

EUFOR forum



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EUFOR Change of Command

Impressions from EUFOR Change of Command Camp Butmir, 6th December 2011



Austrian band



Major General Bernhard Bair, Operational Commander of EUFOR,
General Sir Richard Sherriff and Major General Robert Brieger

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EUFOR Change of Command

Dear all,

I would like to introduce myself; my name is Lt Col Knut Scheutz and I come from Austria. I am the new Chief Press Officer in EUFOR and I am very proud to be working together with my Press Office Team. This is my third mission in Bosnia-Herzegovina, so I have some experience of this wonderful country and its people. As an Austrian and somebody from the heart of Europe I am looking forward to my tour with the international "EUFOR-family". I



I know that every single nation, every single soldier and local employee is important to fulfilling the tasks we have to achieve.

For the Press Office I'm looking forward to a challenging time in 2012 and a lot of official visits. I hope that the beautiful countryside is covered with snow when you are holding this edition in your hand.

Finally one important thing to note is that COM EUFOR himself or his Spokesperson are the only people authorized to speak to the media about EUFOR and its activities. If you are approached by the media, contact the Press Office immediately and inform your chain of command.

For 2012 all the best for you and your families.

LtCol Knut Scheutz
Chief Press Officer

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Commander EUFOR
Major General Robert Brieger

EUFOR Press Office Chief
Lt Col Knut Scheutz

EUFOR Forum Staff:

Chief Editor:
Lt Cdr Stuart Cantellow

Layout:
Mr. Jasmin Zeherović

Photographs contributed by:
WO Herbert Pendl

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

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EUFOR Change of Command



Major General Robert Brieger taking over the flag from Operational Commander of EUFOR, General Sir Richard Sherriff



Romanian soldiers with EU flag

In a Ceremony held in Camp Butmir today, 6 Dec 2011 the Command of EUFOR was formally handed over from Major General Bernhard BAIR to Major General Robert BRIEGER.

The Ceremony marks the end of General Bair's two years in Command of EUFOR, after the Ceremony he said:

"My two years in Bosnia and Herzegovina have been a real pleasure. I have met so many wonderful people and have had the privilege to see much of this beautiful country. The professionalism and dedication of the international troops serving on



Op Althea has been outstanding.”

Major General Brieger joins EUFOR from the Austrian MoD where he was Director of Operational Requirements and Deputy Director General of Operations.

Speaking after the ceremony he said:

“I am looking forward to the challenges of this important Command of a Force, which has developed to be a main pillar within the European Security and Defence Policy on the Balkans.

This is a charming country with friendly citizens and it will be interesting for me to work together with the Armed Forces of Bosnia and Herzegovina”

The Ceremony was attended

by the Operational Commander of EUFOR, General Sir Richard Sherriff, the European Union Special Representative Ambas-

sador Peter Sorensen, the Head of the OHR Valentin Inzko and many other VIPs from across Europe and BiH.



Major General Robert Brieger.

EUFOR CUP reaches its climax in the Zetra Centre, Sarajevo



The winning team from boys competition



The winning team with their trophy.

On 30th November this year's EUFOR CUP has concluded with the Primary School "Mladen Stojanovic" team from Latktasi winning the boys competition and the Primary School "Milan Rakic" team from Karanovac winning the girls competition. This is the biggest competition open to Primary Schools in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The winning teams were presented their trophies and prizes by Major General Bernhard Bair, COM EUFOR. The boys team chose to visit London and Tottenham Hotspur Football Club and the girl's team will also visit London.

The finals in Zetra Centre are the climax of the EUFOR CUP



Lt General Miladin Milojevic

This year 227 boys teams and 85 girls teams entered the competition of these 42 teams reached the finals stage

which has been taking place in all corners of BiH over the last couple of months. This year 227 boys teams and 85 girls teams entered the competition of these 42 teams reached the finals stage.

Major sponsors of this year's event included BiH Airlines, The Embassies of Great Britain, Kuwait and Poland, Messers, Volkswagen, NATO, AF BiH, TEVN, Wolfsburg and Tottenham Football Clubs and the English Premier League.

COM EUFOR concluded the award ceremony by thanking all the sponsors of the event who kindly provided the winning prizes and support. In addition he thanked the Armed Forces BiH for their support in making this a highly successful competition.



The winning team from girls competition



Former COM EUFOR Major General Bernhard Bair

A Successful Capacity Building and Training Division Assessment Conference 2011



This year's Assessment Conference was held at EUFOR HQ, Camp Butmir on 22-23 November. High representatives of Armed Forces BiH Joint Staff, NATO and EUSG were attending this important meeting organized by EUFOR Capacity Building and Training Division (CBTD).

EUFOR has trained more than 400 Officers and NCO's of the Armed Forces BiH in over 20 different courses and programs so far. This support to Armed Forces BiH will continue to be a high priority for EUFOR into 2012 as the Capacity Building and Training efforts are increased.

The annual CBTD Assessment Conference is an important forum for EUFOR cooperation with NATO and for coordination with Armed Forces BiH.

The aim of the conference was to share lessons learned from EUFOR training up to date and to discuss the needs for training and assistance in the future. The meeting was held in a very friendly and cooperative atmosphere with open and constructive discussions between all parties.

One of the main conclusions from the conference is that personnel that have successfully completed training must conduct a second training phase where they act as instructors.

During this phase EUFOR has a mentoring or assisting role. This development in training support would be a significant step towards a self sustainable training structure within Armed Forces BiH. Another conclusion is that the lack of modern training equipment available to the Armed Forces BiH is hampering the training process and needs to be addressed in order to improve the standard of training.

A direct result of the conference is a Road Map for the development of plans for training, mentoring and monitoring of activities in the 2013-2014 training calendar.

Major Johan Ryden

GEO MTT Important First Step

In November 2011 the GEO MTT was established but this was done in a very innovative way. How? Well, it was the first time training was led by AF BiH's personnel.

Assisted and mentored by the EUFOR GEO Cell, OF-2 KLEPIC HAJRUDIN (Team leader), OF-2 ALEKSANDER ILIC and OR-7 DORDE VIDA KOVIC convincingly showed their engagement and knowledge on each training topic, making the students feel comfortable in having instructors from their own country.

Examples like this make the real meaning of "Mentoring, monitoring, assisting and advising the AF BiH" come true. And this is in accordance with CBTD goals to train AF-BiH personnel and units towards self-sustainability.

We hope –and expect- examples like this one to become more common in the future, leading to the AF BiH succeeding in having a robust training organization, up to international standards and ready to support Peace Support Operations all over the world.-



The CBTD Chief is giving a Certificate of appreciation to OF -2 HAJRUDIN.

The Expert Training Chief with OF -2 ILIC

The EUFOR GEO Cell Chief with OR-7 VIDA KOVIC



CHANGE OF



COMMAND



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ber 2011

CBRN MTT Training

A combined Mobile Training Team with Austrian and Polish personnel successfully provided a 10 week CBRN course to members of Armed Forces BiH. There were 9 participants (4 Officers and 5 NCOs) that successfully completed the 3rd phase of training which took place at Eagle Base (Tuzla), from 5 September to 11 November 2011.

The Certificate Award Ceremony was carried out on November 10th. The Certificate Ceremony started with a presentation and then continued with a practical CBRN demonstration that showed that all of the participants are able to fulfil their assigned tasks professionally.

The demonstration was based on a scenario in an unknown laboratory found somewhere in enemy territory. A number of terrorists were captured in



the close vicinity and therefore a special CBRN unit was summoned. A Recon squad executed a search of the illegal facility and confirmed that the purpose of the laboratory was to develop chemical warfare agents. A specialist team took samples of the

suspicious chemicals for further laboratory checks. Finally both squads underwent personal decontamination to minimize the threat of contamination from the chemicals.

After an outstanding show Lt Col Boja, the CBRN specialist of Joint Staff Armed Forces BiH, presented certificates to all participants and wished them all the best. Col Kaymaz, Chief of Capacity Building and Training Division, congratulated the MTT members and emphasised their enormous contribution.

The Certificate Ceremony was closed by Col Zekic, Chief of the Training Department J3/J7 of Joint Staff Armed Forces BiH. He thanked Cpt Resch, Commander of CBRN MTT, Cpt Maciejewski and Cpt Rikic for their professional attitude and praised the close cooperation between EUFOR HQ and Armed Forces BiH.

RadekTOMAS
OF-3, CZE Army



Turkish Mobile Training Team successfully delivered a 10 day Information System Security



The Turkish Mobile Training Team (MTT) successfully delivered a 10 day Information System Security course to members of Armed Forces BiH. This course was the last CIS training of the 2011 training calendar. It was a challenging task to execute 14 training courses during 2011 however this was achieved. As a result of these courses 229 participants (92 Officers, 137 NCOs) were trained and they successfully completed all courses at the Pale Signal Battalion Barracks.

The Closing Ceremony and a Certificate Ceremony took place on 24th of November. The members of the Turkish MTT congratulated the participants for their active approach to the course and eager willingness to learn. The Closing Ceremony was opened by CBTD Chief, Colonel KAYMAZ from HQ EUFOR and the Signal Battalion Commander Colonel PERIĆ from Joint Staff.

The Ceremony concluded with the presentation of certificates

for the last course. Col KAYMAZ, expressed his appreciation to the Turkish MTT and congratulated the students for their efforts during the training course.

Now that these personnel have been trained the most important thing that they will do is

to pass their skills onto their soldiers. This is necessary not only for maintaining and improving their CIS level but it will also aid the Armed Forces BiH in its goal of NATO membership.

OF-3 Uğur URHAN
TUR Army



Trebevic Cable Car Convoys arrive safely from Switzerland to Camp Butmir

The first two convoys transporting the new Trebevic Cable Car have arrived in Camp Butmir having driven over 1300 Km from Switzerland carrying the dismantled Grächen- Hannigalp cable car.

The first convoy was accompanied from Bosanski Brod to Sarajevo by His Excellency Mr André Schaller, Ambassador of the Swiss Confederation to BiH and a delegation of the community of Grächen. Brigadier General Zoltan Gulyás, the Deputy Commander of EUFOR welcomed the convoy and Ambassador to Camp Butmir.

The Cable Car is a gift from the community of Grächen, Switzerland to the City of Sarajevo so it can rebuild the Trebevic Cable Car that was destroyed during



Ambassador Schaller with COM EUFOR

the conflict in the early nineties.

H.E. Mr Schaller thanked the drivers and support staff for their efforts in transporting this first of four convoys

Ambassador Schaller said:

“I am very proud of the Swiss

Armed forces that have transported this cable car safely from Switzerland and I am also very impressed with the assistance from BiH authorities and EUFOR in making this possible. I am eagerly looking forward to construction of the new Trebevic Cable Car in 2012/2013.”

These are two of four convoys that will transporting the Grächen -Hannigalp Cable Car system to Camp Butmir. It will be stored at Camp Butmir until construction commences in spring 2012 with a scheduled completion date in 2013. The convoys travelled approximately 1300 Km passing thru Lucerne, Milano, Zagreb and crossing into BiH at Bosanski Brod.

The project is supported by the EU, the Embassy of the Swiss Confederation and the Swiss Agency for Development and Cooperation.



COM EUFOR with guests

Trebevic Project - background information

The Trebevic cable car was built in Sarajevo in 1959. At that time, Sarajevo was the only city in South East Europe to have such a transport connection in close proximity to an excursion resort.

During the war in the early 1990s, the Trebevic cable car was completely destroyed. Since the end of the war several attempts to rebuild the cable car were undertaken.

However, these attempts failed primarily due to a lack of sufficient funding.

In 2010, thanks to private initiative as well as to that of the Swiss community of Grächen in the canton of Valais/Wallis, a new attempt to rebuild the Trebevic cable car was taken up.

After a detailed examination of technical and economic feasibility, the decision was made in 2010 to dismantle the cable car in Grächen – Hannighalp, which had been built in 1986, and to rebuild it in Sarajevo. The technical requirements and the excellent condition of the cable car played a crucial role in the decision-making process.

National and international support were sought and found for the technical support, the transport as well as the reconstruction of the cable car.

The project is supported by the EU, the Embassy of Switzerland in Sarajevo, and the Swiss Agency for Development and Co-



operation (SDC). The construction of the cable car in Sarajevo should start by mid-2012, and its inauguration should take place in 2013 at the latest. This project will connect both parts of Sarajevo (Central Sarajevo in the FBiH and East Sarajevo in the RS). The length of the new cable car in Sarajevo will be 1'200 meters. All together there will be 70 cable car cabins. Each cabin can simultaneously transport 6 sitting persons.

The Swiss Armed Forces transported the cable car material into the area of operation with one convoy of 17 trucks in mid-November 2011 and with a second one of 18 trucks in the second week of December 2011. The concept of civil/military cooperation (CIMIC) is at the forefront of this project.

The transport of the equipment from Switzerland to Bosnia and Herzegovina through Italy, Slovenia, and Croatia was carried out in close cooperation

with EUFOR and required a high degree of planning and capacity. Both Swiss convoys of the Swiss Armed Forces travelled approximately 1'300 Km, passing through Lucerne, Milano, Zagreb, and crossing into BiH in Bosanski Brod.

As part of the project agreement it was decided that the city of Sarajevo would have the cable car material unloaded and stored in Camp Butmir until the beginning of construction. To mark the arrival of the second convoy, the area near the heli hangar in Camp Butmir where the dismantled Swiss cable car is stored was renamed "Trebevic Corner".

On 14 December 2011, a naming ceremony was held in "Trebevic Corner" with the Commander EUFOR Major General Robert Brieger, the Swiss Ambassador in BiH Dr André Schaller, the Mayor of Sarajevo Prof Alija Behem and the Mayor of East Sarajevo Dr Vinko Radvanovic in attendance.

Field Training Exercises „Broken Arrow“ and „Winterdream“



AF BiH training H Coy MNBN vehicle checkpoint. Photo by H-Coy / MNBN

Busy week for the MNBN

As we know from media studies: “Truth is not what A says, but what B understands”

This statement is the basis of a good communication strategy. As we all know, only by training on a regular bases can you ensure that units act as the Command wants.

This was the guidance for the MNBN before conducting different exercises during the 50th week.

To make sure that the communication works smoothly, intensive preparation in the signal

branch was necessary. In general, radio communication isn't only between the units or at platoon level, it is also mandatory with the pilot in the helicopter for guidance during a recovery exercise. The main effort of exercise “Broken Arrow” was to practice the correct communication protocols with the pilot and the platoon or squad commander on a designated location, especially for MEDEVAC operations.

The tragic mine incident involving a paraglider at Jahorina at the end of October demonstrated perfectly the importance of fast and effective communication. Different scenarios where

used to drill the platoon commanders in reporting procedures and test how they can support the pilot in any situation during the exercise. Additionally the exercise was used to train communication techniques between the company and MNBN, MNBN with the JOC and finally the JOC with the helicopter squadron.

Simultaneously the Austrian Company conducted the exercise “Winterdream”. The aim of Winterdream was to reconnoitre specific roads in the area of Capljina. The focus lay on the condition of the given roads, if they are suitable in winter for heavy



AF BiH training H Coy MNBN. Photo by H-Coy / MNBN

trucks? In addition the Austrian Company trained on their reporting procedures.

Last but not least the Hungarian Company continued the training mission of the Armed Forces (AF) BiH in the Barracks of Rajlovac. The main effort here was combat training. The soldiers of the AF BiH were instructed in running checkpoints, personal and vehicle searching and of course patrolling. During this combat training, Brigadier General Jerkic from the AF BiH visited his troops and thanked the Deputy Commander MNBN, Maj Savanya, for the support of EUFOR in this training mission.

OF-2 Witschnigg Markus, PIO MNBN



Wounded soldiers waiting for MEDEVAC. Photo by OF-1 Krenn Remo

Logistics and Infrastructure Movements Control Officer even



In the last edition of the magazine, I promised to give you some more information about Route Books and the work we do in the Movements Section of the Logistics Branch, here in EUFOR HQ. We compile a number of Route Books to give detailed maps and information for specific routes across BiH.

These routes are the Main Supply Routes (MSRs) and other roads that are frequently used by EUFOR, and we aim to provide details and advice which may be used by any unit which may deploy in BiH. The Route Books have maps, pictures and technical information relating to the GPS coordinates and locations of fuel stations, rest areas, parking areas, intersections, maintenance areas, border crossing points, Forward Operation Bases, and a host of details such as highest and lowest

point. This information might be used especially by the incoming troops in case of deployment in theatre, but can also be used by EUFOR personnel when they are off-duty and they want to travel in the EUFOR area of operations. A commander of a deployed unit into the theatre will have exact details on suitable forward operation bases and information on facilities, logistic/life support issues, medical facilities, communications and even appropriate point of contacts in the event of problems or queries.

So, to conclude, if you have any questions concerning route-books and movements on the Bosnian and Croatian roads come to Logs & Infra Branch and we'll be happy to give you any advice you need in order to deploy or travel safely.

OF-1 Stefania Teodora Volosentiu

Okay okay so my dad does not have so much hair these days! I am Spek my sister is Supa and Annie is my daughter. Me and Supa were born in Hlohovec in Slovakia, we are Slovensky Hrubosrsky Stavac's or Slovakian Rough Haired Pointers – that means we are gundogs and love a little hunting! Anyway when we first



kies a Magyar Vizsla and Weimaraner - it was like a zoo but only for dogs. I was pretty proud that we were the first of our kind taken to England so I feel pretty special about that. Being so rare in England we have had lots of special treatment much to the annoyance of our mates. To compensate, the others have all won lots of trophies all over Europe and Dads favourite, Chance, the Husky is a World Cham-

met dad we got pretty excited when thrown in a car for a holiday in England. However, my dad did not tell me that we would end up in prison for 6 months (quarantine) so it's no surprise we were pretty wild when we were let out. He soon sorted us out and we found ourselves living in luxury but having to share bedrooms with 17 Siberian Hus-

pion – as if we care! Dads involvement in the Dog Exhibition world has even seen him judging at CRUFTS dog show, can you imagine over 20,000 of us creatures at one venue, mind you it is good to catch up with old friends! Hey, hi to any Slovakian soldiers you may well know some of my relations!!

Spek

My name is Martina and my rank is Staff Sergeant in the Austrian Armed Forces. I was born in 1982 in a small town called Voitsberg, which is located in west Styria. I have been here in Camp Butmir since the 22 November 2011 and



I am serving as a Admin NCO in the Force Commander's Office, HQ EUFOR until December 2012.

I started my career in 2002 as an Infantry Soldier and for the last five years I have been working in the Army Personnel Office (Heerespersonalamt) as a Recruiter. I advised young people about career opportunities in the Austrian army.

In 2004 I had my first foreign mission in Kosovo (KFOR) as a heavy machine gunner.

My second foreign mission was in 2008 as a clerk in the Headquarters company, Austrian Battalion, United Nations Disengagement Observer Force

(UNDOF) on the Golan Heights.

My hobbies are skiing, traveling, and spending time with the family. I live in a city called Köflach, in the province of Styria. Köflach is close to the Lipizzaner stud farm Piber, where the famous white horses are bred.

I am expecting an interesting and varied foreign mission and good cooperation with all my comrades. Last but not least, I am working with a great team in the Force Commander's Office. I appreciate the cooperation very much.

Staff Sergeant Martina Pabst



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