

Chapter 22: Another Day in Paradise Ulcinj Montenegro Day 3

With a knock on the adjoining room suite door, Jane announces her readiness to start the day.

“Come-on in to the fox’s lair,” greets Mark. “Sleep well?”

“Great,” answers Jane. “Just another day in paradise but without Buffet or the Corral Reefers.”

“I guess you are stuck with me at least until the rest of the crew shows. We have until 1530 hr Ulcinj time before we meet with the crew.

“I double checked the Operations Building and the Compound around midnight and then again about 0320 hr. There was no change in the lighting from the one bottom floor room which had the light on when we were walking. As you suggested that probably coincides with East Coast support.

“We need to return to the Eneida. I will pull the video recording from here and take a look at what we have trapped from here as well as from our Eneida cameras.”

“Sounds good to me as well,” agrees Jane. “I would also like to check the Operations Building’s windows. Last night I was thinking that the windows seem to have a sun screening film over them. It would be good to confirm that our room as well as the Operations Building both use the mylar film sunscreen. Our window and the Operations Building windows face the same general direction and are owned by the same people. So it is a good bet that they are the same.”

“Good point,” concedes Mark. “How about we check the breakfast buffet here. If we are not particularly happy with the offerings we can then cruise over to the the Eneida for their breakfast. Then we can walk back to the Hotel for the camera, binoculars, and any tools you need that we have not already left at the Eneida.”

So with that plan they ‘scope-out’ the Hotel’s offering and decide to march to breakfast at the Eneida. They find a close approximation of the same menu offered by the Hotel. They decide to bite the bullet and chow down on the smoked salmon slices, fresh yogurt, a variety of fruit, and fresh bake breads of several varieties.

Following breakfast they return to their room at the Eneida. Mark checks the ‘tamper-with indicator’ before entering. After cautiously entering Mark and Jane begin a quick clearing just to insure that the room had not been entered during their absence.

“Everything looks pristine to me,” announces Jane. “Let’s refresh the video surveillance cameras. Why don’t we take the recording back to the Hotel. I would feel better scanning the frames there . How about you?”

“We should pickup yesterday’s video recordings from the Zikic as well,”adds Mark. If we find anything interesting we can transmit it to the crew before the meeting.”

The on-site team collects yesterday’s Eneida recordings and restarts today’s documentary of the Compound exits and entrances. They conduct the same basic security process and swap of recording media at the Zikic.

Upon returning to the Hotel they secure their adjoining rooms in a manner similar to that used at the Eneida and Zikic. Once secure they split the collected recorded media and proceed individually to

scan the video record of the Compound and the Operations Building for yesterday. Over ninety-seven per cent of the clock time was skipped since all of the surveillance cameras trigger on detected motion. So the tedious part is culling through the three per cent of the active frames. It is not unlike scanning the old microfilm of long ago college library research project looking for that one pearl.

After a couple of hours Mark breaks say, "Find anything interesting?"

Jane reports, "To me it looks like we have two basic ethnic groups involved. There seems to be one group composed of Europeans like Italians or Czechs. The second group seems to be Indian or Pakistani. That would fit with the security role and technical role."

"That couples very closely with what I am seeing from the Zikic," agrees Mark. "The preponderance of individuals entering the external staircase of the Operations Building appear to be Indian or Pakistani. They appear to be carrying briefcase or computer messenger style bags. It appears that a number of locals have been hired. They arrive in a carpool at about 0800 hr. They are carrying similar computer tote bags for young software professionals. I have the car's license plate that they used today.

"By the way, I forgot to check out the window film or sun tint of our Eneida room," announces Mark. "Would you like to join me for a short walk in a bit? I will need to gather some tools. But it will not take long."

"Let's do it. That way we can return with a fresher view."

Mark calls Brian to give him the code signal requesting a meeting in the next few hours.

Brian calls shortly with an invitation, "Would you guys be available for lunch at the Antigua Restaurant at 1230 hr. I can have a car pick you up around 1215 hr at your Hotel.

"That will work. We have a short job that needs to be finished before pickup. So please don't leave us if we are a bit late."

"Roger that. Look for an Orioles' baseball cap trolling along the road by your place around 1210-1215."

"Until then, keep your powder dry."

Having setup the meeting with Brian, Mark then gathers up the tools he needs to determine the emissivity of the Operations Building's window film or sun tint. Finally he lets Jane know that the meeting with Brian will occur over lunch.

Following good trade practices Mark and Jane reset new tampered-with indicators and walk towards the Eneida. They arrive at the Eneida without incident or major finding along the way. As before they employ good trade-craft to secure the room before entering.

Mark goes immediately to the window. The window is a two part framed window which can be opened and the top pane lowered and locket open or the bottom raised to one of several locked

positions. Mark drops the top pane to a partially open locked position. Carefully he measures the emissivity of the window facing Easterly with with the Compound external staircase at the eleven o'clock position. He does the same for the emissivity of the window facing Southward and Northward. The Northward facing window exhibits of roughly .84 typical of uncoated glass. The emissivity of the Eastward and Southward facing windows is nearly the same. Their emissivity is significantly lower than the Northward facing window. Mark photographs all three windows.

As Mark is processing the measurements he steps outside on the Southward facing balcony so he can take a closer look at the Southward facing windows exterior glass surface. He discovers what appears to be a sunscreen film. Surreptitiously, he scribes a small square as a sample from the top right corner as he faces the window. Then he peels the square sample from the glass surface. He places the square sample in an sample bag. Then he remeasures the emissivity specific the the "raw" exposed square of the window's glass. That region of glass exhibited an emissivity similar to the Northward facing window.

Mark and Jane bag the sample, emissivity data, and equipment in their messenger bags. They reset the tampered-with indicators. Then it is a quick hustle to the Hotel. Because they are pressed for time they elect to keep the their messenger bags.

Jane sees the black cap with the orange Orioles logo first as they round the Liman II pebble beach. As she waves the driver pulls to a stop. Jane sits in the front while Mark bloops into the back seat.

After a quick round of greetings with a driver who speaks passable English, the driver claims that the Antigona Restaurant has one of the best Adriatic sea food menu in Montenegro. During the short ride Mark and Jane converse with the driver about how much they are enjoying Ulcinj. The short ride of about fifteen minutes ended with spectacular view to the North, West, and South of the Adriatic from prominent cliffs.

The maître d' shows Jane and Mark to an isolated table on the enclosed balcony that enhances the spectacular view Westward Adriatic view.

As they follow the maître d' to where Brian is seated Jane whispers in Mark's ear, "I am bring my husband here on my next vacation."

Quick greetings are exchanged and the maître d' thanked.

"I took the liberty of ordering my favorite Pinot Noir and the sea food appetizer plate.
"Now what else can I do toe help?"

"Brian, we have discovered that the Operations Building is using four locals who may be useful to us. I have the license plate number of the vehicle they used for car pooling as well as photographs of the four. Can you help us to identify them? I have an envelope that contains the information we garnered this morning."

"Is that all the business we have for now?"

"Yes," answers Mark.

“Then let’s eat now,” suggests Brian. “When I drive you back toward the Zikic just leave the package with me. I will alert a couple of support troops to assist in this sub-project. They should arrive this evening. One will probably be Randy so you will have one familiar face to assist. Plus I will pick up the task myself this afternoon. A remote location monitor will be insert on the car pool vehicle this afternoon. That way we can track the homeward bound path of the car pool. If we have two days we should be able to discover what you need.”

“We need to be back at the Hotel Club Mediterraneo by at least 1330,” states Jane.

“Then eat, eat.”

Brian has them started for the exit door about 1300. Brian drops Jane and Mark just beyond the Zikic. About five minutes later Mark and Jane are clearing their adjoining rooms in the Hotel before entering. They begin the final round of preparation for their 1530 meeting with the Dorsalfin team. They agree that it is time for the full Trawler to descend on Ulcinj. They agree that Jane should run the Trawler with Mark held for background. An audio recording will be made so that comments and instructions can be revisited as needed.

Mark and Jane join an encrypted meeting a little before 1520 hours. A bit after 1525 the meeting facilitator joins the meeting and starts the ‘show’ promptly at 1530 hr Ulcinj time.”

After a few minutes of overview status, the facilitator ask for status from the on-site Trawler team.

Jane begins, “Mark and I agree that it is time for the full Trawler press here. We feel we need to establish multiple and redundant listening devices on the conference room within Operations Building. With the currently planned full Trawler team we will need forty-eight hours to become operational.

“The ownership and the composition of the Compound and Operations Building has been determined. The owners have approved architectural building plans on file with the local authorities.

“Surveillance cameras are recording entries and exits of the Compound and Operation Building. This is being done from three separate locations. One of the vehicles available to us is parked on the parking deck directly above what intelligence suggest is the expected meeting room. That provides the opportunity to employ multiple concrete penetrating listening devices. The emissivity of the windows suggest an opportunity to employ laser microphones. Surveillance is underway of four local individuals who work in the Operations Building for Sunfish. One or more of those four may serve in a Trojan horse role for secreted listening devices.

“That concludes the on-site Trawler team’s report.

The Trawler remote team reports the technical specialists have been assembled and are on six hour stand-by for deployment. All team equipment has been palletized for movement to Camp Darby for deployment to the on-site locality as needed. Movement can be upon direction from this meeting.

The Pike team reports active negotiations are underway to draw the fly into the Venus Flytrap. The idea has been floated that another “bidding party” may be needed to help increase the pressure on the Sunfish executives.

Flyball reports contractor teams are in place in localities to support any approved extraordinary rendition. Additional resources from Camp Darby have been made available to support approved actions.

The DorsalFin meeting facilitator begins to conclude the meeting with a listing of action items.

1> Move the palletized ASAP to Camp Darby

2> Deploy the full authorized Trawler team to setup multi-technology surveillance capabilities in readiness for 2/04-2/05 Sunfish executive team arrival.

3> Maintain contact with the interested parties of Sunfish who are engage in negotiations DorsalFin.Pike.

4> Make decision about surfacing a “additional bidding party” to aggravate the pressure on the Sunfish executives.

5> Move to forward positions the contractor providing extraordinary rendition capabilities

6> Confirm on-call resources from Camp Darby with extraordinary rendition capabilities.

7> Cut-off head if the arriving Sunfish executive team contains the ‘root instigator’.

While the meeting was under way Brian has attached the location monitoring device on the car pool vehicle at the Operations Building parking deck. He stands ready to monitor location readings when the Operation Building locals leave shortly.

After the meeting closes its active communications, Jane says, “There goes the neighborhood. We had paradise all to our selves.”

“During the meeting I received a message from Brian that the honey has been spread,” announces Mark. “He will find the hive this afternoon. His colony of ants will be working in the AM.

“Let’s plan on eating supper here this evening. I think it would be wise for us to separate tonight later after supper. You should spend the night here. I will go to the Eneida tonight. We need to start making our three bookings look occupied until the first of the Trawler team surfaces here.

“Sounds good to me. I need to return to previewing the video recording reviews before supper,” Jane replies. “Hopefully we can finish this preliminary surveillance task tonight.”

“I am going on the balcony to finish my wad of video reviews. I want to watch the Operations Building locals leave. I also want to see if I can identify Brian’s surveillance effort.”

Soon they both returned to the essential, but boring video review process. Before actually beginning his review, Mark calls the Hotel’s restaurant maître d’ to reserve a table with a sunset view over Liman II beach for 1900 hours.

Next Mark transmits the encrypted emissivity data he collected. He also packages the screen mylar film sample he cut from the Eneida’s window. He calls the Hotel’s concierge desk to determine the next UPS/Fedex/DHL pickup for overnighting to Rome. He learns that the DHL overnight will pickup at 1745 hours. Mark requests that two appropriate DHL shipping envelopes be brought to his room. A short time later Mark meets a bellboy with the requested two DHL envelopes. Presenting a tip to the bellboy he then sends him on his way with a ‘thank you’. He then addresses both of the DHL shipping envelopes with a ‘safe house dropbox in Verona’ for delivery by secure courier to Camp Darby in Vicenza. In the first he places the sample. In the second he places a note which states, “Send acknowledgement receipt of the fist envelope with the sample”. Analysis of the mylar film sunscreen sample will be available at Camp Darby upon arrival of the technical support members of the Trawler team.

Mark returns to the video review and observation of the parking deck of the Operations Building. The business day activity closure seems to be repeating in a similar manner as yesterday. Observing that it is a little after 1700 hours he notices that the car pool vehicle is no longer in the

parking slot on the parking deck of the Operations Building. So he briefly scans the the local bb Ćazima Resulbegovića road without spotting them or Brian.

“Let’s hope Brian is doing a better job of intelligence gather than I am,” thinks Mark. By 1730 all the lights of the Operations Building except the same one from last night are off.

About that time Mark announces, “I am going downstairs to the concierge’s desk to send this DHL envelope to Verona. Caio”.

At the concierge’s desk he pays the DHL shipping fee. He then lallygags in the lobby awaiting the DHL pickup. After he knows that the pickup has been made he returns to the concierge’s desk asking if the pickup has been made. Confirming that it has he looks at the DHL envelope in his hand, makes a face, and then asks the concierge to send this on the next day’s pickup.

Returning to the adjoining rooms, Mark picks-up Jane to go down to the Hotel’s restaurant for supper. Both Mark and Jane opt for non-seafood entrées and Pinot Noir. After supper they return to the adjoining rooms. Mark packs an overnight bag along with a messenger’s bag with follow-up items from today’s video review and status meeting.

Jane and Mark agree to meet at about 0800 hour in their adjoining rooms. Then they will venture down for breakfast at the Hotel’s restaurant.

Mark then makes an uneventful walk to the Eneida. By now he observes that Operations Building is dark and the parking deck light is marginally helpful. Arriving in the Eneida room he first clears it to insure it has not been “tampered-with”. He services the surveillance camera. Then resumes the video review for the remainder of the evening.