



## President speaks on Thanksgiving

*Navy News Service*

WASHINGTON— *The President of the United States, George W. Bush, released the following message in celebration of Thanksgiving:*

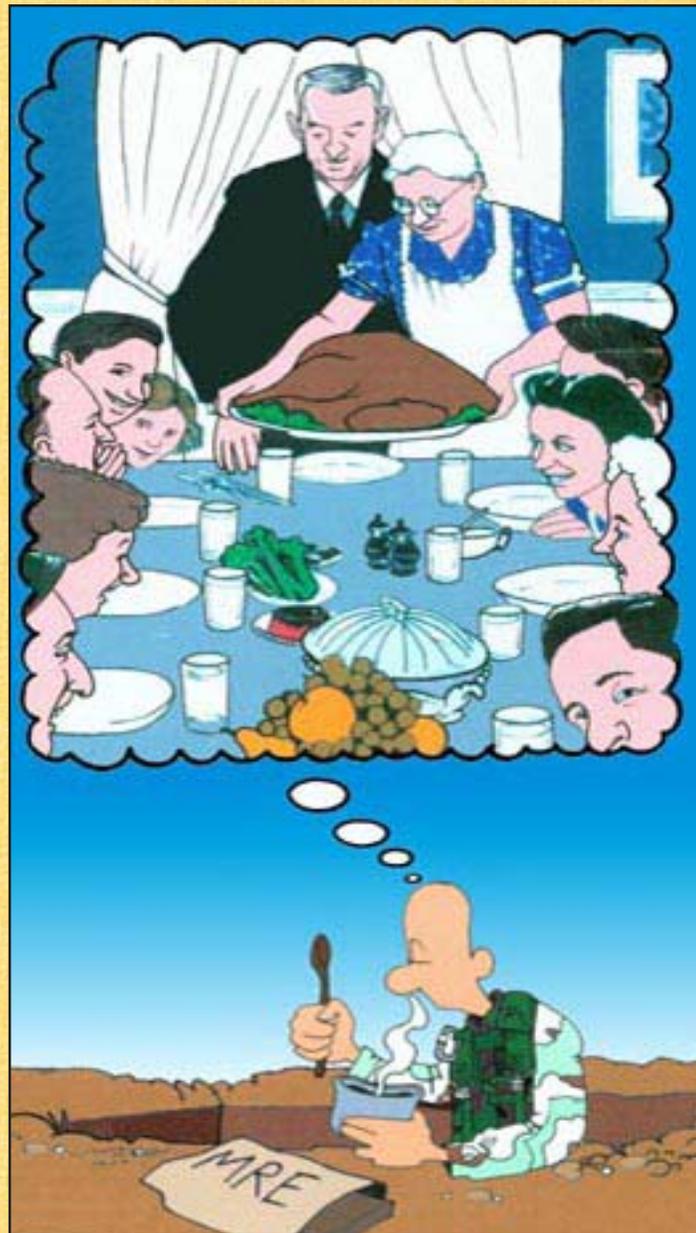
I am honored to have this opportunity to thank the brave men and women of America's armed forces for your service to our nation. This Thanksgiving, there's much to reflect upon – and even more to be grateful for.

More than a year ago, our nation was attacked, and thanks to all of you, today we find a liberated Afghanistan, and we find that the terrorists are on the run. But more work in the war against terror remains.

We will root out all the terrorists who threaten America and our allies. We will not be secure as a nation until all these threats are eliminated. And no matter how long it takes, we will fight the enemies of freedom, and we will win.

This Thanksgiving, we have so much to be thankful for.

We are thankful for the goodness and generosity of our citizens. We are thankful for the freedom of America's



By Mark Baker

### ***Pvt. Murphy's Law***

**BUSH**, from Page 1

democracy. And we are so very thankful to you, the men and women who wear our uniform.

And thanks to our military, the people of Afghanistan live in freedom and have hope for a better life. Thanks to you, freedom is replacing fear throughout the world. And thanks to you, we are bringing justice to those who would harm America.

Each and every one of you is dedicated to serving something greater than yourself. You put the protection and safety of others above your own. You are guided by a code, and you fight to bring a promise of freedom to others. I'm honored to be your commander in chief.

Happy Thanksgiving to you all. May God bless you and your families. And may God continue to bless America.

## Thanksgiving message to Coalition from SECDEF

Holiday greetings to the men and women of the Armed Forces, as you gather to celebrate this day of friendship and worship.

Some are spending this Thanksgiving Day with family and loved ones; others of you are far from home, standing watch for freedom. Wherever you are, I want you to know that your country is grateful for your service and for your sacrifice. Each of you is in our hearts and our prayers as we give thanks today for the blessings in our lives.

On this day 60 years ago, World War II was raging. American soldiers were spread across the globe. Many gave their lives to defeat the Axis powers and save the world from tyranny.

Today, we are once again engaged in a battle — this time it is a battle between freedom and terror, extremism and fanaticism. And today, once again, the men and women in uniform are risking their

lives in the defense of liberty.

In Afghanistan, you and our Coalition forces defeated the terrorists, rescued a country and liberated a people. Today, you are on the ground in dozens of countries, and patrolling seas and skies, hunting down terrorists so that they too, cannot kill again.

All Americans can give thanks that our freedom and way of life are defended by the strongest and most skilled military force in the world. And each of us can also give thanks for the American people, whose steadfast support is helping us accomplish our mission in the global war on terror.

I salute each of you for your patriotism, your sacrifice, your dedication. Have a wonderful Thanksgiving. We have a great deal to be thankful for. May God bless you all.

*Donald H. Rumsfeld  
Secretary of Defense*



**News briefs**  
(Compiled from CNN.com)

**Officials pleased after first day of inspections**  
BAGHDAD, Iraq — The first day of resumed U.N. weapons inspections in Iraq went smoothly, the chief inspector told *CNN*, but he warned “there is a very strong power behind us” if Iraqi officials obstruct search efforts. Hans Blix, head of the U.N. Monitoring, Verification and Inspections Commission, said denying inspectors access to any site would indicate Iraq was hiding something.

See BRIEFS, Page 3

## Troops and turkey celebrate Thanksgiving in Afghanistan

By Capt. Timothy Beninato  
28th Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM**, Afghanistan — While millions of Americans gather around tables Thanksgiving day for a traditional holiday feast, thousands of servicemembers supporting Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Uzbekistan will be seated in dining facilities.

The members of Coalition Joint Task Force - 180 will share this year's feast with fellow soldiers, airmen, sailors, Marines and their brothers and sisters in arms from nations around the world.

Traditional Thanksgiving



meals include turkey, ham, potatoes, stuffing, various vegetable dishes and plenty of scrumptious desserts, and for CJTF-180 troops, this year's Thanksgiving feast will be no different.

Over the last few days, military and civilian cooks have worked tirelessly to prepare thousands of pounds of food to feed

America's fighting forces. Cooks have prepared more than 14,663 pounds of beef, 13,400 pounds of ham, 5,168 pounds of shrimp and 8,491 pounds of turkey. In addition, troops will find hundreds of bushels of fresh fruits displayed across tables next to varying types of hot and tasty bread rolls.

After washing down a satisfying meal with a warm cup of coffee, troops may find selecting their dessert a difficult task. If they can't settle on just one piece of Pumpkin, Pecan, Sweet Potato, Cherry or Apple pie or a slice of cheese cake, they can surely go back for a second piece.

History has taught us the

importance of food and its affects on the morale of a nation's fighting forces. French Gen. Napoleon Bonaparte knew this to be true when he uttered the memorable words “An army marches on its stomach.” And celebrated Texan and American patriot, William Cowper Brann said, “No man can be a patriot on an empty stomach.”

This year as family and friends enjoy their holiday meal and give thanks for the many blessings in their lives, they can also be thankful that America's fighting forces supporting Operation Enduring Freedom are enjoying a Thanksgiving feast of their own.

# HIND SIGHT

**1520**

Spanish explorer Ferdinand Magellan, having discovered a strait at the tip of South America, enters the Pacific.

**1935**

The German Reich declares all men ages 18 to 45 as army reservists.

**1948**

Dr. Edwin Land's first Polaroid cameras go on sale in Boston.

**1950**

In Korea, 200,000 Communist troops launch an attack on UN forces.

**1963**

Cape Canaveral is renamed Cape Kennedy.

**1971**

The Anglican Church ordains the first two women as priests.

## BRIEFS, from Page 2

“Denying us access would then be like smoke. It’s not finding a smoking gun, but finding the smoke. And that would be a very serious matter. If they deny us access we’ll report it to the Security Council,” Blix told *CNN* from the United Nations in New York. Two teams set out at 8:30 a.m., arriving unannounced at locations in two different sections of Baghdad, as inspections resumed for the first time in four years.

## Bin Laden ‘boasted of U.S. deaths’

**HAMBURG, Germany**—Osama bin Laden boasted of planning to kill thousands of people in the United States about half a year before the Sept. 11, 2001 attacks, a German court has heard. Jordanian-born Shadi Abdalla, 25, told the court at the trial of Mounir El Motassadeq, a Moroccan accused of supporting the al Qaeda cell which allegedly led the attacks, that he briefly served as bin Laden’s bodyguard while attending an al Qaeda training camp in Kandahar, Afghanistan. “He (bin Laden) said there would be thousands of deaths,” Abdalla said. “His words were very strong — we must strike at America and destroy it.” Motassadeq, 28, whose Hamburg trial is the first of the terrorist suspect, is charged with being an accessory to 3,116 murders in New York and Washington and with belonging to the Hamburg Islamist cell which allegedly led the Sept. 11 attacks.

## Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

Tomorrow’s movie will be “Mr. Deeds,” showing at the same time.

# Local weather

## TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
<b>Bagram:</b>	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 63F L: 23F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 61F L: 25F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 70F L: 36F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 70F L: 39F
<b>Kabul:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 57F L: 32F	<i>Haze</i> H: 57F L: 28F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	<i>Rain</i> H: 50F L: 33F	<i>Cloudy</i> H: 50F L: 33F

*Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team*

# FREEDOM WATCH

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# COALITION SPORTSZONE



## 2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Miami, Fla.	2.89
2. Ohio State	4.21
3. Oklahoma	9.09
4. Georgia	10.07
5. Iowa	12.43
6. USC	13.37
7. Notre Dame	13.83
8. Washington St.	20.25
9. Texas	22.78
10. Kansas St	23.82
11. Michigan	24.91
12. Colorado	28.18
13. Florida	28.79
14. Penn St.	29.69
15. Colorado St.	32.79

## Report: Solich to hire new offensive coordinator

OMAHA, Neb. — Nebraska football coach Frank Solich plans to name a new offensive coordinator next week, the *Omaha World-Herald* reported in its Tuesday editions.

Citing an unnamed source, the newspaper reported that Solich planned to give up his play-calling duties.

Solich is one of only a dozen Division I-A head coaches who also serve as offensive coordinator. Solich has indicated this season that he was considering having someone else call plays for his team.

Receivers coach Ron Brown, believed to be a possible candidate for the job, said Tuesday that Solich hasn't told him that an announcement was imminent.

"I don't know anything of the sort," he told the *Associated Press*.

## The Day in Sports

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

## Thanks is all I want to say

*Dear Sports,*

I want to take a break from stuffing my face with a delicious piece of pumpkin pie to let you know how thankful I am for your cooperation this year.

Let's start with Super Bowl XXXVI. Yes, it was simply the greatest Super Bowl since the Buffalo Bills narrowly lost on a missed field goal in 1991. How in the heck did those Patriots from New England do it? They were not supposed to compete with the St. Louis Rams, much less win. I mean, the Rams had the two best superstars in the game today, Marshall Faulk and Kurt Warner, and had revamped their defense to complete their prolific offense.

But the underdogs always manage to ruin the perfect ending in sports, and the Patriots played inspirationally. Tom Brady, the youngest quarterback to win a Super Bowl, showed the millions of fans around the world why Drew Bledsoe was standing on the sidelines that night as he engineered the game-winning drive for his kicker.

Man, it was beautiful. Thanks for the show.

Ok, lets move on to the Madness that occurs every March.

It was about time Maryland finally won the championship. They have been neck-and-neck with the Duke Blue Devils for several seasons now, and they were due for a title. Gary Williams, thanks for the show.

Well the baseball season started in April but we will get to that later.

Tiger Woods won the Masters again and won a million for doing so. Nothing new there, but this year he looked to sweep the Grand Slam.

The month of June brought us the global spectacle- soccer.

No surprise there. Brazil won in a classic duel with Germany. The U.S. finished its best run since 1930.

Tiger won the U.S. Open this month to flirt with history.

War Emblem ran for a Triple Crown.

The Lakers won its third title in a row. The Detroit Red Wings sent legendary coach, Scotty Bowman, out on a winning note.

Mike Tyson got clobbered by Lennox Lewis.

July saw Tiger falter in the British Open, ending his course with greatness.

The Williams sisters gave us a show at Wimbledon.

Lance Armstrong won it all in France.

The month of August saw two legends battle it out in N.Y. for the U.S. Open championship. Pete Sampras ended his winless drought and can now retire as the greatest tennis player in history.

September saw the pennant races heat up as the NFL started up again. College football graced us with spectacular finishes and Joe Paterno continued to win. Go JoePa!

October came and went. So did the San Francisco Giants' chances of winning the World Series. Barry did all he could, but it takes a team to win, not an individual. That's why the Anaheim Angels are celebrating their first title in its 42-year history. Thank God!

This month I am just thankful to be alive to write this article because I'm writing you from Afghanistan.

Thanks for the memories.

*Your greatest fan,  
The Spectator.*



## 2002 National Hockey League standings

### Eastern Conference

#### Atlantic

(3) Philadelphia	26 pts
(7) Pittsburgh	24 pts
(8) New Jersey	23 pts
N.Y. Rangers	23 pts
N.Y. Islanders	18 pts

#### Northeast

(1) Boston	32 pts
(5) Ottawa	24 pts
(6) Montreal	24 pts
Toronto	20 pts
Buffalo	12 pts

#### Southeast

(2) Tampa Bay	27 pts
(4) Carolina	25 pts
Florida	22 pts
Washington	20 pts
Atlanta	12 pts

### Western Conference

#### Central

(3) Detroit	26 pts
(5) St. Louis	25 pts
Chicago	21 pts
Columbus	20 pts
Nashville	12 pts

#### Northwest

(2) Minnesota	30 pts
(4) Vancouver	28 pts
(6) Colorado	25 pts
(8) Edmonton	23 pts
Calgary	18 pts

#### Pacific

(1) Dallas	33 pts
(7) Los Angeles	24 pts
Anaheim	23 pts
San Jose	20 pts
Phoenix	18 pts

## Bruins win seventh straight at home, extend division lead over Senators

**BOSTON** — The Boston Bruins' top line has been without Sergei Samsonov nearly all season, but there's been no shortage of production.

Glen Murray scored his fourth career hat trick, Brian Rolston added a pair of goals and John Grahame stopped 29 shots as the streaking Bruins defeated the Calgary Flames 7-2 Tuesday night.

The Bruins won their third straight game and seventh in a row at home. Boston is 8-1-1-0 at the FleetCenter this season. The Flames lost for the seventh time in eight games.

"We've got a high level of confidence right now," said Joe Thornton, who has teamed with Murray and Mike Knuble on the first line for most of the season. "We've been playing with each other a while now and we've just developed a knack for one another."

The last time Murray scored three goals in a game was in last season's regu-

lar-season finale, a 7-1 home win against Pittsburgh.

Marty McInnis scored at 10:06 of the first period when he beat Calgary goaltender Roman Turek on a one-timer from in front of the net.

Murray gave the Bruins a two-goal lead 39 seconds later when he stole the puck from Flames defenseman Craig Conroy, skated in and beat Turek with a wrist shot. Mike Knuble made it 3-0 with 5:03 left in the first when his shot hit the post and trickled past Turek.

"We didn't start off well tonight and we were down 3-0 right away," Turek said. "It's pretty hard to come back from that."

Backup goalie Jamie McLellan replaced Turek to start the second period and didn't fare much better. Murray scored his second of the game and 12th of the season on a pass from Joe Thornton.



## Thanksgiving Dinner

The Dining Facility hours at Bagram Air Base for today are

- ❖ Continental breakfast — 0130Z to 0330Z
- ❖ Main meal — 0730Z to 1130Z
- ❖ Dinner — 1230Z to 1630Z



## Theodore steals spotlight in Hab's victory, Dafoe debut

**MONTREAL** — The Atlanta Thrashers' improved goaltending still left them short of a win.

Doug Gilmour, Jan Bulis and Saku Koivu scored to ruin Byron Dafoe's debut with Atlanta, and the Montreal Canadiens beat the Thrashers 3-2 Tuesday night.

"Obviously it's disappointing the fact that we got a loss but I felt that I was seeing the puck pretty well tonight, and for my first game in six months, I'm pretty pleased with the way I felt," Dafoe said.

Dafoe, an unrestricted free agent who signed with Atlanta on Nov. 20, made 24 saves in his first game since the Canadiens eliminated Boston in the first round of the playoffs last spring.

"I thought Dafoe was excellent," Thrashers coach Curt Fraser said. "He gave us a chance to compete to win in this

game and that's what we're looking for out of our goaltending."

Atlanta lost its third in a row, and fifth in six games.

Dafoe's play drew praise from Montreal goalie Jose Theodore, who stopped 25 of 27 shots.

"He looked pretty good for a guy who missed training camp and the first 20 games," said Theodore, who made a glove save on Marc Savard's shot from the slot 51 seconds into the third period to protect a 2-1 lead.

Koivu scored his ninth goal moments later as the Canadiens went on to win their fourth in six games to end a two-game losing streak.

"The points are big," Koivu said. "Atlanta's record is not the best but they're working hard and they've been playing better lately. I thought they played well defensively.