



# FREEDOM WATCH



Aug. 19, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

## News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

### Abdullah certain bin Laden is alive

**KABUL, Afghanistan** — The Afghan foreign minister said on Saturday he was certain Saudi-born guerrilla chief Osama bin Laden and ousted Afghan Taliban leader Mullah Mohammad Omar survived last year's U.S. bombing and were living in the region. But Abdullah Abdullah told Reuters in an interview he was confident the two men, who disappeared after U.S.-backed Afghan factions took control of most of the country last November, would be found.

### Few clues in VA murder-kidnap

**BASSETT, Va.** — The sheriff heading the hunt for a 9-year-old Southwestern Virginia girl said Saturday evening that investigators have no new leads despite nationwide appeals and publicity.

The search for Jenni-

See **BRIEFS**,  
Page 3

## Army suspends re-enlistment bonuses

*Army News Service*

**WASHINGTON** — The Army today suspended its re-enlistment bonus programs for active-duty soldiers until Oct. 1.

The suspension became necessary with a retention success that exhausted the fiscal year 2002 re-enlistment budget, said Ron Canada, chief of the U.S. Army Personnel Command retention office.

He said the Army has

already re-enlisted more than 51,600 soldiers against its goal of 49,019, or 105 percent.

Soldiers who are scheduled to separate from the Army between Aug. 19 and Sept. 30 will be allowed to voluntarily extend until after Oct. 1 so they can re-enlist for a bonus, Canada said.

“We have to place a freeze on paying bonuses when soldiers re-enlist for the remainder

of August through September because we've done so well with re-enlistment across the Army,” Canada said.

The programs frozen include the selective re-enlistment bonus, the targeted selective re-enlistment bonus and the broken service selective re-enlistment bonus programs.

The freeze does not affect Army Reserve or Army National Guard

re-enlistment bonuses, officials said.

Nor will it stop the payment of re-enlistment bonuses that have already been granted, Canada said.

Soldiers who re-entered the Army or re-enlisted prior to Aug. 19 and were entitled to a re-enlistment bonus will continue to be paid their bonuses, Canada explained.

Soldiers entitled to an anniversary payment from

See **BONUS**, Page 2



Photo by Spc. Jason B. Baker

## Helping hands

Pfc. Corey Miller, medic, Company C, 82nd Forward Support Battalion, straps a patient to a stretcher to transport him to the aid station during a mass casualty exercise held at Khandahar Air Field.

**BONUS**, from Page 1  
an earlier re-enlistment will continue to receive their anniversary payments during this suspension, he said.

Soldiers who were scheduled to re-enlist between Aug. 19 and Sept. 30 and were otherwise eligible for a bonus, will be advised to delay their re-enlistment until Oct. 1 or later or when the program will be funded for fiscal year 2003.

Those in specialties that do

not have a bonus are not affected by this suspension and can continue to re-enlist, Canada said.

More than 100 of the Army's military occupational skills had offered bonuses and are affected by the re-enlistment suspension, Canada said.

More information about the job specialties that were receiving re-enlistment bonuses can be found in military personnel messages 02-174 dated Jun. 16

and message 02-205 dated July 16. These messages can be found on [www.perscomonline.army.mil](http://www.perscomonline.army.mil).

Personnel officials ask that this suspension information reach all commanders, re-enlistment offices, recruiters, and finance and accounting offices.

Re-enlistment offices will be notified through the Army retain system over the weekend, Canada said, and career counselors worldwide will be in-

formed Monday morning when they turn on their retain system.

Career counselors throughout the Army will be able to answer questions about reenlistment options, Canada added.

For more information contact Sgt. 1st Class Mike Walker or Master Sgt. Edward Swartwood at DSN 303- 587-5576 or 581-3011.

*(Editor's note: Information provided by PERSCOM Public Affairs.)*

## 307th Engr. Bn. maintaining runway with hard work

Story & photo by Spc. Kevin Buckley  
*300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment*

**KANDAHAR AIR FIELD,** Afghanistan-The plane approaches the runway.

The pilots radio the tower and a few moments later, the plane touches down.

To most soldiers at Kandahar Air Field, the runway is just the place for planes to land. But for 307th Engineer Battalion, Charlie Company, out of Fort Bragg, N.C., the runway is a full time job.

The 307th Engineers' sole mission here is to maintain the 10,500-foot runway.

As each plane touches down, the weight of the plane puts a tremendous amount of pressure on the runway, and this pressure often damages the runway.

"Repairing the runway is a command priority," said 1st Lt. Brian E. Yanowski, with the assault and barrier platoon. "If the runway is shut down, then base operations would back up and cause big problems for everyone."



**The 307th Engineer Battalion, Charlie Company, Fort Bragg, North Carolina, continues to provide maintenance to the Kandahar Air Field runway.**

To avoid the runway being shut down, the 307th Engineers must fix the damaged sections of runway quickly. The soldiers work around the clock surveying, prepping and repairing the damaged sections of the runway.

"We specialize in rapid runway repair or 'Triple R' as we like to call it," said Staff Sgt. Justin M. Mix, platoon sergeant for assault and barrier platoon. "Our job has to be done quickly because you can't just shut down the runway.

"We have the right equipment, the right personnel and the right attitude to get the job done," said Yanowski.

The 307th stays in constant contact with the tower making sure that they know when planes are arriving.

This contact is for the safety of the soldiers on the job site.

"We are all about safety and take every precaution necessary to make sure our soldiers are safe," said Mix.

This is the first time that the assault and barrier platoon

has been deployed in a combat zone.

"We thought it was going to be worse," said Yanowski of the job they were tasked with here.

"The reports we received prior to coming here had us a little worried, but it was not anything that we could not handle."

To prepare for their deployment, the 307th participated in a training exercise before deploying to Afghanistan.

They trained with the 3rd Brigade, who takes care of the force provider setup and the basic base maintenance units out of Fort Bragg.

"We received a lot of good tips from 3rd Brigade during our training on how to assess, prepare and take care of damaged runways," Yanowski said.

The 307th has picked up where the 101st Airborne Division left off.

The 307th Engineers say that they will continue on their mission until the runway is totally repaired and then they can concentrate on regular maintenance of the runway.

**BRIEFS**, from Page 1

fer Renee Short has extended across Virginia and as far away as Florida, said Sheriff Frank Cassell.

Cassell said that the publicity surrounding the case and appeals for information had produced “lots of response,” but so far nothing that had led to Jennifer.

Police issued new photographs of Jennifer, daughter of 50-year-old Michael Wayne Short and 36-year-old Mary Hall Short, who were found murdered in their home in Henry County, Virginia, Thursday.

**Town mourns UK schoolgirls**

**SOHAM**, England — Residents of Soham in England are to hold a church service on Sunday in memory of missing schoolgirls Holly Wells and Jessica Chapman.

The devastated parents of the 10-year-olds are still waiting for confirmation that two bodies found at a remote beauty spot are their missing daughters. On Saturday, police arrested a caretaker, who works at a college by the girls’ school, and his girlfriend, on suspicion of murdering the youngsters. The couple remained in custody on Saturday night. Police have until Wednesday morning to either charge the couple, or release them.

# HIND SIGHT

**1493**

Maximilian succeeds his father Frederick III as Holy Roman Emperor.

**1692**

Five women are hanged in Salem, Mass., after being convicted of witchcraft. Fourteen more people are executed that year and 150 others imprisoned.

**1934**

38 million Germans vote to make Adolf Hitler the official successor to President von Hindenburg.

**1936**

Spanish poet Federico Garcia Lorca is shot by French troops after being forced to dig his own grave.

**1950**

Edith Sampson becomes the first African-American representative to the United Nations.

# Local weather

**TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:**

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
<b><u>Bagram:</u></b>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 97F L: 61F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 91F L: 63F
<b><u>Khandahar:</u></b>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 106F L: 66F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 108F L: 68F
<b><u>Kabul:</u></b>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 93F L: 63F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 90F L: 61F
<b><u>Uzbekistan:</u></b>	<i>Clear</i> H: 99F L: 63F	<i>Clear</i> H: 100F L: 66F

*Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team*

# FREEDOM WATCH

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

- ❖ CJTF - 180 Commanding General — Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill
- ❖ CJTF - 180 Command Sergeant Major — Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England
- ❖ Public Affairs Officer — Col. Roger King
- ❖ Public Affairs Sergeant Major — Sgt. Maj. C.J. Costello

*Freedom Watch*, an Army newspaper publication, is produced by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

- ❖ Commander — Capt. Timothy Beninato
- ❖ NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
- ❖ Editor — Sgt. Reeba Critser
- ❖ Sports Editor — Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
- ❖ Journalists — Sgt. Jason Allgood, Spc. Erica Leigh Foley, Pfc. Nathan Akridge and Pfc. Eleazar Craig.

In accordance with AR 360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Contents of *Freedom Watch* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

All submissions are subject to editing for size and content by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Motel 6, CJTF - 180, Bagram Air Base.

To be added to the daily distribution list, e-mail [reeba.critser@us.army.mil](mailto:reeba.critser@us.army.mil)

Visit the CENTCOM Website to see the latest editions of *Freedom Watch* at [www.centcom.mil/operations/CJTF%20180/cjtf180.htm](http://www.centcom.mil/operations/CJTF%20180/cjtf180.htm)

# COALITION SPORTSZONE

## Tiger runs out of holes at Hazeltine

(Courtesy of www.espn.com)

**CHASKA, Minn.** — Tiger Woods still hasn't come from behind to win a major championship.

Sunday, he might have had his best chance.

Woods, five shots out of the lead entering play, got to within a shot of the lead after 10 holes. Justin Leonard, who has one major championship under his belt, was fading quickly. Fred Funk and Mark Calcavecchia, both veteran PGA Tour pros, weren't making any sort of a run.

All that stood between Woods and a ninth major title was Rich Beem, who sold cell phones and car stereos for a living the same year Woods began winning majors.

But as has happened to him so often this week at the PGA Championship, Woods' driver got him in trouble. He sprayed it right on the par-5 11th, leaving him no shot at the green. He got back in the fairway, but his pitch from 66 yards away checked up, leaving him 25 feet for birdie. He missed and tapped in for par.

Minutes later, Beem made eagle to stretch his lead to three.

Woods made back-to-back bogeys at 13 and 14 to fall back to 5-under, six shots out of the lead. After telling caddie Steve Williams that four straight birdies to end the round would win him the championship, he did just that to get to 9-under. But it wasn't enough. Despite a three-putt at 18, Beem finished at 10-under. Woods finished second in a major for the first time in his career (leaving him only 18 behind Jack Nicklaus, who had 19 runner-up finishes in the majors).

"I gave it absolutely everything I had," Woods said. "You know, that's the way I play each and every time I tee it up, and this was no exception. I made a few mistakes today, or a couple of mistakes, and I came right back and sucked it up and got the job done coming in."

Woods was most unhappy with his three-putt at the 13th hole. He had about 12 feet for birdie, but rolled the putt well past the hole. And he missed the comebacker.

"I knew from the practice rounds, that putt has been fast," Woods said. "The greens were slow today and I kept telling myself this putt is not as fast as what it looks, and blah, blah, blah. And I went ahead and hit it the way I thought the greens were running today and it fooled me."

Woods hit a 4-iron off the tee at the 357-yard 14th, but missed the fairway to the left. His 9-iron from the heavy rough was just short of the green, and he couldn't get it up-and-down for par.

"I'm frustrated I made the mistakes on 13 and 14, but then again, I'm also pumped at the way I finished," Woods said.

Woods made an 8-foot putt for birdie on the 15th, a 10-footer on the 16th, a 10-footer on the 17th and a four-footer after a sizzling 7-iron to the green on 18.

It was one shot short.

### 2002 Major League standings

<b>American League East</b>			<b>GB</b>
N.Y. Yankees	77-45	.631	-
Boston	70-52	.574	7
Baltimore	59-62	.488	17.5
<b>American League Central</b>			<b>GB</b>
Minnesota	73-52	.584	-
Chicago (AL)	58-66	.468	14.5
Cleveland	54-68	.443	17.5
<b>American League West</b>			<b>GB</b>
Seattle	75-49	.605	-
Anaheim	74-49	.602	.5
Oakland	73-51	.589	2
<b>National League East</b>			<b>GB</b>
Atlanta	79-43	.655	-
Montreal	61-62	.496	18.5
Florida	60-63	.488	19.5
<b>National League Central</b>			<b>GB</b>
St. Louis	68-53	.562	-
Houston	64-59	.520	5
Cincinnati	63-59	.516	5.5
<b>National League West</b>			<b>GB</b>
Arizona	78-46	.629	-
Los Angeles	71-53	.573	7
San Francisco	66-56	.541	11

### Sunday's scores

Tampa Bay	8-6	Kansas City
Colorado	6-3	Atlanta
Detroit	7-4	Baltimore
Los Angeles	2-1	N.Y. Mets
Seattle	5-2	N.Y. Yankees
Cincinnati	2-1	Houston
Oakland	7-4	Chicago W. Sox
Montreal	9-2	San Diego
Anaheim	4-1	Cleveland
St. Louis	5-1	Philadelphia
Minnesota	6-2	Boston
Pittsburgh	3-2	Milwaukee
Texas	10-7	Toronto
Chicago	3-2	Arizona
Florida	3-0	San Francisco

### Wild Card Races

<u>NL</u>	<u>AL</u>
1. Los Angeles .573	1. Anaheim .602
2. San Francisco .541	2. Oakland .589
3. Houston .520	3. Boston .574
4. Cincinnati .516	4. Baltimore .488
5. Montreal .496	5. Chicago .468