



Reply to
Attention of

DEPARTMENT OF THE ARMY
Multi-National Brigade (East)
Camp Bondsteel
APO AE 09340



Press Release 09-04
For immediate release
March 19, 2004

Multi-National Brigade-East Commander Addresses Local Leaders

Urosevac, Kosovo – Multi-National Brigade-East commander Brig. Gen. Rick Erlandson met with local leaders here this afternoon to explain what he expected from them. Flying from Camp Bondsteel to Urosevac, Erlandson addressed Municipal Assembly members, Kosovo Police Service officials, political and religious leaders with a focus on the outbreak of violence and a return to the respect for rule of law.

Roaming groups of rioters vandalized Serbian Orthodox holy sites and terrorized other residents over the last two days. “I am appalled at these events and the total lack of discipline, restraint, and responsibility that the adults of this community have shown” Erlandson said. “I intend to implement actions to end this violence immediately” he added.

Erlandson laid out his plan to assist the city in gaining order. “My forces along with civilian authorities will reestablish order. I expect the civilian authorities and civil leadership to be in front of this effort”. He further said “As leaders of the community, it is your responsibility to set the example of a civil society. A society which has dignity and respect for all”. Erlandson then went on to discuss the imposition of a curfew and restrictions on civilian movement.

“All military forces in this area are under my command and I demand that you respect their orders and I will hold you accountable for the acts of your people” Erlandson said.

-30-

For further information about this release or UNMiK press badging, contact SSG W. Michael Houk MNB(E) at the Public Affairs Office, Camp Bondsteel
Kosovo Local Telephone: 00 389 2268 6748 Long Distance: 011-389-25-80-010 ext. 5079
or 3926
Email: william.houk@bondsteel2.aur.army.mil; www.mnbe.hqusaureur.army.mil