

## ROK Soldiers ring in Lunar New Year

Story and photo by Sgt. Greg Heath  
4<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – Even though most of the western world partied in the New Year more than a month ago, the Korean soldiers here at Bagram Airbase yesterday rang in Sol-nal, or the Republic of Korea’s celebration of the lunar New Year – the country’s biggest holiday.

Sol-nal is a Korean celebration of family and good friends and is also a day when they take time to honor family elders and their ancestors.

On the morning of Sol-nal, Soldiers from the 100<sup>th</sup> ROK Engineer Unit performed a tra-



*100th Republic of Korea Engineer Unit Soldiers gather to honor their ancestors on the South Korean holiday of Sol-nal, which celebrates the beginning of the Lunar New Year.*

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## DoD harnesses technology for non-lethal systems

Story by Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – To win hearts and minds during 21st-century military operations, it will be essential for U.S. service members to have options other than the use of deadly force, a senior Defense Department official asserted.

“You don’t want to go into another person’s country with the only option being lethal force, because that will turn the populace against you,” said Alan R. Shaffer, the director for plans and programs with DoD’s Office of Defense Research and Engineering.

Accordingly, Shaffer said the department plans to stand up a new science and technology program to develop non-lethal methods that can be used to maintain order in civil-military and other operations.

The global war against terrorism, Shaffer pointed out, has highlighted the changing face of conflict in the new century. For example, he continued, U.S. forces in Afghanistan and Iraq often find

themselves trying to distinguish insurgents from “friendly” civilians.

Using lethal force, Shaffer said, can produce unintentional civilian casualties – including children. Rather than firing bullets into an unruly crowd, he asked, might it be better to employ non-lethal means to restore order?

Consequently, Shaffer said DoD is working to develop non-lethal tools to “give our young troops — as well as our policy and decision-makers” an option other than the use of deadly force.

One non-lethal tool under development, he said, is an “active-denial” microwave-like device that can be directed at a distance to heat up the moisture in a person’s skin, causing an uncomfortable temperature increase that’s envisioned to dissuade mob attacks.

“So, if a hostile crowd is moving toward you, you use the active-denial system (and) they will stop coming,” Shaffer explained, noting researchers “have yet to find anybody” who will continue to move forward against the system.

“You get hit with the high-powered microwave and you run

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# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



*In their only debate before next week's New Hampshire primary, Democratic presidential candidates hit hard at President Bush.*

## Dems bash Bush in debate

MANCHESTER, N.H. – Democratic presidential candidates bashed President Bush on the tax cut issue in the only debate in New Hampshire before Granite State voters hold their primary next week.

Sen. John Kerry of Massachusetts, who got the first question, went into the debate armed with several new endorsements and the lead in most polls. He said he looked forward to fighting the Republican incumbent over the issue of taxes.

"I am going to protect the middle class," said Kerry, adding that over his career in Congress "I have voted for countless numbers of tax cuts."

"This president has created an economy that feeds the special interests, the powerful and the corporate power and he has not helped the average American worker advance their cause. I will," Kerry said.

Former Vermont governor Howard Dean briefly addressed his now infamous "screech" after the Iowa caucuses Monday night, saying it was a bit of fun he thought he owed his young supporters.

Then he said getting rid of all of Bush's tax cuts would help most middle class Americans.

## NASA unable to communicate with Mars rover transmissions

(CNN) – The Spirit rover has stopped transmitting data from Mars, NASA mission controllers said Thursday, but there were signs it is still operating at a basic level.

NASA scientists now have received a basic communication tone from the rover indicating it is alive but the solid flows of data that

marked its first 18 days on Mars have stopped, said Richard Cook, deputy project manager, speaking from the Jet Propulsion Laboratory in Pasadena, Calif.

The tone is programmed into the spacecraft, to be emitted when there is a serious problem onboard.



*Iraqis lie down in the street in Baghdad Monday carrying portraits of Shiite clerics while peacefully demanding an elected government.*

## CPA sticks to Iraq caucus plan, but willing to compromise

BAGHDAD, Iraq – A Coalition Provisional Authority official Thursday said the United States still favors caucuses and not direct elections to choose the Iraqi transitional legislature this spring.

Dan Senor, adviser to civilian administrator Paul Bremer, said the coalition is willing to consider refinements in its caucus plan and eagerly awaits a proposed U.N. assessment on the possibility of direct elections before the U.S. political handover to Iraqis this summer.

"We are looking forward to the possible deployment of a technical team being sent here to look at the viability of direct elections," Senor said. "We are not seriously considering any other options at this point."

Under the handover plan, the legislature has to be elected by May 31 and it must choose a transitional administration that would take power by July 1, ending the U.S.-led administration. The assembly would govern until a new constitution is developed and elections are held in 2005.

The issue of direct elections vs. caucuses represents a major political problem for the Iraqi sovereignty process.

The Coalition Provisional Authority and

the Iraqi Governing Council proposed the caucus-style selection of the transitional national assembly, even though they support the principle of direct elections. They say a fair, viable electoral infrastructure cannot be cobbled together in a few months.



*The Arizona State Prison Complex-Lewis in Buckeye, Arizona, seen here on Tuesday.*

## Arizona State Prison standoff with inmates enters fifth day

BUCKEYE, Ariz. – Two prison guards held hostage inside a watch tower by a pair of inmates have sent a message that they are all right, authorities said as the standoff entered a fifth day Thursday.

"We had radio contact with the correctional officers last night during a health and wellness check that we requested. They are saying that they are OK," said Cam Hunter, a Department of Corrections spokeswoman.

The voice contact was at least the second time negotiators have spoken with the officers over the course of the ordeal at the Arizona State Prison Complex-Lewis, a 4,400-inmate medium- to high-security prison west of Phoenix.

On Wednesday, one of the inmates holding the guards hostage set off a gas canister that landed in a prison yard.

It wasn't clear what provoked it, but no one was hurt, Hunter said. Prison officials didn't retaliate and discussions resumed, she said.

The standoff began Sunday morning after an inmate attacked a guard in a kitchen area. That prisoner and another inmate then got into an observation tower where the two guards, one male and one female, were stationed.

## War continues as terrorists 'still plot against us,' Bush declares

Story by Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – Although significant victories have been achieved against global terrorists and their enablers in Afghanistan and Iraq, the war isn't over, the commander in chief noted Thursday.

President Bush told New Mexico Military Institute cadets and emergency first responders in Roswell, N.M., that he remains committed to defend the American homeland from attack. Terrorists, he pointed out, "still plot against us."

But America will prevail, the president asserted, noting the best path to victory "is to go on the offensive, stay on the offensive, and bring the terrorists to justice."

Bush said the United States took the offensive against global terrorists shortly after the Sept. 11, 2001, attacks. Today, he noted, two-thirds of al Qaeda's known leaders have been captured or killed.

While Osama bin Laden and his shrinking roster of followers remain at large, Bush said, they can't hide forever. "One-by-one, we'll bring them to justice," he asserted. "There's no hole deep enough to hide from America." Deposed Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein, Bush recalled, "was found in a hole, hiding" Dec. 13 in Iraq by U.S. troops.

The president acknowledged he'd "made a tough decision" with congressional support to commit U.S. troops to remove Saddam from power and free the Iraqi people. However, it was the right thing to do, the president maintained, noting the former dictator had used torture and employed weapons of mass destruction against his own people, killing thousands of men, women and children.

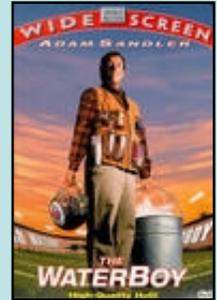
"Saddam Hussein, the once all-powerful tyrant who used his brutal dictatorship to intimidate and destroy lives, will no longer be able to do so," Bush declared. Today, Hussein "sits in a prison cell," the president said, "and the Iraqi people are free."

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

### "The Water Boy"

0830Z at the MWR Building:

A football team water boy discovers he has a unique tackling ability and becomes a member of the team.



1530Z: Tournament Night

Tomorrow's movie: "Enemy of the State"

## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Saturday
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	Sunny H: 53F L: 24F	Cloudy/Rain H: 51F L: 34F
<b>Bagram:</b>	Cloudy/Fog H: 45F L: 28F	Cloudy/Fog H: 45F L: 30F
<b>Kabul:</b>	Cloudy/Fog H: 43F L: 30F	Cloudy/Fog H: 43F L: 28F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	Mostly Clear H: 50F L: 32F	Mostly Clear H: 54F L: 34F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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ditional ceremony where they burned incense and placed food and drink on a ritual table as an offering to the spirits of their ancestors.

The ROK soldiers had to make small adjustments to the normally ornate table settings though. Where Koreans would normally place several colorful, traditional food dishes on the table, instead they had to use the limited Korean food they prepare here and supplement it with fruits, cookies and candy from a Bagram dining facility, explained Lt. Col. Soosung Kim, commander of the 100<sup>th</sup> ROK Eng. Unit.

After the table was set, ROK Soldiers lined up to honor their ancestors by bowing down before the offering they had prepared.

And after the ceremony, attention is

turned to the living relatives and the younger children of the family bow down and offer a New Years greeting to their older relatives and in turn the young one's receive money and gifts.

"All Koreans, regardless of religion, wait for this day," said Cpl. Kukjin Jung, 100<sup>th</sup> ROK Eng. Unit.

"Back in Korea, Sol-nal is the one time of year where relative gather together from all over the country," added Command Sgt. Maj. Jongsu Lee, 100<sup>th</sup> ROK Eng. Unit. "But since we can't be there we are given a chance to think about our country. When we're home we take it for granted, but here we can think about it more seriously and think about our families and ancestors."

Even though the observance at Bagram sparsely resembles the huge celebration hap-

pening in South Korea, at least one part of the traditions has carried over.

On the morning of every New Year, the ROK Soldiers sat down to the tradition breakfast meal of Ttok-guk. Ttok-guk is a rice cake soup with thick beef broth, and Korean tradition dictates that this food must be eaten in order to turn one year older.

For many of the soldiers, this is their first New Years away from their families, but even though they're celebrating thousands of miles from their loved ones, many were still able to find a bright spot in the day.

"It is special because we are here," Jung said. "Although we aren't home with our family, representing our country here in Afghanistan takes on an a special meaning for us. It can be a good time to show the rest of the coalition about our culture."

## HARNESS, from Page 1

away," he asserted.

Another non-lethal system under development, Shaffer continued, is super-slick matting that can be placed around a building to help prevent terrorists from using trucks to breach security perimeters. Another innovation envisioned for crowd control, he added, uses a sticky foam substance that hardens.

Having non-lethal options, Shaffer pointed out, would have been useful when the destroyer USS Cole was attacked in port in Aden, Yemen, on Oct. 12, 2000, by terrorists in a bomb-laden boat. The bomb blew a hole in the ship's hull and killed 17 service members and injured 39.

The Cole incident represented a "horrible situation," Shaffer maintained, where the crew could "see something coming up to their ship ... and the only choices they had were to let this dinghy run into them or use lethal force against" an uncertain threat.

Employing an active-denial system like the heat-producing device likely would have prevented the terrorists from coming near the destroyer, Shaffer noted, while providing the Cole's crew enough time to size up the threat.

Shaffer said it's important to know that all non-lethal devices and materials are tested to ensure they don't do permanent damage.

"We don't win hearts and minds if we shoot a sticky foam or shoot a laser out on someone that buys you time and space, but blinds the target permanently or is toxic," he concluded.

# Jointness, transformation benefit from lessons learned in battle

Story by Gerry J. Gilmore  
American Forces Press Service

**WASHINGTON** – Lessons learned from U.S. military operations in Afghanistan and Iraq are greatly assisting Defense Department transformation efforts, the chief of U.S. Joint Forces Command said here Wednesday.

"The fact that we are conducting (those) operations with the breadth and depth that we are allows our services and allows our joint forces to experiment in a way that you can't replicate running any type of concept development and experimentation program – war games or the like," noted Navy Adm. Edmund P. Giambastiani Jr.

Giambastiani said Joint Forces Command, with headquarters in Norfolk, Va., is committed "to add joint context to everything we do."

As part of that effort, the admiral noted, the armed services run joint war games in conjunction with his command.

"The reason for this is we're trying to put in joint context to allow the services to explore their capabilities," Giambastiani explained, "while at the same time we can explore issues and we can look at the challenges all of the services face and come up with joint solutions."

In fact, he noted, joint war games were during 2003 held with the Army in May and with the Navy in October, while a joint war game hosted by U.S. Joint Forces Command in June featured U.S. services and some allied militaries as participants.

Giambastiani, who took over Joint Forces Command and NATO's newly established Allied Command Transformation on October 2002, said Joint Forces Command would run three more joint war games this year.

To obtain timely information and feedback from recent military operations, Giambastiani said, special teams were embedded across U.S. Central Command.

"We're trying to be as proactive as possible – in real time – in bringing these lessons learned out" from warfighting theaters of operation, he concluded.



# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from SI.com)

## Minn. Wild defeat Blackhawks 4-2

**ST. PAUL, Minn.** – The Minnesota Wild made coach Jacques Lemaire unhappy with a sluggish morning skate.

He was in a much better mood at night.

Jim Dowd put in a long rebound of his own slap shot to break a tie with 15.5 seconds left and lift the Wild to a 4-2 victory over the road-weary Chicago Blackhawks on Wednesday night.



*The Wild were expecting a lot more from Marian Gaborik this season.*

“Hopefully this can get us going in the right direction again,” Dowd said. “You know when he’s not happy. We just came and got focused and ready to go.”

Richard Park had two goals, including an empty-netter on the faceoff just three seconds after Dowd’s score. That set an NHL record for fastest two goals by one team – five clubs held the previous record of four seconds.

Pascal Dupuis also had a goal, and Dwayne Roloson had 29 saves for Minnesota, which avoided a league-high 15th tie and more scolding from Lemaire.

The Wild, who won for the fourth time in 17 games (4-4-9), are struggling with scoring and consistency after advancing to the Western Conference finals last season. They entered the night in 12th place.

“I just mentioned that we have to play better here, in front of our fans,” Lemaire said. “People want to see excitement.”



*Kim Clijsters needed only 50 minutes to eliminate Maria Elena Camerin.*

## Ferrero, Williams win in straight sets

**MELBOURNE, Australia** – Venus Williams swung and missed a few times, while Kim Clijsters was right on target in a 6-0, 6-0 rout of Maria Elena Camerin in second-round matches Thursday at the Australian Open.

In her second match back from almost six months out with an abdominal injury, Williams had 23 unforced errors against the 112th-ranked Vera Douchevina of Russia before eventually pulling out a 6-4, 6-2 win.

“I had a good match. I had a few more errors than I wanted to, but really the whole goal was just to keep hitting out,” said Williams, seeded No. 3.

Williams, who has won four Grand Slam titles, was faster and looked sharper in her opening-round match against Ashley Harkleroad. Still, it took her just 56 minutes to beat Douchevina and her serve was broken only once.

## Parts of Bryant defense to be secret

**EAGLE, Colo.** – T-shirts mocking Kobe Bryant? DNA testing? Both will be the subject of arguments in open court at Friday’s hearing in the sexual assault case against the NBA star.

But details that could be crucial to Bryant’s defense – the medical history of his 19-year-old accuser – will be hashed out behind closed doors.

State District Judge Terry Ruckriegle ruled this week that evidence and testimony expected to be presented during that portion of the hearing is too sensitive to be presented in a courtroom full of reporters who would disseminate it around the world.

Whether the defense can actually use evidence from the woman’s medical records at trial will be decided later.

Bryant, 25, faces four years to life in prison or 20 years to life on probation if convicted of felony sexual assault.

### Sports on local Armed Forces Network TV

#### Saturday’s schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ COLL BB: Oregon vs Arizona State (taped) 2000Z, 0030L
- ❖ NBA: Houston Rockets vs Indiana Pacers (live) 0100Z, 0530L
- ❖ 2004 Australian Open: Day 6 (live) 0400Z, 0830L
- ❖ Boxing: Scott Pemberton vs Omar Sheika (taped) 0800Z, 1230L
- ❖ NBA: Houston Rockets vs Indiana Pacers (taped) 1200Z, 1630L
- ❖ 2004 Australian Open: Day 6 (live) 1700Z, 2130L
- ❖ COLL BB: Temple vs Massachusetts (live) 1900Z, 2330L

#### Sunday’s schedule (AFN Sports)

- ❖ COLL BB: New Mexico State vs Western Kentucky (live) 2100Z, 0130L
- ❖ COLL BB - Women’s - Tenn. vs Duke (live) 2300Z, 0330L
- ❖ NHL: Dallas Stars vs St. Louis Blues (live) 0100Z, 0530L
- ❖ 2004 Australian Open: Day 7 (live) 0330Z, 0800L
- ❖ PGA Tour: Bob Hope Chrysler Classic - Third Round (taped) 0800Z, 1230L
- ❖ COLL BB: Georgia Tech vs North Carolina State (taped) 1300Z, 1730L
- ❖ Winter X Games VIII - Day 1 (taped) 1800Z, 2230L

# Afghanistan Hot Topics



(Compiled by CJTF-180 Public Affairs)

## National reconstruction underway

**KABUL, Afghanistan (AFP)**— Struggling to recover from 23 years of war and drought, will undertake a nationwide \$160 million project to build schools, medical clinics and communications facilities, a minister announced on Thursday.

The plan is believed to be the second largest reconstruction project after December's completion of a highway linking the country's two major cities Kabul and Kandahar.

President Hamid Karzai signed off on the \$160 million project to build infrastructure in every district last week, Interior Minister Ali Ahmad Jalali told reporters.

"The president signed the stability strengthening project in which the centers of every district throughout the country will emerge as small cities," Jalali said.

"This project will cover the construction of public institutions – district buildings, banking systems, postal offices, telephones, telegraphs, mosques, libraries and conference halls in every district."

Afghanistan is divided into 32 provinces and more than 340 districts. Most government institutions have been damaged if not ruined during more than two decades of conflict.

Designed to be completed within two years, a governing committee composed of several ministries headed by the Ministry of Interior is leading the project.

The Afghan government is still trying to raise funds for the project with only \$67 million pledged so far.

## NATO expands Afghan peacekeeping presence through civil-military teams

**KABUL, Afghanistan (Xinhuanet)** – The North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) is expanding its peacekeeping presence in Afghanistan by deploying civil-military teams around the post-conflict country, the alliance's top peacekeeper here said on Wednesday.

The takeover of a civil-military team in north Afghanistan last month by the NATO-led International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) was "the first milestone" in the peacekeeping force's expansion beyond the capital city, ISAF commander Gotz Gliemeroth told reporters in Kabul.

"No doubt, at the heart of ISAF's expansion strategy are the Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs)," said the German general at a press conference.

Some 50 German peacekeeping Soldiers were deployed in the northern province of Kunduz over three weeks ago as ISAF's first team outside Kabul after NATO defense ministers approved the peacekeeping force's expansion beyond Kabul at a November meeting.

Afghan transitional president Hamid Karzai and U.N. officials earlier had made repeated appeals for an ISAF expansion in the country, which is in the need of law and order for its recovery from over 23

years of war and civil conflicts.

"We believe that the PRT in Kunduz will provide an opportunity for the Afghan government to extend its influence and capabilities with ISAF assistance," Gliemeroth said.

The PRT was earlier a U.S.-initiated program under which small-sized civil-military teams were sent to remote Afghan areas for helping local security and reconstruction efforts.

Operating separately from the 5,500-strong ISAF troops, over 11,500 U.S.-led coalition forces are currently in Afghanistan, mainly hunting for remnants of the Taliban and its al Qaeda ally, after a U.S.-led campaign ousted the regime in late 2001.

"While the U.S.-led coalition is currently rolling out additional PRTs, predominantly in the south and southeast, ISAF has taken over command and control of the team in Kunduz," said the commander.

He added that NATO was looking to take over as many as four or five more PRTs, probably in the country's northern and western provinces, in the near future.

According to Gliemeroth, such teams would put the NATO-led peacekeeping force in an entirely different role where it not only provides security but also is much more intimately involved in the development of local areas.

**"Look on the bright side, this could count as swim qual."**



kevin\_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

## Laugh Support

# Slippery crossword

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

## ACROSS

- 1 Explorer John or Sebastian
- 6 Give a hoot
- 10 Prefix with physics
- 14 On top of
- 15 Stratford's river
- 16 Love personified
- 17 STRIKE
- 20 Use a spyglass
- 21 Astronomical bear
- 22 One less than hexa-
- 23 Ruination
- 25 "Barney Miller" star Hal
- 26 Packing a punch
- 29 Swatter's victims
- 31 Heavenly hunter
- 32 Hecklers' chorus
- 33 "Shame!" syllable
- 36 STRIKE
- 40 Weed whacker
- 41 Long ago
- 42 Rich kid in "Nancy"
- 43 À la \_\_
- 45 Candle material
- 46 Kind of melon
- 49 Monk's hood
- 50 Unescorted
- 51 Got taller
- 53 Karmann \_\_ (old Volkswagen)
- 57 STRIKE
- 60 Black, in poetry
- 61 Salty septet
- 62 Bikini blast
- 63 Ding-a-\_\_ (airhead)
- 64 '60s talk how host Joe
- 65 Family car

## DOWN

- 1 Sleep in a tent
- 2 Irish Rose's guy
- 3 Tibia or fibula

1	2	3	4	5		6	7	8	9		10	11	12	13
14						15					16			
17					18					19				
20					21					22				
			23	24					25					
26	27	28					29	30						
31						32						33	34	35
36					37					38	39			
40					41					42				
			43	44					45					
46	47	48						49						
50						51	52				53	54	55	56
57					58					59				
60					61					62				
63					64					65				

- 4 Sell too many tickets for
- 5 Thrice, in prescriptions
- 6 Military training unit
- 7 Hertz rival
- 8 Civil rights figure Parks
- 9 SASE, e.g.
- 10 Experts
- 11 Make corrections to
- 12 Rich cake
- 13 Indo-\_\_ languages
- 18 Vocalized
- 19 Mayberry moppet
- 24 One of the Brontës
- 25 Actress Kudrow
- 26 Frosh, in a year
- 27 Small combo
- 28 Red beans go-with
- 29 Coerce
- 30 Get beaten
- 32 Needing straightening
- 33 Use a plow
- 34 Fly like Lindbergh
- 35 Be sure of
- 37 When tripled, a WWII film
- 38 Stick in one's \_\_
- 39 Tunnel-entrance structure
- 43 Chair repairer's work
- 44 Help in a heist
- 45 Pulls along
- 46 Caravan beast
- 47 Suspect's excuse
- 48 Wise old head
- 49 Put a stop to
- 51 Western writer Zane
- 52 Strikeout king Nolan
- 54 Tinted
- 55 Rick's "Casablanca" love
- 56 Abbr. on a business envelope
- 58 Nile snake
- 59 Airline to Stockholm

*Solutions will be posted in Saturday's Freedom Watch*