



FREEDOM WATCH



December 18, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

U.S. soldiers attacked in Kabul

BAGRAM, Afghanistan—Two U.S. soldiers and their interpreter were injured in Kabul Tuesday. “An explosive device was thrown into their moving vehicle near the presidential palace of the Afghan National Army,” said Col. Roger King, Coalition Joint Task Force—180 Public Affairs officer, at a press brief this morning. The injured trio drove to the medical facility at the International Security and Assistance Force compound. They were treated at the facility. An investigation is underway.

4 children dead, 3 wounded in Kabul

BAGRAM, Afghanistan—Four Afghan children, ages 9 to 14, were killed and three wounded at the Afghan National Army training range outside Kabul Saturday, Col. Roger King, Coalition Joint Task Force—180 Public Affairs officer, said at a press briefing Tuesday. The wounded were evacuated by ground ambulance to the International

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AF captain selection board omitted

Air Force Print News

WASHINGTON — The Air Force will eliminate captain central selection boards for active-duty, Guard and Reserve officers beginning in 2003.

The move will not only streamline the process for eligible first lieutenants — placing the decision point for promotion closer to those who know the officers best — but will benefit the Air Force in other ways as well, according to Col. Dale Vande Hey, director of personnel programs for the Air Force Personnel Center at Randolph Air Force Base, Texas.

“Aside from placing the promotion decision maker closer to the officer, it also saves the Air Force time, money and productivity by eliminating temporary duty trips for board members and preparation time at the centers,” Vande Hey said.

Promotion decisions will now be made at the major command or equivalent level, Vande Hey said. Previously, active-duty captain selection boards were held at the AFPC, while Reserve and Guard captain selection boards were held at the Air Reserve Personnel Center in Denver.

“With the possibility on each board to promote 100 percent of those eligible, and with an histori-

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Pfc. Shawn Toler, 91W, 48th Combat Support Hospital, Fort Meade, Md., adjusts the flow of oxygen to a patient in respiratory distress.

NASA oxygen machine saves lives in war

Story & photo by Spc.

Erica Leigh Foley

28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — A bus full of civilians rolled over a mine, causing it to detonate. The explosion started a fire. Many suffered respiratory distress from smoke inhalation and had to be giving supplemental oxygen.

Modern emergency rooms are typically equipped with individual oxygen tanks for each patient bay. But at Bagram Air Base, the 339th Combat Support Hospital, Pittsburgh, is using a new Portable Oxygen Generation System with a Cascade machine to support up to seven patients simultaneously.

The respiratory therapist

team at Bagram Air Base modified the POGS to make things more efficient for combat medical staff.

“We call it the cascade because it cascades air all over the room,” said Staff Sgt. Rodney Glass, noncommissioned officer in charge of the emergency room.

“There are two ports out of the POGS. One is hooked into the cascade to distribute oxygen throughout the trauma bays and the other serves as a backup, or we can use it for suction,” Glass said. “We ran oxygen tubing from the POGS to the cascade, then to each of the seven individual bays. This allows safe, continuous flow of

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oxygen to the seven different trauma bays, at seven different rates without concern of running out of oxygen.”

According to Frank Hursey, who developed the POGS and designs systems for NASA’s Apollo Space Program, “the strength, tenacity and expertise of our team has brought us into this new facility and will further propel our global growth and advancement of our science in to the 21st Century.”

“The POGS machine has made my life a lot easier,” Glass said. “When I first got here, we didn’t use the POG machine. Each trauma room had it’s own oxygen tank.”

The tanks caused problems because their size and weight made them awkward and difficult to move when they

needed to be replaced. On Site Gas, located at Budney Industrial Park in Newington, Conn., developed the POGS unit. In January 2002, the Food and Drug Administration approved the POGS, that was designed for the military. It is lightweight, portable, self-contained, modular and rugged enough for use in the battlefield, according to the On Site Gas Website.

This is the first time a system of this type and size has received FDA approval.

“The POGS was used at Fort Dix (N.J.) for the Mission Readiness Exercise, but this is the first time it has been used in a real-life situation,” said Spc. Jason Chmielewski, medical equipment technician, 339th CSH.

He said there are only three POGS currently in use around the world and all three are in Afghani-

stan helping servicemembers.

“This unit takes the air around us, made up of oxygen 20.9 percent and nitrogen at 79 percent and concentrates the oxygen to around 93 percent,” Chmielewski said.

The POGS works by trapping larger nitrogen molecules while allowing smaller oxygen molecules to pass in a process called pressure swing absorption. The nitrogen is then filtered out using a compound named Zeolite.

The concentrated oxygen can then be distributed directly to a patient or stored for later use.

“We have proven the system works in the trauma center,” said Glass.

“This has spoiled me. Now I couldn’t live without it here. I am sold. I don’t know how we managed without it.”

CAPTAIN, from Page 1

cal 99 percent active-duty selection rate, it only seemed logical to make this change,” Vande Hey said.

The 2002 National Defense Authorization Act permits the service secretaries to eliminate captain promotion boards when the promotion opportunity is 100 percent.

Despite the absence of a central review, individuals will still need to be “fully qualified” to be promoted. This means everyone who is determined to be qualified can be promoted. By comparison, promotion to the ranks of major through colonel are based on the “best qualified” criterion, mean-

ing promotion board members rank-order qualified candidates by merit and only a pre-determined percentage of the total eligible are promoted.

First lieutenants meeting the time-in-grade and time-in-service requirements will be initially recommended as either “promote” or “do not promote” candidates. Members who receive a “do not promote” recommendation will be provided an opportunity to rebut that recommendation.

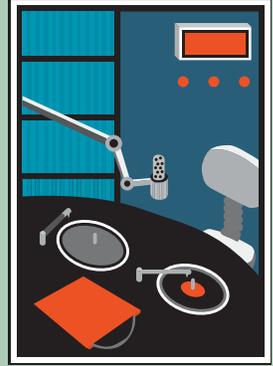
Recommendation to captain for active-duty officers will take place one year preceding the quarter in which an individual is eligible to pin on, which is based on the two-year date of rank anniversary. Promotion recommenda-

tion lists are then compiled and certified quarterly at the major command level and forwarded to the AFPC. Center officials then forward the list of recommended officers through the secretary of the Air Force for presidential approval.

Recommendation to captain for Reserve officers will take place twice a year, which parallels current board cycles. Guard captain recommendations will take place once a year, one year preceding the projected pin-on date.

For more information, active-duty officers should contact their local military personnel flights, and Reserve and Guard officers should call ARPC at (303) 676-6398 or 7193.

Armed Forces Network Radio Stations



- ❖ National Press Radio — 105.7FM
- ❖ Power Rock (music & news) — 107.5FM
- ❖ AFN Europe (news, talk radio & music) — 103.1FM

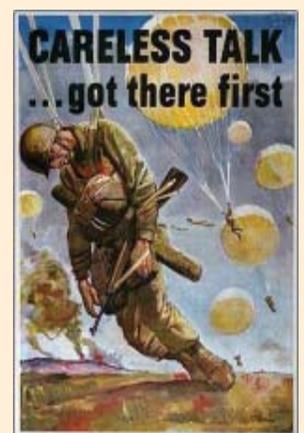
Something to think about ...

Before you mail a package, be aware that there are size and weight restrictions when using the U.S. Postal Service.

Packages cannot:

- ❖ Weigh more than 70 pounds.
- ❖ Be bigger than 130 inches in length and width for Space Available Mail and Military Postal Service.
- ❖ Be bigger than 108 inches in length and width for Priority Mail.

Messages from a World War II poster still get the word across ...



Use OPSEC

HIND SIGHT

1118

Afonso the Battler, the Christian King of Aragon captures Saragossa, Spain, a major blow to Muslim Spain.

1812

Napoleon Bonaparte arrives in Paris after his disastrous campaign in Russia.

1915

In a single night, about 20,000 Australian and New Zealand troops withdraw from Gallipoli, Turkey, undetected by the Turks defending the peninsula.

1951

North Koreans give the United Nations a list of 3,100 POWs.

1972

President Richard M. Nixon declares that the bombing of North Vietnam will continue until an accord can be reached.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

Security and Assistance Force hospital near the Kabul Military Training Center. Two were treated and released. The identities of the dead and wounded are being determined. The incident is under investigation.

Two PUCs die under Coalition care

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – On Dec. 10, a person under control died at the Bagram Detention Facility. This death follows a previous one at the facility Dec. 3 said Col. Roger King, Coalition Joint Task Force – 180 Public Affairs officer, at a press brief this morning. Both were held in isolation. “Both persons under custody had a medical exam upon in-processing and were determined to be in fair health, approximately five to seven days before the deaths,” King said. Autopsies have been performed on both individuals by Coalition medical teams that include representatives from Jordan, Korea and the United States. “The autopsy finding on the detainee that died on Dec. 3 found the cause of death to be a pulmonary embolism,” King said. “The autopsy findings for the detainee that died on Dec. 10 found the cause of death to be a heart attack.” An investigation has been initiated by the U.S. Army’s Criminal Investigation Division to determine if the circumstances of their detention contributed to their deaths.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

Tomorrow’s movie will be “Varsity Blues,” showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

| | <i>Today</i> | <i>Thursday</i> |
|--------------------|--|--|
| Bagram: | <i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 54F L: 27F | <i>Cloudy</i> H: 50F L: 25F |
| Kandahar: | <i>Haze</i> H: 66F L: 39F | <i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 63F L: 39F |
| Kabul: | <i>Haze</i> H: 54F L: 27F | <i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 52F L: 28F |
| Uzbekistan: | <i>Snow</i> H: 32F L: 22F | <i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 36F L: 22F |

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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- ❖ 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

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

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Nowitzki with 20 points and 5 rebounds in return

DALLAS — Michael Finley had 33 points and 13 rebounds in just three quarters and Nick Van Exel had 20 points and 10 assists as the Dallas Mavericks defeated the Indiana Pacers 118-97 Tuesday night in a game between the teams with NBA's best records.

This victory set a lesser, but still impressive record: Best home start in franchise history, 12-0. Sacramento is the only other team yet to lose at home.

The East-leading Pacers seemed to make a statement when Ron Artest made a flying swat of the game's first shot, but the physical style that helped them win the previous meeting 110-98 backfired this time.

The Mavs, who didn't trail for the third time in four games, went up by 15 late in the first quarter and remained ahead by at least six the rest of the game.

The Pacers had gotten to 66-60 in the third quarter, but the Mavericks answered with 3-pointers from Van Exel and Dirk Nowitzki. That began a run that Finley capped with a tip-in of a long pass from Van Exel to make it 98-75 in the final minute of the third.

Nowitzki, who missed the previous two games resting a sprained right ankle, had 20 points and five rebounds in 28 minutes. Steve Nash had 13 points and seven assists.

Indiana (18-6) had won three straight, but over a longer stretch the Pacers are 4-4, with all four losses on the road. Their previous worst loss had been by 15.

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 |



His time has come

CHARLOTTE, N.C. — Robert Johnson, the billionaire founder of Black Entertainment Television, has been chosen as owner of the NBA's new Charlotte expansion franchise. The 56-year-old will become the league's first black majority owner. Johnson and the other group seeking the team, headed by Boston businessman Steve Belkin and Celtics great Larry Bird, made presentations to the league's expansion committee Monday. Forbes magazine estimated Johnson's wealth at \$1.3 billion earlier this year, making him No. 149 on the magazine's list of richest Americans. The franchise is to begin play in the 2004-05 season and replaces the Hornets, who moved to New Orleans earlier this year. After one year at the Charlotte Coliseum, the team will move into a new \$260 million downtown arena. The franchise fee is expected to be \$300 million. The league approved the move, but Charlotte leaders successfully argued that the city, which led the NBA in attendance for eight seasons in the late 1980s and early 1990s, should get a new team. Johnson, who had tried twice without success to buy the Hornets from owner George Shinn, also said he would like the franchise. Johnson said last week that if he won the team he would sell up to 49 percent of the team to Charlotte investors.

2002 NBA standings



Eastern Conference

Atlantic

| | |
|--------------|-------|
| Boston | 16-8 |
| New Jersey | 16-9 |
| Philadelphia | 16-9 |
| Washington | 13-13 |
| New York | 11-13 |

Central

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Indiana | 18-6 |
| Detroit | 16-7 |
| New Orleans | 17-9 |
| Atlanta | 10-14 |
| Milwaukee | 10-14 |

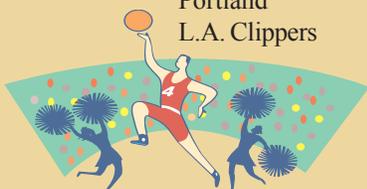
Western Conference

Midwest

| | |
|-------------|-------|
| Dallas | 21-3 |
| San Antonio | 14-10 |
| Houston | 13-10 |
| Minnesota | 14-11 |
| Utah | 12-11 |

Pacific

| | |
|---------------|-------|
| Sacramento | 21-6 |
| Seattle | 14-11 |
| Phoenix | 14-11 |
| Portland | 12-11 |
| L.A. Clippers | 11-14 |



Jackson says Kobe 'didn't have that fire' in first half

MINNEAPOLIS — A slow start by Kobe Bryant, and strong defense from the Minnesota Timberwolves, made it too difficult for the Los Angeles Lakers to come back. Kevin Garnett scored 23 points on 10-of-14 shooting and grabbed 11 rebounds to lead the Timberwolves past the sluggish Lakers 96-80 Tuesday night. Reserve Marc Jackson scored 13 points and Troy Hudson had 10 assists — one short of his season high — for the Timberwolves, who have won three straight against the Lakers at Target Center. Shaquille O'Neal led Los Angeles with 17 points and nine rebounds, and Bryant had 15 points. Both sat on the bench for the final six minutes of the game. Bryant, guarded mostly by Kendall Gill, was held to four points in the first half. The Lakers (10-16) are just a game ahead of last-place Golden State in the Pacific Division. The Lakers, who shot 39 percent, tried to come out aggressively in the second half after trailing by 16 at halftime. Robert Horry hit a 3-pointer with 7:45 left in the third quarter to pull Los Angeles to 60-50. Minnesota answered with an 11-4 run, with five different players scoring. The Wolves used a balanced offensive attack and went on runs of 11-1 and 16-4 in the first half to widen the margin. Jackson hit a 20-foot jumper to give Minnesota a 47-27 lead with 3:20 left in the second quarter. The Lakers shot 15 of 41 in the first half.

MJ rebounds with season-high 30 points

ATLANTA — Michael Jordan has a message for the rest of the NBA.

"I don't want anybody to think I can't score," he said. "I can score if I want to."

Jordan rebounded from one of the worst games of his career to score a season-high 30 points as the Washington Wizards beat Atlanta 109-99 Tuesday night.

On Sunday, Jordan had only two points in 40 minutes — matching the career low he set last April — but equaled that 17 seconds into this game with a jumper from the wing. He easily got open shots against the Hawks, spending

most of the night working against Glenn Robinson and Ira Newble.

Jerry Stackhouse added 23 points and Larry Hughes 20 for the Wizards, who moved a game ahead of Atlanta in the Eastern Conference with their second straight victory. With Milwaukee's loss to Toronto in overtime, the Wizards hold the eighth and final playoff spot.

Late in the fourth quarter, with the home team trying to rally, fans were yelling at Jordan to take the ball to the basket. He did just that, making a reverse layup with 3:33 left to tie his previous high this season. Then he lofted a left-

"I don't want anybody to think I can't score. I can score if I want to."

— **Michael Jordan**

Washington Wizards

handed hook over Theo Ratliff for his final basket.

Jordan appeared to thoroughly enjoy himself, even when he wasn't scoring. He paused to talk to fans in the first row before throwing an inbound pass, and joked with Atlanta guard Jason Terry.

"Sarge, we gotta' guy out here with a suspicious bag and some sorta' list."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support