



FREEDOM WATCH



November 13, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Purported bin Laden tape praises attacks

DOHA, Qatar — An audiotaped statement attributed to Osama bin Laden praises recent terror attacks in Yemen, Kuwait, Bali and Moscow as a response “to how the Muslims have been treated” and warns U.S. allies, “Just like you kill us, we will kill you.” The message, broadcast Tuesday by the Arabic language news network Al-Jazeera based in Qatar, characterizes the Bush administration as “the biggest murderers of the century.” People who have listened to hours of bin Laden tapes said the voice sounds like that of the al Qaeda leader. It is not known when the tape was recorded, but it refers to events as recent as October.

Palace stops short of full inquiry

LONDON, England — Britain’s Prince

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KAF MEDCAP treats against worms

Story & photo by Pfc. Matthew Acosta
49th Public Affairs Detachment (Airborne)

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan — U.S. forces in the Kandahar region of Afghanistan are providing necessary healthcare to local Afghan families in an effort to combat sickness, disease and infection.

“We provide healthcare to the local population through MEDCAPs (medical civilian assistance programs),” said Army Reservist Lt. Col. James Post, commander, 339th

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Unsure of what the doctor is doing, a little Afghan boy stands still with the reassurance of his older sister. Capt. D.J. Doyle, 82nd Airborne Division surgeon, Fort Bragg, N.C., checks the child’s ear canal for obstructions and ear infections.

769th help improve conditions at KMTC

Story & photo by Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
28th Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan — Work conditions and quality of life for U.S. troops at the Kabul Military Training Center are being improved everyday, thanks, in part, to a five-member team of soldiers from the 769th Engineer Battalion, from Baton Rouge, La.

The team, consisting of a squad leader, Small Emplacement Excavator operator, a plumber, electrician and a well digger, has been part of a number of large projects at KMTC, including water heater installation,

upgrading electricity, placing mortar positions and well digging. The job may seem large for such a small team, but Spc. Travis Holloway, the team’s electrician, said they work together to lighten each other’s load.

One of the main projects the engineers have right now is digging wells. Currently, the compound’s main water source is an off-site well located about five kilometers away from the center. The team works with two local contractors to build a new well on the compound, which will improve force protection measures. They also have a team working at

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Sgt. Victor Duncan uses a Small Emplacement Excavator to clear ground for a mortar position at KMTC.



Photos by Pfc. Matthew Acosta, 49th Public Affairs Detachment (Airborne)

A soldier demonstrates what he wants the little Afghan girl to do as he checks her brother's throat.

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Combat Support Hospital. “The MEDCAPs are not designed to do heart transplant operations or serious surgical procedures. Depending on their level of infection or sickness, the smallest amount of help could prove to be immensely beneficial.”

Once the medical team began examinations, the mission moved along well.

The vast amount of patients and ailments made determining the type of illness almost impossible.

“Even with an interpreter, there were problems determining what these people were suffering from,” said Capt. Jon Baker, commander, Co. C, 82nd FSB. “They used very general and vague descriptions of their pain and symptoms.”

One way the doctors overcame this dilemma was to treat illnesses common to Afghans like the flu, pneumonia, infections, malnutrition, diarrhea, fever, worms and parasites.

The following day, the MEDCAP provided medical assistance for the local village of Momand and applied minor im-

provements of lessons learned from the mission the day prior.

When the MEDCAP arrived at the village, they utilized the village school as a medical facility. The school was comprised of two tents left behind by UNICEF.

Baker said having the tents made the work easier. It enabled the medical team to have entrance and exit points and it kept the locals from crowding the area.

“Most of the problem originates with the absence of enough clean water for these people to drink and bathe themselves with,” Post said. “If they bathed regularly, the number of skin disorders would drop dramatically.”

According to Co. C medical reports, an estimated 500 blankets were given out to the people and 1,397 people were treated. Several units were responsible for the overall success of the humanitarian aid mission.

Post said the Afghans’ ability to survive in harsh conditions with the illnesses they had was surprising.

“In all my 20 years as a surgeon and Special Forces medic,



Sgt. Jamelia Carter, medic, 82nd Abn. Div., prepares to administer a dose of anti-biotic in a syringe to an infant.

it never ceases to amaze me; the human’s ability to survive with a tragic deprivation of life’s most important need — clean water,” Post explained. “The resilience of the Afghan people to overcome this environment, continue on living and never know any different, is a testimony of the human spirit and survivability in the most abject environments.”

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the Palace in Kabul.

“We can’t control the amount of water that comes in,” said Master Sgt. Emanuel Valdez, NCOIC of the Field Engineer Team that oversees the 769th. “And anywhere along the way, if the city power goes out, this pump goes out. We have two points of failure.”

“Also, even without anyone tampering, the water really isn’t safe to drink,” added Maj. Thomas Rafferty, who heads the FET.

Because of this, Coalition servicemembers must drink, cook and brush their teeth with bottled water.

Electrical and power source upgrades are another big project for the team. Valdez explained that the FOB is powered from two small generators with no backup, resulting in a number of power failures.

“Right now, we’ve maxed out on our generators,” Valdez said. “If those go down, we’re quite literally in the dark.”

Sgt. Victor Duncan, the team’s Small Emplacement Excavator operator said these minor setbacks don’t pose a large problem because they are fixed immediately.

The engineers are now working on installing larger generators that will not only power the FOB, but provide heating in the near future.

The next project in the works for the engineers will be the sewerage problem. Currently, the sewers don’t flow well, so a truck must come and take the waste away.

“If we can get that squared away, that will be a big morale booster,” Valdez said.

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HIND SIGHT

1835

Texans officially proclaim independence from Mexico and calls itself the Lone Star Republic after its flag, until its admission to the Union in 1845.

1907

Paul Corno achieves the first helicopter flight.

1914

The brassiere, invented by Caresse Crosby, is patented.

1927

New York's Holland Tunnel officially opens for traffic.

1952

Harvard's Paul Zoll becomes the first man to use electric shock to treat cardiac arrest.

Charles ordered an internal inquiry Tuesday into allegations involving the royal family and royal staff — including claims that a male royal servant was raped years ago by an aide to the prince and that the prince tried to cover it up. There had been growing pressure for an independent inquiry conducted by government officials who are not part of the royal household. The inquiry will be conducted by Sir Michael Peat, private secretary to the prince, along with prominent London attorney Edmund Lawson. In announcing the inquiry, Peat insisted it would be thorough. “Anyone who says it’s going to be a complete whitewash doesn’t know me very well,” he said. “The Prince of Wales has instructed me to undertake this inquiry without fear or favor ... I, and more importantly the Prince of Wales, are totally committed to openness and accountability.”

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present “Back Flash” tonight at 1530Z at the MWR building.

Tomorrow’s movie will be “Thirteen Days,” showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Rain</i> H: 61F L: 41F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 57F L: 34F
Kandahar:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 70F L: 50F	<i>Haze</i> H: 72F L: 46F
Kabul:	<i>Rain</i> H: 59F L: 36F	<i>Rain</i> H: 59F L: 37F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Rain</i> H: 65F L: 39F	<i>Thunderstorms</i> H: 69F L: 38F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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

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

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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.

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

WNBA: Miracle On The Move

The WNBA's restructuring plan is in motion, meaning the Miracle are on the move. The franchise will leave Orlando after a four-season run for a different city next season, possibly San Antonio. But because non-NBA owners have been allowed to acquire teams, it's also possible the Miracle could land in a non-NBA market.

College football: Tech may control Big 12 South



Surprisingly, it's Texas Tech — not Texas — that is in control of its own destiny in the Big 12 South. The Red Raiders and record-setting QB Kliff Kingsbury can end the 'Horns' BCS title hopes while enhancing

their division title chances with a win over UT on Saturday in Lubbock.

Horse racing: Fraud suspects arrested

The three former Drexel University frat brothers connected to the potential Breeders' Cup betting fraud case surrendered to the FBI in New York on Tuesday. Derrick Davis, Glen DaSilva and Chris Harn, all 29, were accused of conspiring to violate wire-fraud laws through the manipulation of the Ultimate Pick Six wager that would have paid \$3.1 million if legitimate. Prosecutors said Davis tested positive for cocaine on Tuesday morning and would be re-tested to confirm the results.

Lady college b-ball: Taurasi to lead Huskies

She has a solid supporting cast around her, but everyone knows the Husky Nation will live and die by Diana Taurasi this season. That suits the self-confident UConn junior just fine. Whether she's dropping in a career high or clanging it off the rim, you won't find a shred of doubt in Taurasi's super-sized game, writes ESPN The Magazine's Eric Adelson.

Redskins part ways with WR Green

Frustrated by a lack of playing time, Washington Redskins wide receiver Jacquez Green has for the last two weeks sought his release, and ESPN.com learned the team granted his request on Tuesday morning.

The fifth-year veteran will be on the Tuesday league-wide transaction wire and is subject to a waiver claim for 24 hours. If he clears waivers, which is likely, Green is then free to sign with any other team.

The former University of Florida star signed a three-year contract with the Redskins this summer, bypassing at least two more lucrative offers, because he felt being reunited with coach Steve Spurrier would boost his career. But he was the only wide receiver on the roster not to start at least one game, as Spurrier incessantly

tinkered with the position, and primarily played Green as the Redskins' punt returner.

Green, 26, returned 17 punts for 174 yards and had a 90-yard touchdown runback against the Philadelphia Eagles on Sept. 16. Green played sparingly from scrimmage, though, and had just five catches for 94 yards.

A second-round draft choice of Tampa Bay in 1998, he spent his first four seasons with the Bucs and had mixed success. The team did not try hard to retain Green when he became an unrestricted free agent this spring and he had workouts with several other franchises.

His three-year, \$4.3 million contract with Washington was actually designed to be a one-

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**It is better to blend into a crowd
Than stand out from everyone else...**



Use OPSEC

REDSKINS,
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year deal that would enable Green to go back into the free agent market next spring. He received a \$225,000 signing bonus and base salaries of \$525,000 (2002), \$550,000 (2003) and \$3 million (2004). The contract stipulated that the 2003-2004 seasons would be voided if Green caught just 40 passes in 2002.

But given his lack of playing time, even that modest total was unreachable for Green, and he chafed at being passed over by other wide receivers on the Washington roster.



For his career, Green has 162 catches for 2,311 yards and seven touchdowns, while appearing in 65 games and starting 37 of them.

Washington is expected to elevate wide receiver Justin Skaggs from the practice squad to replace Green on the roster.

(Courtesy of ESPN.com)

2002-03 NBA standings

Western Conference

Midwest

Dallas	5-0
San Antonio	4-1
Minnesota	4-2
Houston	2-2
Utah	1-4

Pacific

Seattle	4-2
Sacramento	3-3
Portland	2-3
Phoenix	2-3
L.A. Lakers	2-5

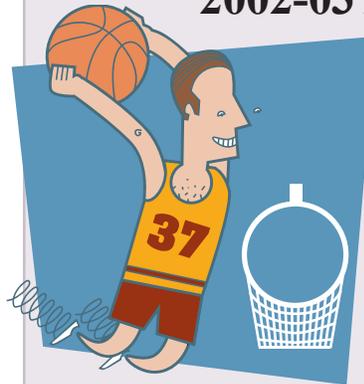
Eastern Conference

Atlantic

New Jersey	5-1
Orlando	5-1
Philadelphia	4-1
Boston	3-2
Washington	3-3

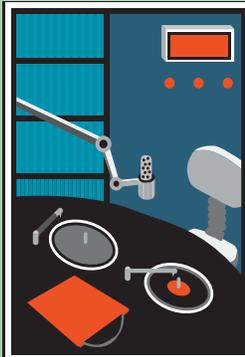
Central

Detroit	5-1
Indiana	4-1
New Orleans	3-1
Atlanta	3-2
Toronto	2-3



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support