

Edition #59, October 2010

EUFOR
forum



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Travels abroad with
EUFOR School Competition

Celebration of the Bulgarian Independence Day



Traditional Bulgarian dance "HORO".



Colonel Svetlin Antonov,
External Cooperation Division Chief.

On 22nd of September 2010, the Bulgarian contingent celebrated its Independence Day.

On this day in 1908 the Independence of Bulgaria was formally proclaimed with the Declaration of Independence by Prince Ferdinand at the "Saint Forty Martyrs" Church in Tarnovo. It was acknowledged by the Ottoman Empire and the Great Powers. As a result, Bulgaria was proclaimed a Kingdom.

Officers from HQ EUFOR Command Group,

NHQSa, Senior National Representatives (SNR) and soldiers of EUFOR, as well as other guests attended at the Celebration.

The party included traditional folklore music and traditional folklore dances. It was performed by the members of the Bulgarian contingent. Many guests learned the traditional folkdance "HORO" during the party.

The event lasted until midnight and had a cheerful atmosphere.

By Colonel Svetlin Antonov



DCOM EUFOR Brigadier General Tibor Nagy, Colonel Svetlin Antonov and COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Günter Giesa.

CONTENTS

Visit of Head of EUCE/JFC 4

The Policy and Plans Branch 8

EUFOR Capacity Building and Training of the AFBIH 10&11

Tools of EUFOR Mini-Beryl 16



On the front page:
Winners of EUFOR School Competition in Budapest.

Dear all,

Welcome to this edition of EUFOR Forum especially if, like me, you are new to the mission. I have just arrived in Camp Butmir as the new Media Spokesperson and have been amazed by the friendly welcome that I have received from everyone that I have met. EUFOR Forum has been a good way to find out what has been going on, who are the characters and what is coming up.

If you are not mentioned in the magazine the quickest way to make sure that you are is to talk to our office, send us some photos and a few words and you will be in the magazine and on the Website (so your families and friends can see you from back home). Alternatively you can invite us along and we will bring our photographer. This is your magazine! Everybody here is doing important work – let us tell everyone.

Again, welcome to EUFOR and keep up the good work.

Lt Cdr Mullins RN
EUFOR Spokesperson
EUFOR HQ
Sarajevo



Lt Cdr Andy Mullins,
EUFOR Spokesperson

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Commander EUFOR

Major General Bernhard Bair

EUFOR Press Office Chief

Lt Col Knut Scheutz

EUFOR Forum Staff:

Director:

Captain Giuseppe Saponaro

Chief Editor:

Mr Haris Daul

Editor:

Lt Cdr Andy Mullins

Layout:

Mr. Jasmin Zeherović

Photographs contributed by:

Sgt Markus Rumpold

Submissions can be made via e-mail to
epic_forum@eufor.eu.int

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Visit of Head of EUCE/JFC



Lt Gen de Vincenti (2nd from right) with LOT Mostar Personnel and COM EUFOR (last on right).

On 15th September 2010, Lieutenant General Leandro de Vincenti, Head of EU Command Element and Chief of Staff of Joint Force Command in Naples, visited HQ EUFOR in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. He was greeted by COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.

COM EUFOR briefed the esteemed guest on EUFOR activities and the current security situation within BiH during their office call.

Afterwards, the two generals visited the Italian Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) in Sarajevo. The LOT commander, Captain Botticelli, welcomed Major General Bair and Lieutenant General de Vincenti and introduced the LOT personnel to the two generals.

The subsequent briefing provided an informative update on the current activities of the Liaison and Observation Team.

The day was concluded with a visit to the old part of Sarajevo and a walk around all the major



Lieutenant General de Vincenti with LOT Sarajevo Commander, Captain Botticelli and COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.



Lieutenant General de Vincenti (EUCE), Dr Valentin Inzko (OHR), General Sir McColl, COMEUFOR Major General Bair.

historical landmarks of the city.

On 16th September 2010, General Sir John McColl, the Operation Commander of EUFOR Althea, paid another official visit to Sarajevo. During his stay, General McColl, accompanied by Lieutenant General Vincenti, head of the EU Command Element, met with COMEUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, the High Representative, Dr Valentin Inzko and the head of the EU Police Mission, Stefan Feller.

On 17th September 2010, COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, and Lieutenant General Leandro de Vincenti, Head of EU Command Element and Chief of Staff of Joint Force Command in Naples, visited Mostar. Upon arrival, they paid a visit to the Regional Coordination Center (RCC2) in Mostar.

They were welcomed by RCC2 Chief, Major Ignacio Warleta, who introduced them to RCC2 personnel. Major Warleta briefed the Generals on the political and security situation in the RCC2 Area of Activity (AOA).

After that, Major General Bair and Lieutenant General de Vincenti visited the heart of Mostar including a historical and cultural tour of the city.

After a short stop to visit the famous spring of Buna river in Blagaj, the delegation returned to Sarajevo from where Lieutenant General de Vincenti departed for Naples, ending his three-day tour of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

By **Haris Daul**

BIH Turkish Senior Representative Officer Handover Ceremony

On 4th September 2010, handover ceremony of Senior National Representative (SNR) Officer of Turkey was made in front of all the Turkish Military Staff, between Colonel Ibrahim Sahinol and Colonel Tahsin Tunali.

By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar



Colonel Ibrahim Sahinol and Colonel Tahsin Tunali.

Medal Parade in EUFOR HQ



Former COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Gerd Bischof, awarding medals to EUFOR personnel.

On 31st August 2010, contingents from several EUFOR nations paraded for their EUFOR Operation ALTHEA medals.

Former COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Gerd Bischof presented the medals. COS EUFOR praised the professionalism, loyalty and commitment of all the soldiers and thanked them for a job well done.

By Haris Daul

Turkish Armed Forces and Victory Day Celebration

On 27th August 2010, a celebration of the Turkish Armed Forces and Victory Day (normally held on 30th August) was held in Millenium Bar a few days early. In his message from Ankara to his troops serving around the world, Chief of General Staff General Işık Koşaner said the victory, won after many challenges and sacrifices, was the beginning of the Turkish nation's march on the path of contemporary civilizations.

On behalf of the Republic of Turkey, this celebration of the Aug 30 "Victory Day" was organized by the BIH Turkish Senior Representative of the troops which are deployed in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. Turkish Armed Forces and Victory Day was celebrated effusively with participation of COM EUFOR and over 600 people, from the military in Camp Butmir and guests from the Sarajevo area who were invited by the BIH Turkish Senior Representative.

By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar



Turkish traditional dances were performed during the celebration.

Visits to HQ EUFOR



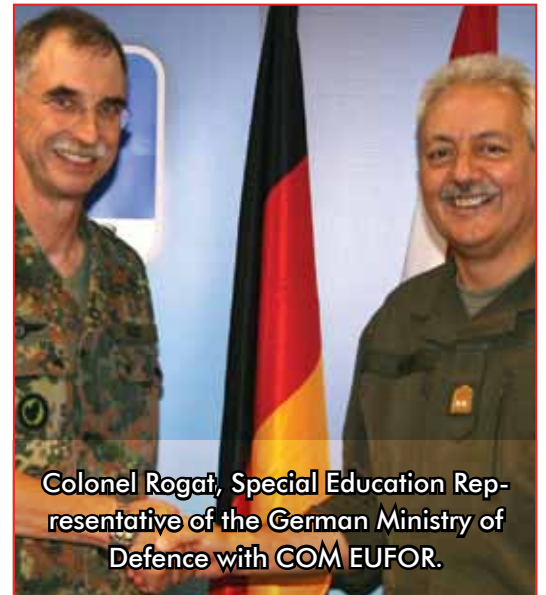
His Excellency Mr. Miroslav Mojžita, Ambassador of the Slovak Republic, with COM EUFOR.



Left to right: former COS EUFOR, BG Gerd Bischof, Lt Gen Rainer Glatz, Commander of Bundeswehr Operations Command, COM EUFOR MG Bernhard Bair and COS EUFOR, BG Günter Giesa.



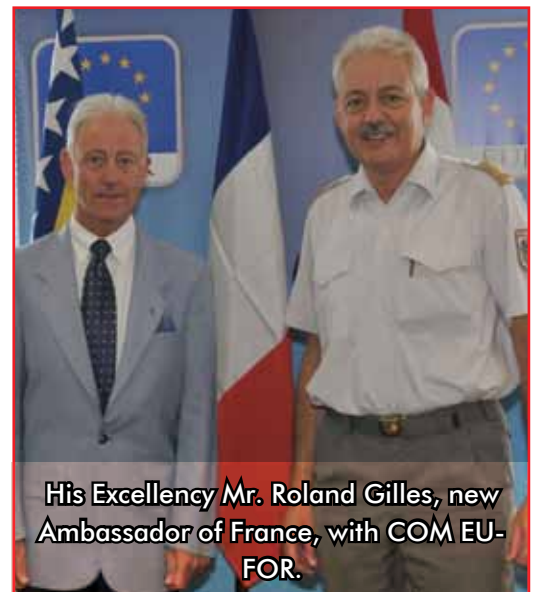
COM NHQSa, Brigadier General Enyeart; Mr. Jonathan M. Moore, Chargé d'Affaires of the Embassy of the United States of America; with COM EUFOR.



Colonel Rogat, Special Education Representative of the German Ministry of Defence with COM EUFOR.



His Excellency Mr. Flamur Gashi, Ambassador of Albania, with COM EUFOR and former COS EUFOR.



His Excellency Mr. Roland Gilles, new Ambassador of France, with COM EUFOR.

The Policy and Plans Branch

Saying something about the Policy and Plans (P&P) Branch is no easy task. Firstly because our job is quite “complicated” – and I will say why later – secondly because in our small office we share different cultures, professional skills, lifestyles and personal experience: so it is a real melting pot.

Regarding our work; in a staff group P&P would be the same as a J5 Division. In the EUFOR organization we are directly subordinate to the Chief of Staff and assist the Commander in planning future operations and in the preparation of his campaign and operation plans.

That means every time a task is issued by the COS we are in “trouble”. We have to coordinate the staff work and, in turn, we are coordinated by a higher command whilst we are also subordinate to COS and COM.

That means more or less feeling like being “in the middle of a battle without ammunition”. Our motto is “we look over the horizon” and our symbol is an eagle that we like to call “the crazy chicken”.

As you can see from the picture there are seven of us from five different European Countries and three of us are Italian but from different organizations, one Army Officer, one Air Force NCO and last but not least one Carabinieri Captain. The



Top Row: OR9 Claudio Mollicone, Major Ian Taylor and Lt Col Herman Steendam; Bottom Row: Captain Tommaso Gioffreda, Lt Col Thomas Langner, Lt Col Nicola Iacuzio and Major Gabor Ott

Branch Chief is Lt Col Nicola Iacuzio (Italian Army) who comes from the Maintenance and Repairs Unit in Naples where he is employed as Workshop Chief.

The Deputy Branch Chief is Ian Taylor our new British Major who always takes care of our spelling mistakes (before the happy hour because after we all get it wrong). Then we have a German Lt Col Thomas Langner the newcomer of the month, a perfect German soldier so perfect that I cannot say anything about

him yet. The Dutch Lt Col Herman Steendam is our lawyer and classic cars expert; probably he is too old to talk about modern cars. Major Gabor Ott is the youngest of us and for that reason he is always talking about his running performance just because nobody in the branch can beat him.

Our Admin is OR9 Claudio Mollicone, he is a patient and expert Air Force NCO and because he lives and works in Rome his style of life is slow and easy. Finally there is the Terrible Terminal Security Officer the Carabinieri Captain Tommaso Gioffreda. I try to do my best but sometimes when some of my colleagues break the rules I have to give them a yellow or red card and most of the time they are scared of my tough security control.

By Captain Tommaso Gioffreda



Polish Armed Forces Day



Polish troops parading during the celebration.

Celebrations of Polish Armed Forces Day at Camp Butmir started on 14th August 2010 at 16.00hrs. A Polish Military Contingent Guard of Honor, C Coy of the Multinational Battalion (MNBN) and National Support Element (NSE) took part in the ceremony. The ceremony was also attended by invited guests, especially: EUFOR Chief of Staff Brigadier General Gerd Bischof, the representative of the Polish Embassy in Bosnia and Herzegovina Consul Łukasz Chimiak and Senior National Representatives. In his speech, the EUFOR Chief of Staff said that history is very important but even more important is looking into the future and building a common, secure future. The Polish Military Contingent Commander reminded us of the importance of Battle of Warsaw not only for Poland but also for the whole Europe. He was also talking about work-

ing together for a united Europe and making an effort for peace.

Polish soldiers were also awarded ALTHEA medals during the medal parade.

After the ceremony, a Polish Day was held in Millenium Bar; a chance to taste Polish cuisine and listen to Polish music.

The Battle of Warsaw

In Poland, the Armed Forces Day is celebrated on 15th August and was created to commemorate The Battle of Warsaw, sometimes referred to as the Miracle

by the Vistula.

The Battle of Warsaw, was the decisive battle of the Polish–Soviet War, which began soon after the end of World War I in 1918 and lasted until the Treaty of Riga in 1921. The battle was fought from 12th August to 25th August 1920 as Red Army forces commanded by Mikhail Tukhachevsky approached the Polish capital of Warsaw. On 16th August, Polish forces commanded by Józef Piłsudski counterattacked from the south, forcing the Russians into a disorganized withdrawal eastward and behind the Neman River.

Before the Polish victory by the Vistula, both the Bolsheviks and the majority of foreign experts, considered Poland to be on the verge of defeat. A stunning and unexpected Polish victory crippled the Bolshevik forces. In the following months, several more Polish victories saved Poland's independence and led to a peace treaty with the Soviet Union later that year, securing the Polish eastern frontiers.

By Lt Col Ryszard Rozycki



Former COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Gerd Bischof, awarded the medals to Polish troops.

LOT DOBOJ arranged Polish Donation of medicines and medical supplies

On 25th August 2010, Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) Dobo, in cooperation with the EUFOR Polish Contingent, confirmed its commitment to humanitarian assistance to the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina by donating medicines and medical supplies to the health center "Ozren"/Dom zdravlja "Ozren", in Petrovo, a municipality in the north-eastern part of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Medicines and medical supplies have been transferred to the hands of Koviljka Mijić, the leader of the health center "Ozren" in Petrovo, who thanked the Polish troops for the gifts. At the meeting were representatives of LOT Dobo, Commander Major Dariusz Panasiuk and Patrol



LOT Dobo handing out the supplies to Health Center "Ozren" personnel.

Leader Lt Bogumil Szynaka with his interpreter, Borislav Andrić. Also attending from the Camp Butmir Polish Medical Group were OR-2 Inna Ostrowska and Military Police, OR-3 Robert Szermer.

LOT Dobo and the Polish soldiers once again have felt that they had done something useful for the population of BiH and the small community of Petrovo.

By Major Dariusz Panasiuk

Photos by OR-2 Jerzy Budzinski

MNBN Presentation

On 20th August 2010, COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair visited a tactical command post organized by Multinational Battalion (MNBN).

MNBN Commander Lt Col Spanish Marines Angel Herrezuelo Pérez welcomed the General and presented the command post.

The MNBN mission is prepared to conduct operations autonomously or in support of the BiH authorities or European Union/International Community agencies in Theatre when requested, in order to maintain a safe and security environment (SASE). It is the only military Ma-

neuver unit operating in Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH). As a secondary mission, the MNBN may be required to reinforce the troops in Kosovo if required.

By Captain Giuseppe Saponaro



COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, at the command post of Multinational Battalion.

EUFOR Capacity Building and Training of the AFBiH



Captain Vincent Choffat (Swiss VU), WO Josef Scherz (Austrian Log. Training School), Swiss Pilot, Colonel Prasenjit Chaudhuri (CHIEF Swiss VU), Major Jürgen Pirolt (Comd. Austrian Ammunition Training), Lt Col Ljubisa Celik (AF BiH Joint Staff Head VU), Lt Col Othmar Landzettel (Austrian VU), Lt Col Beat Spycher (Swiss Dep. Chief Swiss VU), Lt Col Franz Otto Bär (Swiss VU), Captain Andrej Terzig (Swiss VU) And Mr. Andreas Bloderer (Austrian Ammo Tech. Spec.).

With the decision of the EU Foreign Affairs Council, the EU-led military operation, Operation EUFOR ALTHEA continues its success story under the command of Major General Bernhard Bair in providing capacity-building and training support to the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH). The fast and sound establishment of the Capacity Building and Training Division under the excellent leadership of Colonel Osman Aytaç laid the foundation for the various Multi National Mobile Training Teams (MTT) to start the capacity-building and training in 31 different areas in accordance with the AF BiH training requirements. One of these training requirements was established in the area of Am-

munition and Weapons Storage Side Management (ASS/WSS Management).

Situation assesment

For that purpose, on 14th September 2010, a Swiss Air Force (SAF) aircraft landed at the Sarajevo Airport with specialists from the Swiss and Austrian Verification Unit (VU) and the Austrian Ammunition Training Center (ATC) on board, to conduct a recce for the MTT. Their first task was to assess the situation on the ground, conduct a risk analysis, establish the detailed equipment requirements and develop the initial first training plan for the AF BiH in the area of ASS/WSS Management.

Supported by the Swiss Air-

Force (SAF), the joint Swiss/Austrian MTT Recce was able to visit all prospective ammunition storage sites in Sarajevo, Banja Luka, Tuzla, Mrkonjić Grad and Bihać within four days. During the visits, the highly professional multinational team inspected the buildings at the sites, stored ammunition, storage conditions and made necessary measurements inside and outside the buildings to establish the presence of nitro oxides from the propellant of the ammunition and the humidity in the building.

Excellent Preparation

On 16th September, to further underline the importance of the work of this MTT Recce and the subject of ASS/WSS Manage-



Side Briefing of the Austrian/Swiss Recce Team with the AFBiH in Bihać. Colonel Prasenjit Chaudhuri, Chief Swiss VU is “Shaping the Battlefield”.

ment, the team was accompanied by the Defense Attaché of Austria, Brigadier General Andreas Rotter, the Defense Attaché of Switzerland, Colonel Martin Trachsler and the Defense Attaché of Germany, Lt Col (GS) Ingo Gnoyke. The Defence Attachées were very impressed by the professional approach this team displayed.

The finale of this recce, after a detailed debrief in EUFOR HQ, was the presentation of the findings and approach for the training plan.

Presented by Colonel Prasenjit Chaudhuri, Chief Swiss VU to the AF BiH Joint Staff, a common understanding was reached, that only a holistic approach can address such a complex challenge

in ASS/WSS management.

After their presentation, the recce team members thanked EUFOR Joint Military Affairs (JMA) for their excellent preparation and coordination of their recce, then they boarded their plane of the Swiss Air Force to fly back to Austria and Switzerland.

By Major Alexander Bauer

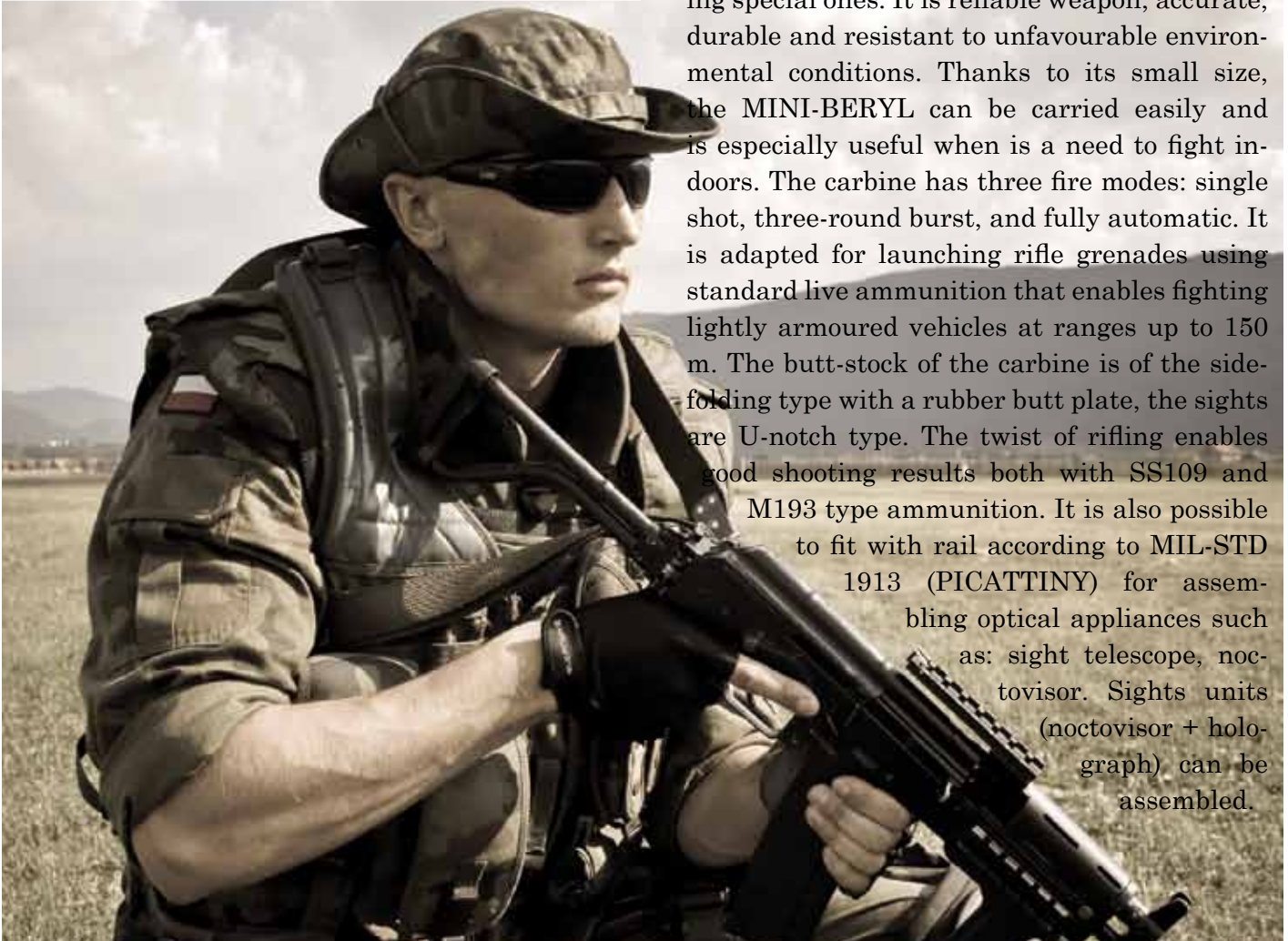


Captain Vincent Choffat of the Swiss Verification Unit and the AFBiH site commander measuring nitro oxides in one of the AFBiH ammunition depots.

In this issue, we present to you the Mini-Beryl, weapon used by the Polish troops on duty in OP EUFOR ALTHEA. In the following issues, we will cover more of these TOOLS OF EUFOR, so stay tuned! If you have suggestions on what we should cover, feel free to contact us.

Mini-Beryl

The 5.56 mm MINI-BERYL Mod. 96 automatic carbine is intended for infantry, paratroops and other kinds of armed forces, including special ones. It is reliable weapon, accurate, durable and resistant to unfavourable environmental conditions. Thanks to its small size, the MINI-BERYL can be carried easily and is especially useful when is a need to fight indoors. The carbine has three fire modes: single shot, three-round burst, and fully automatic. It is adapted for launching rifle grenades using standard live ammunition that enables fighting lightly armoured vehicles at ranges up to 150 m. The butt-stock of the carbine is of the side-folding type with a rubber butt plate, the sights are U-notch type. The twist of rifling enables good shooting results both with SS109 and M193 type ammunition. It is also possible to fit with rail according to MIL-STD 1913 (PICATTINY) for assembling optical appliances such as: sight telescope, noctovisor. Sights units (noctovisor + holograph) can be assembled.



TECHNICAL DATA:

- Cartridge : 5.56 x 45 mm SS109 or M193
- Muzzle velocity V_0 :
SS109 - 770 m/s, M193 - 775 m/s
- Muzzle energy E_0 :
SS109 - 1189 J, M193 - 1065 J
- Mode of fire:
single shot, three-round burst, fully automatic
- Rate of fire: 700 rds/min
- Effective range: 400 m
- Sight settings: 100, 200, 400 m
- Magazine capacity: 20 and 30 rounds
- Principle of operation: tapping gas

off barrel

- Rifling: 6 grooves
- Twist of rifling: 1/9 228 mm
- Dimensions:
- Length of carbine with butt extended: 730 mm 28.75"
- Length of carbine with butt folded: 525 mm 20.66"
- Barrel length: 235 mm 9.25
- Sight radius: 225 mm 8.86"
- Weights:
- Carbine without magazine: 3000 g 6.61 lbs
- 20-round magazine empty: 160 g
- 30-round magazine empty: 185 g
- 20-round magazine loaded: 406 g

- 30-round magazine loaded: 554g

Standard equipment:

- 20-round magazine
- three 30-round magazines
- four 15-round cartridge clips to load magazines
- cartridge clip cap
- cleaning rod
- cleaning kit, oiler
- sling
- pouch for magazines.
- Optional equipment:
- Blank firing attachment
- Luminescent sights
- Optical sight bed

Blood Donation

Donating blood had a whole new perspective for me after the heart surgery of my 2 year old nephew David. Even though it was a routine surgical procedure I was shocked that it required 4 liters of blood!! How many people had to donate their blood to save David's life? He is alive and healthy now thanks to 10 unknown blood donors. This event changed my mind about blood donation. I now understand that it is important not only for urgent cases, but for everyday routine surgery as well. I became a blood donor more than 20 years ago and it is likely that every blood donor has a similar motivation to donate part of themselves to help other people.

Blood for BiH

It was OF4 Kamen Nenov, EUFOR Medical Advisor's initiative to restart this past tradition and help the University Hospital Sarajevo with blood donations. On 20th August 2010, 17 EUFOR soldiers from Bulgaria,

Hungary, Ireland, Slovakia, Slovenia, and the former Yugoslav Republic of Macedonia gathered to symbolically give their blood for Bosnia and Herzegovina. We all had to pass a preliminary medical check, to ensure our blood was suitable for transfusion and, after that, we started the donation process. The chairs were, unexpectedly, very comfortable and the medical personnel were professional. The donation procedure was very similar to what I had experienced in Hungary; they used sterile disposable needles (single use) and the nurse was very good - the sting was almost painless. Everything went very smoothly and I also discovered that the EUFOR blood team had many experienced and regular blood donors. The winner was most probably OR6 Paddy Tobin from the Irish Armed Forces who was donating blood for the 50th time. The medical personnel were really thankful, as they said their medical institutions often lacked blood and patients had to queue for surgery.

After the donation I had the feeling that we had done something really helpful for this coun-



try. I know that all of us EUFOR soldiers are contributing to the safety and stability of this country, but donating blood was a direct link to the Bosnian people. After my end of tour somebody will live in Bosnia and Hercegovina with my blood in his or her body, so I will leave something real here: part of myself.

By Lt Col Boros László Csaba

Winners of EUFOR School Competition 2010 travel abroad with EUFOR Info Ops



The main SC prizes - Travels abroad: Slovenia, Hungary, Turkey and Austria.

Starting with July and going on still in September, pupils from schools that participated and won prizes in the EUFOR School Competition 2010, went on a series of trips abroad.

Trip to Hungary

On 23rd August 2010, EUFOR Info Ops team went to Tomislavgrad. There, they greeted a group of the secondary school pupils that was leaving for their seven day visit to Hungary.

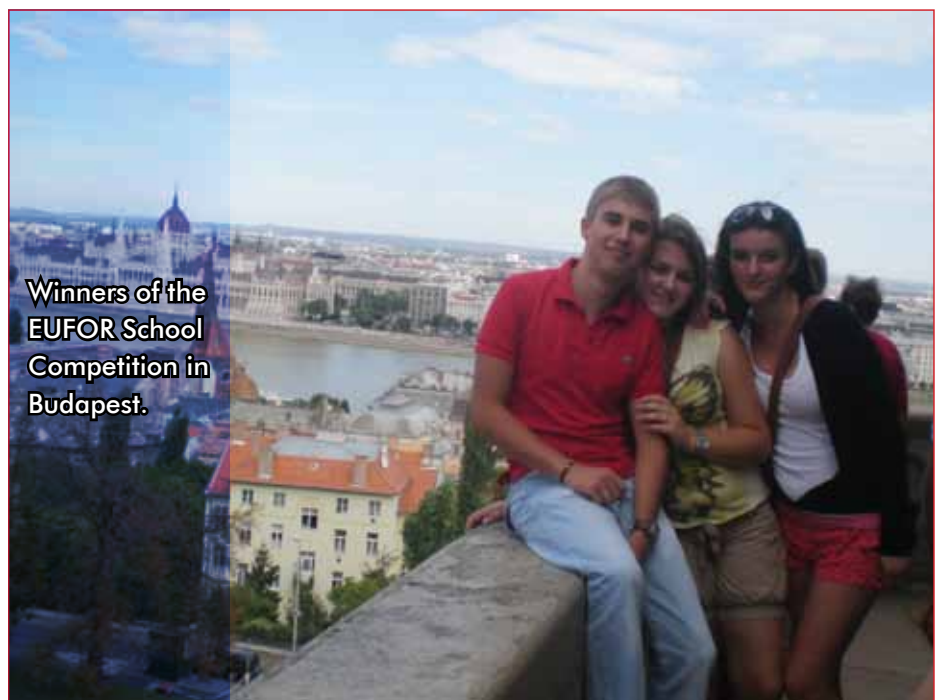
Four pupils of the „Marka Marulića“ Gymnasium – Tomislavgrad together with their professor won the trip to Budapest on the EUFOR School Competition 2010. The group project that this school had made was chosen as the best on the last EUFOR SC 2010, whose main subject was „My European Neighbors“.

The trip to Budapest was the

prize sponsored by the Hungarian Embassy in BiH, and the Croatian School in Budapest whose hospitality made their trip even more memorable. The Vaci Street, Buda Castle, Old Town, parliament are just some of the

places that our winners have visited. Professor Mrs. Lucijana Skočibušić-Gudelj expressed her gratitude to EUFOR, and to the Hungarian Embassy as the main sponsor of this excellent prize.

By **Almina Bašić**



Winners of the EUFOR School Competition in Budapest.

Trip to Turkey

On 10th August 2010, EUFOR ECD Chief, Colonel Svetlin Antonov, visited Sarajevo International Airport to greet a group of secondary school students. Five students of the High school “28th of June” East Sarajevo (RS), and three students of the Gymnasium Breza (Federation), together with their professors, spent 10 days in Turkey as their award for participation in EUFOR School Competition 2010.

The group projects that these two schools have made were chosen as some of the best in the last EUFOR School Competition 2010.

Istanbul offered various places and monuments for them to see. The pupils and professors visited many of the top sights such as Topkapi Palace, Ha-



ECD Chief, Lt Col Svetlin Antonov, visited Sarajevo Airport to greet a group of two secondary school pupils coming back from Turkey.

gia Sophia (Aya Sofya), the Blue Mosque (Sultanahmet Çamii). Professors Mrs. Aida Mušanović and Mrs. Milanka Mihajlović used this opportunity to express their gratitude to EUFOR, as the organizer, as well as to Turkish Embassy who was the main sponsor of the trip.

Trip to Slovenia

From 7th to 11th July 2010, five schools from BiH visited Slovenia.

22 pupils and five professors from „Fra Martina Nedića“ Gymnasium in Orasje (FBiH), Medicine School in Doboj (RS), High School „Ivo Andrić“ in Višegrad (RS), High Technical School in Mostar (FBiH) and „Edhem Mulabdić“ Gymnasium – Maglaj (FBiH) were awarded this trip due to their efforts at EUFOR School Competition 2010.

The Slovenian Embassy in BiH and the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of Slovenia played a big role in the realization of this project. Pupils and professors visited Ljubljana, Poljce, Bled, Portorož and Piran.

They were received with full state honors at the Ministry of Defence of the Republic of Slovenia, where they met Mrs. Ljubica Jelušič, Slovenian Minister of Defence, who extended the warm welcome to pupils and professors.

All the students agreed that the trip was wonderful, they felt like EU citizens, and they hope that Bosnia and Herzegovina will become an EU member soon.



Above: Info Ops Chief, Lt Col Belšak Ciril with Professors and pupils in Piran, Slovenia.

Right: Visit to Slovenia - Ljubljana City.



Endemic Flora and Fauna

Endemic is the organism which is indigenous only to a specific place, opposite to the organisms which are wide spread or brought to some area. BiH and its neighboring area is host of the many endemic animals and plants.

Dinaric karst water systems support 25% of the total of 546 fish species in Europe. Watercourses of this area support a large number of endemic species of fish. The river Neretva and its tributaries represent the main drainage system in the east Adriatic watershed and the foremost ichthyofaunal habitat of the region. The degree of endemism in the karst eco region is greater than 10% of the total number of fish species.

FAUNA:

• Experts are mentioning following fish like most known endemic species related to BiH:

- Neretvan Spined Loach (Bosnian: Neretvanski vijun) - *Cobitis narentana*

- Neretvan Softmouth trout (Bosnian: Neretvanska mekousna pastrmka) - *Salmo trutta obtusirostris oxyrhynchus*

- Turskyi Dace (Bosnian: Turski klijen) *Telestes turskyi*

- South Dalmatian Minnow (Bosnian: Trebinjska gaovica) *Phoxinellus pstrossii*

Only in Neretva river there are three endemic fish that should be protected in the upper part of the river, 3 in the middle



Pančičeva omorika (*Picea omorika*).

and 7 endemic fish in the lower part of the river.

• One of the most poisonous snakes of the Europe is Bosanski sargan (*Vipera berus bosnienis*). Often to be seen in Bjelasnica Mt. area.

• Herzegovina is home of some endemic salamanders like: Crni dazdevnjak (*Salamandra atra*) and Gusterica (*Lacerta oxycephala*)

• From about 2.088 sorts of the Trichoptera (Insect order) that exist on the Balkan, 827 lives in BiH. And 88 are endemic that cannot be seen anywhere else.

• In National resort Hutovo Blato during the research done



Bosanski sargan (*Vipera berus bosnienis*).

at 2000 were identified 163 sorts of the birds from 39 types of the birds That represents 51% of the all indentified sort of the birds in the BiH and 76, 47% all types of the birds identified in BiH (For birds cannot be used term endemic due to their migration and wide spread coverage area).

FLORA

The most of the endemic and endangered sorts of the plants can be found in Neretva area (Middle and the upper Neretva area) - approx 32%. Mountains Prenj and Cvrsnica have over 32 endemic plants and trees.

• Some of the well known endemic flora species in BiH are:

- Bosanska zvončica - *Symphandra hofmannii*

- Knapov karanfil- *Dianthus knappii* (Can be found only in Trebinje area)

- Frajnov karanfil- *Dianthus freynii* (Can be found in Mt. Prenj and Cvrsnica area)

- Probably the most known is Pančičeva omorika - *Picea omorika*. It was discovered by Botanist Josip Pancic at 1875 and 1887 he gave it the scientific description and name.

There are many areas in BiH which are host to many endemic flora and fauna species. With industrial development and changing of natural habitat they came under danger.

By Historical Office

Officers' Mess Night



From left to right: Colonel Pallan, former COS EUFOR Brigadier General Gerd Bischof, COM EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair and Lieutenant General Rainer Glatz.

“We cannot be perfect but we are unforgettable”

As every month our Chief of Staff hosted a dinner for all staff Officers. Over the last six months different Nations have organized the event so as to make the dinner a pleasant moment where comrades can get to know each other and socialize. At the same time the organizing country provides typical food, drinks and entertainment. I have attended most of these events and they were all nice and interesting.

In July our Senior Colonel Panaioli was invited by the COS to organize an Italian dinner for September. The day after he called us and said “we are in charge and we have to try to do something nice and different from the others”.

Salvatore Iorio, Francesco Ferrante, Giuseppe Saponaro, Fabiano Feliciani and I already

knew that the dinner would be the last dinner presented by Brigadier General Bischof and the last for the Italian contingent before withdrawal.

We each left the meeting with our tasks given by our Senior.

Two weeks after that first meeting we already knew the path we wanted to take and everything proceeded smoothly.

The menu was good and various, we tried to present a side of Italy that most people know less about and we showed how some stereotypes about Italians are true and some are not. In this we were helped by the magic staff of Italian DFAC kindly assigned to us by Colonel Coletta, Commander of the Carabinieri Contingent in BiH and Logistics Support Unit.

For the first time during the last month we had to change the position of the tables because more than 130 officers signed up to come to the mess night.

That night we also had other very important guests: COM EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair and Lieutenant General Rainer Glatz, Command-

er of German Operational Command and the new COS Brigadier General Günter Giesa.

We had all the ingredients for an “unforgettable” event and it turned out to be a really fun and pleasant night. We did our best to celebrate the last officers’ mess night for our COS and we are grateful to him for what he has done. It was at the same time the best way to say goodbye and thanks to our comrades who work with us in building 200.

But as Colonel Panaioli said in his introductory speech we will never forget the soldiers who have fallen during the last 15 years in this mission who represent the high price Italy paid for the safety and stability of this country.

Yes, it was a great night. Thanks to all the guests and thanks again General Bischof.

Thanks to Colonel Panaioli and all other people who cooperated with us to make this event so special.

Last but not least everything was perfect, but if something had gone wrong we could all have said: “maybe we are not perfect but we are unforgettable”.

By Captain Tommaso Gioffreda



Noelia Romero was born in Seville in 1983 and she is single. She joined to Spanish Marine Corps in 2001 and achieved her promotion in 2004.

Presently Noelia is posted in the Amphibious Brigade, in Brigade Headquarter to be precise. Previously, she has been posted in the Communications' Company inside the same Brigade.

"After 9 year of active service this is my first mission tour abroad and I feel really proud; mainly bearing in mind that this is the last contingent from Spanish Marine Corps in Bosnia i Herzegovina".

In this mission tour, Noelia is posted in MNBN



OR3 Noelia Romero

Kravica's waterfalls and the Blessed Virgin Mary in Medjugorje".

By Captain Juan Juárez

CIS section, where she can use the knowledge acquired after several years of training.

"During my free time, I practice sport in the magnificent facilities of Camp BUTMIR. I miss the possibility to swim, my favorite sport activity since I was 6 years old".

"Likewise, I am using this opportunity to get to know Bosnia i Herzegovina, I have visited Sarajevo; Mostar, that looks to me a very precious city;

I was born on 21st of April 1967 in Grodzisk Wielkopolski, a town situated in the west part of Poland near Poznań. I'm married and a father of 3 children, Mateusz (21), Marta (20) and Paulina (10). I have been living in Żagań since 1993; "the capital of Polish Armored Forces"

I decided to join the army 25 years ago. During my career I was platoon commander, company artillery commander (antitank direction rocket), COS battalion artillery, operational officer in HQ 11th Armored Cavalry Division. Now I have been working for the 5th Artillery Regiment in Sulechów as Chief of Operational Section (S-3). This is one of the modern artillery regiments in Polish Forces.

This is not my first mission abroad, I was twice in Iraq – HQ MND CS. In 2004 (Babylon) as Chief of Liaison Team and 2005



Major Miroslaw Buda

(Diwanayah) as Senior Coordination Officer (CIMIC G-9).

I arrived in Sarajevo in January 2010 in order to be employed as personnel controller/database manager in Personnel Branch. This position gives me a lot of pleasure, especially in and out processing because I can say "Welcome to Sarajevo" to every newcomer and say "good bye" af-

ter the mission. My mission is expanding because of the reduction and changes of the Polish contingent.

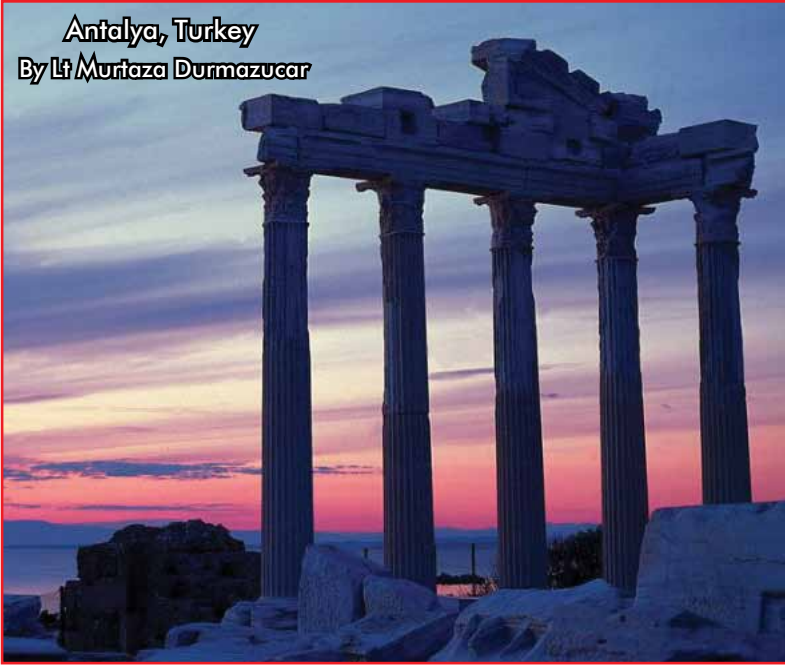
I'm enjoying this experience in Bosnia and Herzegovina because this position is different from my previous jobs; I like working in an international environment, meeting with very nice people from several countries with different culture and seeing different ways of working.

During my free time I like visiting very interesting places in BiH and Croatia, apart from that I collect euro coins from different nations.

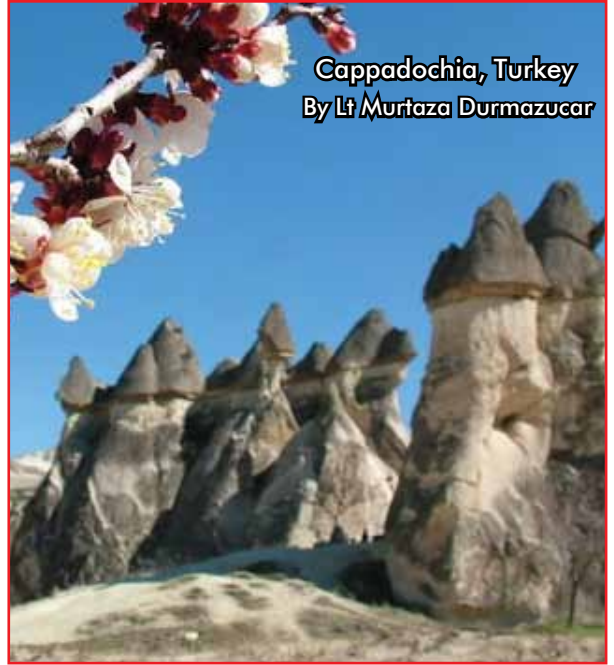
Last but not least I would like to invite all of you to visit Poland, because this is a very nice country with a lot of tourist attractions and clean environments. See you on the European Football Championship 2012.

By Major Miroslaw Buda

Antalya, Turkey
By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar



Cappadochia, Turkey
By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar



Krakow, Poland,
by Major Mirosław Buda



Barsana Monastery, Romania,
by Captain Iulian Tibirean



EUFOR INVITES ALL PRIMARY SCHOOLS IN BIH TO SIGN UP THEIR FOOTBALL TEAMS

FOR THE


EUFOR CUP 2010



The biggest school-teams indoor football tournament in BiH

 This is the second time EUFOR organizes the biggest indoor football tournament, for primary school teams from all parts of BiH. Last year, almost 500 boys from 48 teams, came from every corner of BiH for two days of fun and competition.

(type "EUFOR CUP 2009" in youtube.com to see how it was the last year).

 The top three teams from the last year's tournament had a chance to visit some European countries and spectator a football match, they normally watch only on television. The winners, 4th Primary School from Brcko, visited London and watched a match between Tottenham and Everton, the second finalist, primary school from Nemila visited Wolfsburg, and boys from Kladanj, who finished 3rd, visited Utrecht and Amsterdam in Holland.

 This year, EUFOR is making the competition much bigger - 'EUFOR CUP 2010' is coming to your neighborhoods. Enormous interest generated by last year's competition (more than 220 teams applied, and only 48 could be selected for the final tournament) highlighted the need for regional qualifiers that will give every team equal chance to participate in the finals. Therefore, we are organizing 4 regional qualifiers that will give us the best 16 teams that will participate in the finals.

TIME TABLE

City

TUZLA

BANJA LUKA

SARAJEVO

MEĐUGORJE

TOMISLAVGRAD

FINALS

When

7 October 2010

13 October 2010

20 October 2010

11 November 2010

17 November 2010

23-24 November 2010

Where

'Mejdan' sports hall

???

'Zetra' sports hall

'La Sportivo' sports centar

City sports hall

'Zetra' sports hall



Application forms, which can be found at a nearest EUFOR LOT House, and at web site www.euforbih.org are to be sent to the following fax or e-mail:

CONTACT:

INFO OPS, EUFOR HQ

Fax: (033) 495-224

e-mail: euforcup2010@gmail.com

Info Tel: (033) 495-242 & 495-118



www.euforbih.org