

MINISTRY FOR THE KOSOVO SECURITY FORCE

From the Minister's Desk



Dear friends, welcome to the 6th edition of the KSF's newsletter.

Even though we are witnessing high temperatures that last for days and even weeks, I am pleased to announce that we did not have major fire intervention. Nevertheless, KSF has issued high preparedness procedures if such intervention is required for us to perform. Beside this, we had a quite busy month that includes winning medals from a march in the Netherlands, international visits, a farewell ceremony, received equipment donations from the USA and the Netherlands, supported blood donation action and many other important activities.

Have a pleasant reading,

Sincerely Yours

AGIM ÇEKU

CHIEF OF GENERAL STAFF OF MACEDONIAN ARMY VISITS KOSOVO

On the 3rd of July, Chief of General Staff of the Macedonian Armed Forces, Major General Gorancho Koteski, visited the Ministry for KSF and met with Minister Agim Ceku and Commander of the KSF, Lieutenant General Kadri Kastrati. During the meetings bilateral cooperation and the exchange of experience in fields of education and training were discussed. The KSF was offered to use the Training Center in Krivollak, Macedonia for training needs. Major General Koteski expressed the hope that Kosovo will become bigger exporter of security and contributor to future stability world-wide.



MKSF THANKS THE DUTCH DEFENSE ATTACHÉ

During a goodbye visit, KSF Minister Agim Ceku welcomed the Dutch military attaché Lieutenant Commander Ton Koedam. Minister Ceku expressed his personal and the gratitude of the KSF for the great mutual cooperation between the KSF and the Royal Netherlands Army. Lieutenant Commander Koedam said that it was a pleasure to be a military attaché in Kosovo and cooperate with the KSF. He also pointed out that the KSF has achieved remarkable progress in developing its core missions.



OFFICIAL CEREMONY HELD IN HONOR OF THE END OF MISSION FOR AMBASSADOR AND DEFENSE ATTACHÉ OF THE USA

On The 27th of July, the Ministry of KSF organized the farewell ceremony in honor of US Ambassador Christopher Dell and Defense Attaché Colonel Arthur Beauchamp. Christopher Dell and U.S. Army Attaché, Colonel Arthur Beauchamp were decorated with medals for their service, support and contribution to the KSF. Minister Ceku expressed his gratitude for tireless efforts of Ambassador Dell and Colonel Beauchamp that form the foundation of the growing relationship between the United States of America and Kosovo. “The two men we honor today are both exemplary and distinguished representatives of their country. Progress and achievements of the KSF are also result of your dedicated work and efforts,” said Ceku.



U.S. EMBASSY DONATES EQUIPMENT TO AID COUNTER-PROLIFERATION EFFORTS IN KOSOVO AND THE NETHERLANDS DONATES SPORTS EQUIPMENT

The U.S. Embassy donated \$364,396 in equipment to the Government of Kosovo to aid in counter-proliferation. The United States' donation of inspection and detection equipment, along with expert training, will ensure that Kosovo's law enforcement officers have the tools they need to more effectively control exports of sensitive and potentially dangerous equipment. The new training and improved equipment will also help Kosovo officials in their efforts to investigate potential Weapons of Mass Destruction-related incidents along Kosovo's border.



In July the KSF acquired sports equipment donated by the Kingdom of Netherlands. The donated equipment is worth 15 000 euro and will be used by the Command of Rapid Reaction Brigade and 2nd Battalion of Rapid Reaction Brigade located in Istog. The Kingdom of Netherlands regularly supports the KSF by offering training possibilities and conducting humanitarian projects.



KSF MEMBERS SUPPORT BLOOD DONATION ACTIVITY

In July many members of the KSF responded to humanitarian action for blood donation organized by National Center for Blood Transfusion. During the blood drive the KSF donated over 450 units of blood. The KSF also provided several units of antidote serum to the Clinical University Center of Kosovo. This is the fourth blood drive this year supported by members of the KSF and is a great example for the citizens of Kosovo.



MEMBERS OF KSF BRING MEDALS FROM THE TRADITIONAL MARCH IN THE NETHERLANDS

From 19th until 23rd of July, 18 members of the KSF took part in the traditional march in Nijmegen, Netherlands. 5 thousand soldiers from different countries participated in the march that lasted four days; each day 40 km were covered. This was the second year the KSF participated and returned home with individual medals and certificates as well as with a medal for the best team.



Chief of Staff of the Italian Army General Abrate Biagio visits KSF

On the 27th of July, Italian Army's Chief of Staff General Biagio visited KSF. Minister Ceku and other high KSF officials including Deputy Minister Shemsi Veseli, General Imri Iliazi expressed KSF's gratitude for the Italian Government and the Army that is reflected by continuous support towards KSF and the Republic of Kosovo.

