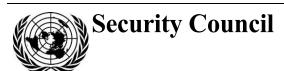
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Letter dated 3 December 2020 from the Secretary-General addressed to the President of the Security Council

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to transmit the attached letters, dated 3 August 2020 and 24 November 2020, from the Secretary-General of the North Atlantic Treaty Organization, Jens Stoltenberg, each transmitting a report on the international security presence in Kosovo, covering the periods from 1 April to 30 June 2020 and from 1 July to 30 September 2020 (see annexes I and II).

I would be grateful if you could bring the present letter and its annexes to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) António Guterres





Annex I

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), please find attached the quarterly report on Kosovo Force operations covering the period from 1 April to 30 June 2020 (see enclosure). I would appreciate your making the report available to the members of the Council.

(Signed) Jens Stoltenberg

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Enclosure

Report to the United Nations on Kosovo Force operations

Introduction

- 1. The present report is submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and covers Kosovo Force (KFOR) activities during the period from 1 April to 30 June 2020.
- 2. As at 30 June 2020, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remained approximately 3,600, from 19 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 8 non-NATO troop-contributing nations.
- 3. There were no major security incidents during the reporting period and no requests for KFOR to intervene as a third security responder.

Security situation update and operations

- 4. During the reporting period, there was no significant change to the overall security situation in Kosovo, which remained generally calm but fragile. This is owing to unresolved political and inter-ethnic issues and the lack of progress in the European Union-sponsored normalization process between Belgrade and Pristina.
- 5. KFOR continued to conduct routine framework operations across the KFOR area of operations, while maintaining a proactive and flexible force posture. KFOR applied preventive measures in conducting its activities in order to protect the force in the wake of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, while at the same time demonstrating its capability as a third security responder and highlighting its role as an impartial stabilizing factor. KFOR remains mission effective.
- 6. KFOR continued to maintain its close cooperation with other security providers in the Balkans joint operations area.

Summary

7. During the reporting period, KFOR continued to fulfil its mandate under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) to maintain both a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement as part of a comprehensive international effort. The close coordination and cooperation at the tactical level between KFOR, the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) and the Kosovo police was effective.

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Annex II

In accordance with paragraph 20 of Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), please find attached the quarterly report on Kosovo Force operations covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2020 (see enclosure). I would appreciate your making the report available to the members of the Council.

(Signed) Jens Stoltenberg

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Enclosure

Report to the United Nations on Kosovo Force operations

- 1. The present report is submitted in accordance with Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) and covers Kosovo Force (KFOR) activities during the period from 1 July to 30 September 2020.
- 2. As at 30 September 2020, the total number of KFOR troops in theatre remained approximately 3,400, from 18 North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) and 8 non-NATO troop-contributing nations.
- 3. There were no major security incidents during the reporting period and no requests for KFOR to intervene as a third security responder.

Security situation update and operations

- 4. During the reporting period, there was no significant change to the overall security situation in Kosovo, which remained generally calm but fragile. This is owing to unresolved political and inter-ethnic issues. After being stalled for months, the dialogue facilitated by the European Union between Belgrade and Pristina resumed in July. On 4 September, the United States of America brokered economic normalization agreements with Belgrade and Pristina to contribute to regional prosperity, stability and security.
- 5. Demonstrations organized by the Kosovo Liberation Army War Veterans Organization and the Association of Political Prisoners against the possible indictment of former Kosovo Liberation Army fighters took place on 9 July without incident.
- 6. KFOR continued to conduct routine framework operations across the KFOR area of operations, while maintaining a proactive and flexible force posture. Since the outbreak of the coronavirus disease (COVID-19) pandemic, KFOR has maintained its ability to conduct its day-to-day operations. At the same time, it has provided assistance to local institutions in Kosovo in different communities and municipalities, including donating significant amounts of personal protective equipment. KFOR has been fully implementing the preventive measures recommended by the World Health Organization for the protection of military personnel.
- 7. KFOR continued to maintain its close cooperation with other security providers in the Balkans joint operations area. On 11 July, in an exchange of letters with the European Union High Representative for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy, Josep Borrell, Mr. Thaci confirmed a one-year extension of the mandate of the European Union Rule of Law Mission in Kosovo (EULEX) until 14 June 2021.

Summary

8. During the reporting period, KFOR continued to fulfil its mandate under Security Council resolution 1244 (1999) to maintain both a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement as part of a comprehensive international effort. The close coordination and cooperation at the tactical level between KFOR, EULEX and the Kosovo police was effective.

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