KFOR Chronicle

August 29, 2008

Special Edition
Change of Command COMKFOR

COMKFOR
LTG Xavier de Marnhac
31st Aug. 2007 - 29th Aug. 2008

To my dear KFOR family

During this past year we have seen many historical events take place here in Kosovo. As we continue to be an instrumental part in helping to shape the way towards a better future, there are many things to remember and be thankful for. To be able to continue ensuring a safe and secure environment for all the people of Kosovo, is dependant on all of you, regardless of gender, ethnic background, or religion.

I would like to first thank all the people of Kosovo, for their willingness to demonstrate patience and for the maturity displayed during this time of change. For the many leaders and local authorities, I want to express my appreciation for your willingness to face the many challenges and for encouraging everyone to remain patient and calm as you move forward.

I would also like to thank the nearly 15,000 servicemen and women representing 32 nations for your dedicated service and commitment to help Kosovo strive towards their future goals. It is through your continued efforts in developing and strengthening KFOR's relationship with all the citizens of Kosovo that allows us to consider this past year a success.

While there is still much work ahead, it will be through the continued commitment and efforts of everyone that we can remain on course to maintain peace and develop prosperity that will benefit the youth of Kosovo for future generations. Violence of any kind has not, and will not be tolerated as this takes away the safe and secure environment that has been achieved.

For me, having had this opportunity to serve as COM KFOR has been a great honor and privilege. I wish to express my sincere appreciation to each and every member of this family we call KFOR, and for the many memories I will have from my time here. It was through your professional excellence, and outstanding performance that allowed us to accomplish my motto:

"PEACE WITH DETERMINATION"

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac

Albanian Language

Për familjen time të dashur të KFOR-it

Gjatë këtij viti të fundit kemi parë shumë ngjarje historike që ndodhën këtu në Kosovë. Pasi që ne vazhdojmë të jemi pjesë instrumentale në ndihmesën për të formësuar rrugën drejtë një të ardhme më të mirë, ka shumë gjëra për të cilat duhet të falënderohemi dhe t'i kujtojmë. Aftësia për të vazhduar procesin e sigurimit të një ambienti të qetë dhe të sigurt për të gjithë njerëzit e Kosovës, varet nga ju të gjithë pavarësisht gjinisë, prejardhjes etnike apo fesë.

Së pari do te dëshiroja t'i falënderoja të gjithë njerëzit e Kosovës për vullnetin e tyre për të demonstruar durim si dhe për pjekurinë e treguar gjatë kësaj kohë ndërrimesh. Dua të shpreh mirënjohjen time për shumë udhëheqës dhe autoritete lokale për gatishmërinë e tyre që të ballafaqohen me shumë sfida si dhe aftësinë për t'iu dhënë kurajë të gjithëve që të kenë durim dhe të jenë të qetë gjatë udhëtimit tuaj para.

Gjithashtu, do të doja t'i falënderoja rreth 15000 bura dhe gra që përfaqësojnë 32 kombe për shërbimin tuaj të devotshëm dhe përkushtimin për ta ndihmuar Kosovën që të ecë drejtë caqeve të ardhshme. Përpjekjet tuaja të vazhdueshme në zhvillimin dhe forcimin e marrëdhënies së KFOR-it me të gjithë qytetarët e Kosovës na lejojnë të konsiderojmë këtë vit të shkuar një sukses.

Sidoqoftë mjaft punë mbetet për tu bërë kështu që përmes përkushtimit të vazhdueshëm dhe përpjekjeve të çdokujt në mund të vazhdojmë të sigurojmë paqe dhe zhvillojmë prosperitet në të mirë të rinisë së Kosovës dhe të gjeneratave të ardhshme. Çfarëdo lloj dhune nuk është toleruar dhe nuk do të tolerohet pasi që rrezikon ambientin e qetë dhe të sigurt i cili është arritur.

Për mua mundësia të shërbej si komandant i KFOR-it ka qenë një nder dhe privilegj i madh. Dua të shpreh falënderimin tim të sinqertë për secilin anëtar të kësaj familje të quajtur KFOR dhe për shume kujtimet që do ti kem nga koha ime këtu. Profesionalizmi juaj i shkëlqyeshëm dhe performanca juaj e shquar mundësoi realizimin e motos sime:

"PAQE ME VENDOSMËRI"

Gjeneral lejtnant Xavier de Marnhac

Serbian Language

Mojoj dragoj KFOR porodici

Tokom protekle dve godine bio sam svedok mnogih istoriskih dešavanja na Kosovu. Uz nastojanja da budemo podrška u oblikovanju puta ka boljoj buducnosti, postoje i mnoge stvari za koje sam zahvalan. Mogucnost za nastavak podrške pruž anju sigurnosti i bezbednosti je na vama, bez obzira na pol, etnicko poreklo ili religiju.

Prvo bih hteo da zahvalim svim ljudim sa Kosova, za njihovu spremnost i iskazano strpljenje, kao i zrelost pokazanu tokom ovog vremena promena. Lokalnim vodjama i vlastima bih hteo da izrazim zahvalnost za spremnost na suocavanje sa mnogim izazovima i ohrabrenje pruž eno svima da ostanu smireni i stpljivi dok se ide napred.

Takodje bih hteo da zahvalim svim muškaracima i ž enama, kojih je 15 000 u služ bi i koji predstavljaju 32 nacije, za njihovu predanu služ bu i prihvatanje obaveze da se pomogne Kosovu na putu ka buducim ciljevima. Zahvaljujuci vašim stalnim naporima u pravcu razvoja i jacanja snaga KFOR-a, zajedno sa svim gradjanima Kosova, mož emo proteklu godinu smatrati uspešnom.

Iako nas ceka još dosta posla, zahvaljujuci vašim postojanim i predanim naporima, mocicemo ostati na pravom putu ka odž avanju mira, razvoju i prosepritetu, u korist buducih mladih generacija Kosova. Nasilje bilo koje vrste nije se, niti ce se u buducnosti tolerisati, kao štetno po sigurnost i bezbednost koju smo postigli.

Za mene koji sam imao priliku da služ im kao komandant KFOR-a, to je velika cast i privilegija. ž elim da izrazim iskrenu zahvalnost svim clanovima ove porodice koju zovemo KFOR, i za mnoge uspomene koje cu poneti odavde. Zahvaljujuci vašoj preofesionalnosti i odlicno obavljenom poslu, opravdali smo moto:

“MIR UZ ODLUCNOST”

General-potpukovnik Xavier de Marnhac

Program overview
Change of Command ceremony

10:30 Marching in of the French military orchestra and the KFOR troops

11:00 Deputy Commander KFOR (DCOMKFOR) MG Philippe STOLTZ will report the troops to Commander KFOR (COMKFOR) LTG Xavier de MARNHAC

11:03 Chaplain will address the parade

11:06 COMKFOR will report the troops to Commander Joint Forces Command, Naples (COMJFCN) ADM Mark FITZGERALD before they inspect the troops

11:09 COMKFOR will address the parade

11:15 Secretary of Defense of France will present the "French Legion of Honor Medal" to COMKFOR

11:18 COMJFCN will address the parade and present the "US Legion of Merit Medal" to COMKFOR

11:26 President of Kosovo Mr. Fatmir SEJDIU will address the parade and present a medal for military service in Kosovo to COMKFOR

11:34 The handover of the KFOR flag begins

11:40 The KFOR flag will be marched to the troops

11:45 The military band will play the French and the Italian national anthem

11:50 DCOMKFOR will report the end of the ceremony to COMJFCN, following this, invited guests will leave the parade ground to the reception in the gymnasium

12:00 COMKFOR will give a press conference

Structure of KFOR

Contributing Nations

Kosovo Force

The Headquarters of Kosovo Force is located in Pristina/Prishtinë, the capital city of Kosovo. It supports a NATO-led mission of five Multinational Task Forces, 32 nations and 16,000 peacekeepers in their effort to provide a safe and secure environment for all citizens living in Kosovo. Since August 31, 2007, Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac has been Commander Kosovo Force (COMKFOR).

Previously known as Multinational Brigade Centre (MNB C), this area of operation was renamed Multinational Task Force Centre (MNTF C), January 17, 2006. The MNTF's Area of Responsibility (AOR) is 2,200 square kilometers, from Podujevo/Podujeve in the North to Stimlje/Shtime in the South. MNTF C consists of six nations. The NATO countries are represented by the Czech Republic, Latvia, and Slovakia, whereas the Partnership for Peace nations within MNTF C structure are Ireland, Finland and Sweden. The role of MNTF C lead nation was assumed by Ireland in July 2007.

The MNTF E area of responsibility borders Serbia to the east and the Former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia on the south and covers 2,000 square kilometres with eight municipalities. Besides the United States contingent as lead nation, MNTF E is also comprised of Hellenic and Armenian soldiers who form Task Force Hellas, Ukrainian, Polish and Lithuanian soldiers who form Task Force POLUKRBAT.

Previously known as MNB North (MNB N), it was renamed Multinational Task Force North (MNTF N), December 1, 2005. Today, with soldiers from seven nations, France, Morocco, Estonia, Belgium, Luxembourg, Denmark and Greece, MNTF N is composed of four maneuver units. MNTF N's AOR spreads over 2,000 square kilometers.

May 15, 2006, within the scope of the transformation, MNB SW was split into two area Multinational Task Force West (MNTF W) established its Headquarters in Villagio Italia (Pec/Peja). Currently, the AOR of MNTF W is divided into three AORs of the Maneuver Task Forces (TF): TF Aquila operates under Italian command and is supported by Romanian soldiers; TF Tizona is under Spanish command; TF Sokol operates under Slovenian command and is supported by Hungarian soldiers; TF Ercole is placed at Gjakova Airfield, providing Italian and Slovenian helicopters to MNTF W. Overall, the five nations of Italy, Hungary, Romania, Slovenia and Spain currently contribute to the mission of MNTF W.

The second MNTF created from MNB SW is Multinational Task Force South (MNTF S). Now troops from seven nations, Austria, Azerbaijan, Bulgaria, Georgia, Germany, Switzerland and Turkey, cooperate in the accomplishment of their mission. MNTF S consists of three Manoeuvre Battalions, a Multinational Helicopter Unit, a German Signals Battalion and support units.

The KFOR Tactical Reserve Manoeuvre Battalion is composed of the Portuguese 1st Paratrooper Battalion, with almost 300 men and women. KTM functions under COMKFOR's operational control.

The Multinational Specialized Unit (MSU) is a police force with military status, with an overall police capability. The MSU Headquarters is located in Pristina/Prishtinë under the Italian Carabinieri Command. The MSU is COMKFOR's military specialized asset for the management of law enforcement and civil disturbance issues. The MSU is composed of Italian Carabineri and French Gendarms.

Military Music of the Ar

The military music is present in Rennes from generation to generation. Yesterday, music placed under the mode of the conscription; today professionalized music. It forms an integral part of the local and regional history.

Perpetuating with the passing of years, the military musical inheritance, while taking part in its revival, the Music of the Area North-western, proud Army of its establishment and its membership in Brittany, is identified with this area by the use of a specific and representative instrument: the bagpipe. Only formation of the Army to use this instrument with an orchestra of harmony, it attempts to register with its repertory of the local folk parts, thus contributing to its radiation.

Directed by the Band master principal Jean-François DURAND, assisted of the Band master principal Jean-Claude LEBERRUYER and of the Drum major Jean-

rea North-western from Rennes

Pierre LEMOINE, the formation, composed of 55 musicians, is placed for employment under the authority of the General ordering the Army's North-western Area. It has as a supports the 16th Group of Artillery.
Exceptional tool of communication between the Army and the Nation, the Music of the Army's North-western Area takes part in the catches of weapons and processions, with the ceremonies of the memory, concerts like with many parades both in France and abroad (Germany, Italy, Belgium, Canada, Japan, etc).
Proud of the fidelity which testifies to him for a long time the public and of the confidence which the command grants to him, it wishes by its action to represent the dynamism and the competence of a young army.

E DE TERRE

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac

Commander Kosovo Force

CV

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac was born on July 7, 1951 in Trier, Germany.
He was commissioned through the French military academy of Saint-Cyr in 1971 and chose to serve in the Armor and Cavalry branch.

As a cavalry lieutenant and captain, he served in two different light armored regiments, and commanded a recce company in the 4th Hussars regiment. Later, as colonel, he commanded the 6/12 Cuirassiers (tank) regiment.
He also spent four years as special operations forces team leader in the 1st Marine infantry airborne regiment.

But his career is mostly characterized by frequent assignments in different intelligence units, branches or agencies.
He successively served in the 13th Dragoons airborne regiment and in G2/1st (FRA) Army headquarters. Between 1993 and 1996, he worked as intelligence adviser to the French defense minister. And from 1999 to 2004, he was deputy director and director for operations in the French intelligence agency (DGSE).

Lt. Gen. de Marnhac has a great international experience. He was assigned twice in Germany and spent one year in the USA to attend the command and general staff course.
He performed many missions in a dozen African countries, in most of European countries, as well as in Middle East and Central Asia.
From August 2005 to February 2006, he was assigned in Kosovo as deputy commander KFOR.

After studies in the joint center for advanced military studies (CHEM) and in the institute for higher national defense studies (IHEDN) in Paris, he was promoted brigadier general in 2001.
From 2005 to 2007, as major general, he assumed command of the deployable force headquarters No 2 in Nantes.
Promoted to lieutenant general, he took over the command of KFOR from August 31, 2007 until August 29, 2008.

Lt. Gen. de Marnhac is married and has five daughters and four grand-children.

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac

Commander Kosovo Force

CV/Albanian Language

Gjen. Lejtnant Xavier de Marnhac është i lindur me 7 Korrik 1951 në Trier të Gjermanisë.
Atij i është caktuar detyra pranë Akademisë ushtarakë Franceze të Saint-Cyr në vitin 1971, dhe ka shërbyer në njësinë e blinduar dhe të kalorësisë.
Si Lejtnant dhe Kapiten në degën e Kalërimit, ai ka shërbyer në dy regjimente të ndryshme të blinduara lehtë, dhe ka komanduar një kompani të zbulimit në Regjimentin e katërt Hussars. Më vonë si kolonel ka komanduar Regjimentin tankist Cuirassiers 6/12.
Ai gjithashtu për katër vjet ka qenë udhëheqës i ekipit të forcave speciale operacionale në Regjimentin e parë të marinës këmbësorike parashutiste.

Karriera e tij është e karakterizuar me caktime të shpeshta në njësi, sektore apo agjensione të ndryshme të intelegjencës. Ai ka shërbyer suksesshëm në Regjimentin ajror Dragon 13 dhe në Shtabin e Ushtrisë Franceze G2 / 1st . Në mes të viteve 1993 dhe 1996 ai ka punuar si këshilltar i intelegjencës për Ministrin Francez të Mbrojtjes. Nga viti 1999 deri në vitin 2004, ai ka qenë zëvendës drejtor dhe drejtor i operacioneve në Agjensinë Franceze të Intelegjencës (DGSE).
Gjen. Lejtnant de Marnhac ka një eksperiencë të madhe ndërkombëtare. Ai ka qenë i caktuar dy herë në Gjermani dhe ka kaluar një vit në USA për të përcjellë kursin për komandim dhe shef të shtabit të përgjithshëm.
Ai ka shërbyer në misione të shumta në shumë shtete të Afrikës, në shumicën e shteteve Evropiane dhe gjithashtu ka shërbyer edhe në Lindje të mesme dhe Azinë qendrore.
Nga Gushti 2005 deri në Shkurt 2006 ai është caktuar në Kosovë si zëvendës Komandant i KFOR-it.
Pasë përfundimit të studimeve në qendrën e përbashkët për studime ushtarake të avancuara (CHEM), dhe në institutin për studime të larta kombëtare mbrojtëse (IHDN) në Paris, ai është promovuar me gradën Gjen. Brigade në 2001.

Nga 2005 deri më 2007, si Gjen. Major, ai ka udhëhequr komandën e forcave zbarkuese Nr 2 në Nantes. I promovuar në Gjen. I promovuar në pozitën e Gjeneral lejtnantit, ai morri sipër komandën e KFOR-it nga 31 gushti 2007 deri me 29 gusht 2008.

Gjen. Lejtnant de Marnhac është i martuar dhe ka pesë vajza dhe katër nipa/mbesa.

CV/Serbian Language

General-potpukovnik Xavier de Marnhac rodjen je 07.07.1951, u Trieru u Nemackoj. Cin oficira je stekao na Francuskoj Vojnoj Akademiji Saint-Cyr 1971. godine i opredelio se za služ bu u oklopnom i konjikom rodu.

Kao porucnik i kapetan konjice, služ io je u dva razlicita laka puka, i komandovao izvidjackom cetom u 4. Hussars puku. Kasnije kao pukovnik, komandovao je 6/12 Cuirassiers (tenkovskim) pukom. Takodje je proveo cetiri godine na mestu vodje tima za specijalne operacije u 1. pomorsko-pešadijskom vazdušnodesantnom puku.

Ali njegovu karijeru su najviše obelež ili cesta angaž ovanja u raznim obaveštajnim jedinicama, ograncima ili agencijama.

Uzastopno je služ io u 13. Dragoons vazdušnodesantnom puku i G2 upravi pri štabu 1. (Francuske) Armije. U periodu izmedju 1993 do 1996 radio je kao obaveštajni savetnik ministra odbrane Francuske. Od 1999 do 2004 bio je zamenik direktora i direktor za operacije francuske obaveštajne agencije (DGSE).

General-potpukovnik de Marnhac ima bogato medjunarodno iskustvo. Dva puta je služ bovao u Nemackoj i proveo je godinu dana u Americi, gde je pohadjao komandni i generalštabni kurs. Bio je na vecem broju misija u nekoliko africkih zemalja, u vecini evropskih zemalja, ali takodje i na Bliskom Istoku i u Centralnoj Aziji.

Od avgusta 2005 do februara 2006, bio je rasporedjen na Kosovu, kao zamenik komandanta KFOR-a.

Posle studija u Združ enom centru za napredne vojne studije (CHEM) i Institutu za više studije nacionalne odbrane (IHEDN) u Parizu, unapredjen je u general-brigadira 2001 godine.

Od 2005 do 2007, kao general-major, preuzeo je komandu glavnog štaba pripravnih snaga broj 2 u Nantu. Nakon što je unapredjen u general potpukovnika, preuzima duž nost glavnokomandujuceg KFOR-a 31. avgusta 2007. na kojoj ce ostati do 29. avgusta 2008.

General-potpukovnik de Marnhac je ož enjen, ima pet cerki i cetvoro unucadi.

HEADQUARTERS KOSOVO FORCE
Xavier Bout de Marnhac
Lieutenant General
COMMANDER KFOR

Distinguished Guests, Ladies and Gentlemen;

I would like to welcome you to Kosovo, and to KFOR HQ!

On behalf of the nearly fifteen thousand soldiers representing 32 nations, which built up this family we call KFOR, it gives me great pleasure to welcome you here today for this Change of Command Ceremony. I am deeply grateful, and honored that you have made the trip here to join me and General Gay as the time has come for me to say goodbye, hand over the command, and finally return to France and my family.

The past year has been a very historical year for Kosovo, which went through many critical events. These are very significant events that will always be remembered throughout all of Kosovo.

Through all the hard work and professionalism demonstrated by all the servicemen and women, which make up the KFOR family, it is because of their efforts that KFOR has been successful in its goal of providing a safe and secure environment in an impartial and even handed manner. Through strong determination and with the support of most of the people of Kosovo, we demonstrated that no one will be allowed to resort to any kind of violence that breaches this safe and secure environment. Without the outstanding efforts and support from every person here in Kosovo, this past year would not have been so successful in terms of stability and security.

I can assure you that every single member of the KFOR family fully understands the mission and is fully determined to maintain a safe and secure environment for all the people of Kosovo. It has been a humbling opportunity to lead this great organization throughout this past year, and I wish to thank everyone who not only accepted, but embraced my motto:

"PEACE WITH DETERMINATION"

As I am bound to leave, I wish all the best to the Kosovo people and to General Gay and his team.

Xavier de Marnhac
Lieutenant General, FRA - A
Commander, KFOR

Albanian Language

Mysafirë të nderuar, zonja dhe zotërinj,

U dëshiroj mirëseardhje në Kosovë dhe në Shtabin e Përgjithshëm të KFOR-it!

Në emër të pesëmbëdhjetë mijë ushtarëve, të cilët përfaqësojnë 32 kombe të cilat e ndërtojnë këtë familje që ne e quajmë KFOR, kam kënaqësinë e veçantë t'ju dëshiroj mirëseardhje sot në këtë ceremoni të ndërrimit të komandës. Jam tejet mirënjohës dhe i nderuar që keni ardhur deri këtu për të qenë me mua dhe Gjeneralin Gay duke qenë se ka ardhur koha për mua që të përshëndetem, të dorëzoj komandën dhe përfundimisht të kthehem në Francë dhe tek familja ime.

Viti që kemi lënë pas ka qenë një vit historik për Kosovën, e cila ka kaluar nëpër shumë ngjarje të rëndësishme. Këto janë ngjarje shumë veçanta, të cilat do të kujtohen në të gjithë Kosovën.

Përmes punës së zellshme dhe profesionalizmit të grave dhe burrave, të cilët e përbëjnë familjen e KFOR-it, si dhe përpjekjeve të tyre, KFOR-i ka arritur të jetë i suksesshëm në qëllimin e tij për të siguruar një ambient të qetë dhe të sigurt në mënyrë të paanshme dhe të barabartë. Përmes vendosmërisë së fortë dhe me mbështetjen e pjesës më të madhe të popullit të Kosovës, ne kemi dëshmuar se askush nuk do të lejohet të përdor kurrfarë lloj dhune për të prishur këtë ambient të qetë dhe të sigurt. Pa përpjekjet e jashtëzakonshme dhe mbështetjen e gjithsecilit këtu në Kosovë, ky vit i shkuar nuk do të ishte kaq i suksesshëm në aspektin e stabilitetit dhe sigurisë.

Mund t'ju siguroj se gjithsecili pjesëtar i familjes së KFOR-it plotësisht e kupton misionin dhe është plotësisht i vendosur për të ruajtur një ambient të qetë dhe të sigurt për të gjithë popullin e Kosovës. Ka qenë një mundësi e veçantë për mua që të udhëheq këtë organizatë të madhe për një vit me radhë dhe dëshiroj të falënderoj gjithsecilin që jo vetëm e ka pranuar, por edhe e ka ndjekur moton time:

"PAQE ME VENDOSMËRI"

Meqë jam në prag të largimit, ju dëshiroj gjithë të mirat popullit të Kosovës dhe Gjeneralit Gay e ekipit të tij.

Xavier de Marnhac
Gjeneral lejtnant, Armata Franceze
Komandant i KFOR-it

Serbian Language

Uvaž eni gosti, dame i gospodo;

Dobro došli na Kosovo, u štab KFOR-a.

U ime gotovo 15.000 vojnika koji predstavljaju 32. nacije i cine porodicu koju mi zovemo KFOR, veliko mi je zadovoljstvo da vas ugostim danas na ceremoniji smene komande. Duboko sam vam zahvalan, i pocastvovan što ste došli ovde da se pridruž ite meni i generalu Gay-u pošto je došlo vreme da ja kaž em zbogom, predam komandu, i konacno se vratim u Francusku, mojoj porodici.

Prošla godina je bila istorijska za Kosovo, koje je prošlo kroz mnogo kriticnih dogadjaja. To su veoma znacajni dogadjaji koji ce se pamtiti širom Kosova.

Vrednim radom i profesionalizmom pokazanim od strane muškaraca i ž ena koji cine KFOR porodicu, i zahvaljujuci njihovim naporima KFOR je uspešan u svom cilju pruž anja bezbedne i sigurne sredine na jednak i nepristrasan nacin. Kroz veliku odlucnost i uz podršku vecine ljudi na Kosovu, pokazali smo da nikome necemo dozvoliti da pribegne nasilju koje bi narušilo ovo sigurno i bezbedno okruž enje. Bez izrazitih napora i podrške svake osobe na Kosovu, protekla godina ne bi bila tako uspešna u smislu stabilnosti i sigurnosti.

Mogu da vas uverim da svaki clan KFOR porodice u potpunosti razume ovu misiju i da je u potpunosti odlucan da održ i sigurno i bezbedno okruž enje za sve ljude na Kosovu. Bila je ovo skromna prilika voditi ovu sjajnu organizaciju tokom prošle godine, i ž elim da zahvalim svima koji ne samo da su prihvatili, vec i prigrlili moj moto:

"MIR UZ ODLUCNOST"

Pošto uskoro odlazim, ž elim sve najbolje ljudima Kosova i generalu Gay-u i njegovom timu.

Xavier Bout de Marnhac
General Pukovnik, FRA - A
KOMADANT KFOR-a

KFOR
NATO-OTAN
de MARNHAC

"Children are the future of Kosovo. The mission of KFOR is to ensure peace and stability for all people of Kosovo, especially for children"
Lt. Gen. Xavier de Marnhac

"Peace with Determination"

Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay

Commander Kosovo Force from August 29, 2008

CV

Lieutenant General Giuseppe E. Gay attended the Italian Military Academy in Modena, and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in 1971. Following two years of specialisation training in Turin, he was assigned as a First Lieutenant to the 182nd "Garibaldi" Armoured Regiment and later, as a Captain, he commanded a tank company in the 13th "M.O. Pascucci" Tank Battalion.

Following the Basic and Advanced Courses of the Italian Army General Staff College, he served as a Staff Officer at the North Eastern District's Estate & Facilities Office, the Army General Staff's Personnel Division, the 5th Army Corps' HQ (Chief G3), the Army General Staff's Logistic Division (Chief G4) and the 1st Command Force of Defence (COS).

LTG Gay's command experience includes Commander of the 7th Tank Battalion "M.O. Di Dio" in Vivaro, Commander of the 1st Armoured Regiment in Teulada, Deputy Commander and Commander of the 132nd "Ariete" Armoured Brigade in Pordenone - during this assignment he commanded the Multinational Brigade West in Pec (Kosovo 1999 - 2000) - Deputy Commander of the Kosovo Force, in Pristina (2003 - 2004), Deputy Commander of the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (2004 - 2007) - during this appointment he spent a tour as Deputy Commander (Stability) of ISAF IX in Kabul (2006) - and Commander of Land Forces Support HQ.

He has received numerous military decorations, badges and ribbons. Besides this he has been awarded the Italian Army Bronze Medal for Gallantry, the First Class Medal "Don Alfonso HENRIQUES" of the Portuguese Army, the German Army Gold Cross for Honour and Meritorious Officer Cross with Swords of Malta's Sovereign Military Order. He also was conferred with the title of Commander of the Italian Republic Order of Merit and the title of Knight of the Italian Military Order.

LTG Gay holds a Bachelor's degree and a Master's degree in Strategic Sciences from the University of Turin, a Bachelor's degree in International and Diplomatic Sciences from the University of Trieste and a post-graduate degree in Classical Sciences from the "Accademia Agostiniana" - Lateran University of Rome.

Before assuming command of KFOR on August 29, 2008, Lieutenant General Gay served as Commander NRDC-ITA since September 4, 2007.

He is married to Anna and they have two adult children.

Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay

Commander Kosovo Force from August 29, 2008

CV/Albanian Language

Lejtnant Gjenerali Giuseppe E. Gay ka ndjekur Akademinë Ushtarake Italiane në Modena dhe është graduar në postin e nëntogerit në vitin 1971. Pas dy vitesh trajnimi specialistik në Torino, ai është graduar në rangun e togerit në Regjimentin e Blinduar 182 "Garibaldi" dhe më vonë si kapiten ka udhëhequr një kompani tankesh në Batalionin e 13-të Tankist 'M.O. Pascucci".

Pas kryerjes së kurseve elementare dhe të avancuara të Kolegjit të stafit të Ushtrisë Italiane, ai shërbeu si Oficer shtabor zyrën për pronë të Qarkut Veri-lindor, në Divizionin e Personelit të Shtabit të Përgjithshëm të Ushtrisë, në Shtabin e Përgjithshëm të Korpusit të Pestë të Ushtrisë (Shef i Operativës - G3), në Divizionin e Logjistikës të Shtabit të Përgjithshëm të Ushtrisë (Shef i Logjistikës - G4) dhe në Komandën e parë të Forcave të Mbrojtjes.

Përvoja komanduese e Lejtnant Gjeneralit Gay përfshin pozitën si komandant i Batalionit të 7-të Tankist "M.O. Di Dio" në Vivaro, komandant i regjimentit të 1-rë të Blinduar në Teulada, zëvendës komandant dhe komandant i Brigadës së Blinduar 132 "Ariete' në Pordenone dhe sa ishte në këtë pozitë, ai komandoi Brigadën Shumëkombëshe Përëndim në Pejë (Kosovë 1999 - 2000) - Zëvendës komandant i Forcës së Kosovës në Prishtinë (2003 - 2004), Zëvendës komandant i Korpusit të Aleancës për Reagim të Shpejtë (2004-2007) - gjatë këtij mandati ai kaloi një periudhë si zëvendës komandant (i Stabilitetit) të ISAF IX në Kabul (2006) - dhe komandant i Shtabit të Përgjithshëm i Forcave Tokësore Mbështetëse.

Ai ka fituar dekorata të shumta ushtarake, simbole dhe shenja. Përveq këtyre, ai është shpërblyer me Medalen e Bronztë të Ushtrisë Italiane për Trimëri, Medalen e Klasit të Parë "Don Alfonso Henriques" të ushtrisë portugeze, Kryqin e Artë të Nderit të Ushtrisë Gjermane dhe Kryqin me Shpata për Oficer Meritor të Rendit Sovran Ushtarak të Maltës. Atij gjithashtu i është dhënë titulli i komandantit të Rendit të Meritës së Republikës së Italisë dhe titulli i Kalorësit të Rendit Ushtarak Italian.

Lejt. Gjen. Gay ka diplomuar dhe magjistruar në Shkencat Strategjike në Universitetin e Torinos, ka diplomuar në Shkencat Ndërkombëtare dhe Diplomatike në Universitetin e Triestes dhe një diplomë pas-universitare në Shkencat Klasike në "Accademia Agostiniana" në Universitetin Lateran të Romës.

Para se te merrte sipër komandën e KFOR-it më 29 gusht 2008, Gjeneral lejtnant Gay shërbeu si komandant i NRDC-ITA qysh nga 4 shtatori 2007.

Ai është i martuar me Anën dhe kanë dy fëmijë të rritur.

CV/Serbian Language

General potpukovnik Djuzepe Emilio Gaj (Giuseppe Emilio Gay) pohadjao je Italijansku vojnu akademiju u Modeni, gde je stekao cin drugog porucnika 1971. godine. Nakon dve godine specijalizacije u Turinu, razmešten je u 182. "Garibaldi" oklopni puk u zvanju prvog porucnika, a zatim, kao kapetan dospeo je na celo tenkovske cete u okviru Trinaestog "M.O. Pascucci" tenkovskog bataljona.

Nakon završenih osnovnih i visokih tecajeva na Generalštabnom koledž u Italijanske vojske (Italian Army General Staff College) služ io je kao štabni oficir u odeljenju za vojne objekte i imovinu severoistocnog okruga, zatim u odeljenju za osoblje u Generalštabu, u 5. vojnom korpusu glavnog štaba (na celu G3 odeljenja), u logistickom odeljenju generalštaba (na celu G4), i najzad kao nacelnik generalštaba (COS).

Komandno iskustvo general potpukovnika Gaja obuhvata i rukovodjenje Sedmim tenkovskim bataljonom "M.O. Di Dio" u Vivaru i komandovanje Prvim oklopnim pukom u Teuladi. Pored toga, bio je postavljen na mesto zamenika komandanta a zatim i na mesto glavnokomandujuceg 132. "Ariete" oklopne brigade u Pordenoneu, a za vreme te služ be rukovodio je i Multinacionalnom brigadom zapad u Peci (Kosovo) od 1999-2000. Od 2003-2004 obavljao je duž nost zamenika komandanta Združ enih korpusa za brzo reagovanje, a za to vreme je boravio i u Kabulu kao zamenik komandanta ISAF IX-a, gde je bio zaduž en za stabilnost, 2006. godine, a služ io je i kao komandant glavnog štaba za podršku kopnenih snaga. Dodeljena su mu mnogobrojna vojna odlikovanja, ordeni i trake. Osim toga, Italijanska vojska ga je nagradila bronzanom medaljom za hrabrost, a Medalju prve klase "Don Alfonso HENRIQUES" urucila mu je Portugalska vojska. Nemacke oruž ane snage su mu dodelile Zlatan krst casti a Suvereni vojni odred Malte mu je urudjio Pocasni oficirski krst sa sabljama. Dodeljena mu je i titula komandanta Pocasnog odreda Republike Italije kao i titula viteza od strane Italijanskog vojnog reda.

General potpukovnik Gaj je diplomirao i magistrirao na odseku za strategijske studije Univerziteta u Turinu. Stekao je i diplomu Medjunarodnih i diplomatskih studija na Univerzitetu u Trstu, a završio je i poslediplomske studije na odseku za klasicne nauke na "Accademia Agostiniana" na Lateran univerzitetu u Rimu.

Pre nego što je stupio na duž nost komandanta KFOR-a 29. avgusta 2008. general potpukovnik Gaj je služ io kao komandant NRDC-ITA od 4. septembra 2007.

Supruga mu se zove Ana i imaju dvoje odrasle dece.

Highlights: Meeting soldiers

On September 15, 2007, Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac made his first visit to MNTF C as Commander of KFOR. During his visit accompanied by Brigadier General Gerry Hegarty, Task Force Centre Commander he visited a check point.

On March 5, 2008, General de Marnhac made a visit to Dragas/Sharr Municipality in MNTF South. The COMKFOR called the Municipality as an example in maintaining security. "We are determined to maintain the peaceful and stable security situation throughout every single inch in Kosovo," said General de Marnhac and praised the authorities and citizens for their commitment in promoting the stability and coexistence in this Municipality.

On March 6, 2008, COMKFOR General de Marnhac visited the troops at the administrative crossing between Serbia and Kosovo, at Brnjak/Bërnjak and the troops in Mitrovica/Mitrovice in MNTF North. "KFOR will be in Kosovo as long as necessary," said General de Marnhac. "As

COMKFOR I am here to show that mission of KFOR is continuing and its task is to provide a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement for the entire territory of Kosovo in compliance with the United Nation Security Resolution 1244". COMKFOR underlined that all Kosovo citizens can rely on KFOR to ensure safety and security.

On 10 July, 2008, the Transfer of Authority Ceremony took place between the Brigadier General John E. Davoren, the Commander of the Multinational Task Force East Kosovo Force 9, and Brigadier General Larry D. Kay, the Commander of the Multinational Task Force East Kosovo Force 10.
COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac, provided his remarks. "This was a very successful US rotation," he said. "Your predecessors have set the bar very high," COMKFOR stressed, addressing to the soldiers of KFOR 10 rotation.

On National Day of French Republic, July 14, 2008, the Commander of Kosovo Force (COMKFOR) Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac presided over awards ceremonies at Camp De Lattre De Tassigny (Novo Selo/Novoselle) and at Film City. During the ceremony the COMKFOR decorated several peacekeepers with French national government awards. Later that day General de Marnhac attended a reception organized by the Embassy of France in Kosovo.

On July 15, 2008, Lieutenant General de Marnhac visited Multinational Task Force (West), where he met with Brigadier General Biancafarina, commanding. After a briefing on current operations in the MNTF (W), COMKFOR took part in a shooting exercise, organized by the MNTF (W) staff.

General de Marnhac visited Multinational Task Force (South) on July 21, 2008. During this visit COMKFOR familiarized himself with the operational environment in the MNTF (S) Area of Responsibility.

Highlights: Meeting civilian population

On September 5, 2007, few days after he took the Command of KFOR, COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac took part in an inauguration of the Mother Teresa Cathedral in Pristina/Prishtine.

On September 14, 2007, COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac made a visit to the Decane Monastery, one of the main orthodox churches in Kosovo.

On October 1, 2007, COMKFOR visited Multi-National Task Force East. During his visit to MNTF East, COMKFOR General de Marnhac visited the primary school in Kisno Polje/Kishnapole.

Commander Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac made a visit to the Social-Education Centre "Don Bosko", Jan. 8, 2008, in Pristina/Prishtine.
During the visit, General de Marnhac met with the school principal Don Mateo Disiore as well as the teachers and students. Disiore informed General de Marnhac about the conditions, school programs, classrooms, and cabinets of the Social-Education Centre.

The Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac had a visit to the villages Siga/Sige and Brestovik in the region of Pec/Peje, Feb. 14, 2008.
COMKFOR General Xavier de Marnhac expressed satisfaction with the fact that the Serbian residents of these villages do not have concerns regarding their safety.
"I am glad that everything is all right and the situation in the villages is improving," said General Xavier de Marnhac.
"I noticed that the road is constructed by KFOR, Kosovo Police Service and Kosovo Protect Corpse. I am glad that there are no concerns regarding the security. KFOR is ready to maintain the situation in safe and secure level for all Kosovo citizens."

In the continuation of COMKFOR's tour General de Marnhac donated a tractor to the Kosovo-Serbian family in Lazovici, Pec/Peje Municipality in MNTF West, on March 8. "I was here four months ago to visit this neighborhood where Serbian community lives, an area which was assisted by KPC members in cleaning the location from the ruins," said COMKFOR. "Now, in this locality of Lazovic family, 20 houses have been reconstructed. During my last visit, they told me they have difficulties in working the land due to the lack of technical equipment. I promised them to do the best I can."

COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac visited the City of Prizren on Thursday, April 10, which was hosted by Liaison and Monitoring Team (LMT) 1. After a welcome by 1st Lt. Stefan K., Sergeant Sebastian B. and interpreter Ejup B. in the building of the CIMIC Center Prizren, COMKFOR received a short briefing about the city of Prizren.
Together with the LMT, de Marnhac then met with representatives of the different ethnic groups, the Administration directors and deputies for an exchange of ideas in the Municipality Building.
During the visit of the multi-ethnic school "Avdyl Frasherie" de Marnhac was informed about classroom teaching at the school and had the opportunity briefly to witness an English class. During the subsequent dancing and folklore presentation performed by the students, the COMKFOR received a surprise gift: a framed painting awarded first prize in the painting competition "Future of Kosovo".

June, 1, 2008. On the occasion of International Children's Day, Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac, Commander of Kosovo Force, hosted a multiethnic group of Children Ambassadors at KFOR HQ. The group included some disabled children from NGO "Little People of Kosovo". From Film-City, they delivered a letter for the children all over the world with the message, "we are all born free and equal."

On June 10, 2008 COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac visited the Urosevac/Ferizaj Municipality. During the visit COMKFOR met with Mr. Bajrush Xhemaili, the mayor of Municipality. Afterwards, General de Marnhac and Mr. Xhemaili visited a Kosovo traditional mill.

On July 23, 2008, the KFOR Commander arrived at the opening ceremony for a newly rebuilt pedestrian bridge in Mitrovica/ Mitrovice. During this inauguration ceremony, General de Marnhac cut the ribbon, marking the bridge open.

Highlights: Meeting local authorities

On September 3, 2007, Commander Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac had his first official meeting with the President of Kosovo Mr. Fatmir Sejdiu.

On September 3, 2007, COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac had his first official meeting with the Prime Minister of Kosovo Mr. Agim Çeku.

In the continuation of tour to Kosovo Protection Corps, Commander Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac visited two of the Protection Zones in January.
On Jan. 9, 2008, General de Marnhac, accompanied by the KPC Commander Lieutenant General Sylejman Selimi, visited the KPC PZ II in Prizren. COMKFOR General de Marnhac also made a visit to KPC PZ V Jan. 15, 2008, in Pristina/Prishtine.

The Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac, made a visit to the Municipal Assembly of Glogovac/Drenas Feb. 12, 2008.
During his visit, General de Marnhac met with the President of the Municipal Assembly Mr. Nexhat Demaku and municipality delegation.
"We need the support of all local leaders because you are the part of maintenance of security and stability in Kosovo. You have to support KFOR, Kosovo Police Service, United Nations Interim Administration Mission in Kosovo police and other community," said General de Marnhac. After the municipal visit, General de Marnhac had a visit to the "Ferronikel" factory nearby Glogovac/Drenas and assessed it as the hope of the economic development of Kosovo. General Manager Kostas Lamnatos explained and showed to COMKFOR all working process of this factory.

COMKFOR made a visit to the Kamenica/Dardanë Municipality inMNTF East, on March 7. General de Marnhac expressed his satisfaction with the engagement of the municipal leadership for overcoming the problems in relation with the other communities especially with the Serbian community. At the end General de Marnhac visited the multiethnic market and youth center where COMKFOR met and talked with the local citizens.

On April 7, COMKFOR visited the municipality of Suva Reka/Suhareke, where he held a meeting with the mayor Dr. Sali Asllanaj and other municipal leaders. de Marnhac evaluated the security situation in the municipality as very stable and calm and praised the municipality leadership for their development plan.
After the meeting, de Marnhac and the local leaders visited the High School "Skënder Luarasi", which has been provided with modern equipment funded by the donations of Austrian Government and Austrian KFOR contingent.

COMKFOR called a meeting with the Mayor of Pristina, Isa Mustafa on Monday, April 14.
"We informed the General about the current situation in municipality and about our priority duties that we face," the mayor of Pristina said. "I thanked General for KFOR forces contribution in increasing security for all citizens, communities and in improving of infrastructure".
Gen. de Marnhac stressed that security situation in the capital is calm and stable. "We are in close and continuing cooperation with KPS. This excellent cooperation has impact on securing calm and safer environment for all citizens," COMKFOR added.
Afterwards the KFOR commander and the Mayor of Pristina visited the Museum of Kosovo where they were familiarized with the history of the country.

Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac, Commander of Kosovo Force, visited the mayor of the Lipljan/Lipjan Municipality Mr. Shukri Buja in his office in the municipal building on May 6.
Mr. Buja stated that cooperation between the Municipality and KFOR has been good. He said that Lipljan/Lipjan is a microcosm of Kosovo/Kosova society and that all ethnicities are present in the municipality.
General de Marnhac congratulated the people of Lipljan/Lipjan on the responsibility and maturity they had shown during the Declaration of Independence celebrations. He referred to the challenges faced by Kosovo/Kosova, namely the implementation of the Constitution and the upcoming Donor's Conference, and said that the international community and the authorities in Kosovo/Kosova must work hard to set the conditions for improvement.

Highlights: Meeting international authorities

On September 17, 2007, COMKFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac met with Supreme Allied Commander Europe General John Craddok during his visit to Kosovo.

On October 18, 2007, COMKFOR General de Marnhac met with representatives of the NATO Military Committee at HQ, Camp Film City, Pristina/Prishtine.

The NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer made a visit to Kosovo Force Headquarters Nov. 30, 2007, at Camp Film City, Pristina/Prishtine.
During the visit, Mr. Scheffer met with Commander KFOR Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac, and the members of the Unity Team: President Fatmir Sejdiu, Prime Minister Agim Ceku, the Speaker of Parliament Mr. Kole Berisha, President of Democratic Party of Kosovo Mr. Hashim Thaci and the president's political Advisor Mr. Skender Hyseni, as well as with leaders of the Serb community in Kosovo.

On Janury 29, Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac met at KFOR Headquarters with Austrian Commander of the Joint Armed Forces Command, Lt. Gen. Günter Höfler.

On May 8, Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac and Lieutenant General Zdravko Ponos, Chief of Serbian Armed Forces General Staff, met in NIS (Serbia).
Generals de Marnhac and Ponos discussed about the security situation along the administrative boundary and the respective area of responsibility of Serbian Armed Forces (SAF) and KFOR.
The two generals underlined the importance of a regular cooperation as well as opened and professional relations between KFOR and SAF at all levels.
They strongly emphasized the need of constant exchange of information as well as performing joint activities and synchronized patrols along the administrative boundary.

On the 15th of May 2008, Commander Allied Joint Force Command Headquarters Naples Admiral Mark Fitzgerald visited Kosovo Force. He met Lieutenant General de Marnhac, COMKFOR, and other officials. He also met soldiers on the field. Furthermore, the JFC Commander visited Mitrovica, where he discussed with municipal leaders regarding the security situation in Kosovo north. At the end of the visit, Admiral Mark Fitzgerald met the media at Slatina Airport. KFOR will continue its mandate based on 1244 UN Resolution until a decision is made for any change, whereas the political developments after June 15 when the Kosovo Constitution comes into force, will be decisional for the future of NATO troops in Kosovo, said Admiral Fitzgerald.

June, 3, 2008. Commander of Kosovo Force Lieutenant General Xavier de Marnhac and French Armed Forces Chief of Staff General GEORGELIN visited the French soldiers, based in Mitrovica/Mitrovice. Then, the Generals came to "Courthouse", where the Portuguese soldiers from KTM are on duty.

On June 23, 2008, NATO Secretary General, Mr. Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, made a visit to Kosovo. During his visit, the Secretary General met with the KFOR Commander, Lieutenant General de Marnhac, to assess the security situation, which COMKFOR assessed as calm but fragile. The Secretary General also met with President Fatmir Sejdiu and Prime Minister Hashim Thaci, and expressed NATO's commitment to ensure a safe and secure environment throughout Kosovo, according to the United Nations Security Council Resolution 1244. The Secretary General held talks with the incoming Special Representative of the UN Secretary General, Mr. Zannier, the head of EULEX and the Deputy Head of the International Civilian Office (ICO), to clarify the roles and responsibilities of the various international organizations on the ground during this transitional period.

KOSOVO FORCE
PEACE WITH DETERMINATION

In Memoriam

As a last thought to the 166 KFOR soldiers who lost their lives in Kosovo: "You will be always be remembered"

KFOR CHRONICLE

Commander KFOR:
Lt. Gen. Xavier de Marnhac, FRA Army

Chief Public Information:
Col. Jean Luc Cotard FRA Army

Chief Internal Information & Editor in Chief:
Maj. Andreas Brückner, AUT Army
brueckner a@hq.kfor.nato.int

Journalist
Maj. Oleksii Morozov, UKR Army

Photographer & Layout
Mr. Armend Aqifi

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

Thank you for your support:
Combat Camera Team
PAO interpreters

Contact KFOR Chronicle:
Phone Int: +389 2268 2897
Kos.: (038) 503 603 2897
KPN: 2897, 2402
FAX Int: +389 2268 2752
E-mail:
kforchronicle@hq.kfor.nato.int
Internet: www.nato.int/kfor

PRESENTED BY THE COMMANDER
KFOR
NATO-OTAN
LTG XAVIER de MARNHAC