

June 2010

EDITION 55



EUFORUM



MAYDAY! MAYDAY!

...Pages 10&11

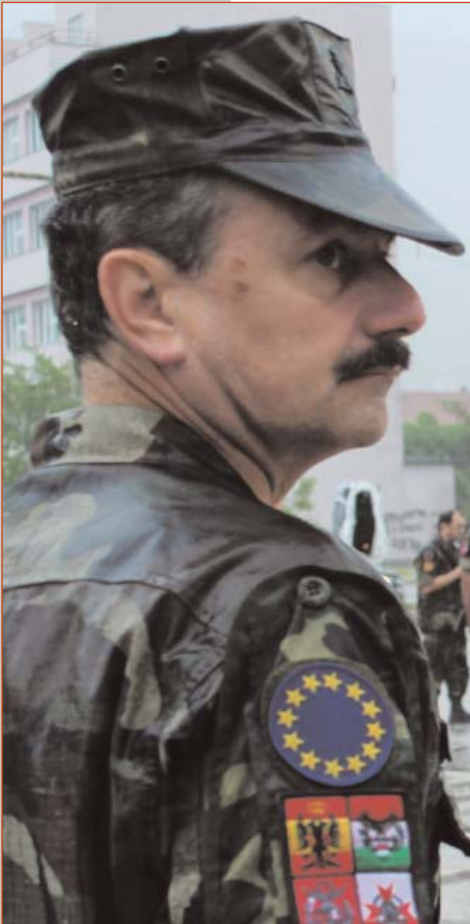


POSTER
INSIDE

EUFORFORUM: How to spend your next holiday ...page 19

Foreword Lt Col José M. Estévez Payeras

Commander Multinational Battalion



Having just recently taken over command of the Multi National Battalion, (MNBN), I'm very pleased to have the opportunity to communicate to all EUFOR members through this EUFOR Forum edition. I have been a Spanish Marine for 29 years. Since 2008, I have had the privilege to command the First Marine Battalion of our Amphibious Brigade. A fine Unit with good soldiers and a lot of work. Today, the Spanish con-

tingent of the MNBN comes from this Unit; my headquarters staff, the CIS and recce platoons and the 2nd Marine Company. The 1st Company is now deployed in Haiti, in a disaster relief operation and the 3rd is resting after a mission abroad that finished less than a month ago. I consider myself to be a lucky officer as I'm just starting my second tour of duty in Operation ALTHEA as in the second half of 2008 I had the opportunity to command the Multinational Battalion. Taking advantage of this recent experience in Balkans, please allow me to share with you some reflections.

Firstly, the MNBN is a unique Unit. It's not easy to find a small unit composed by four different nations, working in a multinational basis and obtaining very good operative results. It can't only be explained by the commitment, dedication and professionalism of my Staff and manouevre Units. They are working hard and doing their best far away from their homes.

The second consideration is closely connected with the first one. From the very first day of this tour, I realized the increas-

ing cohesion inside the MNBN. Undoubtedly the Unit runs smoothly and needles to say that this gives the Unit an outstanding operative capability. Third, although I have been out of the theatre only for one year, I feel impressed with the results of EUFOR's mission to date. There is no doubt that we must continue to work positively for the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina but EUFOR has achieved a lot for the future of this country.

Fourthly, as a Spanish soldier, I'm proud of my country's commitment to Bosnia and Herzegovina. Its contribution to EUFOR is a good example of the Spanish identification with European Union Policy in the Balkans and with the development of European Security and Defence projects.

Finally, I want to express my happiness and pride for commanding again this Multinational Battalion, composed of soldiers from Hungary, Poland, Turkey and Spain. We have different languages, religions and ethnicities, but share a clear and common goal, to ensure a safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Contents

EUFOR Events

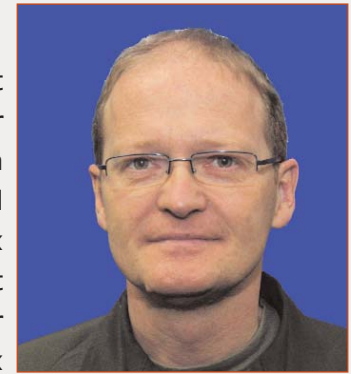
EUFOR Schools' Competition Award of Prizes	4
"Gender Awareness in Peace Support Operations (PSO)" conference	5
COM EUFOR Visits	6
Change of Command in Multinational Battalion	7

EUFOR Activities

MNBN Live Exercise "KNIGHT FORK"	8
Combined Training with AFBiH	9
MAYDAY! MAYDAY! MAYDAY!	10
BiH - origin of the word	12
LOT Vitez Assists Fojnica Eco Camp	13
IPU Riot Exercise	14
Dracevo Monument Revitalization	15

Inside EUFOR

Austrian CIMIC Supports Multiethnic Schools in BiH	16
EUFOR Supports Run to Europe	17
Soldiers in Spotlight	18



Dear all,

Never change a winning team! That is one of the best slogans that I ever heard. For me, a winning team is a symbol of happiness, confidence and being proud for working together. Six months have passed since I arrived at Building 200 at the end of November 2009 and I look forward to the next six months. I am very happy to serve in Bosnia and Herzegovina with the Press Office staff. Winter has left and spring is all over the beautiful countryside.

Numerous exercises have passed and dozens of taskers and office calls are history. Additionally, many significant events such as the Schools' Competition, the Run for Europe, the EU open day and the Gender Conference are complete. Of note, several important events are coming up and in particular the Kids Festival from 11 to 16 June 2010, in the Sarajevo Olympic Centre, Zetra. The Kids Festival is the largest gathering of children that takes place within BiH. EUFOR is looking for volunteers to help out so if you want to get involved please contact the InfoOps branch. The festival campaigns on issues of common interest such as tolerance, the environment, human rights, gender equality, drugs and mine awareness; your input and experience could be a very positive role model for BiH youngsters.

Thanks a lot for all of you who sent us pictures from your home country. There are still some countries missing. Please help us to get all of them.

Lt Col Knut Scheutz, Chief Press Office

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:
Major Bruce Foster
 Layout:
Mr. Jasmin Zeherovic
Photographs contributed by:
Sgt Markus Rumpold
OR-4 Tiberio Fraioli

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

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:
 EUFOR Forum
 Press Office
 Building 200, Butmir Camp
 Sarajevo

Digitised photographs should be submitted in JPG format with a minimum resolution of 200 dpi. The EUFOR Forum does not normally return materials and will assume no liability for material submitted.

EUFOR Schools' Competition Award of Prizes

On 5th May 2010 in Camp Butmir, near Sarajevo, the winners of the EUFOR Schools' Competition collected their prizes from the Commander of EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair. More than 2500 Children from 350 schools all over BiH entered paintings and poster designs with the theme of "My European Neighbours". Main prizes of holidays in European countries were donated by Austria, Hungary, Slovenia and Turkey. Other prizes included iPods, laptops, Playstations and cameras donated by France, United Kingdom, NATO HQ Sarajevo and EUFOR. Igor Stevic, (14), from Bratunac, explained why the competition was fun to enter: "I spent a long time thinking about what to paint and discussing the theme with my friends. It seems to me that our European neighbours get along together very well – my picture shows a team of rowers pulling together. I am pleased that I was picked as a winner and cannot wait to try out my MP3 player prize." Said General Bair:

"This is the third year of the EUFOR Schools' Competition and the standard of entries were particularly high. I hope that all of the children



COM EUFOR with proud winners of the EUFOR School Competition 2010

enjoyed their art even if they did not receive a major prize today. For me the real prize will be for all of the citizens of BiH to join the family of European Union nations and EUFOR will continue to work tirelessly to provide a safe and secure environment so that this can happen."

By Major Bruce Foster



COM EUFOR with one of the winners and Lt Col Laudilino Rivera



COM EUFOR with one of the winners and French Ambassador in BiH, H.E. Maryse Berniau

COM EUFOR opened the "Gender Awareness in Peace Support Operations (PSO)" conference



◆ COM EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair, (centre) together with the delegates of the International Gender Conference.

On 19th May 2010 COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, opened the "Gender Awareness in Peace Support Operations (PSO)" conference at the PSO Training Centre of the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) in Camp Butmir today. In marking the 10th Anniversary of UN Security Council Resolution 1325 on Women, Peace and Security, General Bair said it:

"is recognized as one of the most important international mandates ... [for] enabling the full and equal participation of women in peace and security initiatives. It has facilitated the mainstreaming of gender issues in the context of armed conflict, peace-building and reconstruction processes...It is important to note that here [in BiH] gender is incorporated into their constitution."

Also noting the significance in PSO of a gender perspective, General Bair continued:



◆ Mrs Nikolina Marcetta (Gender Focal Point), Lt Col Skip Springer (Gender Focal Point), COM EUFOR, Ms Catharina Wale Grunditz (Council of the EU General Secretariat Crisis Management and Planning Directorate), Lt Col Christianne Vermue (Gender Focal Point).

"Fostering of balanced gender awareness, thus contributing to the overall situational awareness has become more critical in light of the increasing complexity of civil-military interaction... In our Liaison and Observation Teams (LOTs) situated throughout [BiH], I recognize the important and very positive contribution of our female soldiers and in particular their effectiveness as role models within the local community."

This conference represents a very

positive step in realizing the promise of the joint Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between UN Development Fund for Women, the EU Police Mission and EUFOR. This MOU enhances mutual understanding and cooperation between military and civilian police personnel and citizens, particularly women, in BiH.

Among the delegates who addressed the conference were Lt Col Mersida Mesetovic from the AFBiH, who served as a Sector Commander of Military Observer's in the UN Mission in Ethiopia and Eritrea in 2005/2006. She addressed the conference on "Gender Awareness and Perspectives in UN Observer Missions". EUFOR Gender Focal Point Nikolina Marceta also addressed the conference on "Gender Mainstreaming in Operation Althea". The conference was attended by delegates from the Ministries of Defence of EUFOR nations, the EU Council Secretariat, Diplomatic Corps, EUPM, UNIFEM, ICTY, OHR, NATO, AFBiH, NGO's and EUFOR staff.

By Major Bruce Foster

COM EUFOR Visits



◆ COM EUFOR with the Special Representative of the Secretary General of the Council of Europe in BiH, Mrs. Caroline Ravaud



◆ COM EUFOR and COS EUFOR with Mrs. Susanne Prahlandzo, Director of Kids Festival.



◆ DCOM EUFOR and COS EUFOR with General Laszlo Tombol, Chief of Defence Staff of Hungarian Ministry of Defence.



◆ COM EUFOR and the Bulgarian Minister of Foreign Affairs, Mr. Nikolay Mladenov.



◆ COM EUFOR with Colonel Markus Schefer, Chief of the Swiss Army's Regional Military Cooperation for South Eastern Europe



◆ DCOM and COS EUFOR with Lieutenant General Werner Freers, Chief of Staff of the German Army.

Change of Command in Multinational Battalion

On 21st April 2010 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 Antonio A. Otero Garcia handed over command to OF4 Lt Colonel Spanish Marines Jose Manuel Estevez Payeras, after nearly four months in command. The parade consisted of troops from the Multinational Battalion. Major General Bair, COM EUFOR, awarded Lt Col Antonio A. Otero Garcia with the ALTHEA Peace Mission Medal and commented on his



professionalism and dedication. He welcomed the new MNBN Commander and wished him all the best.

By Haris Daul



COS EUFOR Visits LOT Houses in Mostar

On 24th April 2010, COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Bischof, accompanied by OF-4 Hield (a Special Advisor to COM EUFOR), OF-4 Springer (LOT Desk Chief), OF-3 Kemmler (MA2), OF2 Marin (SA Spec 2) and OF 1 Strelau (ADC to COS) visited Mostar. In particular they called on Regional Coordination Centre 2, (RCC2) together with Liaison and Observation Team Mostar 1 and Mostar 2 houses, commanded respectively by Lieutenant Colonel Manuel Flores and Captains Juan Jerónimo Villalón and Jose Antonio Pardo.

Firstly, in RCC 2 House,



Brigadier General Bischof and his staff, were introduced to RCC 2 personnel and were briefed, by LTCOL Flores and the RCC 2 Operations Chief Captain Juan Jesus Atencia, about main activities and current events in our Area of Activity.

After that COS EUFOR and his staff, visited LOT Mostar 1 House and were welcomed by the LOT personnel. Over a light lunch they discussed ways of life in Mostar. There then followed a formal briefing by the LOT House Chief. Afterwards, COS and his team joined a guided visit of the town that included the "Stari Most" (old bridge) and "Stari Grad" (old town).

The next event was the visit to Mostar 2 LOT House, where COS and his staff were briefed by the LOT House Chief. The day concluded with a visit to the Source of the Buna River, the best way to finish any visit to Mostar.

By Captain Juan Jesus Atencia

MNBN Live Exercise “KNIGHT FORK”



During the 2nd week of May, the EUFOR Multinational Battalion (MNBN) commanded by Lieutenant Colonel Estévez, conducted a live fire EX KNIGHT FORK across Bosnia and Herzegovina. The MNBN companies from Spain, Hungary, Poland and Turkey, worked in close cooperation with other EUFOR units such as the Spanish Reconnaissance platoon and blackhawk helicopters.

The main objectives of the exercise were to test cohesion, practice rules of engagement and to verify the battalion’s



command and control procedures. The Battalion staff worked in a scenario specifically designed to practice the “Decision Making Process” (DMP) in a crisis response cell. Field Units exercised their assigned EUFOR roles with a focus on civil disturbance oper-

ations, helicopter deployments and MEDEVAC. During the final phase of the exercise, the Command Post was visited by EUFOR DCOM, General Tibor Nagy, who was briefed thoroughly and was able to test the communications for himself.

Routine and imaginative testing of MNBN capabilities along with the regular deployment of troops into the field, ensures the effectiveness and readiness of this flexible and professional Unit.

By Captain Emilio López Ruiz



Combined Training with AFBiH



On 12th May 2010 the MNBN Turkish Delta Company conducted combined training with an Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) Infantry Company and an EOD team in Commanche Base, Tuzla. In the morning Turkish

EOD team has given a briefing on IEDs. Turkish and BiH EOD Teams shared their experiences. In the afternoon, Turkish Delta Company showed tactics, techniques and procedures in an urban terrain. Turkish and BiH soldiers have conducted training together afterwards.

Meanwhile DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Tibor Nagy visited and observed the combined Military Operations on Urban Terrain (MOUT) training.

This exercise also shows the growing contribution of EUFOR in the training of AFBiH.

By Elmas Ayhan



Mine Risk Education (MRE) in Busovaca

On 19th April 2010 MRE lessons started in Kacuni Primary school. After that the Liason Observation Team (LOT) continued with lessons in primary schools in Putis, Katici, Kacuni, Busovaca, Kaonik, Bare, Lugovi. Children from wide variety of classes.

At least 1456 pupils participated in Mine Risk Education during the first week of the campaign. Encouragingly, kids were very happy to see EUFOR personnel in their schools and they paid full attention when taking part answering questions and acting out scenarios. When asked the question "Do you



enjoy these lessons?" – All of the children cried out with enthusiasm that they like them very much, especially the youngest.

Teachers were enthused by

the MRE as the students enjoyed the practicality of the lessons and respected the uniform and discipline of the EUFOR soldiers.

By LOT Vitez

Tree Planting In Zivinice



On 7th April 2010 with the support of LOT Kladanj, 52 trees were planted in the garden of Prva Primary School in ZIVINICE. LOT Kladanj Commander Major Umut Ozturk, LOT Personnel, the Director of Prva Primary School Mr Mirzo Zukanovic, teachers and students were at the ceremony. Mr Mirzo Zukanovic thanked LOT Kladanj Personnel for their efforts to make this planting happen which will last hundreds of years. He added that maybe we will not see the grown linden; maple; spruce and pine trees which have hundreds of years of lifetime but the efforts of EUFOR and LOT Kladanj will always be remembered.

By Major Umut Ozturk



Bosnia and Herzegovina origin of the word

There is no unified thought about the origin of the word Bosna. Some historians connect the term Bosna with the name of the ancient Besa tribe who left no trace of their existence in this area. Another idea was that Bosna originates from the Illyrian word Bos which means "place of the salt washing". Accordingly, from this theory Bosnia would be the "salt country". This theory is hardly credible because there was a neighboring area to Bosna called Usora and "Salt country" was part of Usora. Another thought was that the origin of the word might be according to the name of the Roman settlement "Bistua Nova" (today's Travnik or Zenica area) or the Roman fortress "Basante" which was somewhere to the northern part of river Bosna towards the Sava river. An alternative origin could be the Latin word "Bosina" with its meaning for the "The frontier". Bosnians were after all a kind of frontiersmen. The most commonly accepted meaning for the word Bosna is "running water" or the river or even 'the pure water'.



◆ Coat of arms of Dynasty Kosaca

Bosnia was mentioned for the first time in written documents by the Byzantine Imperia in 958 when the Byzantine emperor Constantinus Porphirogenitus mentioned Bosnia as separate territory in his work "De Administrando Imperio." This is why historians refer to the 1000 years of Bosnia.

The origin of the word Herzegovina is connected to Duke Stjepan Vukcic Kosaca (1404-1466). Duke Stjepan married the daughter of the Bavarian Herzog, who named him Herzog Stjepan in order to prove that his daughter was married to an equal nobility. After the Ottoman invasion, the land of Herceg (previously called Hum) became Hercegovina and in 1448 Stjepan assumed the title of the Herzeg.

By Historical Office



LOT Vitez Assists Fojnica Eco Camp



The LOT Vitez members have been rolling up their sleeves to help Fojnica eco warriors with their efforts to clean-up their municipality. Children from the Mushin Rizvic primary and Zijad Dizdarevic secondary schools have been hard at work cleaning streets and the river banks as part of a project to increase awareness of ecological issues. The year long

initiative will involve like minded youngsters across BiH work-



ing together to promote green issues and encourage communities to dispose of their rubbish in a sustainable way. The LOT was invited to participate by the director of the local Utility company Mr Abaz Nisic and progress will be filmed and broadcast by Federal TV and KISS TV.

By LOT Vitez



EUFOR Forum and Press Office staff would like to extend our

congratulations

to
VLADIMIR MITRIC
and
IVANA STJEPANOVIC
(Cafe Royale)

on the occasion of their marriage
on 10th April 2010

IPU Riot Exercise

Scenario of the exercise ran: For exercise, local newspapers reveal breaking news relating to the implication of a LOT house member involved in a car accident in which one girl was injured. This false assumption was to discredit the EUFOR in BiH. Based on these rumors, a group of local people gather around the LOT house and start to shout at and menace the military personnel inside. The locals chant that the EUFOR military should leave their territory immediately. As the situation becomes worse, local Police try to negotiate a peaceful resolution but without success. Therefore, with a clear break down in law and order, EUFOR intervention is necessary and the Integrated Police Unit, (IPU) is called-in to assist.

In the meantime, the rioters organized themselves and built barricades around the LOT house where personnel inside were unable to leave safely and threatened with violence. Situation is tense. Alerted and informed about the situation, the IPU made the decision to intervene immediately. IPU Bravo Coy, consisting of two Turkish "Jandarma" platoons and one Romanian Military Police Platoon, rapidly reached the scene. Simultaneously, one team from IPU Alpha was in charge of the extraction of the LOT house personnel. Two teams of the Multinational Battalion established a cordon

so that the IPU can operate without interference. On immediate arrival the IPU units got out from their vehicles and set up in wedge-shaped formations. A team of 5 consisting of 4 IPU members and a translator was formed to negotiate with demonstrators and to avoid the physical confrontation. Negotiations failed and rioters restarted to shout and throw various objects from their barricades. The IPU Commander ordered them to disperse but once again, demonstrators showed their determinations to stay and became more aggressive.

Professionalism and competency

At this stage, the IPU Commander decided to intervene as LOT house members were still blockaded and surrounded. On orders the IPU Units moved to the crowd, followed by their supporting vehicles. They passed the first barricade and slowly but surely closed with the demonstrators. They then reached a new barricade formed with old cars that were on fire. An armoured vehicle removed one car on fire from the barricade and during this action, one IPU member was wounded. He was placed in



safety and was immediately evacuated by an IPU ambulance. As a gap opened in the blockade, the IPU Field Commander ordered his units to charge and to push away demonstrators from their entrenchment. Gradually, the IPU secured the area around the LOT House and an EUFOR helicopter fast roped-in an IPU team who freed and secured the LOT members. All in all a quick and professional response from members of the IPU and EUFOR avoided the worst!

This was an exercise, protesters were from IPU Alpha Coy and the action was set up for the visit of the COS EUFOR, but at any time and the scenario will be the same. It is why the IPU trains its units permanently. EUFOR Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Gerd Bischof thanked IPU Commander Colonel Jose Manuel Santiago Marin and then IPU Deputy Commander Lt Col Emmanuel Gerber. During his speech he complemented IPU members for their professionalism and competencies.

By Lt Didier Balavoine

23rd April National Sovereignty and Children's Festival Celebrations

Between 19th and 29th April 2010 the National Sovereignty and Children's Festival was celebrated with folk dances, games, songs, dramas, student representative of authorities, such as art exhibitions in the cities of Mostar, Jablanica, Zenica, Visoko, Zavidovici, Sarajevo and Konjic.

National and local television and local newspapers broadcast the events. Celebrations took place with the participation of BiH President Mr. Zeljko Komsic, Ambassador of the Republic of Turkey in Sarajevo Vefahan Ocak and his assistants, local authorities and BiH Turkish Senior Representative Staff Colonel Ibrahim Sahinol.

A School's art competition was organized with 2 cate-



gories. Works of the winners were exhibited in the Turkish Cultural Center in Sarajevo. This exhibition was attended by a range of distinguished guests that included EUFOR Commander Major Bernard Bair, BiH Turkish Senior Representative Staff Colonel Ibrahim Sahinol, BiH Military Attache Staff Colonel Fedai

Ünsal, EUFOR Training and Capacity Head Infantry Colonel Osman Aytaç, Yunus Emre Culture Center Foundation Director Ayda Öztürk, Third Secretary of Embassy, Turkish NSE's Officers, non-commissioned officers, the successful students, their teachers and their families.

By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar

Dracevo Monument Revitalization

On 15th April 2010 a rededication ceremony, arranged by the Regional Coordination Center 2 (RCC 2) then commanded by Major Oscar Castro, took part in the village of Dracevo. The ceremony centred on a monument ded-

icated to Spanish troops, which deteriorated and in a poor condition. The monument was donated, by the village of Dracevo, to all the Spanish soldiers belonging to the first contingent from Spain in BiH. As said by the Spanish Consul of Spain to Mostar: "It was, and is, a symbol of recognition



of services rendered by the troops posted there, mainly to them who came to this country and never came back alive to their homes. Their memory will remain there for ever."

The event was attended by the Spanish Consul of Spain to Mostar, Mr. Pierino Deldum (who had worked as interpreter in BiH), the RCC 2 Chief, several representatives of the Capljina Municipality and RCC 2 / LOT personnel.

By Captain Daniel Cherino

Austrian CIMIC Supports Multiethnic Schools in BiH



On 20th May 2010, a EUFOR Civil-Military Co-operation (CIMIC) Team visited the elementary school "Kosta Todorovic" in Skelani. The Austrian Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) Bratunac made the first assessment of this school and submitted a case to CIMIC in order to organise help. Before the war, the school was multiethnic, had several school buildings and more than 1,000 pupils. After the war, the situation changed and today there are only 120 pupils attending. Additionally, only one facility is in use and funding by the local authority is very tight. Encouragingly, what has not changed is the multi ethnicity of the school with Serb and Bosniak teachers and pupils working happily together. Following the EUFOR CIMIC Team assessment a request for funding was sent to Austria in order to provide the school with three brand new computer sets. General Gerhard Christiner from the Austrian Forces Command

in Austria and his Rotary Club charity from Graz, immediately answered with a grant of money to the CIMIC Team. Said the headmaster: "This donation could be the catalyst to prompt further help from the BiH authorities." The following day the CIMIC team accompanied Portuguese LOT personnel on a visit to the "Sutjeska" elementary school in Modrica. This school was destroyed during the war but reconstructed in 2002 by USAID. Today this institution is a typical example of a multi-ethnic school in BiH. All lessons, except religion studies, are attended by all pupils. Also lessons like history or mother language are lectured for all ethnicities. "In our school, the performance of the pupils counts and not the belonging to a respective ethnicity", the school's headmaster stated. This was the reason to ask again

the Rotary Club in Austria to provide some additional money in order to afford a new videobeamer for the computer lessons. Austrian CIMIC will continue to support institutions that share the policy of EUFOR, for a joint future in this state. Special thanks goes to the Rotary Club of Graz in Austria who implemented this support in a fast and uncomplicated manner. By the way, this Club is also financing a prize for the EUFOR "School Competition", a one week trip to Vienna for the students.

By Lt Horand Galler



Austrian Team Visits Multinational Battalion

On 28th April 2010 a team of twenty officers from the Austrian Army, paid a visit to the EUFOR Multinational Maneuver Battalion in Camp Butmir, Sarajevo. The aim of the visit was to learn more about the Spanish company and the reconnaissance platoon that will be relieved by similar Austrian Units from Jun. Spain will keep the Command and Staff of the battalion, as it has done since the instigation of operation ALTHEA. The delegation, led by Colonel Austrian Army, Holzer, was received by the Multinational Battalion Commander, Lt Col José M. Estévez Payeras. After a detailed



briefing from the Spanish commanders the team viewed a static display and toured the different facilities currently occupied by the Spanish units.

By Captain Emilio López Ruiz

EUFOR Supports Run to Europe

Sunday 9th May saw hundreds of EUFOR and IPU personnel pound along the banks of the river Miljacka as part of the EU sponsored Sarajevo "Run to Europe". The 4km route proved to be great fun in the

sunshine and was supported by runners from all over Bosnia and Herzegovina. Integrated Police Unit (IPU) were first across the line for EUFOR.

By Major Bruce Foster

Participation is important!

"For us it was a good experience to participate in this competition. I already participated in this kind



of events in Italy but taking part in such an event with so many people from so many different countries was for me a new and unique experience. I did not win but that was not important for me because what matters was to take part and enjoy the time well spent", said Major Antonio D'Agostino who participated in the race. Major D'Agostino in Italy runs with his children, Domenico and Noemi.



Captain Marian Sánchez Tabanera

Marian is the Spanish Contingent Legal Advisor. Although this is her first mission, Marian is a very experienced officer and is the senior Spanish Captain. Born in Madrid, 39 years ago she is married and the mother of a 9 year old daughter. Her professional qualifications include



a degree in law and she has specialized in maritime law and is professor of International Maritime Law in the EMEJ (Military School of Legal Studies). Her next assignment will be with the Navy General

Headquarters (Madrid) as a Legal Counsel.

Previous appointments have included four years as an advisor to the Army Headquarters in Madrid, five years in the Central Hospital of Defence (Madrid)

and two years seconded to the Second Territorial Military Tribunal (Sevilla). Her main hobby is travelling, but she also enjoys the cinema, shopping and sometimes, cooking. She is a keen supporter of football and her team is Getafe.

So far Marian has visited Sarajevo and Mostar, but she hopes to travel as many places as possible in the country. Marian started her mission on 21st April within the Spanish Marines contingent from "Tercio de Armada" in San Fernando. She feels proud and happy to be a part of this elite military unit, and lucky to be working amongst such good friends.

By Captain Emilio López Ruiz

Captain Tommaso Gioffreda

Tommaso Gioffreda is a Captain in the Italian Carabinieri. Born in Lecce on the 2nd of June 1968 he has a British wife and two children, Andrea and William. On April 2010 he joined the Eufor HQ Mission as a Plans and Policy Branch Officer. He joined the Carabinieri in 1990 after two years service with the Italian Navy. He was Warrant Officer and commissioned as an Officer in 2002. This is not his first mission abroad, as he has served in Albania in 1999 and Iraq 2005. Additionally he has deployed as a security Officer in

the Italian Embassies of London and Lagos and he also been to Ghana for criminal investigation duties. He has a first degree in Administration Science and this year will finish the 5th year of a Law degree. He has spent most of his career investigating crime and for 3 years he was a team leader on an Investigation and patrol team in Tuscany. He told the press office: "I really like my job here because I believe that an international environment is the best place to gain professional and personal experience".



Captain Gioffreda concluded the interview with these words: "I like running and reading, but I dedicate the majority of my free time to my family, my dog and also to my classic cars. I only like watching football when my team Lecce plays".

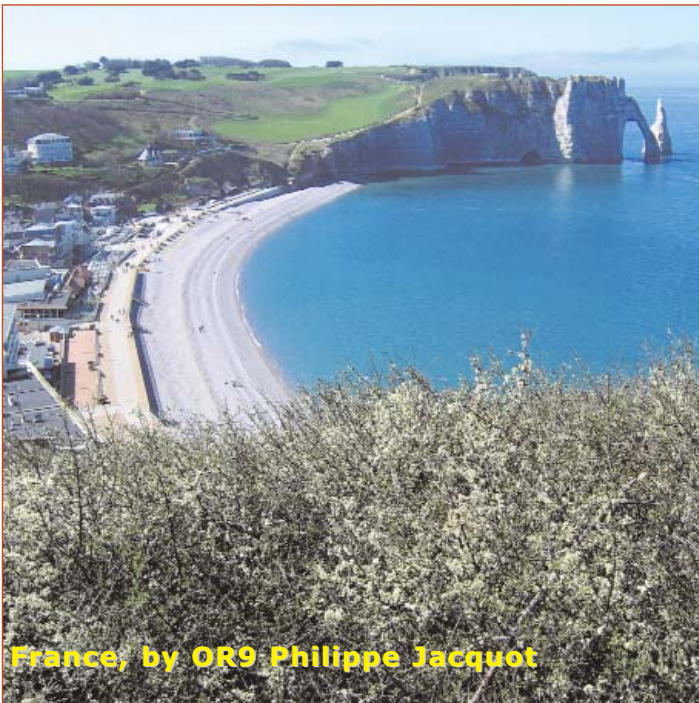
By Captain Giuseppe Saponaro



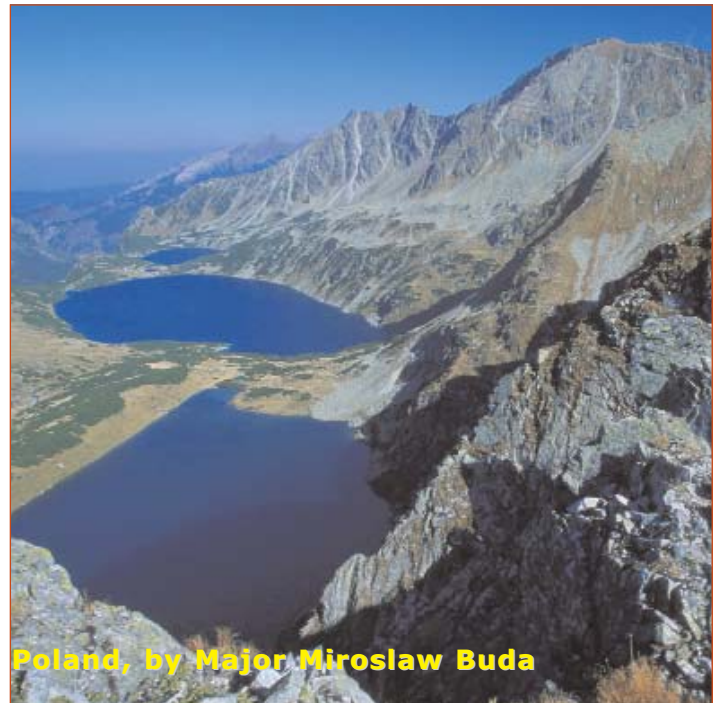
Bosnia and Herzegovina, by Major Marin Gospodinov



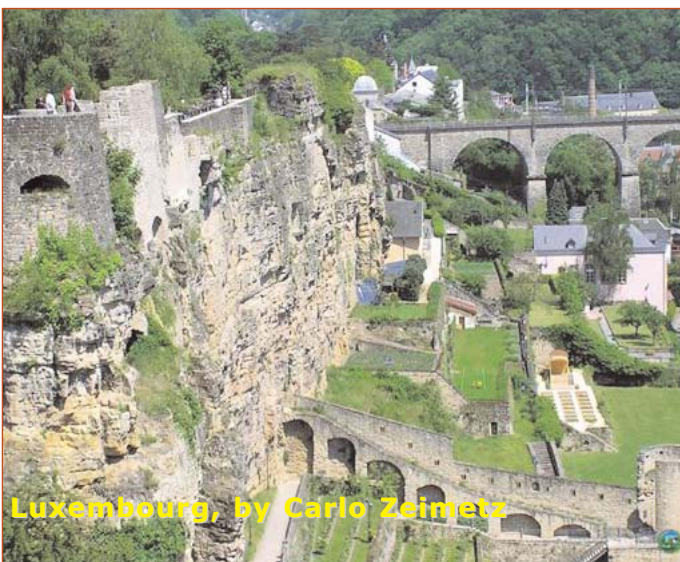
Slovakia, by Lt Igor Ficek



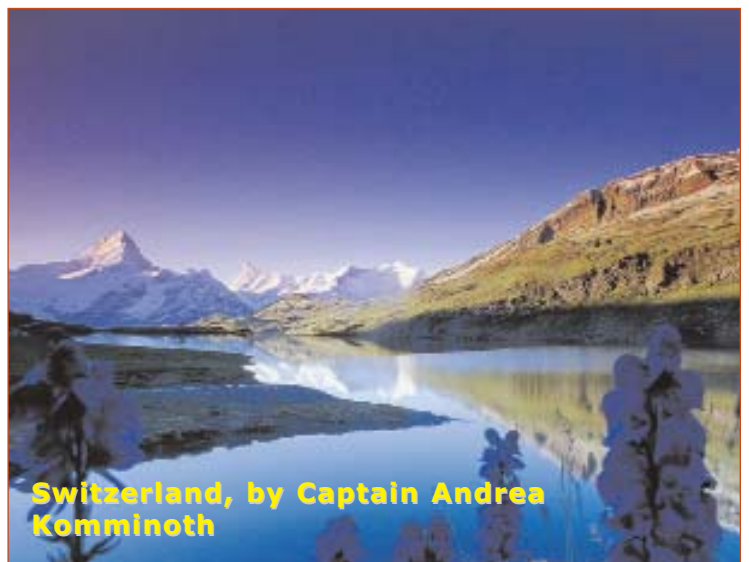
France, by OR9 Philippe Jacquot



Poland, by Major Miroslaw Buda



Luxembourg, by Carlo Zeimetz



Switzerland, by Captain Andrea Komminoth

