

THE BONDSTEEL BULLET

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NEWSLETTER

Issue 18



Lt. Col. Leonard Barton, Multinational Battle Group East Southern Command Post commander, gave the tour of UH-60 Black Hawk helicopters to the interns working as part of the summer work program offered by Area Support Team Balkans at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. This was the first time that internship positions were opened at Camp Bondsteel, and all of the students are enrolled in college and had very good English skills. (Photo by Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist)

- Five Kosovo college students were offered a part-time summer internship program by Areas Support Team Balkans.
- This was the first time the internship positions were opened at Camp Bondsteel.

Unique Opportunity for Kosovo College Students

Story and Photo by Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist

Area Support Team Balkans offered a part-time summer internship program for five college students from Kosovo; the first time that internship positions were opened at Camp Bondsteel.

Some of their duties included typing, filing, answering phones, assisting customers, couriating paperwork to other offices, and preparing access badges. All of the students are enrolled in college and had very good English skills.

Della Hodges, Director of AST Balkans, explained that the program developed as a mentoring program for Kosovo students to improve their job skills following college.

"One of the requirements was for them to have a family affiliation with Camp Bondsteel, which would be a parent or immediate relative such as aunt, uncle, sister or brother working at Camp Bondsteel," said Hodges. "Many hard-working employees at Bondsteel scrimp and save to give their children a better future than they had growing up. This is the same as U.S. parents or parents worldwide, no matter what country they live in. They always want a better future for their children."

Shkelzen Neziri, 20, whose father works at Camp Bondsteel, is studying computer science at College Riinvest in Prishtina. Neziri, who was assigned to AST Housing, explained that even though his field of study is different from what he has done during his internship at Camp Bondsteel, it taught him how to work as a team and with different nationalities.

learned many things working here. It helped me improve highly my English skills since I had day to day contact with U.S. and foreign Soldiers," said Neziri.

Neziri continued "among other duties at Housing, we were managing the room keys, keeping daily logs for all the keys that were signed out, reserving rooms for Soldiers staying at Camp Bondsteel and coordinating their schedule on when they will arrive and leave."

Neziri believes that this experience will be a great benefit to him.

"This internship and this experience will help me in the future when I am seeking jobs, I would like to thank AST for giving us this great opportunity," Neziri said.

Another one of the five interns was Shkumbin Halabaku, a 20 year old who is studying political science at Utica College in New York.

Halabaku, a Kosovo native who earned a scholarship to study in U.S., also thinks that this internship will help him when applying for jobs in the future.

"I think this internship is going to be very helpful to me. The fact that I did an internship with Camp Bondsteel is very valuable. It has taught me to work as a team and I have learned to take more responsibility in my work," said Halabaku.

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The Bondsteel Bullet is produced for civilians and military personnel on Camp Bondsteel.

Contents of this publication are not necessarily official views of Multinational Battle Group-East or Area Support Team Balkans.

MNBG-E Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Michael L. Wallace

11th Public Affairs Detachment

Executive Editor
Capt. Kevin C. Sandell

Editor
Sgt. 1st Class Carlos M. Burger II

Layout design/ Staff Writer
Ardian Nrecaj

Staff Writer
Sgt. Cody Barber

POC for this publication is:

Ardian Nrecaj, DSN 781-3467
ardian.nrecaj2.in@mail.mil

"During their work time they've shown that they are very competent and reliable individuals." – Nuri Dauti, AST Housing supervisor



Area Support Team Balkans offered a part-time summer work program for five college students from Kosovo. Some of their duties included typing, filing, answering phones, assisting customers, couriating paperwork to other offices, and preparing access badges. All of the students are enrolled in college and had very good English skills. (Photo by Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist)

"I never did an internship before and I have

Through awareness, keeping everybody safe

Story and Photos Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist

Each year, the U.S. Army sets aside August as a month to raise awareness from terrorist threats. This August marks the fifth annual observance, Antiterrorism Awareness Month.

According to a U.S. Army antiterrorism awareness message, this year training and events should focus on three specific areas: 1) recognizing and reporting suspicious behavior that may be a precursor to a terrorist act; 2) establishing procedures to properly vet contractors who require access to Army facilities, and to thoroughly train those government-cleared contractors in antiterrorism awareness; and 3) planning and conducting effective antiterrorism exercises that address the range of threats and associated protective measures.

Dan O'Brien, antiterrorism and force protection manager for Area Support Team Balkans at Camp Bondsteel, said that AT Awareness Month is important and gives us the opportunity to focus more on AT awareness prior to 9/11, the largest terrorist attack against the United States.

"The prevention of any terrorism activity, it starts with an individual. Individuals should be actively involved and aware of their surroundings and reporting those things that are out of ordinary," said O'Brien.

O'Brien emphasized that before every terrorism incident, there has been some type of a dry run or individuals going and seeing what they are capable of doing.

"It's extremely important for individuals if they see something, to go and tell someone; or there is the web capability where people can report anonymously," added O'Brien.

"If there is a situation that needs an immediate response, military police are prepared to respond to incidents and they can reach out and contact any organization that needs to respond, and find out what is truthfully going on with the situation."

During August, AST Balkans organized movie nights at the Camp Bondsteel food court, where free popcorn was provided, and the movies themes were AT awareness.

"We have a very good work force here at Camp Bondsteel. Even though the individuals that work here are trustworthy there are a lot of visitors that come," O'Brien said. "Those visitors may or may not have nefarious thoughts against the U.S., to where they can go and observe things that could lead toward some type of terrorism attack."

Among things that people working at Camp Bondsteel can do to raise the AT awareness is "individually ensuring that you are doing the right thing, and following the rules," added O'Brien.

"During the change of command ceremonies people have been taking bags into the dining facility left them unsecured and unattended. It is great that some of these cases were reported," continued O'Brien.

Della Hodges, Director of AST Balkans, explained why AT awareness is important for Camp Bondsteel.

"I urge all members of Camp Bondsteel community from residents, employees, contractors and visitors to invest in the power of prevention and work together to make Camp Bondsteel a safer, stronger and more caring community," said Hodges.



Dan O'Brien, antiterrorism and force protection manager for Area Support Team Balkans, assists Multinational Battle Group-East soldiers during a change of command ceremony held at Camp Bondsteel. (Photo by Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist)

U.S. Army soldiers with the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team respond to a call of a suspicious package during an antiterrorism force protection exercise at Camp Bondsteel. All the units and organizations on Camp Bondsteel responded to the exercise in late January which involved a suspicious package being found inside the base and hostile crowds gathering at the main gate. (Photo by Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist)



2011 Frankfurt airport shooting illustrates terrorism's 'evolving threat'

Story by U.S. Army Sgt. Daniel Cole, U.S. Army Europe Public Affairs

In March 2011, a gunman attacked U.S. Airmen at Germany's Frankfurt International Airport. As the anniversary of that attack approaches, U.S. Army Europe antiterrorism officials are using that tragic incident to help illustrate terrorism's "evolving threat."

The Army is spotlighting the evolving threat as its current antiterrorism theme to educate members of the U.S. forces community against what they describe as a more innovative, opportunistic method of planning and carrying out attacks than people may consider conventional terrorist methods.

On March 2, 2011, one such "lone wolf" targeted a group of U.S. Airmen on a bus parked at Frankfurt Airport. The attacker approached an Airman standing outside the bus, engaged him in conversation, then shot and killed him. Entering the bus, he killed the driver and wounded two other Airmen. He then held his pistol to the head of a fifth Airman, but when the weapon jammed the attacker fled the scene. He was quickly subdued by an Airman, a civilian airport employee and German police officers.

Antiterrorism experts say the evolving threat often centers on a "lone wolf" attack, a recent form of terrorist attack involving individuals who work on a much smaller scale and without specific guidance from organized terror groups to assault local targets. These smaller-scale attacks require less planning and coordination, and create fewer indicators that could alert others that an attack is imminent.

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Some simple ways people can protect themselves include:

- * Be aware of their surroundings and the actions of others around them
- * Reporting suspicious behavior
- * Not dressing or acting in a way that makes them stand out from local citizens or brands them as Americans or members of the U.S. armed forces community
- * Removing stickers and other items from their vehicles and belongings that indicate they are Americans or members of the U.S. forces community
- * Not wearing uniforms while traveling on public or commercial transportation (except taxis).

Antiterrorism officials say the airport shooting shows how the evolving threat is transforming terrorism with a shift away from the traditional "al-Qaida type attacks." Because these smaller events require much less planning and attract less attention, the experts say, they can be carried out in a more nonchalant manner that gives the attacker greater opportunity to target members of the U.S. forces community.

In spite of the nature of these smaller attacks, USAREUR antiterrorism officials say there are still ways people can lower their risk of becoming victims of terrorism.

"Countering the evolving threat requires more individual efforts through continual vigilance, reporting suspicious activity, and practicing individual protective measures," said Jessica Bittle, a force protection specialist in USAREUR's Antiterrorism Division.

For more information and resources for combating terrorism, personal protective measures and reporting suspicious activity, visit the USAREUR vigilance web page at www.eur.army.mil/vigilance or the USAREUR Antiterrorism Division's "Stay Safe" Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/StaySafeAntiterrorism>



MWR Corner

If you have free time, or you are spending the night at Camp Bondsteel, there are many activities that MWR organizes during the month.

You can reserve the indoor or outdoor basketball court at South Town Fitness Center. Send an email to Mr. Anthony Mullings and Mr. Jay Debose to make your reservation at the emails below:

anthony.c.mullings.naf@mail.mil
jay.m.debose.naf@mail.mil

If you like working out, Medal of Honor Hall gym and South Town Fitness Center are open 24 hrs.



Karaoke Night every Thursday starting at 1900 hrs, either at South Town Fitness Center or Coffee Shop

There are different tournaments and regular daily activities such as:

- *Open court Basketball Play every Monday, Wednesday, Friday and Sunday, from 1800-2000 hrs at South Town Fitness Center.*
- *Open court Volleyball Play every Tuesday, Thursday and Saturday from 1800-2000 hrs at South Town Fitness Center.*
- *Flag Football League Play every Tuesday and Thursday, from 1800-2000 hrs at South Town Football Field.*
- *Outdoor Movie Night every Friday from 2000 hrs at South Town Fitness Center.*
- *MWR/ AFEES Bazaar on Sept. 20, from 0900 hrs until 1700 hrs at South Town Fitness Center.*

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Halabaku worked at AST's real estate contracting office.

"Some of my duties included photocopying contracts and ownership documents, filing documents and contracts. I also helped the contracting office to contact local vendors by translating and setting up meetings," added Halabaku.

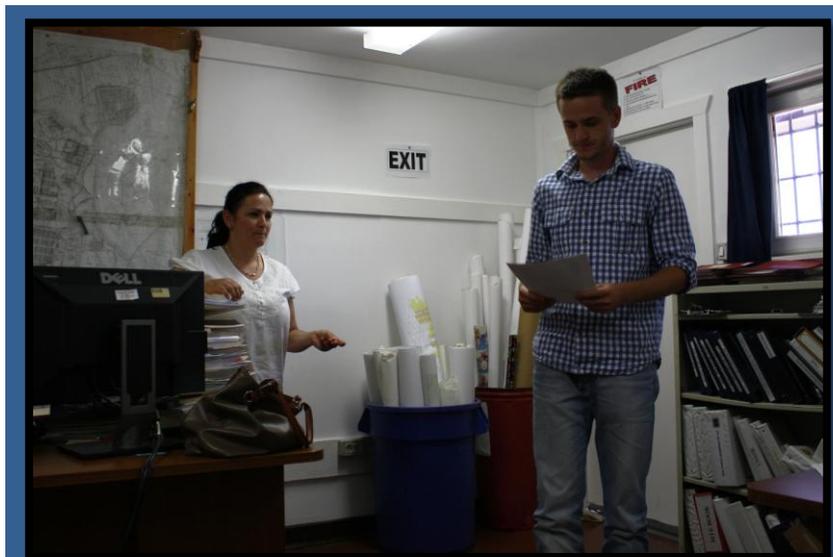
Intern Arbresha Osmani studies economy at Prishtina University, and did her internship at the AST Personnel Center.

"I helped at AST PAC with everyday work, preparing vehicle passes, filing documents and visitor badges for the 4th of July that the office prepared," said Osmani.

"All the people that I worked and served at PAC were really nice to me," added Osmani. "I would like to thank everyone for giving us this chance where I have learned a lot."

Nuri Dauti, AST Housing Supervisor, said that the interns performed exceptionally well during the three month summer program.

"During their work time spent at AST Housing, they've shown that they are very competent and reliable individuals. They've also shown very good interaction with U.S. military, DOD civilians, contractors and foreign military soldiers," added Dauti.



Shkumbin Halabaku worked as part of summer intern program that was offered by Area Support Team Balkans at Camp Bondsteel, Kosovo. This was the first time that internship positions were opened at Camp Bondsteel. Their duties included typing, filing, answering phones, assisting customers, couriering paperwork to other offices, and preparing access badges. (Photo by Ardian Nrecaj, Public Affairs Specialist)