



FREEDOM WATCH



June 22, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Strike brings chaos to Europe

PARIS, France — Hundreds of flights were cancelled and travelers stranded on Wednesday as a strike led by French air traffic controllers brought chaos across Europe.

War threat recedes in South Asia

NEW DELHI, India — The war threat between India and Pakistan appears to be finally receding despite little let up in the verbal hostilities between the two countries.

Bagram AB celebrates gospel

BAGRAM AIRBASE, Afghanistan — Members of the Protestant Gospel Service at Bagram Air Base hosted a gospel celebration Friday night at the Viper City Dining Facility. See Sunday's edition of *Freedom Watch* for the full story.

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Bush reaffirms need for Homeland Defense

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — President Bush reaffirmed in a speech here today that his most important jobs are to defend the homeland and protect Americans from terrorist killers.

Bush, speaking to the United Brotherhood of Carpenters and Joiners of America Conference, said terrorists are after America because "we love freedom."

He said the terrorist groups cannot stand that Americans allow people to worship freely. "We love the idea of people being able to come to our country and realize their dreams," he said. "We love the idea of people ... being able to freely debate issues. We love freedom, and these cold-blooded killers hate freedom. And that's why they want to come and hurt America. And we are not going to let them."

He explained the rationale be-

hind his proposal to create a new Department of Homeland Security. Bush has suggested that more than 100 different agencies with more than 150,000 people be combined under a new cabinet-level agency. He said the current state makes it difficult to coordinate efforts.

"It makes it difficult to do a job if you're trying to chase This

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Photo by Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.

Sling Load

A CH-47 Chinook prepares to lift an old Russian MIG from the Bagram Air Base runway. The helicopter also lifted tanks and other "debris" from the area. The equipment will be used on coalition weapons during training ranges.

First Bragg Reserve units demobilize

By Spc. Travis Edwards
Army News Service

FORT BRAGG, N.C. — The 542nd and 802nd Quartermaster Companies demobilized June 13 and 14 — making them the first Fort Bragg Reserve units to complete their mission since the terrorist attacks on September 11.

Fort Bragg has mobilized about 3,700 Reserve soldiers in support of Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

"It feels like we are now true American citizens, having given up our time for our country," said Cpt. Patricia B. Harris, 802nd QM commander.

The 542nd QM and 802nd QM deployed in December 2001 to the OEF theatre. Under primitive conditions, the "Force Providers" worked diligently in setting up and maintaining base camps and creating water, fuel and laundry facilities. They provided welfare and recreation support to the soldiers deployed in the base camp.

The demobilization process takes approximately 10 days according to Lt. Col. Charles Johnson, 1st COSCOM, chief of Reserve Component.

"During that time, soldiers within the unit

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down 100 different agencies, because they're in different departments," Bush said.

"The Coast Guard is in the Transportation Department — and that's fine, except for the fact that there's a new world in America where our No. 1 priority is to protect the homeland, and the job of the Transportation Department is not homeland security."

The Customs Service is important in protecting the homeland, Bush said. "It's part of understanding what's coming into our country and whether we want it in our country

or not.

And yet it's a part of the Treasury Department. The Treasury Department is not responsible for homeland security."

He said these agencies must come under one head whose everyday job is to protect America.

He said such an agency must be organized so information flows freely, so there's responsibility and accountability, and to help agencies adjust to their new, primary responsibility of homeland security.

Bush thanked leaders of both parties in Congress for their ac-

ceptance and encouragement of his plan. He said, however, that he is afraid others in Congress may fight the plan to protect political turf rather than work together to protect America.

He told the carpenters that the war on terror is bigger than just a person or a network.

"The war on terror is to address the threats that will face our children in the future," he said. Bush told the union that the greatest threat facing the world is the threat of weapons of mass destruction in the hands of regimes run by leaders who hate

freedom.

He said the world must guard against an al Qaeda-type organization getting weapons of mass destruction from countries like Iraq, Iran and North Korea and using them to blackmail the world.

"I'm a patient man," Bush said. "We'll use all tools at our disposal. But for the good of our children, and for the good of freedom, we must not allow the world's worst regimes to threaten us and our friends and allies with the world's worst weapons."

Bush praised the FBI and CIA for finding new ways to work

together to defeat the scourge of terrorism. He said finding new ways for the two agencies to cooperate would make America safer.

"The No. 1 priority of this government is to button up our homeland so that the American people can go about their lives without ... fear of another attack from one of these killers," he said.

"And we're making progress."

But defensive measures never won a war, Bush said. The United States will "run these killers down one by one and bring them to justice, he said.

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out-process all the key areas of personnel administration," said Johnson. "For example, soldiers will turn in their medical records, dental records, shot cards and personnel files. Also, awards, flags, promotions and leaves are processed and placed in the soldier's files."

Soldiers return hand-receipted items that were issued for the mission — flak vests, TA-50 gear and other items. Similar to clearing a post, soldiers must return the equipment serviceable

and clean, said Johnson.

"When your country called you answered and were ready and willing to do your duty. You were sent into harm's way and performed your mission with competence and bravery," said Brig. Gen. Alan Thrasher, chief of staff, XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg.

"Throughout this nation's proud history, the army has fought and won our nation's wars," said Thrasher. "This war will be no exception. You are now among those who answered the call to arms."

"You have proven, once again, that the army's sacred duty to fight our nation's wars cannot be accomplished without our citizen-soldiers. And you have proven that our citizen-soldiers are a vital part of the Army, full partners with those of us in the active component, and fully up to the missions the army has entrusted you with," said Thrasher.

For the soldiers and units demobilizing, awards and citations will be presented when the units arrive at their original stations. For meritorious service and devotion to duty, many soldiers will re-

ceive Bronze Stars and Army Commendation Medals for their service while attached to the 1st COSCOM.

"It truly takes a rare kind of person to achieve success in two careers, but you do it out of love for the Army and our nation," said Deputy Commander of the 1st COSCOM, Col. Herman Palmer.

The reserve soldiers gave up their civilian jobs, their homes, their college classes and their families to answer our nation's call, said Thrasher.

While some soldiers will return to full-

time jobs others will now be on the lookout for new ones.

"I plan on going home to rest for a few days, then it is out to find a job," said Spc. Adam Fromholz, 802nd QM.

Active duty was the answer for others.

"I have my packet all ready to go. I'm going to make this my full-time job," said Fromholz.

In his closing remarks, Thrasher reminded troops, "Soon you will be home and will once again be sleeping under the blanket of freedom that you have helped to weave."

HIND SIGHT

1675

Royal Greenwich Observatory established in England by Charles II

1847

Doughnut created

1873

Prince Edward Island joins Canada

1944

President Franklin D. Roosevelt signs “GI Bill of Rights” (Servicemen’s Readjustment Act)

1978

James Christy’s discovery of Pluto’s moon Charon

1982

Prince Charles & Lady Diana take Prince William home the from the hospital

News briefs

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Bombing sparks stocks sell off

NEW YORK - Stocks tumbled Wednesday as news of more violence in the Middle East thwarted investors earlier in the session to shrug off some dismal technology reports. The Dow fell 144.55 points to 9,561.57, a loss of 1.5 percent.

Intercepted Sept. 10 messages revealed

WASHINGTON — A message intercepted by U.S. intelligence officials Sept. 10 declared “The match begins tomorrow,” and another declared “Tomorrow is zero hour” — but the messages were not translated until one day after the devastating terrorist attacks.

The Kabul Dining Facility hours are 2 - 3:30 a.m. (Z), and 1 - 2:15 p.m. (Z)

Local weather

TWO-DAY AFGHANISTAN WEATHER REPORT:

	<u>Today</u>	<u>Sunday</u>
<u>Bagram:</u>	Partly cloudy H: 100F L: 70F	Partly cloudy H: 99F L: 72F
<u>Kandahar:</u>	Haze H: 104F L: 70F	Haze H: 102F L: 72F
<u>Kabul:</u>	Haze H: 97F L: 66F	Haze H: 95F L: 68F
<u>Uzbekistan:</u>	Clear H: 101F L: 50F	Partly cloudy H: 103F L: 50F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

Brazil rallies to upend England 2-1

Ronaldinho and Rivaldo each scored a goal to advance to the World Cup semifinals.

England, who lost a 1-0 classic to Brazil in 1970, never had a chance after Michael Owen gave them the early lead.

The four-time champions now wait to play the Turkey-Senegal winner.

Castillo extends hit streak to 35

Luis Castillo extended the longest hitting ever for a Latin player in the Marlins' 4-1 victory.

Castillo, who broke Roger Hornsby's 80-year-old record for second baseman, is 21 games away from tying the late, great Joe DiMaggio's sacred record set in 1941.

United States ends World Cup run

Michael Ballack scored in the 39th minute to send Germany to the semifinals and the United States back home.

Although they were beaten, Team U.S.A. showed the world that they won't be pushed around anymore.

Germany, which has won three World Cups, awaits the Spain-Turkey winner.

MLB longest hitting streaks

1. Joe DiMaggio, 56 games, 1941
2. Willie Keeler, 44, 1897
2. Pete Rose, 44, 1987
4. Bill Dahlen, 42, 1894
5. George Sisler, 41, 1922
6. Ty Cobb, 40, 1911
7. Paul Molitor, 39, 1987
8. Tommy Holmes, 37, 1945
9. Billy Hamilton, 36, 1894
10. Fred Clarke, 35, 1895
10. Ty Cobb, 35, 1914
- *10. Luis Castillo, 35, 2002**
12. George McQuinn, 34, 1938
12. Dom DiMaggio, 34, 1949
12. Benito Santiago, 34, 1987
12. George Sisler, 34, 1925
12. George Davis, 33, 1893

2002 World Cup First Round Standings

Group A

x-Denmark	2-0-1	7
y-Senegal	1-0-2	5
Uruguay	0-1-2	2
France	0-2-1	1

Group B

x-Spain	3-0-0	9
y-Paraguay	1-1-1	4
South Africa	1-1-1	4
Slovenia	0-3-0	0

Group C

x-Brazil	3-0-0	9
y-Turkey	1-1-1	4
Costa Rica	1-1-1	4
China	0-3-0	0

Group D

x-South Korea	2-0-1	7
y-United States	1-1-1	4
Portugal	1-2-0	3
Poland	1-2-0	3

Group E

x-Germany	2-0-1	7
y-Ireland	1-0-2	5
Cameroon	1-1-1	4
Saudi Arabia	0-3-0	0

Group F

x-Sweden	1-0-2	5
y-England	1-0-2	5
Argentina	1-1-1	4
Nigeria	0-2-1	1

Group G

x-Mexico	2-0-1	7
y-Italy	1-1-1	4
Croatia	1-2-0	3
Ecuador	1-2-0	3

Group H

x-Japan	2-0-1	7
y-Belgium	1-0-2	5
Russia	1-2-0	3
Tunisia	0-2-1	1

World Cup second round schedule

Germany 1-0 Paraguay
 England 3-0 Denmark
 Senegal 2-1, OT, Sweden
 Spain 1-1 Ireland (Spain advances 3-2 PKs)
 United States 2-0 Mexico
 Brazil 2-0 Belgium
 Turkey 1-0 Japan
 South Korea 2-1, OT, Italy

World Cup quarterfinals

Friday— Germany 1-0 United States
 Friday — Brazil 1-0 England
 Today— Senegal v. Turkey
 Today— Spain v. South Korea

World Cup semifinals

Tuesday — Germany v. Quarter 4
 Wednesday — Brazil v. Quarter 3

World Cup Final @ Yokohama, Japan

June 30 — Semifinal winners