

**Security Council**

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**Letter dated 8 February 2010 from the Secretary-General
addressed to the President of the Security Council**

Pursuant to Security Council resolution 1244 (1999), I have the honour to convey the attached report on the international security presence in Kosovo covering the period from 1 July to 30 September 2009 (annex I) as well as the four previous reports (annexes II to V).

I should be grateful if you would bring these reports to the attention of the members of the Security Council.

(Signed) **BAN** Ki-moon



Annex I

[Original: English]

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force

1 July-30 September 2009

1. This report covers the period from 1 July to 30 September 2009.
2. As at 30 September, the total number of troops in theatre was 13,100. This number includes 2,300 troops from non-NATO countries.
3. The Croatian helicopter units deployed to the Kosovo Force (KFOR) declared full operating capability on 9 July. The last soldier from the Spanish military contingent left the KFOR area of operations on 17 September.

Security situation

4. The overall security situation remained relatively calm Kosovo-wide. However, some events indicate that the situation remains fragile, particularly in the north. In general terms, the lack of improvements on the social and economic fronts continues to frustrate the population in Kosovo. The KFOR threat levels remained unchanged since the last reporting period.
5. The Kosovo Electricity Company continued its policy of disconnecting power supplies to villages where the residents are not paying their bills. This generated protests against the Company, mostly peaceful. In some areas, payment contracts were signed, and protests have stopped. Kosovo Albanian and Kosovo Serb workers continued the re-construction projects in Kroji i Vitkut in northern Kosovo, but without any violence. A technical agreement on police cooperation or "Police Protocol", negotiated between the European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX) and Serbia and signed on 11 September, sparked demonstrations and attacks against EULEX property (mainly vehicles), primarily in the Pristina area. On 28 September, 27 members of the Self-Determination Movement were charged by the Kosovo Public Prosecutor's Office with destruction of property and participation in a group committing criminal acts.
6. The level of criminal activity remained stable over the reporting period. The number of crimes reported in September 2009 has decreased compared to the previous months. The number of attacks against EULEX property was higher than normal levels for the second consecutive month (ranging from writing graffiti to gunfire).
7. On 14 July, the first joint synchronized patrol with Montenegro was performed very collaboratively in the Kuciste Pass area.
8. On 15 July, the Kosovo police responded to a protest involving 50 former Kosovo Liberation Army (KLA) members in Pristina. The protesters were blocking the road to express dissatisfaction with the institutions in Kosovo. Through negotiations, the Kosovo Police re-established freedom of movement by early evening without further incidents. On 16 July, approximately 20 former KLA protesters gathered again and threw four Molotov cocktails which damaged buildings in Pristina.

9. On 22 and 23 July, different groups of approximately 120 residents of Strpce protested against the Electricity Company's disconnection policy. Local leaders were present and negotiated with the company. Although negotiations were unsuccessful at that time, the situation remained calm and the crowds eventually dispersed. The Strpce municipal president signed a collective payment agreement on behalf of the residents on 30 July and residents began paying for electricity.
10. On 4 August, approximately 20 Kosovo Serbs gathered and threw stones at Kosovo Albanian workers who were near the Kosovo Serb area in Kroji i Vitakut. The Kosovo Police and EULEX were present and maintained control.
11. On 16 August, Kosovo Serbs held local "parallel" elections in Pristina and Pec municipalities. The elections were conducted peacefully.
12. On 16 August, a demonstration occurred outside of the Kosovo Police Station in northern Mitrovica. Approximately 30 Kosovo Serbs took control of the station in an attempt to secure the release of a Kosovo Serb radical party member who had been arrested for being drunk and disorderly. Reinforcement Kosovo Police officers were called from Zubin Potok and the Kosovo Police quickly regained control of the situation and the crowd dispersed. There were no injuries or damage.
13. On 25 August, approximately 70 Kosovo Albanian workers and a group of approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs, 50 of them workmen, clashed as a result of contentious home building in the area of Kroji i Vitakut. During the altercation, stones were thrown by both groups. A grenade was also thrown and shots were fired by someone in the crowd. EULEX responded by using tear gas. The crowds dispersed without injury. KFOR was on immediate standby but its assistance was not required. There was another demonstration involving approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs on 26 August. The Kosovo Police and EULEX secured the area. No incidents were reported and the protest ended peacefully. During the period 28 to 30 August, more protests occurred, but did not prevent reconstructions from being carried out. Throughout, the Kosovo Police and EULEX were present and no violence was reported. KFOR remained in its third responder role.
14. On 28 August, approximately 60 Kosovo Serb pilgrims held a religious service in an Orthodox church in Djakovica. Approximately 100 local Kosovo Albanians gathered to protest. Stones were thrown at a Serb delegation car; the worshippers were able to leave the church without further incident.
15. On 7 September, a hand grenade was thrown and exploded in the vicinity of a house of the civilian Kosovo Police worker in Mitrovica. No injuries were reported and investigations are ongoing. Another hand grenade was thrown and exploded at a private residence in Ferizaj on 9 September. Again, no injuries were reported and investigations are ongoing.
16. On 14 September, approximately 1,000 people representing a number of non-governmental organizations demonstrated outside the National Library in Pristina, mainly against the signing of the Police Protocol between EULEX and Serbia.
17. On 15 September, approximately 270 anti-tank mines were found by a roadside in the Dulje Pass. A KFOR explosive ordnance disposal team destroyed 14 of the mines in situ as they were damaged and unsafe to transport, the remainder were taken to Film City for disposal.

18. On 16 September, Molotov cocktails were thrown against two EULEX cars in the Gnjilane area. The interior of one vehicle was completely destroyed, the other suffered only minor damage as the device failed to ignite.

KFOR operations

19. Lieutenant General Marcus Bentler (Germany) assumed Command of KFOR from Lieutenant General Giuseppe Emilio Gay (Italy) at a change of command ceremony on 8 September at Film City, Pristina.

20. Operation Red Knight III remained the basis of KFOR manoeuvres throughout Kosovo. This operation is intelligence focused, aimed at using KFOR intelligence and manoeuvre forces as sensors, while maintaining a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement; and standing ready to assist the Kosovo Police and EULEX in a third responder position upon request.

21. On 28 September, KFOR started the deployment phase of an operational rehearsal level 3 for the German/Austrian operational reserve force battalion.

New tasks of NATO

Kosovo Security Force

22. Overall, the stand-up of the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) continued to progress smoothly and the Force reached initial operating capability on 15 September. The recruitment phase for the first KSF Cadet programme is currently ongoing. A Personnel Selection Board selected 10 candidates and two reserves for the KSF university cadet programme.

23. On 14 August, the NATO training team moved to the National Training Centre in Camp Ferizaj and training formally started at the camp on 17 August. A role one medical aid station, donated by Finland, was delivered to KSF on 18 August. Finnish medical and logistic staff are assisting with the initial set-up and training. Since mid-August, 1,291 students have entered training at Camp Ferizaj, of whom 1,231 reached the course standard (representing a total pass rate of just over 95 per cent). A little more than 4 per cent were women and 7 per cent were from ethnic minorities.

24. The KSF exercise Agile Lion was conducted from 31 August to 4 September. Over 400 KSF personnel were involved, primarily from the Civil Protection Regiment. The focus was on the demonstration of response capabilities in the four core civil protection capabilities, including: demining, search and rescue, firefighting and hazardous material containment, as well as command and control and logistics. Weapons procurement, and development of logistics and communications and information systems concepts are ongoing according to schedule.

Kosovo Protection Corps

25. All equipment previously under the control of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) and not required for the Kosovo Security Force was disposed of and all weapons were destroyed, except those that were designated for the museum or that were returned to individuals under an agreement between the Commander of KFOR and the Special Representative of the Secretary-General. The United Nations

Development Programme resettlement programme continues to be conducted very satisfactorily and has already proved to be successful.

Conclusion

26. The overall situation in Kosovo remained relatively quiet during the reporting period, despite some tensions mainly surrounding electricity concerns and actions against EULEX. KFOR will maintain its third responder status and will remain ready to assist upon request. Following a decision by the North Atlantic Council in August 2009, KFOR started to implement the move to “Transition Gate 1”, whereby the number of troops in theatre is to be reduced to 10,000 by early 2010.

Annex II

[Original: English]

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force**1 April-30 June 2009**

1. This report covers the period from 1 April to 30 June 2009.
2. As at 30 June, the total number of troops in theatre was 13,450. This number includes 2,160 troops from non-NATO countries.
3. On 8 June, the advance party of the new Croatian helicopter unit in the Kosovo Force (KFOR) deployed to Camp Bondsteel (Multinational Task Force East). The unit has been operational since 29 June, with two Mi-17 helicopters and 20 personnel, for service within the KFOR area of responsibility.

Security situation

4. The overall security situation remained relatively calm Kosovo-wide, with some tensions in the north, mainly due to the house reconstruction project in the suburbs of Mitrovica that started on 23 April. The threat levels against KFOR remained unchanged. There were no reports of significant violence and/or threats against KFOR during the reporting period.
5. Some symbolic events, such as the first anniversary of the entry into force of Kosovo's Constitution on 15 June 2009 and the Vidovdan commemoration on 28 June 2009 passed peacefully, with the Kosovo Police and the European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX) enforcing the rule of law.
6. The reconstruction of houses in the north sparked some violent demonstrations, resulting in the use of tear gas by the Kosovo Police and EULEX to disperse the protesters. KFOR assisted in support of the Kosovo Police and EULEX on some occasions. Since the end of May 2009, the roads leading to Gates 1 and 31 have repeatedly been blocked to prevent EULEX Customs officers from carrying out their duties (blockades are ongoing). KFOR supported EULEX with helicopter transport for EULEX teams, and remains ready to assist EULEX in removing the roadblocks and enforcing freedom of movement.
7. The level of criminal activity remained constant over the reporting period, with no significant changes in the number of reported incidents compared to the period from January to March 2009. In May and June 2009, a total of 11 EULEX vehicles and one UNMIK vehicle were damaged by unknown perpetrators.
8. On 24 April, an inter-ethnic incident occurred in Mitrovica (Multinational Task Force North), when a group of six Kosovo Serbs damaged the house of a Kosovo Albanian and injured the owner's son.
9. On 27 April, around 200 Kosovo Serbs protested in Mitrovica against the reconstruction of Kosovo Albanian houses in Kroi i Vitakut. The protesters attempted to gain access to the construction site. EULEX used tear gas to prevent the protesters' access to Kroi i Vitakut. The protesters threw stones at EULEX and Multinational Task Force North personnel. EULEX and KFOR responded robustly

and the situation calmed down. During the incident, a KFOR patrol was hit by stones and two soldiers were slightly injured. EULEX reported three shots hitting a EULEX armoured personnel carrier, as well as hand grenades being thrown. No casualties were reported.

10. On 28 April, approximately 30 Kosovo Serbs protested in the Prats area of Mitrovica. The protesters were stopped by a KFOR French Battalion platoon using tear gas. Two EULEX vehicles were slightly damaged by stones thrown by the protesters. The next day, approximately 60 Kosovo Serbs protested in the same area. Initially 20 protesters moved towards the EULEX integrated police unit line, where they were stopped twice by use of tear gas. The protesters then moved to the Three Towers area, where they dispersed and the protest ended.

11. On 30 April, approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs gathered in the Kroji Vitakut area to protest against the reconstruction of Kosovo Albanian houses. The protesters were stopped by EULEX. As they tried to cross the EULEX line they were dispersed with tear gas and the demonstration ended. On the same day, three armoured personnel carriers of the Romanian formed police unit going to the Mitrovica courthouse were hit by three Molotov cocktails near Little Bosnia. No injuries were reported, but there was minor damage to one of the vehicles.

12. On 1 May, 150 Kosovo Serb protesters advanced through a Kosovo Police line, but were subsequently stopped by EULEX using tear gas. Kosovo Serbs also threw stones at KFOR troops. The latter used tear gas to disperse the crowd. No injuries were reported.

13. On 4 May, approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs gathered in the Suvi Do area of Mitrovica to protest against the reconstruction of Kosovo Albanian houses. The protesters attempted to cross the Kosovo Police and EULEX lines, but were dispersed using tear gas. One protester was treated for minor injuries.

14. On 5 May, there was another protest in Kroji Vitakut against the reconstruction. Approximately 80 Kosovo Serb protesters broke through the Kosovo Police line and tried to move towards the construction site. EULEX stopped the protesters using tear gas. The next day, the Kosovo Police and EULEX used tear gas again to stop some 100 Kosovo Serb protesters. On 7 May, the protesters threw stones at EULEX. Tear gas was used to contain the situation. On 8 May, in Prats, the protesters broke the police line heading to the construction area. EULEX stopped them 100 metres away from the construction area and forced them back. No casualties or injuries were reported.

15. On 10 May, approximately 200 Kosovo Serbs gathered in Kamenica to protest against the Kosovo Electricity Company. They threw stones at the Kosovo Police. Ten police officers were slightly injured and five protesters were arrested. The demonstration ended without further incident.

16. On 13 May, following the signature of an agreement to allow house reconstruction by both Kosovo Serbs and Kosovo Albanians in the Kroji Vitakut area, Kosovo Serbs started rebuilding five houses without further protests reported. EULEX closely monitored the situation.

17. On 22 May, 300 to 400 protesters with eight to nine fuel trucks blocked the road to Gate 31 in Zubin Potok (Multinational Task Force North). The protest ended after a few hours without incident.

18. On 25 June, about 40 protesters gathered at Rudare, on the Mitrovica-Leposavic highway (Multinational Task Force North), in order to block EULEX vehicles. Kosovo Police officers were on the spot to control the traffic. The situation remained calm and quiet. The protest finally ended peacefully in the night.

19. On 26 June, while escorting Customs officers to Gate 1, an integrated police unit platoon was stopped in the area of Leposavic by around 50 people who protested against EULEX Customs procedures at Gates 1 and 31. The EULEX group returned to the United Nations Logistics Base in Mitrovica. During the night of 24 to 25 June, 10 EULEX vehicles were damaged by unknown people. The Kosovo Police are still investigating the incident.

20. On 29 June, approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs gathered and blocked the road from Zubin Potok to Gate 31 to prevent the passage of EULEX vehicles to protest against the Customs procedures established at Gates 1 and 31. Approximately 20 Kosovo Serbs blocked the Mitrovica-Leposavic highway for the same reason.

KFOR operations

21. Operation Red Knight III remained the basis of KFOR manoeuvres throughout Kosovo. KFOR conducted an operational rehearsal level 1 for the German/Austrian operational reserve force battalion from 25 to 31 May, to prepare for an envisaged deployment in the last quarter of the year. In June, KFOR issued a fragmentary order to be ready to assist the institutions in Kosovo with firefighting activities during the summer season.

22. On 22 June, KFOR issued fragmentary order "Vidovdan Day Celebration" to conduct enhanced security operations in support, as a third responder, of the Kosovo Police and EULEX and to help maintain a safe and secure environment during the Vidovdan march and commemoration. The Kosovo Police made their corresponding standard operating procedures available for KFOR and EULEX. The celebration ended peacefully with a ceremony in Gazimestan, with approximately 3,000 participants.

23. On 29 June, another fragmentary order was released to support EULEX in the removal of the roadblocks, thereby ensuring freedom of movement along main supply routes leading to Gates 1 and 31, which were being regularly blocked by Kosovo Serb protesters.

New tasks of NATO

Kosovo Security Force

24. The civilian selection process for the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) was completed in mid-April in accordance with planned timelines. Of a total of 4,925 applicants, 4,025 were screened and 889 selected for medical screening. In the end, 420 applicants were selected to take part in the first training course. Letters inviting 323 additional former members of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) to undertake KSF training were sent out at the end of April. Those 323 former KPC members will undergo training in September 2009 to form a pool to backfill posts left vacant by KPC members who were selected for KSF but who fail their training or voluntarily withdraw from KSF.

25. On 26 May, the first mentoring seminar with both KFOR and KSF attendees took place. On 29 May, the first mentoring team began working with the KSF Land Force Command Headquarters. The mentoring programme is ongoing with three teams in place, one at the Land Force Command Headquarters, the second at the Training and Doctrine Command, and the third at the KSF Operations Support Brigade.

26. On 17 June, the KSF civil protection regiment in Pomazatin hosted an open house and gave briefings and demonstrations. This was the first open house event. A graduation ceremony for 109 recruits was held on 24 June in Vushtrri. The formal opening of the Ferizaj Training Centre is planned for 17 August. As of now, 10 basic courses and 1 refresher course have been delivered since training started, with a pass rate close to 95 per cent.

Kosovo Protection Corps

27. The Kosovo Protection Corps was formally dissolved at midnight on 14 June as planned. The destruction of KPC weapons or their transfer to the Kosovo Security Force was finalized on 15 June. The UNDP-led resettlement programme for former members is being conducted very satisfactorily. Of former KPC members not selected for the Kosovo Security Force, 95 per cent have applied for the resettlement programme.

Conclusion

28. The overall situation in Kosovo remained relatively quiet during the reporting period, but tense in the north. Further threats and actions against EULEX in the north are likely, in particular at Gates 1 and 31. KFOR will maintain its third responder status and will remain ready to assist upon request. The formal KPC stand-down was successfully completed, and the stand-up of the Kosovo Security Force is progressing according to plan.

Annex III

[Original: English]

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force**1 January-31 March 2009**

1. This report covers the period from 1 January to 31 March 2009.
2. As at 31 March, the total number of troops in theatre was 14,334. This number includes 2,340 troops from non-NATO countries.

Security situation

3. The overall security situation over the reporting period remained relatively calm Kosovo-wide, with some tensions in the north, and the threat level against the Kosovo Force (KFOR) remained unchanged. The reconstruction of Kosovo Albanian houses in the suburbs of Mitrovica, scheduled to start in April, is perceived as a potential flashpoint for future inter-ethnic clashes. The European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX) started patrolling daily in the area and KFOR continues to monitor the situation closely. There were no reports of significant violence and/or threats against KFOR during the reporting period.
4. Protests against the disruption of energy supplies by the Kosovo Electricity Company occurred frequently throughout March, affecting both Kosovo Albanians and Kosovo Serbs. Security assessments indicate that the current situation presents a low threat to the safe and secure environment and freedom of movement. However, over the longer term such disruptions could alienate an increasing number of people and increase the threat to the safe and secure environment. KFOR will continue to track this issue closely.
5. The level of criminal activity remained stable for the last three months and similar to the level of late 2008.
6. On 3 January, approximately 100 Kosovo Serbs gathered in the Little Bosnia area in Mitrovica (Multinational Task Force North). One shop was set on fire and some shooting was reported. According to Multinational Task Force North, seven firefighters were injured in action and one Kosovo Police officer suffered gunfire injuries. EULEX deployed three crowd and riot control platoons and KFOR deployed a total of seven platoons in Mitrovica during that incident.
7. On 10 February, approximately 1,000 Kosovo Serbs gathered in northern Mitrovica, in a planned event, to protest against the deployment of EULEX at the two northern Gates (1 and 31) and against the establishment of the Kosovo Security Force. Members of the Kosovo Serb community, protesting against the efforts of EULEX to document commercial goods travelling through Gates 1 and 31, peacefully blocked the roads leading to both gates.
8. The first anniversary of Kosovo's declaration of independence was celebrated on 17 February with parades, concerts, fireworks and speeches throughout Kosovo. Kosovo Serbs gathered in northern Mitrovica and in western Kosovo to protest against Kosovo's declaration of independence. Despite some isolated provocations,

the celebrations were carefully controlled by local authorities and the Kosovo Police. The day passed without incident.

9. A criminal trial, presided over by EULEX judges, began on 4 March at the northern Mitrovica courthouse. The trial was postponed owing to peaceful Kosovo Serb legal workers protesting to have their court jobs reinstated. Protesters also demanded that the “Seal of the Republic of Kosovo” not be used in the court.

10. On 16 March, four to five shots were fired at a EULEX police convoy while it was escorting EULEX Customs officers from Gate 31 to their home stations. There were no injuries or damage reported but a warning letter was found on the spot.

11. On 16 March, the Kosovo Police prevented members of the Serbian Parliament from entering Kosovo, after the latter failed to notify Pristina of their official visit. The members of the Parliamentary Committee for Kosovo and Metohija were on their way to visit the Kosovo Serb village of Ranilug. The group was stopped at Gate 5, near the Serbian town of Presebo (Multinational Task Force East).

12. On 24 March, KFOR closely monitored the activities surrounding the tenth anniversary of the start of the NATO bombing campaign, in particular the two gatherings that occurred in Mitrovica and Zvecan (Multinational Task Force North). Both gatherings were peaceful and ended without incident.

KFOR operations

13. Operation Red Knight III remained the basis of KFOR manoeuvres throughout Kosovo. This operation is intelligence focused, aimed at using KFOR intelligence and manoeuvre forces as sensors and unfixing forces in preparation for possible streamlining of the multinational task forces, while maintaining a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement. Operation Unanimous effort VII, ongoing until 13 April, is designed to increase the visibility and presence of KFOR in Multinational Task Force North and deter outbreaks of violence by supporting the Kosovo Police and EULEX. The German/Austrian operational reserve force declared itself mission ready in theatre on 15 February and deployed to Multinational Task Force North to take over responsibility at Camp Nothing Hill on 16 February. The German/Austrian operational reserve force rehearsal ended on 15 March, and the battalion redeployed to Prizren before final redeployment to home stations on 26 March. The responsibility at Camp Nothing Hill was handed over to Multinational Task Force East.

New tasks of NATO

Kosovo Security Force

14. The final selection and appointment boards for the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) were concluded on 13 January. Those selected to join the Kosovo Security Force received the news on 20 January, so-called “Announcement Day”. A total of 1,412 members of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) were selected and received conditional offers to join the Kosovo Security Force, which was formally activated on 21 January.

15. The Kosovo-wide civilian recruitment campaign for the Kosovo Security Force was conducted from 21 January to 14 February, under KFOR leadership. There were a total of 4,923 applications for about 400 positions to be offered in

2009, including 118 applications from ethnic minorities (only 6 Serbs) and 156 from women. The aim is to have 10 per cent of the total KSF manpower composed of minorities. The screening and selection process, also under KFOR lead, started on 26 February in Ferizaj and should be completed in approximately eight weeks. The evaluation process includes an aptitude test, a physical test and an interview.

16. The KSF training started on 2 February in Vucitrn at the Kosovo Centre for Public Security, Education and Development. This large, modern and professional establishment will be used to conduct KSF training until such time as the facility at Ferizaj is completed (probably early in summer). A sergeant newly recruited to the Kosovo Security Force died of a heart attack during training on 9 February. During the reporting period, two courses were completed (Basic Training Course and Officers Course): 183 attendees passed the final examination successfully and 16 failed.

17. On 13 February, the first 29 vehicles of the German donation (out of a total of 204 vehicles) were handed over in Camp Prizren (Multinational Task Force South), during a ceremony. The other vehicles will be delivered in packages of 40 to 50 every week.

Kosovo Protection Corps

18. The Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) was formally deactivated on 20 January. The KPC members not selected for the Kosovo Security Force received a letter, which included information on the KPC Pension Law and its provisions, as well as information on the UNDP resettlement programme. The Office of the KPC Coordinator was replaced by the Office of the Kosovo Protection Corps in the role of Chief Stand-Down Senior Adviser to KPC as from 31 January. Brigadier General Shala, the recently appointed Commander of the Kosovo Protection Corps, will lead KPC until its formal dissolution on 14 June 2009. Thereafter, the authorities in Kosovo will assume full responsibility for residual KPC matters.

19. The resettlement programme is progressing well, with approximately 1,300 individuals registered so far. The KSF selection process generated a wave of protests by former KPC members who have not been selected to join the new force. They gathered in front of the KSF headquarters in Pristina and protested against what they considered to be a non-transparent recruitment process. A concept was agreed in principle for the final phase of selection for eligible KPC members. This is based on the understanding that the ceiling of former KPC members joining the KSF will remain at 1,400 personnel and that KSF personnel lost through attrition will be replaced by former KPC members not selected initially, but still meeting the minimum standards for recruitment. Those meeting the eligibility criteria — an estimated 300 former KPC members — will be notified by letter in April 2009 and will be offered the opportunity to attend KSF basic training later in the year.

Conclusion

20. The overall security situation in Kosovo remained relatively calm during the reporting period, but tense in the north. Threats and actions against EULEX in the north are likely in the future with Gate 1, Gate 31 and stations in Leposavic, Zvecan and Zubin Potok most at risk. While EULEX prepares to declare its final operational capability early in April, KFOR maintains its third responder status and remains ready to assist on request in case of unrest. Kosovo Security Force stand-up and Kosovo Protection Corps stand-down are progressing according to plan.

Annex IV

[Original: English]

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force**1 November-31 December 2008**

1. This report covers the period from 1 November to 31 December 2008.
2. As at 31 December, the total number of troops in theatre was 14,373. This number includes 2,282 troops from non-NATO countries.
3. The status of NATO/non-NATO country contributions remained unchanged since the previous reporting period.

Security situation

4. Throughout the reporting period, the overall security situation remained relatively calm Kosovo-wide, but tense in the north. There were several localized violent incidents in Mitrovica at the end of December. There were no reports of significant violence and/or threats against the Kosovo Force (KFOR) throughout the reporting period.
5. A total of 518 incidents — related mainly to miscellaneous criminal incidents, illegal weapons possession, weapons and ammunition seizures, unexploded ordnance, but also to drugs, counterfeit currency or documents, smuggling and explosions — were reported in December, compared to a total of 345 in November. Almost all cases of counterfeit documents and currency, especially false 50 or 100 euro banknotes, were discovered in Pristina Airport.
6. On 1 November, 50 Kosovo Serbs gathered near Suvi Do (Multinational Task Force North) to protest against the rebuilding of a Kosovo Albanian house. Kosovo Serbs and Kosovo Albanians threw stones at each other. UNMIK police intervened and used tear gas to calm the rioters, while KFOR units maintained permanent monitoring and patrolling. Thereafter, Kosovo Serbs gathered repeatedly (on 3, 4, 13 and 20 November) in the area of Suvi Do to protest against the rebuilding of the Kosovo Albanian house. The protests ended without incidents, but Kosovo Police Service (KPS) and UNMIK had to intervene to calm the situation down.
7. On 14 November, an explosion occurred in the yard of the European Union Special Representative/International Civilian Office building in Pristina. There were no injuries and only minor material damage.
8. On 15 November, an altercation between 20 Kosovo Serbs and 20 Kosovo Albanians occurred in the Montsegur neighbourhood in Mitrovica. Both parties were reported shooting into the air. UNMIK police monitored the incident. No injuries were reported and the demonstration dispersed without serious incident.
9. On 19 November, approximately 5,000 people protested peacefully in front of the National Library in Pristina under the slogan “demonstrate for a sovereign and democratic Kosovo and against the six-point plan”. Again on 2 December, some 5,000 Kosovo Albanians, led by the Movement for Self-Determination,

demonstrated peacefully in Pristina against the six-point plan and the deployment of the European Union Rule of Law Mission (EULEX).

10. In the late afternoon of 30 December, the Kosovo Police arrested two young Kosovo Albanian men on suspicion of committing a criminal act in northern Mitrovica. The arrest led to a protest demonstration (about 60 people), which escalated into a violent clash. Two houses and a Kosovo Albanian shop were set on fire and two people were injured. One Kosovo Albanian suffered from gunshot wounds and was taken to Pristina Hospital. The two main bridges were closed until the incident calmed down. KFOR intervened swiftly to prevent the violence from escalating further. Multinational Task Force North deployed a total of nine platoons to maintain high visibility in the area of Mitrovica during the night and the following day. EULEX deployed three integrated police unit platoons at the main bridge and three international police unit platoons in its logistics base in Mitrovica. The roads from Zubin Potok, Zvecan and Lepozavic towards Mitrovica were monitored during the night as well, to prevent any resurgence of violence.

KFOR operations

11. KFOR units continued conducting high visibility operations to help maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement in Kosovo, and to support UNMIK and the Kosovo Police Service. The installation of closed-circuit cameras, to monitor traffic flow at Gate 1, began on 12 November. No incidents were reported and the area remained calm.

12. Multinational Task Force West handed over Camp Nothing Hill responsibility to Multinational Task Force South on 15 November. In accordance with Operation Unanimous effort IV, Multinational Task Force South, with two German/Austrian companies, handed over Camp Nothing Hill duty guard to Multinational Task Force East, with two United States companies. A Swiss company from Multinational Task Force South took over KFOR headquarters guard duty in Film City, and Multinational Task Force West took over tactical reserve level 2 responsibilities from Multinational Task Force East.

13. The combined German/Austrian operational reserve force battalion concluded its rehearsal deployment in Multinational Task Force North on 17 November and redeployed to Multinational Task Force South. It redeployed back home on 6 December.

14. On 24 November, KFOR supported a biannual massive casualties exercise, conducted by Pristina International Airport in order to maintain its certification and registration. The exercise simulated a commercial aircraft accident at the airport, with multiple injuries and fatalities. The aim was to exercise communication and interaction in rescue and relief work between different agencies. On 6 and 7 December, Multinational Task Force North conducted exercise Northern tremor, to train KFOR support to local emergency organizations. The scenario was a large-scale earthquake.

New tasks of NATO

Kosovo Protection Corps

15. The Disciplinary Board of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) met on 12 November to discuss two cases involving eight KPC members, and again on

9 December to discuss two cases involving four KPC members. In all cases, the Disciplinary Board decided to continue existing suspensions with pay, pending criminal proceedings against all 12 members.

16. The Disciplinary Board also met on 17 December to endorse a revised disciplinary code, reflecting changes in KPC structure between de-activation and dissolution day. The revised code, developed cooperatively by the Office of the KPC Coordinator, KPC and KFOR legal advisers, has been sent to the Special Representative of the Secretary-General for final approval. The Disciplinary Board also considered courses of action for the treatment of cases in which criminal court procedures are ongoing before the dissolution of KPC.

17. As at 31 December, the active personnel establishment list counted 2,859 positions. This included 175 ethnic minority members (6.1 per cent of the total force), of which 155 are male and 20 are female. The reserve personnel establishment list totalled 2,000 positions, of which 1,892 are filled, 48 of these by ethnic minorities (2.45 per cent).

18. The main focus of the training support in November 2008 was to prepare for the “KPC stand-down with dignity”, and to prepare the KPC personnel for the requirements established for entering the Kosovo Security Force (KSF). The training in November was significantly reduced (by about 40 per cent) compared with the average of 2008, and clearly underlines the foreseen trend. Phase IV of training under fragmentary order 3905 was finished on 4 December. KFOR did not support any other training in December. KPC continued to work on four to five small-scale projects, ranging from improvement day work to project management for road sewage projects.

19. During the reporting period, five ceremonies involving 55 KPC members were held. In December, only one internal commemoration parade was conducted, with less than 10 personnel involved.

20. The commemoration parade, scheduled for 10 December, had to be postponed to an unspecified date. According to some KPC members, the process of stand-down with dignity deserves more attention. Most KPC members have been on leave since 10 December, and many are anxious about being selected for KSF. The handover of KPC barracks is ongoing according to plan. As at 31 December, KPC had handed over a total of 19 barracks. A further six barracks and two storage sites are to be closed, three of the barracks before “Announcement Day”.

Kosovo Security Force

21. Lieutenant General Selimi was appointed as the Commander of the Kosovo Security Force on 20 December. On 24 December, the senior officers selection and appointment board gathered at KFOR headquarters. The board reconvened on 30 December. Twenty-three out of 26 positions have been selected, and three positions are reserved for members of the minority communities. The Commander of KFOR emphasized that the selection of generals was final.

Conclusion

22. The overall security situation in Kosovo remained calm during the reporting period, but tense in the north as was demonstrated by the incidents in Mitrovica late in December 2008. There were no threats against KFOR and the overall KFOR force posture remained unchanged. While the situation within the Kosovo Protection Corps is stable, there is a certain degree of nervousness as “Announcement Day” draws nearer.

Annex V

[Original: English]

Report to the United Nations on the operations of the Kosovo Force**1 August-31 October 2008**

1. This report covers the period from 1 August-31 October 2008.
2. As at 31 October, the total number of troops in theatre was 15,507. This number includes 2,389 troops from non-NATO countries.
3. Status of NATO/non-NATO country contributions: the Canadian Defence Minister announced on 16 August 2008 that Canada will deploy five soldiers in Pristina for one year. These defence planning specialists will participate in carrying out the new tasks of NATO in Kosovo as part of the Military Civilian Advisory Division.

Security situation

4. Throughout the reporting period, the security situation remained quiet in Kosovo but tense, owing to some small and localized events. There were no reports of violence and/or threats against the Kosovo Force (KFOR).
5. A total of 331 incidents — related mainly to illegal weapons possession, counterfeit currency or documents, miscellaneous criminal incidents and unexploded ordnance, but also to drugs, smuggling, explosions, and weapons and ammunition seizures — were reported in August, 397 in September and 440 in October. After having decreased for five consecutive months, the number of incidents increased over the reporting period.
6. During the night of 4 to 5 August, approximately 40 Kosovo Serbs gathered in Mitrovica (Multinational Task Force North) after a Kosovo Serb was attacked by Kosovo Albanians. The latter became violent, stopping cars and throwing stones. Kosovo Police Service (KPS) officers were attacked and requested help from UNMIK police. Two formed police units were deployed to control the situation. One Pakistani police officer and one Kosovo Serb were slightly injured.
7. On 20 August, UNMIK requested KFOR assistance to fight a forest fire near Gate 2 in Multinational Task Force North. Multinational Task Force East supported Multinational Task Force North with air firefighting assets. The fire was contained on 21 August.
8. On 25 August, approximately 200 people gathered in Zubin Potok (Multinational Task Force North) to demonstrate against the installation of closed-circuit television cameras at Gate 31. KPS and UNMIK police patrolled the town and the access to Gate 31. The demonstration ended without any incident.
9. On 27 August, in Mitrovica, a dispute between 50 Kosovo Serbs and 20 Kosovo Albanians degenerated. Stones were thrown. Two KFOR crowd and riot control platoons and two UNMIK formed police units intervened to calm the situation. One French KFOR soldier was slightly injured.

10. On 2 September, a violent quarrel broke out between Kosovo Albanians and Kosovo Serbs, after approximately 10 Kosovo Albanian municipal employees entered the municipal building in Strpce and attempted to remove a Kosovo Serb from the position of Head of the Directorate of Land, Property and Real Estate. The Kosovo Police detained several members of the Kosovo Albanian group who had entered the building.

11. On 14 September, one Kosovo Albanian was beaten and injured by a group of Kosovo Serbs in the Little Bosnia area of northern Mitrovica. He was hospitalized in southern Mitrovica.

12. On 2 October, about 500 Kosovo Serbs in Mitrovica (Multinational Task Force North), 300 in Gracanica (Multinational Task Force North) and 150 in Strpce (Multinational Task Force East) demonstrated against the EULEX deployment in Kosovo. In Glogovac (Multinational Task Force Centre), 150 Kosovo Albanians gathered to protest in support of the release of the former KLA/UCK members who are being kept prisoner. All these events were conducted and ended peacefully.

13. On 22 October, about 200 Kosovo Serbs protested against a Kosovo Albanian school building in Plemetina (Multinational Task Force Centre). The demonstration ended peacefully.

14. On 30 October, a meeting between Kosovo Albanians, UNMIK and KFOR was held in Suvi Do, near Mitrovica, to discuss the rebuilding of Kosovo Albanian houses. The meeting quickly degenerated and shooting started between Kosovo Albanians and Kosovo Serbs. UNMIK deployed two police platoons and arrested one Kosovo Albanian. No injuries were reported.

KFOR operations

15. KFOR continued conducting Kosovo-wide high visibility operations to help maintain a safe and secure environment and freedom of movement for all in Kosovo. There were no significant changes in the KFOR force posture. A change of KFOR command ceremony was held on 29 August at the KFOR headquarters in Pristina to mark the transfer of authority from Lieutenant General Xavier Bout de Marnhac (France) to Lieutenant General Giuseppe Gay (Italy).

16. On 29 August, one command post and one company from Multinational Task Force East deployed to Camp Nothing Hill (Multinational Task Force North), replacing the French task force, which had been operating there since August 2007. On 17 September, KFOR did a 48-hour deployment exercise of the KFOR tactical reserve. A Hungarian command post and two Hungarian companies from Multinational Task Force West were deployed to Camp Bondsteel (Multinational Task Force East) to evaluate the readiness of the tactical reserve. The transfer of authority of the Kosovo tactical manoeuvre battalion took place on 25 September. The Czech reserve company was deployed from 21 September to 19 October to conduct operations in Multinational Task Force Centre. The German/Austrian operational reserve force battalion was deployed to the Multinational Task Force North area on 26 October and took over the tactical reserve role.

17. In August, KFOR provided assistance to UNMIK to fight forest fires, helped UNMIK to recover six railway cars that derailed on 8 August near Mrasor (Multinational Task Force South), and supported UNMIK during the installation of

closed-circuit television cameras at Gate 31. As at 31 October, no cameras had been installed at Gate 1.

18. KFOR units handed over the responsibility for the security of the northern Mitrovica courthouse to UNMIK police on 22 September. No incidents were reported. From 22 to 27 September, forces from the Multinational Support Unit conducted operations in Multinational Task Force Centre to maintain KFOR visibility, gather information, guarantee freedom of movement on the main roads and improve relations with UNMIK police and the Kosovo Police.

Compliance with the statement of principles of the KFOR Commander and UNMIK Regulation 1999/8

19. The Disciplinary Board met on 19 August to review nine cases of major non-compliance. As a result, one member of the Kosovo Protection Corps (KPC) was suspended without pay; two members had suspensions lifted; and six remaining cases were postponed for consideration until the next Board meeting. The Board met again on 1 October to review four cases of major non-compliance involving 11 KPC members. A total of five suspensions were confirmed, including two suspensions with pay, and four suspensions were lifted. Efforts are ongoing to conclude as many outstanding cases as possible before the deactivation of KPC in December. The Office of the KPC Coordinator is considering how unconcluded cases will be handled after KPC is deactivated.

New tasks of NATO

20. As at 31 October, the active personnel establishment list counted 2,860 positions. This included 175 ethnic minority members (6.1 per cent of the total force), of which 155 are male and 20 are female. The reserve personnel establishment list totalled 2,000 positions, of which 1,892 are filled, 48 of them by ethnic minorities (2.45 per cent).

21. The overall situation in the Kosovo Protection Corps remained calm and stable. However, a growing number of KPC members complained about the terms of the KPC Pension Law (adopted in October) and the UNDP-proposed resettlement programme. Some of them also complained about the screening process they need to undergo to be able to join the Kosovo Security Force (KSF) and about the lack of information they received about their scoring. Approximately 2,800 KPC members applied for the Kosovo Security Force screening test. In an effort to improve the morale of KPC members, the KPC Commander met with KPC personnel to reassure them that their concerns would be carefully considered. The Commander also met with authorities in Pristina to seek support for his idea of finding options for employment for the former KPC members within various governmental bodies, and for improving the package currently offered by the Pension Law and the UNDP resettlement programme.

22. KPC training activities resumed in September after the summer break. Despite the vast number of training sessions conducted for KPC, the number of attendees remained relatively low. During Ramadan, physical training activities were poorly attended or had to be either postponed or cancelled. The perceived uncertainties surrounding the KPC stand-down and the Kosovo Security Force stand-up demotivated KPC members from participating in training and activities.

23. A fragmentary order was issued in September to destroy the unstable KPC ammunition stored in Camp Slim Lines. This was a training event coordinated with Multinational Task Force Centre, training a KPC explosive ordnance disposal team on proper destruction techniques. Course attendees welcomed the English session, the computer sessions, and the NATO information courses that were conducted in September. All multinational task forces have conducted training sessions which are more relevant for enhancing practical skills, including land navigation, logistics and maintenance training, signals, medical and emergency response training, as well as physical training. Multinational Task Force South organized a lecture on directing helicopters for medical evacuation.

24. During the reporting period, 17 ceremonies involving 139 KPC members were held. No incidents were reported.

Conclusion

25. The overall security situation in Kosovo remained calm during the reporting period. There were no threats against KFOR and the overall Multinational Task Force posture has not changed. KFOR continues to stand ready to deal with unrest or violence, regardless of where it comes from.
