



FREEDOM WATCH



December 12, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

U.S. lets Scud ship sail to Yemen

SANAA, Yemen — U.S. officials allowed a freighter with 15 Scud missiles aboard to proceed to Yemen Wednesday after the Yemeni government said it purchased the missiles from North Korea. U.S. and Spanish forces seized the freighter So San in the Indian Ocean Monday about 600 miles south of Yemen. Yemeni officials protested the seizure, and U.S. officials released the vessel after receiving assurances that the missiles would not be transferred to a third party. A U.S. military official said, "The merchant vessel has now been released, yet the boarding should send a strong message to proliferators everywhere." Yemeni officials said Wednesday they bought the missiles some time ago for their armed forces. Foreign Minister Abubakr Al-Qirbi assured the U.S. the missiles would not reach any third party.

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Chief Boatswain's Mate Jim Prewitt displays his recently received Navy and Marine Corps Medal. Prewitt was presented the medal for heroism while serving with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Mobile Unit Six, Charleston, S.C. on Sept. 11, 2001.

Ground zero chief receives hero's medal

Story & photo by Journalist
Second Class Denny Lester
U.S. 5th Fleet Public Affairs

MANAMA, Bahrain — "I'm not going to say a word," began Commander U.S. Naval Forces Central Command/ Commander U.S. 5th Fleet Vice Adm. Timothy J. Keating, addressing the sailor

who stood before him. The handful of onlookers gathered for the intimate ceremony in his office needed no explanation either. The citation said it all.

"For heroism," it read.

"I don't feel like a hero," admitted Chief Boatswain's Mate, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Jim Prewitt.

As an EOD member, it is not uncommon to be placed in situations where things can turn ugly in a hurry, but for Prewitt and every other American, there was nothing common about the morning of Sept. 11.

"For years, nothing significant

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Married couple take family getaway to Afghanistan

By Sgt. Eric C. Barker
300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan — If marriage is the continuous process of getting used to things one hadn't expected, then the Doziers'

marriage is off to a good start. The Doziers are both Reservists deployed to Kabul, not your average everyday family vacation.

"Having my wife on deployment is like being at home without all the conveniences," said Sgt.

Joshua M. Dozier, personnel, 360th Civil Affairs Brigade (Airborne) from Fort Jackson, S.C. "Home, of course, would be a lot safer, being we don't have land mines in Savannah, Ga."

"I would have never thought I would marry

someone in the military, much less to have us both deployed to Afghanistan," said Sgt. Melinda A. Dozier, project team noncommissioned officer, 360th CABde. "You could say I joined the

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U.S. Navy photo by Journalist 2nd Class Denny Lester

The Navy and Marine Corps Medal is pinned on the uniform of Chief Boatswain's Mate Jim Prewitt.

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happened,” said Prewitt. “But with this job, on that day, everything happened at once.”

That morning, Prewitt, assigned to EOD Mobile Unit 6, was working as a team leader with the U.S. Secret Service in

New York City. While on his way to a brief in building seven of the World Trade Center Complex, the first plane struck the north tower.

“I was about 50 to 75 yards away,” said Prewitt. “No one knew what had happened. We just thought it was a large ex-

plosion.”

After using his EOD Secret Service pin and credentials to identify himself to police officers at the scene, Prewitt assisted a female suffering severe head trauma by controlling the bleeding and leading her to safety and medical help. Prewitt

then continued to aid the injured and disoriented people who were staring at the towers, and helped them find cover.

“I was able to judge the falling debris and get out of the way. I kept thinking back to my EOD training and remembering ‘seek frontal and overhead protection.’ I was trying to think how I could stay safe and help others at the same time,” explained Prewitt. “Everything fell in line with what I had learned during my EOD training. Without that, I probably would have been there with everyone else — staring up at those buildings.”

When the towers collapsed, Prewitt stayed in the area and assisted victims who had been overcome with breathing difficulties from the ash and pulver-

ized concrete. He also dug out several people who were trapped under vehicles, and led them through the cloud of dust and falling debris to safety.

“I prayed like everyone else prayed. I felt calm,” admitted Prewitt. I didn’t feel like I was going to get hurt — someone was watching over me.”

Now, more than a year later, with a Navy and Marine Corps Medal for heroism pinned upon his chest, Prewitt accepts the honor with a mixture of pride and sorrow.

“I’m grateful, but wish it had never happened. I don’t feel like I deserve it. I did all I could that day, but don’t feel like I need to receive an award for what I did. Being alive is award enough for me.”

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Army and got issued a husband.” Being deployed with your spouse has its benefits.

“I feel better because I am here with him,” said Melinda. “If I was back home I would be worried to death. Since we are both a part of the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force, I know and understand the situation. It works as a calming effect.”

CJCMOTF conducts humanitarian projects throughout Afghanistan. The Task Force coordinates its efforts with Afghanistan agencies and the International Organization/Nongovernmental Organization communities.

Living and working with your spouse everyday can also have its

pitfalls.

“Anytime you are away from home in a dangerous place, you have combat stress. Well, having my wife here is like multiplying the stress by two,” Dozier said.

“We try to keep our work day separate, we don’t even spend lunch together. Everybody needs his or her own space, especially in a compound so small,” explained Melinda. “Nevertheless the benefits of him being here outweigh the disadvantages.”

The realities of marriage require a lot of compromise, which can include date of rank. During a recent ceremony here, the Doziers were promoted to the rank of sergeant.

“I have date of rank on my wife by 27 seconds,” Dozier said smiling, as he looks over at his wife.



Photo by Spc. Renee Mahan, 300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment
Army Sgts. Joshua and Mindy Dozier are stationed together in Afghanistan.

“The only reason he got pinned first is because Joshua comes before Melinda alphabetically,” Melinda explained. “Besides who cares about a few seconds’.”

The Doziers said their deploy-

ment brings them closer together.

“We get to share all these memories together, everything from in-processing to the plane trip over here,” Dozier said. “We are helping to rebuild this country, together.”

HIND SIGHT

1901

Italian inventor Guglielmo Marconi receives the first transatlantic radio transmission in St. John's Newfoundland.

1927

Communists forces seize Canton, China.

1930

The Spanish Civil War begins as rebels take a border town.

1943

The exiled Czech government signs a treaty with the Soviet Union for postwar cooperation.

1967

The United States ends the airlift of 6,500 men in Vietnam.

■ BRIEFS, from Page 1

U.N. inspects new Iraqi military factory

BAGHDAD, Iraq — With a new group of inspectors at work in Iraq, bringing the total to 70, the U.N. inspection teams visited six sites Wednesday — including a military factory built in 1999. The Al Fatah factory was listed in Iraq's declaration to weapons inspectors Oct. 1 and in its massive declaration delivered to inspectors over the weekend. The factory is in the sprawling al Karama facility on the outskirts of Baghdad. Inspectors said al Karama is entirely a military site, making components for missiles, tanks and other military equipment. Under U.N. rules, Iraq is allowed to have short-range missiles.

Bush to order smallpox vaccinations for military

WASHINGTON — President Bush plans to order military personnel to begin getting smallpox vaccinations to protect against the possibility of biological attack. Bush is also expected to announce a plan to vaccinate 500,000 emergency room workers and others whose occupations could put them in sudden contact with the disease, administration sources have said. The vaccine also would be made available to the public through voluntary participation in clinical trials.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present "Vanilla Sky" tonight at 1530Z at the MWR building.

Tomorrow's movie will be "Tuxedo," showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Friday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Rain</i> H: 52F L: 37F	<i>Rain</i> H: 54F L: 34F
Kandahar:	<i>Rain</i> H: 70F L: 41F	<i>Rain</i> H: 50F L: 32F
Kabul:	<i>Rain</i> H: 50F L: 37F	<i>Rain</i> H: 54F L: 34F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Snow</i> H: 38F L: 25F	<i>Rain/Snow</i> H: 42F L: 34F

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.	2.93
2. Ohio State	3.97
3. Georgia	8.37
4. USC	10.51
5. Iowa	10.79
6. Washington St.	16.14
7. Oklahoma	16.79
8. Kansas St.	20.13
9. Notre Dame	20.93
10. Texas	21.08
11. Michigan	23.91
12. Penn St.	26.97
13. Colorado	33.27
14. Florida St.	33.95
15. West Virginia	35.97

Arizona State's Suggs wins Lombardi Award

HOUSTON — Arizona State defensive end Terrell Suggs, who set an NCAA record with 22 sacks this season, won the Lombardi Award on Wednesday night as the nation's top collegiate lineman.

Suggs, a junior, beat out three other finalists: defensive end Cory Redding of Texas, linebacker E.J. Henderson of Maryland and defensive tackle Tommie Harris of Oklahoma.

"The sacks kind of snuck up on me," Suggs said. "One minute it was seven and the next it was 10 and at the end of the season it was 22," Suggs said. "I was shocked myself."

Suggs is a junior who has not decided if he will skip his senior season for a shot at the pros.

"Every team in the NFL is looking for pass rushers and he's the best," Arizona State coach Dirk Koetter said.

"Terrell is a great pure pass rusher," he said. "He's got tremendous speed and he's relentless and we play in a league that throws the ball a lot, so he's a tremendous player. He never stops.

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Salo's streak ends but 36 saves earns Oilers third straight win

EDMONTON — Mike York is delivering the offensive boost the Edmonton Oilers had hoped for when they traded for the center last season.

York scored two goals and Tommy Salo stopped 36 shots as the Oilers beat the Carolina Hurricanes 4-1 Wednesday night for their third straight win.

"I was getting opportunities but the puck wasn't going in — now they are," York said. "It's a good feeling.

"If anything, it was a little bit frustrating, especially at the beginning of the year when we weren't doing so well. If you could chip in a goal or two it would help pull off a win. Now, the puck's just starting to go in."

York, acquired from the New York Rangers just before the trade deadline last year, has five goals in his last eight games.

Ryan Smyth and Mike Comrie also scored for the Oilers, winners of nine of their last 11.

Sean Hill scored for the Hurricanes, who lost their fourth straight.

Hill's goal at 10:41 of the third period ended Edmonton's shutout streak at 173 minutes, 41 seconds.

2002 National Hockey League standings



Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) New Jersey	35 pts
(5) Philadelphia	33 pts
N.Y. Rangers	29 pts
Pittsburgh	28 pts
N.Y. Islanders	25 pts

Northeast

(1) Boston	42 pts
(4) Ottawa	34 pts
(7) Toronto	30 pts
(8) Montreal	30 pts
Buffalo	19 pts

Southeast

(3) Tampa Bay	32 pts
(6) Carolina	31 pts
Florida	28 pts
Washington	26 pts
Atlanta	18 pts

Western Conference

Central

(3) Detroit	37 pts
(5) St. Louis	35 pts
(8) Chicago	31 pts
Columbus	25 pts
Nashville	20 pts

Northwest

(2) Minnesota	37 pts
(4) Vancouver	36 pts
(6) Edmonton	33 pts
Colorado	29 pts
Calgary	23 pts

Pacific

(1) Dallas	39 pts
(7) Anaheim	31 pts
Los Angeles	29 pts
San Jose	24 pts
Phoenix	23 pts

Dorsey, McGahee among Heisman finalists

NEW YORK — Miami's Ken Dorsey and Willis McGahee are Heisman Trophy finalists, the first time since 1994 that teammates were among the top five in the voting.

Iowa quarterback Brad Banks, Penn State running back Larry Johnson and Southern California quarterback Carson Palmer also were invited Wednesday for the award's presentation.

The winner will be announced Saturday night at the Yale Club in New York. The last time two players from the same school finished in the top five was eight years ago, when Penn State's Ki-Jana Carter was second and Kerry Collins fourth.

McGahee, a tailback who wasn't even supposed to start this season, would be the first sophomore to win the award given to college football's most outstanding player.

Palmer is trying to become the first West Coast player to win since USC's Marcus Allen in 1981.

Of the five finalists, only Dorsey opened the season as a true Heisman hopeful; he finished third in the 2001 voting and led Miami to a national title. McGahee ended the 2001 season as Miami's starting fullback, but moved back to tailback because of injuries and broke several single-season records.

He shattered the school record with

27 touchdowns and also set school records for yards rushing (1,686), total yards (2,036), and 100-yard games (10).

In Saturday's 56-45 win over Virginia Tech, McGahee ran 39 times for a career-high 205 yards and broke a 69-year-old school record with six TDs.

"I doubt I can get it because I've only been on the scene for like one year, and I didn't do as much as Kenny or the other quarterbacks did," McGahee said recently. "I don't know what the Heisman means in their terms, but in my terms it means the best overall player who has been performing the best to help their school win and getting the job done."

Drake shatters school scoring records

DES MOINES, Iowa — J.J. Sola had a career-high 36 points and Drake scored on a succession of layups and dunks while setting several school records in beating Division III Grinnell 162-110 Wednesday night.

Grinnell (4-2), which was averaging 140 points a game, plays a frenetic style that gives up baskets for a chance to score at the other end. Drake (4-4) took advantage, beating the Grinnell press time after time for easy shots.

Drake's old record had been 130 points against Missouri-Kansas City in 1971. The Bulldogs also rang up the most points ever by a Missouri Valley Conference team, topping the 141 that Tulsa scored against Prairie View in 1995.

The 162 points were the most by a Division I team this season. Western Carolina scored 119 against Toccoa Falls Institute on Nov. 23.

The Division I record is 186 by Loyola Marymount, which played a style that Grinnell mimics, against U.S. International on Jan. 5, 1991.

Drake also set school records for points in a half (89 in the second), free throws (41) and assists (35). The Bulldogs shot 78.6 percent in the second half, when they made 21 of their first 25 shots, and 68.2 percent (60-of-88) for the game.

In leading 73-51 at half-time, Drake scored more points than it had in all but one of its previous games.



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By Kevin Kilgore

*“Sir,
the
new
camouflage
is
good ...
a
little
too
good.”*

Laugh Support