



News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

SF uncovers another cache

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Oruzgan Province Governor Jan Mohammed Khan directed U.S. Special Operations Forces to a large weapons cache Monday inside two tunnels on a farm in the vicinity of Deh Rahwod. The cache, consisting of more than 400,000 12.7 mm rounds and 140,000 14.5 mm rounds, was large enough to fill three commercial trucks. The farm complex also included fighting positions and bunkers. Once the ammunition was cleared away, the tunnels were collapsed with explosives. “Every piece of ammunition found has the potential to be launched toward Coalition forces,” said a Combined Joint Task Force - 180 spokesman. “Destroying this ammunition makes this place a little safer.”

Military probes parachute tampering

WASHINGTON — The military is investigating as

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Bagram PMO dedicated to fallen soldier



The new PMO at Bagram Air Base was dedicated to Staff Sgt. Brian “Cody” Prosser, Sept. 25. Col. Christopher Pritchett, base commander, unveiled the memorial during the ceremony.

Story & photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — The Bagram Provost Marshal’s office honored Staff Sgt. Brian “Cody” Prosser Sept. 25. Soldiers from around the world gathered near the flight line to witness the dedication of the building.

Prosser was killed in action of Dec. 5 when a 2,000-pound bomb targeted against Taliban forces missed its mark and landed 100 feet from Prosser’s position, north

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100% tuition assist. now available

Armed Forces Press Network

WASHINGTON — As of Oct. 1, Air Force personnel can now take advantage of a new Department of Defense tuition assistance policy that pays 100 percent of the cost of tuition for off-duty courses, according to Air Force education officials.

“The policy pays tuition costs and mandatory fees for up to a maximum of \$250 per semester hour, or \$750 per three-hour course,” said Jim Sweizer, chief of the Air Force voluntary education branch at the

Pentagon.

The policy also includes a \$4,500-per-year tuition assistance ceiling.

“In the past, we only paid instructional fees, such as a lab fee for science courses,” Sweizer said. “Under the new policy, as long as the total cost falls under the authorized total, the student doesn’t have to pay any money out of (his or her) pocket.”

Tuition assistance still cannot be used to pay for textbooks unless they are included in an academic institution’s published tuition rates, he said.

Sweizer is concerned that with 100-percent tuition assistance available to airmen, some people may opt to waive contributing to the Montgomery GI Bill. He encourages airmen to take advantage of the GI Bill’s benefits.

“Not everyone will be able to complete his or her education while on active duty,” he said. “Having the MGIB as an alternative for later use is a wise investment.”

Local education centers have more information regarding the new tuition assistance policy.



Photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley

The American flag was raised Sept. 25 by Col. Christopher Pritchett, base commander, at the Bagram Air Base PMO. The building is dedicated to Staff Sgt. Brian “Cody” Prosser, who died in action Dec. 5 near Kandahar.

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of Kandahar.

Capt. Steven Hill, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 16th Military Police (Airborne) Brigade, Fort Bragg, N.C., who served with Prosser previously, suggested the new office be dedicated to his fallen comrade.

He remembers him as being very athletic, outgoing and highly motivated.

“When I got over here and got the opportunity to open a new building (dedicating it to Prosser) seemed like the right thing to do,” Hill said.

Prosser entered the U.S. Army in 1991 and completed Basic Training at Fort McClellan, Ala. He finished Airborne School at Fort Benning, Ga., and was assigned to Fort Bragg to serve in the 21st Military Police Company (Abn.) where he served with Hill. He was later assigned to the 319th Military Intelligence Battalion (Abn.) as a military policeman.

From there, he reclassified as an intelligence analyst at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., in 1997. As an analyst he served in Camp Young-

In, Korea. He volunteered for assignment with the 5th Special Forces Group, Fort Campbell, Ky., when he returned.

During his time in Kentucky, he served in 3rd and 2nd battalions respectively.

In his career, Prosser participated in operations in Somalia, Haiti, Jordan, Kuwait, Kosovo and throughout Southwest Asia before volunteering to come to Afghanistan.

After the memorial plaque was hung, the U.S. flag was raised. The flag will be presented to his widow, Shawna, who is a teacher at Fort Campbell.

There was a lot of people who had a hand in contributing to the opening of the PMO office and making it better than the last location said Hill.

The new building offers more space for the increased number of personnel and more telephone lines. Hill said the goal was to create a better place for future MPs to work.

The new PMO will now produce base ID cards, conduct customs inspections and other law enforcement duties.

NATO theme at Prague: Adapt to meet new threats

By Gerry J. Gilmore
*American Forces
Press Service*

WASHINGTON – At the end of the Cold War NATO officials recognized terrorism and weapons of mass destruction as among the top new threats to European – and world – peace, a senior U.S. State Department official noted Monday in Chicago.

“NATO defined these new threats explicitly” in 1999 when the alliance was developing new strategy for the post-Cold War era, Undersecretary for Political Affairs Marc Grossman said at the Chicago Council on Foreign Relations. Now, he pointed out, NATO is adapting to better prepare for those 21st century threats.

After the Sept. 11, 2001, terror attacks on the United States, Grossman said, the alliance’s need to prepare for threats such as oppression, ethnic conflict, the proliferation of weapons of mass destruction and the global spread of weapons technology and terrorism has become ever more urgent.

In meeting those new threats, he said, NATO officials will gather Nov. 21 in Prague, Czech Republic, to discuss key alliance issues of military capabilities, enlargement, and new relationships. President George W. Bush and his counterparts are slated to attend this type of major NATO summit, the first of its kind held in a former Warsaw Pact country.

During informal NATO ministerial meetings held Sept. 24-25 in Warsaw, Poland, Grossman pointed out that U.S. Defense Sec-

retary Donald H. Rumsfeld proposed NATO develop a rapid response force among other upgrades to its military capabilities to better prepare for the potential threats of terrorism and WMDs.

“Unless the disparity between U.S. and European capabilities is substantially narrowed,” Grossman remarked, “the military burden of meeting the new threats we face will continue to fall primarily on the United States, with NATO itself taking on an increasingly secondary role.”

Another goal at Prague is for the 19-member alliance to consider new members, Grossman noted. Nine countries — Slovenia, Slovakia, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, Albania, Macedonia, Romania, and Bulgaria — have petitioned to join NATO.

A third goal at Prague involves expansion of important new relationships established after the Cold War – most specifically, the important and growing relationship between the alliance and Russia, Grossman noted.

The NATO-Russia Council, he said, enables “Russia to sit at the table on an equal basis with the 19 NATO allies to work on carefully selected projects” of importance to those concerned. The council, Grossman explained, provides NATO and Russia the opportunity to cooperate in important areas such as: counter-terrorism, civil emergency preparedness, airspace management, and joint training and exercises.

Today, “NATO continues to renew itself and to adapt to each new challenge that comes its way in a very turbulent and still very dangerous world,” he concluded.

HIND SIGHT

1906

The first conference on wireless telegraphy in Berlin adopted SOS as warning signal.

1931

The comic strip *Dick Tracy* first appeared in the *New York News*.

1940

U.S. Army adopted airborne, parachute soldiers.

1955

The children's television program *Captain Kangaroo* debuted.

1990

After 40 years of division, East and West Germany were reunited as one nation.

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a criminal case, the discovery of more than a dozen sabotaged parachutes at the Marine Corps base at Camp Lejeune, N.C. Suspension lines on 13 parachutes were deliberately cut in recent weeks. Sabotage was first suspected Sept. 21 during a routine parachute training jump from a C-17. The chutes of three Marines failed to deploy properly and the men had to use their reserve chutes to land safely. The jump was immediately halted. The C-17 was met on the ground by Naval Criminal Investigation Service special agents who confiscated all remaining 22 parachutes and reserve chutes. Nine additional chutes were found to have cut lines, and an additional one was later discovered.

U.S. soldier killed in Philippines blast

ZAMBOANGA, Philippines — One U.S. Army Special Operations soldier was killed and another wounded Wednesday in a bomb blast near a Philippine military base. The blast occurred near Malagutay, a small military base on the southern Philippine island of Zamboanga. The bomb was believed to be strapped to a motorcycle, with no one claiming responsibility. The soldier was part of a group conducting counter-terrorism exercises with the Philippine military and humanitarian aid workers.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present "Clock-stoppers" tonight at 1530Z at the MWR building. Tomorrow's movie will be "From Hell," and show at 1530Z as well.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 84F L: 46F	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 84F L: 45F
Kandahar:	<i>Sunny</i> H: 90F L: 50F	<i>Haze</i> H: 90F L: 50F
Kabul:	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 84F L: 50F	<i>Mostly sunny</i> H: 84F L: 45F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 86F L: 50F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 85F L: 49F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180.

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

MLB playoff game summaries

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

Giants knock Glavine out, beat Braves

Another postseason disappointment for the game's greatest player? Nah.

Bonds didn't have to come up big in Game 1 of the NL division playoffs. His San Francisco teammates knocked around Atlanta's heralded pitching staff, Russ Ortiz threw seven strong innings and the Giants held on for an 8-5 victory over the Braves on Wednesday.

"That's how we've been playing all season," Reggie Sanders said. "You just haven't noticed it. We're hot."

Bonds, who came in with a .196 postseason average, was limited to a meaningless single in the third. He hit a drive in the eighth that cleared the center-field wall, but perennial Gold Glover Jones leaped above the yellow line to make the catch.

Bonds didn't mind. He's more concerned with capturing his first World Series ring, having never even been on a winning team in his first five postseason appearances. He lost twice to the Braves in the early '90s while playing for Pittsburgh.

Bonds can't end that streak alone, of course, and the wild-card Giants showed they're much more than a one-man team.

San Francisco grabbed a crucial edge in the best-of-5 series against the East champion Braves, who led the league with 101 wins in claiming their 11th straight division title.

A's rout Twins, avenge Game One collapse

OAKLAND, Calif. — Mark Mulder didn't see panic in his teammates' eyes after the Oakland Athletics' playoff run got off to a rough start.

He saw a quiet maturity from three years of postseason experience — and a pride that wouldn't allow the A's to fall off the pace in the division series.

David Justice's bases-loaded triple highlighted Oakland's 14-hit barrage, and Mulder pitched six strong innings as the A's beat the Minnesota Twins 9-1 Wednesday to even the series at one game apiece.

Eric Chavez had a three-run homer, and rookie Mark Ellis got three hits as Oakland emphatically replied to the Twins' 7-5 comeback victory in Game 1 with a tremendous offensive game against Joe Mays (0-1) and the Twins' bullpen.

"Just looking at the guys in the locker room, you could tell everybody knew how important this game was," said Mulder, who allowed five hits. "We've been through this before. There was no need to say anything. We had to have this one, and we got it. Now, we'll go to Minnesota and see what happens."



2002 Major League playoffs

American League

New York vs. Anaheim

Tuesday

N.Y. Yankees 8, Anaheim 5, Yankees lead 1-0

Wednesday

Anaheim 8, N.Y. Yankees 6, Series tied 1-1

Friday

New York (Mussina 18-10) at Anaheim (Ra. Ortiz 15-9)

Saturday

New York (Wells 19-7) at Anaheim, if necessary

Sunday

Anaheim at New York, if necessary

Minnesota vs. Oakland

Tuesday

Minnesota 7, Oakland 5, Twins lead 1-0

Wednesday

Minnesota (Mays 4-9) at Oakland (Mulder 19-7)

Friday

Oakland (Zito 22-5) at Minnesota (Reed 15-7)

Saturday

Oakland at Minnesota, if necessary

Sunday

Minnesota at Oakland, if necessary

National League

Atlanta vs. San Francisco

Wednesday

San Fran. 8, Atlanta 5, Giants lead 1-0

Thursday

San Fran. (Rueter 14-8) at Atlanta (Maddux 16-6)

Saturday

Atlanta (Millwood 18-8) at San Fran. (Schmidt 13-8)

Sunday

Atlanta at San Francisco, if necessary

Monday

San Francisco at Atlanta, if necessary

Arizona vs. St. Louis

Tuesday

St. Louis 12, Arizona 2, Cardinals lead 1-0

Thursday

St. Louis (Finley 7-4) at Arizona (Schilling 23-7)

Saturday

Arizona (Batista 8-9) at St. Louis (Williams 9-4)

Sunday

Arizona at St. Louis, if necessary

Monday

St. Louis at Arizona, if necessary

Is this it? Sampras backs out of year's remaining events

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

BASEL, Switzerland — U.S. Open champion Pete Sampras has withdrawn from all remaining ATP tournaments this season, organizers of this month's Swiss Indoors event said Wednesday.

The message we got was that he would not be playing here, and probably would not be playing in the European indoor season at all," Juerg Vogel with the Swiss Indoors tournament told Reuters.

"His baby is due at the start of December and the impression we got was that he would not be playing this year ... probably not in the Masters Cup season-ender in Shanghai in November."

"Since winning the U.S. Open on Sept. 8," Pete Sampras said in a statement released by the ATP, "I have been taking some time to re-evaluate where I want to go from here. I'm therefore not sufficiently prepared to compete in the upcoming tournaments in Madrid, Basel and Paris."

The news adds to speculation that the 31-year-old American is planning to retire.

Sampras, who hasn't played since he won a record 14th Grand Slam singles title last month in New York, will not start

in the Basel event, which opens Oct. 19, nor in the Masters Series events in Madrid, Spain, and Paris.

That means he will have little chance of qualifying for the eight-player Tennis Masters Cup in Shanghai, China, the final event of the season in mid-November. Sampras chances of qualifying improved after his U.S. Open victory moved him from 32nd to 12th place in the ATP Champions Race.

There's still an outside chance that Sampras could earn the eighth Tennis Masters Cup spot given to a Grand Slam champion. For that to happen, French Open champion Albert Costa has to stay ranked in the top seven, in an unusually tight race, plus Australian Open champion Thomas Johansson is only 35 points behind Sampras. If either man earns a higher rank than Sampras while remaining outside of the top seven, the eighth spot would go to one of them.

Sampras stoked speculation that he would retire at the end of this year following his victory at Flushing Meadows over old adversary Andre Agassi.

"To beat a rival like Andre, in a storybook ending, it might be nice to stop. But ..." Sampras said at the time.

Sampras' wife, actress Bridgette Wilson, is pregnant with their first child.

Tennis Rankings

Men

1. Lleyton Hewitt 690 pts.
2. Andre Agassi 554
3. Marat Safin 441
4. Juan Carlos Ferrero 425
5. Tim Henman 420
6. Carlos Moya 402
7. Albert Costa 393
8. Tommy Haas 388
9. Andy Roddick 383
10. Roger Federer 356

Women

1. Serena Williams 6099 points
2. Venus Williams 4843
3. Jennifer Capriati 3759
4. Monica Seles 3152
5. Jelena Dokic 3074
6. Justine Henin 2994
7. Amelie Mauresmo 2908
8. Lindsay Davenport 2680
9. Kim Clijsters 2618
10. Martina Hingis 2514



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By Kevin Kilgore

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