

March 2008

Discovering the Gastronomy
in Butmir Camp
Part 2

EUFOR **F**orum

EDITION 29

EUFOR Forum online at www.euforbih.org



IPU Civil Disturbance Exercise



*LOT House and AFBiH
Social-Military Event in Bihac*

New era for EUFOR and AFBiH

Spokesperson Media Summary

February 2008

By Major Dave Fielder Royal
Marines, EUFOR Spokesperson

Another month speedily passes by and EUFOR has seen a variety of media events - some momentous and some routine. Here is a summary:

EUFOR Candle mass Service

On Friday 1st February an ecumenical service for all Christian faiths was held at Camp Butmir. This was the first time that EUFOR has conducted such a service and was the culmination of a week of global Catholic and Orthodox services. Page six of this edition has a full report.

Kosovo and Serbia

3rd February saw the re-election of Boris Tadic to the position of President of Serbia. He was running against Tomislav Nikolic with the results being very close with the polls estimated at 51% against 47%. This result means that a more pro-European President is now in office in Serbia. Also on 17th February we have seen the unilateral declaration of independence of Kosovo. Statements were made to the media about EUFOR's capability to deal with any situation that could arise and that we viewed the security situation here in BiH to be remaining calm and stable. Serbia has rejected the declaration and Kosovo has seen some minor troubles, but otherwise this momentous event in the Western Balkans has passed off relatively

peacefully. We will now watch as "Europe's newest country" (according to the BBC quotes) begins to make its way in the world.



Kosovo and Serbia

CCSDD students visit EUFOR

On 4th February a group of 33 international students from the Centre for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development in Bologna, Italy visited EUFOR HQ as weeks visit to BiH. A full report on this can be seen in page six.

Op Comd Visit

On 6th February COM EUFOR hosted a visit by the Operational Commander, General Sir John McColl. He was here for an update briefing and also met with the HR/EUFR and COM NATO. Page five has a full report.

Macedonian Memorial Stone Laid

On 13th February a memorial stone was laid in honour of the eleven members of the Macedonian Contingent who were killed on 12 January 2008 when their Mi-17 helicopter crashed near Skopje. Images of this poignant event, led by COM EUFOR, can be seen on page 11.

AFBiH Visit to EUFOR

On 15th February the BiH Minister of Defence, Selmo Cikotic

and BiH Chief of the Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Sifet Podzic, visited EUFOR HQ to attend a meeting with COM. They discussed a number of issues regarding the progress made in the transferring of military responsibilities from EUFOR to the Armed

Forces of BiH (AFBiH). Details of this visit can be seen on page 5.

Spokesperson and Chief Press

Changeover

Next month will see a new EUFOR Chief Press Officer and Spokesperson. We depart Camp Butmir in late February and early March having spent a very interesting and intriguing time in the Press Office. We would like to thank all those who have made our stay here enjoyable and who have helped us in our work here. We leave BiH with the view that it is in safe hands and that the long term future for this country is very positive, in spite of the difficulties ahead. Vidimo Se – Fly Navy – Go Commando!

We have printed this issue in a glossy format as a trial. Let us know which you prefer – glossy or matt?



Op Comd Visit

EUFOR Forum

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The EUFOR Forum is produced by HQ EUFOR. It is fully funded by EUFOR, and authorised and published for the EUFOR forces in the area of responsibility.

The contents are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the coalition governments' defence departments.

The EUFOR Forum welcomes submissions. For deadline information phone the editor on +387 (0)33 495148, Fax: 495221; IPN 941-5148, Fax 941-5221

All copies must be submitted to:
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Submissions can also be made via e-mail to cpic_forum@eufor.eu.int
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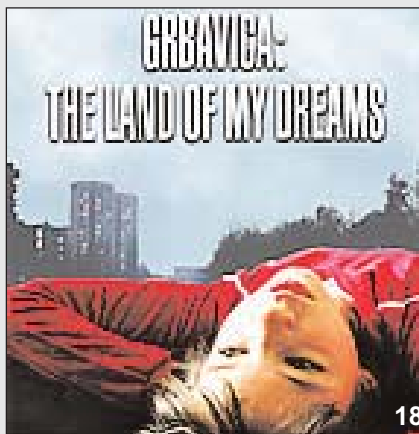
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EUFOR hands over Military Movement Control



COM EUFOR and Chief AFBiH signed the MoU



COM EUFOR

COM EUFOR, Major General Ignacio Martín Villalain, the Deputy Minister of Defence, Marina Pendes and the Chief of the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Sifet Podzic, attended at ceremony at the Logistics Command, Vojvoda Radomir Putnik Barracks in Doboij on 25 January 2008.

The purpose of this ceremony was to formally hand over the responsibility of military movement control from EUFOR to the AFBiH. A Memorandum of Understanding was signed by both COM EUFOR and Chief of the AFBiH Joint Staff.

Significant step

The media were invited to witness this event. This now allows the AFBiH to take direct control of their own military movements of personnel, weapons, and equipment. This makes a hugely significant step in the ongoing Defence Reform Process that began in 1995 after the Dayton Peace Accord was signed.

The Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina continue to play an important role in the integration of country into Europe and NATO and these models show the success that can be achieved when the will exists. COM EUFOR personally congratulated those present “for the successful implementation of the BiH Defence Reform”.



Statements to the media

COM EUFOR and HR/EUSR met with NATO General McColl

COM EUFOR met on 6 February with General Sir John McColl, NATO's Deputy Supreme Allied Commander Europe and Operation Commander for Operation ALTHEA.

The purpose of the meeting were comprehensive updates by COM EUFOR and later by the HR/EUSR, Miroslav Lajcak, on the military and political situation in BiH. General McColl also met with NATO and EUPM.

During the meeting with COM EUFOR, General McColl noted that the security situation here in BiH remains calm and stable. General McColl especially praised steady



General McColl with COM EUFOR and HQ staff

progress in terms of Defence Reform and other military activities including the recent handover of military movement control from EUFOR to the Armed Forces of

BiH. General McColl stated that "EUFOR continues to be a stabilising influence within BiH and will continue to remain here as long as is necessary".

BiH Armed Forces Visit to EUFOR

On 15 February the BiH Minister of Defence, Selmo Cikotic and the BiH Chief of the Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Sifet Podzic, visited EUFOR Headquarters to attend a meeting with COM EUFOR, Major General Ignacio Martín Villalain. During this time they discussed a number of issues regarding the progress made in the transferring of military responsibilities from EUFOR to the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH).

Specifically the recent success of the countermining activity was reviewed. Also raised was the issue of weapons and ammunition storage sites. EUFOR and the AFBiH have been conducting joint activities in the process of verification and significant progress has been made recently. The stor-

age of both weapons and ammunition in BiH has caused concerns in the past, but the work that continues in these areas by both EUFOR and the AFBiH will ensure that a safe and secure environment will exist.

COM EUFOR has recently visited an ammunition storage site to personally view the methods of the verification teams. He was very pleased with the work and

passed on this view during the meeting with Selmo Cokotic and Lieutenant General Sifet Podzic. The meeting concluded with a discussion over joint training activities between EUFOR and the AFBiH. 2008 has been described as a "year of training" for the AFBiH and this meeting has helped in the arrangement of more advanced training plans in support of this objective.



COM EUFOR and Lieutenant General Sifet Podzic

EUFOR Candlemass Service

On the evening of Friday 1st February an ecumenical service for all Christian faiths was held at Camp Butmir. This was a historical event as it was the first time that EUFOR has conducted such a service. It was the culmination of a week for the Catholic and Orthodox denominations that have held common services around the world. Prayers for unity across all Christian denominations were said by the three EUFOR Chaplains; Major Aivar Sarapik from the Estonian Army, Lieutenant Don Rino from the Italian Carabinieri and Lieutenant Colonel Czeslaw Olszak from the Polish Army.



Participants lighted candles

The service was attended by COM EUFOR, Major General Ignacio

Martín Villalaín, senior members of NATO and up to 100 military and civilian personnel who work in Camp Butmir. Italian military personnel and young local civilians provided a combined choir. The civilian members, aged from 16 to 25, live near Camp Butmir and have become involved in many religious events with both EUFOR and NATO.

The service that was held occurred in the Gymnasium, which is now a temple for bodily health turned into a temple for spiritual health. A Teze style of service occurred which is based on a Catholic community in

France to accommodate all Christian faiths and denominations.

CCSDD Students Visit EUFOR

On 4th February a group of 33 international students from the Centre for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development (CCSDD) based in Bologna, Italy visited EUFOR Headquarters as part of a study week in BiH. The students came from Austria, Canada, Croatia, BiH, Germany, Italy, Sweden, United Kingdom and the USA

They received a welcome introduction from the Deputy Commander of EUFOR, Brigadier General Carmelo DE CICCIO and this was followed by a very comprehensive presentation about the military intervention in BiH from 1995. Historical and political perspectives were discussed in a lively question and answer session and the students were told about the current safe and stable environment that now exists in BiH.

The CCSDD provides research and training for individuals and groups from countries undergoing the process of democratic transition in Central and South Eastern Europe, as well as North Africa. Through conferences, workshops, and other programs, the CCSDD



Students and the Press Office

strives to address issues of civil society development, legal reform and other concerns associated with democratization. The CCSDD operates through a partnership between the University Of Bologna School Of Law and the Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Bologna Centre.

IPU Civil Disturbance Exercise

On the 12th of February 2008 at the IPU, a Civil Disturbance Operation (CDO) exercise took place. The CDO is one of the many tasks performed by the IPU.

The scenario centered on public interview for a political figure who had released statements concerning supposed collusion between personnel of the local LOT house and some organized crime members with discrediting the EUFOR.

Local demonstrators gathered around the LOT house threatening the personnel and demanded that they leave immediately their territory. The situation degenerated very quickly and local police requested the intervention of EUFOR IPU and MNBN in order to control the riot and re-establish a safe and secure situation.

The IPU deployed two multinational companies to show their strength and deter the demonstrators. An attempt to negotiate with the rioters occurred but IPU intervention became inevitable.

The IPU unit moved in the direc-



TESTUDO formation in action

tion of the crowd followed by their vehicles assuming the TESTUDO formation when objects were launched. Despite the move forward, the most violent hardliners remained for more confrontation and within a flash a maneuver team stepped out from the formation and arrested a hardliner.

The rest of the rioters moved behind the barricade and set fire to it. The IPU Commander ordered a maneuver to remove the barricade. In an instant the IPU assumed a new formation. Once they had prepared the formation, the IPU grenadiers, released



IPU assaulting barricades

tear gas to disperse the crowd. Secondly, an IPU team, in coordination with MNBN EOD, inspected the barricade to identify its weakest point and to trace any explosive booby traps. An IPU vehicle hooked up and towed away a burning car. Yet again, another IPU technique was illustrated, how to pass through narrow spaces with change of formations on the move.

Finally a charge was ordered to disperse the crowd and to set up a secure cordon around the LOT House. The second IPU Coy simultaneously, advanced and faced the rest of the rioters in order to totally

disperse them from the area and keep them at a distance. The demonstration terminated as the extraction team approached the area and picked up the LOT House personnel and carried them away to a safe destination.

“Eleven Shining Stars in the Sky”

From 18 to 22 February in EUFOR HQ a map exercise (MAPEX) was carried out by Operations Division. The name for the first map exercise was “Eleven Shining Stars in the Sky” (ESSIS) and it was a way to dedicate the Exercise to the 11 Macedonian personnel who lost their lives in the tragic helicopter crash.

The aim of the exercise was to practice HQ and planning process.

The exercise scenario was based on preventing the illegal seizure of stored weapons and military equip-



Some of MAPEX participants

ment in WSS/ASS and ensuring security of SA Matrix and IC personnel.

AFBiH personnel was involved as observers while two officers from AFBiH Operational Command participated in all phases. Exercise ended with sum up and hot wash-up on 22nd Feb 2008. Then lesson learned process will start with the contributions from all divisions, MN Bn and IPU.

EUFOR LOT Seminar (14th and 15th February)



LOT Seminar participants in Camp Butmir



LOT Konjic "On Air"

*Captain Klaus Reichenberger, CO
LOT Konjic*

"Can we spend a working day with the LOT house?" LOT Konjic was approached by the local radio station of the village. Of course we took the chance to inform the population in our area of responsibility about our work and about us. Approval from the EUFOR Press Office came quickly and we scheduled the day with Mrs. Jasminka Tabakovic from Radio Konjic for the 30th January.

Sunny start

The morning started with sunshine which gave us a good feeling for our media event. Although it is not usual for soldiers to deal with journalists there were no concerns within the team. For questions that might exceed LOT responsibility we had Captain Nicolai Tschol to support us from the EUFOR Press Office on the spot. To give an authentic picture to the public we decided not to change our agenda and started with a common breakfast at 07.30

together with Mrs. Tabakovic where between the daily arrangements and some small talk she did her first interviews. "What is your impression of the country? How do you like Bosnian people? Is there a lot of difference for you compared to Germany?" She gave the audience a brief picture about the persons behind the EUFOR officials that receive the people when they're looking for help in the LOT House. After the first team left for their daily business we went on a car patrol to the school in Seonica to meet Mr. Mustafa Sofic, the princi-

pal, and some of his teachers. In a warm and welcoming atmosphere we discussed cooperation between the school and the LOT team in the past and what we would like to do in future.

Examples of cooperation

Mr. Sofic did not hesitate to give an interview to the radio about the good cooperation. LOT Konjic provided support such as during the EUFOR school competition and the creation of the school magazine. Proud about the latest achievements the principal gave us a guided tour across the school, showing the new heating system, the computer room, classrooms, library and the Bosnian culture cabinet. One hours' drive back and some small talks later the team members gave their final statements into the microphone of Mrs. Tabakovic. A short summary was already broadcasted the day after. It was kind of funny for us to hear our voices "on air" when the full radio story was broadcasted on Friday 31 January.



Captain Klaus Reichenberger with journalist

LOT House and AFBiH Social-Military Event in Bihac

Lt. Jon P Skar / NORLOT

The Norwegian contribution to the EUFOR LOT mission ended on the 18th of February 2008. In order to show their appreciation for the good cooperation with that has occurred between EUFOR RCC1, the BiH Army and the local police, a social-military event was held at the Adil Besic Military Barracks in Bihac.

60 persons from within the RCC1, NATO, EUPM, the Bosnian Army and the Tactical Support Unit (TSU) from nine different nations participated in the event. A special thanks to the Bosnian Army's representatives in Bihac for their support in this event. If it was not for their excellent cooperativeness the event would not have been carried out according to Major Aspheim, CO NORLOT Cazin.



Chief NORLOT Major Jan Aspheim conversing with the former T-55 commander Rifet Demirovic assisted by the Linguist Jasmin.

Achieved goals

The purpose of the event was for participants to exchange experiences and to mix the groups regardless nationality and unit, and to have a different day with a lot of fun. The teams had to go through a variety of assignments to achieve as many points possible in order to win a competition.

Each nation had brought their own weapons in order for others to learn

about them.

The Swiss with their SIG's, Bulgaria and Romania with their various AK-47 editions, and the Norwegian AG-3. The AG-3 7.62 cal however, was definitely the highlight during the automatic fire session at the shooting range. The teams practiced re-assembling and assembling and the session was concluded with a competition.

A pleased Major Aspheim, Chief NORLOT CAZIN could conclude that the event had been a success and that the goals were achieved. "Not only do we see the importance of our work liaising and monitoring in Bosnia, but also the great value of strengthening the bonds between fellow soldiers as well as with representatives from the Bosnian Army and the Police", says Aspheim.

LOT Gradiska in visit

Recently LOT Bosanska Gradiska had the great opportunity to visit a logging site in the Kozara Mountains in the southern part of Municipality of Dubica. The LOT was guided by the man in charge, forest engineer and director of the forestry commission of Dubica, Zoran Drevnica. We were especially interested in the way Municipality of Dubica maintains its fores, which was one of the chosen municipalities who had the luck to be supported by an NGO that provided knowledge and small financial support, concerning forest maintenance.



LOT members on the site

On the log collecting site where all the logs were brought to, after being cut and prepared in the forest, it was all very muddy, almost swamp like. The LOT followed Zoran and listened

to his exciting explanations concerning wood, tree and forest maintenance. The interesting journey went on by getting in contact with the loggers. They work hard and it is not for everybody to stay all day outside, no matter what the weather conditions are.

We had a very interesting time and many questions could be answered and a good exchange took its place. In springtime we will be invited again, for a re-forestation project, where we will hopefully have the possibility to maintain relationships and maybe even to plant a small tree.

No more CIMIC in BiH?

1Lt Thomas Zinkl, Deputy Chief
CIMIC Austria

Italy already decided to withdraw its CIMIC troops after completion of their construction project in Visegrad. Are all the CIMICs gone now? No, there's still one active in the European Althea mission. CIMIC Austria will remain as the last specialized CIMIC team in BiH and continues its contributions for development, education and support of the ones in need.

Accomplished projects

CIMIC is not a EUFOR asset anymore. The concept of Austrian CIMIC, the last one of these specialized teams BiH, is based on national guidelines and also funded from the national line.

The past two months have been very demanding and a true challenge for Austrian CIMICs. Small campaigns to support the poor with clothes, food, furniture and especially wood during the heating period are daily routine of a CIMIC team. We should keep in mind that there's not just the vibrant downtown Sarajevo but also a lot of people on the countryside who did not get a benefit from all the different international support and development programs for BiH.

Apart from everyday's business three more or less larger projects have been accomplished. The most important and recent was the reconstruction of the school "Kuli Ban" in Visoko. It was completed with the official Reopening Ceremony on the 17 January 2008 attended by the



CIMIC members with local population

Austrian Ambassador to Bosnia & Herzegovina, his Excellency Mr. Werner Almhofer, the Austrian Military Contingent Commander, Colonel Günther Rozenits, the Premier of the Zenica-Doboj Canton, Mr. Miralem Galijasevic and Director of the Austrian Cooperation Office for Science, Education and Culture in BiH, Mrs Samira Seferovic. The project was worth 48.000 Euro and comprised of heating, school furniture and the reconstruction of the roof. Can you imagine your son or daughter being taught in a school during wintertime when the temperature in the classroom is heading for zero and water is coming in from the roof? A desperate picture for us, coming from the more developed countries of and close to the European Union. As desperate as the imagination of children not getting a single present for Christmas because the family needs all the money to survive. No chance to divert some money to gladden the children with a little Christmas gift. But in the end at least for 5.000 Bosnian children Christmas 2007 took place with a small gift box from Austria, when

CIMIC and the Round Table association cooperated for a campaign in Austrian schools and the scholars there packed Christmas parcels for the children of BiH.

"Computers for Schools"

An extensive still ongoing project is called "computers for school". Approximately 400 used computer systems were rebuilt and refurbished in cooperation with the NATO HQ Sarajevo. Around 70 systems were delivered until now in the areas of Bratunac, Vlasenica and Tuzla. A success story for example is the donation to the Tourism School in Vlasenica where already brochures and leaflets have been designed with these systems. As we know, Bosnia wants to build up a Tourism industry an attract people from Europe and all over the world to visit this beautiful country. But also in other schools the computer lessons are depending on this project. With no doubt it can be seen as a good investment in the country's future. And it can be seen as an answer to the question: "Do we still need CIMIC in BiH?"

Italian Civil Military Cooperation Unit closes down its Bosnia-Herzegovina office

A farewell ceremony for the closure of the Italian Civil Military Cooperation Unit (CIMIC) of EUFOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina took place in Camp BUTMIR on 25th January 2008.

Since 1998, the contribution in terms of design and site management of the Italian CIMIC Unit has assisted BiH Institutional Authorities in many restructuring activities and, in some cases, in building up infrastructures, as well as restoring essential services for the population.

Sustainable projects

Thanks to the humanitarian projects carried out, the Italian CIMIC Unit has improved the economical situation in its areas of responsibility, through the activation of “local economic environments”, and has supported the development of the Country by directly involving the local Institutions, and such supporting them in the difficult process of rebuilding their capabilities and credibility.

During his remarks, EUFOR Deputy Commander and Italian Senior Officer in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Brigadier General Carmelo De CICCO, pointed out that the Italian CIMIC Unit always set up “sustainable projects”, which



DCOM EUFOR Brigadier General Carmelo De Cicco holds a speech

encouraged the integration among the entities and promoted the improvement of the quality of life as well.

Conclusion

He added: “Italian CIMIC personnel concluded their mandate confi-

dent of having accomplished their tasks at their best, thanks to projects in such sectors as Safety, Roads, Education and Health Service for a total amount of about 8.3 million euros of EU and Italian funds. Even if we are aware that these public

works are only a little part of what the population needs, we are sure that we have contributed in a noteworthy way to give hope to the people of this Country. Furthermore, we are confident that the local Authorities will responsibly employ and maintain everything Italians have done, and will continue to provide BiH people with what they need”.



Celebratory cake

Photo Collage



Change of Command in Polish Contingent



EUFOR Lays Macedonian Memorial Stone in Camp Butmir



Change of Command in French Contingent

Slovenia

Republic of Slovenia is a country in southern Central Europe bordering Italy to the west, the Adriatic Sea to the southwest, Croatia to the south and east, Hungary to the north-east, and Austria to the north. The capital of Slovenia is Ljubljana.



At various points in Slovenia's history, the country has been part of the Roman Empire, the Duchy of Carantania (only modern Slovenia's northern part), the Holy Roman Empire, the Habsburg Monarchy, the Austrian Empire (later known as Austria-Hungary), the State of Slovenes, Croats and Serbs, the Kingdom of Serbs, Croats and Slovenes (renamed to Kingdom of

Yugoslavia in 1929) between the two World Wars, and the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia from 1945 until gaining independence in 1991.

Slovenia is a member of the European Union and is currently the president of the EU, the Council of Europe and NATO.

Four major European geographic regions meet in Slovenia: the Alps, the Dinarides, the Pannonian plain, and the Mediterranean. Slovenia's highest peak is Triglav (2,864 m; 9,396 ft); the country's average height above the sea level is 557 metres (1,827 ft). Around one half of the country (11,691 km²; 4,514 sq

mi) is covered by forests.

FACTS

Full name: Republic of Slovenia

Population: 2 million (UN, 2005)

Capital: Ljubljana

Area: 20,273 sq km (7,827 sq miles)

Major languages: Slovenian

Major religion: Christianity

Life expectancy: 73 years (men), 80 years (women) (UN)

Monetary unit: 1 euro = 100 cents

Main exports: Machinery and transport equipment, chemicals, household goods

GNI per capita: US \$17,350 (World Bank, 2006)

Internet domain: .si

International dialling code: + 386

FACTS

Full name: Kingdom of Spain

Population: 44.7 million (official figure, 2007)

Capital: Madrid

Area: 505,988 sq km (195,363 sq miles)

Major languages: Spanish (Castilian), Catalan and its variant Valencian, Gallego (Galician), Euskera (Basque)

Major religion: Christianity

Life expectancy: 76 years (men), 83 years (women) (UN)

Monetary unit: 1 euro = 100 cents

Main exports: Transport equipment, agricultural products

GNI per capita: US \$25,360 (World Bank, 2006)

Internet domain: .es (.cat for Catalonia)

International dialling code: + 34

Spain, officially either Spain or Kingdom of Spain, is a country located in south-



western Europe on the Iberian Peninsula. The Spanish mainland is bordered to the south and east almost entirely by the Mediterranean Sea ; to the north by France, Andorra, and the Bay of Biscay; and to the west by the Atlantic Ocean and Portugal. Spanish territory also includes the Balearic Islands in the Mediterranean, the Canary Islands in the

Spain

Atlantic Ocean off the African coast, and two autonomous cities in North Africa that border Morocco.

With an area of 504,030 km², Spain

is the second largest country in Western Europe (behind France).

Spain is a constitutional monarchy organised as a parliamentary democracy, and has been a member of the European Union since 1986. It is a developed country with the ninth largest economy in the world and fifth largest in the EU, based on nominal GDP.

Press Office Editorial

FORUM definition: *In Roman times this was a public space in the middle of a city and was often used for public debate. Sometimes, full and frank discussions occurred. Sometimes there was censorship. EUFOR FORUM is keen that full and frank discussions occur. We are very keen to see your views on any subject that you may feel strongly about and will attempt to publish those we receive, based on space available. We will not carry out any censorship, but will make adjustments to the English if necessary. We will also have to avoid issues that have Operational Security implications.*

Recently the EUFOR Press Office has conducted a series of reviews of the places to eat, drink and socialise in Camp Butmir. We began this work after talking to many people who felt that some comments were needed and allow customers to see what was on offer. The result of these reviews has been a huge debate, which is both

positive and healthy. Our intention was to analyse what was on offer from a customer's point of view and we believe that this has started a good discussion.

TACO and HQ Commandant are setting up a group that will conduct work with the concessionaires from a supply point of view. This along with the surveys we have conducted on behalf of the customers should ensure that the quality of service to EUFOR and NATO personnel is improved and that customers feel that they are getting value for money. We have had much feedback about these surveys and are pleased that in certain areas we have already seen an improvement in customer service. We are, of course, always pleased to receive constructive criticism of our work.

We intend to continue our informative work in areas such as the PX's and shops and also re-visiting the restaurants.

Our policy in the FORUM is the same as that as we have with the world's media – "An open and transparent information flow that does not hide anything".

Steakhouse

A few weeks ago, a new restaurant opened in Camp Butmir: The Steakhouse in the IPU camp. It is bit difficult to find, situated behind the hospital. When we get there on a normal working day, the place is already busy. To sum it up: The food



is excellent, the service good, it is a bit noisy and offers basically the same then food the IPU pizzeria. Special offers are available, for example fresh fish. The quality of the food is without doubt superb. The portions are huge, just try the Italian starters, absolutely tasty with very nice homemade bread on the side. There are only few steak dishes available, but they are worth trying

out. Cooked to the point, tender and very tasty. Other main courses include Pizza, Pasta and Salads. Another point worth mentioning are the very competitive prices.

The service can be sometimes a bit on the rough side, but always friendly and you feel at home immediately.

Prices		😊
Comforts		😐
Quality of the service		😊
Quality of the food/beverage		😊
Conditions of the place		😞
Presence of smoking area		😊
Entertainment		😐
Noise		😞
Toilets clean		😐
Service friendly		😊
Location		😐
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	😊
	Beverage	😊
	Pasta	😊
	Meat	😊
	Fish	😊
	Deserts	😊

The only thing it isn't: It is not a Steakhouse as you would expect one, more like a second IPU pizzeria. But still a good thumbs up!

El Tapeo

The beginning

Tapeo Bar is situated next to the Dining Facility (DFAC) within Camp Butmir and occupies one of the best locations. “Tapeo” is a Spanish word but surely you would never find it in a dictionary if you looked it up. It means the action of tasting different meals and drinks from several parts of the country. The Tapeo is an essential part of the Spanish Gastronomy.

The Bar is composed of two areas. The first one is an indoor area which simulates a traditional bar from Madrid or Valencia. There, you can appreciate a classical indoor decoration based on Spanish pictures and posters. There you can enjoy your drink watching television on a large screen while tasting one of the most famous Spanish tapas. The great problem in this part is the space. That’s the reason some people never go on Sunday, because you could become uncomfortable. Another disadvantage is the music. Normally there is no music, making this place boring and too quiet. The second one is an outdoor area which simulates the area outside a Spanish bar, although in winter time and due to bad weather is covered with a blue top. Despite that top, sometimes you can get cold.

The service

On the other hand, the best in Tapeo is the menu and the food quality. Both are good. The menu reflects the wide Spanish gastronomy from all parts of the country. You can taste several meals from a selection of Spanish cheese to one



of the most famous Spanish specialty, the Spanish paella. Eggs fried with potatoes, Spanish omelette, Black rice or Galician octopuses are some examples of that. In the Tapeo Bar you will never see a pool table or a dart board because when you

enter there, you begin to concentrate on the main issue... the Spanish tapa.

Because the paella is a plate based on fishes and sea fruits the cost is between 6 and 7 euros but El tapeo is the only place in Camp Butmir that can offer it.

Bar personnel are welcoming and always ready to serve. They speak English, Spanish and of course local language. If you have any problem you can ask for “Mamy”. She is the cook and she will always attend to your comments.

Conclusion

In summary, choosing the Tapeo Bar is a very nice election based on excellent location, friendly personnel and Spanish food services although they should make the spaces bigger. Although some prices are high, a tentative thumbs up.

Prices		☹️
Comforts		☹️
Quality of the service		😊
Quality of the food/beverage		😊
Conditions of the place		☹️
Presence of smoking area		😊
Entertainment		☹️
Noise		😡
Toilets clean		☹️
Service friendly		😊
Location		😊
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	☹️
	Beverage	😊
	Pasta	n/a
	Meat	☹️
	Paella	😊
	Deserts	n/a

Echos 1 “Shelter”

The beginning

Last month we had a good look at CJ10 or ECHOS 2, as it is also known. This month we investigated its sister establishment, ECHOS 1 for another of our ongoing reviews.

What’s on the menu?

As we enter ECHOS 1 we are greeted with an overwhelming sense of Déjà vu, as we say in English. The décor and atmosphere resembles that of CJ10 and the corporate identity is spread throughout the building. However, there are very subtle differences. First, is that fact that the building is on two floors. Second is the way that smoking and non-smoking customers are separated. For some, smoking is the most un-social habit that can occur in a social environment; for others it is the centre piece of any society event! At ECHOS 1 both groups are catered for. Downstairs is the non-smoking area, laid out with separated areas so that groups of people can sit in isolation if wanted. There is a variety of lounge seats, tables, large TV, obligatory music and a games area with pool and slots machines. In addition, there is the capability for surfing the web, although we have not investigated this in depth.

Main Course

Because it was lunch time on a Saturday we ordered some food. Being slightly indecisive we asked at the counter what was good. The



girl serving was very helpful and friendly and we ordered a Pasta dish and also the Nasi Goreng (A Malaysian speciality), plus some soft drinks. We made ourselves comfortable and awaited our food whilst looking around the downstairs. A short while later the girl at the counter came over to explain that dish we had ordered was not available, apologised and then gave us some other options instead. We settled for Spaghetti Bolognese and were happy that we had been treated in such a good manner. When the

food arrived the Spaghetti Bolognese was good and filled a much need hole. The Nasi Goreng was unusual but had some interesting aspects, but the rice was definitely more than a day old – one of our testers was trained by the US Navy as a chef and knows a thing or two about cooking.

Après Dinner

After lunch we had a look upstairs at the smoking area, which again was very comfortable and welcoming for those who need to smoke.

ECHOS 1 is situated right in the heart of PX land in the main Butmir Camp and hence is very well located for passing trade. It looks inviting and is. Compared to its sister ECHOS 1 is almost everything that CJ10 just fails to be. ECHOS 1 provides simple food of a good overall standard, comfortable surroundings and a good location. Its prices are the same as CJ10 and so the customer should decide if this is OK for them. Overall thumbs up, but some drinks prices can be found cheaper elsewhere, although perhaps not with the food options on offer here.

Prices		☹️
Comforts		😊
Quality of the service		😊
Quality of the food/beverage		😐
Conditions of the place		😊
Presence of smoking area		😊
Entertainment		😊
Noise		😐
Toilets clean		😐
Service friendly		😊
Location		😊
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	😊
	Beverage	😊
	Pasta	😐
	Meat	😊
	Fish	n/a
	Deserts	😐

CIANO – Bar, Grill

The beginning

Ciano is probably the most hidden restaurant in Camp Butmir, apart from the IPU Steak House. It is located next to the Turkish Bank which has the only cash dispenser inside the base. CIANO is a small Italian Restaurant hosting the guests in one room equipped with rustic wooden benches and tables. Actually it appears more like a Snack Bar. Toilets are outside and shared with the German Corner which is in the near vicinity of CIANOs. An Italian TV is always on and in the whole restaurant it is open fire for the smokers. The place was not too busy when we visited. Maybe the simple and sparse interior and the feeling that you have to put your jacket back on after a while does not make it a very comfortable place during the cold season.

Service

Nevertheless what warms you up in there is the very friendly and inviting service. When your glass gets empty you'll get a new one served with a smile on the face without waiting for a long time. The menu gives you a variety of pizzas, pasta and meat.

Starter and Main Dish

For the starter we took "bruschetta", a famous Italian "antipasto", which made us looking forward to the main dishes. We jumped on the pasta and, just to taste it, ordered additionally a pizza margherita for the table. To be honest, the pizza was not bad but nothing in compari-




son to the ones served in IPU pizzeria. The pasta was good apart from the one with lots of cream which screamed for several grappa afterwards.

Conclusion

What made us put the thumbs down for a short time was the so called Tiramisu that was just a frozen look-a-like but had nothing to do with the soft and creamy dessert you expect when you order it. Talking about the price, thumbs have to go up again without any doubt. The price performance relation or the so called value for money is top, and the environment is quiet enough to talk to each other. So, if you are looking for entertainment or games this

small restaurant won't be your first choice, but if you want value for money food and good service without any extra frills Ciano is for you. Undecided thumbs.

Prices		😊
Comforts		😞
Quality of the service		😊
Quality of the food/beverage		😐
Presence of smoking area		😐
Entertainment		😐
Noise		😊
Toilets clean		😐
Service friendly		😊
Location		😐
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	😐
	Beverage	😊
	Pasta	😊
	Meat	😐
	Fish	n/a
	Deserts	😞

	Weather Outlook			
	Weather Outlook	Mean Temp	Mean Min Temp	Mean Max Temp
	March	5.1 °C	0.6 °C	10.4 °C

Death and the Dervish

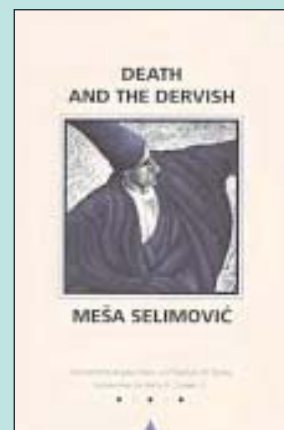
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Ahmed Nuruddin is the sheikh of a tekke, the head of a small religious order in a town in Ottoman Bosnia. At forty, he is a settled and respected member of the community, until pushed onto a new path by successive shocks: the arrest of his brother and an encounter with a fugitive from justice. These lead him to question previous certainties and bring him into conflict with the local authorities. He becomes part of the political system himself; ill-suited to that, he comes to an unhappy end.

Death and the Dervish follows throughout the first-person perspective of Nuruddin, with

little dialogue and much introspective soul-searching. But it is not difficult to read: the story, though superficially sparse, maintains a continuous suspense. And there is a fascinating array of other characters, seen through Nuruddin's sometimes insightful and sometimes naive eyes.

Death and the Dervish is a masterpiece, a compelling psychological study and a spell-binding novel which approaches poetry in the intensity of its language. It's hard to believe it took thirty years for an English translation to appear.



Bosnian words Greetings

Good morning	Dobro jutro
Good afternoon	Dobar dan
Good evening	Dobro vece
Good bye	Doviđenja
Good night	Laku Noæ
Congratulations	Ëestitam
What' new?	Sta ima?
How are things?	Kako ide?
How are you? (formal)	Kako si?
How are you? (informal)	Kako ste?
Pleased to meet you	Drago mi je

Laka

The Bosnian State Television (BHRT) chose Laka to represent BiH at the 2008 Eurovision Song Contest.

Out of 31 shortlisted songs, the seven-member Commission has opted for Elvir Lakovic Laka, and the song with the working title Pokusaj (Try).

This, however, is just a working title of the song



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that will first be presented to the Bosnian public in a live special TV show programme on the Bosnian State Television on Sunday, 2 March 2008.

Grbavica

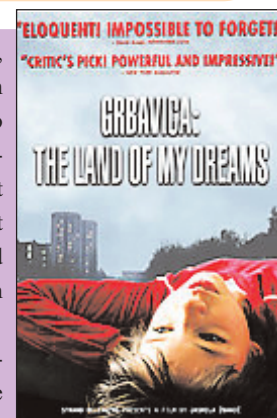
**M
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Esma is a middle-aged single mother living with her pre-teen daughter, Sara (Luna Mijovic, making a fantastic debut), in post-war Sarajevo. Their lives are like most others there—the war might be over, but the struggle to live a decent life is always present.

Desperation follows. Sara is desperate to learn the truth about her father; Esma is desperate to earn or borrow the funds for the school trip for Sara. Emotion overwhelms as tension between the two grow, leading to a deep, dark confession that changes Sara's life forever, but relieves Esma of a weight she's carried for a long, long time.

There is a bleakness to this story, but the film does leave the viewer with a sense of hope for everyone still so affected by the war. It is also a wonderful mother-daughter story that holds true to the timeless sentiment that the bond between mother and child can never be broken—even in the most dire of circumstances.

Grbavica was a critic and crowd festival favorite—including winning the Golden Bear for Best Film at the 2006 Berlin Film Festival.



Soldier in Spotlight

Staff-Sergeant Helena Pereira Lopez was born in December 1974 in the City of Lugo and grew up in La Coruña in the very north-western part of Spain. She has been married for seven years and lives and works currently in Cadiz in South-Spain. Because she always wanted to work in the military she joined the Spanish Navy in 1995. After training as navigator and signalwoman she became a sailor on various frigates and amphibious vessels for several years. In this time she travelled a lot in the Mediterranean and Atlantic Sea and also participated in many exercises and missions like SNFL and others

that led her also to Iraq. In EUFOR, since mid of July 2007, she has been the Admin of the COS-Office and will leave at the beginning of March.

Her duties include besides running the office and acting as a link to all divisions also national business. This

job totally differs from all that she has done before. “For me as a Navy-Soldier it is the first On-Shore-Mission. It is a great honor and an extraordinary privilege to take part in this mission. It is very exciting to work in such an international environment and see how different nations operate together” the passionate reader of historical novels states. “For the future I want to pass my exams in Italian and make my degree in sociology at a distance university next year. I wish to join the High Readiness Forces but it would be great if I sometime could be assigned to an embassy – just doing something different.”



Staff-Sergeant Helena Pereira Lopez

Photo of the month



Dutch National Day:
Collage of photos of traditional clothes and items



MIRNA I SIGURNA BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA

EUFOR I ORUŽANE SNAGE BIH