

The MiG-21 in Croatian service



*W*ithin the NATO community, there is one air arm still operating the MiG-21, the Hrvatsko Ratno Zrakoplovstvo or Croatian Air Force which fly daily missions with the venerable, Russian-origin fighter, protecting the south-eastern flank of NATO territory. This classic fighter is still going strong, as Patrick Dirksen and Frank Mink witnessed during a recent visit to Zagreb-Pleso airbase.

In 2012, the two Croatian MiG-21 units, 21 Squadron from Pleso and 22 Squadron from Pula, merged to form the 'Eskadrila Borbenih Aviona' (EBA) or simply, the Fighter Squadron. To preserve their history, squadron badge of the new unit is a combination of the helmet and shield from 21 Squadron and the 'Boskarin' or flying bull of 22 Squadron.

