



# FREEDOM WATCH



December 16, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

## News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

### Three held in Pakistan terror hunt

**KARACHI, Pakistan** — Police in Pakistan arrested three men alleged to have been preparing a suicide attack against two senior U.S. diplomats. Police Inspector-General Kamal Shah said the men, arrested in Karachi on Saturday, were members of the radical Islamic group Harkat-e-Jihad Islami. He said they had trained in Afghanistan, although the ongoing investigation had not linked them directly to Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda terror network. Shah identified the men as Asif Zaheer, Sohail Noor and Mohammad Yusuf. During the Saturday arrests, police said they recovered 250 bags of ammonium nitrate and a Volkswagen packed with 10 kilograms of the explosive material.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3

## 598th deploys to fight war on terror

Sgt. William A. Graves  
*Fort Benning Bayonet*

**FORT BENNING, Ga.** — Soldiers from the 598th Maintenance Company, 13th Corps Support Battalion, deployed Dec. 6 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The mission is to provide technical support and perform repairs on electronic and automotive equipment.

"All members are highly motivated and proud to be doing their part to support the fight against terrorism," said Chief Warrant Officer Thomas Esposito, officer in charge.

During the past year, the company has traveled to Fort Polk, La., to train at the Joint Readiness Training Center and to Fort Irwin, Calif., to train at the National Training Center.

"This is an exciting capstone mission for them," said Capt. Melissa Eslinger, company commander. "They will have an excellent opportunity to reap the dividends of all the training they have received."

Many family members and friends were on hand at the farewell.

"I wish I could go with him because we just got married in May," said fellow soldier and wife of Sgt.

Justin Barr, Sgt. Ann Marie Johnson. "We have to try to make the best of it. I plan on sending him a lot of care packages."

She said she was proud of her husband.

"It's not often you get to go defend your country," Johnson said. "The situation around the world is tense, and he'll be at the forefront of helping keep the world safe."

"This is an extremely important mission upon which they are about to embark," said Command Sgt. Maj. Rickey Talley, 13th Corps Sup-

See **BENNING**, Page 2

## Security no easy task for Co. D

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

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** — Half of their job is security. The other is isolation.

"There's also a lot of 'go chase these people around,'" said Staff Sgt. Jeff Weaver, platoon sergeant.

Weaver is with Company D, 3rd Battalion, 505th



**Staff Sgt. Kevin Scharmen, Company D, 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C., native of Dallas, adjusts the channels on a radio while his team pulls security outside an Afghan compound during Operation Alamo Sweep in Southeastern Afghanistan.**

Parachute Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C., which provides protection for the rest of the battalion.

"Our first mission was in Deh Rawod," said Sgt. 1st Class Mike Jarvey, platoon sergeant. "It was a fact-finding mission. We

escorted Afghan officials and Special Forces teams. We took them around for

See **SECURITY**, Page 2



Photo by Sgt. Reeba Critser

**Pvt. Bobby Ray Emanis, Company D, 3rd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, native of Houston, pulls security from atop a HMMWV outside an Afghan compound during Operation Alamo Sweep in Southeastern Afghanistan.**

**SECURITY**, from Page 1

five days.”

During that time, the company ensured no harm came to their flock. In addition, they made certain no one came in or out of the perimeter.

Sometimes, their presence attracts enemy fire.

“We’ve taken a lot of mortar and rocket fire,” said Weaver, a Miamisburg, Ohio, native. “They were all pop shots though, nothing accurate. I’m glad they can’t aim.”

To provide the best protection possible to their unit, the company often travels ahead of the mission.

“When the battalion flies in, we’re always there at least a couple hours before,” Weaver said.

The company usually

drives due to flight shortages.

“We’ve seen more of Afghanistan than anyone has seen,” said Jarvey, a Copper City, Mich., native. “We must have driven at least 2,000 miles. Our longest drive was 17 hours.”

But driving also has its disadvantages, Jarvey said.

“We were on a convoy escort near Gardez and an individual challenged us,” he said. “He fired upon us and we returned fire. We all got out safely.”

As a result, Jarvey said the company usually carries a lot of weapons and equipment.

Their interaction with the locals has “opened my eyes up,” Weaver said.

“Americans don’t realize what they have they have compared to other

people,” he said. “They (Afghans) need help from somebody, I believe. Their economy is so behind from the rest of the world.”

“Our mission is so unique,” Jarvey added. “We see different aspects, remove bad guys and take humanitarian aid to villages. We’ve done both ends of the spectrum—combat operations and helping the locals.”

Through it all, Weaver said the soldiers bonded.

“There are little gripes once in a while,” he said. “But I’m pretty sure they would kill for each other.”

Jarvey said, “no matter how much training we’ve had, nothing prepared us for knowing that our buddy’s with us all the way.”

**BENNING**, from Page 1

port Battalion. “They were hand selected because of their field of expertise, and we are proud they have this opportunity to showcase their knowledge, professionalism and efficiency.”

He reminded them to be safe and use their established buddy system. He also assured the soldiers and families that the company and battalion leadership will be their lifeline, taking care of whatever needs arise.

“The FRG will help keep the soldiers’ minds focused on the mission instead of on what’s happening back here,” Eslinger said. “It will enhance their morale and the overall mission.”

Two soldiers’ wives will especially need the group’s support, she said. Pfc. Sean Hawkins and Spc. Chad Corey just married Sally and Dana, respectively.

“I’m glad I’m going, but I’m concerned about her because she’s pregnant,” Hawkins said. “I’m glad she went to (an FRG meeting) after we got married. That way if she needs anything or needs someone to talk to, she can get together with people who understand what she is going through and are willing to help. She’ll be well taken care of.”

He said he was ready to go.

“It will be a good experience,” he said. “I’ll be making a lot more money, which will help take care of the baby. I’ve been through a lot of training, and now I’ll have a chance to perform a vital wartime mission. This is why I joined the Army. This is what it’s all about.”

**The enemy is patient, waiting for an OPSEC slip up**



**Practice OPSEC all the time**

# HIND SIGHT

**1431**

Henry VI of England is crowned King of France.

**1773**

To protest the tax on tea from England, a group of young Americans, disguised as Indians, throw chests of tea from British ships in Boston Harbor; the Boston Tea Party.

**1939**

The National Women's Party urges immediate congressional action on equal rights.

**1950**

President Harry Truman declares a state of National Emergency as Chinese communists invade deeper into South Korea.

**1998**

The United States launches a missile attack on Iraq for failing to comply with United Nations weapons inspectors.

**BRIEFS**, from Page 1

## Coalition planes hit sites southeast of Baghdad

A coalition aircraft struck Iraqi facilities southeast of Baghdad Sunday as Iraq's foreign minister sent a letter to Secretary-General Kofi Annan demanding the United Nations look at incursions into Iraqi airspace. The aircraft attacked a mobile radar site and cable repeater sites, according to U.S. Central Command, which said the attacks were in "response to Iraqi acts against coalition aircraft." The sites are near An Nasiriya, about 100 miles southeast of Baghdad, and Basra, about 245 miles southeast of the capital.

## Iraq opposition agrees blueprint

**LONDON** — Opponents of Iraqi President Saddam Hussein have agreed a political blueprint for the country's future, calling for a federal and tolerant Iraq in the event Saddam is ousted from power. After two days of talks in London, around 330 delegates representing six opposition groups recognized by the United States hammered out a final draft declaration vows to refuse foreign guardianship and occupation of Iraq if Saddam is toppled. It says Iraq's new government should be a federal democracy and Islam should remain as the state religion.

## Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

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

# Local weather

## TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Tuesday</i>
<b>Bagram:</b>	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 28F	<i>Scattered showers</i> H: 54F L: 36F
<b>Kandahar:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 68F L: 36F	<i>Haze</i> H: 63F L: 37F
<b>Kabul:</b>	<i>Haze</i> H: 54F L: 28F	<i>Haze</i> H: 55F L: 30F
<b>Uzbekistan:</b>	<i>Fog</i> H: 39F L: 24F	<i>Snow</i> H: 36F L: 23F

*Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team*

# FREEDOM WATCH

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

- ❖ CJTF - 180 Commanding General — Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill
- ❖ CJTF - 180 Command Sergeant Major — Command Sgt. Maj. Steven R. England
- ❖ Public Affairs Officer — Col. Roger King
- ❖ Public Affairs Sergeant Major — Master Sgt. Kelly Tyler

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

- ❖ Commander — Capt. Timothy Beninato
- ❖ NCOIC — Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
- ❖ Editor — Sgt. Reeba Critser
- ❖ Sports Editor — Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
- ❖ Journalists — Sgt. Jason Allgood, Spc. Nathan Akridge, Spc. Erica Leigh Foley and Pvt. Eleazar Craig.

In accordance with AR 360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas. Contents of *Freedom Watch* are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

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.

Visit the CENTCOM Web site to see the latest editions of *Freedom Watch* at [www.centcom.mil/operations/CJTF%20180/cjtf180.htm](http://www.centcom.mil/operations/CJTF%20180/cjtf180.htm)

To be added to the daily distribution list, e-mail [reeba.critser@us.army.mil](mailto:reeba.critser@us.army.mil)



# COALITION SPORTSZONE



## Week 15 NFL scores

Seattle 30, Atlanta 24 (OT)  
 Buffalo 20, San Diego 13  
 Chicago 20, N.Y. Jets 13  
 Jacksonville 29, Cincinnati 15  
 Indianapolis 28, Cleveland 23  
 Tampa Bay 23, Detroit 20  
 Miami 23, Oakland 17  
 Minnesota 32, New Orleans 31  
 Philadelphia 34, Washington 21  
 Pittsburgh 30, Carolina 14  
 Baltimore 23, Houston 19  
 Denver 31, Kansas City 24  
 N.Y. Giants 37, Dallas 7  
 Green Bay 20, San Francisco 14

## Today's Game

New England at Tennessee

## The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

### Alexander's OT run stops Falcons

Atlanta's Jay Feely missed a 36-yard field goal in overtime and Shaun Alexander ran 27 yards for a touchdown, giving the Seahawks a 30-24 victory Sunday.

"I have to shoulder this burden," Feely said. "That's my job, to make field goals."

### Flutie can't save Chargers

Travis Henry ran for 144 yards and scored two touchdowns, including a 26-yard game-winning run with 52 seconds remaining, sparking the Buffalo Bills to a 20-13 win over the San Diego Chargers on Sunday. The Bills also got a poised effort from their defense, thwarting any emotional boost the Chargers hoped to get from Flutie's first appearance of the season. Flutie, who spent three years in Buffalo before being released in February 2001, received a mixed reaction of boos and cheers when he entered the game in place of starter Drew Brees with eight minutes remaining. Even though he set up Steve Christie's 53-yard field goal that tied the game at 13 on his first possession, Flutie was unable to complete the comeback.

### Jets' playoff hopes take big hit

Wayne Chrebet and the New York Jets couldn't hurdle the banged-up Chicago Bears.

Stumbling when they needed a victory to enhance their playoff chances, the Jets didn't look like the feisty team that fought each other in practice three days ago.

Veteran Chris Chandler gave Chicago's erratic offense some stability and the Bears allowed just a single touchdown to beat the Jets 20-13.

"It just stinks all around. I feel horrible," said Chrebet, who caught a pass, only to fumble as he hurdled Chicago's Larry Whigham and Mike Green.

That ended a 22-yard play and killed a final New York drive. Bears rookie Roosevelt Williams recovered at the 14 with 1:10 left.

"I had a good head of steam going. I thought, 'If I could slice and get through there ....'" Chrebet said. "Next thing I know, I'm higher in the air, I'm face-first on the ground and I didn't know what happened. It's my fault we didn't have chance to tie it up," he added.

## 2002 National Football League standings

### American Football Conference

#### East

(1) Miami	9-5	.643
(6) N. England	8-5	.615
N.Y. Jets	7-7	.500
Buffalo	7-7	.500

#### North

(4) Pittsburgh	8-5-1	.607
Baltimore	7-7	.500
Cleveland	7-7	.500
Cincinnati	1-13	.071

#### South

(3) Indianapolis	9-5	.643
(5) Tennessee	8-5	.615
Jacksonville	6-8	.429
Houston	4-10	.286

#### West

(2) Oakland	9-5	.643
San Diego	8-6	.571
Denver	8-6	.571
Kansas City	7-7	.500



### National Football Conference

#### East

(1) Philadelphia	11-3	.786
N.Y. Giants	8-6	.571
Dallas	5-9	.357
Washington	5-9	.357

#### North

(3) Green Bay	11-3	.786
Minnesota	4-10	.286
Chicago	4-10	.286
Detroit	3-11	.214

#### South

(2) Tampa Bay	11-3	.786
(5) N. Orleans	9-5	.643
(6) Atlanta	8-5-1	.607
Carolina	5-9	.357

#### West

(4) San Francisco	9-5	.667
St. Louis	5-8	.385
Arizona	5-8	.385
Seattle	5-9	.357

### Bengals tumble again

So, how would the NFL's worst team blow this one? The Cincinnati Bengals flunked math.

Because the Bengals couldn't get the right number of players on the field for a punt return, the Jacksonville Jaguars got the second chance they needed for a 29-15 victory Sunday.

The smallest crowd ever at Paul Brown Stadium watched Mark Brunell throw a season-high three touchdown passes, the last one set up by Cincinnati's inability to count.

### Bucs clinch playoff berth

Martin Gramatica's 38-yard field goal with 3:04 left gave the Buccaneers a 23-20 win over the Detroit Lions on Sunday as an expected blow-out turned into a close battle.

Tampa Bay (11-3) clinched a playoff berth for the fourth straight season and tied franchise records for wins.

### Miami holds off Raiders

Relying on six defensive backs and a fierce pass rush, Miami slowed Rich Gannon's pursuit of Marino's NFL record for yards passing in a season and limited the league's top-ranked offense to 218 yards in a 23-17 victory.

Jason Taylor had three of Miami's five sacks, giving him a sack in a team-record seven consecutive games, and Patrick Surtain's interception ended Oakland's final bid for a comeback. Gannon threw for just 204 yards, and needs 676 in the final two games to break Marino's record of 5,084 set in 1984.

With the victory, Miami (9-5) tied the Raiders (9-5) for the best record in the AFC with two regular-season games to go. Williams totaled a relatively modest 101 yards rushing, ending his streak of consecutive 200-yard games at two. But Chris Chambers caught seven passes for a career-high 138 yards.

Cris Carter made his first touchdown reception since coming out of retirement.

## Giants jump back in playoff race, beat Dallas

The New York Giants are right back in the wild-card playoff race. Tiki Barber scored on a 1-yard run and set up another touchdown with a 60-yard run in a season-best 21-point first quarter to lead the Giants to a 37-7 victory over the Cowboys on Sunday.

The Giants (8-6) moved within a game of New Orleans (9-5) and Atlanta (8-5-1) in the wildcard race.

"This game was huge," Barber said. "Our playoff hopes are still alive. We have to win out, otherwise all the talk about sneaking into the playoffs is null and void. Our focus is to win the next one. We are going to watch everyone else because we need some help, but we have to focus on what goes on in this locker room."

The Giants got plenty of help Sunday just minutes before the opening kickoff against Dallas (5-9).

Minnesota defeated New Orleans 32-31 on a 2-point conversion in the closing seconds of regulation. Seattle then beat Atlanta 30-27 in overtime after the Falcons missed a potential game-winning field goal.

Giants coach Jim Fassel followed both games, and he didn't hesitate to tell his team as soon as they were over. The offense found out first and the defense got the news after they came off the field.

"At some point in time when you set your goals, you better be able to grab the carrot when it's sitting right there," Fassel said.

*"COVER  
DOWN!!!"*



kevin\_kilgore@hotmail.com

By Kevin Kilgore

**Laugh Support**