

February 2008

EUFOR **Forum** EDITION 28

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**EUFOR marches forward**

# Spokesperson Media Summary

2008 began very quietly both in terms of Operational Tempo and also the media. This led us into a false sense of calm and in no way did it prepare us for what was to be one of the busiest media periods in EUFOR for many years.

The first event we dealt with

was a visit by COM EUFOR to Mostar LOT House, his first official visit to EUFOR troops on 9th Jan and he also met with the Mayor, Ljubo Beslic. The following day, 10th Jan COM met with the BiH Minister of Defence, Selmo Cikotic to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) that details the use of military Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) within BiH. Since the restructuring of EUFOR almost one year ago when the majority of troops were concentrated in Butmir Camp there has been the need for FOBs for the deployment of troops on operations, training and exercises.

On 11th Jan COM EUFOR visited the University Hospital in Sarajevo to personally thank Doctor Mirsad Kacila and his team for efforts made in the saving of Major Manuel Barón



Garcia's life, a Spanish member of EUFOR (see page 4 for more details). If it was not for the medical intervention we may have lost Major Barón.

Up until these dates, the work within EUFOR continued at a steady and calm pace within the safe and stable environment that is now BiH. Then came news that shocked and stunned EUFOR. The press release announced read:

"At around 1200 on 12th Jan 08 a Macedonian Mi17 Helicopter that was returning home at the end of mission crashed approximately six miles from Skopje near the village of Blace. On board the aircraft were eleven Macedonian crew and passengers who were all killed. They were all members of the Macedonian contingent who had completed their tour in EUFOR. The helicopter launched

from the EUFOR base in Camp Butmir at 0930 today and was close to its destination."

This event was the biggest single loss suffered by both EUFOR and the Macedonian Authorities. Extensive media coverage ensured and we had many statements to make on TV, radio and newspapers. COM visited Skopje on 15th to attend state level funerals and EUFOR held a formal commemoration

ceremony on the 16th culminating in a flypast by the Swiss and Spanish.

Media life eventually returned to a form of routine and we ended the month with a number of events that included a recce, on 22nd Jan, from the Command Group of the United Kingdom's Welsh Guards. The Welsh Guards are the United Kingdom's current reinforcement battalion should the need arise within the Western Balkans in either BiH or Kosovo. They later travelled to Kosovo to receive the equivalent briefing from KFOR.

... and that was January 2008. A month that many of us in EUFOR will not forget for a very long time.



# EUFOR Forum

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## Sarajevo Hospital Saves EUFOR Soldier

On 7th December 2007, EUFOR Spanish Major Manuel Barón Garcia was evacuated from Camp Butmir to the University Hospital in Sarajevo after suffering chest pains. This was diagnosed later as a heart attack and his condition was assessed to be very serious and at one stage critical. He was attended to at the University



Hospital in Sarajevo by a highly qualified specialist team led by Doctor Mirsad Kacila. Major Barón was in intensive care for twelve days after which his condition stabilised. On 27th December he was diagnosed as being well enough to travel home to Spain and on 29th December he was trans-

ferred to a military hospital in Madrid where he continues to make good progress.

The EUFOR medical teams were extremely impressed with the care provided by the University Hospital in Sarajevo and indeed commented on the level of sophistication of treatment given by Doctor Mirsad Kacila and his team. Because of Doctor Mirsad Kacila's skill it is doubted if Major Barón would have survived in any other environment.

## COM EUFOR Formally Thanks Hospital For EUFOR Soldiers Life

COM EUFOR, Major General Ignacio Martín Villalain visited the University Hospital on 10 January 2008 to personally thank Doctor Mirsad Kacila and his team for efforts made in the saving of Major Manuel Barón Garcia's life.

COM EUFOR made a small presentation and stated "That the medical support provided continues to be an extremely important relationship between EUFOR and the hospital. We in EUFOR are extremely pleased with the care provided to Major Barón. If it was not for the medical intervention of Doctor Kacila and his team we may have lost Major Barón. Thank you very much on behalf of his family and EUFOR".

EUFOR has an agreement with the University Hospital in Sarajevo that



provides a high level of medical support that is termed Role 3. This is the stage of medical treatment received on operations prior to being transported home for EUFOR troops and has been assessed to be of a very high standard.





# Italian Chief of Defence visits EUFOR Italian soldiers

Italian Chief of Defence, Admiral Giampaolo DI PAOLA, together with the Joint Operations Headquarters Commander, Lieutenant General Mauro DEL VECCHIO, paid a visit on 18 January 2008 to Bosnia and Herzegovina to bid Italian Contingent his farewell.

Admiral DI PAOLA was welcomed at Sarajevo airport, by EUFOR Deputy Commander and Italian Senior National Representative, Brigadier General Carmelo De CICCIO, and by Italian Carabinieri Contingent Commander, Colonel Giovanni Pietro BARBANO, as well as by Italian Army Contingent Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Felice SENATORE. During his farewell visit, Admiral DI PAOLA visited Camp BUTMIR, where first he had an Office Call with COMEUFOR, Major General Ignacio Martin VILLALAIN, and then with NATO Headquarters Sarajevo Commander, Major General Richard WIGHT-



MAN. Afterwards, Admiral DI PAOLA bid all Italian personnel his farewell and expressed his deep gratitude for the generous contribution that the Italian soldiers have offered, so far, in the ongoing delicate Balkans peace process as well as for the achievement of a stable and secure environment in Bosnia and

Herzegovina which is engaged, today, in the difficult path toward European Union. Admiral DI PAOLA concluded his farewell visit meeting the High Representative and EU Special Representative, Ambassador LAJCAK, and the Italian Ambassador in Sarajevo, Alessandro FALLAVOLLITA.





# School Restructuring in Konjic

The IT CIMIC Unit in connection with the Municipality of KONJIC inaugurated on 7 January 2008 the restructuring of a section of the second primary school in KONJIC. In about four months, this project has increased the scholastic capabilities of the city up to 180 seats with three new classrooms for the pupils.

“In the educational sector, during the last decade, the IT CIMIC Unit has been carrying out several Quick Impact Projects, involving all the local Authorities within the process of Institutions Building. Indeed, the IT CIMIC Unit has been sustaining the capabilities development as well as the credibility of the BiH Government” said Brigadier General De CICCIO, EUFOR Deputy Commander and Italian Senior National Representative who attended the ceremony. General De CICCIO concluded



his confident speech with these remarks: “All the local Authorities have to continue dealing with the integration process and with the same perseverance shown up to now, in the consideration that respect of diversity has always been the only way for the achievement of peace and prosperity”.

The IT CIMIC Unit has been working alongside NATO and EUFOR since 1997 and will complete its mission by the end of January 2008. Much success has been achieved so far and over 2.3 million euros, of IT and EU funds, have been spent building or restructuring 26 schools all over BiH.



# MNBN - Command Post Exercise

Between 16th and the 17th of January the MNBN Commander conducted a Battalion level drill at Archer Base and Rajlovac. The purpose of this training was to maintain the capabilities of the MNBN HQ. The exercise consisted of two phases. The first phase, on the 16th, the Battalion staff conducted a Rapid Response Planning Process for a scenario based on crowd disturbances.



issued Fragmentary Orders (FRAGOS) for D Coy and B Coy Commanders, situated respectively in Camp Butmir and Rajlovac.

D Coy commander tasks where to conduct an area control operation through several check points. B Coy Commander was tasked with deploying a Crown Riot Control (CRC) platoon to control an urbanized area. The exercise concluded with an extraction exercise based

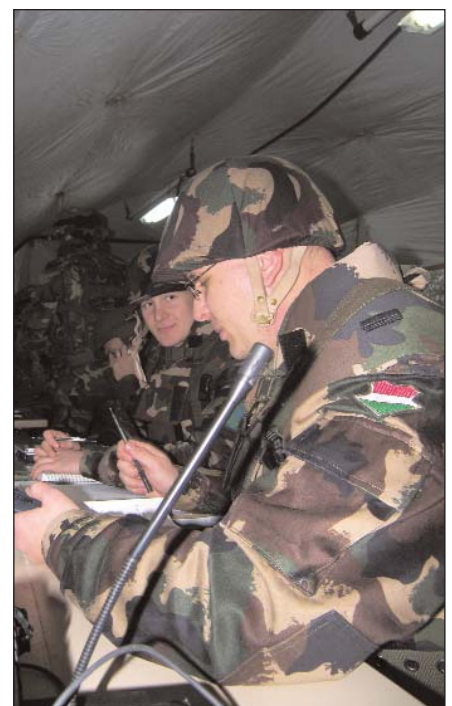
The next phase, on the 17th the Battalion deployed a Tactical Command Post Advance Party and a Tactical Command Post Main Party, situated at Archer Base and the MNBN HQ Building respectively. A Step-Up procedure occurred, whereby the Advance Party took

over control of the exercise whilst the Main Body moved to Archer Base. As soon as the Main Body had arrived and set up at Archer Base it resumed control of the exercise.

Also, in order to check MNBN command and control (C2) procedures the Battalion Commander

upon the threat of EUFOR personnel in a LOT House.

This regular testing of C2 techniques along with the deployment of troops ensures that the capabilities of the MNBN remain sharp and ready should it ever be needed for real.





# EUFOR Mine Awareness Project

On January 23rd LOT Mrkonjic Grad kicked off with the first of a continuous series of mine awareness presentations for school children. Since mines still pose a serious threat (40 percent of the minefields in BiH are still unmapped), EUFOR developed a mine awareness program for school children of all age groups, using different techniques to make the kids aware of this danger in their environment. For the youngest this is done in a playful way and for the older kids the program gets more serious. The LOT



has a specially trained language assistant, Fahro Belko, who will give the presentations on schools in the municipalities of its responsibility and for this first presentation LOT also invited the EUFOR mine awareness specialist from MICC Butmir, Dzejna Skopljak to assist. In the near future LOT Mrkonjic Grad hopes to get a second language assistant ready as a trainer, to maximize the effort in this program, since the prevention of any mine related accident is a win for EUFOR and the future of BiH.



## Trebinje LOT participates in donation of pipes

On Saturday, 05 January, LOT TREBINJE attended to the Spanish donation of pipes to the members of Water Users Association in LATSVA.

The donation aim is to supply with drinking water to fifteen families (around fifty people) and to improve the irrigation system in the area of ARANDJELOVO (BN 985302) in LATSVA.

The donation consisted on pipes valued at 6000 euros. The water users carry out the works, and they want to finish before May.

Mr. Momir SPREDANOVIC (BS), the President of Water Users in

LATSVA, said that with the new Pipes, as well as the 15 houses, the ARANDJELOVO chapel and one of the border posts between BiH and MONTENEGRO (ARANDJELOVO area) will have running water too, thanks to the donation. Following people attended to the celebration: Mr. Momir SPREDANOVIC (BS), President of Water Users in LATSVA.

Mr. Nikola SEKULOVIC (BS) (President of the Municipal Assembly in TREBINJE).

Mr. Pero SPREDANOVIC (BS) member of Water Users in LATSVA and at the same time he is Vice-

President of the Municipal Assembly in RAVNO (YH 425525).

Mr. Radoslav CICKOVIC (BS) Chief of SBS Police in TREBINJE.

Mr. Drazan TUPANJIN (BS) Orthodox Priest in LATSVA.

The rest of the members of Water Users in LATSVA.

All these people welcomed LOT team with some typical HERZEGOVINA food. Mr. Momir SPREDANOVIC, Mr. SEKULOVIC and the Pope had some public gratitude words by the donation.



# LOT Ugljevik

Liaison Observation Team (LOT) UGLJEVIK is situated at the North-East of RS in the town of UGLJEVIK. Furthermore, LOT UGLJEVIK A.O.R covers the municipalities of Lopare, Celic and Teocak.

Municipality of Ugljevik is located on the slopes of Majevisa Mountain. Ugljevik is a well developed municipality due to the thermal power plant and coal mine located within its territory.

Municipality of Teocak is located at the Canton 3 (Tuzla Canton) in the northern tip of the “Sapna Thumb” slopes of Majevisa Mountain. Teocak is accessible by the modern road branching off the regional road Bijeljina-Tuzla. It is highly undeveloped, mainly agriculture area with the high unemployment rate.

Celic is a split municipality, which before the war used to be a part of Lopare municipality. The economy in Celic is mainly based on agriculture. The area is famous for fruit growing, especially strawberries. A lot of farmers invested into this branch. The municipality is famous for its “Strawberry Festival”.

Lopare municipality is located on Majevisa Mountain, surrounded by the wondrous, picturesque countryside and flatlands of Semberija and Posavina Region with the great opportunity to become health and tourist centre. Municipality occupies 280 square kilometers and has 16.829 residents in 4.704 households.

LOT UGLJEVIK is a group



of eight soldiers, both NCO's and Officers. LOT houses, among them LOT UGLJEVIK, initiated by the SFOR latter on as a proven success taken over by the EUFOR, does not weaken its efforts in keeping permanent and constructive contact with both citizens and authorities at the entire AOR. Living within the community LOT personnel continues monitoring and ensuring that the Safe and Secure Environment (SASE) is maintained. Our main objective is to be accessible and help-

ful in solving the problems citizens and authorities face on daily bases.

LOT UGLJEVIK meets frequently with all Law Enforcement and Local Authorities and patrols the area on daily basis in order to keep up situational awareness and to show the decisiveness of EUFOR.

One of the ways to keep up with above described is LOT UGLJEVIK's participation in various events organized by the citizens and local authorities such are religious celebrations, sport tournaments, distribution of humanitarian aid in cooperation with the Former Greek National Support Element which used to be located at “Eagle Base” Tuzla etc.

LOT UGLJEVIK uses every opportunity to keep in close contact with citizens and local authorities and be the link between local authorities and EUFOR aiming toward final objective of handing over the authorities to BIH Government.





# Exercises Conducted by



The BBC witnessed Crowd Riot Control and LOT House Extraction techniques by Spanish, Turkish and Hungarian sub-units; Recce Platoon also demonstrated live fire reaction to effective enemy fire. The spokesperson managed to let loose a magazine of 30 rounds (courtesy of the Spanish), in addition the Spokesperson ensured that the BBC went home with muddy boots when, obeying orders, he drove down a very muddy track and got bogged into a ditch! This further improved the MNBN training when they had to employ vehicle recovery techniques. Finally the EOD team carried out a well rehearsed live IED disarmament procedure. It was so loud the BBC journalist nearly dropped her camera. All in all an excellent day. (Fortunately there were no pictures of the Press Office vehicle stuck in the mud).

From the 22nd to the 25th of January, B Coy and Recce Platoon conducted drills at Eagle Base.

The purpose of this training was to maintain the capabilities in Crowd and Riot Control (CRC), Military Operation in Urban Terrain (MOUT) operations, common procedures of MNBN and enlarged the BiH terrains acknowledge. Besides, both units conducted living fire exercise.

On the 23rd, B Coy Commander conducted small arms and heavy machine gun living fire exercises and MOUT exercises for platoon level. The 24th of January Commander conducted an exercise of Company level based on a hypothetical scenario where the LOT personnel were threatened.

On the 23rd, Recce Platoon commander conducted small arms living fire, MOUT exercise too and drills focus on getting information. The 24th of January the Recce Teams were integrated in the coy exercise.

MNBN Commander was present on the field during the training in order to supervise exercises.





# B Coy and Recce Platoon





# The oldest wooden mosque on the Balkans

The wooden mosque in Buzim's Old town is one of the master pieces of BiH traditional architecture. It is situated in the bottom of the medieval fort and is considered the oldest wooden mosque on the Balkans. The date of its erection is not known. According to the inscription and the vakufnama (an endowment document stating the object is intended for charity) that are kept in it, whose translations Mehmed Mujezinovic published in his book "Islamic epigraphic", the mosque was reconstructed by Vedzihi-pasha in 1838. That means that the mosque is older than this, but it is not clear from the inscription what the nature of the reconstruction was.

The mosque is very spacious, 18 x 14 meters wide with five-meter tall wooden walls. The total area of the space intended for praying is 414 m<sup>2</sup>. According to dr. Med'ida Becirbegovic, its dimensions make it the biggest wooden mosque, one of the biggest with a wooden minaret, and among the biggest mosques overall. The disposition of this building is unique. It has not been built according to any other in BiH and there is no other like it. This is the only example of a mosque with rows of columns carrying the mahfil (the attic and the flooring of the minaret – the highest part of the mosque from which the mujezin calls for prayer). It was built from oak and not a single nail has been used in the process. Along the wooden walls are 18 windows tiled in two rows so the large inner space has enough light. Its askew roof, whose height is equal to five meters, is proportional to the height of the walls, and provides a special monumental expression of the mosque. The 17-meter tall minaret is what gives the object its special touch. During the latest



restoration of the object in 1938, its exterior was significantly weakened. The old roofing of the askew and tall roof was replaced by new roof tiles which deducted the height

of the roof by two meters. The minaret also suffered some appearance changes. The old minaret had an uncovered cerefa (a circular space on the minaret from which the mujezin calls for prayer) with small apertures. After the restoration, the minaret looked like the old stone minarets in Ottoman style, with an open



## Basic Bosnian

Hello	Zdravo
Thank you	Hvala
Please	Molim
Goodbye	Zbogom
Yes	Da
No	Ne
Fine/Good	Dobro

gallery and was also five meters shorter.

The interior of the mosque is typically oriental. The floor is covered with colorful carpets, most of them handmade with Bosnian motifs that speak of the

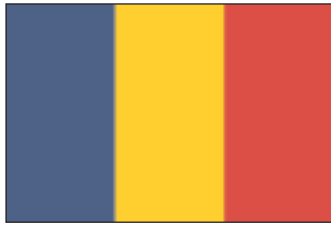
talent and skills of the women that made these pieces of work. The wooden columns are simple, squared and without ornaments, while the pillows were adorned with carvings that were no longer visible after the mosque's restoration. The appearance of the minber was altered in the 1980 restoration (minber – a pedestal with at least three stairs from which the person in charge (hatib) for the sermon (hutba) after the afternoon prayer (dzuma) speaks to the people). Earlier it was very nicely shaped and adorned with small wooden planks, carved rosettes and profiled arches.

Architecturally and historically, the mosque in the Old town is important, but it is also important because of its scholars. If you visit the wooden mosque, you will feel the scent of times long gone.



# Romania

Romania is a country in Southeastern Europe. It shares a border with Hungary and Serbia to the west, Ukraine and the



Republic of Moldova to the north-east, and Bulgaria to the south. Romania has a stretch of sea coast along the Black Sea. It is located roughly in the lower basin of the Danube and almost all of the Danube Delta is located within its territory.

Romania has the 9th largest territory and the 7th largest population (with 22 million people) among the European Union member states. Its capital and largest city is Bucharest, the 6th largest city in the EU with almost 2.2 million people. In 2007, Sibiu, a large city in Transylvania,

was chosen as European Capital of Culture. Romania also joined NATO on March 29, 2004, and is also a member of the

Latin Union, of the Francophonie and of OSCE.

According to the 2002 census, Romania has a population of 21,698,181 and, similarly to other countries in the region, is expected to gently decline in the coming years as a result of sub-replacement fertility rates. Romanians make up 89.5% of the population. The largest ethnic minorities are Hungarians, who make up 6.6% of the population and Roma, or Gypsies, who make up 2% of the population. By the official census 535,250 Roma live in Romania.

Hungarians, who are a sizeable minority in Transylvania, constitute a majority in the counties of Harghita and Covasna. Czechs.

## FACTS

**Full name:** Romania

**Population:** 21.6 million (via UN, 2006)

**Capital:** Bucharest

**Area:** 238,391 sq km (92,043 sq miles)

**Major languages:** Romanian

**Major religion:** Christianity

**Life expectancy:** 67 years (men), 74 years (women) (UN)

**Monetary unit:** 1 new leu = 100 bani

**Main exports:** Textiles and footwear, metal products, machinery, minerals

**GNI per capita:** US \$3,830 (World Bank, 2006)

**Internet domain:** .ro

**International dialling code:** + 40

# Slovakia

## FACTS

**Full name:** Slovak Republic

**Population:** 5.4 million (UN, 2005)

**Capital:** Bratislava

**Area:** 49,033 sq km (18,932 sq miles)

**Major languages:** Slovak

**Major religion:** Christianity

**Life expectancy:** 70 years (men), 78 years (women) (UN)

**Monetary unit:** 1 koruna = 100 haliers

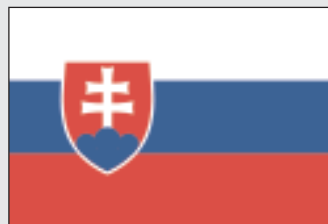
**Main exports:** Manufactured goods, machinery and transport equipment

**GNI per capita:** US \$7,950 (World Bank, 2006)

**Internet domain:** .sk

**International dialling code:** + 421

Slovakia is a landlocked country in Central Europe with a population of over five million and an area of about 49,000 square



kilometres (almost 19,000 square miles). The Slovak Republic borders the Czech Republic and Austria to the west, Poland to the north, Ukraine to the east and Hungary to the south. The largest city is its capital, Bratislava. Slovakia is a member state of the European Union, NATO, OECD, WTO, and other international organizations.

The Slavic people arrived in the territory of present day Slovakia

between the 5th and 6th century AD during the Migration Period (Migration of Nations). Various parts of Slovakia

belonged to Samo's Empire, the first known political unit of Slavs, Great Moravia, the Kingdom of Hungary, Habsburg (Austrian) monarchy, Austria-Hungary, Czechoslovakia throughout history. Slovakia became independent on 1 January 1993, with the peaceful division of Czechoslovakia in the Velvet Divorce. The majority of the inhabitants of Slovakia are ethnically Slovak (85.8%).

Discovering the Gastronomy in Butmir Camp

# Supreme Restaurant & Bar

On a Wednesday evening we visited Supreme Restaurant & Bar. This is what happened:

The Supreme Restaurant is situated next to the Café Royale near the dining facility. The entrance is a bit hidden, but if you use the Supreme PX as guidance you can't miss it. We enter on a Wednesday evening to celebrate a farewell with a group of about 15 persons. Besides some Spanish soldiers waiting for a take away pizza we are the only customers. The ambience is not very inviting, fast food is written all over the interior.

Everybody has to order the desired food and drinks at the bar near the entrance. This meant that it took some time to order for 15 people. The menu offers a wide selection and as we are a large group we order a variety of meals offered in it. All usual drinks are available, the beer in cans. The food varied greatly in quality. One portion of cevapi, a national dish offered in BiH, was the biggest disappointment. Not fresh at all. A portion of cabbage sallad arrived and was normal lettuce. Other dishes, such as the kebab, were excellent, very tasty and to the right \$\$\$\$\$.

It might have been the size of our group, but this evening proved to be not very satisfying. The prices vary from cheap to above average. Cuisine in BiH specializes in meat dishes, but the cevapi was not to the typical national standard. The staff shows that they can do better though



with their superb Kebab.

Overall this place needs improvement in quality and service, thumbs down. We will revisit in some time to report hopefully on any existing changes.

Prices		☹️
Comforts		☹️
Quality of the service		☹️
Quality of the food/beverage		☹️
Conditions of the place		☹️
Presence of smoking area		☹️
Entertainment		☹️
Noise		😊
Toilets clean		☹️
Service friendly		☹️
Location		☹️
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	☹️
	Beverage	☹️
	Pasta	☹️
	Meat	☹️
	Fish	☹️
	Deserts	☹️



# IPU Pizzeria

As part of the pres office’s ongoing review of dining and drinking facilities at Camp Butmir we visited the IPU Pizzeria. This is what happened:

The IPU Pizzeria is situated opposite the IPU dining facility. We choose a Sunday evening to test the restaurant. The Pizzeria is busy when we enter, but we easily find a table in the simple but warm and cozy non-smoking section. There is also a large smoking section, but it seems a bit cold, especially with low outside temperatures.

The service is very quick, friendly and helps us patiently with our order. We order three Pizzas, a red wine, a Coke and a beer. The drinks appear at the table with lightning speed, closely followed by the pizzas. The beer is perfect, the red wine a touch to cold and what can go wrong with a Coke? The pizza Diavolo is just perfect,



cross and hot with a rich, tasty topping, just the perfect Italian pizza. The same goes for Quattro Formaggio, but the Frutti di Mare was a bit of a disappointment because of the fabricated, canned crab meat.

We finished the evening with some Grappa and two Espresso, all very good quality. So, if you are looking for the probably best Pizza in the Camp with friendly and good prices, this is the place to go. Altogether we paid 17,60 € and enjoyed a nice evening. There is a variety of other meals available,

the starter with Italian ham and cheese or the steak looked very promising. If you are expecting a quiet dinner though choose a different location, because this place is very busy and the noise level is quite high. The staff also adds a certain something extra to the experience, very friendly and fast. A little hint for the managers of this place at the end: Get a new menu, preferably also in English, because the current ones are getting old. That is the only real negative point we saw, altogether a highly recommendable place, thumbs up.

Prices		😊
Comforts		😊
Quality of the service		😊
Quality of the food/beverage		😊
Conditions of the place		😊
Presence of smoking area		😊
Entertainment		😊
Noise		😞
Toilets clean		😐
Service friendly		😊
Location		😐
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	😊
	Beverage	😊
	Pasta	😞
	Meat	😊
	Fish	😞
	Deserts	😐



# Café Royale

The Café Royale is situated opposite the Dinning Facility (DFAC) within Camp Butmir and occupies perhaps one of the best locations. It has a very nice terrace that in good sunny weather is a pleasure to sit down in and enjoy a drink. Upon entry into the building the customer is greeted with a pleasant but slightly dark atmosphere. Downstairs is a non-smok-



ing environment that has the bar for ordering food and drink, televisions, comfortable sitting areas, a pool table and a dart board.

Bar staff are welcoming and always ready to serve. They speak very good English due to the fact that this used to be run by the UK NSE. Upstairs is a smoking area for those who insist on adding to the pollution in Sarajevo. This area is open plan also with comfortable seating and a large screen television. The TV's display local BiH stations and also they still



have access to British Forces Broadcasting Services (BFBS) which means that British Football and soap operas are available on the weekends and evenings, although often the bar staff plays music with the TV sound turned down, but you can always ask them to switch.

Frequented by many nations the pool table is always in use and darts are a regular activity.

A standard range of drinks from tea, coffee, soft drinks and alcohol is available. The prices are good and in terms of the Echos bars they undercut their prices for tea and coffee. This combined with location are perhaps the best selling points for Café Royale. Very popular after DFAC meals, the Royale always has a queue for drinks, but this does move quickly. Since ownership has transferred from UK

NSE to a local civilian the kitchen has been upgraded and the Royal can offer simple foods such as sandwiches, French fries (chips?) and pizzas. If the customer is to rely on this food as a main meal then they may be slightly disappointed. The food quality is good but basic. The Royale can provide

what can be considered as typical English food, perhaps due to the heritage of the café. Food prices are good and compare well with other bars nearby.

In summary the Café Royale provides for a very good experience – excellent location, good facilities, friendly staff, cheap prices and basic food services. Thumbs up.

Prices		😊
Comforts		😊
Quality of the service		😊
Quality of the food/beverage		😊
Conditions of the place		😊
Presence of smoking area		😊
Entertainment		😊
Noise		😊
Toilets clean		😊
Service friendly		😊
Location		😊
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	😐
	Beverage	😊
	Pasta	😞
	Meat	😞
	Fish	😞
	Deserts	😞



# CJ10



It is one of the most popular places for personnel serving in Camp Butmir: CJ10. The EUFOR press office visited this establishment as part of the ongoing series of reviews to find out what the place can offer.

CJ10 is located directly next to Building 200, EUFOR/NATO Headquarters. This prime location is making it very attractive to everybody working close by. Also in the evenings and at weekends the place is always busy. As we enter we imme-

diately feel at home: A cosy warm place, all in wood with two large rooms: One for smokers and another for non-smokers. The rooms are large and provide ample seating area. The smoking area is popular all day long and the non-smoking area provides a respite for the clean living. A selection of board games is available for those who wish to play, two large screen televisions display a plentiful supply of European and International news and sport channels and wi-fi

exists for laptop users who wish to browse the internet or Skype. CJ10 also has plenty of space to just come and sit and is often used for official functions by the various HQs. The menu offers a variety of food such as pizzas and Dutch delicacies. Sandwiches and breakfasts are also available. We order a pizza, sandwiches and the menu of the day. To sum it up: The pizza was tasty, the sandwich was good, but the mixed grill was a disappointment. We felt that this last item was on the greasy side, which might suit some tastes but not all. Compared to other bars CJ10 has the highest prices for tea and coffee and the alcoholic drinks can be found cheaper in other bars on camp. Food prices on the whole are acceptable. The quality of service has been variable, some people have good relationships with the staff and are able to engage in strong banter – but this might not suit all. Evening service in the smoking area is well managed with a pleasant outlook.

The main advantage of CJ10 is its location. Being next to the HQ and the closest bar to much of the accommodation it is guaranteed to have customers but it does need to address a few issues to ensure it does itself justice. Some drink prices appear high which has dissuaded a few clienteles to go elsewhere and the service has been known to vary. Overall CJ10 has some very good selling points and also some areas that could be improved.

Thumbs down.

Prices		☹️
Comforts		😊
Quality of the service		😐
Quality of the food/beverage		☹️
Conditions of the place		😊
Presence of smoking area		😊
Entertainment		😐
Noise		☹️
Toilets clean		😊
Service friendly		😐
Location		😊
Specialties	Pizza/Sandwich	😐
	Beverage	😐
	Pasta	☹️
	Meat	😐
	Fish	☹️
	Deserts	😐



Weather Forecast	Mean Temp	Mean Min Temp	Mean Max Temp
February	1.5 °C	-2.3 °C	5.9 °C

## Bridge over Drina

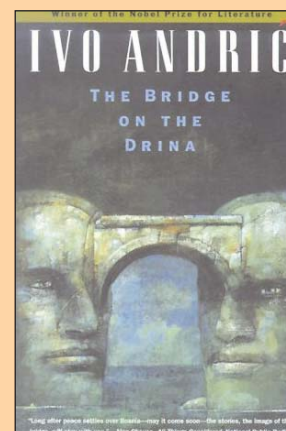
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A vivid depiction of the suffering history has imposed upon the people of Bosnia from the late 16th century to the beginning of World War I, *The Bridge on the Drina* was awarded the Nobel Prize for Literature in 1961. As we seek to make sense of the current nightmare in this region, this remarkable, timely book serves as a reliable guide to its people and history.

No better introduction to the study of Balkan and Ottoman history exists, nor do I know of any work of fiction that more persuasively introduces the reader to a civilization other than our own. It is an intellectual and emotional

adventure to encounter the Ottoman world through Andric's pages in its grandiose beginning and at its tottering finale. It is, in short, a marvelous work, a masterpiece, and very much sui generis. . . . Andric's sensitive portrait of social change in distant Bosnia has revelatory force." (William H. McNeill, from the introduction)

Born in Travnik Bosnia, Ivo Andric (1892-1975) was a distinguished diplomat and novelist. His books include *The Damned Yard: And Other Stories*, and *The Days of the Consuls*.



## Mostar Sevdah Reunion

Producer Dragi Sestic first formed Mostar Sevdah Reunion at the height of the conflict in 1993, vowing that the world would get to hear what beauty could come from the nation's people once the fighting was over. Understandably, it took until 1998 for the group to release their self-titled first album, but there's little doubt he's succeeded in his mission ever since.

Bosnia-Herzegovina's diverse ethnic melting pot of Serbs, Croats and Bosnian Muslims has also given birth to a rich, varied musical tradition that has few equals in Europe. Sevdah, the country's national music, originated around 400 years ago when the Turks occupied much of its territory, and the blend of eastern and Slavic influences on Café Sevdah is subtle yet delicious.



What's more, there are also more contemporary flavours in the mix here. "Otkako je Banja Luka postala" is a classic, yearning sevdalinka (love song) with wonderful vocals from Nermin Aluhic Cerhez, but the following track, "Cije je ono djevojce" would not sound out of place on a Ry Cooder record with its jazzy piano and vivacious female backing vocals. Throughout, the musicianship of the group's veteran performers is impeccable - wonderfully fluent, sinuous and brimming with passion. While the overall feeling may be melancholy, it's a beautiful kind of sadness that leaves the listener inspired rather than depressed.

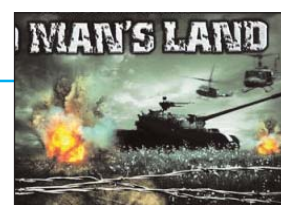
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## No Man's Land

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Two wounded soldiers, a Bosniak (Bosnian Muslim) (Ciki, portrayed by Branko Djuric) and a Bosnian Serb (Nino, portrayed by Rene Bitorajac) are caught between their lines in the no man's land, in a struggle for survival. The two soldiers confront each other in a trench, where they wait for dark. They trade insults and even find some common ground. Confounding the situation is another wounded Bosniak soldier (Cera, portrayed by Filip Sovagovic) who wakes from unconsciousness. A land mine had been buried beneath him by the Bosnian Serbs; should he make any move, it would be fatal.

A French sergeant (Marchand, portrayed by Georges Siatidis), of the United Nations Protection Force (UNPROFOR), gets involved in effort to help the three trapped soldiers, despite initial orders to the contrary by high command. UNPROFOR's mission in Bosnia was to guard the humanitarian aid convoys, to remain neutral and act as a mere bystander. Luckily, an English reporter arrives on scene, bringing media pressure to bear that moves the United Nations high command to swing in to action to try to save the





# Soldier in Spotlight

Chief Petty Officer Stefan Kalpin was born in 1977 in East-Berlin. He grew up in the former German Democratic Republic. After his high-school diploma he joined the first time the German Navy in 1998 for the military-duty and extended voluntarily. He was trained as a navigator and was a seafaring man on an auxiliary warship. After his service he made an apprenticeship as a computer-specialist and rejoined the German Navy in 2004. After several advanced training courses for non-commissioned officers he was assigned to the German Destroyer-Fleet 2 and participated in Operation Enduring Freedom on the German Frigate Emden in 2006 for more than half a year. Since March 2007 he serves in the EUFOR-Mission in Camp Butmir. First he was employed as the COMEUFOR Admin during the mission of Rear-Admiral Witthauer. Originally he was to supposed to leave with the former COM but he could successfully extend his tour and after the Change of Command he accompanied the EUFOR-Press-Office as the Admin, because this

post was unmanned for more than a year.

For navy-soldiers absences for more than 6 month per year are very common. However, the usual duration of a foreign –landoperating-tour last about 4 month. “But in my case I am going to stay here for more than a year. I am single and I don’t have a family, that’s why I can stay easily for long-term leaves from home.”

At home he is responsible for various CI-Systems on warships as well as on stationary facilities comparable to the CJ6-Department here in the HQ.

“I love this country and the people living here as well as the soldiers who serve here. The weather (climate) and the food served in this camp are definitely better than in Germany – almost unique!”

You might know him as the “EUFOR-Paparazzo” or as the host of the Karaoke-Event in Sam’s-Bar on Wednesday- & Friday-Evening.

Even if some people won’t believe it, he describes himself as a very shy,



reserved and withdrawn person which is very often misunderstood as arrogant and bigheaded behavior.

“After my time as a Navy-soldier I want to help disabled persons. My aim is to help other people. My biggest joy is at least to make people laugh – even if it is unintended! In the near future I want to start a family with children and have a house.”

“My motto is “Keep your expectations low – and you will never be disappointed!’ or ‘Lower your standards!’”, the nonsmoker reports.

## Photo of the month





# MIRNA I SIGURNA BOSNA I HERCEGOVINA

EUFOR I ORUŽANE SNAGE BIH