



KFOR comes to Camp Butmir



Weapon Storage Management

New Chief of Staff EUFOR



MNBN Multi-task Exercise

Commander EUFOR

It is three months since Major General Martin Dorfer took over as COMEUFOR, and Forum Magazine caught up with him to find out how he is doing.

What are your first impressions?

My first impressions of EUFOR are positive: while the situation in BiH is complex, the professionalism with which I have seen the soldiers, sailors, airmen and officers under my command – as well as the civilians who work with us – conduct their tasks reassures me that EUFOR is and will continue to be an important contributor to the maintenance of the Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) in BiH. Our willingness to reflect and our determination to build upon our current success means that we will continue to evolve and develop to be ready to meet the challenges that may come our way. We very much see and consider ourselves to be a reassurance force with our focus spanning across a wide range of activities from the strategic to the tactical level.

Can you explain what you mean by ‘One Mission, One Team’?

We are at our most effective when our 18 Troop Contributing Nations and civilian staff bring their different knowledge and experience, and work together towards the same task of supporting SASE. This unity of purpose should be at the forefront of our minds. Put simply – all of us working together on a shared goal shows the commitment of us and our governments towards a stable, peaceful, multi-ethnic Bosnia and Herzegovina.



What have you enjoyed during your first three months?

That's a difficult question because I have learnt many interesting things and met many interesting

people. One of the highlights has been the opportunity to explore the country. EUFOR is not just for Sarajevo Canton – we are all over BiH, not least with our 17 EUFOR LOT Houses. I have been impressed by the cooperation and support that EUFOR offers communities in the LOT areas I have visited, and I look forward to completing my visits in the coming weeks.

What are you focusing on in the coming months?

It is no secret that BiH is facing some challenges in the next few months, and I want to ensure that EUFOR cooperates with relevant agencies to ensure that we maintain our situational awareness and support the maintenance of SASE.

However, I am also focusing on our other tasks, such as the implementation of a strategic review, EUFOR's contribution to demining and our work with ammunition, weapons and explosives. In these areas our subject matter expertise adds real benefit to the joint efforts of BiH and the international community to reduce the risk to the population. There is a lot to focus on: I could keep adding to this list! So I ask you to stay focused too.



**Change of Chief of Staff
EUFOR**

4



KFOR comes to Camp Butmir

7



**Multinational Battalion
conducts Multi-task Exercise**

9



**Fire Fighter Training Tee Side
International Fire School**

11



**Retaking a Weapon Storage
Site - practical training**

12



Brothers (in arms)

14

Editor in chief



I am delighted to be involved in this, my first edition of the FORUM magazine since taking over from Sarah as EUFOR spokesperson. A huge thank you to Sarah for her handover and for inviting me to

write this small piece for this edition. May I start by thanking all those people who have made contributions to this magazine and may I encourage you all to send us your stories about what is going on in your places of work and any ‘human interest’ stories you may have. Without you and your stories the FORUM would not exist.

If you want any help with your pictures and stories, my staff and I would be delighted to help, so let us worry about the technical issues, just send us the raw materials!

Lastly, if you have any questions about stories, the photograph competition or the work of the PAO office, please drop in and say hello and meet the team, I am very much looking forward to meeting you all.

**Lieutenant Commander Paul Clark
EUFOR Spokesperson**

Commander EUFOR
Major General Martin Dorfer

EUFOR Public Affairs Chief
Lieutenant Colonel Alexander Kovacs

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Brig Gen József Szpisják

”
It is my sincerest hope that this beautiful country and its friendly people consolidate their future within the Euro-Atlantic institutions
“

Change of Chief of Staff EUFOR



Brigadier General Szpisják, COMEUFOR and Brigadier General Gábor Horváth

On Friday 27 April 2018, in a ceremony held at EUFOR Headquarters near Sarajevo, Brigadier General József Szpisják relinquished his position of Chief of Staff EUFOR. His successor, Brigadier General Gábor Horváth, who is also from the Hungarian Armed Forces, assumed the position with immediate effect.

Numerous distinguished visitors and delegates from Bosnia and Herzegovina and the International Community were present, including the Principal Deputy High Representative, Mr Dennis Hearne, Brigadier

General Robert Huston, Commander of NATO Headquarters Sarajevo, and Brigadier General Zsolt Sandor, Deputy Commander of Joint Forces Command in Hungary.

Commander EUFOR, Major General Martin Dorfer gave a speech during the ceremony, in which he highlighted how Brigadier General Szpisják’s military knowledge and ‘capacity to forge strong relationships with key military staff and civilian organisations contributed significantly to the ongoing success of EUFOR’.

The new Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Horváth, will ‘continue the cooperation at all possible levels with the state administration, Law Enforcement Agencies and Armed Forces of BiH in order to maintain the well-developed trust and confidence between them and EUFOR’.

In his speech, Brigadier General Szpisják praised the cooperation and efforts of the many individuals, institutions and organizations who had worked with EUFOR in maintaining the safe and secure environment in BiH. He said: “It is my sincerest hope that this beautiful country and its friendly people consolidate their future within the Euro-Atlantic institutions. I wish all the people of BiH all the very best. I firmly believe that they deserve a progressive, prosperous and peaceful future.”



COMEUFOR confirmed Brigadier General Gábor Horváth in his new role

A current and a former EUFOR Chief of Staff meet in Camp Butmir

EUFOR Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Gábor Horváth, received Major General Zoltán Mihócza at EUFOR HQ for a two day visit 21-22 May 18. Major General Mihócza is currently the Chief of Staff of the Joint Force Command of the Hungarian Defence Forces.

The visit began with an Honour Guard from EUFOR's Multinational Battalion. Then the two Generals discussed the current security situation in BiH and had briefs on the ongoing work of EUFOR to support the maintenance of the safe and secure environment in the country. Major General Mihócza is already familiar with EUFOR's mandate and recent history: he was EUFOR Chief of Staff 2015-16. His return, although only for a short visit, and the strong representation of Hungarian Armed Forces in EUFOR demonstrates the



commitment of Hungary to the future of BiH.

Major General Mihócza also took the opportunity to meet and inspect the Hungarian contingent of EUFOR. Hungarian Forces make up a Company in the Multinational Battalion, as well as many areas of the HQ and EUFOR operation. Many

of these soldiers come from the area around Székesfehérvár, so Major General Mihócza was accompanied by the town's Mayor Dr András Cser-Palkovics.

22 May is an important day for the Hungarian Armed Forces, and some of the EUFOR soldiers a video message back to the townspeople.

DCOM JFC Visits Camp Butmir

On Monday 4 June 2018, COMEUFOR Major General Martin Dorfer welcomed the Deputy Commander of Joint Force Command Naples, Lieutenant General Christian Juneau, to Camp Butmir.

The Generals discussed the security situation in the Region, and in particular the maintenance of a safe and secure environment for the local population. The two generals also discussed

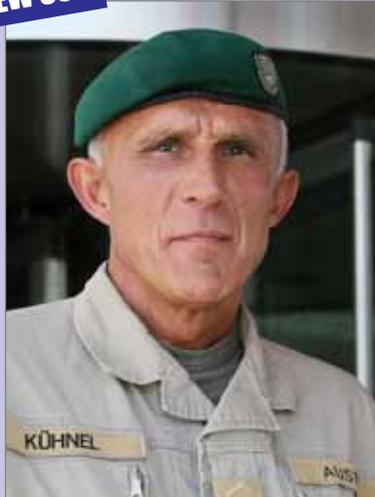


engagement with Key Leaders within the community and ongoing cooperation with the Law Enforcement Agencies of BiH.

Formal cooperation is conducted under what is known as 'Berlin Plus' arrangements, where various NATO units and battalions can be called in to support EUFOR's in-theatre troops.

The meeting also contained discussions about the positive impact of EUFOR in providing Capacity Building and Training to the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (AFBiH), supporting them in their progression towards Internationally agreed standards.

NEW CSM



**Warrant Officer I Thomas Kühnel
Command Sergeant Major**

In the last edition of EUFOR Forum I was introduced as the new Command Sergeant Major (CSM) of EUFOR but I want to take this opportunity to give you more information about myself and my tasks as CSM. My name is Warrant Officer I Thomas Kühnel and I am 54 years old, married and father of two kids, 20 and 22 years old. At home I work for the J7 branch of the Operations Command of the Austrian Armed Forces in Graz.

I started my military career as a member of an engineer unit in 1985 and then served in different units and commands including being deployed six times in missions abroad, such as UNDOF at the Golan Heights in Syria, KFOR in Kosovo and EUFOR

in Bosnia and Herzegovina. I was promoted to Warrant Officer I in the year 2010.

Being part of COMEUFOR's close Team I am responsible for discipline and protocol within EUFOR and master of ceremonies for many visits to EUFOR HQ. Besides that I am the link between all non-commissioned officers (NCOs) of all nations and COMEUFOR Major General Martin Dorfer.

To be selected to be CSM of EUFOR is certainly the highlight of my military career so far and I am very proud and thankful for that.

It is very important for me that due to the fact that there are many different nations and different cultures and also different organisations within Camp Butmir, that we all treat each other with respect and stick to the rules of discipline and regulations within EUFOR. This will be my focus during my next months of my tour working together with you in this mission.

I am really looking forward to serve with you during the next months and if you have any ideas or questions do not hesitate to ask me. I am proud to be in a team with you all!

Upcoming events



Srebrenica Memorial 11 July



Exercise Quick Response 18 27 Aug-10 Sep



BiH Elections 7 Oct 18

NEW Spokesperson



**Lt Cdr Paul Clark
EUFOR Spokesperson**

I was a willing volunteer for this job and can't wait to get started

My name is Lieutenant Commander Paul Clark, this is my first time in BiH and I am COMEUFOR's spokesperson, working in the PAO office. My main role is making press releases for EUFOR and to add stories to our Social Media platforms. I am from the UK, my interests include the electric guitar and rugby and I am the father of two sons aged 14 and 12.

NEW Chief PAO



**Lt Col Alexander Kovacs
Chief PAO**

Communication is a key activity to enable the success of EUFOR.

I am the new Chief of the PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE of HQ EUFOR.

After serving already 4 years in Bosnia and Herzegovina in different positions I am really happy to be back in this mission in this interesting job.

KFOR comes to Camp Butmir

Following COMEUFOR's informative and successful visit to Kosovo Force (Enduring Commitment), it was EUFOR's turn to host a delegation from KFOR to continue the well-established cooperation between the Operations. EUFOR Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Gábor Horváth, welcomed Deputy Commander KFOR (DCOM KFOR) Brigadier General János Csombók for a flying visit to Camp Butmir on Wednesday.

The Generals discussed the security situation in the Western Balkans, and their similar mandates: the support of safe and secure environment for the local population. The two generals also discussed their roles as respective Exercise Directors for the large-scale multi-national military exercises both missions run to ensure that they are fully prepared to regain control should the safe and secure environment require it.



EUFOR Chief of Staff Brigadier General Gábor Horváth and Deputy Commander KFOR Brigadier General János Csombók

Formal cooperation is conducted under what is known as 'Berlin Plus' arrangements, where various NATO units and battalions can be called in to support EUFOR's in-theatre troops. The KFOR Tactical Reserve Battalion participated in EUFOR's Exercise Quick Response 17, and the generals discussed how to continue this cooperation.

EUFOR's network of Liaison and Observation Teams throughout BiH

was a topic of discussion, with DCOM KFOR explaining that EUFOR's success in 'feeling the pulse' of the country with its network of EUFOR LOT Houses had led KFOR to establish its Liaison and Monitoring Teams. The generals ended with the agreement that sharing good practice and exercise opportunities would benefit the personnel of the two missions, and therefore the population of the wider Western Balkans region.



Father and Son at EUFOR HQ

There was a chance for a father and son reunion in June when EUFOR's Chief of Staff, Brigadier General Horváth welcomed his son Gabor to Camp Butmir. Lieutenant Horváth, who serves in the Hungarian Defence Forces as a Reserve Officer, was visiting the camp as part of KFOR's (Kosovo Forces) visit when the chance arose for a family photo.

It is great to see my Father, and my mother will be proud when she sees the photo.

There is a strongly established cooperation between the two Operations and it was EUFOR's turn to host the delegation from KFOR.

Weapon Storage Management: the precondition to handle surplus stockpiles

EUFOR's Mobile Training Team 'Ammunition and Weapon Storage Management' concluded a Basic Weapon Storage Management Course for the Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH). The course took place from 11 to 27 April in Čapljina transferring knowledge to 13 AFBiH armourers and stockkeepers from all over the country.

Under EUFOR mentoring, current specialized staff educated newly designated armourers and stockkeepers to enable AFBiH to store small arms and light weapons according to international standards as a precondition to ensure



EUFOR MTT in Čapljina

expeditious handling of surplus stockpiles. Topics like ballistics, weapon history, administration and stockpiling were outlined.

In the practical part of the course hands on storage, distinguishing and matching arms, stockpile administration and transfer procedures were covered.

Since many of the current specialists will retire in the upcoming years, education of the next generation became crucial to manage and dispose the huge stockpiles of war remnants which still can pose a threat to the safe and secure environment in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Major Nicolai Tschol

BiH - Free of Mines 2025

In 1997, after a long process of discussion and a worldwide campaign to bring awareness and support for people affected by the mine threat, over 90 States agreed to adopt The Convention on the Prohibition of the Use, Stockpiling, Production and Transfer of Anti-Personnel Mines and on Their Destruction (The Ottawa Convention). The convention was adopted on 18 September 1997 and it entered into force on 1 March 1999. To date, 164 States have formally agreed to be bound by the Convention. BiH decided to sign the Convention in December 1997 and ratified it in September 1998.

In accordance with the Convention, the deadline for all states parties to destroy all anti-personnel mines (including the clearing of mine-fields) is 2025.

In order to support BiH in achieving this goal, EUFOR conceived idea of re-surveying all Suspected Hazardous Areas (SHA) and to create new a database where improved

accuracy on the size and shape of SHA will be accessible to all citizens (stakeholders) of BiH. This project will be financed by EU funds and should start in June 2018.

In order to achieve the goal "BiH free of Mines 2025" it was necessary to create new "Mine Action Strategy 2018-2025" and to use for demining a new approach, the so-called Land Release (LR) strategy. EUFOR was and remains deeply involved in this project. EUFOR has supported the BiH with the preparation of all necessary regulations and with practical training. EUFOR also organized a workshop regarding Quality Assurance and Quality Control with the goal of how to increase the efficiency and quality of demining. The Workshop took place on 22 May 2018 in Rajlovac Barracks.

After successfully adopting the Re-Survey Project and with new LR approach to demining, BiH has the chance to fulfill its obligations under the Ottawa Convention by 2025 but it will required huge effort and willingness on the BiH side and of course international support. EUFOR will continue its effort to save the citizens from mine threat and to support BiH to make the country mine-free by 2025.

Lieutenant Colonel Albert Proszowski



Multinational Battalion conducts Multi-task Exercise



The scenario included extensive use of Crowd and Riot Control (CRC) techniques. Following a threat posed from within an angry crowd, the Hungarian Company had to regain control of the situation to prevent further violence and ensure the safe evacuation of people who had been trapped by the violent crowd. Following the speedy and well-executed evacuation, the troops had to prepare a helicopter landing site and air-lift a severely injured casualty to the EUFOR medical facility.

On Thursday 5 April, the Armed Forces of BiH Barracks in Rajlovac, just outside Sarajevo, was the location for an important EUFOR exercise. The exercise was designed to test the ability of the Multinational Battalion to undertake complex and interrelated public order missions, in realistic scenarios.

The Multinational Battalion frequently conducts exercises to ensure that it is fully able to react should the safe and secure environment in BiH be threatened. This exercise was one of the more complex routine exercises EUFOR undertakes, with multiple tasks and scenarios to be dealt with at the same time by just one Company. This was why the space afforded by AFBiH Rajlovac Barracks was particularly useful.



This training exercise provided the opportunity to practice these important and relevant skills, and display the Hungarian Company and Multinational Battalion's capability and readiness to support the authorities of BiH in ensuring a safe and secure environment.

The Commanding Officer of the Multinational Battalion, Lieutenant Colonel Markus Schwaiger said: "The Hungarian Company did well and the given tasks were successfully fulfilled. In particular, the troops did well with their Crowd and Riot Control



techniques, and the very fast evacuation of someone in an emergency situation. This exercise was also a truly multinational one, with troops from Hungary, Austria and Turkey training together to achieve a common goal - the maintenance of a safe and secure environment."

Lieutenant Patrick Moser

EUFOR Day in Foca

On 13 April, the EUFOR LOT in Foca ran a EUFOR day and photo exhibition. The exhibition was entitled 'Bosnia and Herzegovina in the eyes of EUFOR soldiers', and aimed to display the beauty and fascinating nature of BiH as seen through the camera of members of the EUFOR LOT manned by Slovakia in Foca.

The event was a mix of cultures, with the photos celebrating BiH and the light refreshments being prepared in a traditional Slovak style. The day also served as a farewell to the EUFOR LOT Foca Commander and opportunity to thank the mayors and leaders of local authorities from the surrounding area for the ongoing mutual support between their organisations and EUFOR.

The day was highly successful, and over 100 people visited the exhibition.

Major Štefan Rybár



EUFOR raced the Banja Luka run&more weekend



Seven EUFOR soldiers from Austria, Poland and Romania successfully completed the Banja Luka Polumaraton on 12 May. The fastest EUFOR runner to finish the 21.1 km long track through the green alleys, parks and sights of Banja Luka was Pawel Orłinski from Poland. He crossed the finish line after 1:36:27. Proving the fitness of EUFOR almost all EUFOR soldiers finished in less than two hours, others just steps behind. But the marathon weekend was not just about running. Along the running track runners were cheered to the finish line by thousands of visitors and sports fans as well as the sounds from numerous bands and DJs. Live performances before and after the race ensured a good atmosphere as well: Croatian band Cubismo opened the run&more weekend at the Kastel fortress in Banja Luka with afro-cuban, latin, jazz and salsa sounds. Headliner of the after-marathon-night in the Kastel fortress, bringing the energy of electronic sound, was well known DJ Tomcraft from Germany. The Banja Luka Polumaraton is for sure one of the most entertaining half marathon events to participate.

Major Nicolai Tschol

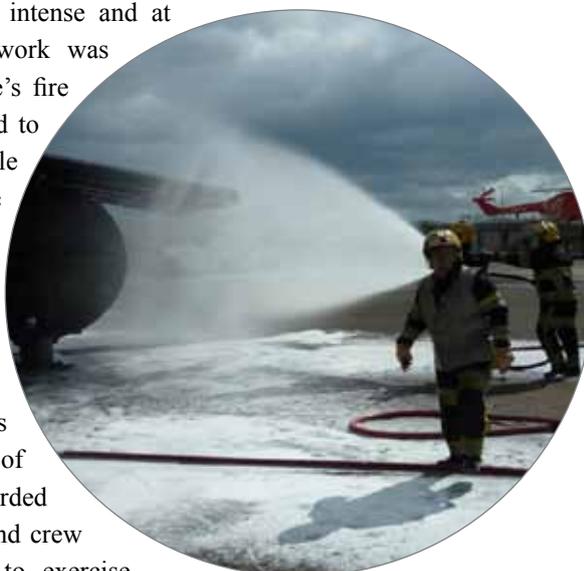




Fire Fighter Training Teesside International Fire School

In April of this year Camp Butmir’s Fire Service undertook essential 4 yearly re-certification training in Teesside at the International Fire Training School. In all 14 fire-fighters made the trip to Teesside to undertake refresher training and all successfully achieved the Aviation Crash Rescue standards set by International Civil Aviation Organisation (ICAO, ANNEX 14).

The training though intense and at times extremely hard work was enjoyed by all. Teesside’s fire training school is second to none and crews were able to undertake realistic aircraft fire fighting scenarios; carrying out fire-fighting in heat and smoke, whilst concurrently executing rescue operations. This not only tested the skills of the fire fighters but afforded the watch commander and crew chiefs the opportunity to exercise



their command and control skills in a realistic situation.

It was not all hard work though and in their free time, in the evenings, the guys took the opportunity to visit the local area and see some of the sights around Durham and York.

In summary, the superb crash fire training that the fire-fighters received was second to none. Mandatory and essential firefighting re-validation training was completed and enjoyed by all, along with the undoubted team building and life experience that undertaking training away from your home base affords.

Paul Hulme, EUFOR Fire Chief



Paul Hulme, EUFOR Fire Chief

Our mission is to provide the Commander EUFOR with an enduring, operationally effective firefighting capability. This includes the provision of fire cover for helicopter and fixed wing operations, and structural firefighting. Fire safety inspections and fire safety training. I believe that the most effective fire-fighting technique is prevention and through regular fire inspections throughout the Camp and basic fire safety training for personnel we endeavour to make Camp Butmir an extremely safe place for both permanent staff and visitors.

Retaking a Weapon Storage Site - practical training



One of the main tasks of EUFOR Operation Althea is to work with the authorities and Armed Forces of BiH (AFBiH) to maintain a Safe and Secure Environment (SASE). On 11 May 2017, the EUFOR Multinational Battalion (MNBCN) with AFBiH undertook an exercise to regain an occupied Weapon Storage Site, which (in the exercise) had been occupied by a hostile group.

The MNBCN, EUFOR's in-theatre manoeuvre unit, got a brief on the scenario as soon as they arrived at the Kalinovik Barracks training area. The MNBCN's Turkish Company was tasked with re-occupying the Weapon Storage Site.

The scenario was made more complex for the Company Commander with the addition of two further incidents. The entrance to the building was booby trapped, which necessitated calling in EUFOR's Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) team. As a second complicating factor, one of his soldiers was severely wounded. The casualty was treated by the MNBCN medical

team, before being evacuated by helicopter.

EUFOR must undertake practice helicopter evacuations frequently, because quick response times can make the difference between life and death for injured troops. After accomplishing his task and regaining control, the Weapon Storage Site was handed back to the Armed Forces of BiH by the Turkish Company Commander.

Lieutenant Colonel Markus Schwaiger, the MNBCN Commander said: "The given tasks were fulfilled positively by the Turkish Company Commander and his soldiers. Additionally I want to point out the intent and fast acting of everybody during the whole exercise, because this would be most important in case of a real threat."

Lieutenant Patrick Moser



Lt Col Markus Schwaiger

“ I want to point out the intent and fast acting of everybody during the whole exercise, because this would be most important in case of a real threat. ”

Combined Training with Armed Forces BiH

In summary EUFOR conduct six combined training exercises each year. The duration of such training last at least one week. But it is not only this final training. This is the last part of a significant training sequence, which includes several steps to prepare the unit to fulfill a proper and sustainable final Combined Training (CT).

Three planning conferences guarantee that all training activities are in line with the training need of AFBiH and that EUFOR can support with appropriate means. The overall goal is the self-sustainability of AFBiH and our support for their preparation to the internationally accepted standard evaluation process.

In the Initial Planning Conference (IPC) the topic of the training, the training audience and the area of training will be fixed. The time period from this first step to the final CT can be at least three months. Within the Main Planning Conference (MPC) all details should be confirmed. Additionally a recce in the training area takes place. Real life support and additional training equipment must be clarified.

One feature of this training cooperation is the flexibility shaping this training. The fundamental purpose is the training need of AFBiH. Each brigade and unit has a different level of knowledge depending on their own annual training plan. Some of the CTs are designated as stepping stones towards the exercises of AFBiH, which are used for the internationally accepted standard evaluation certifications.

The first step after IPC is to bring individual soldiers to a common level and to improve basic military techniques and tactics. This individual training week is under full responsibility of AFBiH. If required EUFOR support with some instructors. A crucial point is that those trained soldiers are the same as in the final Combined Training.

Next it is time to prepare all the paperwork for the following platoon sized training. For this purpose the key lead-

ers from AFBiH and EUFOR meet together in a workshop. It is a fully open designed room. Three days are planned according to the Standard Operation Procedure (SOP). The final product is the complete exercise of the CT with all necessary documents such as the Operation Order (OPORDER), structure and equipment of training audience and exercise staff, fulfilling real life logistic needs and other things. Now they are ready to make a step forward and bring the boots on the ground.

The Training Week as the third step is similar to the CT. The platoon are trained according to the topic of the CT. MNBN support this sequence with troops and instructors.

AFBiH uses this opportunity to train their key leaders in decision making process and other procedures. At latest the primary training audience should be ready for the final CT.

The CT is the highlight of this whole sequence. Paperwork was done, soldiers and key leaders are well prepared to fulfill the following tasks and work as a team. In particular the different military culture and language is a challenge for all involved troops.

The previous steps in the training sequence ensure a successful finalization of this training.

The CT lasts one week from Monday to Friday. Depending on the location troop's deployment this could be on Sunday. To occupy an assembly area is the first tactical task. In the following days the focus is on technics and tactics related Peace Support Operations (PSO). Conduct movement and convoy operations during night time and limited visibility are also an integrated part of CT. As a highlight in the last training day a scenario shows the performance of the achieved goals as a result of the whole training sequence.

Training must have an aim and an objective and be measured by common standards. Then we are able to improve the performance of the effected troops. CT is a combined effort and all participants are encouraged to contribute their share during the preparation, conferences, workshop, trainings and exercise. As a basic rule, AFBiH leads its own training and EUFOR supports them according to their request. This needs mutual respect and understanding of domestic preconditions of AFBiH.

CT will be conducted beyond 2018 with those professionalism and flexibility as it works now to support AFBiH on their way to self-sustainability.

Lieutenant Colonel Erwin Gartler



Lt Col Erwin Gartler
Chief Training Branch

”
Combined Training (CT) is between elements of AFBiH and EUFOR. Ideally each element is platoon sized with a company command post as the primary training audience. The Multinational Battalion from EUFOR uses also this training for their own purpose as secondary training audience.
“

Brothers (in arms)

Family ties are strong on the Balkans, but also within EUFOR. In the last edition we presented father and son, both staff officers working in the EUFOR Headquarters, this time we feature two brothers: First Lieutenant Hannes Konrad works in the S3 Branch of EUFOR's Multinational Battalion while four years younger Lance Corporal Peter Konrad is a vehicle maintenance technician for the Austrian Contingent. The family back home in the Styrian province of Austria is quite happy that both of their sons left to Bosnia and Herzegovina at the same time. Parents are always concerned, but in this way the brothers can look after each other like they



”
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do it at home, where the reserve soldiers, despite of the difference in their ranks, work together for the same company as equal partners. “It is a great experience to work for EUFOR, serving together with my brother makes it even better”, says Hannes whereas Peter continues: “He is not only my brother, he is also my best friend.” Both will end their tour in August this year. We don't know the Konrads'

plans for the summer, however, during winter season both enjoyed ski tours on Bjelašnica Mountain: “It was almost like home, only the mine situation doesn't allow you to enter the terrain as carefree as in Austria, and in this sense you really need to trust your touring partner” the Konrad brothers say.

by Major Nicolai Tschol

Facts about CSM Stick

- It is an indicator of rank as it is only carried by the CSM;
- It is a tool that is used to measure the pace (distance taken in a marching step) so that all soldiers get trained to 'pace' the same and it is also used by the CSM when laying out the marker points on a parade ground so that the troops turn at the correct point and finish up at the correct point on ceremonial parades.

The Pace Stick - The Royal Regiment of Artillery was the originator of the pace stick. It was used by gunners to ensure correct distances between guns on the battlefield, thus ensuring the appropriate effective fire. The original stick was more like

a walking stick, with a silver or ivory knob. It could not be manipulated like the modern pace stick as it only opened like a pair of callipers; the infantry then developed the stick to its present configuration as an aid to drill.

Another such martial instrument is the “swagger stick,” part of the officer's regalia when he is “walking out.” Usually seen placed under the right arm pit,



with the uplifted hand holding on to the stick's end, it was one of the most useless pieces of military equipment ever devised, but has served as an ideal instrument depicting the officer as gentleman.

(diggerhistory.info)

A swagger stick is a short stick or riding crop usually carried by a uniformed person as a symbol of authority. A swagger stick is shorter than a staff or cane, and is usually made from rattan. Its modern use derives from the vine staff carried by Roman centurions as an emblem of office.

(wikipedia.com)



My favourite photo



**EUFOR photographer
Staff Sergeant Gernot Payer**

EU Open Day 05 May 2018 in Brussels



EUFOR BiH – Op Althea personnel discussing their role in ensuring a SASE in Bosnia and Herzegovina and in building the capacity of AFBiH.

Since 2003, the EU has conducted, or is conducting, 34 missions and operations under CSDP. 12 are military operations/missions. The remainder are civilian missions. Currently, the EU is undertaking 16 missions and operations under CSDP (6 military missions and operations and 10 civilian missions).

EUFOR Operation Althea was invited together with all other missions to have a display at the EU Open Day in Brussels.

**by Lieutenant Colonel
Alexander Kovacs**



FOR A SAFE AND SECURE BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA



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