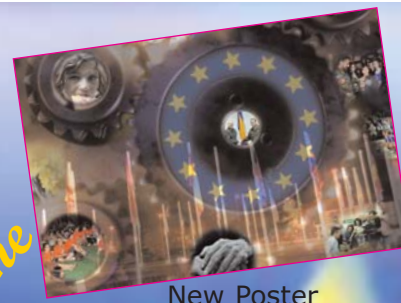


February 2010

EDITION 51

EUFORUM

Magazine



New Poster

Withdrawal of German MEDEVAC Helicopters ...page 9

Mine Training ...page 7



May grievance become
hope!
May revenge become
justice!
May mothers' tears
become prayers
That Srebrenica
Never happens again
To no one and
nowhere!

Raisu-l-ulama
Srebrenica Prayer
Potočari
July 11, 2001

COM EUFOR Visit to Srebrenica Memorial

Colonel José Manuel Santiago Marín

Commander IPU



First of all I wish to thank EUFOR Forum magazine for the opportunity to write this foreword and introduce myself to all of you.

I am a Spanish Guardia Civil and prior to joining EUFOR on the 11th November 2009 as IPU Force Commander, I have been employed at the Guardia Civil Main Headquarters in Madrid (Spain).

It is good to be back in BiH, I left this country after working here as a member of SFOR in 1999, and where I am supposed to be until November 2010 after completing my one year tour of duty.

As IPU Commander I will fully support every decision taken by COMEUFOR and I will endeavor to loyally fulfill every task entrusted to me.

In my first months I have already experienced how enjoyable and demanding working in this international environment is. I have witnessed on

several occasions that the IPU is running well, mainly due to the enthusiasm, commitment, professionalism and dedication of its component parts. In this sense, I do not want to lose the opportunity to recognize the work that is carrying out by my staff and Units leaders.

IPU manpower is more than 200 personnel, drawn from eight nations (France, Holland, Hungary, Italy, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Turkey). Such a multinational force reflects the strength of the International Community and also demonstrates the support of every one of these nations to the EU effort in BiH. IPU is organized into two companies, one Specialized Element (six teams) and a multinational Headquarters.

Finally, I wish all of you good luck in your mission here in BiH and a safe return to your home nations upon completion of your tours.

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Dear readers,

You can see from this new edition of EUFOR Forum that you are now beginning to read, how fast things are happening and what can change from moment to moment.

On the 16th January 2010 COM EUFOR visited the memorial centre at Potocari. He wrote his personal thoughts in the book of condolence and expressed his empathy with all innocent victims of armed conflict in Bosnia and Herzegovina and throughout the world.

In the last few days a big earthquake in Haiti, a terrible humanitarian catastrophe that has claimed thousands of victims, has shown us how fast things can change from one moment to the next. The survivors and the brave men and women who are working so hard to assist the people of Haiti are in our thoughts and our minds.

To all the newcomers: “Welcome to Bosnia and Hercegovina and to the EUFOR family”.

To all of you who are at the end of your tour: “All the best for your future, good luck and health to you and your family”.

Soldiers from many different nations are serving in EUFOR, each has an important role to play and all are making a difference in the country.

Sincerely Lt Col Knut Scheutz

EUFOR Forum

www.euforbih.org

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Change of Command in Multinational Battalion (MNBN)

16th December 2009 - COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, presided over a change of command ceremony in Gym of Camp Butmir to mark the hand-over of command within the Multinational Battalion (MNBN). Lt Col Juan Bosco Montero Prado handed over command to Lt Col Antonio A. Otero Garcia, after nearly four months in command. The parade consisted of troops from the Multinational Battalion. Major General Bair, COM EUFOR, awarded Lt Col Bosco Montero Prado with the ALTHEA Peace Mission Medal and commented on his professionalism and ded-

ication. He welcomed Lt Col Antonio A. Otero Garcia and wished him similar success.

The new Spanish replacements in the MNBN consist of nearly of 200 troops, mainly Spanish Marines, but also from the Spanish Navy and Army. The MNBN consists of four Companies from Hungary, Poland, Turkey and Spain who also provide a reconnaissance platoon. These forces operate in support



of maintaining the safe and secure environment in BiH.

By Captain Antonio Petralia

Three Kings Visit to Spanish Contingent at Camp Butmir

6th January 2010 - The Three Kings from East visited the Spanish contingent in Sarajevo in the morning of 6th January. Their Majesties were received by the EUFOR Deputy Commander Brigadier General Díaz Cruz, IPU Commander Colonel Santiago Marín and Multinational Battalion (MNBN) Commander Lieutenant Colonel Otero García.

All Spanish contingent was present at Millenium Bar together with fifty children of ages between 4 to 10 years that came from the day-care center "Love Bridge" in Ilidza, where children from families



without financial means are assisted, and from the center for disabled children in Mjedenica, Sarajevo, accompanied by their tutors. In addition, children from Spanish contingent translators assisted too. All together they received with great uproar

Majesties' courtship.

Before the arrival of Their Majesties, all the attendants enjoyed a breakfast with hot chocolate, juices and typical Christmas sweets. Finally Their Majesties distributed toys as well as happiness and illusion to all children.

By Captain Juan Suarez



Visits of President and Minister of Defence of Austria

18th December 2009

– Mr Heinz Fischer, President of the Republic of Austria, and the Austrian Minister of Defence, Mr. Norbert Darabos, visited EUFOR HQ where they met COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, and the Austrian Contingent. To honor



the President, a Parade was held in front of the EUFOR HQ Building and the Austrian National Support Element (NSE). COM EUFOR briefed the President and the Minister on EUFOR activities and the current security situation.

By Captain Wolfgang Stampfer

Memorial Service in Camp Butmir



12th January 2010 - A memorial ceremony was held today in Camp Butmir for the 11 Macedonian servicemen, serving in Bosnia and Herzegovina with EUFOR, who were killed when their helicopter crashed on 12th January 2008. The ceremony was held in the memorial garden in the camp, where there is a permanent monument to the victims of the crash, and was opened with the playing of the national anthem of the Former Yugoslavian

Republic of Macedonia. Candles were lit and a brief description of the event was provided by the senior representative of the Macedonian contingent, Major Zoran Karatasev. COMEUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, then laid a wreath and made a speech in memory of the lost servicemen. Following a two minute silence, and the playing of the European Union anthem, the ceremony was then closed. Amongst the many person-



ages in attendance were the incoming and outgoing Ambassadors of the Former Yugoslavian Republic of Macedonia, Their Excellencies Mrs Ana Trajkovska and Mr Rami Rexhepi, who made an office call on COMEUFOR prior to the ceremony; DCOMEUFOR, Brigadier General Juan Diaz Cruz and COS EUFOR, Brigadier Gerhard Kemmler. An honour guard was provided by the Irish contingent.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis

“Round Table Austria” and the Austrian Bundesheer Distribute Gifts for Children

21st December 2010 -

The charity organization “Round Table Austria” and the Austrian CIMIC team distributed gift packages to Bosnia children. The distribution, an annual event, took place on 21st and 22nd December and the four “Round-table” members led by the Round Table President, Mr. Harry Liendl, were welcomed with much joy from the children. The packages included children’s clothes and many sorts of toys. A total of 2.700 packages were collected by Austrian primary schools and kindergartens.

The transport was organized by the Austrian Army and the eligible Bosnian Schools and kindergartens were selected by



the Liaison Observation Teams in Bratunac, Brcko and Tuzla.

The Bosnian children also gave something back. They performed songs for the guests and had prepared home-made Christmas cards. 1st Lt Horand Gailer and WO Sauerschnig from the Austrian CIMIC Teams said: “It was a pleasure to participate in this event. We are particularly grate-

ful to “Round Table Austria” and all hands in Austria and in the mission area and we are gladly willing to support this event again next year.”

The final conclusion of the distributors was that there is nothing more rewarding than looking into the happy eyes of children.

By 1st Lt Horand Gailer

Republic Srpska National Day Event in Trebinje

8th January 2010 - Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) Trebinje was invited to the National Day Event of Republika Srpska (RS), celebrated at the Town Hall, and presided by its Mayor Dr. Dobroslav Cuk. Representatives of public life, economic, politic, cultural and sport, of the city, attended to this official reception.

The event started with a speech, given by Dr. Cuk, congratulating St. Stephan Arcediano (9th of January), and the anniversary of the RS. He continued, talking about the RS as a unit, dependant of the will of the people, which will be able to pass through the current crisis, only by bringing everyone together; no matter their religions, beliefs or political ideas. The Mayor also talked



about the future of Trebinje, paying special attention to future of infrastructure.

After the speech, there was the celebration with a light refreshment for the attendees.

By Captain Antonio Petralia

Mine Training



For a long time, mine threat will be present in Bosnia and Herzegovina and continuous mine training is essential in order to avoid potential mine and UXO victims.

MNBN will conduct monthly mine awareness field training.

The training will consist of one days training for each company. The aim of this training is to exercise all MNBN personnel in the mine extraction drills through various scenarios prepared by national EOD elements and MICC

LEVEL 2-B: responsibility of EUFOR HQ. Conducted by qualified Mine Awareness Instructors (MAI's) within eight weeks of arrival in theatre. Duration: 90 minutes. Video and practical exercise.

By OR-7 Michael Sheehan

Commander visits MNBN Coys

During the last week of December, Multinational Battalion Commander paid visit to different MNBN's COYs in order to familiarize with every one's gear and capabilities.

Several displays took place at

the parking area close to Archer Base.

Every Company presented its own assets including: soldiers and personal gear, Combat equipment, CRC protection equipment, weapons,

types of vehicles, and logistic trucks.

As soon as the exhibitions finished, MNBN COM greeted soldiers and wished them good luck in fulfilling their tasks.

By Captain Juan Suarez



RCC2 Chief Visits 4th Brigade Commander

5th January 2010 – Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 2 Chief Major Oscar S. Castro paid a courtesy visit to Brigadier General Ivica Jerkic, Chief Commander of the 4th Light Infantry Brigade in Capljina.

A lot of topics were discussed, such as the participation of his Brigade in International Missions like Afghanistan; the possible entry of BiH into NATO and the CIMIC activities carried out by his Brigade.

RCC 2 enjoys a very friendly



relationship with 4th Light Infantry Brigade, and take great pleasure in sharing experiences and for collaborating with them.

The attendees at the meeting were Chief Commander of the

4th Light Infantry Brigade in Capljina Brigadier General Ivica Jerkic, RCC 2 Chief Major Oscar S. Castro, Chief Commander of CIMIC Unit of the Brigade Colonel Kazazic and RCC2 Operations Officer Captain Daniel Cherino.

By Captain Daniel Cherino



Forestry GIS training held at LOT Travnik



3rd December 2009 – Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) Travnik hosted a successful Forestry GIS (fGIS) training. fGIS is a tool tailored for precision mapping on a desktop PC, digitizer and GIS data query for Windows which can be used and updated by the LOT

houses themselves. All the surrounding LOT houses in the area: LOT Bugojno, LOT Livno, LOT Mrkonjoc Grad and LOT Vitez each had two participants for the training. The training was given by Mr. Giovanni Giovanneti from HQ EUFOR.

By Captain Guido van der Rijst

DCOM Visits RCC2



14th December 2010 - DCOM EUFOR, and Spanish Senior, Brigadier General Juan A. Díaz Cruz paid a visit to Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 2 and Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) houses Mostar 1 and Mostar 2.

During the visit, Brigadier General Díaz Cruz was informed about all the activities developed by RCC 2 and its LOTs, deployment, hot spots, main concerns, etc. After the visit, a lunch was served in Mostar 1 LOT House.

It was a very profitable visit for both DCOM EUFOR and the staff of RCC2.

By Major Oscar S. Castro

Withdrawal of German **MEDEVAC** Helicopters

17th December 2009 – COM EUFOR, Major General Bernard Bair, attended the ceremony marking the withdrawal of Germany's two medevac helicopters from EUFOR Althea, organized by the German Senior National Representative (EUFOR Chief Of Staff Brigadier General Gerhard Kemmler). The helicopters have now been replaced in theatre by three Austrian Alouette helicopters. In the words of the Chief of Staff: "You all have contributed to this mission with a high level of professionalism. EUFOR has always enjoyed a reputation of professionalism, impartiality



and integrity that has enabled us to work with all the citizens of this country".

COM EUFOR commented on their professionalism and dedication saying: "It is an opportunity to recall the immense contribution that the German

Helicopter Detachment has made to EUFOR's operations, involving some important missions".

Germany still retains a high number of troops as part of the mission in BiH.

By Captain Antonio Petralia

Donation to Elementary School

17th December 2010 - The refurbishment of the Mula Mustafa Baseskija elementary school in Stari Grad Municipality was made possible thanks to the



donation of the Turkish military mission in BiH. The opening ceremony of the school's new facilities, on 17th of December 2009, including the foreign language cabinet, was attended by the F BiH Premier, Mustafa Muzejinovic, the Commander of the Turkish military mission in BiH, Colonel Ibrahim Sahinol, and the head of Stari Grad Municipality, Ibrahim Hadzibajric stated at the ceremony that the overall Turkish donation for the municipality in 2009 had exceeded one million KM.

By Major Adem Enic

RCC2 Chief with Turkish consul

12 January 2010 - Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 2 Chief Major Oscar S. Castro paid a courtesy visit to Mr. Metin Erguin, Consul General of Turkey to Mostar.



It was a very pleasant visit where very interesting topics were discussed and Mr. Erguin talked about the contribution and investments of Turkey in BiH, the importance of this country for him because of the historical links and the support provided to BiH by Turkey to the integration in EU and NATO.

The attendees to the meeting were as follows: Mr. Metin Erguin, Consul General of Turkey to Mostar, RCC 2 Chief Major Oscar S. Castro, RCC 2 Deputy Chief Mayor Celalettin Goksin and RCC2 Operations Officer Captain Daniel Cherino.

By Captain Daniel Cherino

COM EUFOR Visit to Srebrenica Memorial

16th January 2010 - COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, today visited the memorial centre at Potocari, where he laid a wreath in tribute to those victims commemorated at this location and to the victims of armed conflict throughout the world. Major General Bair conveyed his personal thoughts through a message entered in the book of condolence at Potocari in which he expressed his empathy with all innocent victims of armed conflict in Bosnia Herzegovina and throughout the world.

Major General Bair and Deputy Commander Brigadier General Antonio Diaz Cruz earlier visited the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) House in Zvornik in the Regional Coordination Centre's (RCC) area of activity where he was briefed on RCC 4 activities and got a briefing in Kravica.

COM EUFOR's key message on the occasion of his visit to the memorial centers in BIH is as follows



"I am here today to pay tribute to all victims of armed conflict in this country irrespective of their ethnicity, religion or gender.

Every single crime committed in armed conflict is unacceptable and will not be tolerated by the international community.

UN Security Council Resolution 1894 adopted on the 11th of November 2009 reaffirms the international community's commitment to the pro-

tection of all civilians in situations of armed conflict with particular emphasis on refugees, internally displaced persons, women, children and other vulnerable groups. To this end I request that all decision makers, public representatives and office holders ensure the dissemination of this resolution in order to maximize its impact and reduce unnecessary suffering."

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis



Chief Joint Military Affairs Colonel Josef Holzer visits Zunovnica

30th November 2009 - Chief Joint Military Affairs (JMA) Colonel Josef Holzer and his deputy Major Alexander Bauer, accompanied by External Cooperation Division (ECD) Staff, visited Zunovnica under the guidance of JMA Countermines Expert Mr. Kalinic.

Until 1992 the Zunovnica barracks Ammunition Storage Site (ASS) had been part of the JNA. During the war, between 1992 and 1995 it was under control of the RS Army and on confrontation line. In 1995 NATO bombing destroyed the storages and the positions of the RS were shelled with depleted uranium (DU) ammunition. After the war and withdrawal of the RS Army, the Army of Federation of BiH took a portion of the former barracks. The ownership of the rest of the DU contaminated, mine risk and Unexploded Explosive Ordnance (UXO) risk area is still officially unresolved. The mine risk area is estimated with about 1,083,500 sqm, another 600,000 sqm are presumed to be effected by UXO.

Another problem is caused by the DU tank penetrators. Depleted uranium is very dense, almost 1.7 times

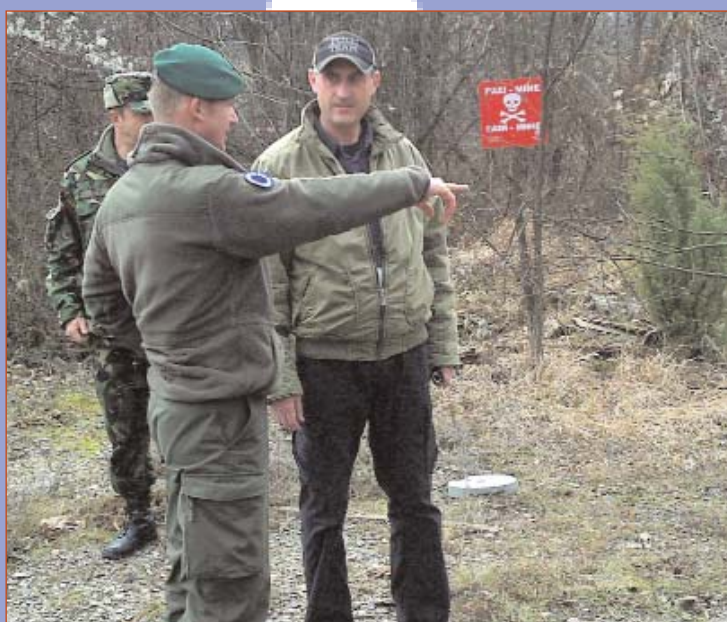


denser than lead. Thus a given mass of it has a smaller diameter than an equivalent lead projectile, with less aerodynamic drag and deeper penetration due to a higher pressure at point of impact. DU projectile ordnance is often incendiary because of its pyrophoric property. Most military use of depleted uranium has been as

30 mm caliber ordnance. The DU content in various ammunition is 180 g in 20 mm projectiles, 200 g in 25 mm ones, 280 g in 30 mm, 3.5 kg in 105 mm, and 4.5 kg in 120 mm penetrators. The long term effect of DU ammunition is still widely debated and its effect on local population and the environment is still under wider investigation.

Colonel Josef Holzer stated the importance of this area for a safe and secure environment and committed continued efforts of JMA together with their counterparts in NATO and the AF BiH to find a solution on how this problem can be further addressed.

By Major Alexander Bauer



Visit of Slovenian Director of General Staff

22nd December 2009 - Mr Vladimir Maher, Slovenian Director General Staff, visited EUFOR HQ where he paid an official call to COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. COM EUFOR briefed the Director on EUFOR activities and the current security situation within BiH. Slovenia has been contributing to Operation "Althea" since it was established in December 2004 and its current contingent is approximately 25 troops.

By Haris Daul



IPU Medal Parade



11th January 2010 - A Medal Parade Ceremony for the personnel serving within EUFOR in Camp Butmir 2 was organized on the 11th January 2010.

The ceremony involved the IPU personnel of all nationalities. The military contingents of France, Italia, Netherlands, Portugal, Romania, Spain and Turkey were awarded with the medal EUFOR ALTHEA in recognition of their merits on carrying out the assigned mission.

COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair awarded the medals personally.

By Haris Daul

Visit of Major General Freek Meulman

21th December 2009 - Major General Freek Meulman, Vice Chief of Defence of Netherland, and Brigadier General Andre Peperkoorn, Commander of Operations of the Netherlands Military Police, visited EUFOR HQ where they paid an official call to COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard



Bair. COM EUFOR briefed the distinguished colleagues on EUFOR activities, the current security situation within BiH and on the joint activities conducted with the Armed Forces of BiH. COM EUFOR took the opportunity to compli-

ment the efforts of the Netherlands Contingent in EUFOR.

Netherland has been contributing since the establishment of EUFOR BiH with approximately 70 troops.

By Captain Antonio Petralia

Visit of Swiss Commandant Armed Forces College



◆ LOT Bugojno



◆ LOT Bosanska Gradiska

6th January 2010 – Major General Marco Cantieni, Commandant Armed Forces College (HKA) of Switzerland, visited the Swiss Troops of EUFOR in BiH together with a delegation of five officers. Major General Marco Cantieni first paid a visit to COM EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair. After the office call, during which COM EUFOR praised the contribution made by the Swiss troops and assets to Operation ALTHEA, Major General Angelini proceeded to visit the Swiss Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) House Bugojno. There the delegation received a briefing by the Teamleader on their current tasks and work. The main purpose of this visit to BiH

is the understanding of the LOT structure in order to gain info and ideas for the Liaison Monitoring Team (LMT) in Kosovo. On the next day the delegation joined the LOT for a patrol and meeting in order to get a better picture of the LOT work. After that the delegation proceeded to Banja Luka for an office call with Chief of Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 1. From Banja Luka the delegation flew to Kosovo to visit the Swiss troops in KFOR. Both the Swiss LOT Houses, Bugojno and Bosanska Gradiska are within the RCC 1 responsibility. Switzerland currently contributes 19 troops to EUFOR ALTHEA.

By **Haris Daul**

Office Calls

17th December 2009 – Principal Deputy High Representative, Dr. Raffi Gregorian, visited EUFOR HQ where he paid an official call to COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. During the visit Dr. Raffi Gregorian spoke to COM EUFOR on matters relating to OHR activity and other issues. Major General Bair said that it has been a good opportunity to discuss EUFOR's ongoing tasks and main objectives.

7th January 2010 – COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, paid his first call on the Bosniak member of the tripartite Presidency of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dr. Haris Silajdzic. During their meeting, Dr. Silajdzic welcomed General Bair to Bosnia and Herzegovina and to his appointment as COM EUFOR. General Bair responded that he is very much looking forward to working with the Presidency to ensure the continuation of the stable and secure environment in BiH.

COM EUFOR Visits LOT Zvornik

16th January 2010 - COM EUFOR, Major General Bair, paid a visit to the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) House in Zvornik in the Regional Coordination Centre 4's (RCC) area of activity. Captain Georgios Mitsidis, Commander

of the LOT, welcomed COM EUFOR in front of the LOT house in the East of the city. After arriving at the LOT House, Captain Georgios Mitsidis introduced



LOT personnel to COM EUFOR. The briefing, which was very much appreciated by the COM, provided a very good update of the present situation together with an insight to LOT activities.

By **Lt Col Knut Scheutz**

COM EUFOR Visits Minister of Defense of BiH

23rd December 2009 - COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, today paid a first call on H.E. Dr. Selmo Cikotic, Minister of Defense of Bosnia and Herzegovina.



Dr. Cikotic gave a warm welcome to Major General Bair.

Minister of Defense went on to outline the importance of EUFOR for stability and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and discussed the significance of progress in the Country.

General Bair agreed that EUFOR has a substantial role to play in the future confidence and prosperity of the people of BiH and briefed the distinguished guest on EUFOR activities, the current security situation within BiH and future cooperation like the joint activities conducted with the Armed Forces of BiH as done in the past.

By Captain Antonio Petralia

Visit of Ambassador of United Kingdom



16th December 2009 - His Excellency Mr Michael Tatham, Ambassador of the United Kingdom to Bosnia and Herzegovina, visited EUFOR HQ where he paid an official call to COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. COM EUFOR briefed the Ambassador on EUFOR activities and the current security situation within BiH. United Kingdom has been contributing to Operation "Althea" since it was established in December 2004.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis

Visit of Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces



18th December 2009 - Lieutenant General Andre Blattmann, Chief of the Swiss Armed Forces, visited EUFOR HQ where he paid an official call on COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.

COM EUFOR briefed distinguished guest about on-going EUFOR activities and current security situation within BiH. He also praised the contribution made by the Swiss contingent based throughout BiH. Switzerland retains nearly 20 troops as part of the Mission.

By Haris Daul

Kurban Bayram



One of the religious holidays of Muslims, Kurban Bayram was celebrated by Turkish Contingent on 27-30 November in Camp Butmir. Because of Kurban Bayram totally 240 families was donated by Turkish Troops. During Bayram, Turkish Contingent and LOT personnel wished merry holiday with Bosniac muslims.

By Major Adem Enic

Solidarity and Traditions for Christmas Day

25th December 2009 – Christmas in Camp Butmir 2, the Solemn Mass of Christmas Eve has been celebrated by the Military Chaplain, don Pasquale Moscarelli at the presence of the Italian Carabinieri Contingent Cdr, Col. Vincenzo Costantini, the Italian Army Contingent Cdr, Lt Col Giovanni Petrocelli and the IPU Cdr, Col. Josè M. Santiago.



The Church was full of Italian, Spanish, French, Slovak and Austrian soldiers, kind guests that gathered to live, far from their countries, the mystery of the Holy Night. The mass has been also animated by a choir formed by young students and workers from Sarajevo, and by Italian

and Austrian soldiers that sang the traditional Christmas songs, giving a sense of integration and cooperation to the event.

During the sermon Don Pasquale remembered that "being a soldier means to be a peace keeper, about the same peace that angels sang during the Holy Night".

Christmas atmosphere was brought also to the orphanage of Sarajevo. On 24th December the Italian Contingent distributed food, candies and toys to the children hosted by the institute. Joy and smiles from the children have been the best gift received by Italian soldiers.

By Lt Claudio Cibelli

Papal Nuncio visits Italian soldiers

10th January 2010 – Papal Nuncio and Ambassador of Vatican in Bosnia Herzegovina, H.E. the Archbishop Alessandro D'Errico visits Italian soldiers in Camp Butmir.

He was warmly welcomed by COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard BAIR and all the Italian Commanders in BiH, the NATO Commander, Brigadier General Sabato Errico, the Italian Carabinieri Contingent Commander, Colonel Vincenzo Costantini and the Italian Army Contingent Commander, Lt Col Giovanni Petrocelli; the IPU Commander, Josè M. Santiago took part in this special event too.



The Archbishop celebrated the Mass together with the Italian Military Chaplain, don Pasquale Moscarelli and the celebration was animated by a choir formed by students and workers from Sarajevo.

The Archbishop D'Errico, in his sermon, remembered that "The meaning of the military presence in Bosnia Herzegovina is to bring peace, to build peace, the right peace. The Italian soldiers that serve in BiH, continue to do a nice



job in a professional way establishing very good relations with Bosnian authorities".

At the end of the celebration he gave as a present to all the Commanders, the Annual Message for Peace 2010 by Benedictus XVI as evidence of the delicate and important job that EUFOR and NATO soldiers do in BiH.

By Lt Claudio Cibelli

Visit of Brigadier General Carlos Mezzano

30th December 2009 - Brigadier General Carlos Mezzano, Commander of the 4th Division of the Chilean Army, visited EUFOR HQ where he paid an official call to DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Juan Antonio Diaz Cruz. DCOM EUFOR briefed the Brigadier General on EUFOR activities and the current situation within BiH. He also praised the contribution made by the Chilean contingent based throughout BiH.

During his four day visit, Brigadier General Mezzano will have the opportunity to visit the Chilean contingent stationed in RCC 1 (Banja Luka) and the

personnel based in the Prijedor and Sanski Most LOT Houses. Brigadier General Mezzano was commissioned by the Commander in Chief of the Chilean Army to visit the troops in BiH and present them, on behalf of the whole Army, a

Christmas greeting and best wishes for year 2010. Brigadier General Mezzano took the opportunity to highlight how important the Chilean Army finds its participation in EUFOR and encouraged the National



contingent to maintain the high standards of proficiency and professionalism shown since the Chilean Army begun its participation in this mission, first in SFOR and now in EUFOR.

By Captain Ricardo Mesa

Visit of Albanian Chief of Logistic Support Command

18th December 2009 - Brigadier General Xhemal Gjunkshi, Chief of Logistic Support Command of the Albanian Army, visited EUFOR HQ where he paid an official call on the Commander EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. COM EUFOR briefed Brigadier General Gjunkshi on EUFOR activities,



the current security situation within BiH and the contribution made by the Albanian military contingent.

By Captain Antonio Petralia

Visit of Hungarian State Secretary

18th December 2009 - Mrs Agnes Vadai, the Senior State Secretary of the Hungarian Ministry of Defence visited EUFOR HQ where she paid an official call on the Commander EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. COM EUFOR briefed Mrs Vadai on EUFOR activities, the current security situation within BiH and the contribution made by the Hungarian military contingent.

By Haris Daul



Major Adem Enic

Please tell us something about yourself?

I was born in south part of Turkey, Adana. I divorced five months ago and I have a dog, German shepherd. I live in Istanbul, a beautiful historical city, which is a bridge between Europe and Asia, as well as the cultural and financial centre of Turkey. I have a beautiful girlfriend named Yesim, a geological engineer with masters degree. I like to attend trekking tours with my dog.



visited Mostar, Travnik, Vitez, Doboj, Teslic, Kladanj, Visoko and other a couple of beautiful cities. Also during weekends, I go to movie theater in Sarajevo to watch movie. I prefer to read and play some sports during my time out of office.

Name and describe any interesting thing about your country that our readers most likely

Where have you been employed during your career?

I graduated from Naval Academy in 1994, after that I worked for the war ships as a mechanical engineer 8 years; I have been company commander in Naval Academy for one year, also two years in Naval Forces Command in Ankara as a desk officer and I have been Northern Area Sea Command Headquarter Personnel Bureau Chief since 2005.

What are your international experiences?

In 2000 I attended the largest submarine rescue exercise 'Sorbet Royal 2000' at the coast of Turkey. Participants were the United States, Turkey and Italy, with additional observers from Israel, Argentina, Chile, Singapore and Sweden. Now,

this is my second mission abroad of my country. And I'm happy to be here and proud of my contribution on making BiH more secure country.

What is your role in EUFOR?

I am working for Information and Analysis Division (IAD) as a Situational Awareness Specialist. Shortly, my role is to maintain contacts with the LOT organizations within my area of responsibility and to produce short notice assessments in response to unexpected occurrences. I have been for three months and I will turn back to my country at the end of April 2010.

How do you spend your free time?

I like traveling and exploring places I never saw before so I

do not know?

The known Turkish history extends approximately 2500 years. There were 16 independent Turkish states or empires before today's modern Republic of Turkey. The lands of Turkey are located at the point where the three continents making up the old world; Asia, Africa and Europe. Turkey is a physical and cultural bridge between Europe and Asia, bordering eight nations and four seas. When you visit Turkey, it is possible to live summer and winter at the same time. For example, while you swim in Antalya, only one hundred kilometers away you can ski too. In my country there are many historical places for all religions. And also Turkey is focused largely on a variety of archaeological places. I'm sure you will enjoy the delicious Turkish meals.

Sergeant Marjoleine Enkelaar, IPU Personnel Office Assistant

I was born on 16th of June 1978 in Utrecht, a town situated in the middle of Holland. Since 26 years I live in Wijk bij Duurstede, a lovely village 30 km from my birthplace. As soon as I finished my studies I became a pet medical assistant. In 1998 I joined the Koninklijke Marechaussee and during my career I guarded the Royal Family, then I served for 4 years in the Motorcycle unit where the main tasks are military vehicles escort and traffic check, the ones that I liked very much.

After that I studied almost 1 year to become sergeant. And since March 2009 I'm on duty at the International Airport Schiphol.

I arrived in Sarajevo on 1st December 2009 in order to be employed as Personnel Office Assistant within IPU / EUFOR. This is not my first mission abroad, I've been in Iraq in 2004 as Military Police and Police trainer of local Police, and in Kandahar (Afghanistan) in 2007 as International Military Police within the ISAF mission.

I'm enjoying this experience in Bosnia Herzegovina because I like to work in an international environment, as well as meeting with people from several countries, each one with different culture and different way of working.

During my free time I like doing many sports, but here I like to go



to the gym and to swim at 06.00 in the morning. I also like to visit the country with my colleagues because I think its sightseeing is astonishing.

The big heart of Italian soldiers is beating in Sarajevo

14th December 2009

- In a far away country, in Sarajevo, a group of volunteers from Marche region have decided to give Happy Christmas as a present to 300 children from Kinderdorf and Egypt orphanages and from the italian community of Stivor village near Prnjavor. Led by Roberto Frittelli, the volunteers left Civitanova on Friday afternoon with two vans full of presents. They were welcomed in Butmir by IPU Alpha COY Commander, Captain Domenico Candelli.



The first stop on Sunday morning in Stivor (300 Km to the north of Sarajevo) where in 1883 moved a small community from Trentino region, about 50 people including men, women and children. The only place inhabited by italians in Bosnia

Herzegovina. Visited by italian Carabinieri, they spent a nice stay together: mass, distribution of gifts, toys and games, shoes and a light lunch after that. They had also italian songs performed by Carabinieri and local parish choirs.

On Monday morning everybody was at the SOS Kinderdorf orphanage where there are about 200 children of all ages up to 16. The orphanage is organized as a family because

OF-4 Emmanuel Gerber, IPU Deputy Commander

OF-4 Emmanuel Gerber was born on 18 November 1964 in Nancy in Eastern France. He is married and he is father of 3 daughters, Marie 14 years old, Chloe 12 years old and Louise 8 years old.

After obtaining his Bachelor's Degree in 1982, he joined the School of Not-Commissioned Officers

in Saint-Maixent and he chose the Artillery and the 35th Paratrooper Artillery Regiment in Tarbes at the Pyrenees.

He has been assigned as the Artillery Team Leader on Mortar



entrance exam for Gendarmerie Officers that he passed. From 2000 to 2001, he attended the Course at the Gendarmerie Officers School in Melun. After the completion of course, he has been appointed Commander of Mobile Gendarmerie Unit for 3 years in Mirande. In 2004, he has been appointed as Territorial Gendarmerie Company

120 mm and Howitzer 105 HM2) for 5 years and he passed his entrance exam for Officers Course in 1990. He joined then the Inter-Army Military School in Coetquidan during 2 years. After the completion of course, he chose again the 35th Paratrooper Artillery Regiment.

He was assigned successively as an Investigation Team Officer, Shooting Officer, Deputy Officer. In 1996, he has been appointed as Instruction Company Commander at the 1st Paratrooper Hussars Regiment. After in 1998, he has been appointed as the 1st Battery Shooting Commander at the w35th Paratrooper Artillery Regiment, battery where he started his carrier of Not-Commissioned Officer. After his period of command, he was assigned as Observation and Liaison Unit Commander.

In 2000, he attended the General Staff Course in Compiegne and prepared the

Commander in Bourgon-Jallieu for 4 years. For over a year he joined the Regional Headquarters in Lyon where he is assigned as a Head of Operations at Mobile Gendarmerie Unit.

During his carrier, he has made several missions abroad, especially in Central Africa, in Chad and Rwanda, where he participated in the evacuation of European citizens under special conditions. He also served under the UN mandate in Lebanon, and also served en Guyana and in Guadeloupe. This is his first mission in Central Europe ah he is very happy to discover this country that experienced the war and he thinks it is very rewarding to serve in an multinational environment.

During his free time, he exercises the sport, especially footing and fitness training. Besides he is a holder of Federal Brevet for Gyms since 1992.

during the daytime children go to school and in the evening they live in real families that allows them live in a comfortable way. The director Azra Basalja was really touched receiving gifts from volunteers, Italian Army and Carabinieri in favour of children of different religions just a few days from Christmas.

Soon after they visited Egypt, the catholic orphanage of Sarajevo to meet other children and to give them their presents and affection.

Late in night they came back to the base satisfied and happy to have brought warmth and joy into the hearts of those wonderful children.

By Lt Giulia Cornacchione

BY SUCCESSFULLY COMPLETING THE SET GOALS, EUFOR MADE IT POSSIBLE TO
TRANSFER NUMEROUS MILITARY FUNCTIONS TO BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



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