to Handle Food Certificate”.

Daily, Weekly and Monthly Food Safety inspections are carried out by a Quality & Safety Supervisor along with KFOR's Catering Officer and KFOR's JMED, identifying discrepancies/non-conformities and reports are generated and sent to DFAC Management for their corrective action.

Also minimum twice a year, German Vets take hygiene and sanitation swab samples of working surfaces, tools, equipment and food samples which is then followed by a report of microbiological results/findings.

So, let’s go and view for ourselves what occurs in the differing areas of the DFAC to ensure all KFOR HQ personnel have meals which are safe.

CFC DFAC Operations:

Warehouse operations

The Warehouse manager along with his team are responsible for ordering, receiving and monitoring the movement of goods as they are transported from the suppliers and for the control of stock levels in the warehouse facility. In addition, they deliver food and nonfood products in each section of the DFAC based on day to day operations.
Pastry Operation
This sector is the most famous section of the DFAC. A team of pastry chefs are very committed and dedicated in preparing a wide variety of goods such as cakes, cookies, pies, delectable desserts, etc. following traditional and modern recipes.

Salad Department Operation
Varieties of fresh salads are made on a daily basis for each meal. Beside the salads, chefs in this sector also prepare varieties of finger food and special items in accordance with requirements and instructions of the special events.

Butchery
The only area where all cutting, slicing, chopping and dicing of the meat products, happens with knives and other sharp objects by a team of skilled and professional butchers. All the meats are prepared to specification as per Executive chef’s instruction and in accordance to the daily menus.

Hot Kitchen
This part is known as the heart of the DFAC, due to the fact that most of the food is prepared, cooked, baked, fried, roasted, boiled or steamed. Different theme nights, special dinners, and products are made from a team of very experienced chefs with diverse culinary backgrounds.

Pot Wash Room
The hardest task accomplished by very hard workers. In here all low to heavily baked-on items of the DFAC food equipment, including pots, pans, trays, tubs and more are scraped and thoroughly prewashed manually and then finalized with the entire cleaning and sanitation process of the industrial washing machine.

Plate Wash Room
Is operated by several staff members, where all cleaning of silverware, ceramic plates, mugs and glasses are cleaned initially pre-washed manually and then using the dishwasher to start and finish the entire process of the cleaning and sanitizing of the crockery finalized by stacking them for the air drying process.

Pizza & Sandwich Bar
Well known area and enjoyable place to dine with a splendid view of the picnic area. This is the area where you get Pizza to order, make your own Sandwich, get your food and leave or enjoy a variety of fast food, assorted desserts and fruits, hot & cold refreshments while consuming your meal. All of the team members in this area are very professional, courteous and generous to all the clients.

In addition to ensuring the highest standards of food health and safety, KFOR HQ Support Group provides top quality food and service for all KFOR personnel.

Georgios Savvidis
ICC-5 GRC C
KFOR conducted a Mass Casualty (MAS CAL) Exercise in Camp Film City (CFC) on Friday Aug 10th. It was a NO notice exercise to test the responsiveness of First Aiders on site, together with Role 1 and 2 Medic personnel. The exercise scenario began with a simulated explosion in CFCs Dining Facility (DFAC). First aiders attended, followed by Role 1 and Role 2 medical personnel to an overstressed situation whereby there were a lot of casualties to access and treat. Military Police (MP) and Fire Fighters assisted.

Before using an FPEC, remember...

Does the mission you are assigned really require force protection exemption?
Do you really need to ride alone?
Force protection is designed to protect you; you don’t want to be exposed to dangerous situations without protective gear and measures;
FPEC are to be used for duty related reasons only!
We are never safe enough!
References: SOP 3115 FORCE PROTECTION
SOP 3117 FORCE PROTECTION EXEMPTION PROCEDURE

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KFOR Chronicle 08/2018

The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

August 2018

KEEP READY & PROTECT YOURSELF!

#SAFETY #PROTECTION #SECURITY #BEPREPARED

Force Protection Measures help guarantee the safety of every member of KFOR in the theatre of operations. Take it seriously!
COS TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY CEREMONY

On Saturday August 28th 2018, the Chief of Staff (COS) Transfer of Authority ceremony took place between Brigadier General Lawrence “Randy” Powell and Brigadier General John Boyd.

This brought to a close Brigadier General Lawrence Powell’s one (1) year tour of duty in Kosovo. The Transfer of Authority Ceremony was presided over by COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci. The parade Commander for the ceremony was Col. Michael Allen.

The ceremony took place in front of KFOR Headquarters in Camp Film City (CFC). The soldiers on parade were drawn from the differing branches of KFOR HQ, representing the involvement of the twenty eight (28) Troop Contributing Nations (TCN). The parade was comprised of a Company of Hellenic Armed Forces and a Platoon of US Armed Forces amongst others.

Unfortunately, prior to Brigadier General Lawrence Powell’s address the weather turned for the worse. Like most of the time this summer here in Kosovo, at some point during the day there is rain. It started to fall as Brigadier General Powell’s speech commenced.

Brigadier General Powell thanked his direct staff for their commitment throughout. Brigadier General Powell commented on, that even in a diverse Headquarters as there is here in KFOR, with all the different nationalities, cultures and traditions the work ethic and commitment was excellent and he thanked all for their efforts. Brigadier General Lawrence Powell stated that the challenges here in Kosovo are at a stage where the difference can be immense. He has seen that difference occurring during his time here in Kosovo for the second time. Brigadier General Powell welcomed Brigadier General John Boyd to the mission and wished him every success for his tour of duty.

COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci responded to Brigadier General Powell’s speech, thanking him for what he has done and the manner by which he did. “You have been my principal advisor concerning planning, coordination...
and the execution of operations and support in this complex and demanding environment of Kosovo. What is worthy of mentioning, is that you succeeded serving with twenty eight (28) nations, NATO and non-NATO, here in KFOR HQ, which can be a challenge in itself, but is extremely rewarding”.

COM KFOR went on to say “You have worked tirelessly to facilitate progress for the people of Kosovo. You have been the right man in the right place to assist me in moving KFOR toward the future and for that I am truly grateful”.

As the rain poured down, COM KFOR undeterred went on to further state, “Randy, you demonstrated exceptional leadership and mentorship to the HQ staff while staying steadfast and focused on the mission at hand”, COM KFOR thanked him for a job well done and wished him all the best as he returns home to see his family and friends. COM KFOR finished his speech by welcoming Brigadier General John Boyd, that “he can be proud to assume the leadership of such a capable staff and continue its legacy of excellence, I will look forward to see your training, experience and knowledge combined with your proven leadership abilities that make you the perfect candidate to be KFORs Chief of Staff.”

On completion of his speech, COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci presented Brigadier General Lawrence Powell with a Letter of Commendation for his exceptional performance of duty as Chief of Staff during the last twelve (12) months.

H.E. Ambassador Greg Delawie presented Brigadier General Lawrence Powell with the Superior Service Medal. DCOM Brigadier General Janos Csombok also presented Brigadier General Lawrence Powell with the Hungarian Service Medal of Merit in Gold Grade for his assistance in strengthening the Hungarian Defence Forces combat capabilities, for his long term activities, excellence in performance and working with the Hungarian Defence Forces.

As is tradition, the ceremony concluded with the traditional passing of the NATO Colours from Brigadier General Lawrence Powell, outgoing Chief of Staff to the incoming Chief of Staff, Brigadier General John Boyd. This represented the formal and symbolic transfer of authority and responsibility between the two.

Prior to the parade commander reporting the end of the ceremony to COM KFOR, the soldiers on parade and guests stood to attention for the NATO anthem.

Comdt. Damien Keogh
OF-3 IRL ARMY
The KFOR Magazine for KFOR Soldiers

August 2018

22K FOR 22 A DAY: KFOR MARCH FOR SOLDIERS IN NEED

As part of KFORs commitment to assist others, MNBG-E namely the US CON organised a charity march to help soldiers in need

Over 180 service members serving in the NATO-led Kosovo Force (KFOR) strapped up their boots and packed their rucks in preparation for a road march at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo on July 29th. The march concluded with no badges meeting each marcher at the end, but something potentially more meaningful, as they participated in the second iteration of the 22K for 22 a Day Suicide Awareness March.

While the Soldiers ensured their rucks met the minimum 22 kilograms weight limit, the weight on their shoulders pale in comparison to what some Soldiers and Veterans bear on theirs – the thought of suicide.

For Gordon Pullen, a retired Army master Sergeant and current site manager for Torres Advanced Enterprise Solutions at Camp Bondsteel, bringing awareness to the challenges veterans face when they return home is an important issue.

“We are losing service members at an alarming rate due to suicide and any light shed on the subject is a good thing,” said Pullen, a native of Clearwater, Florida. “We look at suicide as a weakness and Soldiers are reluctant to come forward and share. The issue is not something new; it’s been around since Vietnam and before. In my opinion, we need to create an environment so someone can come forward and share without causing damage to their careers.”

The first march, conducted in June 2016, began when one of Pullen’s employees approached him after a friend had committed suicide. “One of my armed guards approached me, his name was Ian Long and he was a former Marine and this Marine had just lost a good friend to suicide,” Pullen said. “Ian asked if we could do a roach march and donate the proceeds to a worthy cause.”

The Navy Seal Foundation was chosen for the donations because ninety six (96) percent of donations go where they should go, to the Marines and Sailors of the fallen, and to honour Long’s Marine service, Pullen said. For the second iteration, Pullen chose the Rangers Lead the Way Fund, an organisation that provides financial support to U.S. Army Rangers and the families of those who have died or have been disabled or who are currently serving in harm’s way around the world.

“Well, I’ll have to say I’m a little biased. I’m a U.S. Army Ranger and was a Ranger Instructor in the Benning Phase and Florida Swamp Phase of training,” said Pullen, who graduated from Ranger School in 1972. “The history of the American Ranger is a long and colourful one that dates back some 300 years. Rangers are a very big part of the history of our country and they continue to take the fight to the enemy to this day.” It’s with that Ranger background that the ruck march itself was also dedicated to the memory of Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Celiz, a Ranger who was killed in action in Afghanistan on July 12, 2018.

Pullen also feels it is important to include allied and partner nations that comprise KFOR. “Suicide isn’t just an issue amongst American Soldiers, just because you don’t see it or hear about it, doesn’t mean it’s not there,” Pullen said.

Multi-National Battle Group – East has taken that approach of international inclusion to heart, particularly within the 79th Infantry Brigade Combat Team’s Unit Ministry Team. “Suicide is a global phenomenon and one that all militaries and countries have to face for those who serve; this march is a great way to recognise that,”
said Capt. Nathan Graeser, the 79th IBCT’s chaplain. “Suicide is one of those issues that no one person, branch of service or military can face alone. Together we are stronger and can help make sure we don't lose anyone in our ranks, together we march.”

Courses like Applied Suicide Intervention Skills are offered at Camp Bondsteel to all KFOR members for Soldiers to learn to listen for signs of suicide to make sure we help keep people alive in our ranks, Graeser said. “Treating thoughts of suicide and untreated mental health pain is good for the whole,” said Graeser. “We must all be willing to get help if we need it. This march is a reminder that no matter what you are facing, you are not alone. There is not hardship, circumstance, disappointment or failure that cannot be redeemed.”

The march raised about $3,000. The first, second and third place male and female winners received gift cards for the DS PX tactical store totalling $450. They also received certificates and T-shirts. The remaining $2,470 was donated to the Rangers Lead the Way Fund.

Capt. Edward Alvarado
OF-2 US Army

A SAD LOSS OF ONE OF OUR KFOR COMRADES

Chief Warrant Officer Three Scott R. Landis was born Feb. 11, 1984 in Weymouth, Massachusetts. He enlisted in the United States Army on May 17, 2001 as an Aviation Operations Specialist (15P) and attended Advanced Individual Training at Fort Rucker, Alabama. Scott received his commission on Dec. 7, 2007 following completion of Aviation Warrant Officer Candidate School. He subsequently attended Initial Entry Rotary Wing training where he earned the designation as a UH-60 Black Hawk Helicopter Army Aviator in 2009. Assigned to the 3rd Battalion, 126th Aviation Regiment, located on Joint Base Cape Cod, Massachusetts, he served in several key aviation assignments, primarily as a UH-60A/L Standardization Pilot and Aviation Safety Officer. He was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 2005 to 2006, Operation New Dawn in 2010 to 2011, Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan 2013 to 2014, and Operation Joint Guardian Kosovo Force (KFOR) in 2018.

Scott Landis's awards and decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (posthumously), Afghanistan Campaign Medal with campaign star, Air Medal (2nd Award), Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army Good Conduct Medal, Army Reserve Component Achievement Medal (3rd Award), National Defense Service Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon (3rd Award), Armed Forces Reserve Medal (with M device), NATO Medal, NATO Non-Article 5 Medal, Senior Army Aviator Badge, and the Army Aviator Badge. Scott is survived by his loving wife Staci Landis, his son Jack Landis, his brothers Patrick Landis, Ryan Landis, Peter Landis and sister Chelsea Landis.
A VISUAL OVERVIEW

11 JUL 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met Mr Paul Kehoe Minister for Defence Ireland, at Camp “Film City” NATO KFOR Headquarters.

01 AUG 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, met Chief of Mission UNHCR in Kosovo Mr. Erol Arduc, at Camp “Film City” NATO KFOR Headquarters.

01 AUG 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of Comm Bundeswehr LTG Erich Pfeffer, at KFOR Headquarters.
04 AUG 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of Gen Joseph Lengyel chief US National Guard Bureau, at KFOR Headquarters.

08 AUG 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of Defense Minister of Poland Mariusz Blaszczak, at KFOR Headquarters.

24 AUG 2018
KFOR Commander, Major General Salvatore Cuoci, received the visit of Commander Swiss MP Bg Hans Schatzman, at KFOR Headquarters.
MNBG-W INSTRUCTORS ARRANGE BASIC MOUNTAIN COURSE FOR KSF MEMBERS

On Monday, August 13th, Multi National Battle Group – West (MNBG-W) commenced a training activity for KSF members at Camp Villaggio Italia, the MNBG-W base in Pec/Peja, lasting two weeks.

Thanks to the skills and qualifications in mountaineering and its environment, these specialised soldiers belonging to the 5th “Alpini” Regiment (Italian mountain troops), instructed the course participants. It has been organised with the aim of training KSF members to carry out Search and Rescue operations in an arduous environment.

During the two weeks, KSF members have learned the basic skills in orienteering, basic life support, mountain trekking and life-saving manoeuvres to rescue people who get trapped or injured.
in a steep terrain environment, using different techniques of recovering with ropes, typical of mountaineering disciplines. Overall, this specialised training has been broken down into two distinct phases. This first phase of basic training as stated above will be followed in the coming months by an advance phase for the KSF mountain Search and Rescue team (with previous experience in these kind of activities) and for the mountain rescue team of MNBG-W in Pec/Peja, trained within a similar initiative already conducted by 5th Alpini Regiment during its previous deployment in KFOR in 2015.

Cpt Francesco D’ANIELLO
OF-2 ITA ARMY

Photographer:
OR-4 Paolo Massardi ITA ARMY
A HISTORIC MOMENT – PRIZREN’S LAST CHANGE OF COMMAND CEREMONY - TO THE LAST COMMANDER

The Change of Command ceremony with the Command flag and the honour detachment marching onto the square is always a special occasion for the soldiers. This time, it was also a historic moment. It was the last time this ceremony for a Change of Command to a new Commander was carried out in Camp Prizren. With this, the mission to stabilise the youngest European state, which has been ongoing since 1999, enters its last stage.

On August 1st, the Commander of the Bundeswehr Joint Forces Operations Command, Lieutenant General Erich Pfeffer, transferred command from Lieutenant Colonel Christian Kiesel to Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Eric Offermann. The outgoing Commander had the command for the first half of the 50th contingent. The focus of the 50th German KFOR Contingent is on dismantling Camp Prizren and handing it over to UNMIK.

For this decisive last phase of this important task of dismantling the camp, the outgoing Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Christian Kiesel, wished the new Commander every success and encouraged him to seek contact with the wonderful people of Kosovo. He thanked the soldiers of the 50th Contingent who were entrusted to him, for their genuine comradeship and open communication. He addressed some special words to his comrades from his home base in Weiden, who had accompanied him on deployment for six (6) months and to his soldiers from the Command group: “Thank you for the incredible support and for the encouragement in these challenging situations.” He emphasised that cooperation had always been respectful and humorous. With the fitting song, “Auf uns” by Andreas Burani, the outgoing Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Christian Kiesel, bowed out of the 50th Contingent.

After Lieutenant Colonel Christian Kiesel’s address, the Commander of the Bundeswehr Joint Forces Operations Command, Lieutenant General Erich Pfeffer, addressed the soldiers who were present at the ceremony: “Your mission focus was on the reduction of forces and material here in Prizren. In many respects, this is a more difficult task than setting up.” Addressing the Commander of the 50th German KFOR Contingent, Lieutenant Colonel Kiesel, he emphasised that he sees soldiers with a smile on their face, for which credit has to go to the Commander. The Commander of the Bundeswehr Joint Forces Operations Command handed over the command flag to the new Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Eric Offermann, who assumes command of the soldiers entrusted to him in the 50th German KFOR Contingent. Lieutenant Colonel Dr. Eric Offermann will now specifically, see through the move of the German Contingent to KFOR headquarters, Camp Film City, in Pristina, and prepare the handover of Camp Prizren to UNMIK.

1st Lieutenant Denise Alten
OF- 1 GER CON
A WALK WITH A PURPOSE
THE DANCON MARCH, JULY 2018

The DANCON march is a tradition in the Danish army and was initially held in 1972. Since then, the DANCON march has been part of Danish International Operations in Cyprus, Bosnia, Kosovo, Iraq and Afghanistan. Soldiers from countries, allied with Denmark, have always been invited to participate in the march.

We began the weigh-ins at 6am in the morning on July 8th. When the clock struck 8am, the Danish Commander held an informative speech, when he finished, the DANCON March officially started.

Attending this event were a combination of 736 Soldiers from many different Nations, including around 30 EULEX Policemen.

The Planning team had heard some rumours from some of the previous marches, that they had been less challenging than what they expected. Therefore we decided to include a lot of rugged terrain, since this time the DANCON march was only about 20Km.

Luckily the weather was rainy which provided the participants with an extra challenge and who does not like rising to the challenge?

The route had been carefully planned, so that there was a large quantity of Posts with refreshments and medical attention, for those who required same. Luckily there were only a few that received minor injuries, which is expected for this kind of event. This time the participants had to wear their personal protection gear, to make it safer and more realistic to an actual combat patrol. The route consisted of two laps, so the participants were not far away from camp CMLT.

For some people the march is about racing to the finish line, for others it's more about the social element. The good thing about the DANCON march is that it is for the soldiers and it tests their physical strength and allows soldiers to walk side by side with some unknown soldier with the same purpose – to reach the goal line.

At 1400hrs, COM KFOR MG Salvatore Cuoci presented the prizes to the 3 fastest marchers, in both the male and female categories. The fastest time was set by a British soldier, with a time of approximately 1 hour and 55 minutes. It is important to note, that all monies surplus generated from the DANCON March will be donated in the name of the Danish contingency to two local institutions, making this a truly beneficial event. Anyone that has participated or contributed in any way can be proud of doing so.

2LT Gábor Horváth
OF-1 HUN, KTRBN PAO
On a beautiful sunny afternoon in front of the Multi-functional tent the Greek Change of Command ceremony took place between “ΕΛΔΥΚΟ 3/12” and “ΕΛΔΥΚΟ 3/13”. The ceremony was presided over by DCOM Brigadier General Janos Csombok. The parade Commander was Capt. Christos Varvitsiotis, Guard Coy DEP COM. The NATO and National colours were marched onto parade prior to the arrival of COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci.

The GRC Commander Capt. Charalampos Argyris delivered his farewell speech. He stated that, “I want to thank my fellow countrymen for all their efforts throughout this past six (6) months. It was a honour and pleasure to work alongside you. We in the GRC Guard Coy worked in accordance with SNS 22-1. The GRC Guard COY was responsible to deter any threat against HQ KFOR site by maintaining a comprehensive physical security measures at the entrance and within the site grounds, manning 24/7 three (3) crucial areas the Main Gate, Checkpoint 1 and HQ. During our mission we gave our best to ensure that nothing would disrupt the efforts of KFOR towards its goals and the people working inside CFC. Even if something unpredictable occurred, we would still be the first to respond with our QRF and IRF, guarding and monitoring from the outposts. Despite our heavy schedule we tried and participated in every activity whether it was the Summer Festival, joint exercises inside the Camp or even the famous DANCON march. I would like to thank COM KFOR, DCOM KFOR and especially our Commander the HSG Commander Col. Ray O’Lehan for all their leadership and assistance throughout this tour.”

DCOM Brigadier General Janos Csombok addressed the assembled audience of dignitaries and guests stating, “To quote an ancient Greek military phrase, “Opu doxa ke patrisz” – Where you achieve glory, there is your home. You achieved your mission by protecting Camp Film City (CFC) for the past six (6) months, which became your home for that time.” DCOM thanked the GRC Guard Coy for their professionalism, dedication to the task, effectiveness and organisation. “As having the direct responsibility for camp security and the camp guards, I had the opportunity to view the Guard Coy in action across many inspections and Camp Exercises. They were outstanding in completing their tasks under the guidance of the HSG Commander and were able to adapt to any given situation.”

COM KFOR Major General Salvatore Cuoci addressed the audience, “Greece has been part of KFOR since it was set up and looking at the numbers, it is one of the most important troop contributing countries here in KFOR. This shows the strong commitment of Greece in maintaining a stable environment in the Balkans as it was confirmed by your Chief of Armed Forces General Staff, Admiral Evangelos Apostolakis, during his visit in April.” COM KFOR praised the GRC Guard Coy for their proficiency of their organisation and professionalism of their Officers, NCOs and soldiers to ensure the security of all in CFC. COM KFOR finished by stating “Thank you all, for doing your part in support of KFOR and let our motto “Enduring Commitment” always remind you of this period of your life. Efcharistó (Thank You).
IRELAND’S CALL

The small Irish Contingent (IRCON) situated in Camp Film City (CFC) hosted a charity run to raise funds for a local charity called Down Syndrome Kosova.

On Friday July 20th, for once this summer!!! the evening was good, nearly too good. The sun was blazing down; it was twenty plus degrees, but very unusually a lot of people in or around 18:30 hrs were walking around and towards the Main gate in exercise gear and not in their uniforms. One might ask, what was going on. Well the Irish Contingent headed by the CFCs, Site Manager, Sgt. Maj. Paul Tuite had organised a charity run around CFC. Participants could run or walk, 3 or 5km around the Camp in aid of a local charity here in Kosovo, Down Syndrome Kosova.

The turnout expected, was well exceeded with a turnout of over one hundred (100) participants with all who finished receiving a Certificate of achievement. There were some drinks and food on offer at the Irish House upon completion to ease the suffering. However the most important aspect to this event was the donations given by soldiers and civilians here in CFC, KFOR raising a whopping €620 for Down Syndrome Kosova. Well done to all who participated, donated and to Sgt. Maj. Paul Tuite for organising this event.

Some members of IRCON recently visited and were given a brief and were shown around their facility. The Down Syndrome Kosova mission is to provide persons with Down syndrome and other disabilities respect, dignity and protection of their human rights by providing information, communication and the necessary professionals in their relevant fields to develop their potential and abilities for an independent life. Their vision is to ensure that all individuals receive equal opportunities, full respect of human rights and to contribute towards improving their standard of life and development.

All donations are greatly received, as they are exclusively self-funded. They pack and sell jam and honey to provide some vital funds and to assist their clients. They care for over 900 people across all ages.

To assist them in a very small way, please visit their Facebook Page and like their page in order for the charity to receive 10c.
THE PAYMASTER MEETING

The paymasters – a team made up of multinational billing personnel – came together for a meeting in Camp Prizren. Their task is to invoice goods and services that have been provided across nations. The focus of this meeting was on how to settle outstanding invoices after the dismantling of Camp Prizren.

When different nations in different camps are on operational deployment together, a certain degree of planning, organisation and control is required. This is where the paymasters come into play.

The paymasters are responsible for multinational billing. Their task is to invoice goods and services that have been provided across nations. Among other things, this includes the provision of food, accommodation, laundry service, and the use of vehicles.

Even though an agreement on international standards has been reached on many points, there are still differences in the individual handling of the billing process and settlement of accounts. As in all areas, it therefore makes sense to exchange views regularly and, by doing this, to remove potential obstacles to cooperation. Getting to know each other in person also promotes confident action and an assured manner in a multinational context.

In July, the international meeting of paymasters took place in Camp Prizren. It was organised by First Lieutenant Achim S. and Sergeant Johannes M. from the Field Office of Defence Administration, the paymasters of the German KFOR Contingent.

Many nations, such as the USA, England, Hungary, Croatia, Slovenia, and Italy accepted the invitation. Due to the dismantling of Camp Prizren, this meeting will probably have been the last of its kind. For this reason, the main topics were how to settle outstanding invoices after Camp Prizren has been dismantled.

Organising a meeting of this kind involves a huge effort. After all, the date and time has to suit everyone and it also has to be ensured that the participants can understand each other. However, the feedback of the paymasters of other nations was clear. “Just as we have come to expect from the Germans, perfectly organised, a great atmosphere with a lot of hospitality.”

Captain Susanne Remus
OF-3 GER CON
**Name:** Vivian Whitman  
**Rank:** PFC  
**Nationality:** United States  
**Unit:** 977 MP CO, CBS

Private First-Class Vivian M. Whitman was born August 13th, 1991, in Aschaffenburg, Germany. PFC Whitman attended high school in Junction City, Kansas and graduated in 2009. Following High School, she attended Bossier Parish Community College and earned an Associate degree in Business Administration. PFC Whitman entered the work force as a Corrections Officer in Geary County Detention Centre for five (5) years. She enlisted in the Army in 2017, as a 31B Military Police Officer and attended One Station Unit Training at Fort Leonard Wood, Missouri. Upon graduation she was assigned to the 977th Military Police Company at Fort Riley, Kansas where she is currently serving as a Military Police Patrol Officer and Gunner.

On February 17th, 2018, PFC Whitman deployed as a part of Operation Joint Guardian in support of KFOR, conducting route regulation, area security and law enforcement operations throughout Kosovo. She is currently attending Grand Canyon University pursuing a bachelor's degree in Psychology. PFC Whitman’s short-term goal is to raise her physical fitness score and earn the rank of Sergeant. PFC Whitman’s long-term goal is to earn the rank of Command Sergeant Major and retire from the United States Army.

Awards that PFC Whitman has received thus far are; an Army Achievement medal, Combat Life Saver course, Basic Life Saver course, Customs Inspector course and an award in the Law Enforcement Academy.

PFC Whitman performs law enforcement duties on Camp Bondsteel, she conducts critical site security for special events, and performs security escorts for personnel and sensitive items throughout Kosovo. Her quick response and knowledge in law enforcement during a sudden loss of a soldier on Camp Bondsteel, was instrumental to the quick determination of the unfortunate incident. The criminal investigations department from USAREUR commended her investigation and assistance throughout their investigation. She has continued to excel as a soldier and completed the gruelling DANCON march with an excellent time of four (4) hours and twenty (20) minutes.

PFC Whitman volunteered to compete in the multi-national law enforcement team competition, held at Camp Bondsteel. She competed against ten (10) competitors spanning from the KP, KBP, KSF, the IMP and the German MP force. Her tactical patience with precision during the “shoot don’t shoot” scenario, her dominance over the competitors in the fitness and fine motor skills event and her demonstration of controlled aggression while subduing a combative subject earned her team top points in respective events. Her efforts were the deciding factor taking first place overall in the competition. PFC Whitman’s production, absorption of self-growth and competence as a law enforcement officer is clear to her leadership in which she is operating at a level far above her peers.
Contribute to the KFOR Chronicle!

Just send your photos to: kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int by the 20th 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. A KFOR Chronicle T-Shirt is awarded each month to the winning photographer. You will be immortalised in the KFOR Chronicle! Is that not something to be proud of? Sincerely, The Chronicle Team.
Military Education: I started off my career in the infantry as a professional soldier straight after conscript service 12 years ago. Before I knew it I was trying to get to different missions and between them I just kept educating myself by completing courses for my NCO career path. I moved from the infantry to the combat engineer speciality and right now I deal mostly with security related tasks.

About the mission: The mission tasks here in KFOR are different from that of the duties in my own unit back home which provide me an opportunity to learn. I appreciate the opportunity to work in an international team consisting of awesome people.

Family relations: The decision was not taken lightly. It is always hard to stay away from loved ones for long periods of time, but my family has been very supportive for all of my tours. It is great to have the possibility to contact my five (5) year old daughter back home as often as possible.

Hobby: I am a competitive sports shooter and shooting instructor for practical (civilian) and tactical (military) shooting disciplines, which is also one of my biggest hobbies. I spend quite a lot of time out in different shooting ranges and also compete internationally. I enjoy running and hiking which also contributes to keeping me fit. My newly found hobby is also playing the guitar, which I am trying to improve myself right now, given the chance. I am really inspired by the progression so far.

Name: Tomas Savickas
Rank: OR-7
Nationality: Lithuanian
Unity: JLSG MT Movcon

Military education: I enlisted in the Lithuanian Armed forces in 1999 as a Private in an Infantry Brigade, Land Forces. After two years, I was posted to the Logistics Command Movement Control Centre. I completed three stages at NCO school and was promoted to Staff Sergeant. Since 2001, I have being serving in the Movement Control Centre, Klaipeda sea port as a Movement Control (Movcon).

About the mission: This is my 4th mission abroad. I was deployed in Afghanistan in 2013 as a Movcon and I have completed two previous tours in KFOR (2014, 2016), within Joint Logistics Support Group (JLSG) HQ Multinational Integrated Logistic Unit (MILU) Movcon.

I am currently serving as MILU Movcon in JLSG HQ. We are responsible for planning and control of all movements within Kosovo and provide assistance with international movements outside Kosovo.

Family relations: I am married to my wife, Daiva since 2002 and we have two children, a son Aironas and a daughter Neila. They have all been very supportive of my mission here in Kosovo and of course they all wish me to be safe while abroad.

Hobby: My hobbies are sports and fishing. I like to play basketball, volleyball and especially beach-volleyball. I also love swimming. I am interested in Spearfishing.