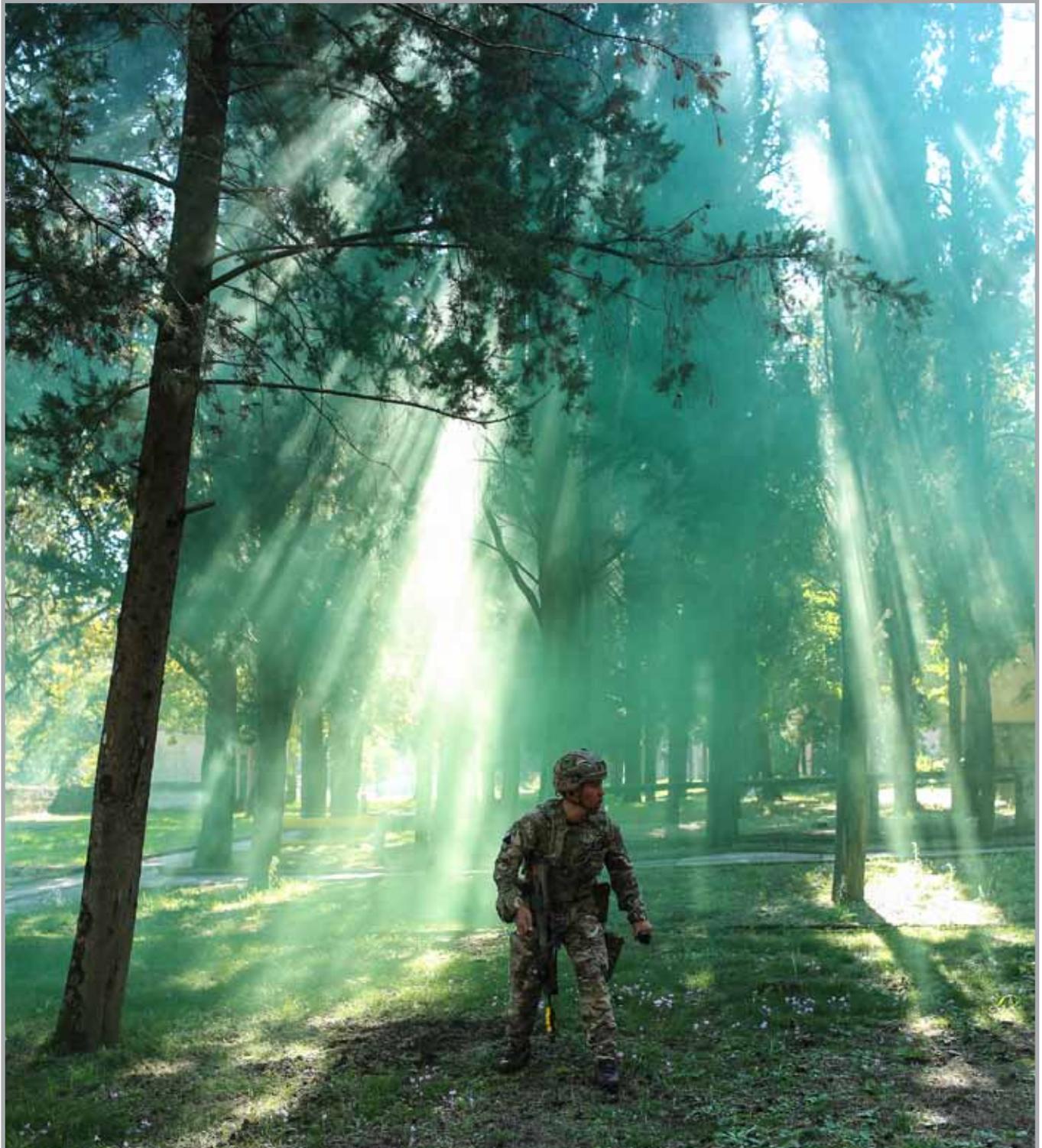


September-October 2019

#117

EUFOR forum

MAGAZINE



ANNUAL
EXERCISE
QUICK RESPONSE
07 - 11 OCTOBER
2019



IN COOPERATION WITH





Quick Response opening ceremony 6

Reserve troops from Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, the United Kingdom and KFOR joined their comrades from EUFOR's Multinational Battalion on parade.



Action at Banja Luka Airport 9

EUFOR troops, in conjunction with units from the RS Gendarmerie, SIPA, Border Police and the RS Ministry of the Interior Anti-Terrorist Unit demonstrated their ability to secure Banja Luka International Airport.



International Medal Parade 13

Commander EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak presided over the International Medal Parade for troops from 8 nations.



Training and Cooperation plan 14

EUFOR and the AFBiH have built upon their strong relationship and recommitted to continued close cooperation and combined training by signing the Training and Cooperation Plan for 2020.



EUFOR Helicopter Aids Casualty 16

EUFOR received a request to help a female hiker who had collapsed.

Editor in chief



Edition #117 of the EUFOR Forum is inevitably focused for the most part on Exercise Quick Response 2019. You will find stories on the key events that took place during the exercise and a picture only centrespread. Although being the most visible, Quick Response 2019 is not the only event which has occurred within EUFOR during this busy period and I hope you enjoy reading about all that has happened over the last two months.

I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of you who have contributed to the Forum with pictures and stories.

As ever please continue to support by sending interesting information to the Public Affairs Office or letting us know in advance about your events so we can gather material in person.

Lieutenant Commander Tim Leckey

Commander EUFOR
Major General Reinhard Trischak
 EUFOR Public Affairs Chief
Lieutenant Colonel Nicolai Tschol

Forum Magazine Staff
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EUFOR Mission Althea @euforbih · Sep 26

Over 120 British troops from the 1st Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles arrive at Sarajevo International Airport for EUFOR's largest annual exercise, Quick Response 2019.



8 36




You Tube

The Royal Gurkha Rifles joined the EUFOR Multinational Battalion for Exercise Quick Response 2019.

The Royal Gurkhas Rifles at Exercise Quick Response 2019



Brzi odgovor 2019 na Međunarodnom aerodromu Banja Luka U četvrtak, 10. oktobra, u sklopu vježbe "Brzi odgovor 2019" EUFOR-a, u saradnji s Žandarmerijom Ministarstva unutrašnjih poslova RS-a, pokazale su svoju sposobnost da osiguraju međunarodni aerodrom Banja Luka i riješe niz sigurnosnih prijetnji. Više: <http://www.euforbih.org/...2618-dio-vjezbe-brzi-odgovor-2019...>

On Thursday the 10 October, as part of Exercise Quick Response 2019, EUFOR troops, in conjunction with units from the RS gendarmerie, SIPA, Border Police and the RS Ministry of the Interior anti-terrorist unit demonstrated their ability to secure Banja Luka International Airport and deal with a range of threats to the Safe and Secure Environment. Full article: <http://www.euforbih.org/...2618-eufor-s-quick-response-2019...>



473,567 people reached

473,567 People reached 4,101 Engagements Boost Post

On Thursday the 10 October, as part of Exercise Quick Response 2019, EUFOR troops, in conjunction with units from the RS Gendarmerie, SIPA, Border Police and the RS Ministry of the Interior Anti-Terrorist Unit demonstrated their ability to secure Banja Luka International Airport and deal with a range of threats to the Safe and Secure Environment.



euforbih Bosnia and Herzegovina

EUFOR's #Exercise Quick Response 19 #QR19 integration #training complete #united #strong #committed for Bosnia and Herzegovina

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the_levant 100TR aslan kardeşim TR100

Liked by eukommission_at and 366 others

OCTOBER 5

Troops and equipment arrive for Quick Response 2019



On Monday 23 September the first Antonov 124 flight arrived at Sarajevo International Airport bringing in troops and equipment for EUFOR's largest annual exercise, Quick Response 2019.

EUFOR's spokesperson, Lieutenant Commander Tim Leckey, said, "This long standing annual exercise demonstrates to all the people of BiH the commitment that EUFOR has to helping maintain a peaceful environment. It is also an excellent opportunity for us to strengthen the close relationship we share with the Armed Forces BiH and Law Enforcement Agencies as we

work together to deal with a broad range of exercise scenarios."

In the lead up to Quick Response 2019, the Multinational Battalion was working closely with the Armed Forces BiH and Law Enforcement Agencies, completing combined training and sharing skills and experiences which were demonstrated during the scenarios. Personnel from EUFOR's MNBN, AFBiH and LEAs were joined by part of EUFOR's reserve contingent, who arrived from, Austria, Greece, Romania, Bulgaria the United Kingdom and KFOR.



Exercise Quick Response is the annual test of EUFOR's capability to rapidly reinforce its troops in BiH with part of its reserve forces which are held at high-readiness outside the country. The exercise ran in cooperation with BiH authorities, Armed Forces BiH and Law Enforcement Agencies and took place in locations all over BiH between the 7-11 October.

Royal Gurkha Rifles

On Thursday 26 September another Antonov 124 and a Royal Air Force Voyager aircraft arrived at Sarajevo International Airport bringing in over 120 British troops from the 1st Battalion the Royal Gurkha Rifles and their final pieces of equipment for EUFOR's largest annual exercise, Quick Response 2019.

The troops were met at the airport by EUFOR's Multinational Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel Manfred Leitner and EUFOR's Senior British Representative, Wing Commander Tim Lowing.

Wing Commander Lowing said, "The deployment of these troops demonstrates the UK's ongoing commitment to the security and stability of BiH and the wider Western Balkans." He added: "The Royal Gurkha Rifles are a specially trained and equipped, rapidly deployable airborne unit able to quickly bolster EUFOR's in country troop numbers as required."



Austrian 6th Mountain Warfare Brigade

On Friday 27 September part of EUFOR's Austrian reserve arrived at Camp Butmir, bringing in over 100 troops from the Austrian 6th Mountain Warfare Brigade for EUFOR's largest annual exercise, Quick Response 2019.

These Austrian soldiers are mountain warfare specialists who can fight at high altitudes having been trained in skiing, climbing and cold weather survival. Once they have passed their course they wear the emblem of the 'edelweiss flower' in their caps.

Lieutenant Colonel Manfred Leitner, the Multinational Battalion Commander, said, "The soldiers will find



the exercises we have prepared for them this year challenging, however, all the incoming troops are well trained and I am looking forward to observing how they deal with the scenarios."

Opening Ceremony Quick Response 2019



On the afternoon of Sunday 6 October the opening ceremony for exercise Quick Response 19 was held at Camp Butmir, Sarajevo.

At the opening ceremony the troops who were taking part in the exercise were addressed by Commander EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, as well as Mr Sead Jusić, the Deputy Minister of Defence and Mr Mijo Kresic, the Deputy Minister of Security.

Major General Trischak said, "EUFOR maintains a military footprint in BiH which can be rapidly expanded in both size and strength to address any challenge towards the Safe and Secure Environment. Quick Response Exercises test the mechanisms to rapidly activate and integrate our reserves with our in-theatre troops. The fact that we have on parade the Intermediate Reserve Forces from the United Kingdom and Austria, demonstrates that this process works."

Major General Trischak also paid tribute to the excellent relationships EUFOR has with the Armed Forces BiH, Law Enforcement Agencies and

the respective ministries, publicly thanking the State, RS and FBiH authorities for the cooperation EUFOR received throughout the planning process.

"EUFOR maintains a military footprint in BiH which can be rapidly expanded in both size and strength to address any challenge towards the Safe and Secure Environment."

In attendance at the event were many members of State Level organisations and International Embassies as well as high ranking representatives from the Armed Forces BiH and Law Enforcement Agencies.

The EUFOR reserve troops which have arrived from Austria, Bulgaria, Greece, Romania, the United Kingdom and KFOR joined their comrades from EUFOR's Multinational Battalion on parade before heading off to locations all over BiH for the exercise, which occurred between 7-11 October.



From L-R: COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, the Deputy Minister of Defence Mr Sead Jusić and the Deputy Minister of Security Mr Mijo Krešić

Quick Response 19 arrives in Banja Luka



EUFOR soldiers in conjunction with a unit of the RS Ministry of Interior Gendarmerie and Banja Luka Police carried out a high speed civilian evacuation exercise in Banja Luka on Tuesday 8 October 2019. Under the eyes of Exercise Director, Brigadier General László Szabó, the EUFOR troops from the Austrian contingent allowed the Gendarmerie to secure the surrounding area first before they entered the building and rescued the civilians. Then in cooperation with the Gendarmerie they quickly withdrew from the area in a convoy of vehicles using a high speed blue light escort provided by the Police.

Lieutenant Commander Tim

Leckey, who observed the scenario said, “The effective cooperation between the Gendarmerie and EUFOR allowed this exercise to run quickly and effectively. The professionalism of the Gendarmerie in securing the perimeter allowed the troops from EUFOR to focus entirely on their role of getting the civilians out of the building safely.” He added: “Joint exercises like this benefit all the units involved as they get to practise their skills and can learn new techniques from each other.”

After the convoy left the area of the exercise it headed towards the nearest safe area which was the Armed Forces of BiH Kozara Barracks.

Before the troops could relax however,

“The effective cooperation between the Gendarmerie and EUFOR allowed this exercise to run quickly and effectively. The professionalism of the Gendarmerie in securing the perimeter allowed the troops from EUFOR to focus entirely on their role of getting the civilians out of the building safely.”

the exercise coordinator challenged them further and asked one of the role players to collapse with a suspected heart attack. The medical team quickly stabilised the patient while a helicopter was called to carry out a medical evacuation. Within minutes, one of EUFOR’s Agusta Bell 212 helicopters had arrived and the patient was transported to the nearest hospital.

The hospital transfer marked the end of this part of the exercise and the troops were able to return to their forward operating base to prepare for the next challenging stages of the exercise.



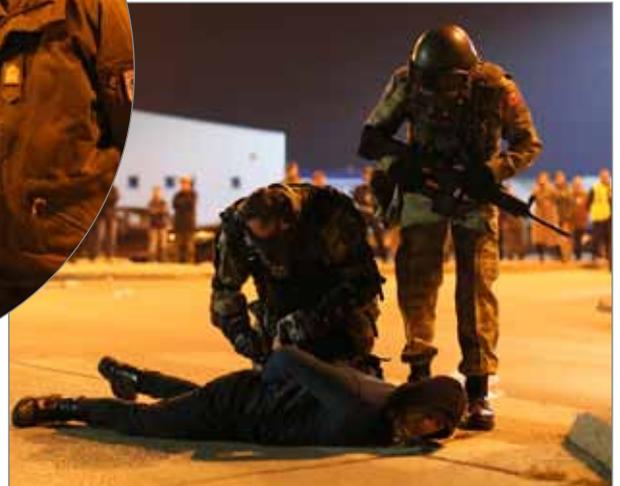
Night Action at Sarajevo International Airport



In the early hours of Thursday 10 October, EUFOR troops demonstrated their ability to secure Sarajevo International Airport and deal with a range of threats to the Safe and Secure Environment. After commercial flying had ceased for the day, the Multinational Battalion in conjunction with LEAs quickly moved into the airport, setting up checkpoints and securing key infrastructure.

At the airport, Major Probst of EUFOR said, “Cooperation between EUFOR, the LEAs and the Airport Authority has been excellent. Working shoulder-to-shoulder with our Bosnian counterparts, we have demonstrated the ability to rapidly secure and protect Sarajevo Airport. Maintenance of key national infrastructure is vital to maintaining the Safe And Secure Environment, doing so with such great cooperation fills me with hope for the future.”

The scenario at Sarajevo airport is only one of the challenges EUFOR’s soldiers faced as part of Quick Response 19. Concurrent scenarios ran all over BiH and saw EUFOR troops working closely with LEAs, BiH Government Agencies and Independent Organizations in places such as Banja Luka, Mostar, Čapljina, Manjača and Trebinje.



Banja Luka International Airport Action

On Thursday 10 October, EUFOR troops, in conjunction with units from the RS Gendarmerie, SIPA, Border Police and the RS Ministry of the Interior Anti-Terrorist Unit demonstrated their ability to secure Banja Luka International Airport and deal with a range of threats to the Safe and Secure Environment.

Commander EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, was accompanied by the Operation Commander, Lieutenant General Olivier Rittimann, EU Special Representative Johann Sattler as well as members of the State Crisis Team including the Minister of Security, Dragan Mektić, as they observed the troops and security providers deal with the training scenarios.

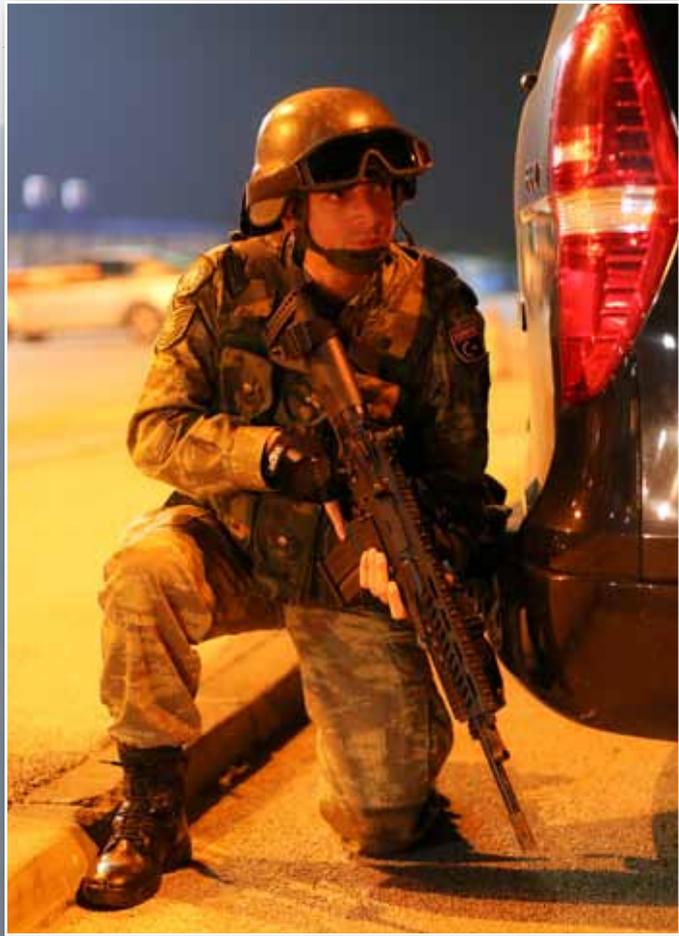
After EUFOR troops from the Austrian 6th Mountain Warfare Brigade had dispersed a violent protest on the entrance road to the airport, SIPA and the Anti-Terrorist Unit moved in to deal with a hostage situation before a EUFOR EOD team dealt with a bomb that the Border Police dog unit found.

Major General Trischak stated how impressed he was with how all parties dealt with the situation and was particularly pleased at the excellent cooperation he saw between the different units.



“This exercise demonstrates that all involved are highly trained and efficient. Upon receiving the first alarms we are ready to deploy rapidly. Together, we can solve such situations if they occur at any of the airports in BiH.”
Dragan Mektić







Quick Response 2019 Professional Day

Exercise Quick Response 2019 concluded on the 11 October, successfully demonstrating that EUFOR in cooperation with its contributing nations are able to conduct large scale Peace Support Operations should it be required.

Throughout the exercise, elements of the reserve forces along with EUFOR's permanent in-theatre troops, the AFBiH and Law Enforcement Agencies successfully conducted joint training and dealt with scenarios together. With the increased number of troops in-theatre, AFBiH, EUFOR and its reserves were able to complete the large scale scenarios demanded of them, concurrently all across BiH. Exercise Quick Response 2019 decisively proves that EUFOR along with our comrades from AFBiH, the Law Enforcement Agencies and our Reserves are at all times ready and able to respond quickly and effectively to any potential threat to the Safe and Secure Environment.

During the professional day, representatives from AFBiH, EUSR and Ambassadors of the Troop



Contributing Countries as well as other VIPs witnessed a dynamic display showcasing elements of the training completed during the exercise. The guests were able to watch EUFOR's Multinational Battalion supplemented by the reserve forces as well as the Armed Forces BiH and SIPA, carry out an evacuation drill, riot control, checkpoint set-up and a helicopter medical evacuation.



"If I were to pick my two highlights from Exercise Quick Response 2019 the first would have to be how quickly and smoothly the reserve forces selected for this exercise were able to get into the country and integrate with EUFOR. Through a combination of strategic air lift and road transport we increased the strength of our force extremely rapidly. My second highlight has been the professionalism that has been shown by the AFBiH and Law Enforcement Agencies during their involvement in the exercise. The cooperation we have seen here fills me with confidence that together we have demonstrated the commitment and ability to ensure the Safe and Secure Environment."

COMEUFOR



International Medal Parade



An International Medal Parade for troops from 8 nations was held on Friday 18 October at Camp Butmir. Commander EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak presided over the event.

Delivering an address at the start of the event Major General Trischak stated that everyone on parade was a tangible representation of their country's support to Bosnia and Herzegovina. He also paid tribute to the dedication of all the troops to EUFOR's unity of effort and also mentioned the sacrifice and support that families make to overseas missions. He added, "Thank you for being the personification of 'One Team – One Mission'."

After his address Major General Trischak presented medals to the troops, assisted by other Senior Officers from EUFOR's mission.

Among those receiving their medals was Major Probst from the British Army, he said, "I've really enjoyed my time working alongside so many international partners and realising the level of trust and mutual respect we hold for each other."

Flight Sergeant McEvoy from the Irish Defence Force said, "I'm very proud to receive this medal; this tour in Bosnia and Herzegovina is definitely one of the highlights of my career and today's ceremony is a memory I will cherish."



The Operation Althea medal was first presented in 2004 and is a version of the Common Security and Defence Policy Service Medal. It is inscribed with the Latin phrase "Pro pace unum", which translates as "United for peace".

COMEUFOR visits ammunition destruction site



The Commander of EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak and the US Ambassador, His Excellency Eric Nelson, flew to the ammunition destruction site at Glamoč, on Tuesday 24 September.

They received a briefing on the work going on there and took part in the destruction of some excess ammunition, which if not disposed of properly can, as it deteriorates, become a significant safety risk to the population of BiH. Glamoč destruction site is capable of disposing of up to two tons of explosives per day; however the actual amount disposed of daily depends very much on the type of explosive and the atmospheric conditions.

Commander EUFOR was also accompanied by EUFOR's weapons and ammunition specialists who also benefitted from the briefing and were able to observe the destruction of the ordnance.



Training and Cooperation Plan 2020



EUFOR's Chief of Staff Brigadier General László Szabó and AFBiH Deputy Chief Joint Staff Operations, Major General Ivica Jerkić, signed the Training and Cooperation plan 2020 today. This demonstrates the intent of EUFOR and AFBiH to continue their long association and continually strive for improvement by training together across a wide range of scenarios.

The Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina (AFBiH) have made huge progress over recent years, and have achieved the high standards of knowledge and experience needed to organise individual training by themselves, or on a bilateral level with EUFOR.

In 2018 EUFOR's Capacity Building and Training Division achieved its aim of a self-sustainable training system for AFBiH. Over the years more than 5000 soldiers of AFBiH have been trained, primarily in Peace Support Operations. The Capacity Building & Training Division programme has been a complete success and the AFBiH have moved from being a security consumer to being a respected and credible security provider.

The population of BiH recognise this change, and in recent nationwide surveys the AFBiH comes out as BiH's most trusted organisation. In peace support missions in Iraq, the Congo and Afghanistan they have worked alongside international partners to achieve strategic effect.

Today EUFOR and the AFBiH have built upon their strong relationship and recommitted to continued close cooperation and combined training by signing this Training and Cooperation plan for 2020.

MNBN Train with 4th Brigade



On the week of 2-6 Sep EUFOR's Multinational Battalion trained alongside their partners in the AFBiH 4th Infantry Brigade, 3rd Battalion.

Major Philip Michel of EUFOR said, "We have seen a highly motivated performance from all participants and a great development of military skills from both sides during the week."

He added: "We are looking forward to the future and further

successful exercises."

In accordance with the 'Training & Cooperation Plan 2019' between EUFOR and AFBiH the main focus of this week's training was joint peace support operations techniques.

Training was conducted by a platoon of EUFOR's Turkish Infantry company together with AFBiH soldiers of the 3rd Battalion from Kosova Barracks in Ustikolina.

COMEUFOR Visits 5th Brigade



COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, was welcomed to Dubrave Barracks near Tuzla by the Commander of the 5th Brigade AFBiH, Brigadier Emir Kliko, on the morning of Tuesday 15 October.

The two men held productive discussions as they visited the museum of the 5th Brigade, enhancing the already strong links between EUFOR and the AFBiH.

Sarajevo Half Marathon

Around 50 EUFOR soldiers took part in the 13th annual Sarajevo Half Marathon. With two of the runners finishing the 21,1 kilometres among the top 15 of the race, EUFOR demonstrated the fitness of their troops. The fastest EUFOR finishers were Philip Hudernik (1:22:51), Michael Baumgartner (1:24:00), Ryan Whatley (1:26:59) and Michael König (1:29:04).

by Lieutenant Colonel Nicolai Tschol



COS Speaks at Conference on Corruption

On 3-4 September EUFOR's Chief of Staff, Brigadier General László Szabó, spoke at a conference on the topic of 'Taking measures on strengthening the professionalism, integrity and efforts on the fight against corruption in the MoD BiH and Armed Forces of BiH'.

The conference, which was organised by the Inspector General, Brigadier General Mirsad Ahmić, was held in the conference centre of Hotel City Garden Konjic and included over 50 delegates from the BiH MoD, AFBiH, other BiH institutions as well as EUFOR and NATO.

During his address Brigadier General Szabó spoke about the role EUFOR has to play in helping to strengthen the integrity of the AFBiH. He said, "EUFOR plays an important role in BiH, we work closely with the AFBiH, focusing on supporting their work in the areas of: disposal of surplus ammunition, weapons and explosives and humanitarian demining, we also engage in collective training with them."



The conference aimed to analyse current trends of corruption and integrity violation in the defence sector and discuss ways of countering them. Aware of the importance of this event, the delegates worked together to exchange ideas and share international best practise.



EUFOR Helicopter Aids Casualty



On Friday 20 September, EUFOR received a request from the personnel in Liaison and Observation Team house Mostar, to help a female hiker who had collapsed near the village of Krusevljani. Two of EUFOR's Agusta Bell 212 helicopters were launched with winching capability and medical supplies.

On arrival at the scene, 30 minutes after the aircrew had been informed, the helicopters landed and one of EUFOR's doctors assessed the casualty deciding that she should be taken by air to Sarajevo Hospital. After getting the injured

lady into the helicopter along with the medics who were already administering first aid the aircrew quickly got airborne again and flew to Sarajevo.

While this was going on one of EUFOR's Officers from the Joint Operations Centre organised an ambulance to pick up the casualty from a soccer field beside the hospital where the helicopter could land.

Doctor Wolf, EUFOR's onboard medic who attended the incident said, "This was a very severe case and we were glad to be able to do what we could to help."

EUFOR Troops Help at Crash

A EUFOR patrol stopped to help a man and his son who were involved in a car accident on Monday 23 September. Eight soldiers from EUFOR's Multinational Battalion Turkish Company were returning to Sarajevo from a patrol when they saw a car which had crashed off the road and fallen down an embankment.

The Officer in charge of the patrol, 1st Lieutenant Ali Karabas, said, "When we saw the accident we immediately stopped to help. We were pleased that there were no injuries but we still regulated the traffic, called the break down service to recover their car and ensured that the man and his teenage son were safe."

He added: "Despite the language difficulties it was clear that the man was extremely grateful to us for

stopping and we for our part were also very pleased to be able to help."

by 1st Lieutenant Ali Karabas



“Drinski kotlič” Competition at Višegrad



The members of EUFOR’s LOT house in Višegrad took part in the food festival “Drinski kotlič 2019” at the Mehmed Paša Sokolović Bridge on Saturday 14 September.

The event, which ran with cooperation from the Municipal Tourist Organisation, attracted 15 teams from the Višegrad area.

The teams competed to produce the tastiest meal, which had to be cooked in one pot over an open fire. As well as EUFOR’s team, the Police Force, War

Veteran Organisations, Fishermen, and Chefs from various restaurants in Višegrad took part in the festival.

Due to the stiff competition from the professional chefs the team from LOT house Višegrad didn’t manage to get a ‘podium position’ but they did manage to strengthen the good relations they have with the people of Višegrad and interact in friendly competition with a wide range of the local organisations.

by LOT Višegrad

EUFOR’s Chief of Staff Visits LOT House Trebinje



Chief of Staff EUFOR, Brigadier General László Szabó flew to Trebinje, on Wednesday 25 September, in order to visit the EUFOR Liaison and Observation Team house there.

Brigadier General Szabó received a briefing on what work the personnel stationed in the Trebinje house are doing and learned about the concerns of the population based in that area of BiH.

EUFOR Troops Raise Money for Injured Foča Man

EUFOR’s troops in the Liaison and Observation Team house (LOT house) in Foča in conjunction with other Slovakian soldiers in BiH made a donation of 500 KM to go towards medical treatment for a 26 year old Foča man, Nemanja Starović, who was seriously injured earlier this year.

The money the EUFOR troops raised was passed on to Mr Luka Bodiroga a community leader in Foča who is leading fund raising efforts for Nemanja’s treatment in a specialist hospital in Belgrade.

The LOT house commander Captain Tibor Petricek said, “When

we first heard about what happened to Nemanja we decide to do something to help.

All EUFOR’s Slovakian soldiers

who have donated, wish him well and hope his treatment helps him on the road to recovery.”

by LOT Foča



LOT Foča commander Captain Tibor Petricek handing over money to Mr Luka Bodiroga

COMEUFOR Visits Brčko

Major General Reinhard Trischak paid a visit to Brčko and used the opportunity to meet with the Mayor Mr Siniša Milić and the Police Director Mr Goran Pisić to discuss the security situation and help build productive working relationships.



COMEUFOR with Mayor of Brcko Mr Siniša Milić



and the Police Director Mr Goran Pisić

COMEUFOR Visits LOT Houses



LOT House Brčko



LOT House Tuzla



LOT House Bratunac

On 14-15 October, COMEUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak paid visits to the EUFOR Liaison and Observation Team houses in Brčko, Tuzla and Bratunac in order to receive comprehensive updates and situational briefings from the soldiers living in these areas.

EUFOR maintains 17 LOT houses in Bosnia and Herzegovina, which are manned by 7 different Troop Contributing Countries. These are used to stay in touch with local authorities and the population in order to be aware of local issues which could affect the security situation.

COMEUFOR Meets with British Ambassador

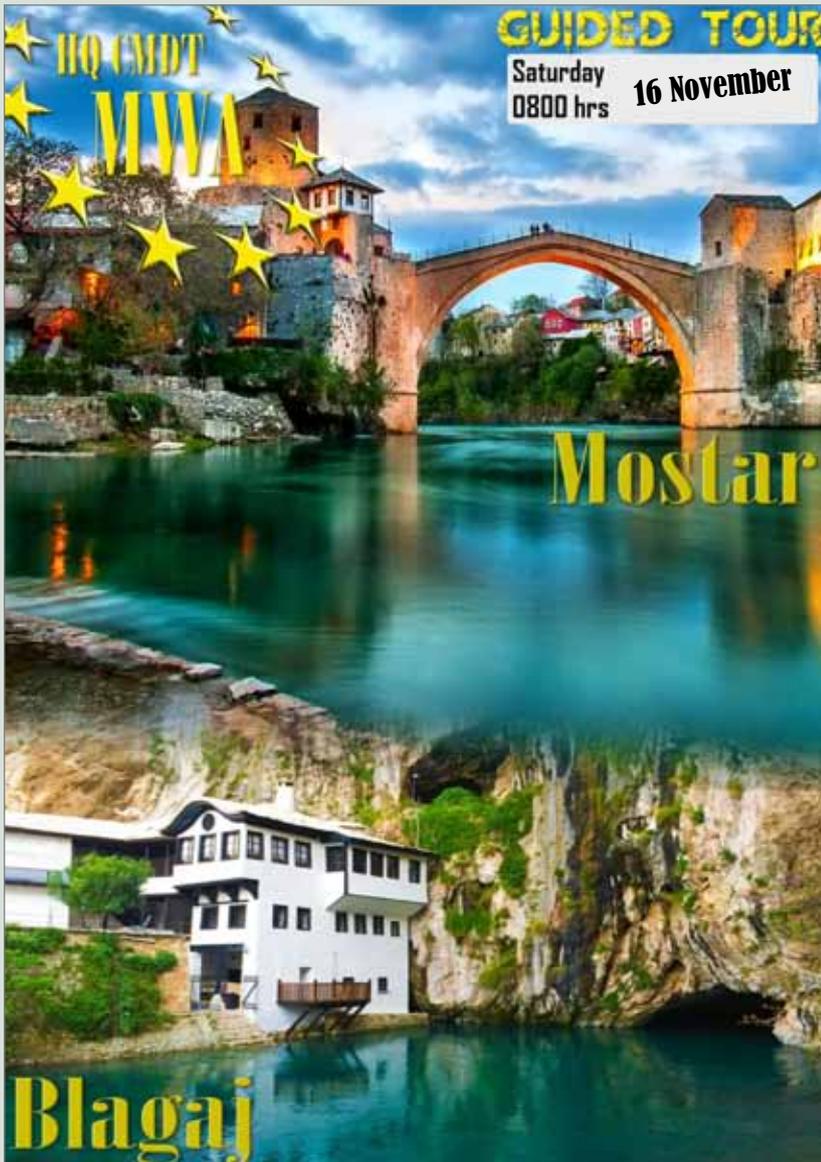
The Commander of EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak held a meeting with the British Ambassador, His Excellency Matthew Field during an office call at Camp Butmir on Friday 4 October.

Major General Trischak briefed the Ambassador on EUFOR's current activities with a particular emphasis on the British contribution to Exercise Quick Response 2019.

The Ambassador assured Major General Trischak that whatever the results of the Brexit negotiations the United Kingdom remains committed to BiH and re-emphasised the importance of continued cooperation between EUFOR and the British Embassy in supporting the authorities in BiH.



MWA Guided Tours in November



Upcoming tours:

Eastern Bosnia: 09 Nov 2019

Mostar & Blagaj: 16 Nov 2019

Tito's bunker & Jablanica: 23 Nov 2019

Cost: 3.00 €

Book from the first working day of each month at the MWA Office (BLDG 103 Room 21).

Mail (Reinhard.Zeller@eufor.europa.eu; or

Tanja.Miskovic@eufor.europa.eu

COMEUFOR Meets with New EU Special Representative



Commander of EUFOR, Major General Reinhard Trischak, held his first meeting with the new EU Special Representative and Head of EU Delegation, Ambassador Johann Sattler, on Monday 23 September in the EU Office in Sarajevo.

During an open and productive office call, General Trischak informed the EUSR of current EUFOR activities and the upcoming annual Exercise Quick Response 2019, which will demonstrate the EU's resolve and EUFOR's capability to rapidly reinforce its troops in BiH with reserve forces held at high-readiness outside the country.

Both officials took the opportunity to discuss the current political and security situation in BiH and in the region.

This was followed by an exchange of views on the best way to support the authorities and population of BiH as the country progresses on the path to European integration.

They also emphasised the strong links between the EU Office and EUFOR as the EU's full spectrum political and military contribution to support BiH.



EUFOR's annual exercise Quick Response 2019 proves the ability to reinforce in-theatre troops

During the 7-11 October 2019 EUFOR Operation Althea conducted the 2019 iteration of its exercise series Quick Response.

The exercise demonstrated EUFOR's capability to reinforce troops in the country in case the safe and secure environment is endangered.

Quick Response 2019 took place all over the country, in close co-operation

with local authorities, law enforcement agencies and the Armed Forces of BiH.

Additional troops from Austria, Bulgaria, Romania and the United Kingdom supported the exercise, being a part of EUFOR's reserve forces held at high readiness in their home countries.

The exercise exemplified EUFOR's 100% commitment to maintain peace and stability in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

COMMITTED. READY. RELIABLE. STRONG. TOGETHER.

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