

Edition #60, November 2010

EUFOR forum



www.euforbih.org

EUFOR Continues to Support AFBiH

Brigadier General Günter Giesa

COS EUFOR



Dear readers of EUFOR Forum and comrades of EUFOR,

On September 17th, I took the responsibilities as the Chief of Staff of HQ EUFOR and I am looking forward to a challenging and interesting time here in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

During the last few weeks I have already had the chance not only to get to know the HQ here in Camp Butmir but also to visit several of our brave women and men stationed all over this beautiful country. I am impressed by the professionalism and dedication of the soldiers contributing to this mission and working together as a team.

Currently 27 nations contribute to the EUFOR contingent, a strong sign of the international communities' commitment and continuous support for the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina. EUFOR's mission has changed over the years. This is a sign of progress. A progress made possible by the dedicated efforts of our soldiers, the international community and the people of this country. Although our contribution is altering, the collective resolve to work for a better Bosnia and Herzegovina is unchanged.

At the beginning of my tour, the German Forces

and the German community here at EUFOR celebrated the 20th anniversary of the German reunification. Having been a divided country for over 40 years, the people in Eastern Germany started to go out on the streets in 1989; this was the prelude to the events that ended with

the German reunification on 3rd October 1990. "Wir sind das Volk!" – We are the people! This peaceful yet courageous public outcry underlined the claim that the power in a democracy lies with the people. It was also the voice of men and women claiming the right to a better future for them and for Germany. But it was also the wisdom and prudence on the political level that made this peaceful revolution possible and let our nation prosper. The 3rd of October is a symbol in Germany for what the people are capable of when they are united by a common dream of freedom and justice.

It is my hope that some of these emotions and this spirit will find its way to Bosnia and Herzegovina and bring these people together in unity. It is our mission to set the framework for this. We will carry on providing a safe and secure environment and help the people and this country to prosper.

CONTENTS

Official Recognition of Mobile Training Teams **4**

Personnel Branch **7**

EUFOR Cup 2010 Qualifiers Kick Off **10&11**



On the front page:
Troops from the AFBiH JNCO All Arms course receiving instruction under the gaze of the Generals and their staff.

Dear readers,
I have now to come to the end of my tour in EUFOR HQ Sarajevo. It is very easy to understand that I am looking forward to returning to my home, my family and my girlfriend but I have to underline: I am sure I will miss many aspects of Bosnia Herzegovina and life in Camp Butmir.

Most of all I will miss the people. Murtaza Durmazucar (TUR), Arsov Adrijana and Vesna Kiskovska (MKD), Juan Juarez (ESP), Alexander Strelau (DEU), Iulian Tibirean Gavrilă (ROM) are only some names but for me they have been friends that I will never forget. I have very much enjoyed being part of the camaraderie of EUFOR Althea and have been consistently impressed with the people I have worked with in the past ten months.

Many thanks to the Press Office. It was a very nice environment to work in and I appreciated a lot the guidance of my chief Lt Col Knut Scheutz.

I am immensely proud to have served with you all and I wish you all the best for your future.

I can't forget to be Italian officer. For this reason - arrivederci e grazie mille!

Sincerely Captain Giuseppe Saponaro, EUFOR Media Plans



**Captain Giuseppe Saponaro,
EUFOR Media Plans**

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 Mullins

Layout:

Mr. Jasmin Zeherović

Photographs contributed by:

Sgt Markus Rumpold

Submissions can be made via e-mail to
epic_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 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.

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

Official Recognition of Mobile Training Teams in Travnik and Tuzla

On 13th October 2010, COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, alongside Chief of the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Miložčić, formally recognised the Mobile Training Teams (MTT) that have begun operating in the country.

These teams are working at the request of the AFBiH and the Ministry of Defence to contribute to the development of their capacity and training.

During a formal presentation at the Travnik Barracks General Bair said "We share a common goal which is the advancement of the capacity of the Armed Forces of BiH to fulfil its national responsibilities and to realise its aspiration of joining NATO".

11 Countries have contributed troops to the MTTs and the event saw a demonstration of 2 of the 6 projects that have already begun. In Travnik the assembled guests witnessed a



Chief of the AFBiH Joint Staff, Lieutenant General Miložčić with COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.



Dummy Live Firing Exercise where AFBiH troops were demonstrating the correct instruction of rifle firing. In Tuzla they witnessed an exercise where the Chemical Biological Radiological

and Nuclear (CRBN) troops under training decontaminated a vehicle that had been attacked.

In his speech Lt Gen Miložčić "encouraged all those from the AFBiH to gain the most from their experience with the MTTs. Not just professionally but personally and at every other level". He thanked General Bair for the enthusiastic engagement of EUFOR that he had seen during the MTT Project.

Overall there will be 18 MTT Projects over the next year in areas such as Air Medical Evacuation procedures, Management of Ammunition and Weapon Storage and Personnel Management along with the Troop training and CRBN witnessed today.

Whilst in Travnik the Generals also officially opened the MTT House in the town which is where the EUFOR troops working at the TRADOC Barracks are accommodated.

By Lt Cdr Andy Mullins

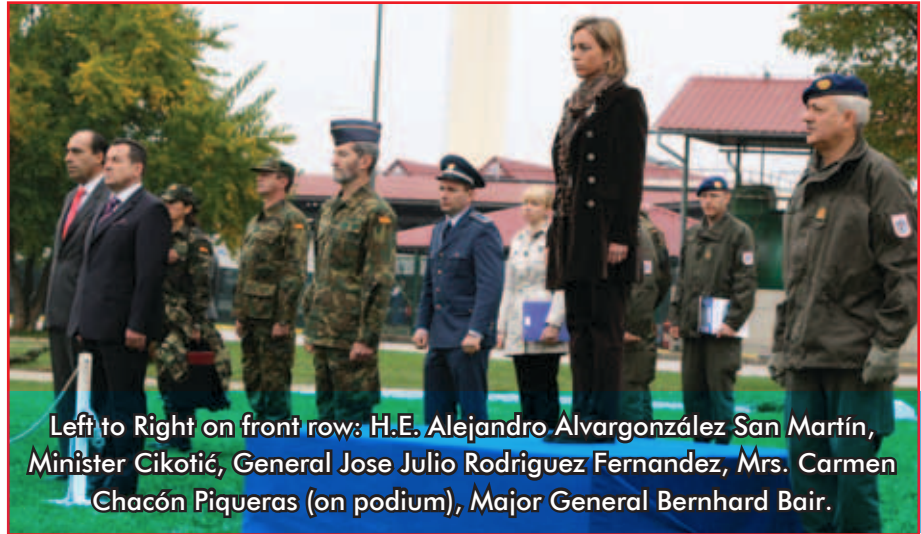


COM EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair; DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Tibor Nagy; and Chief JMA, Colonel Johann Lattacher from EUFOR HQ attended the recognition in Tuzla.

COM EUFOR hosts Spanish Defence Minister and Change Of Command of the Multinational Battalion

On 18th October 2010, the Spanish Minister of Defence, Mrs. Carmen Chacón Piqueras, visited EUFOR HQ with a high level delegation including the Chief of Staff General Jose Julio Rodriguez Fernandez, to meet with COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair. She was greeted by a Guard of Honour outside the EUFOR HQ building.

During the subsequent office call, COM EUFOR praised the contribution, sacrifice and the commitment of the Spanish Military and Guardia Civil to Bosnia Herzegovina and the EUFOR ALTHEA mission and thanked the Spanish for their ongoing commitment to the Capacity Building and Training Mission. Afterwards the Spanish Minister of Defence, laid a wreath on the Spanish Memorial Stone in Camp Butmir in remembrance of all the soldiers who have sacrificed their lives during the 18 years of the Spanish mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina. She was joined in this ceremony by the Bosnia Herzegovina Minister of Defence, Minister Cikotić, who also paid his respect to the fallen soldiers.



Left to Right on front row: H.E. Alejandro Alvargonzález San Martín, Minister Cikotić, General Jose Julio Rodriguez Fernandez, Mrs. Carmen Chacón Piqueras (on podium), Major General Bernhard Bair.

The visit coincided with a Change of Command ceremony for the Multinational Battalion which was witnessed by Lieutenant General Günter Höfler, Commander of the Austrian Joint Forces, and Major General Juan Chicharro Ortega from Spain. They saw the Austrian Lt Col Bernd Rott take over from Lt Col Spanish Marines Angel Herrezuelo Pérez.



COM EUFOR handing over the MNBN flag to its new Commander, Lt Col Bernd Rott.

EUFOR continues to fulfil its prime role of ensuring the Safe and Secure Environment within the country of BiH but has recently extended its work to include Mobile Training Teams assisting the Bosnian Armed Forces to reach their full potential.

By Captain Giuseppe Saponaro



From left to right: Commander of the Austrian Joint Forces Command, Lieutenant General Günter Höfler; Charge d'Affaires Austrian Embassy, Mag. Brigitte Pfriemer; COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Günter Giesa; AUT NCC, Colonel Johann Lattacher; and Austrian Defence Attaché, Brigadier General Andreas Rotter.

Visits to HQ EUFOR



Mr. Serge Marny, Head of the International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC), with COM EUFOR.



Lt Gen Milošević, Chief of Joint Staff of the Armed Forces of BiH during visit to Camp Butmir 2.



Commander of the Austrian Joint Forces Command, Lieutenant General Günter Höfler with COM EUFOR.



COM EUFOR welcomed the Defence Minister of the Republic of Ireland, Mr Tony Killeen T.D.



New Principal Deputy High Representative and Brcko Supervisor, Ambassador Roderick W. Moore, with COM EUFOR.



Brigadier General Baki Kavun, Peace Support Operations (PSO) Brigade Commander of Turkey, and COM EUFOR.

Personnel Branch

The best known faces in the HQ, after our Commander and Chief of Staff of course!

Everybody knows where our offices are, at least this is what we think since we are the people that newcomers see first and are eager to see again because it means they are out-processing.

Personnel Branch, as part of the Support Division, is not just writing your

name on a piece of paper, putting it in the database and then deleting it when you leave. There is much more and we will try to explain that in the following text.

Every organization is composed out of its people and every person must have a seat in it. On that seat are written the incumbent's duties, but having a seat also grants a lot of things really useful during operations. So, dealing with faces and places is our job. We must ensure that all the posts are covered by the right nation with the person having the right professional background, pressing SNRs to properly satisfy EUFOR needs.

Before each individual's end-of-tour, we must collect from every unit in theatre the list of personnel leaving in order to track them and prepare the medal parade together with distributions



**Top row: Major Buda, OR5 Kiskovska and Captain Kavasanszki.
Bottom row: OR9 Scheffler, OR6 Tuttar, Lt Col Barugolo and Lt Col Popov.**

of certificates. Our branch has also been assigned the control and distribution of HQ classified documents.

So far, more or less, we have talked about the same topic; what about Medical and Linguistic support? They have been assigned to Personnel.

Medical section takes care of the theatre medical situation and co-ordinates all matters related to medical and humanitarian support.

Lastly, the Linguistic services is a fundamental service in the HQ. Apart from the Local Civilians working in the Linguistic Services, some of them like Mira Cavaljiuga hired in 1995, the Branch is composed by military coming from many countries:

Lt Col Alberto Barugolo (IT Air Force) is the Branch Chief. At home he's NCOs Manpower Section Chief at the Air Opera-

tion Centre in Ferrara; Major Mirosław Buda (PL Army) the "multilingual" officer of whom you already know everything (see edition #59); Captain Istvan Kavasanszki (HU Air Force) from Szolnok AFB, smart guy, very good runner who likes to share chocolate eggs and other sweets all around; OR9

"Santa Claus" Hans Scheffler (GE Army) perfect speaker who delivers medals as "Xmas" presents (with receipt of course); OR6 Janek Tuttar (ES Army) always hiding among safes.

In the Medical Section we have Lt Col Georgi Popov (BG Army) as Chief, really silent and hard worker who always has a smile for everyone; OR5 Vesna Kiskovska (MKD Army) who asks how you feel and is ready to give you some pills "because you're not looking good".

This is the world of the Personnel Branch. Remember this when you come to building 200 for out-processing; let's see if you will be awarded a sweet, a medal, a goodbye in a strange language, a medical check or locked somewhere. These are the alternatives but to go back home it is worth the risk.

By Lt Col Alberto Barugolo

Visit to LOT Siroki Brijeg

On 18th September 2010, COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, visited Široki Brijeg and the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) there. COM EUFOR was welcomed by Major Ignacio Warleta, Chief of Regional Coordination Centre 2

(RCC 2) together with Captain Merdin Kişkan, LOT Široki Brijeg Chief.

Major General Bair and his staff were then introduced to the rest of LOT Široki Brijeg personnel. COM EUFOR was then briefed about the main ac-

tivities and current issues in the Area of Activity (AOA) of LOT Čapljina. COM EUFOR thanked LOT Široki Brijeg personnel for their efforts to collect information and act as eyes and ears of EUFOR.

By Haris Daul



Visit to Mostar

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

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



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

Activity (AOA).

After that, Major General Bair and Lieutenant General de Vincenti visited the heart of Mostar and enjoyed a cultural tour of the city. After a short stop to visit the famous spring of Buna river in

Blagaj, the delegation returned to Sarajevo from where Lieutenant General de Vincenti departed for Naples, ending his three-day tour of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

By Haris Daul

COS EUFOR Visits LOT Houses

On his first official trip after being appointed COS HQ EUFOR, Brigadier General Günter Giesa visited the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) houses in Brčko, Derвента and Modriča, located in the northern region of Bosnia and Herzegovina. During his visit he was able to get a first-hand impression of LOT operations conducted in the three areas.



COS EUFOR with LOT Brcko personnel.

In addition to a tour of the facilities, Brigadier General Giesa's main interest was conversing with LOT house personnel, focusing on their mission, recent events and of course the coming elections on 3rd October. Brigadier General Giesa was able to personally convince himself of the professionalism and commitment with which the soldiers fulfill their duties.

By **Haris Daul**



COS EUFOR with Chief of LOT Modriča.



COS EUFOR with Chief of LOT Derвента.

COS EUFOR surprise inauguration of Museum

On 9th October 2010, having visited Regional Coordination Center (RCC) 5 in Zenica, COS EUFOR Brigadier General Günter Giesa also paid a visit to the Liaison and Observation Team (LOT) houses in Zavidovići and Kladanj.

Brigadier General Giesa was able to convince himself of the excellent job the teams are doing in this



COS EUFOR during the Museum inauguration.

area. Making a quick trip to the historical Vranduk castle, Brigadier General Giesa was unexpectedly asked by the Mayor and the Museum director to inaugurate the recently completed Museum for Regional Studies. A request COS EUFOR gladly carried out.

By **Captain Klaus Breiden**

EUFOR Cup 2010

Qualifiers Kick Off



On 13th October 2010, the first regional qualifiers of the EUFOR CUP 2010 kicked off today in Sports Center Borik in Banja Luka.

“This competition is more than just sports event, because it gives you an opportunity to meet and become friends with your peers from entire BiH”, said COM EUFOR Mayor General Bernhard Bair in his letter read by Colonel Antonov to the participants at the opening of the tournament.

“Regardless of the outcome of the competition, taking part in it is the real first prize and remember that you are the future of BiH and continue to go forward in peace and harmony, respecting free and peaceful Europe”, General’s letter read.

COM EUFOR thanked all the partners of the Cup, especially AF BiH without whose help this event would not have been possible.



Out of 32 teams from Banja Luka region taking part in the qualifiers, only four will go to the finals, taking place in Sarajevo in November.

On 19th October, COM EUFOR attended the opening ceremony of EUFOR Cup 2010 qualifiers in Vistafon hall, Sarajevo. 48 teams from Sarajevo region will compete for places in the finals.

Results, photos and video will be available on EUFOR Facebook page, You Tube and EUFOR web site.

By Lt Col Andy Mullins



German National Day



German Troops parade for their National Day.



Reverend Buckel held a short service in CJ10 garden.

On 3rd October 2010, the soldiers of the German Contingent EUFOR celebrated their National Day under a clear blue sky. It was the 20th anniversary of the German reunification, truly a most worthy occasion

to start a little early. Therefore the celebrations began on Saturday evening with a serenade by torchlight in front of the HQ EUFOR.

The audience was entertained with a wide variety of classic and

contemporary tunes played by the Luftwaffen Musikkorps 3.

The German National Day itself started with a military parade at which the Commander German Contingent, COS EUFOR Brigadier General Günter Giesa, addressed his soldiers and recounted the events that led to the German reunification 20 years ago. He expressed his hopes that one day the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina may live together in harmony as well. The parade was followed by a short camps service conducted by Reverend Buckel in the garden of CJ 10.

The celebrations closed with the Oktoberfest, which was certainly a highlight, not only for the Germans but for the international community as well. Hundreds of guests, including COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, and the High Representative Valentin Inzko, enjoyed this traditional Bavarian custom in high spirits.

By Captain Klaus Breiden



COS EUFOR, Brigadier General Günter Giesa, HR/EUSR Mr. Valentin Inzko and COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.

Spanish Contingent EUFOR Celebrated Their National Day

On 9th October 2010, the soldiers of the Spanish Contingent EUFOR celebrated their National Day (Spain's National Day - Día de la Hispanidad - is normally celebrated on 12 October). The date commemorates the advent of democracy in Spain and the discovery of America in 1492.

The day began with a military parade where the Guest of Honour was Spanish Ambassador to BiH H.E. Alejandro Alvargonzález San Martín. The EUFOR Multinational



COMEUFOR and Spanish Ambassador to BiH H.E. Alejandro Alvargonzález San Martín.

Battalion (MNBN) and Integrated Police Unit (IPU) presented medals to honour those who have served in the mission, contributing to the safe and secure

environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina by assisting in the maintenance of public order and security.

After the parade, a remembrance ceremony was held in the memorial garden of Camp Butmir to commemorate the Spanish soldiers who had given their lives to the mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The celebrations closed with the lunch in CJ10. Hundreds of guests, including COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair, enjoyed this traditional Spanish lunch in high spirits.

By

IPU Medal Parade



On 1st October 2010, the EUFOR Integrated Police Unit (IPU) held a medal parade to honour those who have served in the mission, contributing to the safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina by assisting in the maintenance of public order and security.



DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Tibor Nagy, awarding a medal to a EGF member.

The Commander of the IPU, Colonel José Manuel Santiago Marin of the Spanish Guardia Civil, hosted the event where the Guests of Honour, the French, Romanian and Spanish Ambassadors presented the OP ALTHEA medals alongside COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair and DCOM EUFOR, Brigadier General Tibor Nagy.

COM EUFOR praised all those who were receiving their medals, reminding them to be proud of their hard work, their professionalism and their contribution to the country.

By **Haris Daul**

EUFOR School Competition Winners

Trip to Vienna

On Sunday 19th September 2010, a group of five pupils with their professor and Director, from the Kakanj "Muhsin Rizvić" Gymnasium, travelled to Vienna. Semra Sikira, Ilma Neimarlija, Amra Husika, Meliha Alajbegović, Josip Tomić, together with their professor of Fine Arts Mr. Alen Džindo, and Director Mrs. Aida Šišić-Hakulija, won the trip to the capital of Austria in the last EUFOR School Competition 2010. Thanks to their excellent group project they won this prize as one of the best schools in BiH.

After a long and exhausting journey, waiting at the border when entering the Schengen zone, they finally reached their destination late in the evening. A Colonel from the Austrian Army, Walter Lohnegger greeted them at the bus station at Erdberg and took them to the students hostel Hirschengasse. There the group met Mr. Andreas Weihsom from the Austrian Ministry of education who presented them with a



program of the visit of Vienna – the center of European history.

On the first morning they visited the Imperial Treasury in Hofburg. In the afternoon they had the honor to visit the International Center of Vienna- the UN City Headquarters.

The followings days were much too short to enjoy all of the other magnificent medieval heritage places of Vienna. However, they did see the Stephansdom Church, Baroque Karlskirche, the Museum of Art History in

which they saw the art creations of Tiziano, Raffaello, and the master pieces of the Dutch artists. In the evenings they were delighted to be able to watch the famous musical performance in the city theatre - "Dance of the Vampires". A highlight was an all day visit to Schonbrunn Castle, an unforgettable day for the pupils. It was their first opportunity to visit one of the most beautiful and famous castles in Europe.

One of the most interesting museums in Vienna is the Museum of the Austrian Army. Here they were able to see exhibits from the World War I including the car in which Archduke Franz Ferdinand was in when he was killed in Sarajevo, his uniform and other personal effects.

Director of the Gymnasium, Mrs. Šišić-Hakulija expressed her gratitude to EUFOR, the Austrian Ambassador H.E. Dr. Donatus Köck, and to their hosts in Vienna, especially Mr. Walter Lohnegger.

By **Almina Bašić**



Jajce

Bosnian beauty and the living history

Bosnia and Herzegovina has very rich historical and cultural heritage, but also impressive natural beauty. If you travel around the country, you will find numerous proves to this statement. However, you can also visit just one place and find it all there - Jajce. The town is located in central part of BiH, represented the heart of Bosnian state for ages. Jajce was first built in the 14th century and served as the capital of the independent Bosnian kingdom during its time. The town has gates as fortifications, as well as a castle with walls which lead to the various gates around the town. During this period, the most famous Bosnian queen Katarina Kosača-Kotromanić restored the Church of Saint Luke in Jajce, which was converted to mosque upon arrival of the Ottomans. When the Bosnian kingdom fell to the Ottoman Empire and Sultan Mehmed II the conqueror in 1463, the last Bosnian king Stjepan Tomasevic was executed on its walls. The castle and fortifications still exist including the other interesting sites such as underground church and never completed royal tomb, which locals used to call the catacombs.

Jajce gained prominence during the Second World War because it hosted the second convention of the Anti-Fascist Council of National Liberation of Yugoslavia (AVNOJ) on November 29, 1943, a meeting that set the foundation and design for the Socialist Federal Republic of Yugoslavia after WWII. National museum called "the house of AVNOJ" has been restored and now open for visits. Inside one could still feel the spirits of partisans and their dreams of brotherhood and unity of Yugoslav peoples.

But once you arrive to the town, you will immediately be astonished by the natural beauty that makes Jajce special. One of the most beautiful Bosnian waterfalls is located in the downtown

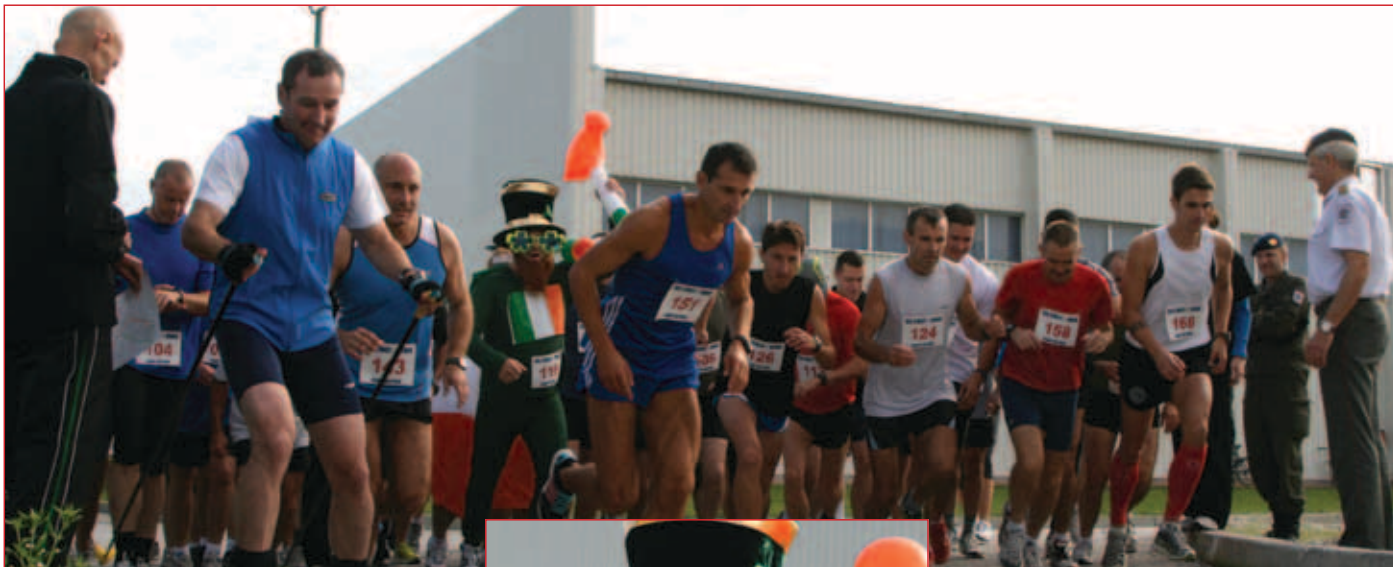


area, created by Pliva river that pours down into the river Vrbas. To ignore it and just pass by is simply impossible. This magnificent symbol of the town is among the 12 most beautiful waterfalls in the world. It is the only waterfall that is located in the town's center, but if you continue to travel up the stream of Pliva, you will reach the Pliva Lake, equally beautiful as the waterfalls at its end. Clean, green water decorated with water cascades and watermills makes this area perfect for picnic and spending holidays. Those who decide to visit this place nearby Jajce will also have opportunity to choose between several restaurants, motels and camping area.

Locals like to say that Jajce has all rights to be called Dubrovnik of Bosnia, however touristic potential is not utilized as it should be, and many people who come to visit Bosnia are not even aware what kind of beauties this town posses. But Jajce survived many dark times and it will be there for some better times ready to show its full glow. All above mentioned beauties and historical objects have nominated Jajce to become UNESCO candidate.

By Historical Office

10km Fun Run in Camp Butmir



On 1st October 2010, a 10km Fun Run was held in Camp Butmir. The race, which is held annually, was organized by the Irish Defence Forces contingent and was open for all military and civilian personnel within EUFOR and NATO Sarajevo. Whilst some ran the event in a competitive time others were free to walk to course. The winner was the Romanian (OR-3) Marcel Laza in a time of 32min 23 sec.

Some runners had the embarrassment of being overtaken by



a Leprechaun (Sergeant Hickey) and, for a challenge, four members of the German Contingent ran the event in uniform and

Respirators (Gas Masks).

The event was timed to match the official An Cosantoir 10km road race which will take place in Dublin on 6th October 2010. This event is open to all serving members of the Defence Forces and Reserve Defence Forces.

The fun run was a great success and raised in excess of 600 KM with over 100 military and civilian staff, from all the nations within the Camp, paying 3 Euros to take part. Funds were distributed to local BiH charities.

By Lt Cdr Andy Mullins



Winner of the race, OR-3 Marcel Laza, with COM EUFOR, Major General Bernhard Bair.

Basketball Tournament in Zenica

Within Zenica Canton, to improve the team spirit among pupils and direct them from streets into sports halls, a basketball tournament encompassing 12 primary Schools, organized by Citizenship Organization in Zenica and supported by Municipality of Zenica, was launched. At the ZE-DO Canton Administration Building, an information meeting was held with the participation of Zdenka Merdzan, Minister of Education of ZE-DO Canton, Zijad Softić, the Deputy Mayor, the authorities of the Citizenship Organization of Zenica, Lt Col Selim Hasgoren, RCC-5 Chief, representatives from the schools and the Press on 6th October. Attendees were informed of the schedule and regulations of the event and given short speeches about the objectives and the scope of it. At the end of the meeting, group pictures were taken and 10 team sets of basketball suits, provided



Lt Col Selim Hasgoren handing over the 10 team sets of basketball suits.

by BIH Turkish Senior Representative, were handed out to the team leaders and trainers of the schools.

According to what the Organization Committee announced, the tournament will be implemented as a league and it is anticipated that the fixtures lotterz

will be performed on 17th October.

The opening match will be played on 23rd October and the final game is planned on 23rd April 2011.

By CMSGT Berkant Kayisdikici

Names of the Primary Schools to participate in the event are:

- Miroslav Krleža
- Meša Selimović
- M. Cazim Čatić
- Edhem Mulabdić
- Vladimir Nazor
- Hamza Humo
- Skender Kulenović
- Alija Nametak
- Enver Čolaković
- Katolik Sveti Pavao
- Mak Dizdar
- Ćamil Sijarić



Representatives of schools, press and EUFOR were all present on 6th October in Zenica.

Hello to the readers, I am Lt Col Lasse Holma, working as the Chief Production Branch in IA Division. I was born 6th of May 1961 in Kankaanpaa in the western part of Finland. I'm married and have a daughter who is 19 and a son who is 14 years old. I have lived most of my life in a small village called Niinisalo.

I graduated from the military academy 25 years ago and started my career as a field artillery officer. I have worked for example as an artillery battalion commander and as a staff officer in the Army Command. This is my fifth mission. I have been in the Middle-East in UNTSO as military observer in 1992-93, a staff officer in NORDBATT UNPREDEP in The FYROM in 1997 and part of the year serving in SFOR, posted in Pecs in Hungary. Twice before I have served in Bosnia and Herzegovina in



Lt Col Lasse Holma

Eagle base, located in Tuzla.

For me it is a great pleasure and honor to serve together with officers and experts coming from so many different countries.

The other reason I am here again in Bosnia and Herzegovina is that this country fascinates me in many ways. There are different cultures which can be seen in the buildings and I enjoy the traditional food from the Balkans as well. During my free time I usually

run in the camp and do some physical training as well. Because I am a Finn, I take the sauna at least five times a week.

Nine months have passed very quickly and there is still three more to go. This has been a very educational and enjoyable period of my career and I hope I will meet many of you in some other missions later on.

My name is Captain Liviu Ibanescu of Roumanian Army and I was born on 9th of January 1977 in Galati city, a new and modern town situated in the south-eastern part of Romania. I am married since 2006, I have a sweet 4 years old daughter and I am expecting the second child in the middle of October.

The idea of building a military career was embedded in my mind from the very beginning. As a result of this, I followed Military High-School and after that I graduated Land Forces Academy in 1999. I improved my basic training and I enhanced my skills in troop leading procedures attending the Basic Course for Field Artillery Officers (2000) and the Advanced Course (Captain Career) in 2006. The first assignment was as a platoon commander in Field Artillery Training Centre. After that, in 2004 I decided to go further and I



Captain Liviu Ibanescu

chose an operational unit, 300th Mechanized Infantry Battalion, where, starting with 2007 I am Combat Support Company Commander.

Two missions abroad with 300th Infantry Bn in Afghanistan have the most important role in my military background. The first one was in 2005 as a 82 mm mortars platoon commander when my unit took part of ENDURING FREEDOM and the

second one in 2009 as a Fire Support Officer / Task Force ZABUL HQ during ISAF MISSION.

I was assigned in the middle of July as a staff officer in Training Planning Coordination Branch from Capacity Building and Training Division. My field of activity consists in internal cooperation with other CBTD branches and with related structures / players which are involved in supporting Mobile Training Teams to achieve their training, monitoring or mentoring goals in the benefits of AFBiH.

To conclude, this mission represents a challenge and I have to admit that it is a great opportunity for me to improve my English and staff officer skills and to work in this multinational environment with well-read, bright and flexible HQ personnel.

Sumela Monastery, Turkey
By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar



Frauenkirche Dresden Germany
By Captain Klaus Breiden



Engadin, Switzerland
by Major Andrea Komminoth



Ephesus, Turkey
By Lt Murtaza Durmazucar



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

FOR THE


EUFOR CUP 2010




The biggest school-teams indoor football tournament in BiH

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

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

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

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

TIME TABLE

City	When	Where
TUZLA	7 October 2010	'Mejdan' sports hall
BANJA LUKA	13 October 2010	???
SARAJEVO	20 October 2010	'Zetra' sports hall
MEDUGORJE	11 November 2010	'La Sportivo' sports center
TOMISLAVGRAD	17 November 2010	City sports hall
FINALS	23-24 November 2010	'Zetra' sports hall



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

CONTACT:

INFO OPS, EUFOR HQ

Fax: (033) 495-224

e-mail: euforcup2010@gmail.com

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



www.euforbih.org