On 15 August 1961, two days after the blockade of the city of Berlin, by an installation, the GDR at that time called the “Anti-Fascist Protective Wall”, Conrad Schumann, a member of the armed forces of the GDR (NVA) crossed the recently installed barbed wire fence towards the Western part of the city. He did so by an impressive leap – a scene, which pretty much looked pre-arranged for the waiting journalists. “Welcome to the West,” bystanders shouted. But Schumann, a simple NCO, was ill-prepared for the adulation. All he asked for when he arrived at the West Berlin debriefing center was a sandwich. He said simply that he had been angered by the spectacle of a fleeing East German child being dragged back from the West, and did not want to "live enclosed".

A fit of desperation or an act of heroism: history books rarely distinguish between the two. "My nerves were at breaking point," he remembered. "I was very afraid. I took off, jumped, and into the car … in three, four seconds it was all over."

A photographer mingling with onlookers on the western side of Bernauer Strasse captured the "Leap of Freedom", and a Cold War pin-up was born. Suddenly Schumann was a hero of the Free World, and in his homeland a despicable traitor. Some 2,100 East German soldiers and policemen were to follow his example.

Like Conrad Schumann, many of the border guards recognized the inhumanity of the border regime while serving duty. Fleeing to the West often seemed to be the only way to escape the pressure to fire their weapon at the people trying to escape to the West. Despite the many counter and surveillance measures taken, many members of the border troops attempted to escape before the Wall fell.

So, finally, the message behind the picture is that it never was about Conrad Schumann, the soldier with the invisible face, but about the act. It was the human spirit that soared above that barbed wire, and Schumann was merely an unlucky man who accidentally got into the picture.
### SRS 19-08 – When will it take place?

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SRS 19-08 Course Goal

Course Participants will be enabled to

- analyze current and evolving security crises
- understand their impact on regional security
- consider the gender dimensions of conflict / conflict management
- identify patterns of conflict management
- practice conflict management, especially, negotiations techniques
CASE STUDY I
BOSNIA AND HERZEGOVINA

INTERNATIONAL ACTOR
OSCE

INTERNATIONAL ACTOR
UN

INTERNATIONAL ACTOR
AU

INTERNATIONAL ACTOR
EU

CASE STUDY II
UKRAINE

CASE STUDY IV
MALI

CASE STUDY III
YEMEN

Exercise NORMAT
MOLDOVA

Field Study Trip
Validation/ Reality Check for SRS Lessons Learned

SRS Modules

Building Blocks

Tool Box

Security (National Security)
Regional Security
Local Conflicts
Human Security/
Gender Reflections
Role of Diplomacy/
Crisis Management

SEMIMAR ON REGIONAL SECURITY

SRS 19 - 08 Concept
Regional Focus

Stakeholder Guidance

Southern Flank

Eastern Flank

Western Balkans

SRS
SEMINAR ON REGIONAL SECURITY
Course Overview – What’s New?

SRS 19-08 vs. SRS 18-04:

• Focus on Regions extended:
  Black Sea Region – Western Balkans - MENA
• Alternate Case Studies
  • BIH
  • MDA
  • MLI
  • UKR
  • YEM
• Building on Lessons Learnt from SRS 18-04 Exercise Scenario
• Validation of Conflict Mgmt Efforts by Reality-Check with OSCE/IOs
•Employing ALUMNI as Adjuncts/ Case Study Experts to encourage course participants to 'take ownership' of seminar topics