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EUFORUM

Magazine



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Brigadier General Tibor Nagy

DCOM EUFOR

Dear readers of EUFOR Forum and comrades of EUFOR,

Having been assigned to this position since 1st February 2010, I find the mission of EUFOR including my own mission as Deputy Commander of EUFOR quite interesting and, what is more, a challenging one. Despite the fact that we as the European Union's military and police contingent, are relatively few in number if we compare with our NATO predecessors, IFOR and SFOR, there are still plenty to accomplish. Currently the family of our EUFOR contingent includes 25 countries with some 2000 military personnel. We are from different nations, with different cultural and educational background. But what brought us here is to provide support to Bosnia and Herzegovina under the umbrella of UN Security Council mandate.

I am very honored to serve with all of you in this complex environment and mission. We should not forget that we are part of the history. EU has started the Althea mission in December 2004 as the first mission of its kind. We are supported by NATO by providing certain facilities and capabilities but the responsibility of our activity is ours. I am also very pleased to be here, since Hungary and the countries of Balkan including Bosnia Herzegovina have common meeting points in the history. Many Hungarian famous painters, poets found this region beautiful and included into their cultural heritage. I may mention the famous painter of ours, Csonvary Kosztka Tivadar, who was devoted to Bosnia. For



instance, "The Bridge over Neretva" is a classical illustration of the beauty of Mostar. Being here I have the possibility to contribute to the success that we all aim to achieve as professional servicemen and visit this beautiful country and meet the people.

The new challenge that EUFOR faces is close to me. Throughout my entire military career the training has been in the focal point of my activity. To train the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) personnel is our upcoming key task under the EUFOR's mandate. I see this as an additional flavor on the plate that we can enjoy. Training the soldiers of AFBiH is a responsibility of ours. Therefore we are obliged to complete that mission in a most professional manner. For that reason, I wish all of you an effective but pleasant stay in Bosnia Herzegovina and all the best for your families back home.

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Lt Col Knut Scheutz,
Press Office Chief

Dear All,

Since the last edition of EUFOR Forum, many changes have taken place in Camp Butmir. Many soldiers have left theatre and many have arrived in their place. All the best to the new ones – enjoy your stay with us as part of the EUFOR family and team.

As you can see from the following pages we have changed the EUFOR Forum a little bit. For example, the final page is now a chance for you to give us an impression of your home country. We want to have photographs of the different nations that the people of EUFOR come from, and to see how beautiful the countryside is where you live. It can be any kind of picture: nature; castles; lakes; seaside etc, so please let us know if you have a picture that fits the bill.

Thanks go to the volunteers who have allowed us to interview them and feature their biographies in the magazine. These always make an interesting addition to the content, and the latest of these can be found in the back pages.

Also, if there is any kind of event you are planning for the future which you think will be of interest to the other nations; please contact us in the Press Office.

To each and every one of you I wish all the best for the forthcoming weeks, and I hope we will have a good spring-time in this lovely countryside.

EUFOR Forum

www.euforbih.org

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 Willis
 Layout:
Mr. Jasmin Zeherovic
Photographs contributed by:
Sgt Markus Rumpold
OR-4 Gioacchino Galioto

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

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 EUFOR Forum
 Press Office
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The High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy Visits EUFOR HQ



18th February 2010 - Lady Catherine Ashton, High Representative of the European Union for Foreign Affairs and Security Policy and First-Vice-President of the European Commission, today visited EUFOR HQ at Camp Butmir, Sarajevo, where she was welcomed by COMEUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.

During their meeting, Lady

Ashton and COM EUFOR discussed the security situation within Bosnia and Herzegovina, with particular regard to the work of EUFOR in the country, including the decision of the Council of the European Union on the 25th January 2010 to develop the EUFOR Althea mission, alongside the current role of maintaining the safe and secure environment, towards the

provision of capacity-building and training support to the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Lady Ashton then met EUFOR HQ staff and reviewed troops of the Multinational Battalion (MNBN) and the Integrated Police Unit (IPU) who paraded in honour of her visit, before departing from Camp Butmir.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis



HR/ EUSR Official Visit to Camp Butmir



10th February 2010 – Dr Valentin Inzko, the High Representative and European Union Special Representative, today visited EUFOR Camp Butmir, Sarajevo, where he called on COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. The gentlemen discussed a number of issues related to the development and security of Bosnia and Herzegovina and the mission of EUFOR (Operation ALTHEA). They agreed that the future of the Country lies firmly within the European Union and in the promotion of the genuine political reform required for integration. COM EUFOR stated that EUFOR remains an important and integral part of the EU’s comprehensive efforts to support the necessary political reforms that

On 25th January 2010 the Council of the European Union underlined Operation ALTHEA's significant contribution to the stability and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina. The Council made the decision to commence the provision of capacity-building and training support to the AFBiH as soon as possible, within the framework of the operation.



will enable Bosnia and Herzegovina to continue to move forward in the EU integration process. Since its launch in 2004, Operation ALTHEA has made a significant contribution to the enduring stability and security of BiH.

EU Commitment to BiH
Despite the challenging political environment, the security situation in Bosnia and Herzegovina remains in a stable state. EUFOR continues to provide reassurance to the people of BiH, and remains ready, throughout the country, to respond to any and all possible security challenges. The EU remains committed to Bosnia and Herzegovina. It recognizes that capacity-building and training support will help increase national ownership of the security situation and reiterates its full support to the European perspective of the country. Dr Inzko and General Bair agreed that a safe and secure environment is paramount to BiH’s path to a European future.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis

COM EUFOR Activities



◆ COM EUFOR with Brigadier General Sabato Errico and Brigadier General John Bullard, old and new NHQSA Commanders



◆ COM EUFOR with the Croatian member and Chairman of the Presidency of BiH, Mr. Zeljko Komsic



◆ COM EUFOR with His Excellency Mr. Alejandro Enrique Alvargonzales San Martin, Ambassador of Spain to Bosnia and Herzegovina



◆ COM EUFOR with the Supervisor of Brcko District, Dr. Raffi Gregorian



◆ COM EUFOR with Mr Eimert Van Middekoop, Minister of Defence of the Netherlands



◆ COM EUFOR with His Excellency Mr Vefahan Ocak, Ambassador of Turkey to Bosnia and Herzegovina



◆ COM EUFOR with the Chairman of the Council of Ministers of Bosnia and Herzegovina, Dr. Nikola Spiric

First Inspection of the EUFOR JMA and MoS Joint Strike Team

In November 2009, the hand-over ceremony for the last EUFOR Joint Military Affairs (JMA) military key task control of movement of weapons and military equipment from EUFOR to BiH authorities, took place. Based on the new BiH Law on Control of Weapons and Military Equipment (WME), which attributes the ultimate authority in this area

to the BiH authorities, EUFOR JMA continues to mentor, assist, advice and monitor the BiH Ministry of Security in performing their State responsibility.

On 21st January 2010 COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, paid an introductory office call to the BiH Minister of Security (MoS), Mr Sadik Ahmetovic. The meeting took place in a very cordial atmosphere, with a frank exchange of opinions on matters of mutual interest.

Mr Ahmetovic thanked COM EUFOR for the assistance that EUFOR has provided to BiH and that the close co-operation with the Ministry of Security supported BiH on its way towards Euro-Atlantic integration. The Minister expressed his gratitude for EUFOR's assistance to his Ministry particularly in managing the civilian control of the movement of weapons and military equipment.

COM EUFOR and Minister Ahmetovic agreed that the



◆ Major General Bernhard Bair with BiH Minister of Security (MoS), Mr Sadik Ahmetovic

country had made significant progress, but still required a continuous step by step process to move forward towards increased functionality at State level.

First inspection

While the introductory office call to the BiH Ministry of Security took place, the newly formed Joint Strike Team comprises EUFOR legal Advisor, Mr. Dipl. Iur. Igor Dimitrovski, JMA Movement Control Officer Major Alexander Bauer and BiH MoS representative, Senior Consultant in General Security, Mr Ognjen Zekic conducted their first inspection and control into the activities of a local weapons and ammunition trader in the area of Mostar.

The purpose of this inspection is to receive insight into company's usage of Dual Goods Import / Export License issued by the BiH Ministry of Foreign Trade and Economic Relations (MoFTER) under which the company was authorized to import

weapons, ammunition, industrial explosives and pyrotechnics. In a previously conducted MoS training inspection of the traders warehouse 4,500 kg of industrial explosive were found without relevant documents.

After a close examination of various licenses, permits, transport documents, and customs reports by the Joint Strike Team, a violation of Article 19, Para 2 of the Law on Control of Movement of Weapons and Military Equipment (WME) was established due to transport of ammunition without a permit. The present company representative was confronted with all the findings of this inspection and issued with an inspection report on the spot.

The further process on prosecution and fining for the last transport violation will be initiated by MoS with the authorised and responsible BiH institution. For this kind of violation fines of up to 5,000.00 Euros for the general manager and 20,000.00 EURO for the company can be imposed.

After three hours the first joint inspection was concluded and EUFOR legal Advisor, Mr. Dipl. Iur. Igor Dimitrovski and JMA Officer Major Alexander Bauer returned back to Camp Butmir.

By Major Alexander Bauer

New Deputy Commander for EUFOR

29th January 2010 – In a short ceremony at EUFOR HQ, Sarajevo, Brigadier General Juan Antonio Diaz Cruz of the Spanish Army handed over responsibility as Deputy Commander (DCOM) EUFOR to Brigadier General Tibor Nagy of the Hungarian Army. During the proceedings, both the incoming and outgoing DCOMs made short speeches, as did COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, who thanked General Diaz Cruz for his contribution to the EUFOR mission and welcomed General Nagy to his new role.

Brigadier General Nagy is a veteran of a wide range of operations and roles, including missions in Iraq and Afghanistan, and prior to starting his



tour in BiH, was the Commanding Officer of the Hungarian Defence Forces Operations Centre.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis

Chief of Joint Staff of AFBiH Welcomes COM EUFOR



13th January 2010 – COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, paid a first office call on Lieutenant General Miladin Milojcic. Chief of Joint Staff of Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) gave a warm welcome to Major General Bair.

For the future COM EUFOR expressed his wish to further strengthen the cooperation between EUFOR and AFBiH and that it is the intention of EUFOR to support this process by

providing the opportunity to put newly acquired knowledge into practice.

Lt Gen Milojcic went on to outline the importance of EUFOR for stability and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina and discussed the significant progress of the AFBiH especially in the control of ammunition and arms storage sites.



By Haris Daul

Visit of **Head of Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina to HQ EUFOR**

3rd February 2010 – His Excellency Ambassador Dimitris Kourkoulas, Head of Delegation of the European Union to Bosnia and Herzegovina (BiH), and COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, met in Camp Butmir today. Both are fully committed to the comprehensive EU approach, which intends to mobilise all EU tools and mechanisms to support BiH moving forward steadily towards the European Union. The EU's and the international community's objective in BiH

remains to ensure a stable, peaceful and multiethnic country irreversibly on track to EU membership. In the light of the security situation in BiH the EU has decided on the continuation of



◆ Major General Bernhard Bair with Ambassador Dimitris Kourkoulas

EUFOR and to start providing capacity-building and training support to the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH).

H.E. Ambassador Kourkoulas and Major General Bair agreed

that BiH should be encouraged to show more political responsibility and greater ownership of the reform process to advance to the next stages of the European integration. The EU stands ready to help and reinforce its engagement. Both are convinced that the key to the future prosperity and success of BiH lies with the

majority of the country's people who are currently demonstrating a positive outlook and enthusiasm for internal reform and international integration.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis

Students **Visit EUFOR**

1st February 2010 - A delegation of 13 students from the Center for Constitutional Studies and Democratic Development (CCSDD) visited Camp Butmir in Sarajevo to learn about EUFOR Operation ALTHEA. During the visit, COS EUFOR Brigadier General Gerhard Kemmler briefed the students with illustrations of the organization and the tasks of the military mission that has ensured the stable and secure environment in BiH since 2004. The CCSDD is based in Bologna, Italy, and operates through a partnership between the University of Bologna Law School and the Johns Hopkins University's Paul H. Nitze School of Advanced International Studies (SAIS) Bologna Center.

By Haris Daul



AIRMEDEVAC Exercise

15th January 2010 – On Friday AIRMEDEVAC received an exercise alert that a soldier of the Spanish Recce Platoon had been bitten by a dog and his comrades were unable to stop the bleeding. They had immediately contacted the Joint Operations Center (JOC) who then issued the MEDEVAC-warning to the Austrian helicopter crew. Within 22 minutes the helicopter was airborne and help was on the way.

After landing at the exercise site at Pazaric the flight surgeon and the paramedic gave first aid to the casualty. With first aid complete, the surgeon decided to move the injured soldier to Kosevo hospital at Sarajevo. After landing at Camp Butmir the exercise was deemed to have been successfully completed. This success, combined with that of other preceding internal exercises, proved that



the AIRMEDEVAC system is at a high state of readiness and ability on which the soldiers of EUFOR can rely.

By Lt Florian Urf



EUFOR Helicopter in Emergency Medical Mission

2nd February 2010 - A EUFOR helicopter based at Camp Butmir, Sarajevo, carried out an emergency life-saving mission to transport a seriously injured girl from Bihac to Sarajevo.

Just before midday, the office of COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, received an emergency request from the Mayor of Bihac, Mr

Lipovaca, to transport a young girl from Bihac hospital to Sarajevo.

Loredana Isic, 21, had been in hospital with multiple injuries since being involved in a serious car accident on the 4th January, and her condition had recently deteriorated, requiring the use of specialized medical equipment located at the hospital in Sarajevo.

The condition of the patient also



meant that transport by road was unsuitable.

Due to the exceptionally serious nature of the case, and the favourable weather conditions, COM EUFOR agreed to the use of a Blackhawk helicopter of the Austrian Army EUFOR contingent. The team at EUFOR HQ quickly took action, communicating with both hospitals and with the helicopter team, and coordinating the whole operation. The helicopter was soon airborne, with a EUFOR doctor and medical assistant onboard, and the patient was transferred quickly to the specialist unit in Sarajevo. She arrived safely two hours after the initial call was received at EUFOR HQ, and quickly received appropriate care.

By Lt Cdr Andy Willis



EUFOR Activities in Trebinje

On the 20th of January in Trebinje, a street named Calle España/Spanska Ulica was inaugurated. The Spanish Ambassador in Bosnia and Herzegovina, His Excellency Mr. Alejandro Enrique Alvargonzález San Martín headed the event, accompanied by DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Díaz Cruz, MNBN



Commander Lt Col Otero García and the Chief Commander RCC-2 Oscar Castro Blas. Trebinje's Mayor, Mr. Dobroslav Cuk, the deputy mayor, Mr. Zoran Sorajic, and the Assembly President, Mr. Veselin Savic were among the civilian dignitaries who attended the ceremony.

The street had been known by the people of Trebinje as Calle España/Spanska Ulica for some time, but the name was not formally recognised. Personnel from the LOT House in Trebinje, led by Captain Veiga, realised this during one of their liaison patrols in the town, and it is believed that the people gave the name to the street due to the significant and welcome presence of Spanish

troops in Trebinje since 1993. Negotiations were soon commenced with Trebinje's City Hall to officially name the street.

The LOT house team also planted a Spanish fir tree, a typical Spanish tree native to certain areas in the South of Spain, as

a previous tree, planted by the Spanish contingent in 1997, had unfortunately died due to a

DCOM EUFOR at the time, Brigadier General Díaz Cruz, and Ambassador of Spain to BiH, His Excellency Mr. Alejandro Enrique Alvargonzález San Martín, visited Trebinje together where they paid a visit to the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) manned by Spanish troops. They were also present for the occasion of inauguration of Spanish Street in Trebinje.



◆ His Excellency Mr. Alejandro Enrique Alvargonzález San Martín with Trebinje's Mayor Mr. Dobroslav Cuk

fungal disease. Additionally, in reaffirmation of the commitment of Spain to Bosnia and Herzegovina, and to Trebinje in particular, a strawberry tree, Madrid's representative tree, was brought from Spain and planted next to the Spanish fir. A commemorative plaque was unveiled to celebrate all these events.

These actions allowed the town of Trebinje to show its gratitude to the Spanish troops for their efforts and contributions to the maintenance of peace and security in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and recognise the special relationship between the townspeople and the EUFOR troops.

By Captain Nicolás Shyr

COM EUFOR Meets Religious Leaders

With Mitropolit Nikolaj Mrdja



2nd February 2010 – COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, met today with the head of the Orthodox community in BiH, Mitropolit Dabrobosanski. Nikolaj Mrdja. Mitropolit Mrdja expressed his welcome to Major General Bair and wished him success in his role as COM EUFOR.

Major General Bair has been visiting major religious leader of Bosnia and Herzegovina to exchange opinions with them about the situation and perspectives of Bosnia and Herzegovina. Prior to meeting Mitropolit Mrdja, COM EUFOR already met with Reisu-l-ulema Mustafa Cerić and he is also planning to introduce himself to Archbishop of Vrhbosna Vinko Puljić, who is the head of the Catholic community in BiH.

By Haris Daul

With Cardinal Vinko Puljic



4th February 2010 – COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, met today with the head of the Catholic community in BiH, Archbishop of Vrhbosna, Cardinal Vinko Puljić. Cardinal Puljić greeted Major General Bair and expressed his hope that COM EUFOR would have an enjoyable stay in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Meeting with Cardinal Puljić will conclude Major General Bair's introductions to the leaders of the three major religions in Bosnia and Herzegovina – Catholic Church, Islam and Orthodox Church. COM EUFOR already met with Reisu-l-ulema Mustafa Cerić and Mitropolit Dabrobosanski Nikolaj Mrdja.

By Haris Daul

With Reisu-l-ulema Mustafa Cerić

1st February 2010 – COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, met today with the head of the Islamic community in BiH, Dr. Mustafa Cerić. Dr. Cerić welcomed General Bair and wished him success in preserving peace and stability in BiH. The two men went on to discuss the inter-religious dialogue in the country and the programme of the Inter-Religious Council of BiH.

By Haris Daul



DCOM EUFOR Visits Altruist Award Ceremony



6th February 2010 – Based upon the formal invitation of Haris Causevic, Executive Manager of Non-governmental Organization of Altruists, DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Tibor Nagy, took part in the BiH Volunteer Action 2009 Award Ceremony and Altruist 1992-2009 Award Ceremony. Mr Causevic said in his opening remarks: "This is the second year that the SVJETLO NGO of Altruists implements the BiH Volunteer Action Project, which includes a number of activities aimed at selecting the best volunteer action in Bosnia and Herzegovina and promoting voluntarism as socially beneficial work".

The Awards Ceremony was attended by high representatives of BiH including Presidency Chairman of BiH, Mr. Zeljko Komsic, FBiH Vice President, Mr. Mirsad Kebo, Prime Minister of Canton Sarajevo, Mr. Besim Mehmedic, Chairman of the Canton Sarajevo Assembly and the Deputy Mayor of Sarajevo and other dignitaries. Mr. Komsic and Mr. Kebo personally greeted DCOM EUFOR and expressed their appreciation toward EUFOR and accepting the invitation to show the people of BiH that EUFOR has interest in the local philanthropic activities.

By Lt Col Attila Murinko

Officers Mess Night

1st February 2010 - The Officers Mess Night of the month was provided by Turkish officers in EUFOR HQ. The most traditional Turkish foods and beverages were offered to the guests, and two introductory films about Turkey and Turkish Armed Forces were presented to the distinguished guests. As a pleasant surprise, one of the most famous Bosnian singer, Lejla Jusic, who mainly sings "Sevdalinka" (traditional Bosnian folk music) but sings Turkish folk music as well, performed during the evening.

By Lt Cdr Adem Enic



◆ General Gerhard Kemmler with Lejla Jusic

The International Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony

27th January 2010 - On a very snowy day, Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 2 Chief Major Oscar Castro, RCC 2 Operations Chief Captain Daniel Cherino, RCC 2 Operations Assistance Warrant Officer Jose R. de Larrínaga, Chief of Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) Mostar 1 Captain Juan M. Pontijas, and Deputy Chief Patrol Sergeant Sergio Lobato, attended The International Holocaust Remembrance Day Ceremony, that took place in the Jewish Cemetery of Mostar.



The event was led by Ms. Erna Cipra Danon, President of Jewish community in Mostar. Currently, there are 43 Jewish living in the city of Mostar.

The day of 27th January was designated by the United Nations General Assembly in 2005 as "The International Holocaust Remembrance Day". 27th January 1945 is the date of the liberation, by Soviet troops, of the largest Nazi death camp in Auschwitz-Birkenau (Poland).

"The Auschwitz" complex was composed of 48 death camps. The three main ones were:

- Auschwitz I. It was the administrative center, where about 75,000 people were killed, mainly Polish and Soviet prisoners of war.
- Auschwitz II-Birkenau. It was an extermination camp, where about 1 million of Jews, 75,000 Polish and 20,000 Gypsies were killed.
- Auschwitz III-Monowitz. It was a labour camp for a German chemical industry called "IG Farben."

By Captain Daniel Cherino

RCC 2 LOT Commanders Meeting

15th January 2010 - The first Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 2 meeting of Commanders of Liaison and Observation Teams (LOT) was held in RCC 2 house in Mostar, commanded by Major Oscar Castro. The aim of the meeting was to coordinate the work among LOTs and mainly to share experiences and lessons



learned. The meeting was officially inaugurated by RCC 2 Chief, and RCC 2 Operations Officer and his auxiliary Captain Cherino and OR 8 Ruiz De Larrinaga respectively, briefed about some operations issues. After that, every LOT Chief (Mostar 1: Captain Pontijas,

Mostar 2: Captain Aranda, Capljina: Captain Burgaz, Trebinje: Captain Shyr, Jablanica: Major Celik, Siroki Brijeg: Captain Gunbey) was briefed about hot spots, main concerns and special events in their area of activity.

Also, members of the LEGAD,

Historical Office and Gender Office took part, in a very active way, in the agenda. Chiefs received very interesting and useful briefings, as follows: Mr. Igor Dimitrovski (Assistant Legal Advisor) about the special status of EUFOR members, ROEs etc; Mr. Muhidin Tutic (Historical Office) about History and impacts of war in BiH; Nikolina Marceta (Gender Advisor) about basic gender terminology, equality, sensitivity, etc. RCC2 would like to thank the three of them for the high-level briefings RCC2 received.

By Captain Daniel Cherino

IPU Exercise in Camp Butmir 2

11th February 2010 – Integrated Police Unit (IPU) organized an exercise in Camp Butmir 2 today. COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, was present during the exercise and supervised it together with IPU Commander, Colonel José Manuel Santiago Marin. Prior to exercise, COM EUFOR was briefed on the specifics of the exercise, including the number and composition of troops and equipment and armaments used.

The purpose of this exercise was to increase the operational capabilities towards all “Crowds and Riots Control” and to neutralize all threats. The aim was to assimilate and accomplish all military tasks established by EUFOR. During this exercise it was possible to observe technical formations on how to control and preserve the “Public order” and interventions in high risk situations towards armed individuals.

IPU organized another exercise at 16th February. It was attended by TV journalists.

By Haris Daul



IPU Flag Parade Ceremony

9th February 2010 - A Flag Parade Ceremony for the personnel serving within EUFOR in Camp Butmir 2 was organized today.

The ceremony involved Integrated Police Unit (IPU) personnel of all nationalities. Currently, the IPU is under the command of Colonel José Manuel Santiago Marin. IPU is part of EUFOR, and their mission is to:

- contribute to the safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina by assisting in the maintenance of public order and security;
- support the implementation of civilian aspects of the General Framework Agreement



of Peace, in accordance with EUFOR tasks. COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, also attended the ceremony.

By Captain Giuseppe Saponaro

MNBN Training

21st January 2010 - COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, paid a visit to the Multinational Battalion (MNBN).

The MNBN staff and Commander Lt Col Antonio A. Otero Garcia welcomed COM EUFOR and informed him about the capabilities and activities of the maneuver unit.

After being reported and visit the MNBN HQ facilities, Major general and MNBN staff assisted an exhibition of equipment in Archer Based and an exercise of Crowd riot Control procedures



carried out by MNBN Coy in IPU training area.

By Captain Juan Juarez

COS EUFOR Visits LOT Houses

19th January 2010 - Chief of Staff of EUFOR HQ, Brigadier General Kemmler, paid a visit to the Italian LOT Houses located in Sarajevo, Pale and Sokolac.

The LOT Team Leaders briefed him about the current activities and the social, political and security situation within their Area of Activity. COS EUFOR was satisfied by his tour and he had a very good impression about the professional behaviours of each component of the team.

By Lt Claudio Cibelli



Lieutenant Rita Emily Cocca

Lieutenant Cocca was born the younger of two sisters, in Manfredonia, a beautiful city near the sea in the Southern Italy. She decided to join the Army in 2002 and after completing her training and studies she became a Warrant Officer. She then won a



competitive examination and was promoted to Lieutenant, after which she was assigned to an

Artillery Regiment in Vercelly. This tour in Bosnia and Herzegovina is her first foreign

mission, and she told the press office: "I look forward to learning much from my professional work, and at the same time enjoying the cultural diversity that I have found in BiH". OF1 Cocca enjoys a number of hobbies, including music and dance, and she is very happy about her experience in a multinational environment: "It is also a good chance to practice English. I will try to improve it in my time here".

By Captain Giuseppe Saponaro

Captain (OF2) Marjorie Charlotte Philipse

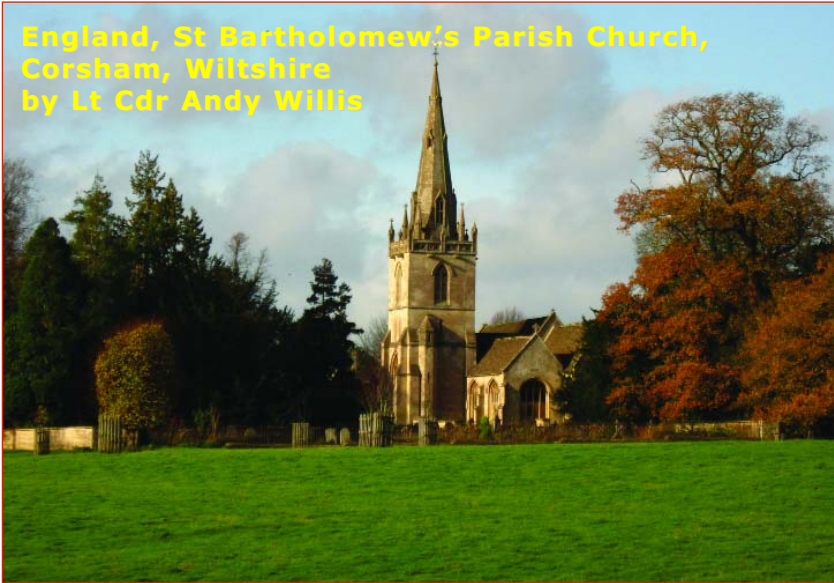
Captain Marjorie Charlotte Philipse was born in Rotterdam (Netherlands) on 13th September 1982. In 2001 Marjorie was successful in gaining a place at the Royal Dutch Naval Academy, to train as a Logistic Officer. After three years of studying she passed out of the academy and undertook a six month training period on board "HNLMS. Zuiderkruis", a logistic supply ship. On completion of this training period she was given the opportunity to study at the University of Amsterdam, and for almost 2 years she enjoyed university life, successfully graduating in "accountancy and control". Following graduation she was appointed to the multipurpose frigate "HNLMS van Speijk" as Junior Supply Officer, a role that she carried out for more than one year. During this period the "van Speijk" participated in Operation "UNIFIL" off the coast of Lebanon for more than 6 months. This was her first experience working for the United Nations and with several other nationalities, and was also her most gratifying experience as a seagoing Naval Officer. Her current job, in



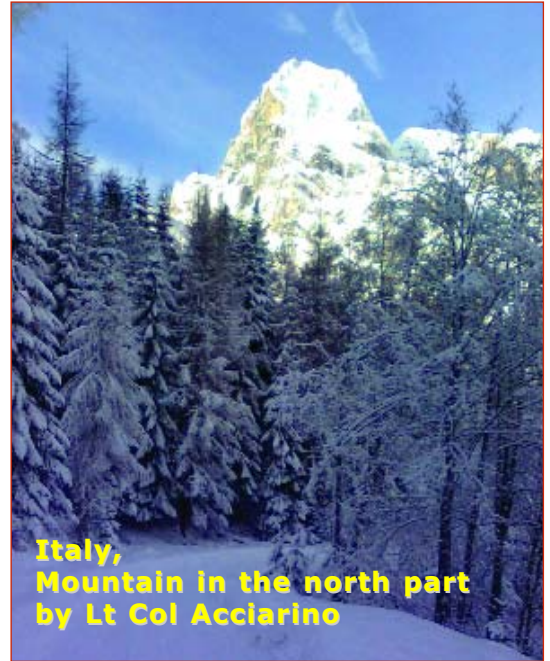
the Netherlands, is a position at the Royal Netherlands Navy Headquarters as a Senior Financial Analyst. In this post she has managed the budgets of the Operational Fleet for almost 2 years. After her mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina she will work as N8, at Naval Headquarters, dealing with the missions of the Fleet and the Royal Dutch Marines. Captain Philipse is

very happy to gain further experience in a multinational environment: "in my branch I have the opportunity to work with Bosnians and it is good to talk with them and to better understand the history of this country". In her free time, she likes to spend time visiting Sarajevo, and she also enjoys many sports. In particular, she has been a regular volleyball player for many years, and in 2008 she attended the world military volleyball championships in Germany.

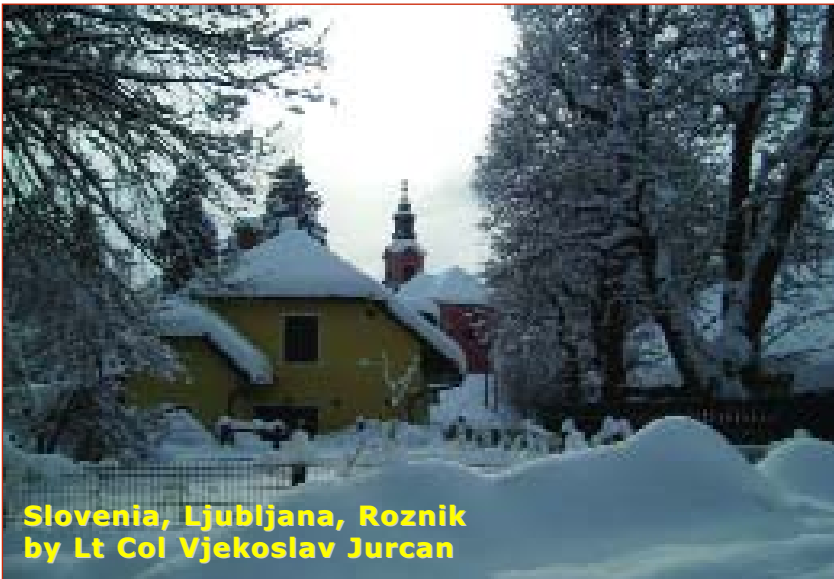
By Captain Giuseppe Saponaro



England, St Bartholomew's Parish Church,
Corsham, Wiltshire
by Lt Cdr Andy Willis



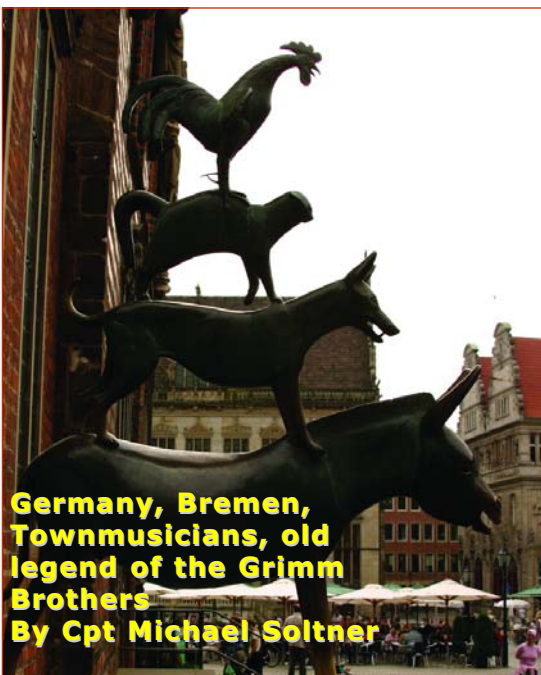
Italy,
Mountain in the north part
by Lt Col Acciarino



Slovenia, Ljubljana, Roznik
by Lt Col Vjekoslav Jurcan



France, Lyon
by Lt Col Emmanuel Gerber



Germany, Bremen,
Townmusicians, old
legend of the Grimm
Brothers
By Cpt Michael Soltner



Turkey, Ancient City of Side,
By Major Akif Demirel



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