



FREEDOM WATCH



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Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

New York implements Amber Alert

NEW YORK — Gov. George Pataki announced Monday that New York will become the 26th state in the nation to create a multi-agency Amber Alert system to aid in the search for abducted children. The program coordinates law enforcement, television and radio outlets and state agencies. The system was named after a missing child in Texas. Pataki told reporters at an elementary school in Midtown that an 18-county pilot program set up last February would be extended to blanket the state. Pataki said 519 highway message signs and scrolling lottery message boards will be used to display information about abducted children. The Amber Alert system was created in response to the murder of 9-year-old Amber Hagerman, who was kidnapped while riding her bicycle in Arlington, Texas, in 1996. She was later killed.

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Cheney: U.S. would prevent another 9-11

By Jim Garamone
American Forces Press Service

WASHINGTON — Vice President Dick Cheney said today the terrorists who struck America on Sept. 11 are ruthless and striving to get weapons of mass destruction.

He said there's no doubt that they wish to strike again. "It is a certainty that the al Qaeda is pursuing such weapons and has succeeded in acquiring at least a

crude capability to use them," Cheney told the Chosin Few, a Korean War veterans group, at their annual reunion in San Antonio, Texas.

U.S. leaders have a responsibility to defend America, he said. "If the United States could have pre-empted 9-11, we would have. Should we be able to prevent another, more devastating attack, we will. No question," Cheney remarked. "This nation will not live at the mercy of terrorist or terror re-

gimes."

Cheney also told the group — the survivors of the most intense battle of the Korean War — that the United States seeks to thwart terrorists' plans and hunt them down one-by-one to bring them to justice. "Wherever terrorists operate, we must stop them," he said.

The vice president spoke about the danger Iraqi dictator Saddam Hussein poses to the world. He said Hussein already has chemical

and biological agents.

"There is no doubt that he is amassing them against our friends, allies and us," Cheney said. "And there is no doubt that his aggressive regional ambitions will lead him into future confrontations with his neighbors."

He said many Iraq watchers believe that Saddam will soon possess nuclear weapons and the means to deliver them. An Iraq with

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Civil Affairs assists local schools with supplies

By Sgt. Jeffrey LaGrange
Civil Humanitarian Liaison Cell

MAZAR-E-SHARIF, Afghanistan — Approximately 200,000 children in the northern provinces of Afghanistan returned to school last week after the summer break. Some are returning to refurbished schools, thanks in part to members of the U.S. Army's 489th Civil Affairs Battalion. As part of the reconstruction of Afghanistan, the Mazar-e-

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Photo by Pfc. Matthew Acosta, 49th Public Affairs Detachment

Eyes from above

Paratroopers from the 82nd Airborne Division's Company B, 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C., unload supplies from a CH-47 D Chinook helicopter, while a 101st Airborne Division (Air Assault) AH-64 Apache provides air support for a mission near Kandahar, Afghanistan.

CHENEY, from Page 1

such weapons, he said, would threaten neighbors in the region and nations around the world who depend on the resources of the area.

“The whole range of weapons of mass destruction would then rest in the hands of a dictator who has already shown his willingness to use such weapons,” Cheney said.

He said the United States recognizes the threat and will

proceed with care, deliberation and in consultation with allies. He said President Bush would consult widely with Congress, and that administration officials will participate fully in the hearings that Congress plans to hold next month.

He addressed assertions of Saudi Arabia and others that Hussein can be dealt with by returning inspectors to Iraq.

“We must remember that

inspections are not an end in themselves,” Cheney said. “The objective has to be disarmament.” The objective, he continued, must be to compel Iraqi compliance with the U.N. Security Council resolutions that called for the complete destruction of Iraq’s weapons of mass destruction program.

Cheney said old doctrines of security do not apply, given the web joining Iraq, terrorist groups and weapons of mass

destruction.

“In the days of the Cold War, we were able to manage the threat with strategies of deterrence and containment,” he said. “But it’s a lot tougher to deter enemies that have no country to defend. And containment is not possible when dictators obtain weapons of mass destruction and are prepared to share them with terrorists who intend to use them to inflict catastrophic losses on the United States.”

SCHOOLS, from Page 1

Sharif Coalition Humanitarian Liaison Cell has monitored the contracts of 12 school reconstruction projects.

“Many of the schools had no windows or doors before the start of these projects,” said Capt. Ted Kuppinger, CHLC project manager, from Rochester, N.Y. “With a relatively small amount of money, we have been able to make a very large impact.”

For many students, especially girls, this is the first time in three to four years that they have attended school at all. Under the Taliban regime, all girls’ schools were closed, along with many of the boys’ schools as well. Those that remained open received very little money for maintenance or supplies.

Spc. Christopher Sandidge, a Civil Af-

fairs specialist from Sodus, N.Y., has monitored several of these projects from start to finish.

“Four walls and a floor,” he said. “That is all some of these schools had. Not even a roof.”

As news of these schools’ conditions reached the United States, soldiers’ friends and families began grassroots supply collections.

One girls’ school in particular, Fatimah Bulkhy, was featured in the *New York Times* in early January.

Since then, the CHLC has received supplies for various schools.

Not just limited to stateside contributions, the CHLC went for international aid.

Kuppinger’s mother is a Department of Defense teacher in Vincenza, Italy. After she heard of the conditions in

“Four walls and a floor. That is all some of these schools had. Not even a roof.”

— Spc.
Christopher Sandidge

Civil Affairs specialist

the Afghan schools, the Junior National Honor Society at her school began collecting, sorting and mailing school supplies.

Even the local Italian Brownie Troop got in the act, spending \$100 of their annual cookie sales to buy supplies for students less fortunate than themselves.

Not to be outdone by their northern neighbors, a small post south of Vincenza, Camp Darby, collected and sent school supplies, as well.

Sgt. Joe Picioli, from Rochester, sorted and distributed the supplies in Afghanistan.

“It is amazing to see the amount of school supplies we have received,” he said. “I estimate that we have received between 500 and 600 pounds of supplies, and it keeps coming.”

Most of the supplies received were notebooks, pens, pencils and art supplies.

After the supplies were distributed, the students expressed their gratitude to the CHLC.

“Paper products are expensive on the market,” said one principal. “Most of the students cannot afford to buy the things they need for school.”

Besides the standard school supplies, some groups included reading books. Most of the school libraries have few, if any, books

on the shelves. For the Afghans, being able to stock the shelves with even 20-year-old encyclopedias is an improvement.

“We are just a small drop in the bucket,” said Maj. Wade Cook, CHLC team leader, from Brighton, N.Y. “There is still a lot more to be done, but it is nice to know that we, along with the citizens back home, have been able to make an impact.”

With funding for more school projects expected in the near future, the Civil Affairs Team in Mazar-e-Sharif hope to bring even more schools back into good working order. They are also expecting more supplies to arrive at the CHLC as well.

“If they mail it, we will deliver it,” said Spc. Rashan Tyler, a communications specialist attached to the team from Fort Bragg, N.C.

HIND SIGHT

1260

At the Battle of Montaperto in Italy, the Tuscan Ghibellines, who supported the emperor, defeat the Florentine Guelfs, who supported papal power.

1781

Los Angeles, first an Indian village named Yagma, is founded by Spanish decree.

1870

A republic is proclaimed in Paris and a government of national defense is formed.

1881

The Edison electric lighting system goes into operation as a generator serving 85 paying customers is switched on.

1951

The first transcontinental television broadcast in America is carried by 94 stations.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

Irish launch EU vote campaign

DUBLIN, Republic of Ireland — Irish leaders have launched a nationwide campaign to convince voters to approve an EU expansion treaty — a year after a similar ballot was defeated. Conceding their low-key campaign was partly to blame for the 2001 result, officials are spending 600,000 euros (\$591,000) to send an information booklet to every household in the country. Anti-EU campaigners said the booklet violated a court ruling that bans the state from taking sides in a referendum. But Irish Prime Minister Bertie Ahern said the booklet's content was factual and did not support a "yes" vote.

Scores killed after typhoon slams Korea

SEOUL, South Korea — South Korea has begun a massive clean up in the wake of the worst typhoon to hit the country in 40 years. Officials say at least 88 people are dead and 70 are missing after Typhoon Rusa pummeled eastern and southern areas of the country over the weekend. Rusa dumped up to 36 inches of rain within 30 hours in the eastern city of Gangneung, as winds tipped 200 kilometers an hour, before moving out of the peninsula Sunday afternoon. Roads and railways were submerged, thousands of houses were flooded, leaving more than 25,000 homeless, while high waves swept away more than 200 ships and wrecked mooring facilities in 24 ports.

Russia warns against Iraq attack

MOSCOW — Russia says it will not support any U.S. military action against Iraq because it would only "complicate" attempts to resolve problems in the Middle East. Foreign Minister Igor Ivanov said Russia's traditional support for Iraq would end if the nation did not halt its program to develop weapons of mass destruction — chemical and biological.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<u>Bagram:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 93F L: 63F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 93F L: 63F
<u>Khandahar:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 100F L: 66F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 102F L: 72F
<u>Kabul:</u>	<i>Haze</i> H: 86F L: 55F	<i>Haze</i> H: 90F L: 55F
<u>Uzbekistan:</u>	<i>Clear</i> H: 92F L: 62F	<i>Clear</i> H: 91F L: 62F

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)

Tennis: Sampras still standing

At the opposite ends of their careers, Americans Pete Sampras and Andy Roddick are on a quarterfinal collision course at the U.S. Open. Hours after an exuberant Roddick overcame a one-set deficit to top Juan Ignacio Chela, Sampras held off third-seeded Tommy Haas.

MLB: Believe it ... or not

Bizarre? Rangers starter Aaron Myette was ejected after two pitches. Relievers Todd Van Poppel and Joaquin Benoit took a no-hitter into the ninth. Jerry Hairston crashed the party with a leadoff triple, and Benoit set a major-league record for longest outing resulting in a save (7 innings). Oh, the Rangers handed the O's their 10th straight defeat.

Soccer: Too close for comfort

Manchester United kept its unbeaten start to the season alive on Tuesday with a controversial 1-0 victory over Middlesbrough at Old Trafford. Man U striker Ruud van Nistelrooy scored a disputed penalty kick in the 27th minute after what looked to be some minor contact with a Middlesbrough defender. The win avenged two losses to Boro last season, including a home defeat last March.

WNBA: Northwest winds of change

The Pacific Northwest is looking for new WNBA coaches Tuesday after both the Fire and Storm had a change at the top. Portland fired Linda Hargrove while Seattle's Lin Dunn stepped down.

RPM: A wild weekend at Indy

Funny Car champion John Force claimed his fourth career win at the U.S. Nationals on Monday, while Tony Schumacher topped the Top Fuel class for the second time at Indianapolis Raceway Park.

NBA: Pierce-ing victory for USA

Team USA is back to its overpowering self. Following two relatively close encounters against Germany and China, the Americans opened the second round of the World Championships Monday night with a convincing 106-82 victory over Russia. Paul Pierce solidified his role as USA's go-to guy, pouring in 20 of his 27 points in the third quarter to lead the Americans in scoring.

Horse racing: AB, what a futurity!

AB What A Runner, the race's fastest qualifier, scored a wire-to-wire victory Monday on a muddy Ruidoso track in one of the closest finishes in the 44-year history of the \$2 million All American Futurity for Quarter Horses. The 2-year-old filly is now 3-for-3 in her brief racing career. On Sunday, Genuine Strawfly held off even-money favorite Tres Seis to win the Grade 1 All American Derby.

2002 Major League standings

American League East			GB
N.Y. Yankees	85-52	.620	-
Boston	77-59	.566	7.5
Baltimore	63-73	.463	21.5
American League Central			GB
Minnesota	80-59	.576	-
Chicago (AL)	68-70	.493	11.5
Cleveland	60-77	.438	19
American League West			GB
Oakland	87-51	.630	-
Anaheim	83-54	.606	3.5
Seattle	81-57	.587	6
National League East			GB
Atlanta	87-50	.635	-
Philadelphia	69-68	.504	18
Florida	68-69	.496	19
National League Central			GB
St. Louis	77-61	.558	-
Houston	72-65	.526	4.5
Cincinnati	67-71	.486	10
National League West			GB
Arizona	85-52	.620	-
Los Angeles	80-57	.584	5
San Francisco	77-59	.566	7.5

Tuesday's scores

Texas 7-1 Baltimore
 Florida 3-2 N.Y. Mets
 Detroit 4-0 Cleveland
 Montreal 7-6 Philadelphia
 N.Y. Yankees 4-2 Boston
 Pittsburgh 3-0 Atlanta
 Chicago Sox 5-4 Toronto
 Chicago Cubs 10-1 Milwaukee
 Anaheim 10-2 Tampa Bay
 St. Louis 3-1 Cincinnati
 N.Y. Mets 11-5 Florida

W I L D	NL
	1. Los Angeles .584
	2. San Francisco .566
	3. Houston .526
	4. Philadelphia .504
	5. Florida .496
6. Montreal .493	
C A R D	AL
	1. Anaheim .606
	2. Seattle .587
	3. Boston .566
	4. Chicago Sox .493
	5. Baltimore .463
6. Texas .453	