



News briefs

Predator UAV missing in Iraq

MACDILL AFB, Fla. — At approximately 7:30 a.m. (EST) Monday, a U.S. Predator Unmanned Aerial Vehicle reconnaissance aircraft was reported missing in Southern Iraq after being fired upon by Iraqi military aircraft. The Predator is assumed lost.

The Predator is one of many systems used for reconnaissance and surveillance to monitor Iraqi compliance with UN Security Council resolutions.

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Warning over N. Korea reactor

SEOUL, South Korea — North Korea will be just months away from producing plutonium if it is allowed to remove monitoring equipment from a deactivated nuclear reactor, the head of a nuclear watchdog group warns.

See **BRIEFS**, Page 3

Soldiers assist local gift-giving



The Afghani children were equally excited by the cameras present as they were with the gifts they were given.

Story and photo by
Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Christmas is a time for giving and receiving. Children all over the world eagerly wait for the morning they can open all the gifts mom, dad, grandma and grandpa have left for them under the tree.

Sometimes during the holiday rush, it is easy to forget other children. Children like those of the remote villages outside of Bagram who don't have a mom, dad or grandparents to give them things other

See **GIFTS**, Page 5

Preventive Med: preserving fighting force

By Spc. Erica Leigh Foley
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — The preventive medicine team here makes up quite a force when it comes to ensuring the troops can perform their jobs.

Maintaining service members' health in theater is a multi-faceted task, which includes testing water.

To ensure the water in the water buffalos is safe, it goes through a purification procedure after being pumped out of a well. The team then tests it for chlorine, Ph and

total dissolved solids.

Checking the levels of chlorine is important. If there isn't enough chlorine, it won't kill the microorganisms; if there is too much, the service members shy away from using it, according to the Bagram preventive medicine team

In addition to the chlorine checks, they monitor the Ph balance, which measures the base and acid levels within the water. Next, the TDS are inspected — the levels of salt and minerals, such as magnesium, the water contains. The water temperature is monitored because it too can have a profound

influence in the effectiveness of the chlorine.

Bacterium is also a concern for the soldier's safety. A bacteriological sample is gathered from not only the drinking water but from the shower spouts, the sinks and the bladders used to hold the water before use.

A growth medium that allows the bacteria to thrive is added to the sample. If a bacterium is present, it will eat the medium and produce a colorful waste material that will flag those waters and alert

See **WATER**, Page 2

TF 18 PSB takes job personally

Story and photo by Spc. Alfredo Jimenez Jr.
28th Public Affairs Detachment



Staff Sgt. Ebrima K. Camara, actions and promotions NCOIC, 18th Personnel Services Battalion, sorts through paperwork at the Personnel office in Motel 6.

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Not many people would jump at the chance to face the real world with factual situations and catastrophes. Then again, not everyone is like the Task Force 18th Soldier Support Group, Fort Bragg, N.C.

They don't hide behind a dingy desk; they jump over it.

This group wanted a piece of the action. They wanted to see firsthand, what kind of people would disturb our tranquility of life. They wanted them to pay.

"We came here with the intent to provide the best possible personnel support to all service members in Bagram," said Capt. Michael Costanza, commander.

Their enthusiasm spread like an Oregon wildfire onto their families, who didn't seem to mind sending husbands, wives and siblings into harm's way for the greater good.

The farewell from their home station was bittersweet, but with more than three weeks'

preparation time, the detachment was ready.

Located on the second floor of Motel 6, the 15-soldier unit wakes up before the sun even notices it's time to shine and begins working on ceiling-high paperwork. So far, the detachment has processed more than 2,400 awards, and has evaluated more than 200 soldiers.

Additionally, they also man the deployed database for 6,000 U.S. soldiers, civilians and Coalition forces at the Joint Processing Reception Center.

All in all, the soldiers in the unit consider this deployment a success, but are looking forward to returning home.

"Our main goal was to take personnel ser-

vice to the next level," Costanza said, "so we could leave Bagram Air Base in a better shape than when we first arrived."

His soldiers echo the same thought but are looking forward to returning home to family and friends.

"I've had a great time meeting a lot of people," said Spc. Matt Watson, personnel administration specialist. "But I can't wait to get back to my wife, Jenn, and my 2-year-old daughter, Paige."

"This deployment has given reason for all the training I've received," said Staff Sgt. Jorge Saldana, evaluations noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "It's also given me a better appreciation for my family."

WATER, from Page 1

the technicians of the bacteria's presence.

In addition to the soldier's drinking water, the medical detachment also has a part in checking food.

"The attainment of quality food service is essential," said Sgt. 1st Class David Castillo, 791st detachment noncommissioned officer in charge.

"It is easily contaminated and readily support the growth of many disease-producing microorganisms. Food sanitation practices are designed to prevent chemical, pest and microbial contamination for foods and to minimize the growth of pathogenic microorganisms and toxin production," Castillo added.

Part of the checks done around the food is making sure it is properly prepared, stored and there is no cross-contamination.

Preventive Medicine is conducting a hauntavirus testing series on mice on Bagram Air Base. Live mice are needed. If a mouse is caught, call Preventive Medicine at DSN 318-231-4641. They will come and pick it up.

Christmas at Kabul Military Training Center

❖ Christmas eve candlelight services — today — 1800 and 2300 in the Conference Room

❖ Christmas day party and White Elephant gift exchange — Wednesday — 1000 in the Chapel and Conference Room

Bagram Air Base holiday chapel hours



- ❖ Protestant candlelight — 1400Z
- ❖ Marine Aviation gospel choir — 1230Z
- ❖ Mass — 1730Z
- ❖ Late service at 20th Special Forces Group — 1730Z
- ❖ Polish mass — 1930Z

Look for the Freedom Watch for the latest daily news!



HIND SIGHT

1814

Great Britain and the United States sign the Treaty of Ghent, formally ending the War of 1812.

1851

A fire at the Library of Congress in Washington, D.C., destroys about two-thirds of its 55,000 volumes, including two-thirds of Thomas Jefferson's personal library.

1906

The first radio program is broadcast.

1946

The first live telecast of an American church service is broadcast from the Grace Episcopal Church on Broadway and Tenth Street in New York City.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

Mohamed ElBaradei, head of the International Atomic Energy Agency, said North Korea's removal of the equipment, which was put in place by international inspectors to keep a watch on the country's nuclear program, was "disturbing" and "dangerous." But the Korean Central News Agency said the move was necessary for the reactor's "normal operation to produce electricity."

Virginia prosecutor blasts sniper report

FAIRFAX, Virginia — A Virginia prosecutor Monday branded as "dead wrong" a Sunday New York Times report saying investigators have concluded that teen-age sniper suspect Lee Malvo was the triggerman in most if not all of the Washington-area sniper shootings.

"I am assuming that some law enforcement source told the reporter what he wrote, and I would say to that reporter that the so-called sources simply don't know what they are talking about," said Fairfax County Commonwealth's Attorney Robert Horan at a news conference.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

The Bagram Air Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation staff present "The Patriot" tonight at 2000 at the MWR building.

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

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 25F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 23F
Kandahar:	<i>Haze</i> H: 63F L: 41F	<i>Haze</i> H: 64F L: 37F
Kabul:	<i>Mist</i> H: 45F L: 25F	<i>Haze</i> H: 48F L: 28F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Fog</i> H: 41F L: 26F	<i>Fog</i> H: 44F L: 27F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Coalition 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

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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

To be added to the daily distribution list, e-mail william.james@us.army.mil





Photo by Spc. Erica Leigh Foley, 28th PAD

Fill 'er up

Lance Cpl. Jacob Frost, a powerline technician with the 513th Marine Aviation Corps, Yuma, Ariz., refuels an AV-8B Harrier at Bagram Air Base. The Harriers provide close air support and security in theater with maintenance conducted daily. The 513th was formed for the invasion on Okinawa, Japan. The unit also supported wars in Korea, Vietnam and Desert Storm.

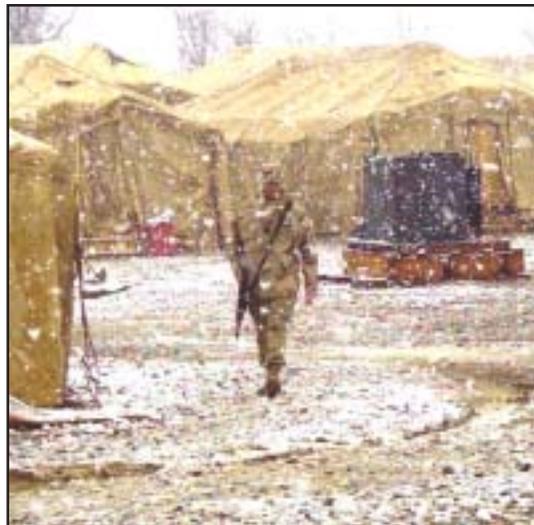


Photo by Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

White Christmas?

Snow fell heavily on Bagram today, bringing hopes of a white Christmas. However, higher temperatures melted the snow quickly.

Holiday Message

From the Secretary of the Army and the Army Chief of Staff

During the holidays, families gather to share in the celebrations of the season. Our Army family is unique — among us, we share a special bond, a common understanding of the inherent sacrifices and hardships of being an Army family. So we are additionally blessed to be able to celebrate our special heritage — the legacy of hope that our Soldiers represent to the Nation.

On a bitter-cold Christmas night in 1776, General George Washington and his Continental Army crossed the Delaware River to execute a bold plan against the British forces. Driving sleet and snow made the freezing temperatures all the more unbearable. Despite those harsh conditions, the Soldiers did not complain — some of them had no shoes; some wrapped rags around their feet to help keep them warm; still others remained

barefoot. As one of General Washington's staff officers recorded, the Soldiers were "ready to suffer any hardship and die rather than give up their liberty." In the most difficult conditions, against the greatest odds, the Soldiers performed magnificently, and their victory in the Battle of Trenton the day after Christmas renewed the hopes of freedom in the American Revolution.

And undiminished still today is that same spirit of determination, perseverance, selfless service and courage that moved the Soldiers of the Continental Army on Christmas night in 1776. We share in the enduring legacy of those who first fought and died to win our freedom — we stand on the shoulders of the brave men and women who have preceded us.

We know that we do not soldier alone.

With each of our Soldiers on point in more than 120 countries around the globe is the spirit of a tremendous family — a family whose courage, sacrifice, and steadfastness are inspiring to us all. And all of our efforts, all of our successes, all of our magnificent moments as an Army will continue to be delivered by our people — Soldiers, civilians, veterans, retirees, and all of their families. We are grateful for their commitment, their loyalty, and their devotion.

We could not be more proud of all of you and of the magnificent work you do each and every day to preserve the gifts of hope and of freedom that we cherish. May you have a safe, fulfilling, and joyful Holiday Season and a prosperous New Year. God bless each of you and your families, God bless The Army, and God bless this great Nation.


Eric K. Shinseki
General, United States Army
Chief of Staff


Thomas E. White
Secretary of the Army



Photos by Pfc. Christina Carde

Ecstatic local school children wave their new gifts in the air thanks to the donations by Bank of America.

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children look forward to on Christmas day or birthdays. This year, Bank of America remembered these children with boxes of gifts for the Bagram Boys and Girls School. These children don't celebrate Christmas and many do not even know of its existence. All these children know is this year they will have socks and shoes to wear and a toy or two to play with.

"There are about 100 children between the ages of five and 12 who attend the Boys and Girl's School here," said Maj. Mike Colon, contracting officer. Most of these children live in a village behind the school in homes with no heat or plumbing. Many of these homes have no roofs or finished floors and there is a constant shortage of food and clean water, said Colon.

In addition to the daily hardships these children face at home, they confront an even graver danger each time they step out of their door to play or go to school. Their school and the village is surrounded by land mines, said Colon. These children are aware of the exist-

ence of the mines and yet they still walk through them on a daily basis.

Despite the danger, hunger and poverty evident in the eyes of these children, soldiers from the civil affairs and contracting offices brought smiles to their young faces Saturday as they carried a dozen boxes full of toys, socks, t-shirts and shoes into the school. Hundreds of children poured into tiny classrooms, pushing and shoving their peers trying to be first in line to receive a toy or t-shirt.

"I am very thankful to receive this toy," said Nada Saieh, age seven.

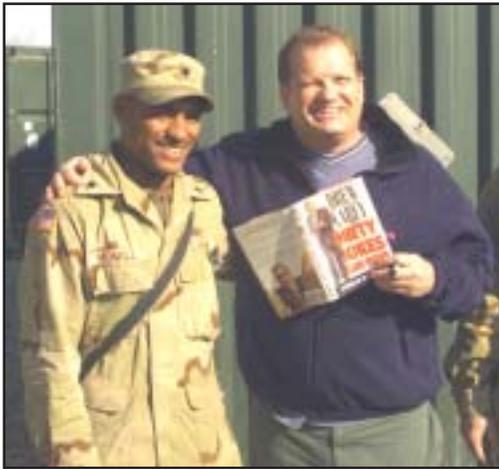
"This makes me very happy," said another child, Zachee, age eight.

At the end of the day, the children walked away with smiles and Colon with a sense of accomplishment. He said even though the events of Sept. 11 brought the U.S. military into this country it is still important to help the people.

"These children know nothing of Sept. 11, or why we are here," said Colon. "Afghani children are no different than children anywhere else, and they deserve all the help we can give them."



Maj. Mike Colon carries boxes of gifts through the crowd of eager children.



Above: Drew Carey poses with a soldier after signing a copy of his book, "Dirty Jokes and Beer." Carey visited Bagram soldiers Saturday with former baseball pitcher Roger Clemens. **Right:** Sergeant Major of the Army Jack E. Tilley tosses some flying discs to soldiers at a USO tour show Sunday. It was the first time an SMA has escorted a celebrity USO tour.



Photos by Pfc. Debralee P. Crankshaw

VIP visits bring holiday cheer

By Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs
Army News Service

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – What motivates soldiers to risk their lives working toward peace is unknown to some, but because of that patriotism a group of entertainers spent a week in Southwest Asia saying, "thank you."

Sgt. Maj. of the Army Jack E. Tilley escorted entertainers from television, sports and music to Kuwait, Afghanistan and Uzbekistan to perform four shows. Tilley said the tour would be the first of more morale boosting shows to come. This United Service Organizations tour was a success because soldiers on foreign land were able to see part of the homeland, Tilley said. It cheered them up and that makes me happy.

"I imagine that the passion I have for music is what they feel toward fighting for our country," said country singer Daryl Worley.

"Every soldier has a job or specialty, and they do it to perfection, and they do it with professionalism. We're all striving to better ourselves and I would say 90 percent of the guys that are here are better than I will ever be," Worley added.

Worley headlined the USO tour, which made its first stop in Kuwait.

Along with Worley was comedian Kathy Griffin, J.A.G. star Karri Turner, World Wrestling Enterprise wrestler Bradshaw and cheerleaders from Florida's Jacksonville Jaguars.

Griffin who co-starred on the television show "Suddenly Susan" and was the host of the 2000 Billboard Music Awards said she feels an emotional bond with the soldiers while performing.

"I see them laughing and I hear the cheers, but the room is filled with much more. I can tell that they are treasuring the moment just



as much or maybe even more than me," Griffin said.

Getting the crowd hyped before the entertainers came on stage was the Army Band from Fort Meyer, Va. It was the first time they had performed in a combat theater since World War II. At the request of sergeant major of the Army, three vocalists, three instruments from the horn section, a guitarist, a bass guitarist, drummer, piano player and two crewmen opened the act.

Above: Comedian Kathy Griffin jokes with a Spc. Jeff Moran about how young he looks.

Below: Former New York Yankees pitcher Roger Clemens flexes for the camera with a soldier.



COALITION SPORTS ZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Texas Tech QB tops 5,000 yards in a season

ORLANDO, Fla. — A monthlong layoff and an ankle injury did little to slow down Kliff Kingsbury.

Kingsbury became the third Division I-A player to top 5,000 yards passing in a season, throwing for 375 and three touchdowns as Texas Tech defeated Clemson 55-15 in the Mazda Tangerine Bowl on Monday night.

Texas Tech (9-5) won its first bowl game since beating Air Force in the 1995 Copper Bowl, and gave coach Mike Leach his first postseason victory.

Five different receivers caught touchdown passes for the Red Raiders, and Wes Welker had a 59-yard punt return for a score.

It was the worst loss of the season for Clemson (7-6).

Kingsbury, who was named the game's MVP, completed 32 of 43 passes and finished his career with 5,017 yards. The only other players to reach the mark are BYU's Ty Detmer, who had 5,188 yards, and Houston's David Klingler, who had 5,140. Both players did it in 1990. Detmer played in 12 games, Klingler 11.

Pugh runs wild as Mount Union wins Stagg Bowl

SALEM, Va. — His uniform dirty and eye black fading, Dan Pugh looked nothing like a running back who had carried the ball a record 49 times in leading Mount Union to a 48-7 victory in a national championship game.

"This definitely completes the picture," Pugh said after gaining 253 yards, scoring four touchdowns and setting a slew of records to carry the Purple Raiders past Trinity in the Amos Alonzo Stagg Bowl on Saturday.

"This is what we came to do."

The Division III title was the third in a row for Mount Union (14-0) and its seventh in 10 years. It also was the 96th victory in 97 games for the Purple Raiders, but coach Larry Kehres prefers not to hear talk that his team is a dynasty, or college football's version of the New York Yankees.

Carroll College unseats Georgetown

SAVANNAH, Tenn. — Carroll College won its first NAIA national football championship Saturday with a 28-7 victory over two-time defending champion Georgetown, Ky.

Robb Latrielle completed 21 of 30 passes for 264 yards and three first-half touchdowns in being named the game's outstanding offensive player.

"His is a dream come true for me," said Latrielle, a junior. "Today was the biggest game and a highlight of my career. Our team played well as a whole. This win came from our team playing well together."

The Saints lost in the semifinals the past two years to the Tigers, who had won 53 of their previous 55 games.

"It wasn't a revenge thing. We respect them, but we knew we could play with them," Latrielle said.

Hilltoppers avenge earlier loss to McNeese State

2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Miami	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 State	20.13
9. Notre Dame	20.93
10. Texas	21.08
11. Michigan	23.91
12. Penn State	26.97
13. Colorado	33.27
14. Florida State	33.95
15. West Virginia	35.97



Dockett involved in criminal investigation, suspended from bowl

TALLAHASSEE, Fla. — Florida State defensive tackle Darnell Dockett was suspended for the Nokia Sugar Bowl, the latest in a string of Seminoles punished this season.

"He broke one of our rules and is suspended for this ballgame," coach Bobby Bowden said Sunday. "He will not make the trip."

Bowden wouldn't elaborate, but Dockett's lawyer, Stephen Dobson, told the Tallahassee Democrat that police are investigating something that happened at a store in Tallahassee's Governor's Square mall.

Dockett has not been arrested nor charged with a crime in the matter. Dobson stressed that Dockett is not involved in any of the gambling investigations at Florida State.

Police Lt. Sandra Garber declined to comment.

Hilltoppers avenge earlier loss to McNeese State

CHATTANOOGA, Tenn. — Jack Harbaugh could hardly believe he was the coach of the Division I-AA national champions.

After 41 seasons, the father of former NFL quarterback Jim Harbaugh finally reached the top Friday night. He guided Western Kentucky through a remarkable turnaround to its first football title, avenging an early loss by defeating McNeese State 34-14.

The 63-year-old Harbaugh stood in disbelief on the sidelines as the clock ticked down to zero.

“I’m a very average coach,” he said, reflecting on his 116-95-3 record in 19 years as a head coach. In all, he’s worked at eight colleges and three high schools.

“There is no possible way to explain the emotion I felt,” he said. “I was fired at Western Michigan (in 1986). ... There aren’t many coaches that get a second chance.”

And not many teams like Western Kentucky get another chance.

Jon Frazier ran for two touchdowns and Jeremi Johnson caught a TD pass for Hilltoppers, who



Western Kentucky’s Corey Shaw, left, celebrates with his teammates after intercepting a pass.

were 2-3 after a 38-13 loss to McNeese State on Sept. 28.

Western Kentucky won its final six games to reach the playoffs. Seeded 15th out of 16 teams, the Hilltoppers won three in a row to set up a rematch against the top-seeded Cowboys.

The only other loss for McNeese State (13-2) this season was at Nebraska. In 1997, the Cowboys lost to Youngstown State in their first championship game.

Arkansas responds to NCAA letter

LITTLE ROCK, Ark. — The University of Arkansas responded Monday to an NCAA letter of inquiry about overpayments from a booster to football and basketball players.

The 100-page-plus document attempts to explain why the school shouldn’t be subjected to punishment as a repeat violator concerning payments from Dallas booster Ted Harrod to Razorback football and basketball players between 1994 and 1999.

University lawyer Scott Varady said, “We answered those questions about where we think this issue is a violation or not and whether we think they are major or secondary in nature.”

In the response, the university reaffirmed two major points from a now 32-month investigation conducted by the school and the NCAA enforcement staff. Several student athletes were over-compensated for their work, but the “available information does not support a finding that any student-athletes received wages for not working.”

*Happy Holidays
from everyone at the
Freedom Watch!*



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support