



# FREEDOM WATCH



August 27, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

## News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

### Baker: Don't go it alone with Iraq

**CRAWFORD, Texas** — Former Secretary of State James Baker Sunday warned President Bush not to “go it alone” against Iraqi President Saddam Hussein. Writing on the op-ed page of the *New York Times*, Baker became the latest member of the first Bush administration to issue cautionary words about a military attack against Iraq. “Although the United States could certainly succeed, we should try our best not to have to go it alone, and the president should reject the advice of those who counsel doing so,” Baker wrote. “The costs in all areas will be much greater, as will the political risks, both domestic and international, if we end up going it alone or with only one or two countries.”

### China tightens export rules

**BELJING** — China has issued a new list of regulations aimed at controlling the export of missile tech-

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## Coalition concludes Mtn. Sweep



Photo by Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.

An AH-64 Apache idles on the ground while conducting a hot refuel during Operation Mountain Sweep. Apache helicopters provided overhead security for ground convoys and troops conducting missions in support of the operation.

By Capt. Tim Beninato  
*28th Public Affairs Detachment*

**BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan** — Coalition forces completed Operation Mountain Sweep in Southeastern Afghanistan Monday with the exfiltration and repositioning of combat forces.

“The objective of Mountain Sweep was to find and destroy remaining al Qaeda elements in that area, search for weapons or usable intelligence data for Coalition forces and project combat power into the area to

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## CENTCOM cmdr. visits troops in theatre

Story & photo by Sgt. Reeba Critser  
*28th Public Affairs Detachment*

**BAGRAM AIR BASE, Afghanistan** — The scene seemed similar to a John Wayne movie. Without a speech, he stood on the podium and talked to “his” soldiers.

“You bring tears to my eyes because you’re heroes to my country and you’re heroes to your own country,” said

Gen. Tommy Franks, commander of U.S. Central Command, Sunday during his visit at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. “A lot changed about 11 months ago. And ever since then, all you guys, and others like you, have been working hard to take care of your wives and your husbands and your girlfriends and your boyfriends and my

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Gen. Tommy Franks visited Bagram Air Base during his tour of the theatre. Franks told Coalition service members at Bagram that he was proud of them.

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deny the enemy sanctuary there,” said Col. Roger King, Combined Joint Task Force - 180 Public Affairs officer.

Mountain Sweep took place over eight days and included five combat air assault missions and three major convoy road marches to various objectives in the region.

“It was a successful mission and all soldiers executed professionally,”

said Maj. Donald G. Fallen, operations officer for the 229<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment.

The 229<sup>th</sup>, serving as the aviation arm for Task Force Shark, conducted 14 helicopter missions in support of the operation.

More than 2,000 Coalition forces, comprised of seven infantry companies, combat engineers and elements of three aviation battalions took part in the operation, King said. In addition,

Civil Affairs, Coalition Special Operations Forces units and Afghan militia also participated in the operation.

Coalition forces took 10 persons under control during the operation and though taken under fire on two occasions, U.S. forces suffered no battle casualties, said King.

Initial reports indicate Coalition forces discovered a total of seven caches which included

five weapons caches and two caches of Taliban documents.

The weapons caches consisted of one ZSU 23-1 anti-aircraft weapon, two 82mm mortars with 120 rounds, one recoilless rifle with 15 rounds, five cases of 81mm mortar rounds, 100 BM-21 rockets, seven cans of 12.7mm DHSK machine gun ammunition, 4,000 rounds of 14.5mm heavy machine gun ammunition, several loose small

arms and crates of ammunition of various calibers.

“Some of the unique aspects of these caches were that seven women in the village of Narizah were found to be carrying nine RPG rounds hidden under their burkhas,” said King.

In addition, one of the caches containing mortar rounds was booby-trapped with improvised explosive devices and had to be blown in place by explosive ordnance disposal specialists.



Photo by Spc. Adam Hains, 769th Engineer Battalion  
**Gen. Tommy Franks reassures soldiers that their work in Operation Enduring Freedom is appreciated.**

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grandbabies.”

Into his fifth day of visiting the theatre, Franks also visited Kazakhstan, Uzbekistan and Kryzgystan.

“The purpose of all the visits was to talk to leaders, and have a chance to talk to the kids getting hard work done,” Franks told reporters at a press conference later in the day. “Those young people standing out there in that formation represent the best our country has to offer, and represent the contributions by Coalition nations, which will make a difference 100 years from now. All of us realize that. I’m very simply here to say thanks to them for being a long way away

from home, doing their job.”

He added that although much has been done, more is still left to do.

“What a difference 10 months makes in a country like Afghanistan,” Franks remarked. “Little kids on the street carrying books, flying balloons. Taliban’s gone. You know, they are no longer executing people in the sports stadium downtown (Kabul).

“I’m proud of (the service members) and my country’s proud of them,” he said. “And I’m also very proud of what they’ve been able to accomplish in 10 months or so over here.”

Franks said although conditions in Afghanistan are improving, security is still an issue.

“What we’re seeing every day in Afghanistan is a little bit



Photo by Sgt. Reeba Critser  
**Franks meets with leaders from the Coalition during his visit to Bagram Air Base Sunday.**

different than the day before,” he said. “We are, in fact, seeing improved security.

“We don’t want them to lull us into a sense of false security. Afghanistan is a very dangerous place. We want to see, over time, reconstruction in this country.”

Franks went on to talk about the possibility of Osama bin Laden still being alive.

“We have not seen convincing proof that bin Laden is dead,” he said. “I don’t know if he’s alive or dead. But

I do know that a great many nations on this planet are very interested in the man, if he is still alive. If he is still alive, it’s only a matter of time.

“Al Qaeda can’t hide here (in theatre). There’s still a lot of work left to do. Your brothers, out on the ground, are doing it. I’m proud of you. You are half a world away from home, serving your country, serving your family, serving my grandbabies. I love you!”

## Where were you on Sept. 11, 2001?

The Coalition Press Information Center and Combined Joint task Force -180 Public Affairs are looking for service members willing to share their unique Sept. 11 story with the news media.

The CPIC will be scheduling 'live' TV interviews between service members and international news agencies at Bagram Air Base in preparation for Sept. 11 television news coverage.

If you have a unique story to share and you are interested in being interviewed, contact the CPIC at DSN 303-640-1230 or e-mail [bagramcpicpao@hotmail.com](mailto:bagramcpicpao@hotmail.com).

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nology in an apparent effort to ease U.S. concerns over weapons proliferation. The 24-article list of regulations lays out a licensing system for the export of missiles and missile-related technology and punishment for transgressors. "Without being licensed, no unit or individual shall export missiles and missile-related items and technologies," quotes Xinhua, the state-run news agency. The new laws follow mounting concern from Washington over the transfer of Chinese weapons technology to Middle East countries and accusations denied by Beijing of it's missile supply to Pakistan.

### U.S. correctional population at record high

**WASHINGTON** — The adult U.S. correctional population reached a record high at the end of 2001, with 3.1 percent of the nation's adult population incarcerated or under community supervision, federal statistics show. Almost 6.6 million men and women made up the correctional population at the end of 2001, an increase of 147,000 from the end of 2000, reads a report titled "Probation and Parole in the United States, 2001," compiled by the Justice Department's Bureau of Justice Statistics.

### Iraq: Coalition air strike kills 8

**BAGHDAD, Iraq** — Eight Iraqis were killed and nine others wounded in U.S. and British air strikes on civilian installations in Southern Iraq. The U.S. Central Command said in a statement that the jets fired in self-defense after being targeted by Iraqi forces and that damage is being assessed. "In response to recent Iraqi hostile acts against coalition aircraft monitoring the Southern No-Fly Zone, Operation Southern Watch Coalition aircraft used precision-guided weapons Sunday to strike two air-defense radar systems near Al Basrah in Southern Iraq, approximately 2:30 a.m. EST," the statement said. Target battle damage assessment is ongoing.

## Local weather

### TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
<b>Bagram:</b>	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 97F L: 64F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 95F L: 66F
<b>Khandahar:</b>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 106F L: 71F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 106F L: 66F
<b>Kabul:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 93F L: 61F	<i>Haze</i> H: 93F L: 61F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 97F L: 67F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 97F L: 67F

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)

### Golf: Barnes Wears U.S. Amateur Crown

Ricky Barnes won the top prize on Sunday. Barnes defeated Hunter Mahan 2 and 1 to capture the U.S. Amateur title. Barnes, who will be a senior at Arizona, survived a late charge by Mahan, who notched an impressive 50-foot eagle on the 30th hole.

### WNBA: Sparks expected to fly

Los Angeles has lost just seven games this season. One of them came last month when New York notched a 13-point win in L.A. But it doesn't matter now. In her WNBA championship preview, Nancy Lieberman says the Sparks seem ready to repeat when the finals open Thursday.

### CART: Franchitti City

Dario Franchitti might have a new favorite track. The 29-year-old Scot took the checkered flag for Sunday's Molson Indy at Circuit Gilles Villeneuve, CART's debut in Montreal.

### Tennis: Quick start

Lindsay Davenport had an ideal first-round match at the U.S. Open on Monday — a quick one. Davenport, playing her fifth tournament since knee surgery, needed only 43 minutes to dispatch Eva Dyrberg 6-2, 6-1. Davenport, the '98 Open champ, is now 12-3 in singles action since returning to the court and has high expectations.

### NHL: Please, stay

With precious few names to bank on at the ticket office, the Penguins have reportedly offered right winger Alexei Kovalev a five-year deal to stay in Pittsburgh.

### Horse racing: Came Home upsets Classic

A day after Medaglia d'Oro won the \$1 million Travers at Saratoga and staked his claim to this year's 3-year-old championship, War Emblem's grip on the title may have slipped a bit. The Kentucky Derby and Preakness winner finished a dull sixth in Sunday's \$1 million Pacific Classic at Del Mar to Came Home, the only other sophomore in the record 14-horse field.

### Boxing: Ready to rumble

Fernando Vargas doesn't fight Oscar De La Hoya until mid-September, but you couldn't tell from his training camp. Vargas is going through sparring partners at an alarming rate as he prepares for the fight. "I train hard and I want them to work hard, too. If they don't, I want them to go home," Vargas said.

### College football: Buckeyes jump in Power 16 Poll

Ohio State was impressive enough in its season opener to jump two spots to No. 6 in ESPN.com's Power 16 Poll. FSU, however, fell to No. 5 after its win behind No. 1 Oklahoma, Miami, Texas and Tennessee.

**NFL scoreboard: Week 3**  
Green Bay 27-20 Cleveland

2002 Major League standings			
<b>American League East</b>			
N.Y. Yankees	81-48	.628	GB
Boston	74-55	.574	7
Baltimore	63-66	.488	18
<b>American League Central</b>			
Minnesota	78-54	.591	GB
Chicago (AL)	61-70	.466	16.5
Cleveland	57-73	.438	20
<b>American League West</b>			
Oakland	81-51	.614	GB
Seattle	78-53	.595	2.5
Anaheim	77-53	.592	3
<b>National League East</b>			
Atlanta	82-47	.636	GB
Montreal	65-65	.500	17.5
Philadelphia	64-65	.496	18
<b>National League Central</b>			
St. Louis	71-57	.555	GB
Houston	69-61	.531	3
Cincinnati	64-65	.496	7.5
<b>National League West</b>			
Arizona	83-47	.638	GB
Los Angeles	75-55	.577	8
San Francisco	72-58	.554	11
<b>Monday's Scores</b>			
N.Y. Yankees 10-3 Texas			
Milwaukee 2-1 Chicago Cubs			
Boston 10-9 Anaheim			
San Francisco 4-3 Colorado			
Cleveland 8-2 Detroit			
Toronto 8-4 Chicago Sox			
Oakland 6-3 Kansas City			
Arizona 6-3 Los Angeles, Btm 12th			
NL		AL	
1. Los Angeles	.577	1. Seattle	.595
2. San Francisco	.554	2. Anaheim	.592
3. Houston	.531	3. Boston	.574
4. Montreal	.500	4. Baltimore	.488
5. Philadelphia	.496	5. Chicago Sox	.466
6. Cincinnati	.496	6. Texas	.442

## Labor Day Run

The Army Space Command is hosting a 5.9-mile Labor Day Run, Monday at 0200 (Z), with showtime at 0130 (Z). Entry fee for the race is \$10, which includes a T-shirt. T-shirts are available to the first 275 participants. Those interested can register on the first floor of Motel 6, located in Dragon City at Bagram Air Base.

For more information, call Sgt. Sean McGraine at DSN 303-587-5663.