



Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
Mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina

Field Office Sarajevo

Election Supervision Branch

Mula Mustafe Baseskije, 6, Fourth Floor

Tel: 071 292 327/8

Fax: 071 665 852

Mobile: 090 144 324

SCSPV Ruediger Rossig (OOU 1) CSPV Andrew MacGregor (OOU 4)
ACSPVs Emin Voloder (OOU 2) and Renata Milčević (OOU 6)

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To whom it may concern,

It is my pleasure to say that Rupert Douglas-Bate was an international polling supervisor for the OSCE mission to Bosnia and Herzegovina during the Parliamentary, Presidential, Cantonal and Municipal elections held on 12 and 13 September, 1998.

Rupert, along with 242 other supervisors, was with us for a total of twelve days. Notwithstanding he was only one of many, I have no difficulty in singling him out. During the short but intensive stay, Rupert always appeared calm and reliable. These qualities, combined with his considerable experience in Canton Sarajevo, led to our decision to deploy him to one of our more demanding polling stations. Not only was this station for 'Absentee' voters (often involving a much greater number of voters and always requiring more form-filling), but it was situated in Ilijas, Sarajevo's most problematic municipality.

During his time in this busy polling station, the roof leaked, the floor partially collapsed and death threats were issued against the international supervisors, there! And this at a location where there was no telephone and radio communication with the Field Office was only possible on a relay system. At all times, Rupert acted with characteristic *savoir faire*.

It is a great help to our work knowing we have personnel like Rupert in the polling stations executing our mandate.

Yours faithfully,

Andrew MacGregor