



FREEDOM WATCH



July 29, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

The gift of giving

BAGRAM AIR BASE,

Afghanistan – The humanitarian and Civil Affairs operations are ongoing, said a Combined Joint Task Force – 180 spokesman. From April to the present, the following have been distributed by Civil Affairs and Special Operations teams:

- ❖ Almost 500,000 pounds of wheat (which does not include the World Food Bank)
- ❖ 1,112,480 pounds of assorted foods such as beans, rice and cooking oil
- ❖ 9,461 blankets
- ❖ 489 cases of dates

The teams have also distributed:

- ❖ 68,221 pencils
- ❖ 68,201 pens
- ❖ 66,100 notebooks
- ❖ 198 floor mats
- ❖ 13 black boards

All nine pulled alive from mine

SOMERSET, Penn. —

One by one, nine soggy and exhausted miners, their faces blackened with coal dust, were pulled early Sunday from

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3

Reservist brings animal care to Kabul

By Spc. LaTorry D. Sidney
300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan — While some Reservists serve in their respective military occupational specialties one weekend a month and two weeks a year, Maj. Julie A. Roche, a veterinarian with the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion, Knoxville, Tenn., uses her veterinary expertise full-time.

“Being a veterinarian is what I’ve always wanted to do,” said Roche. “I’ve dreamed of being a vet since as early as 8 years old.”

Roche’s journey started when she enlisted into the U.S. Army Reserve.

“I entered the Re-

serve as an E-3 operating room technician,” said the veteran of 16 years.

Through careful planning and coordination, Roche was able to realize her dream in both a military and civilian status.

“I graduated from veterinarian school in 1992, and received my direct commission shortly after,” she said. “Once I graduated from vet school, I could have remained enlisted, but in order to do veterinary medicine in the Army, I had to accept my commission.”

Roche explained that she is challenged overall by veterinary work, but her civilian outlet, set up in her hometown of Sautee, Ga., allows her to



Photo by Staff Sgt. Anthony O. Jackson
Maj. Julie A. Roche, a veterinarian with the 489th Civil Affairs Battalion, cradles a newborn chick that was hatched in an incubator.

work directly with animals more often.

“As far as veterinary work goes, my civilian job is more consistent,” she

said. “Working with civil affairs, we do more public health-related ser-

See **ROCHE**, Page 2

Long-awaited Apache Longbows arrive

By Bill Roche

Army News Service

ANTWERP, Belgium — V Corps’ long-awaited squadron of 22 AH-64D Apache Longbow helicopters arrived at the port of Antwerp last week and flew in mass formation July 22 to the unit’s home airfield in Illesheim, Germany.

The state-of-the-art attack helicopters, each encased in a protective cocoon of shrink-wrapped plastic, were unloaded from the ship Scan Bothnia by soldiers and

contractors of the Military Traffic Management Command’s 838th Transportation Terminal Battalion from Rotterdam, the Netherlands, and the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Aviation, a U.S. Army Europe 21st Theater Support Command unit based at Coleman Barracks in Mannheim, Germany.

After unloading, the aircraft were unwrapped and inspected by aviation specialists from the unit to which they’ll be assigned — the 6th Squadron, 6th U.S. Cavalry, part of V Corps’ 11th Aviation Regi-

ment, based in Illesheim, Germany. Once accounted for and inspected, mechanics and crew chiefs from Troop D of the 6/6th began reassembly of the Longbows. Following the reassembly process, the helicopters were test-flown before being moved to Illesheim.

The arrival of the Apache squadron marks its return from Fort Hood, Texas, where soldiers of the 6/6th spent a year becom-

See **APACHE**, Page 2

APACHE, from Page 1

ing familiar with the helicopters as they were upgraded from AH-64A models. The 6/6th will rejoin its sister squadron, the 2nd Squadron, 6th U.S. Cavalry, in the 11th Aviation.

Part of the Army's Transformation process, officials said, the stationing of the Longbow squadron will vastly improve V Corps' deep-strike aviation capabilities.

Editor's note: Bill Roche is a member of the V Corps Public Affairs Office.



Photo by Photographer's Mate 2nd Class (SW/NAC) David C. Mercil, U.S. Navy

Team work

Crew members of Australian Navy ship HMAS Kanimbla, operating in the northern Arabian Gulf, launch an American rigid hull inflatable boat into the water. The two countries are working together in support of Operation Enduring Freedom performing Maritime Interception Operations for Operation Enduring Freedom.

ROCHE, from Page 1

vices.”

As of early this year, however, Roche's skills would be tested all around, as she learned that she would be mobilized in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

“I figured we would deploy, but part of me didn't really think it would actually happen,” she recalled. “My family was not exactly pleased with it, but they understand that I'm in the Reserves and we play a major role in this operation.”

Though this tour is in an unfamiliar place, Roche is no stranger to deployments.

“This is my third deployment,” she said. “We've been to Saudi Arabia and we spent eight months in Bosnia. We weren't even back for a year when we were called

to serve with the Coalition Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force in Kabul, Afghanistan. Coming off a deployment, you're already geared up for it,” she said. “I hadn't even unpacked a lot of my gear and clothing, so (the transition) was fairly easy.”

Roche and her detachment make up the CJCMOTF's public health team. They help CJCMOTF accomplish their missions of facilitating continued good relations with local authorities and populations, identifying and coordinating civil-military projects, and assisting emergency relief humanitarian relief operations in Afghanistan.

As well as providing food and water, the 489th also supplies health services to the surround-

ing villages. “Our mission here is to reestablish the healthcare system in Afghanistan for humans and animals,” said Roche. “I primarily coordinate with the Ministry of Agriculture to deal with livestock issues. Veterinary experience comes in handy because some of the work has been hands-on.”

“Most of our days are pretty busy,” said Roche. “We go out in the mornings and we try to handle administrative tasks in the afternoon. We have ongoing humanitarian aid projects with the engineers, we make project proposals, and we work with the veterinary schools. Being busy helps the days go by.”

Although masses of the people here live in poverty, all they need is a chance to get on their

feet says Roche.

“The people here are hard-working and industrious,” she said. “Most of them aren't looking for a handout, only assistance.”

Even with the gratitude of the Afghan people and the willingness to help on the behalf of coalition forces, the aid process can be a tedious one said Roche.

“The hardest part of the job here is to tell someone no when he or she asks for help,” she said. “People see the flag and the uniforms and they think we can automatically get things done for them. You want to help everyone, but you can't. You have to have patience, the project approval process can be long.”

Having been in Afghanistan since February with no definite sign

of future departure, Roche looks to her family to keep her motivated.

“I have two sons and a husband,” she said, “the sooner I can get the job done, the sooner I can go home.”

Thus far, Roche considers this deployment to be a success and has a positive outlook for its future.

“I think we're making a difference,” she said. “The Afghan people really show gratitude for what we do. The little kids and the old guards are always gracious.”

With more time, improvements to the overall living conditions and good relations with local authorities and populations can come about, said Roche.

“If the CJCMOTF stays here long enough, I think (the Afghans) will definitely benefit.”

HIND SIGHT

1715

Ten Spanish treasure galleons sunk off Florida coast by hurricane

1874

Maj. Walter Copton Wingfield patents a portable tennis court

1914

First transcontinental phone link made between New York City and San Francisco

1952

First nonstop transpacific flight by a jet

1981

Prince Charles of England weds Lady Diana Spencer

BRIEFS, from Page 1

a flooded Pennsylvania coal mine after being trapped underground for more than three days. The last one pulled from the 240-foot deep shaft was 41-year-old Mark Popernack, who emerged at 2:45 a.m. and gave his rescuers a thumbs-up on the flood-lit mountainside. All nine men were taken to hospitals where they will remain under observation for at least 24 hours.

Armstrong wins fourth straight Tour de France

PARIS — The Texan with the iron legs to match his will, Lance Armstrong, handily won his fourth straight Tour de France on Sunday to the cheers of thousands of fans, many waving U.S. flags, who lined the famous boulevard. He covered all that ground with an overall time of 82 hours, five minutes, 12 seconds. The winning margin over runner-up Joseba Beloki of Spain was 7:17, making it Armstrong's second-biggest victory. He beat Alex Zuelle by 7:37 in 1999 for his first Tour de France championship. Raimondas Rumšas of Lithuania was third overall, 8:17 back. No other rider finished within 13 minutes of Armstrong's total time.

U.S. to expand Camp Delta prison in Cuba

WASHINGTON — The U.S. is preparing to expand the high-security prison in Cuba where it is holding and interrogating hundreds of suspects from the war on terrorism, officials said. The Pentagon has accepted bids and expects to award a contract in the next several days for construction of some 200 more cells at the facility it calls Camp Delta. The permanent jail at Guantanamo Bay Naval Station is nearly filled, with 564 suspected al Qaeda and Taliban prisoners from the campaign in Afghanistan and elsewhere.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 95F L: 70F	<i>Showers</i> H: 95F L: 66F
Khandahar:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 104F L: 75F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 108F L: 70F
Kabul:	<i>Sunny</i> H: 91F L: 61F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 93F L: 63F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 98F L: 63F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 100F L: 64F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Big Apple is Park's place

With Annika Sorenstam breathing down their necks, Gloria Park and Hee-Won Han didn't flinch Sunday. Park and Han held off the LPGA Tour's top player by a stroke, then the two South Koreans went to a playoff, where Park won with a birdie putt on the first playoff hole to take the Big Apple Classic. The 22-year-old Park, who shot a 69, earned her second Tour victory in three years.

They know the score

The bad news: 69 points, 178 goals scored, no playoffs — again. The good news: Nikolai Khabibulin, Nikolai Khabibulin, Nikolai Khabibulin. O.K., so the Lightning did post a 10-point improvement on 2000-01, but they'll need more scoring to make a move next season.

Sweet Redemption

After almost getting fired by Cheever Racing earlier this week, Tomas Scheckter won the Michigan Indy 400 on Sunday, his first career IRL win. Buddy Rice, who joined Team Cheever on Wednesday, ended up second. Now, owner Eddie Cheever is left in the awkward position of deciding how many cars to race for the rest of the season.

Liberty making move

When the New York Liberty and Houston Comets face off, it's usually always interesting. Vickie Johnson of the Liberty calls it "the highest level of basketball." And on Sunday, the Liberty played at a higher level and downed the Comets 62-56 in New York. The Liberty, who 10 days ago knocked off the L.A. Sparks, moved within a half-game of the East-leading Washington Mystics.

Frankel at it again

Saturday was full of close calls for Bobby Frankel, but picking up where he left off last year at Saratoga, the trainer still managed to nab two graded stakes victories. First up in the \$500,000 Diana Handicap, Frankel's *Tates Creek* had just enough to hold off 3-2 favorite *Voodoo Dancer* by a head bob. Then an hour later in the \$250,000 Test Stakes, Frankel's *You ended Carson* *Hallow's Saratoga* winning streak by a nose. Jerry Bailey had the mount in both Frankel wins.

Like clockwork

With precision shotmaking and a booming serve, Venus Williams made quick work of Kim Clijsters on Sunday to win the Bank of the West Classic. The top-seeded Williams needed only one hour, four minutes to beat the 19-year-old Belgian 6-3, 6-3 in the final, avenging a loss to Clijsters in the Hamburg final earlier this year.

Down and dirty

Canadian heavyweight Kirk Johnson waited a long time for a shot at the title, but he didn't show it Saturday night. John Ruiz retained his WBA crown after Johnson was disqualified in the 10th round for landing a low blow — at least his fourth punch below the belt in the bout. Ruiz, a 2-1 underdog, was leading on all the judges' cards.

2002 Major League standings

American League East				GB
N.Y. Yankees	65-38	.631	-	
Boston	61-42	.592	4	
Baltimore	48-53	.475	16	
American League Central				GB
Minnesota	64-42	.604	-	
Chicago (AL)	50-56	.472	14	
Cleveland	45-58	.437	17.5	
American League West				GB
Anaheim	62-41	.602	-	
Seattle	63-42	.600	-	
Oakland	60-45	.571	3	
National League East				GB
Atlanta	67-38	.638	-	
N.Y. Mets	54-50	.519	12.5	
Montreal	52-53	.495	15	
National League Central				GB
St. Louis	58-44	.569	-	
Cincinnati	54-50	.519	5	
Houston	53-51	.510	6	
National League West				GB
Arizona	64-41	.610	-	
Los Angeles	59-46	.562	5	
San Francisco	58-47	.552	6	

Sunday's scores

Boston 12-3 Baltimore
 Cleveland 9-6 Detroit
 Philadelphia 7-1 Atlanta
 N.Y. Mets 6-5 Cincinnati
 N.Y. Yankees 9-1 Tampa Bay
 Montreal 4-1 Florida
 Chicago Sox 4-2 Kansas City
 Milwaukee 5-3 Colorado
 Minnesota 4-0 Toronto
 Houston 4-0 Pittsburgh
 San Francisco 3-1 Los Angeles
 Anaheim 1-0 Seattle
 Arizona 5-4 San Diego
 Oakland 12-2 Texas
 St. Louis 10-9 Chicago Cubs

Today's schedule

Baltimore at Tampa Bay
 Toronto at Kansas City
 N.Y. Yankees at Texas
 Boston at Anaheim
 Cleveland at Oakland
 Detroit at Seattle