

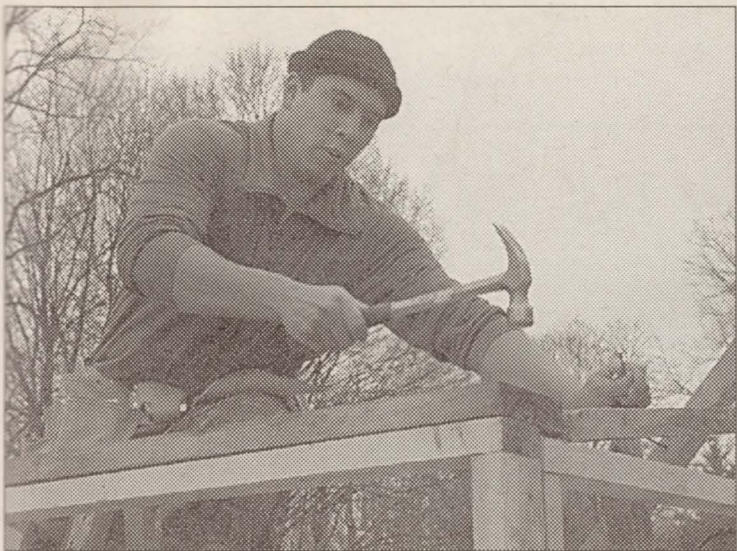
IFOR INFORMER

Published in the interest of the Implementation Forces

Wednesday, February 14, 1996

Vol. I, No. 1

Building Tent City



They call it a "tent city in a can"

Provided by Tuzla JIB

The U.S. Army's Force Provider, a new \$6 million package of modular sleeping quarters, offices, kitchens, showers and recreation facilities, is being operationally deployed into three forward operating bases in the Tuzla Valley.

Deployment to Bosnia marks the second time Force Provider packages have gone to the field in support of operational requirements. In July 1994, the Army set up one 550-person module at Guantanamo Bay, Cuba.

The Army is setting up two Force Provider packages at each

of three forward operating bases they are building in the Tuzla Valley. Tuzla West airfield will house approximately 1,650 people, Tuzla East airfield about 2,200 people, and Lucavac about 1,800 people. As each package is designed to house 550 people, additional tents will be erected to house the remaining people at each site.

Force Provider will support all of them with a full range of services. For example, space is provided for a medical clinic, chapel, laundry, and Army and Air Force Exchange Service store. Morale,

continued on page 4

First unit moves into Serb area

By Capt. Alf Bergin, NORLOGBN PIO

After one-and-a-half years in Tuzla, the Norwegian Logistics Battalion (NORLOGBN) moves to Modrica, about 120 km north of Tuzla. The battalion is the first whole unit to be established in the Republic of Srpska.

The city of Modrica holds about 6,000 residents with another 20,000 in the surrounding areas. An unknown number of refugees live nearby. It is located near the former confrontation line and has been taken and re-taken by both sides several times during the war. Numerous assaults have destroyed most of the buildings, but despite this, the town has retained a good road and infrastructure system.

Military Camping

The residents and the local municipal leaders of Modrica are welcoming the Norwegian battalion - hoping that the new peace they have experienced the past few weeks will last. In order to express this, the city already made a large industrial complex available to the battalion. This makes hope run even higher that life will be easier

for the battalion than it was in Tuzla.

Earlier, the battalion supported the former Sector Northeast and the rest of UNPROFOR. Supplies were collected in Split on the Adriatic coast more than 400 kms from Tuzla and distributed throughout Bosnia. Now the supply lines will go northwards towards Croatia which reduces the distances involved.

The Norwegian troops arriving in Modrica will live in tents until accommodation containers, called Corrimacs, are delivered. However, the Norwegians do not object to bivouaging.

Smooth Transfer

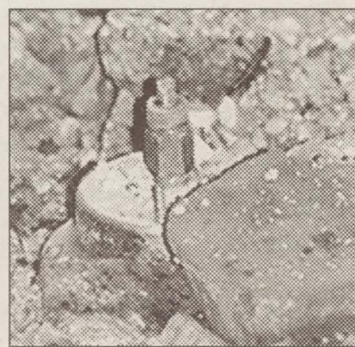
The battalion is transferred to the Nordic Brigade (NORDBRIG). The brigade has some 4,000 soldiers from Sweden, Denmark, Norway, Finland and

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Mines - dealing with the threat

By JO1 Austin S. Mansfield

Mine clearing in Bosnia has been hampered by weather and lack of equipment, but has still progressed remarkably, according to Brig. Gen. John Moore-Bick, chief engineer of Allied Rapid Reaction Corps (ARRC) headquarters.



The parties involved in the Dayton peace agreement have handed over 6,255 minefield records so far. However, those records are of known minefields only. There are still many unknown minefields scattered

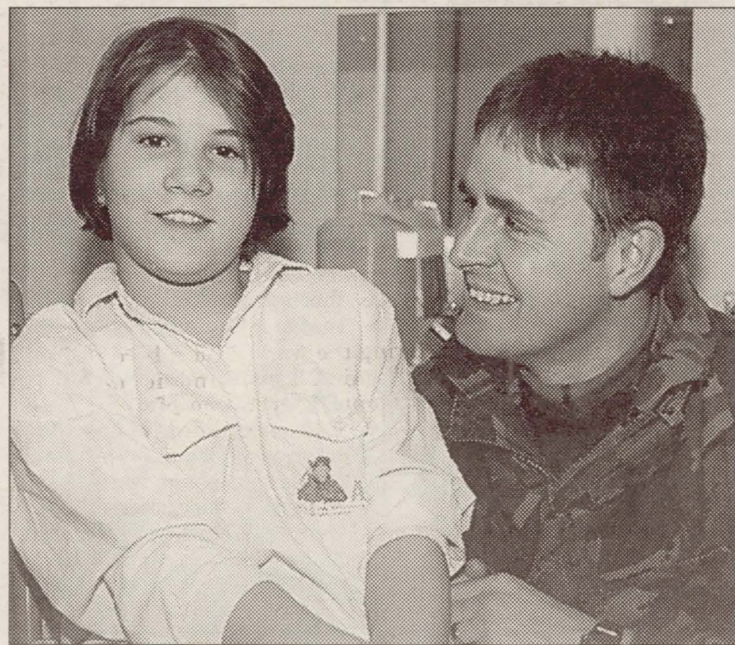
throughout Bosnia.

Nobody really knows how many mines are out there, said Moore-Bick, but a reasonable estimate would be at least three million in Croatia and at least another three million in Bosnia.

Of those six million or so mines, approximately 30 percent have been cleared and of the remainder, about 27 percent have been marked. "We've got to capitalize on that momentum," Moore-Bick said, "to do as much as we can with people with local knowledge in clearing mines now, and to make sure that marking is done."

Moore-Bick has the three chief engineers of the parties working closely with him. However, casualties are rising and to avoid demoralization they need protective clothing, mine detectors, and global positioning systems to pinpoint

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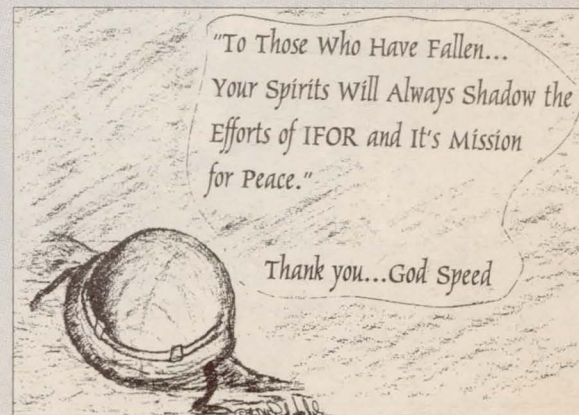
Will Hurmija be able to walk again?

IFOR soldier wants to make it happen but he needs your help (page 4).

IN MEMORIAM

We honor those who have died in the implementation of peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina

Cpl. G. Antonucci, 22, Italy
Cpl. A. Mouta, 24, Portugal
Cpl. R. Tavarec, 24, Portugal
Lt. R. W. Madden, 25, Great Britain
Pvt. A. Ovington, 25, Great Britain
Pvt. J. R. Kelly, 21, Great Britain
Pvt. J. Oehlund, 21, Sweden
SFC D. Dugan, 38, United States
Sig. M. Maxwell, 22, Great Britain
CLC. G. Verlaine, 39, Belgium



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Economic rebuilding
Distributing mail
One month into Peace
Prisoner release

A MESSAGE FROM ADMIRAL SMITH



By any standard, JOINT ENDEAVOR is, so far, a resounding success. Not only have we deployed an enormous number of forces and material in a pretty short time, we have facilitated the implementation of the Peace Agreement in a tremendously professional manner. Overcoming hardships and making the nearly impossible seem routine, IFOR has clearly demonstrated a commitment to peace.

Impressive hardly describes what each of you, working as a team, have been able to accomplish. What it really comes down to is capability derived from training and equipment equal to the task. The net result is we have proven the value of what NATO has developed over the past years.

There have been difficulties. The death and injuries to our comrades in arms affects us all. We share with their families and loved ones the deep sense of personal loss for those departed and pray for the speedy recovery of those wounded and injured. We should each commit ourselves to vigilance; vigilance against the common enemies

of mines, road traffic accidents and those few individuals who would attempt to derail the peace process. We have called this latter enemy "rogue elements." While they are few in number, they are dangerous, so keep your head in the game.

The "implementation" has gone very well, indeed; we need to keep the momentum and build on the already realized successes. I believe the parties will continue to comply, but we must be alert to those instances of non-compliance that will inevitably occur. Experience to date suggests most of those are the result of ignorance, not defiance. Since non-compliance through ignorance can be almost as detrimental to the process as non-compliance through defiance, an even-handed approach in dealing with both remain paramount.

I am personally committed to Force Protection. You must be as well. Take care of yourselves and your fellow soldiers, sailors, airmen and marines. We are a hell of a team and off to a great season. Let's keep the winning streak going. Press on!

LETTER TO THE READERS...

Dear Reader

Welcome to the IFOR INFORMER's first edition. This newspaper has been designed and published for your information and entertainment. Although the first two editions will be bi-weekly, future issues will be published on Tuesdays and delivered via IFOR channel missions on Wednesdays.

Since we are here to serve you with news and entertainment, the editorial staff solicits your input. We would like to know what you like about your newspaper, what you don't like, what you'd like to see more or less frequently. We will reserve this space for your comments and feedback. Additionally, if you have a great story, a great photograph or other item of interest, we would appreciate your input.

All submissions should arrive in Naples at the IFOR INFORMER office no later than 1200 GMT Friday before publication on Tuesday. Submissions should be double-spaced, sent via e-mail or on 3.25 disk in Microsoft Word or ASCII file and may range in length of 200 words to 2,000 depending on the nature of the story. E-mail is preferred: iforpa@cpo-link.eucom.mil, but we can also receive stories by fax or courier. Photographs should be sent via courier or digital transmission to arrive in a timely manner. Faxes can be received at two locations - AFSOUTH/PIO (0039-81-721-2973) or at IFOR INFORMER's office (0039-81-721-2675). Please note that the first telephone number is a dedicated fax and the second number is a voice/fax number.

We reserve the right to make editorial changes for style and grammar to comply with basic journalistic standards. We look forward to hearing your comments, receiving your submissions and publishing your newspaper.

The Editorial Staff

The birthing of a miracle

The birthing experience is an accepted miracle of life, with most adults understanding the basic process. Before one has the privilege and joy of a new life, oftentimes excruciating pain and agony must be endured. Then and only then, the bundle of a tiny, precious human is held in one's arms.

However, the birthing experience is not limited to that of a human life. Inanimate objects have been known to assume the powers and spirit of a life of their own. And by the time they come to fruition, they may appear to have been a miracle like that of a baby.

Take for example, a newspaper like the IFOR INFORMER. This is a newly-conceived idea that has never in the history of NATO or any multi-national operation been approached. Intended as a powerful tool for communicating with the diverse 60-thousand troops deployed in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the IFOR INFORMER has passed through a birthing process like that of a human baby.

As plans were made for Operation Joint Endeavour, ideas of how the internal information program would take shape were discussed. A concept paper was written, a staff was identified, and production capabilities were investigated. Like the ges-

tation period when the fetus develops from a microscopic egg in a protective environment, these discussions focused on the troops' need for vast amounts information. Thus, the idea of a newspaper was adjusted and readjusted to fit the needs of a future concept.

However, during the incubation of a baby, nutrients are regulated by the mother's intake of food. With the newspaper, the regulation of the flow of information was dependent upon requests from outside sources. A requirement of constantly feeding information to create this novel product and to make it work became an obsession. Reams of paper were depleted in the interest of feeding information to the newspaper project.

Additionally, the newspaper's bloodline, which supplied money and people, was threatened. If the umbilical cord between a baby and its mother is severed, the baby ceases to exist. During the incubation period the newspaper's bloodline of money and people were temporarily held back. With the loss of these elements, the newspaper nearly suffered a fatality.

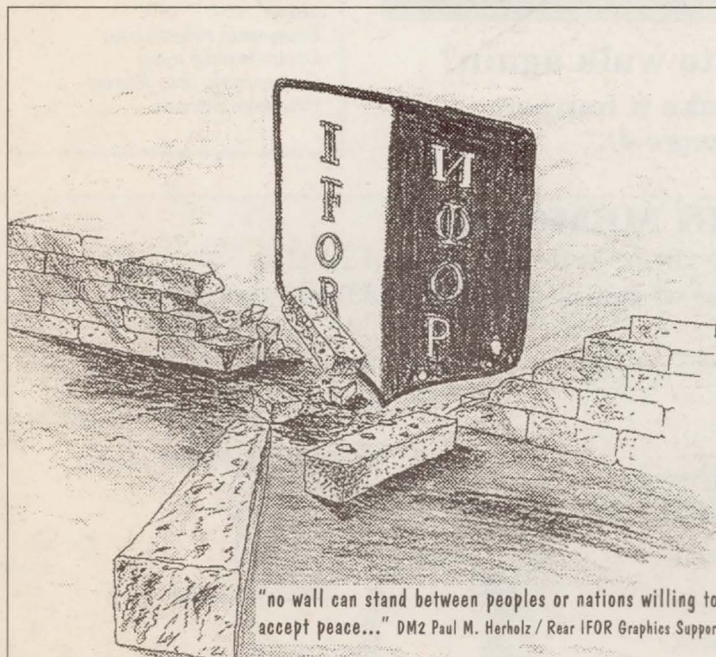
A medical staff monitors the human baby as it develops to ensure the birthing process will be successful. For the IFOR INFORMER, its birthing pro-

cess has been closely monitored by an editorial staff, but needed support from many other agencies. Reaching across thousands of miles, a support staff was necessary to maintain the life of the newspaper.

A cast of PIOs working in concert with commanders and people from other organizations which provided office equipment and space to those who were interviewed have pulled together for this first edition of the IFOR INFORMER. They and the readers have developed this newspaper into a living breathing document.

Thus, the miracle of birth for the IFOR INFORMER has endured a process of growth, development and a journey from a warm womb to a stark cold world in which it must now function independently. There is exceeding joy in this experience, but it is coupled with an awesome responsibility of nurturing this new life until maturity.

Nonetheless, once the birth has occurred, as with a baby who must grow into its own personality, the IFOR INFORMER should enshroud itself with the spirit of the IFOR troops for whom it is produced. To the readers let me say, this is your baby now and should reflect how each of you, who represent the nations supporting IFOR, work and understand your mission.



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American radars operating in Bosnia



Two American artillery radars, designed to locate the positions from which mortar and gun rounds are fired, are now installed in Sarajevo.

By Lt Henning Soegaard (NOAF)

The two radars cover the entire area of Sarajevo. One is located in an old Turkish fort above the eastern end of Sarajevo, the other in Sarajevo Airport.

Grenade locaters

"Our TPQ-36 was designed to locate mortar or gun grenades, as well as rockets, and on special nights - such as Christmas Eve, New Year's Eve and the Orthodox equivalent of both - we

might register as many as 500 SA rounds," said officer John Hessbruegge, radar technician. He explained that celebratory fire, and the rounds fired straight into the air, are easier to register.

Once the digital data is obtained, it is immediately forwarded to the unit station for "counter-battery," accommodated in the PTT building. The duty officer forwards it to the station for fire

support from the Sixth French Division, which is responsible for this sector. If necessary, the information is further forwarded to the Headquarters Allied Rapid Reaction Corps.

"Counter battery"

In case of an artillery threat to the city, the data from the radar positions would be immediately sent to the positions of the guns deployed in the field. From there, knowing the accurate

coordinates for the weapons which fired, the units would retaliate with precision. This kind of fighting in the jargon of the gunners is called "counter battery." The citizens of Sarajevo became aware of the accuracy of this system during the UN Rapid Reaction Forces operations, conducted last year.

"The offenders' artillery is fired at with the most efficient weapons systems," said

Hassbruegge, describing the situation in Somalia when his unit forwarded the data to "Apache" helicopters, which eventually destroyed two mortar positions discovered in the city of Mogadishu with their guns.

The soldiers operate radars that can pinpoint the source of an artillery, mortar or rocket round within 100 yards, and do the same for the round's expected impact point. From there, the soldiers can have the information sent off in time for someone else - if they so desire - to have an artillery round fired at the source before the first round hits the ground. That is a two-button push for an operator. During the Persian Gulf War, such systems, known as Q-36s, were used to pinpoint Iraqi artillery locations and bring fire onto them before a second round could be fired.

On COMARRC's request

The radars are manned by the Bamberg unit and are in Sarajevo at the request of British Lt. Gen. Sir Michael J.D. Walker, the commander of IFOR ground troops. He asked for additional protection after the British units left. However, they will most probably be replaced by their colleagues of another nationality soon.

"We are here to give a temporary replacement until the arrival of another radar," said Capt. Charles Cook, the commander of the unit which in Sarajevo operates the American radar AN/TPQ-36.

"We do not know yet when it will happen, but we shall afterwards join our main battery in Tuzla," he added. "We are otherwise a part of the B Battery 25th Field Artillery, a field battery from the 1st Armoured Division, located in the German city of Bamberg, even though here there are soldiers who came from other units as well."

"You are making history"



First Unit

continued from page 1

Poland. In a few weeks, the brigade will have deployed completely and be playing its part in IFOR's major task - ensuring that the former warring factions keep to the Dayton peace agreement.

The change from being a UN unit to being a NATO force has, for the battalion, been a smooth process. The only visible signs of the transformation are vehicles and other equipment being painted green, as well as new green body armor and new berets for battalion soldiers. The Norwegians did have the advantage of being in Bosnia for more than a year before Operation Joint Endeavour, and the experience gained during this period - in addition to other UN mission areas - will be valuable as the peace implementation process proceeds.

"Eagle Base"

The first American IFOR troops arrived at Tuzla air base in the middle of December. The usually quiet and peaceful air base quickly became the scene of hectic military activity and was rechristened "Eagle Base." The runway was soon reopened and aircraft filled with equipment and troops started landing regularly. The Norwegians did their best to provide the easiest start possible for the arriving troops. But as part of the Nordic Brigade, it is time to move on. According to current planning, the whole brigade will be operative by February.

U.S. President, Bill Clinton salutes the American Flag at IFOR HQ's Task Force Eagle during his visit to former-Yugoslavia. (Main Photograph and top right by TSgt Keith Reed USAF; bottom left Combat Camera.)

Vic wants Hurmija to walk again



The devastation IFOR troops discover in Bosnia Herzegovina can be a shocking experience. Many want to do more to stop the suffering experienced by so many. WO2 Vic Ferguson is one.

After meeting 12-year-old Hurmija Mijuc from Srebrenica, paralysed from the horrors she experienced, Ferguson decided to take action. The girl had lost her father and brother in Srebrenica. The rest of her family lives in refugee camps throughout Bosnia. Ferguson, based in Sarajevo, started collecting money for the little girl. After some eight weeks, he raised about £2,000 sterling from family and friends in Germany, in addition to the contributions made by soldiers in Sarajevo. On Jan. 15, *The Sun* newspaper agreed to publish a nationwide appeal for help, the aim being to raise £20,000 to facilitate Hurmija's evacuation and the subsequent treatment necessary for her to walk again.

Jan. 17, Ferguson recruited

the help and advice of Sir Jimmy Saville. Together, they came up with the idea to send Hurmija to the Stoke Mandeville hospital for admission to the Spinal Injuries Clinic, reputed to be the best in the world. However, this requires a budget of some £150,000. After her initial assessment, Hurmija will eventually be admitted for full rehabilitation treatment, which may take more than seven months.

"I can only pray that this will be the case," said Ferguson. "I still need air ambulance facilities from Sarajevo to UK, a wheelchair, accommodation for a two week period - all together around £48,000."

For more information, questions or contributions write to:

**WO2(SQMS) V A Ferguson
Supt Clerk
CPIC Sarajevo
HQ ARRC
BFPO 543**

"An informed soldier is a good soldier"

By Lt Henning Soegaard

Whenever armies deploy, planners and logistics experts spend countless hours deciding just what the troops will need. Some are obvious ... food, proper clothing, shelter from the elements, equipment, weapons and ammunition. Others are not as self-evident, but equally important - ways to keep the troops' morale high as they accomplish the mission. The soldiers of Multi-National Division - North are grateful the planners decided to deploy the Armed Forces Network to Operation Joint Endeavour.

"Voice of the Balkans" brings valuable information to the troops and gives a touch of home. Therefore, the radio show is of major importance," U.S. Army Capt. Ken McDorman said. He's the officer in charge of AFN in Tuzla - the man who makes sure AFN gets on the air every day. So far, he and his staff have succeeded.

The first troops received the radio show Dec. 9. The station began with a senior engineer and one broadcaster. From the first of January, the project began expanding and now the total staff consists of 13 broadcasters and

one officer. Radio signals are transmitted via the USA and Germany, then enter the Balkans. AFN can be heard on FM 98.1 and is on the air 24 hours daily. The broadcasting staff at Tuzla also provides live local shows for the troops, mornings and afternoons. A five-minute newscast, produced at Eagle Base, also airs every day.



"One interesting factor about AFN is the fact that the staff is recruited from the Army, Air Force and Navy," said McDorman. "This gives a unique feeling of fellowship - of doing something together."

Live local shows consist of military information, weather up-

Poetry is just good chemistry

One Army chemical officer has found the right formula for turning the foibles of life into verses of poetry.

By Spec. George Roache
29th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Maj. Terry L. Newell started writing poetry in high school, after expressing himself by singing in a gospel choir. His works consist mostly of love poetry given to the women who have inspired them.

He majored in chemistry in college, and entered the U.S. Army Chemical Corps when he came on active duty in 1981. He began writing prolifically during his first tour in Germany, but gave no thought to getting published.

That changed, however, when he was inspired by fellow soldiers of the 69th Air Defense Artillery during Atlantic Resolve '94 in Grafenwoehr.

"I was listening to the soldiers around me," said the 38-year-old native of Laurel, Miss. "They gave me food for thought for a book - their pain, their joy, their sorrow, their conflict, their confusion."

Writing purely by inspiration and reflex, Newell composed 31 commentaries on the human condition he titled "Thoughts Of The Struggle, B.O.H.I.C.A., Rhymes and Reasons" (B.O.H.I.C.A. stands for the title of one of the poems), copyrighted and published in April, 1995.

He drew from what others shared with him about themselves. His congenial manner shows the Southern charm that is his heritage, making it easy for those around him to let down their guard and offer him glimpses into their souls.

"My poetry looks through the eyes of other people," said Newell, currently chief of the Joint Visitors Bureau at Task Force Eagle headquarters. "It actualizes their feelings and emotions."

For the specialist who experienced no greater joy than the birth of his daughter, Newell wrote "Moment of Happiness."



*"When you were born
I touched your hand
And from my eyes the tears ran
I felt the joy swell within
For within my hand
A new life began"*

"When I Speak" portrays a sergeant major thanking his wife for standing by him through the hard times. "Keep Hope Alive" and "Role Model" were penned after Newell saw the Rev. Jesse Jackson on television. And "Daddy" was about his own father.

But not all poems are nice, Newell said.

"They are about life, love, happiness and the world in which we live - the pain, misery, suffering and overcoming the struggle," he said.

He personally witnessed the Los Angeles riots and was moved to write "No Retreat, No Surrender." Layoffs by the thousands, serial killers roaming the streets and fathers deserting their families

were the inspiration for "Sign of the Times."

In one of his most poignant and powerful pieces, "I Don't Care," he vents his rage to his ex-wife for betraying his love and trust, revealing his vulnerability:

*"I don't care if you leave me
I'd rather be alone
But I want you to know before
you go
In spite of the things
You've said and done
If you ever come back, you'll
have a home"*

Poetry for him just happens, Newell said. He estimates he's written about 5,000 pieces, and wishes he could find them all now.

"Five to 10 poems may happen in a day," he said. "One poem may happen in three days." He already has several poems written for his second book.

He compares writing poetry to pulling a trigger.

"It should have an effect on you when you read it. It's supposed to mess with your emotions (and) you can be wounded by it because it's something that can't go counter to your beliefs."

Reaction to his work has ranged from anger to sorrow, Newell said. Some who find his poetry doesn't fit their initial impressions of him have called him a radical and militant while only halfway through reading his book, he said.

"It should make you think about your life, your struggles, what you went through to get where you are," he said. "I don't write to make people mad, but it just works out that way."

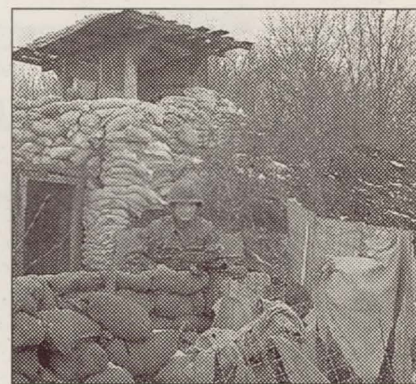
Building Tent City continued from page 1

Welfare and Recreation is given two 64-foot tents and one 32-foot tent, and equipped with a recreation kit that includes big screen televisions, sporting goods and board games.

Each Force Provider can draw electrical power from its own set of 15,100 kilowatt generators, in addition to any other power available from local supplies. The package's heating and cooling system was designed for temperature extremes ranging from minus 20 to more than 120 degrees Fahrenheit. The water storage and distribution systems are currently rated at 15-thousand gallons per package, and plans call for expanding the system to a 60-thousand gallon capacity within 30 days. Each package also has a 20-thousand gallon fuel storage and distribution system.

The main building blocks of the Force Provider packages are specially designed TEMPER (Tent Extendible Modular Personnel) tents, made of polyester fabric, with solar shaded fabric windows, framed in aluminum supports, with built-in nylon ducts to accommodate heating and cooling systems. The TEMPER tents are erected in 64-foot tents.

"This is the first time we've deployed Force Provider in a big way," said Lt. Col. Tim Lindsay, Force Provider Product Manager. Lindsay led a team of eight people into Bosnia-Herzegovina, which included engineers, logisticians



and a representative of the Army Quartermaster School.

As Product Manager, Lindsay is overseeing the Army's total buy over seven Force Provider packages. The Army validated a requirement for 36 modules. The six being used today in Bosnia-Herzegovina are interim support packages similar to production models, and four packages are currently in production. Congress recently provided funding for 12 Force Provider packages in fiscal 1996, with the balance of the requirement projected for funding in future years of defense budgets.

The build-up of the base camps has been a multi-service effort, indicative of the spirit of cooperation in Operation Joint Endeavour. For example, on-site preparation work at Tuzla East and Tuzla West was done by U.S. Air Force combat engineers, while U.S. Army engineers combine forces with civilians from Brown and Root Construction Company to do the site preparations at Lucavac.

In charge of IFOR movements

By Capt. Leo Divine



The monumental task of coordinating the flow of Implementation Forces through Croatia falls to the North Atlantic Treaty Organization's Commander for Support based in Zagreb.

Imagine the difficulty involved in moving 60-thousand troops into a mountainous nation in the middle of winter. Add the associated vehicles and equipment, and factor in the problem of a transportation infrastructure virtually destroyed by more than three years of warfare. If that doesn't sound difficult enough, have the troops come from more than two dozen different nations, and you have some idea of the challenge faced by NATO's Commander for Support (C-Spt), based in Zagreb, Croatia.

The monumental task of coordinating the flow of Implementation Forces through Croatia falls to C-Spt. In addition to the initial deployment of IFOR, C-Spt must decide the best way to sustain those forces and aid in

their exit when the word is given. Specialized elements within the organization manage the movement and sustainment of troops and equipment. The operation's scale can be judged in light of the more than 1,200 sorties, 550 road convoys, 20 ships, and 100 trains from 14 countries which had been coordinated through Croatia by mid-January since Dec 2.

Focused on all logistic issues in Croatia, the Joint Logistic Operation Center works to immediately resolve delays and shortages across the supply spectrum. From fuel to food to accommodations, the JLOC element ensures that a constant flow of needed resources are available throughout the theater.

Sensitive to the operation's effect on Croatia, the unit's goal

is to minimize the impact of IFOR movements on the infrastructure.

"We are very aware of the fact that we cannot congest or overwhelm the road, rail, sea or air transport systems to the point that it degrades these transit routes," said US Army Maj. Gen. William N. Farnen, Commander for Support.

A prime concern for the engineers assigned to C-Spt is ensuring the present infrastructure remains intact, open and usable.

"We need to be able to say at anytime, with a high level of confidence, that we are able to handle any level of movement intensity, and the people at C-Spt work hard at maintaining that capability," explained Farnen.

C-Spt responsibilities go beyond

the coordinating and deconflicting of theater logistic movements. They also include developing a certification process for non-NATO countries. This detailed evaluation ensures that all national forces are equipped and prepared for the IFOR deployment.

When a shortfall is noted, the contracting division of Commander for Support works to remedy the situation as quickly as possible. Contracts are let and services purchased to overcome the shortfalls, allowing the deployment to continue unhindered.

In addition, the contracting element has been responsible for resolving the complicated issue of transferring equipment and more than 650 service contracts from the United Nations to NATO control. This included reviewing IFOR needs, then rewriting,

awarding and in some cases terminating current service contracts.

Securing theater-wide medical airlift and health care facility certification falls to the Medical Coordination Center of C-Spt. Center personnel visited medical facilities throughout Croatia verified their capabilities. The staff's doctors and health care administrators ensure timely lifesaving care is readily available to all IFOR troops.

The international team of C-Spt staff is composed of members from more than ten nations.

"These are some of the brightest and most dedicated people that you will find anywhere. These Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines, many of them junior in rank, are working with the highest levels of government and military officials to accomplish this mission," said Farnen.



Convoys crossing the Sava River: scenes like this would have been impossible without the work of Commander for Support (Combat Camera Imagery)

Prisoner Release

by JO1 Austin S. Mansfield

The Bosnian parties moved one step closer to lasting peace with a prisoner release which united 162 people with their loved ones. The International Committee of the Red Cross (ICRC) monitored the Jan. 27 release at the Sarajevo airport.

The total number of prisoners still held by the parties has decreased to 112, of which 63 are being investigated for war crimes. According to the peace agreement, prisoners being investigated must remain in detention for a reasonable time while the international war crimes tribunal examines their files.

Of those 63 prisoners, 50 Serbs are held by the Bosnian Croats; seven Serbs and three Croats are held by the Bosnian Government forces; and three

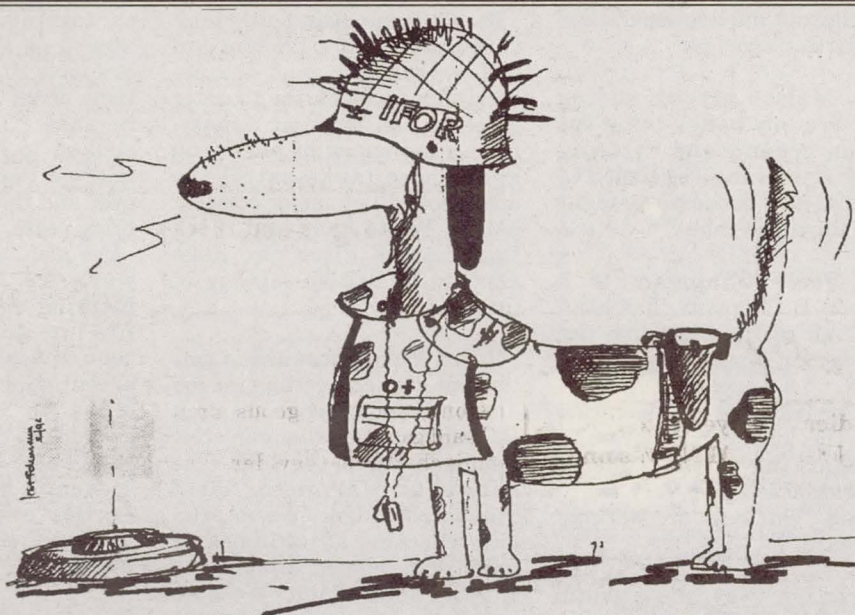
Bosnians are held by the Serbs, said Pierre Gauthier, an ICRC spokesman.

Of the other prisoners still detained, 39 are in the Banja Luka area—held by Bosnian Serbs, Gauthier said. "There are also six persons who remain in the detention by the Bosnian Government Army in Gorazde. [Both groups of prisoners] still have to be released in accordance with the peace agreement."

Throughout all the prisoner releases, IFOR provided various types of support. Most obvious, perhaps, was the security, "but they have also done a very good job in the humanitarian field," Gauthier said. "They have provided blankets, hot tea, and coffee for people who sometimes had to wait for a very long time until they could be released."



Prisoner exchange (Photo by P.O. P. Ball UKN)



IFOR's professional mine sniffer....

Mines - dealing with the threat

minefield locations. "We need about half-a-million dollars to keep the momentum going," Moore-Bick said. It's not IFOR's responsibility to fund, and civil aid donors don't wish to fund "this sort of material."

Civil aid usually requires destruction of mines, but the Dayton peace agreement allows the parties to destroy or remove them. This distinction would allow the mines to remain functional.

The parties are responsible for the removal of the mines, not IFOR or NATO. "IFOR does not have a responsibility to clear mines here," Moore-Bick said, "except locally where it has to have its camps—and that's a very marginal requirement."

There are five priority areas for mine clearing: roads through the zone of separation, tracks, access to public utilities, population centers, and habitations due to be re-occupied. Wider-scale areas, such as farm land, will probably be left to the long-term mine-clearing strategy.

"What is important at the moment is to get freedom of movement, public utilities back in order, and to make sure that targeted mine clearance is done by the parties in those places where people have to go and need to be," Moore-Bick said. As for mine clearing in agricultural land, "very often in the farmer's field, it was the farmer who put the mines there in the first place. It is

continued from page 1

that sort of conflict, where many people laid the mines in their own area."

Local knowledge is therefore quite important, playing a key role in minefield clearing. The people who laid the mines are best able to pick them up again, or point out where they are for the mine clearance engineers. It's up to the parties to ensure their citizens are aware of the dangers of both manufactured and home-made mines. It is also the parties' responsibility to continue with the clearing and marking of mines. As the ground softens with the rain and warmer weather, the task becomes a bit easier, provided the proper equipment is available.

British Troops marking ZOS



Almost two months after peace finally came to Bosnia-Herzegovina, British NATO soldiers are hard at work carrying out the Dayton peace accord. Their major assignment is marking the 250 km section of Northwest Bosnia along the former confrontation line separating the Bosnian Serbs from the Bosnian Muslims and Bosnian Croats.

On either side of the line is a 2 km Zone of Separation (ZOS), creating a 4 km strip of land through which no military forces of the former warring factions may pass. The Light Dragoons in their highly versatile tracked reconnaissance Scimitars are responsible for patrolling this ZOS.

Good cooperation

"We need the cooperation of the former warring factions to mark out the Zone of Separation, but often don't know where they are based, so it's a case of going out onto the ground to look for them," explained troop commander Lt. Tom Moon from B Squadron base at Prijedor. "From what we can gather from the locals we meet, everyone is sick of the war and we have had a lot of cooperation from local commanders at a high level. We're still working very hard, as we have for the whole of our tour - never spending more than three weeks in any one place. But

we're getting used to living like gypsies and the soldiers like the variety of work - everyone is in good spirits."

The exact position of the line dividing former warring factions is checked with the Global Positioning System (GPS), which uses small hand-held devices in contact with satellites to pinpoint exact grid locations. Royal Engineer, Cpl. Sean Calver of 32 Engineer Regiment, uses the GPS to mark the spots where orange demarcation stakes are to be hammered into the ground.

"The GPS is very accurate and useful for this type of very important work," he said. "It's good to be involved in this - in a sense we are all making history here."

Making history

Teams from the 2nd Battalion, the Light Infantry, work four kms apart - one team with the Bosnian Serbs, another with the Bosnian Muslims and Bosnian

Croats, marking the line with orange stakes and orange paint on trees. Pte Michael Bailey and Pte Dean Iddison have the unenviable task of hammering the stakes into hard winter ground.

"I've only been in the battalion a year so this is my first operational tour," Bailey said. "It's certainly been quite exciting being here at this time and making history by actually marking out the line separating Bosnia-Herzegovina."

Pte. Iddison agreed, adding "It's certainly better being out on the ground and actually doing something constructive towards the peace agreement than staying in camp."

Lt. Peter Chapman, of 5 Platoon B Company, has been involved in liaising with the local faction commanders.

"We've had a lot of cooperation from the local commanders and the marking of the Zone of Separation is going very well," he said. "Our boys are working very hard."

Never far away, the gigantic guns of the 26 Regiment, Royal Artillery can be seen silhouetted against the Mrkonjic Grad skyline. Their present mission

is very different from usual covert exercises and operations, but the show of force is also supposed to be reassuring to the local population during the implementation of the Dayton peace agreement.

The battery of six AS90 looks menacing, with their 155 mm guns able to rotate in a full 360 degree circle. They are capable of firing three 100-pound rounds in just 10 seconds!

"This is quite a different situation for us as normally the guns have to operate as covertly as possible," said Bombardier Matt Dahlberg. "It's great being able to show them off in the open as we are doing."

Sgt. Nick Cook added, "We've come straight onto the ground after arriving here. All the boys are pleased to be here - we've done a lot of training over the last couple of months and we're looking forward to doing what we can here to help implement the peace accord."

Their somewhat lighter 150 mm counterparts belong to the ACE Mobile Force Land, and are flown underslung from Chinooks to various locations along the ZOS.

Challengers arriving

Challenger Tanks of the Queen's Royal Hussars (QRH) arrived at the beginning of January, taking up positions at crucial crossing points along the former confrontation line.

The 62-tonne main battle tank is equipped with a 120 mm gun and two machine guns. Despite its size and weight, the monster machine can move at a maximum road speed of nearly 60 kph. These tanks patrol the area around two major crossing points, White Fang and Black Dog, named after two dogs adopted by British soldiers in the area.

"I was looking forward to getting out here and getting the job done," said Corporal Stephen Balmforth, a Challenger crew commander from the QRH. The native of Wakefield, West Yorkshire added, "We've been busy checking all civilian and military movement through the zone of separation. We also patrol the local area. I'm looking forward to the weather getting a bit warmer - we have to keep moving to stay warm at

the moment."

Banbury native Cpl. Simon Hartwell (QRH) added, "I didn't know what to expect when I came out here, but so far everything has been going to plan. I feel that we are all here making history and doing something significant which will be remembered for years to come. I'd also like to let my mum know that I am OK".

Tpr. Jonathan Gardner (QRH), a native of Arundel, celebrated his 21st birthday on the boat as he travelled over with the Challenger tanks.

"There were a few of us on the boat but I didn't like to say anything to others in case I ended up in the sea as a birthday treat," he recalled. "I had a party in December with my family before I left home. I'm enjoying the tour now that I'm here, but it is quite difficult for myself and other Challenger drivers. The roads are in pretty bad condition and the bad weather can make them icy - so all of us have to be careful."

Communication with the local population is also a prime concern - making sure locals understand why IFOR is here and what they are doing.

Capt. Stephen Noble, 2nd Battalion, the Light Infantry, has contacted local radio stations and with the help of an interpreter, broadcasts on a regular basis.

"The general population aren't aware of many of the details concerning the Dayton peace accord so I'm making myself available to answer their questions about the IFOR mission," he said. "The people I have spoken to in the towns seem relieved that the war is finally over and that we are helping to bring peace."

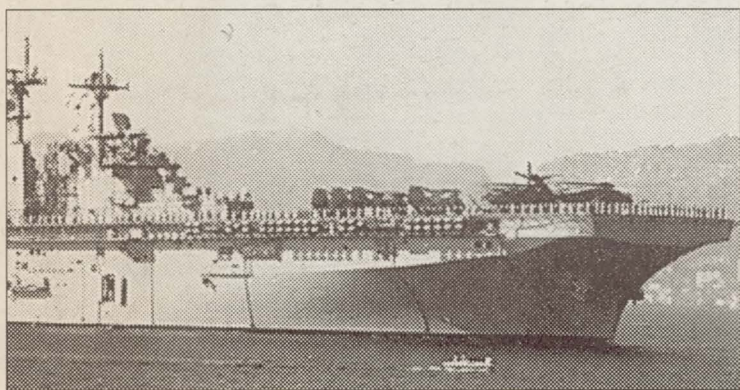
I've also been explaining the work we have been doing marking up the agreed ceasefire line and establishing the zone of separation. We're also encouraging and assisting both sides to clear minefields because of the obvious dangers they pose. Everyone we have spoken to has been very cooperative and we have a good working relationship with all factions."

Top: A Challenger Main Battle Tank of the Queen's Royal Hussars watches over the Vrbas River. P.O. P. Ball UKN

Medical officers visit USS Wasp

Finally, one was able to see the gigantic Wasp appear on the grey waters of the Adriatic Sea.

By Lt Enno Berntzen



USS WASP

Members of the German Field Hospital based in Trogir, Croatia, were invited to see the U.S. Navy's amphibious ship by IFOR Commander Adm. Leighton W. Smith, Jr. The delegation was led by the command surgeon, Col. (Dr.) Klaus Lerch, Medical Service.

The officers went in two helicopters, provided by the Wasp, over the islands Brac and Hvar to the 40-thousand ton giant, which entered service in 1989. Wasp is the first of a new class of warships which provide

the means for troops to quickly be deployed into crisis areas. The ship is equipped with transport helicopters, Harrier vertical take-off and landing (VTOL) aircraft and Hovercraft landing craft. More than two thousand Marines can be taken on board in addition to the crew of 1,077. The ship's hospital was, of course, most interesting for the medical personnel who were visiting.

Up to 600 wounded or sick soldiers can receive sophisticated first aid and care on the Wasp

before they are flown to a shore-based hospital for further treatment, such as the French-German field hospital in Trogir. Capt. Raymond A. Duffy, Commanding Officer of the Wasp, and Cdr. (Dr.) James N. Frame, the command surgeon of the ship's hospital, proudly presented the highly sophisticated interior. Later, when talking shop, both parties agreed to the fact that both in Trogir and on the Wasp, medical personnel are ready to offer fast and professional help for medical emergencies.



The post must get through

By Andy Reeds



There is nothing more likely to affect the morale of soldiers than problems with the postal system.

The UK Army has always considered that mail for soldiers serving for operations is extremely important. Consequently a lot of effort is put into ensuring that the mail gets through.

On Operation Resolute (the British contribution to the IFOR deployment), the responsibility for getting the mail through rests with Maj. Rod Small and the soldiers of 99 Postal and Courier Squadron RLC. Although one of the smaller sub units in the theater with only two officers and 38 soldiers, 99 Squadron (part of 14 Regiment RLC) probably has one of the most important but unseen jobs — maintaining the morale of not just the British personnel serving within the force but also of the other allied personnel.

Although the major Distribution Office is based in Split, Croatia, a further 10 detachments have been deployed into Bosnia-Herzegovina and one to Zagreb. Additionally, the squadron established a Postal and Courier Troop with the HQ Rapid Reaction Corps in Sarajevo. This unit is an IFOR asset and is tasked with providing a daily link for official and personal mail between HQ ARRC locations and the HQs of the three Multi-National Divisions. This squadron links into this system via British Forces Post Offices (BFPOs) at Sarajevo and Gornji Vakuf.

The Free Forces Air Letter Form, better known as the 'Bluey,' is available in theater. If you have a tendency to paranoia, and are convinced you need to maintain a horde of blank 'Blueys,' forget it. The

squadron holds a vast number and distributes them to Post Offices based on the number of personnel in each location. To ensure that they are handled as quickly as possible, test letters are dispatched at regular intervals testing the speed of handling. Delivery times will vary slightly, as some units are simply more difficult to reach than others. And remember, you shouldn't put anything in the 'Bluey.' That is not what the system is for.

All of the Post Offices provide a comprehensive range of services, many of which are available to other NATO forces. An underrated perk is the entitlement to concessionary rates of postage, ensuring that you are charged the same as you would be if you were posting letters or parcels within the U.K.

Wherever the British Army moves within the world there will always be a Postal and Courier Team there to maintain the post. During Operation Resolute they have frequently been tested on their ability to get mail to the right place at the right time, and they have not failed. You can rest assured that the all important 'Bluey' will get through no matter how remote the location at which you are based.

And, if you are not getting your mail, it could just be that you, or your unit has not told the 'postie' where you are based. They are good at getting the mail around, but have yet to perfect telepathy. So if you move into theater or change location within theater, let the 'posties' know and they will tell you your correct mailing address.

Economic Recovery in Bosnia-Herzegovina

By JOC Jim Brantley

While IFOR troops are implementing peace throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina, the long journey towards economic recovery has begun in earnest. The World Bank's board of directors in Washington, D.C., has recommended to the bank's governors that \$150 million in emergency reconstruction financing be allocated to Bosnia and in conjunction, other monies have been pledged at a donor conference held in Brussels in December.

The \$150 million funding was approved after an assessment team from the World Bank visited Bosnia to identify the most urgent needs of the country. This is the first stage of reconstruction by the international community, which is headed up by the World Bank and the European Union, according to Rory O'Sullivan, Director of the World Bank's Resident Mission in Sarajevo.

The money will go into a newly-created trust fund for Bosnia and Herzegovina (TFBH), along with other monies pledged to Bosnia at the Brussels conference. The conference raised more than \$500 million, with a second donor conference planned in March.

According to the World Bank, these monies will support the most vital reconstruction projects in the areas of inter-transportation, power, gas, water and waste management. The trust fund could also be used for financing agricultural imports, assistance with education and health, and provide resources for start-up of an emergency public administration as well as social support for those most affected by the war.

The total estimated cost of reconstruction is \$5.1 billion for a three-four year program. The actual cost of bringing the country back to pre-war status is estimated at \$25 billion, according to O'Sullivan.

One of the major elements of reconstruction is the people, O'Sullivan said.

"A large number of people left Bosnia when the war started," he pointed out. "This is the enormous wealth of Bosnia. The essential difference between Bosnia and many other countries which were working on this scale of reconstruction is the high level of training and education here. The economy was very advanced before hostilities began. The people are very, very skilled and it gives us enormous hope for rapid progress in reconstruction. However, the damage to the human element, people, in terms of war damage has been terrible."

O'Sullivan went on to say that while some money has started to come into the country, some investors are waiting to see what is going to happen in the months to come. There are some risks involved in this effort, several of which have been identified by the World Bank.

"Freedom of movement is, of course, the first problem," O'Sullivan said. "It seems to be going well. If people cannot drive from Sarajevo to Tuzla and get there quickly, this will be a problem. But I am sure this will come soon."

"Political risks too can cause problems," he continued. "The Federation must be set up properly and quickly in order to get projects started."

"Funding ... if we don't get funds allocated through the various donor groups we are working with, the programs will not get off the ground."

"Capacity ... capacity at all levels, the ability among contractors in Bosnia who were famous throughout the world before the war. How quickly can they come back and become operational?"

"Finally, coordination ... the coordination of the program among the donors has to be well

organized, otherwise, the program will fall apart very, very quickly," O'Sullivan said at a recent press briefing in Sarajevo.

A lot of money will be needed to get the government up and running.

"Most of the money needed, of course, is for the hardware side of reconstruction, but a lot of very, very important efforts will go into the software side of building up the state," O'Sullivan said. "These institutions will need building up. There is a lot of investment required to just get the government of the state organized and operating."

Another major concern of the World Bank is the threat of mines, according to O'Sullivan.

"We already have a substantial mine clearing component in this area," he said, "but we discovered that we need to move much faster with mine clearing. The clearing of mines by the national armies is going ahead in certain areas, but as engineers go out surveying the damage to bridges, roads and electrical lines, they must wait for that area to be cleared. One mine left behind can do all the damage necessary to slow a project and possibly injure someone."

According to O'Sullivan, the World Bank and investors will hire private contractors and pump a huge sum of money into a mine clearing center for coordination of mine clearing efforts. This will enable engineers to get to work on infrastructure projects much sooner.

While much of the social and economic infrastructure has been damaged due to the devastating events of the last four years, the World Bank says if this infrastructure is rehabilitated, it could provide an excellent foundation for the creation of a modern new state in Bosnia-Herzegovina ... a state with a vibrant and dynamic economy

IFOR SOLDIER SAVES WORKER

In addition to helping keep the peace between the former warring factions in Bosnia-Herzegovina, IFOR soldiers are always on the alert to provide assistance to those in distress ... sometimes even at the risk of their own lives.

Such was the case for French Sgt. Jean-Bernard Fontes, assigned to the "Regiment de Commandement et de Soutien" of the French Division. He was manning a traffic control checkpoint near the small community of Rijela, about 20 kms north of Mostar, last month, when he witnessed a car lose control rounding a bend in the road and plunge into the icy waters of the Neretva River.

Fontes, with no regard for his own safety, dove into the river in an attempt to rescue the six passengers of the vehicle, members of the German humanitarian organization "THW."

Five of the passengers were trapped inside the vehicle, but one managed to get out. Despite the frigid temperature and strong current of the river, Fontes was able to pull him to shore, saving his life.

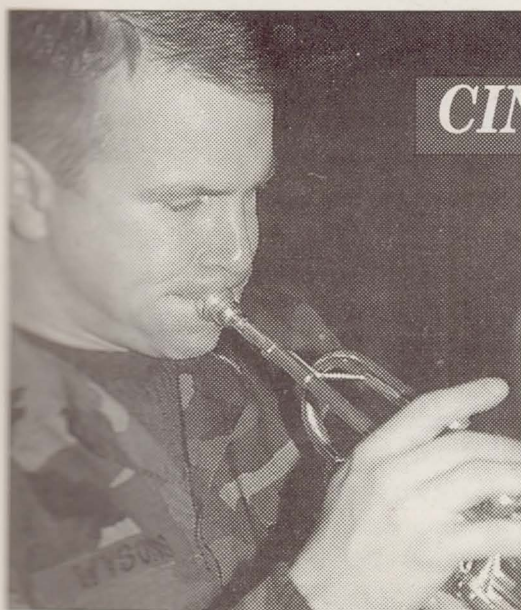
Sgt. Fontes' selfless act of courage and quick reaction provided at least one bright spot in an otherwise tragic event. His dedication exemplifies everything that IFOR is trying to accomplish in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

CINCSOUTH BAND puts some oomph into Sarajevo

The CINCSOUTH BAND, stationed at Naples, Italy, improves the quality of life not only for those assigned to Allied Forces Southern Command, but also for the Implementation Forces. Although the band has a busy schedule traveling throughout Europe, they continue the Glen Miller tradition of playing wherever the troops are. During the holidays they entertained more than 1,000 troops in Sarajevo and are tentatively scheduled to return to the Balkans next month. During their next visit they may include a performance in the local community.

Left MU1 Lance Wysong, USN; right TSgt. Derek Reiss, USAF; far right MU2 Kenny Oliver, USN.

Photos by MSgt. Eric Baker, AFSOUTH PIO



One Month Later

By JO1 Austin S. Mansfield

The benefits of peace come slowly for a city devastated by war. Three and a-half years of constant bombardment has left much of Sarajevo in ruins. The rebuilding will take many years, but the initial steps, which began a little more than a month ago, are already becoming noticeable.

For instance, before the Dayton peace agreement, roads were blocked by mines and checkpoints making transportation of goods difficult if not impossible for manufacturers, retailers and consumers. IFOR has opened the roads, allowing local businesses to get products onto their shelves.

Local merchants have noticed the difference.

"We have started to renovate the store," said Miral Poplata, manager of Sarajevo's Sipad Komerc department store. "You can feel the improvement. For us it is crucial that the roads are freer than before so we can transport furniture that we import."

Amir Rizvanovic, a director of the Vakufska Banka, agreed.

"There is some improvement," he said. "With the roads open, we have communication with the world. There is more trade because it is much easier to get the goods into Sarajevo."

For many Bosnian people, one of the most important benefits of peace is the ability to get on with their lives. Fear engulfed Sarajevo since the shelling began, with most people afraid to leave their homes during daylight hours. At night, they would dash out to try to obtain food and water before hurrying home again. Daily routines most of the world took for granted, such as going to work or to the store, became death-defying feats due to snipers and shelling. Since IFOR troops arrived, daily life in Sarajevo has become safer and more normal.

"I am happy to go to work now, to take a walk," Poplata said. "Life is coming back and people are returning to the city. We are going back to the old way of life."

"During the war, I had a hard time," said Elma Handzic, a young woman from one of the more devastated areas of Sarajevo. "I couldn't take a walk to go out of the city, or go to the seashore. Now I can be free to walk around, and to travel."

For some, peace has brought other benefits as well. Zebic Adnan, like many Bosnian youths, was until recently in the Army.

"A lot of changes have taken place now that IFOR is here," he said. "I'm a student now, and no longer in the military. That is a big improvement."

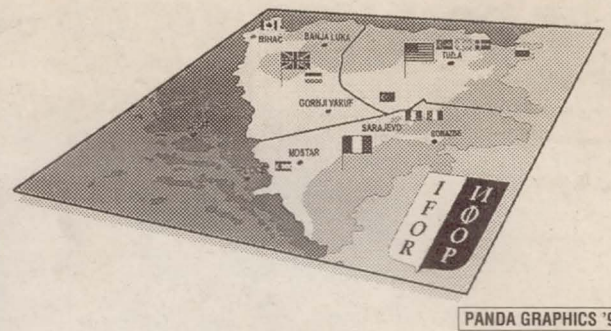
Bojan Pavlovic, a 17-year-old born and raised in Sarajevo, agreed.

"I'm glad IFOR has come," he said. "It is really quiet now, and you can go out to play basketball without being shot at."

As IFOR continues to enforce the Dayton peace agreement, many people in Sarajevo have expressed their support for NATO's mission.

"I'm glad to have them here," Poplata said. "I'm glad that we will live again with all of the people, regardless of their religion and nationality. With IFOR's help and presence, it will be much faster and painless. On behalf of Bosnians, I would like to express gratitude to IFOR."

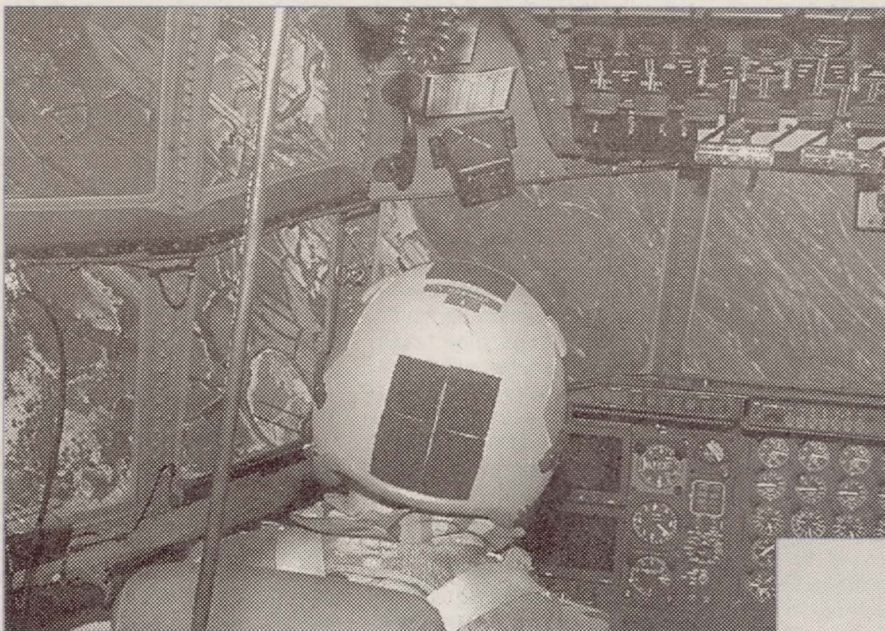
Snapshots



Jan. 3, 86th Aeromed Evacuation Sqdrn personnel load Specialist M. Begosh into a C-130. Begosh later received the Purple Heart for injuries sustained after his vehicle ran over a mine.



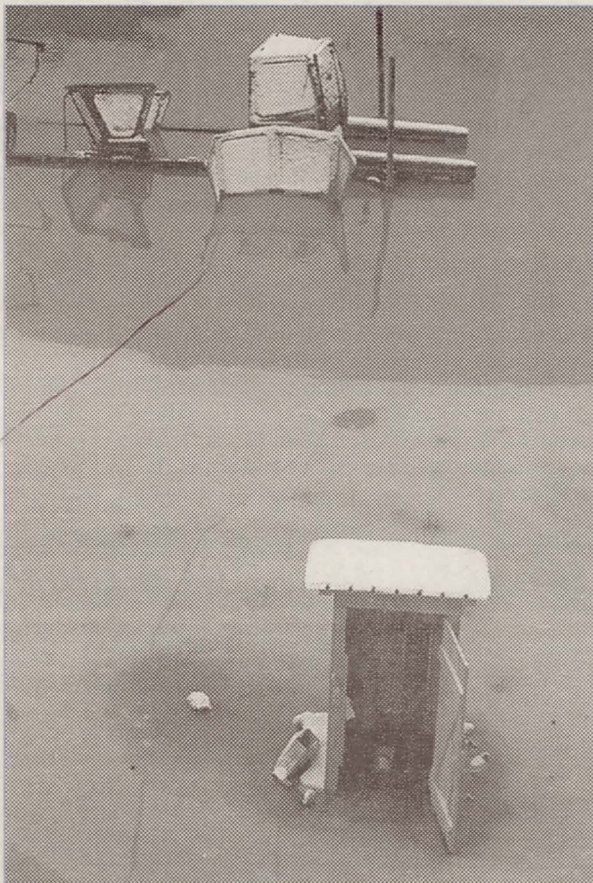
Four days earlier at the Sava River, it's New Year's Eve and Brrrrr. Next year we're going to Times Square.



Meanwhile, Capt. L. Johnson, C-130 pilot of 50th Airlift, is busy making a hard left in his final approach to Tuzla. It's Christmas Eve and Johnson is playing Santa Claus to the guys on the ground.



Among the many national elements present in B-H, we find Italian Bersaglieri patrolling the terrain around Sarajevo.



This delightful little building with the quaint snow-covered roof on the banks of the Sava river goes by the friendly little name of HEADcold.

Photos 1 & 3 SrA Allen, Combat Camera, Photos 2 & 5 Combat Camera; Photo 4 TSgt. Keith Reed



Coming to your local theatre

Shown left is the NATO MEDAL, which will be awarded to individuals who meet criteria for services in and regarding Former-Yugoslavia.

The medal is bronze and is suspended from a ribbon in NATO blue and white. A clasp shall denote the specific theatre, or area of operations, or operation, in respect of which the medal is awarded.

