

September 30, 2008

# KFOR Chronicle

Edition 9

# KFOR



US-German marksmanship

# Looking forward to achieve "Unity of Effort"



It is with enormous pride and pleasure that today I assume command of Kosovo Force, with a full knowledge of the responsibility entrusted in me.

KFOR is a proven force that from the 12 of June 1999, when NATO entered in Kosovo, has written several chapters of the Kosovo's history, gaining a great reputation for delivering success in difficult and complex political and military circumstances.

Pursuant to UN Security Council Resolution 1244, the relevant and visible presence of KFOR troops on the ground, maintaining an even-handed posture, is paramount for the future of the region and to enhance mission's effectiveness.

Therefore, I would like to address to all those who, through their daily effort, contribute to the success of the mission: you will be the main actors on the stage and I expect from all a full support to the decision that will be taken to reach the end state. I am very conscious of the significant contribution that LTG de Marnhac made to fulfill the NATO and the International Community expectations. I would like to thank him also on your behalf and at the same time I wish him the best for his new appointment.

I also want to remember all our colleagues who at this present time are serving in other difficult areas: we belong to the same military family and we are proud of what they are doing to bring stability to other countries.

I would like to conclude by expressing my sincere appreciation to all men and women of KFOR for their significant contribution to the mission, confident that they will continue to show their professionalism and enthusiasm, -achieving the "Unity of Effort" that will be our motto.

Thank you all again and I am looking forward to meet you in the field.



  
Giuseppe E. Gay  
Lt Gen ITA – A  
COM KFOR

# New KFOR Command Sergeant Major

Comrades,

It is for me an honour to be KFOR Command Sergeant Major, for me this is a new challenge that I am facing with my highest degree of willingness. Now some information about my-self; I am an Italian Warrant Officer of the Italian Army, I served in the NATO Rapid Deployable Corps in Italy (NRDC-ITA), in Solbiate Olona, and I am married and I have two Daughters.

2008 is the Year of NCO, as you know this is an important period for all NATO NCOs, our Commander are expecting us to:

- Lead by Example
- Train from Experience
- Set, Maintain, and Enforce High Standards
- Take care of Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors, and Marines, a Soldiers' care must be our first priority;

The Non-commissioned Officer should meet the needs of the Army, Air Force, Navy, Carabinieri, Gendarmeree and Marines as we transfer into the future.

The NATO NCO is a professionally trained leader and the "backbone" of any military. The NCO is committed to excellence and pursues the highest standards of integrity, honour, trust, responsibility, respect, language skills, comradeship and leadership.

The NATO NCO adheres to the standards, consistently supporting the international and multicultural nature of NATO, while simultaneously maintaining compliance with their own national standards, and remaining faithful to the mission of the Alliance.

In this sight and under COMKFOR's vision we have to work in line of our new motto, "Unity of Effort" for the sake of our mission.

Once again lets be a force multipliers tool in the hands of our Commanders.



## Command Sergeant Major KFOR Massimo Franco TESONE

### Commander KFOR:

Lt. Gen. Giuseppe E. Gay , ITA Army

### Chief Public Affairs Office:

Col. Adriano Graziani, ITA Army

### Chief Internal Information & Editor in Chief:

Maj. Andreas Brückner, AUT Army  
bruecknera@hq.kfor.nato.int

### Journalist

Maj. Oleksii Morozov, UKR Army

### Photographer & Layout Mr. Armend Aqifi

Special thanks to TSgt. David Green,  
U.S. Air Force, for his invaluable  
support

### The KFOR Chronicle is

produced and fully funded by HQ KFOR. It is published for KFOR forces in the area of responsibility.

The contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the coalition governments' defense departments.

Editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the Internal Information Section of HQ KFOR's Public Affairs Office (PAO) in Pristina, Kosovo.

PAO HQ KFOR reserves the right to edit content to conform to style and space requirements. Articles run on a space-available basis.

The KFOR Chronicle is  
printed by KOSOVA SOT  
Tel: 038 548 402

### Nations within KFOR:

#### HQ KFOR

Canada  
Estonia  
Hungary  
Netherlands  
Norway  
Portugal  
United Kingdom

#### MNTE (C)

**Finland**  
Czech Republic  
Ireland  
Latvia  
Slovakia  
Sweden

#### MNTE (N)

**France**  
Belgium  
Denmark  
Greece  
Luxembourg  
Morocco  
Estonia

#### MNTE (S)

**Austria**  
Bulgaria  
Germany  
Switzerland  
Turkey

#### MNTE (W)

**Italy**  
Hungary  
Romania  
Slovenia  
Spain

#### MNTE (E)

**United States of America**  
Armenia  
Greece  
Lithuania  
Poland  
Romania  
Ukraine

# Transfer of Authority Ceremony in KFOR Multinational Specialized Unit

*Text by Major Oleksii Morozov, Ukrainian Army*

*Photos by Armend Aqifi*

On September 10, Colonel Angelo De Quarto replaced Colonel Andrea Guglielmi in the position of the KFOR Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU) commander. The transfer-of-authority ceremony took place in MSU Camp (Pristina/Prishtine).

Having received the report from the outgoing commander, the Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay inspected the parade, rendering homage to the troops. In his farewell speech, outgoing commander Colonel Andrea Guglielmi thanked the MSU soldiers for their outstanding service in Kosovo during his tour of duty as the Commander.

"I salute to your professionalism and your full dedication. I will never forget the experiences that we shared together".

Colonel Guglielmi also thanked former COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac for his leadership and support, provided by the last one to him during their common service. Outgoing MSU Commander expressed his gratitude to the representatives of local and international authorities, as well as for all the people of Kosovo, whom he met during different activities, for their understanding and cooperation.

Continuing the speech, Colonel Guglielmi

wished good luck for the future to his successor, Colonel Angelo De Quarto. And, in conclusion, the Colonel pronounced very important phrase for all KFOR soldiers: "I want to thank the families of MSU soldiers, and, among them, my wife".

In his discourse, COMKFOR recognized the outstanding job of outgoing Commander and express his hope on the successful tour of duty for the incoming Commander.

Afterwards Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay took over the MSU flag from Colonel Andrea Guglielmi and handed it over to Colonel Angelo De Quarto, signifying the Change of Command.

At the end of the ceremony COMKFOR awarded Colonel Andrea Guglielmi with NATO Non-Article 5 Medal.

Buona fortuna,  
Commanders!!!

Grazie mille, Colonel  
Guglielmi!!!



ny  
nit





# Unity o

September, 1, 2008. The Commander of Kosovo Force, Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay, visited Camp Villaggio Italia, Multinational Task Force "West" Headquarters, where the Ceremony of Transfer of Responsibility between Task Force "Grof" (Slovenian contingent) and Task Force "Nimrod" (Hungarian contingent) took place. COMKFOR presided over this ceremony.



September, 4, 2008. COMKFOR visited Multinational Task Force "Centre" Headquarters, based in Lipljan/Lipjan. Lieutenant General Gay met with MNTF C Commander Brigadier General Kyösti Halonen.

Afterwards, COMKFOR paid a visit to the Lipljan/Lipjan municipality and had a meeting with the President of the Assembly, Mr. Shukri Buja.



September, 8, 2008. Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay met the President of Kosovo Dr. Fatmir Sejdiu.

"The main reason for my visit was to introduce myself and to have the opportunity to share with Mr. President some points about problems we have to solve in the short time", COMKFOR said.



September, 9, 2008. The KFOR Commander visited Multinational Task Force "North" area of responsibility. He was received by the MNTF "N" Commander Brigadier General Claude Mathey. After that COMKFOR met the President of Mitrovica/Mitrovice Assembly Mr. Bajram Rexhepi.



September, 10, 2008. The Kosovo Force Commander took a meeting with Lieutenant General Michele Franze, Commanding General of the Carabinieri Mobile and Specialized units "Palidoro".

# f Effort



September, 10, 2008. The Commander of Kosovo Force, Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay presided over the Transfer of Authority Ceremony in the KFOR Multinational Specialized Unit (read more on the pages 4-5).

September, 11, 2008. The Commander of Kosovo Force met the President of the Assembly of Kosovo Mr. Jakup Krasniqi. Following this meeting Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay stressed that KFOR is determined to fulfill its duties successfully.

Mr. Krasniqi informed COMKFOR over the work of Kosovo's Parliament for the preparation of Kosovo's legal infrastructure, the rights and freedoms of the citizens, especially the rights of the minorities.



September, 11, 2008. In KFOR Headquarters, Film-City Camp, the Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay received in the KFOR Headquarters the Commander of Allied Joint Force Command in Naples Admiral Mark Fitzgerald.

September, 12, 2008. Lieutenant General Gay paid his first visit to the Kosovo Protection Corps Headquarters where he had a meeting with the KPC Commander Lieutenant General Sylejman Selimi.



September, 16, 2008. Lieutenant General Gay met with Mr. Aapo Pöhlö, Ambassador Extraordinary and Plenipotentiary of Finland to Belgium and to NATO.



# Unity of Effort



September, 17, 2008. Lieutenant General Gay met with the Prime Minister of Kosovo Mr. Hashim Thaçi.

"This is for me the third time that I am in Kosovo. I am really proud to be now the commander of the Kosovo force. I had a meeting with Mr. Thaci to know each other better. We had the opportunity to meet sometimes before and to share our point of view about the security situation in Kosovo. So we can work in the most proper manner possible".



September, 18, 2008. In the KFOR HQ, Film City camp, COMKFOR received Mr. Norbert Darabos, Austrian Minister of Defense.



September, 25, 2008. The Commander of Kosovo Force had a meeting with Lieutenant General Peter Wall, the Deputy Chief of Defense Staff, the United Kingdom.



September, 26, 2008. The Kosovo Force Commander Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay played host to the Supreme Allied Commander Europe General John Craddock.



# A Unique Experience

HQ & Service Company DEU SNR HQ KFOR organizes US-German marksmanship event in Ramjane

Pristina (Tre). With a view to fostering the existing and well-established bonds of US-German friendship, the HQ and Service Company assigned the German Senior National Representative with HQ KFOR (HQ Coy DEU SNR HQ KFOR) in Camp "Film City" contrived the idea to organize a marksmanship contest. On 19 August, the moment of truth eventually had come. A detachment of 95 US servicemen and servicewomen from Camps "Film City" and "Bondsteel" took up the challenge of this marksmanship competition at Range FALCON 4 in Ramjane in order to qualify for the coveted German marksmanship lanyard (Schützenschnur).

Following a brief but cordial welcome by Major Christian R. and a subsequent range safety briefing by the NCOIC, Master Sergeant (OR-7) Peter B., the individual teams "went to business" with great enthusiasm despite the scalding summer heat. Besides the actual firing event, the participants used the opportunity to polish up their own English language skills in casual conversation, sometimes talking with hands and feet, but getting the message across.

KFOR Chief of Staff (COS KFOR), Brigadier General David Berger (USA), as well as the Deputy Chief of Staff for Operations (DCOS OPS KFOR), Brigadier General Bernhard Liechtenauer (DEU Army), through their participation equally demonstrated their enthusiasm for this event, as well as their individual marksmanship skills.

Another highlight was provided during lunch break by the Company First Sergeant and the MWR NCO, who catered for the hungry competitors with fried sausages and salads. Almost all participants fulfilled the requirements of the German marksmanship lanyard in either Gold, Silver or Bronze.

The next day, the members of HQ

Coy DEU SNR HQ KFOR in turn were able to fire with American weaponry: The "Beretta" 9mm service pistol, the "M4" assault rifle and the "M249" machine gun. The challenge of this competition was to qualify for the American firing proficiency badges at levels "Marksman" (comparable to the German "Bronze" award), "Sharpshooter" (comparable to "Silver") as well as "Expert" (comparable to "Gold"). Thanks to the professional organization and the outstanding camaraderie displayed throughout this professional encounter, all participants appreciated this event as a "true highlight" of their contingent. Regarding the outcome of this contest, the German soldiers were as successful as their American peers had been the day before.

The coveted marksmanship badges were awarded in the scope of an official binational ceremony on the evening of 22 August. The German Senior National Representative with HQ KFOR, Colonel (GS) Ralf Radtke, stated that he was very impressed by the marksmanship skills demonstrated by the American participants using unfamiliar German weaponry. Subsequently, the professional bonds of friendship were thoroughly deepened during a social event hosted in the "GERMAN ARK".



# SHAPE INTERNATIONAL TASK FORCE TEN MAKES HISTORY

*Text by SSgt. Tim Kresse, US Army, Photos by Major Andreas Brückner, Austrian Army*

On 31 August 2008, the SHAPE International Band's Task Force Ten set out on a historical first trip to Kosovo in support of NATO and Partnership for Peace troops in the KFOR theater of operations. The band's musical support mission was made possible by the support of General John Craddock, Supreme Allied Commander Europe. By spreading their particular brand of popular music, Task Force Ten lifted the morale of hundreds of KFOR troops over a series of five open-air concerts.

The SHAPE International Band is a unique group of international musical ambassadors stationed at SHAPE, Belgium. The band is comprised of twenty-one military musicians from the United States, France, Italy, Greece, Estonia, and Latvia, and is commanded by U.S. Army 1SG Pedro Quinones. The SHAPE International Band's three main performing groups; The NATO Jazz Orchestra, Task Force Ten, and the NATO Jazz Messengers, perform regularly for audiences all over Europe.

Task Force Ten, led by U.S. Air Force vocalist MSgt Gavin Rueb, traveled throughout the theatre of Kosovo with



direct support from Moral and Welfare Office of Headquarters Support Group KFOR. The band kicked off their tour by performing their high-energy show for the command group KFOR on Film City. This opening night performance was followed by shows at Multinational Task Force South in Prizren, MNTF West at "Villagio Italia", MNTF East Bondasteel, and a live open concert at Camp Film City. The overall mission was a great success as audiences all over the theater were inspired through the music and stage show they were a part of at each performance. This success has paved the way to discussions of an extended tour in Kosovo as well as other cooperative missions with NATO and Partnership for Peace nations in 2009 and beyond. Following Film City's performance, MSgt Rueb stated "Our musical team is a great example of the cooperation of NATO nations and what we can accomplish together." Highlighting the joint effort of NATO is Task Force Ten's makeup of international

# ATIONAL BAND'S RIC TRIP TO KOSOVO THEATER



musicians. Under the musical direction of U.S. Army SSG Tim Kresse on bass, the band members include: U.S. Army SFC Dan Oriley on keyboard, U.S. Army SGT Jon Oxford on guitar, U.S. Army SGT Pete Greenberg on drums, U.S. Army SGT Dan Galipeau on Bari Sax, U.S. Army SGT Chris Manley on Tenor Sax, Estonian Army Vanemveebel Ivar Kiiv on trombone, French Marine Sergeant Chief Florent Delbee on trumpet, U.S. Air Force TSgt Brent Swaney as sound engineer, and NCOIC and vocalist U.S. Air Force MSgt Gavin Rueb.



# Transfer of Authority Ceremony in KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion

*Text by Major Oleksii Morozov, Ukrainian Armed Forces  
Photos by Armend Aqifi*

On September 25, despite cold and rainy weather Portuguese soldiers aligned on the parade square in the Slim Lines Camp (Pristina/Prishtine). On this day Task Force "Mike" replaced the 1st Paratrooper Infantry Battalion as KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion (KTM). Lieutenant Colonel Jocelino do Nascimento Bragança Rodrigues replaced Lieutenant Colonel Paulo José de Sousa Teles Serra Pedro in the position of the KTM commander.

Having received the report from the outgoing commander, the Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay inspected the parade, rendering homage to the troops.

In his farewell speech, outgoing

commander Lieutenant Colonel Serra Pedro thanked all high level KFOR commanders and KFOR HQ staff for the cooperation and professionalism, demonstrated by them during the past six months.

Special thanks he expressed to all the Portuguese soldiers, who served under his command, for their successful service in Kosovo, having wished to them a safe return home. Addressing the soldiers of TF "Mike", Lieutenant Colonel Serra Pedro expressed all the best to this new mission.

After that the transfer of the Portuguese national flag from outgoing to incoming commander marked the national transfer of authority ceremony, as well as the transfer of the KTM flag from Lieutenant Colonel Serra Pedro to the Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay, and from COMKFOR to new KTM Commander

marked the KFOR transfer of authority within KTM. Addressing to the audience, new KTM Commander said: "With confidence and help of God, we are going to achieve this mission with plenty of success".



# eremony tation (KTM)

COMKFOR, in his discourse, recognized the outstanding job of outgoing Commander and all Portuguese Paratroopers, and expressed his hope on the successful mission for the incoming Commander and all soldiers from TF "Mike". Thank you, Paratroopers for your service! Welcome to KFOR, the soldiers of Task Force "Mike"!



# CSI:

CRIME SCENE INVESTIGATION

# German Military Police

*Text and photos by German Military Police*



Prizren. German Military Police (Feldjäger) in Kosovo perform a variety of tasks. Most of the soldiers merely associate them with traffic controls, speed checks or the supervision of the opening/closing hours of recreational facilities. The overall scope of their tasks, however, is much more complex.

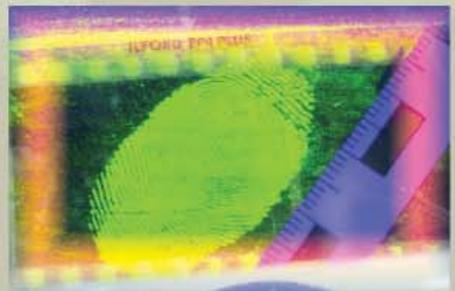
In Multinational Task Force SOUTH (MNTF S), the multinational military police forces, consisting of German, Austrian, Swiss and Turkish personnel, are commanded by the Provost Marshal. Major Z.: "At multinational level, we act as Provost Marshal Office, thus exercising technical control of all MP assets, responsible for advising the staffs and HQs in all MP-related matters." Furthermore, the Provost Marshal Office coordinates all MP missions.

The German Military Police (Feldjäger) Company consists of 3 subunits: The Company Headquarters Section and two MP platoons. While the members of 1st Platoon are employed in shift duty for general MP tasks, such as preserving military discipline and order, performing traffic control duties, rendering assistance for soldiers and civilians, as well as ensuring area and object security, 2nd Platoon personnel are responsible for special missions and training projects. These comprise,



for instance, Crowd and Riot Control (CRC), aviation security tasks, snatch and arrest missions, special inquiries and investigations, as well as the employment of sniffer dogs, internationally designated as K9 (canine). These dogs are trained to detect drugs or explosives.

Along the border to Albania, the forces of the local Kosovo Police / Border and Boundary Police (KP BBP) are supported by German Military Police (Feldjäger) assets. In the vicinity of the Vrbnica/Vermice border crossing point, for instance,

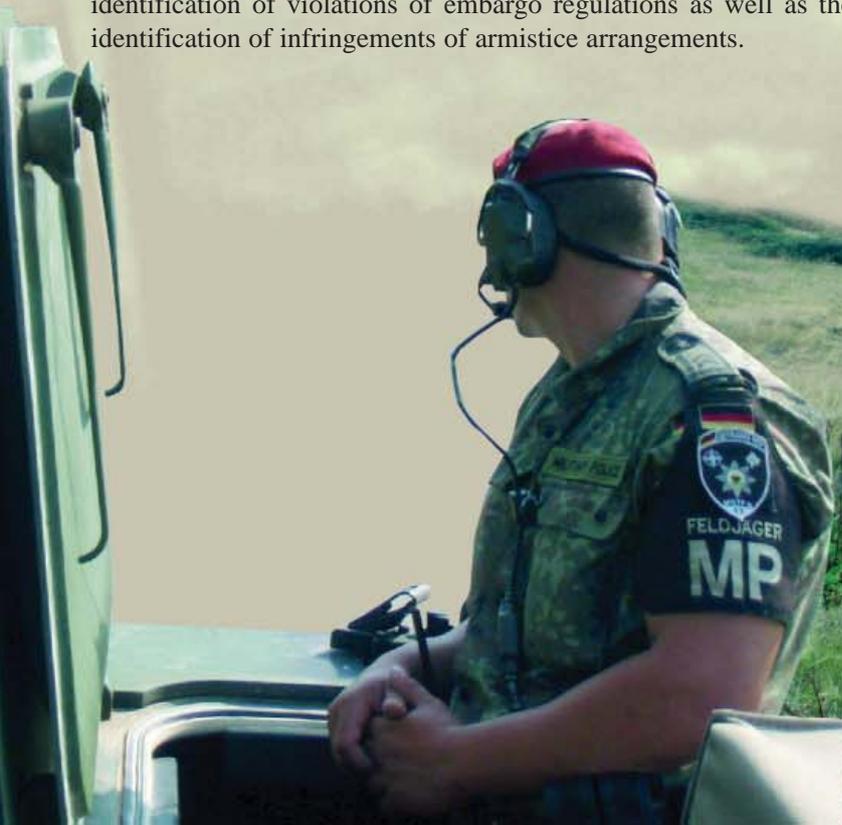


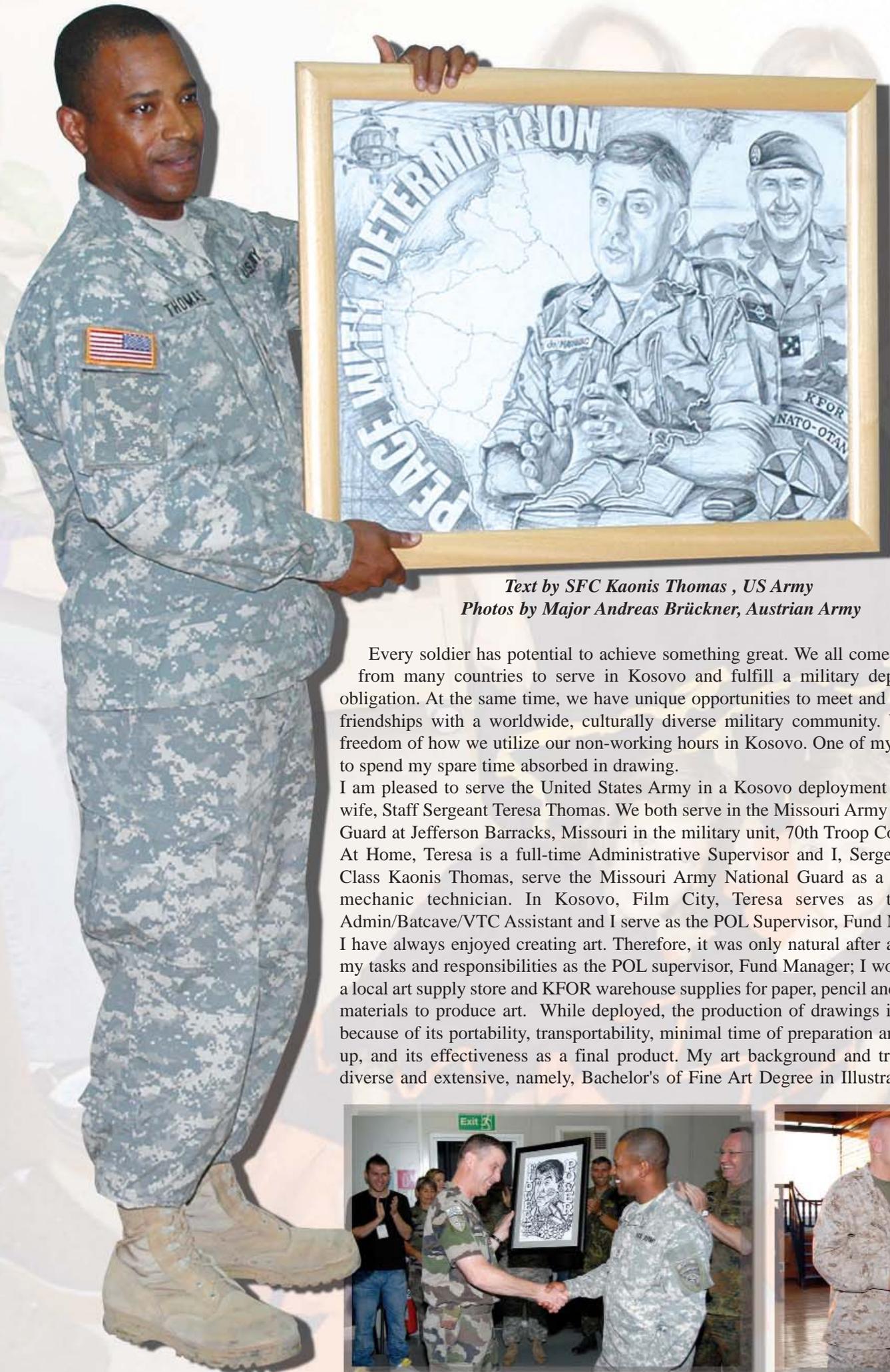
# Police (Feldjäger) of MNTF S in operation

multinational patrols consisting of German Feldjäger, German Federal Police (Bundespolizei), Turkish MP and members of the Kosovo Police Service (KPS) are conducted on a regular basis. Cooperation, assistance and support are also rendered for the Maneuver Battalion in the scope of vehicle checkpoints and controls of personnel. The dog teams are employed during cage operations.

The German Military Police assets responsible for aviation security tasks escort all convoys to and from Pristina airport. Upon arrival at the airport, soldiers departing from theater receive an instruction pertaining to the applicable customs regulations.

The "Special Investigation Unit" is primarily conducting investigations. These military policemen assist the respective military superiors whenever investigations are conducted involving German military personnel. For this purpose, the German Military Police (Feldjäger) Company avails of a substantial inventory of specialized equipment. All evidence (such as DNA, finger prints and footwear traces) can be secured and sent to a laboratory for further analysis. As a preventive measure, special investigation staff also conduct instructions on how to detect counterfeit money. In the event of criminal acts committed by the local population and directed against members, materiel, facilities and installations of the Bundeswehr, the Feldjäger closely cooperate with and support local law enforcement authorities. German Feldjäger of MNTF S may also be tasked to conduct investigations for international organizations. The aim of these investigations is to provide support for international organizations, such as the United Nations, NATO, OSCE, the International Court of Justice (ICJ) or other international tribunals. A possible task would be to assist in the investigation of war crimes or other encroachments of the law, the identification of violations of embargo regulations as well as the identification of infringements of armistice arrangements.





*Text by SFC Kaonis Thomas , US Army  
Photos by Major Andreas Brückner, Austrian Army*

Every soldier has potential to achieve something great. We all come together from many countries to serve in Kosovo and fulfill a military deployment obligation. At the same time, we have unique opportunities to meet and establish friendships with a worldwide, culturally diverse military community. We have freedom of how we utilize our non-working hours in Kosovo. One of my goals is to spend my spare time absorbed in drawing.

I am pleased to serve the United States Army in a Kosovo deployment with my wife, Staff Sergeant Teresa Thomas. We both serve in the Missouri Army National Guard at Jefferson Barracks, Missouri in the military unit, 70th Troop Command. At Home, Teresa is a full-time Administrative Supervisor and I, Sergeant First Class Kaonis Thomas, serve the Missouri Army National Guard as a full-time mechanic technician. In Kosovo, Film City, Teresa serves as the JOC Admin/Batcave/VTC Assistant and I serve as the POL Supervisor, Fund Manager. I have always enjoyed creating art. Therefore, it was only natural after acquiring my tasks and responsibilities as the POL supervisor, Fund Manager; I would seek a local art supply store and KFOR warehouse supplies for paper, pencil and various materials to produce art. While deployed, the production of drawings is perfect because of its portability, transportability, minimal time of preparation and clean-up, and its effectiveness as a final product. My art background and training is diverse and extensive, namely, Bachelor's of Fine Art Degree in Illustration and



# "I AM AN ARTIST"

Graphic Design, Master's of Art Degree in Painting and the recipient of numerous Certificates of ART. I have over 20 years of drawing and painting experience, which includes over 10 years employed as a billboard pictorial artist / contractor. Also, I have a military background and certificate as a technical drafting specialist.

As an artist, I have always thought of portrait drawing and painting as the most difficult accomplishment. Therefore, I have defined drawing people as a constant measure or marker of my artistic talent. The ability to draw people accurately and realistically continues to present itself as challenging and rewarding. I gain great satisfaction every time I employ the creative process of capturing the likeness of my subject and completing a drawing with pencil that pleases my model. Usually, I donate the drawing to my model as a way of thanking them for sitting still for up to thirty minutes, and giving me the time necessary for practicing and perfecting my art skills. Because everyone looks different to me as an artist, each portrait drawing presents itself as a new, fresh problem-solving experience. Drawing consists of powerful brain activity of continuous measurements of spatial and tonal relationships of visual data. Also drawing requires trained hand and eye coordination necessary to transfer visual data from subject to artist and from artist to paper.

I have spent many hours drawing while deployed in Kosovo. Some of my portrait drawings include French COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac, Italian DCOS OPS KFOR Brigadier General Giovanni Savarese, French Chief PAO Colonel Jean Luc Cotard and numerous NATO soldiers mobilized at Film City. I also spend time drawing mothers and children while I serve as a volunteer at the Women and Children's Center of Pristina, Kosovo.

While deployed in Kosovo, we all have many opportunities to develop as diverse, professional soldiers and we have numerous opportunities to develop and share our gifts and knowledge- my gift to share is the art of drawing as I continue to develop into a more professional soldier.



# Austrian Army Mountain Guide

Story and photos by Wm Mag. Doris HECK  
Public Affairs Office MNTFS

The "Kosovo Protection Corps" (KPC) shall in the future assume the tasks of a light protection force in Kosovo. Until that time, KFOR soldiers assist in the training of the force. Among the training cadre there are also specialists from the Austrian Army.

Stabswachtmeister (OR-7) J.M. Feichter is one of 482 Austrian soldiers rendering their six-month foreign mission in the scope of AUCON / KFOR 18. In addition to ensuring the protection of cultural assets, 1st Company, based in the Austrian Camp CASABLANCA in Suva Reka, is also tasked to conduct dismounted (foot) patrols or operate checkpoints. Back home in his Austrian parent unit, Jägerbataillon (Light Infantry Battalion) 18 in St. Michael, Feichter serves as light infantry platoon sergeant and Army mountain guide. Throughout the year, he works as a qualified alpine instructor. During the winter time he works as ski instructor or "avalanche buster" and as an Army mountain guide during the summer season. The devoted Army mountain guide has made his passion his profession.

He had the opportunity to pursue his passion in Kosovo as well. From 01 until 04 September, Multinational Task Force South conducted a search and rescue training for the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) in the vicinity of Prizren. In the scope of these training topics such as the recovery of personnel from helicopters, the correct use of a compass, map reading and terrain navigation were taught and instructed. Stabswachtmeister (OR-7) Feichter was in charge of teaching

the KPC personnel in knot making, in active and passive roping techniques, as well as in rope slide drills. "I had great fun. The KPC participants had no previous experience with the roping equipment, however, they were very educable and interested." Deficiencies identified during the training were exclusively attributable to the lack of practical training on the part of the Kosovar soldiers. And this lack of practical training cannot be corrected within two days. It requires a more intensive training and instruction phase, along with permanent follow-on practice.

The sole and major challenge in the opinion of the mountain guide had been to overcome the language barrier. For this purpose, two interpreters had been permanently available on site to translate the instructions and explanations for the training audience. "This went very well, although I had to adjust my method of teaching since many technical terms could not be correctly translated." Finally, Stabswachtmeister (OR-7) Feichter stated that not only the KPC participants benefited from this training but so did he. "I would love to repeat this training right away!"

The purpose of this search and rescue training was to raise the training standards of the KPC soldiers to a higher level, adapted to western standards, enabling them to render more effective assistance in the event of possible rescue missions even in a mountainous environment. This training further strengthened the already very good cooperation between KFOR and KPC, and certainly will not remain the sole training event of this nature. (HeDo)



# trains Kosovo Protection Corps



*Text and photos by Major Oleksii Morozov,  
Ukrainian Armed Forces*

Every month different KFOR units conduct various CIMIC activities in order to help the population of Kosovo: donations, reconstructions, building new objects and repairing the old ones, and so on. But there is one kind of CIMIC operations which is a bit unusual and even outstanding. It is about providing medical help to the people of Kosovo. Everybody knows that health is the most expensive property for the human-being, and expensive in all senses. Today the KFOR Chronicle would like to introduce to you one of the "actors" who provide the people with an opportunity to possess or to restore this expensive property.

Colonel René Le Roy is the dentist, who works in the Camp Plana, located in Multinational Task Force North. By the way, Le Roy is translated from French to English as the King. For sure, the patients of Colonel Le Roy would agree to call him "the King of the teeth" because during his entire military carrier, more than 30 years, he serves as the dentist in the 2nd Parachute Regiment of the French Foreign Legion. During his tour of duty in Kosovo, Colonel Le Roy with his assistant, Razije Gashi, travel all around Kosovo,

# The King of



# of the Teeth

helping the inhabitants of local villages escape from toothache. Bistrica/Bistrice, Kacandol/Kaqandoll, Svinjare/Frasher, Banjska/Bannjske, Gumniste/Gumnishte - this is an incomplete list of villages of the Northern Kosovo, visited by them with that noble aim.

"This idea to help to the people in our area of responsibility was born in Bosnia, where I served within SFOR", Colonel Le Roy tells. "There I did the same job, providing medical help to Bosnians, Croatians and Romas. This permitted to me to get acquainted with their culture and their traditions, as well as get known the country. The same is here, in Kosovo. For me, to help people, it costs nothing, except some energy to spend, which I can easily restore by some hours of sleeping. But it makes pleasure to me and, certainly, enriches my experience, because finally, at the end of my tour, I can say: I know this country!"

We must admit that the job, done by Colonel Le Roy, is not easy. Yes, in such "field conditions" there is no question of composite operations on the teeth, but very often (if he is fortunate) "the dental room" for him consists of only one chair and several boxes with medical tools. Sometimes it can consist only of the part of fence, which is used as a chair. Usually, the reception of patients takes some hours. During those hours René Le Roy works in an uncomfortable position, standing on one foot and using the other one as a dentist's chair headrest for a patient. Due to lack of lighting, an electric torch is used. The sweat is on the forehead. À la guerre comme à la guerre (All's fair in love and war, 'to the war as to the war', French proverb). But he always finds time for smiling and joking, because the patients entrust a smiling doctor more.

It is necessary to mention that Colonel Le Roy and his assistant do not work alone. They are always accompanied by CIMIC or Liaison and Monitoring Team, who, strictly speaking, conduct all the activities forerunning to such visits. For example, they worked in Saskovac/Shashkofc, a small village in Gracanica/Gracanice region, with G9 Cell from Multinational Specialized Unit, which personnel organized their job and also delivered some food items to the inhabitants. In Zaza/Zhazhe, it was Belgian LMT from Camp De Lattre De Tassigny (Novo Selo). But all those people have one common goal - to help the people of Kosovo.



## [Inside KFOR]

*Text and photos by  
1st Lt. Stephen O Byrne*

On the afternoon of 23 August 2008 Camp Clarke played host to the first Cu Chulainn tri-angular tournament, organized by the 38 Irish Infantry Group. Several units of MNTF Centre took part: A Coy (Finland), C Coy (Ireland), D Coy (Czech Republic), E Coy (Slovakia), MSU (Italy) and the MNTF (C) HQ, each entering a team consisting of eight competitors. Despite the stifling heat, everyone was especially eager and there was a great competitive spirit in the air prior to the start and a growing anticipation to see which team would prevail.

The first event was the 10km run over a course, traveling through several small villages, just to the south of the Camp. Within 35 minutes, the first runner Lt. John Boylan, had crossed the line and over the next 20 minutes the remaining participants followed. After the times had been totaled, the Irish team emerged as the leader, closely followed by the Finnish and the Czechs in third place.

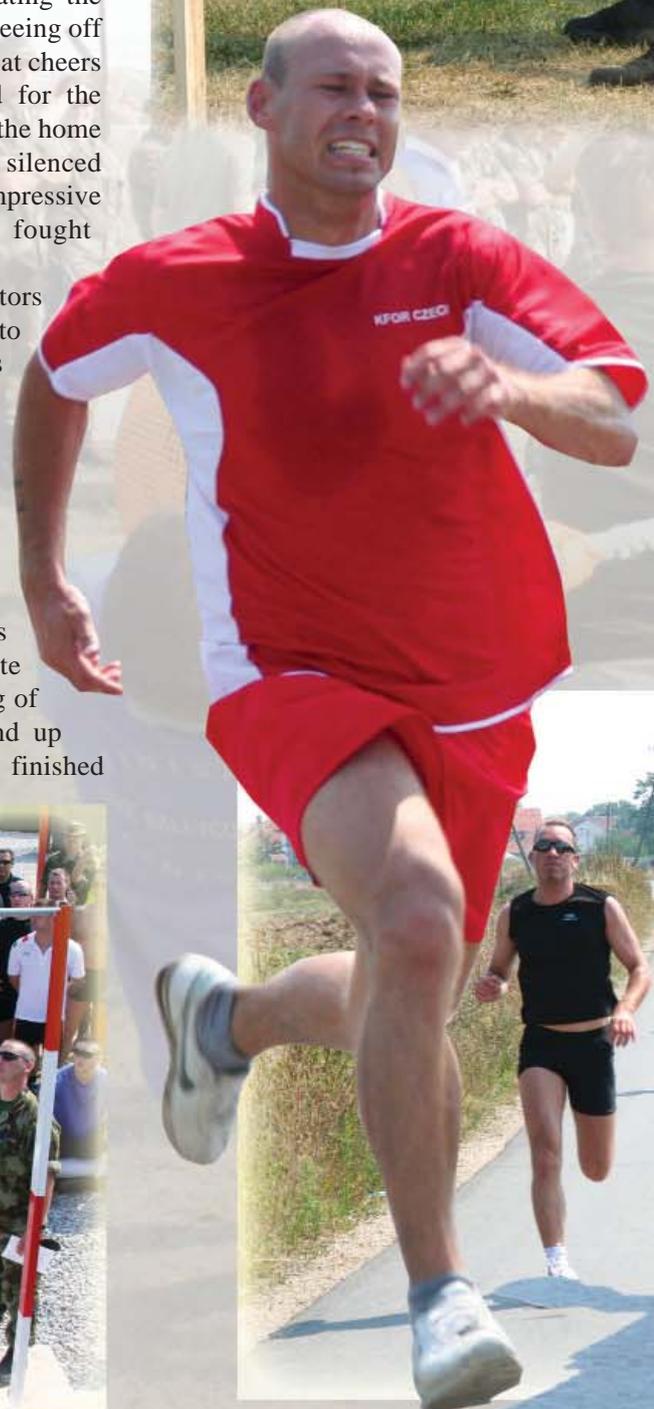
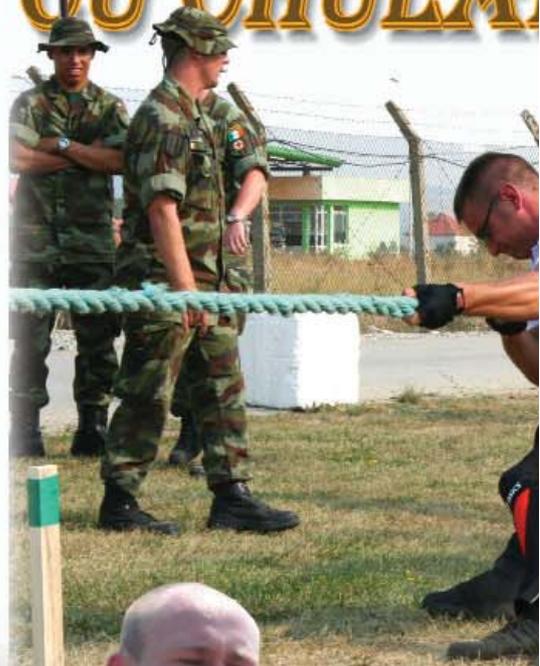
Attention now turned to the pull bars. A massive effort was put in by every team member. As the event progressed it was becoming clear that it was Captain Sokoli, a Finnish member of the MNTF (C) HQ team who had the highest individual score of 30. As for the overall results, the Finnish team topped the list followed by the Czechs with the Irish and Slovak teams in joint third.

All eyes were now on the tug of war, which took place at the entrance of the

camp. Due to the fact that they were the top two in the table, the Finnish and Irish teams received a bye into the semi-finals, which meant some extra time to relax and prepare. First up were the MSU and the Czechs, followed by the HQ verses the Slovaks. In each match up the Eastern Europeans proved too strong and both sides proceeded to the next round. In the first semi-final the Finns were beaten by an impressive Slovakian team who were building a strong momentum. Following this the Irish, cheered on by a noisy home crowd, beat the Czech team to progress to the final. Prior to the main event the playoffs for the other final positions took place, with the HQ beating the MSU for 5th and the Czechs seeing off the Finns for 3rd. It was to great cheers that the two teams emerged for the final contest, especially from the home support. They were to be silenced though as the Slovaks, in impressive form, prevailed in a well fought contest.

All competitors and spectators now made their way down to the main square and all eyes were on the large score board in anticipation of the final results. The final tallies revealed how closely fought the competition was, with the Irish claiming victory followed by the Finnish in second. The Czechs held onto third and, despite their fantastic result in the tug of war, the Slovaks were to end up fourth. The team from HQ finished

# CU CHULAINN



# INN TRIANGULAR IN MNTF (C)



fifth with the MSU in sixth. A short parade now followed where each team was presented with a framed certificate for participation by the Irish Contingent Commander. It was now the turn of MNTF (C) Commander Brigadier General Kyosti Halonen to present, firstly, the second placed team with their medals and then winning team with its medals and a plaque for their efforts, which he followed up with a short speech of congratulations to all the participants and the organizers. Indeed a great day was had by all involved and a great opportunity to strengthen ties between all the different units within Task Force Centre.



## [Inside KFOR]

Twelve children left Kosovo on September 13th to receive medical treatments in Italy, 12 very fortunate children who will regain happiness and wealth in Italian Hospitals thanks to the help of the Italian contingent of the MNTF-W.

Usually the Italian KFOR help is required every time a disease cannot be treated in Kosovo due to the lack of an efficient sanitary structure or because the illness is too specific for the local Hospital. From all over Kosovo families come to bring their desperate cases to be seen by the Italians of the MNTF-W, that is the only Contingent that carries out this important humanitarian task in Kosovo.

But lets start from the beginning...

Inside the CIMIC branch, there's a cell called CIMIC HEALTH CENTER composed of 1 officer (OF3 BAVARO Giuseppe), 1 warrant officer (OR9 RECCHIA Leonardo) and 2 privates (OR4 DE MITRI MARIAGRAZIA and OR2 SCHIAVONE Teresa) that every single day



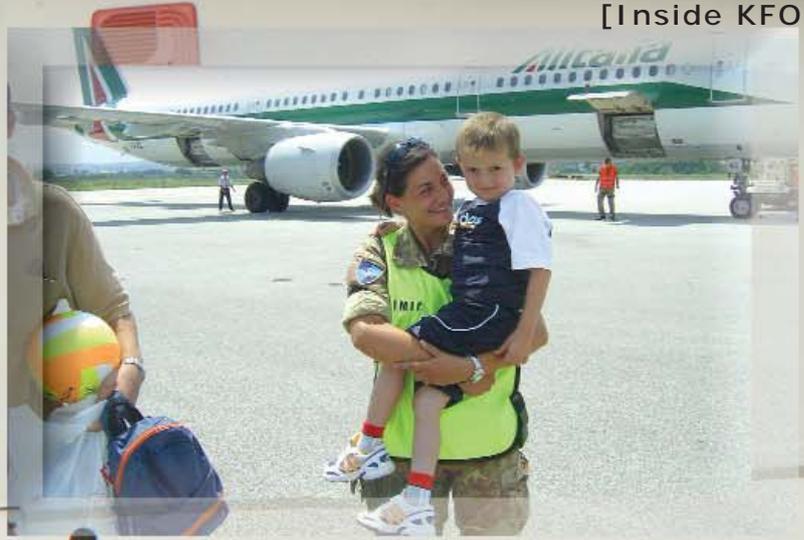
# CIMIC Health Center

open their office to the public not knowing at what time they will be able to close it.

Every time they receive a new case to be treated, they analyze it by a corps of doctors that through telemedicine and satellite, give an assessment related to recovering time and possibility of treatment in Kosovo.

If the response states that it is necessary to bring the patient to Italy, the Cimic Health Center starts to contact the Italian Embassy in Kosovo in order to have the VISA to enter Italy and gets in touch with the Italian hospitals that are willing to treat the specific disease. It's not an easy task as it seems describing it because at the end it's all a matter of money and time. Sometimes private humanitarian organization (such us ONLUS and ONG) intervene to pay the cure but most of the times, due to the high amount of money that must be spent for it, the different Italian regions must get involved and handle the "weight" of the expenses. When





# er, a beautiful reality

everything is prepared and all the bureaucratic work has been carried out, the sick person gets a military airplane that will bring him or her to Italy, always escorted by Italian soldiers until they reach the Hospital.

Obviously being the patient, most of the times, a child, we also bring his or her parents so they can stay with the baby until the end of the hospitalization. The CIMIC HEALTH CENTER exist since 2002 and have treated thousands of different cases, from cancer to leukemia, from heart diseases to fractures...just to have an idea, since January 2008 the CIMIC HEALTH CENTER has analyzed more than 480 cases, and has sent to Italy more than 78 Kosovars of which 70 already came back cured and recovered.

Life, for these children, can still be beautiful thanks to KFOR.



# "Mission Accomplished" for Task

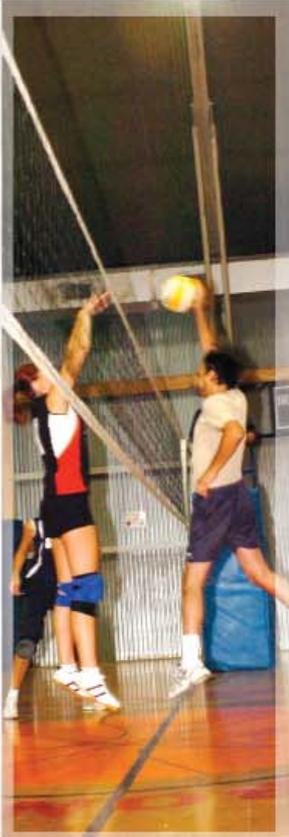
By Maj. John E. Moran IV  
MNTF (E), Public Affairs Officer

When Sgt. 1st Class Maximilliano Vignoli was promoted three weeks ago, he was immediately given his first assignment. As the training noncommissioned officer for Task Force Falcon, he was tasked with spearheading the activities for, "Organizational Day". This would prove to be a morale lifting experience not only for members of Task Force Falcon, but some Romanian soldiers and members of Task Force Guardian as well.

What an awesome event for all that attended. In the South Town Morale Welfare and Recreation facility, you could smell the barbeque ribs and chicken. The smoke from the freshly grilled hamburgers and hotdogs was blowing towards the volleyball nets outside as people walked by. Did I say Volleyball? Yes volleyball. Among the crowd of military personnel were seven tall college students sharing lunch with members of Task Force Falcon. They were



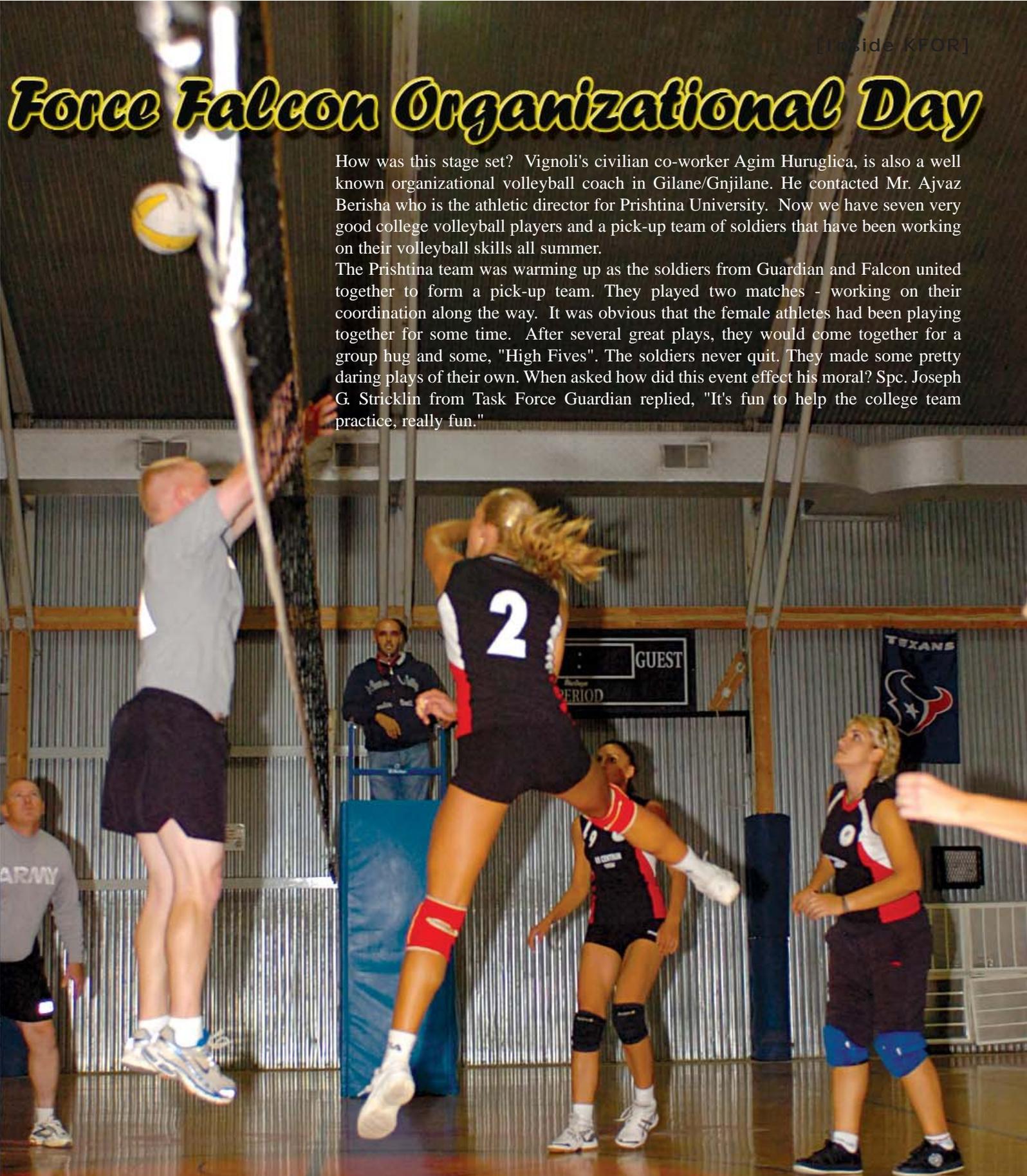
Members of the Prishtina University women's volleyball team. Not only were they here to visit Camp Bondsteel. They were ready to play volleyball. Vignoli made his way to the stage to announce that the Prishtina team would take on all challengers at the North Town gym. As I left to go to the North Town gym you could see soldiers lining up to get aluminum foil to cover up their to-go plates.



# Force Falcon Organizational Day

How was this stage set? Vignoli's civilian co-worker Agim Huruglica, is also a well known organizational volleyball coach in Gilane/Gnjilane. He contacted Mr. Ajvaz Berisha who is the athletic director for Prishtina University. Now we have seven very good college volleyball players and a pick-up team of soldiers that have been working on their volleyball skills all summer.

The Prishtina team was warming up as the soldiers from Guardian and Falcon united together to form a pick-up team. They played two matches - working on their coordination along the way. It was obvious that the female athletes had been playing together for some time. After several great plays, they would come together for a group hug and some, "High Fives". The soldiers never quit. They made some pretty daring plays of their own. When asked how did this event effect his moral? Spc. Joseph G. Stricklin from Task Force Guardian replied, "It's fun to help the college team practice, really fun."



A group of Romanian soldiers and their American liaison officer, 1st Lt. Jason Seegmiller looked on as the Prishtina University team dominated the first two matches. Now it was their turn to challenge the ladies from Prishtina. Would they fair as well? Sgt. Maj. Gil Cristea said that his, "Viper" team has been playing together in the Camp Intramural league. Although the matches were much closer, the female athletes would still dominate on the court. When asked how the event affected his moral, Cristea stated, "It was nice, we would like to do it again".

Not only was organizational day great for morale, it was a huge overall success. It was an example of how a good idea can be put into action. It showcased the strength of the noncommissioned officer corps of Task Force Falcon. From the date I arrived, the noncommissioned officers of Task Force Falcon have supported myself and all of the soldiers here at Camp Bondsteel. We can only look forward to more days like the one we had today.

# Magic Major Meister

*Text and photos by 1st Lt Hannah Larsson, Press and Information Officer, Swedish Army*

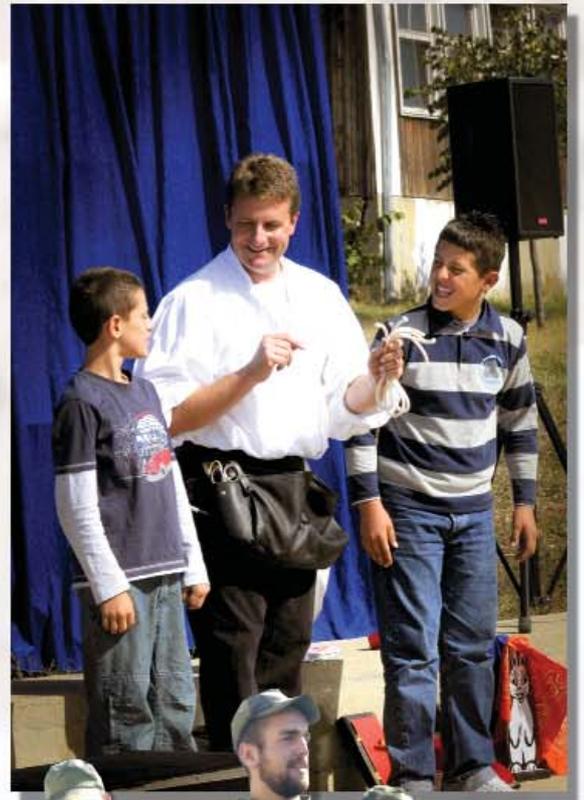
*Swiss Army Major Roland Meister's last name means "Master" in German. And that is also what he is - a Master of Magic who during a hectic week performed for school children and KFOR troops all over Kosovo.*

Four aces and a magic wand make the insignia of the Swiss Army Master Magician. When you first hear of a Major who is a magician in the army, you might get the picture of Harry Potter in boot camp, but that is incorrect.

Think of Major Meister more of a distinguished gentleman, nice and mellow - who will tear your KFOR ID-card, embarrass you in front of your fellow soldiers for not being able to use his pair of scissors or make your 20 euro bill vanish into thin air in the twinkling of an eye!

But when performing for school children, Major Meister focuses on making it fun.

"If I can make a child laugh - then I'm happy. That is all I wish for, to make them happy", says the former tank coy commander before his first appearance for the children in Shkabaj, a suburb north-west of Pristina. The principal, also village leader, Mr. Bajram Borovic was very honoured to have the magician perform in his school.



"Thank you so much for doing this for us. We have met many nations' KFOR soldiers and have very good cooperation with the Swedish troops, but this is the first time we have had the Swiss Army in our school", the well oriented principal says. The SWISSCOY contacted SWECON to find a suitable school for the magic shows. The thoughts went to the school in Shkabaj, with which contact had been made through the Mine Risk Education (MRE) for Kids.

Oscar Dahl and Alexander Bergström, the squad leader and his deputy of the platoon responsible for patrolling Shkabaj, were happy to be part of the cooperation that led to the magic event.

"This is a great idea and we had never heard of a magician in the army before. The kids seem to like it", they stated.

Soon the children, all in all 300 pupils, pour out of the school hand in hand to see what the magician has up his sleeve for them. A Swedish film team, making a documentary on the life in Kosovo, is filming the magic show and making an interview with Major Meister.

Once the show has started, the children's mouths turn into surprised O's when questioning each other: "How did he do that?". The boy, who was invited to cut the cord in to equal halves, gets to keep the rope as a memory. He fondles with it, saying: "I'm going to be a wizard, too", asking Major Meister for some advice. The children are soon involved in the show, shouting and pointing out under which cup they think the ball is hidden, or behind which door the bunny is.

"My favourite trick is the ring trick, because you can just sit back and relax and listen to the music and enjoy the show", Major Meister says.

He has performed for larger groups, up to as many as 800 school children. Even the soldiers turn into children when watching the show later at night at Camp Victoria's cosy mess hall, the Muddy Mess.

"Have any of you seen me perform before?" Major Meister asks and gets some raised hands for answer. "Ok, I see. Would you mind leaving?" he jokes and sets the tone for the night - witty with a sting to it.



# "FORTES FORTUNA JUVAT"

## Fortune helps the braves



The primary mission of a chaplain is to perform or provide religious ministry to soldiers.

The chaplain, as a religious leader executes the Religious Support (RS) mission, which ensures the free exercise of religion for soldiers and authorized personnel. Essential to providing our Army with the means to practice their religious beliefs is the ability of the chaplain to function in the Army's pluralistic environment.

The chaplain's presence and support to all soldiers assists in the well being and health of the command. A soldier's experience on the battlefield can range from mild to extreme brutality.

Combat stress can result in immoral, even inhumane practices. These practices can include dehumanizing treatments of friendly troops, enemy prisoners of war or civilians; violation of codes of morality, illegal acts, desecration of sacred places, and disrespect for human life.

Through worship, pastoral counseling, and moral instruction, chaplains affirm the value of human life, justice, dignity and truth, thereby, challenging soldiers to serve their country and their God honorably.

Please take care of it.

I salute all military serving in Kosovo.  
May our prayers be with you in your duty.

*Father Gianluigi Aroffo  
(OF-4 - ITA Carabinieri)*

Born in Arborea (Oristano), 17 June 1949. He belongs to the congregation of Santissimo Redentore (PP. Redentoristi). He received a degree in theology at the Papal Lateranense University in Rome. He later specialized in moral theology at the Academy Alfonsiana in Rome.

After a short period of time of working as a lecturer, he worked many years at the outskirts of Cagliari, where he fully dedicated his time to the youth. Since 1988 he took service as a military chaplain. During that time he served in many branches (Navy, Air-force, Army, Carabinieri). He attended many missions with his military units (Albania, Kosovo, Iraq, Egypt, Middle East and Bulgaria).

Since 31 August 2008 he was appointed to a position of a KFOR Military Chaplain.



**Name:** Jenny Stenberg

**Rank:** Sergeant

**Nationality:** Swedish

**Home unit:** the Royal Guard

**Unit in KFOR:** MNTF(C) B-Coy's AAST

**About the mission:** I was a conscript in 2006 and started working as a drill sergeant for a year after that and now I'm here. The year as an instructor was good because you got the possibility to figure out what working as an officer would be like. I applied for service in Kosovo, because it is different from what I do back home and I have heard nothing but good experiences from friends who have been on military missions abroad. It is also nice to see another country and meet new people.

**Family reaction:** They knew about it for so long, so they weren't worried when I deployed. They think it is an exciting experience for me.

**Plans after the mission:** I want to be a police officer and I have applied for the police academy but I don't know yet if I'm going to make it to the try outs. I also applied for Sweden's next mission to Afghanistan as rifleman/guarded escort.



**Name:** Vahan Tsatinyan

**Rank:** First Lieutenant

**Nationality:** Armenian

**Home Unit:** Armenian Peacekeeping Bde

**Unit in KFOR:** Armenian peacekeeping coy

**About the mission:** This is my first mission abroad and I feel very confident as an Armenian Contingent Commander, as I have enough experience to perform at my very best. I think it is very important to have good officers and professional soldiers like myself in order to complete the mission in a perfect way.

I am very glad to be here and serve in Kosovo, because this is a very good opportunity for me to gain more experience, be able to use my existing knowledge and skills and develop myself further. I feel that this mission is my small input for Kosovo.

**Family reaction:** My father has been in the army for eighteen years and he was very proud, as any father would be, when I was selected

for service in Kosovo. I started my military career when I was seventeen years old therefore my family is familiar with the fact of seeing me seldom.

**Plans after the mission:** After my return I am planning to rest and relax for a bit in order to have a very serious mission: I am going to get married.



**Name:** Anna Darabos Tabiné

**Rank:** Captain

**Nationality:** Hungarian

**Home Unit:** Hungarian Defence Forces Joint Force Command, PIO (Public Information Officer)

**Unit in KFOR:** MNTF-W (Multinational Task Force West)

**About the mission:** This is my first mission, but I have already worked with other nations' soldiers, on different military exercises, as a PIO. I finished an English language course recently, and I believe and hope that the international environment will help me much to improve my English language knowledge. Only one week has gone by of my duty here in the Villaggio Italia camp, in Pec, so in this period I am just learning my place and my role in the system. My colleagues are very kind and helpful, and what is the most important thing is that we can really have a good laugh together. I am sure that at the end of the mission I will have gained both professional experiences, and good friends equally.

**Family reaction:** I have been married to Zsolt for fourteen years. He is a professional soldier of the Hungarian Defence Forces. We have a fourteen year old son. As a mother, I was worried about applying for this mission. The final decision was made by my husband. He told me: "Go and enjoy your work!" I know that my son is very proud of me. The only thing I am afraid of is that, my family starves to death, since the boys cannot cook anything at all.

**Plan after mission:** I did not ponder yet on what I would like to do after the mission. The end is so far away still! I'm going away to rest with my family at some beautiful place before I return to my work.



# Pec/Peja Patriarchate

