

## MINISTRY FOR THE KOSOVO SECURITY FORCE

### From the Minister's Desk



Dear friends, welcome to the 5<sup>th</sup> edition of the KSF's newsletter.

Welcome to the summer edition of our newsletter. Regardless of high summer temperatures, KSF members continue to complete CIMIC projects that require fieldwork without any issues. On the other hand, we have been invited to visit NATO HQ where we conveyed our vision for further development of KSF. We also are proud to have new-graduated officers who will continue to offer their professional skills to KSF in years to come. There are other important activities of KSF that are presented in this newsletter.

Enjoy the summer days and have a pleasant reading.

Sincerely Yours

**AGIM ÇEKU**

## ADMIRAL MONTGOMERY VISITS THE MINISTRY FOR KOSOVO SECURITY FORCE

On the 11<sup>th</sup> of June, Rear Admiral Mark Montgomery, Deputy Director of Plans, Policy and Strategy of United States European Command (EUCOM) visited the Ministry of KSF, where he met Minister Agim Ceku and KSF Commander Lt. Gen. Kadri Kastrati. During the visit Rear Admiral Montgomery confirmed the support of EUCOM in training and education of members of the KSF. Minister A. Ceku thanked the United States for the continuing support provided for the KSF. Minister also informed about the process of building up the KSF and the ongoing Strategic Security Sector Strategy Revision.



### **Minister Ceku Informs NATO and EU military Committees about KSF's Progress**

On the 12<sup>th</sup> of June, Minister Agim Ceku met with members of NATO and EU Military Committees in order to brief them on the current situation of the Kosovo Security Forces. Minister Ceku appreciated the cooperation of NATO and further expressed his expectation that NATO in would approve Full Operational Capability near future. Also, Minister Agim Ceku emphasized the readiness of the KSF to participate in peace operations wherever it is needed and he informed them about the vision and future of the KSF.

## MINISTER ÇEKU VISITED NATO HQ

The Minister for Kosovo Security Force Mr. Agim Çeku visited NATO HQ on 14<sup>th</sup> of June. The Deputy General Secretary, Ambassador Alexander Vershbow, invited Minister Çeku for a working visit. Mr. Çeku had meetings with permanent ambassadors from NATO member countries, and also with Mr. Frank Bolland who is the director of force planning in the department for planning and policy. Development of KSF was the main discussion topic in every meeting.



## MKSF DEEPENS THE COOPERATION WITH CROATIAN MINISTRY OF DEFENSE

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June, Minister Agim Ceku and Commander of the KSF Lieutenant General Kadri Kastrati visited the Ministry of Defence of Croatia in order to sign the Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of the KSF and Croatian Ministry of Defence. The signed document includes cooperation between both institutions in such fields as planning, programming and budgeting; education and training; exercises; crises management; medical training and others. “We are ready to assist the Kosovo Security Force, while the agreement will contribute to strengthening the security throughout region”, said the Croatian Minister of Defense Ante Kotromanovic.

Earlier this month Lieutenant General Drago Lovrić, Chief of General Staff of the Croatian Armed Forces, visited the Ministry for Kosovo Security Force to discuss the current cooperation and the possibilities of enhanced cooperation in the future. Commander of the KSF K. Kastrati informed the Croatian delegation about the process of standing up the KSF and its development objectives.





## KOSOVO SECURITY FORCE RENOVATES CENTRE OF MOTHER AND CHILD CARE

On the 15<sup>th</sup> of June Deputy Minister of the KSF Shemsi Veseli and U.S. Chargé d'Affaires Michael Murphy visited Women and Children's Shelter in Pristina that was recently renovated with assistance of the KSF and Humanitarian Assistance Fund of United States European Command (EUCOM). The project was financially supported by EUCOM, whereas engineers of Kosovo Security Force conducted the renovation works spending more than 700 hours. In his speech M. Murphy stressed that the jointly conducted project demonstrates partnership between the United States and Kosovo as well as the further development of the KSF into a modern security force. "Humanitarian operations are part of what a security force does. Our Defense Department does them all the time," pointed Mr. Murphy.



## KSF TAKES PART IN AN INTERNATIONAL FIELD EXERCISE “SUMMER CAMP 2012” IN MACEDONIA

On 19<sup>th</sup> of June, KSF cadets were invited by the Macedonian Ministry of Defence to participate in an international two weeks field exercise “Summer Camp 2012” which was held in Krivolak.

In this field exercise, invitation was also send to: Albania, Bulgaria, Slovenia, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Croatia, Estonia, Greece, Moldova, Montenegro, Serbia, Turkey, and USA.

COMKSF greeted the cadets before they left for Macedonian Military field training camp Krivolak for a second time and reminded them to show their professionalism while representing KSF and Kosovo. Additionally, he also recommended them to be opened and to create new bridges of friendship with cadets from other participant countries.





## NEW GENERATION OF KSF GRADUATED OFFICERS

On the 27<sup>th</sup> of June, in the TRADOC, Ferizaj, a graduation ceremony was held in honour of the class 2012. Cadets from the Centre for the University Studies (Ferizaj) graduated. Minister for KSF Mr. Agim Çeku together with COMKSF, COMKFOR, Deputy Commander of the LFC, members of the parliamentary commission for KSF supervision, Cadet's families and others. Minister Çeku held a speech where he thanked the Cadets for giving such amazing view, which makes everyone proud and he also mentioned that they are strengthening the KSF by being part of educated officers according to the NATO standards. Minister Çeku also thanked the TRADOC, American University of Kosovo and Cadet's family members for being meritorious for this important day. At the end, he gave few tips to new officers from his own military experience that he hopes they could use it in a best way possible.



## Noncommissioned Officers Training in Germany

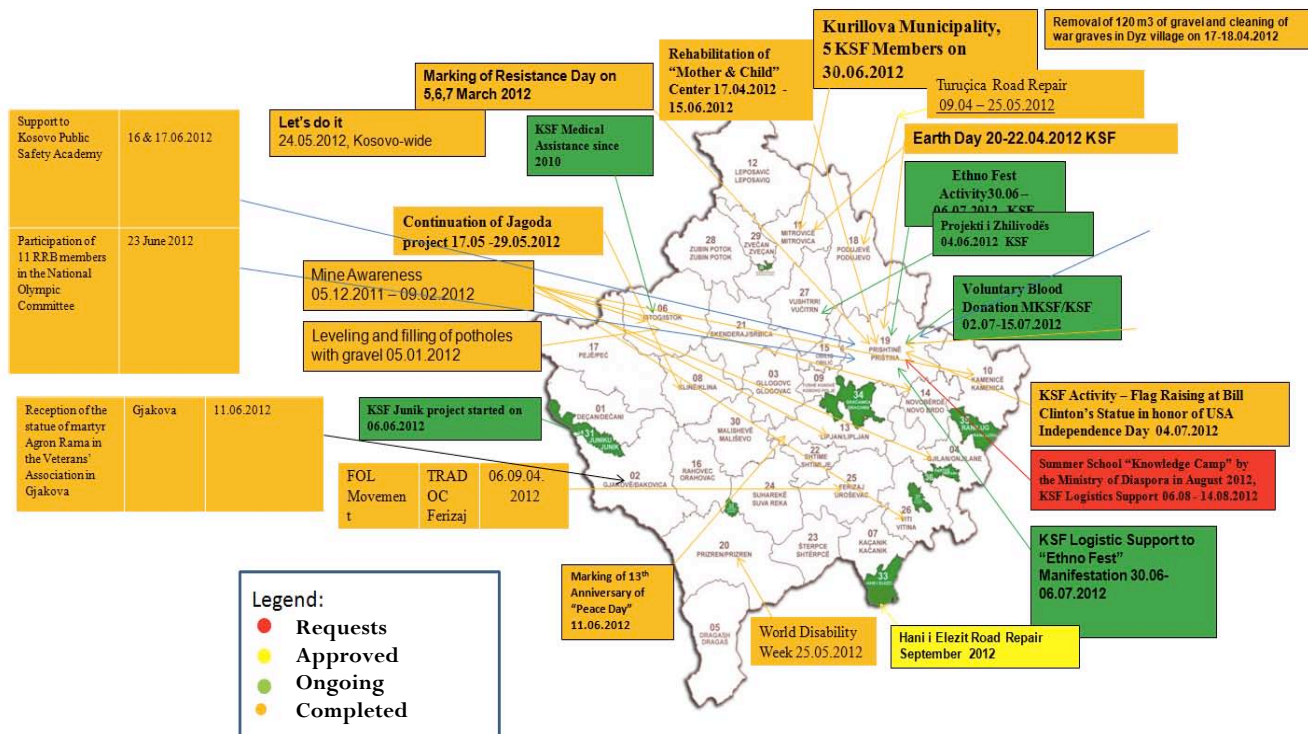
On the 25<sup>th</sup> of June, a 90 KSF officers are back from three weeks training in the Non Commissioned Officer Academy in the International Training Centre located in Grafenworth Germany. This training was highly important for KSF because the final evaluation was 30% higher than the one predicted by NATO. MKSF organized a welcome back ceremony in the LFC where COMKSF thanked USA and Germany offering continuous support for KSF development. He said, "This is an important training for KSF which is part of one of my objectives about developing the non - commissioned officer structure."

### Road Construction in Junik

On the 22<sup>nd</sup> of June, GENIO unit after finishing up with the Turiqica project, continued to develop until now the biggest project, the opening of a 14 km long road in the Municipality of Junik. The CIMIC department and KSF engineers are carrying out this project successfully. Minister Çeku, COMKSF and other high MKSF officials did visit the road construction place. They were welcomed by the head of Junik Municipality Mr. Agron Kuçi who thanked them for undertaking such important project which also covers villages such as: Jasiq, Gjocaj, Zharrë, Livadhi i Madh and Koshare.



## CIMIC PROJECTS





### **Denmark Donates Books for the Land Force Command's Library**

In June KSF Library received the second donation of 420 books from the Kingdom of Denmark. First donation of the books took place early this year when the Royal College of Denmark Defense supplied the KSF Library with around 600 books in English which members of KSF can use for their professional needs.



### **The KSF Helps to Search Missing Persons in Zhilivoda**

In June excavation works for search of human remains were restarted in the village of Zhilivoda, in the place where it is alleged that there are remains of the last war in Kosovo. The excavations have reached to 25 metres and are being carried out by the Kosovo Security Force. According to Prenk Gjetaj, the chairman of the Government Commission for Missing