

Livestock important to Afghanistan's future



Photo by Spc. Jim Wagner, 109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Dr. Muhammad Doud, an Afghan vet, gives a sheep from the village of Pol-E-Charkhi an immunization against anthrax and blackleg, bacterial diseases common in the country.

By Spc. Jim Wagner
109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan — In a nation where human suffering is all too common, it's easy to overlook the importance of livestock to the future of a country that's seen decades of war and years of drought.

But U.S. Army civil affairs soldiers at the Coalition Joint Special Operations Task Force and the Coalition Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force are assisting in the revitalization of basic veterinary care for Afghanistan's livestock.

Currently, Afghanistan's cattle, poultry, sheep and goats provide food and milk to only 40 percent of the people, said the country's top animal expert. For this reason, the gov-

———— See **LIVESTOCK**, Page A3

27th Engineers train to take mission from 769th

Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – Six months have come and gone for the 769th Engineer Battalion, a reserve unit from Baton Rouge, La. And now they are preparing to go back home. Before they leave however, they have the final task of training C Company, 27th Engineer Battalion., Fort Bragg, N.C. to take their place.

Unlike the 769th, C Co. is the first active-duty company to deploy for the sole purpose of mine clearing. Even with limited experience, they said they are confident they can do the job.

“We have been in country for about two weeks and have been training to clear mines for about a month,” said Cpt. Mike Baker, company commander, C Co., 27th. “The soldiers are reacting positively to the job change and the atmosphere and are happy they are finally doing something exciting.”

Even though the 27th has not had extensive training on clearing mines in the past, they have received excellent instruction since their arrival here.

“The 769th is very good and proficient in what they do, and they

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Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

Soldiers from Company C, 27th Engineer Battalion, clear a minefield with a hydrema. C Co. is deployed for the sole purpose of clearing mines at different sites in Afghanistan.

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

U.S. raises terrorism threat alert

WASHINGTON — Citing credible threats that al-Qaida might be planning attacks on American targets, the U.S. government raised the national color-coded threat level Friday to orange, indicating a “high” risk of a terrorist attack.

The change is only the second time the alert level has risen above yellow, an “elevated” risk, since the system was put in place after the attacks of Sept. 11, 2001.

Attorney General John Ashcroft said the reports indicated that so-called “soft” targets — those more lightly guarded, such as apartments, hotels, sports arenas and amusement parks — are at an increased risk.

“The intelligence community has also indicated that al-Qaida may seek economic targets, transportation and energy, and targets symbolic of America’s power,” the attorney general said. “[The reports] demonstrate al-Qaida’s interest in carrying out chemical, radiological and biological attacks.”

Sources said recent information suggests that al-Qaida might be further along than previously thought in procuring elements to make a so-called “dirty bomb” — a non-nuclear device that would spew radiation upon exploding.

Al-Qaida “communicate with each other about really big things” they hope to achieve, a knowledgeable official said, citing “specific and credible” information gathered from several continents.

Recent intelligence suggests that terrorists could target sites on the East Coast, law enforcement sources said, adding that intercepted messages mention subways and hotels but no particular city.

NASA not convinced photos reveal Columbia’s problem

JOHNSON SPACE CENTER, Texas — NASA officials said Friday that they were examining photographs taken by an Air Force tracking camera shortly before the space shuttle Columbia disintegrated but were not yet convinced that they held the

secrets to the final moments of the fatal flight.

An aviation magazine reported Friday that the images, captured about a minute before the shuttle broke apart, show a jagged edge near where the left wing intersects with the fuselage.

The damage to the left wing indicated either a small structural breach, such as a crack, or that a small piece of the wing’s leading edge fell off, according to the report in “Aviation Week & Space Technology.” Columbia’s right wing and fuselage appear normal in the photos, the magazine said.

But in a NASA briefing Friday afternoon, space shuttle program manager Ron Dittmore showed one of the photographs and said that the choppiness seen on the left wing was due to the camera’s resolution.

He also said that experts had yet to establish if the distortion of Columbia’s shape seen in the photographs indicated a fault or was the result of the angle from which the images were taken.

“The nature of the photograph [because of the resolution] shows some choppiness to the wing leading edge. ... It is not clear to me that it reveals anything significant at the moment,” he said.

Bush: ‘Defining moment’ for Security Council

ROME, Italy — President Bush said Friday that the U.N. Security Council was at a “defining moment,” saying now was the time to decide whether its resolution ordering Iraq to disarm “will have any force” and whether the council or its word “means anything.”

“If the Security Council were to allow a dictator to lie and deceive, the Security Council will be weakened,” Bush told reporters outside the Treasury Department.

“I’m confident that when the members assess their responsibilities and the responsibilities of the U.N., that they will understand that [Resolution] 1441 must be upheld in the fullest.”

The president said Secretary of State

Colin Powell effectively made the case this week before the Security Council that Iraqi President Saddam Hussein has not destroyed weapons of mass destruction. Resolution 1441, which the council passed in November, requires Iraq to disarm its weapons or prove it disarmed.



South Korean activists chant anti-U.S. slogans during a demonstration in Seoul Thursday

U.S. ‘ready for any contingencies’

WASHINGTON — The United States is prepared to deal with “any contingencies” with respect to North Korea, the White House has said in response to Pyongyang’s threat that it could strike U.S. forces.

North Korea warned Thursday that any pre-emptive attack by the United States on its nuclear facilities will spark a “full-scale war” on the Korean Peninsula.

The secretive communist state also said that pre-emptive strikes were not the “exclusive right of the U.S.”

“Obviously the United States is very prepared with the best plans for any contingencies,” White House spokesman Ari Fleischer said.

“This type of talk and the type of action North Korea has engaged in, and is engaging in, only hurts North Korea to further isolate the North Korean people from the modern world, to lead to a world in which people are starved and they are denied basic human rights, and that’s the real cause for concern,” he said.

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ernment relies on humanitarian aid and imports to make up for the lack.

The answer to the livestock problem today, said Dr. Kundal Khaliqi, chief of animal husbandry for the general director of Veterinary Services, is taking care of the animals for tomorrow.

“The situation of the animals in this country has been bad the past 20 years; there has been no vaccination program and limited treatment during that time,” Khaliqi, a veterinarian for more than 36 years, said. “Because of the wars and drought, doctors couldn’t go out to the provinces to treat them. We should continue vaccinating this generation’s animals.”

Khaliqi and two other local veterinarians from the district of Dih Sabz, accompanied CJCMOTF soldiers to the CJSOTF Medical/Veterinary Capabilities in the village of Pol-E-Charkhi Wednesday. While there, the vets immunized livestock and provided limited veterinary and emergency care when needed.

According to Maj. (Dr.) Andre Mormile, a CJCMOTF veterinarian, it was the first VETCAP Cooperative Medical Assistance Program (implemented by Task Force-44 and Combined Joint Task Force-180) that Afghan vets have had the opportunity to attend, but hopefully not the last. Mormile said the country’s need for local vets to be mobile will need to increase in time, as the animal population recovers from years of inadequate health care, drought and poor diet. In addition, “When the coalition military forces transition out of the country, it will be necessary for the Afghans to provide veterinary care countrywide.”

There is a number of animal husbandry problems in the country, Mormile said, which cause problems in livestock herds. Most of these problems are chronic in nature including hypocalcemia (low calcium in the bloodstream), liver flukes (a parasite), bacterial diseases including anthrax and blackleg, viral diseases such as rinderpest and foot and mouth and Newcastle disease. Many of the cattle at the VETCAP CMA were underweight and their hooves were overgrown. Most of the sheep and goats had upper respiratory problems and the goats had lice and hair loss.

The end result is sickly animals that can’t produce enough milk to feed a village, much less a healthy animal that can feed a family.



Photo by Spc. Jim Wagner, 109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

Cattle, like the one at this artificial insemination farm on the outskirts of Kabul, are one of the nation’s primary sources of meat. However, Afghan livestock account for only 40 percent of the country’s total consumption rates.

Because reliable transportation is still scarce in the country, it’s expected Afghan vets will ride with coalition forces to VETCAPS around the Kabul region and beyond. Khaliqi, the country’s leading vet, hasn’t been outside of Kabul in 20 years, he said, and that trip was sponsored by a humanitarian organization.

At Wednesday’s event, only 150-175 cattle, sheep, goats and chickens and one dog were treated at the VETCAP. It was a disappointing number, Mormile said, but not surprising given the security requirements.

“As time goes on and we develop a trust (with herdsmen about vaccinations), we’ll get more people,” he said. “The ones that came today happened to be in the right place and the right time; we expected a couple hundred more, but the herders there will tell others and we’ll get more next time. It’s going to take time, but we need to get the local vets out so they develop relationships of their own with the herdsmen.”

Another area of focus to get Afghanistan’s livestock situation improved is through genetics. Monday, the CJCMOTF attended the opening ceremony of the artificial insemination farm project it funded last August.

The \$131,000 project renovated a compound completely destroyed over the years by war, allowing Ministry of Agriculture officials to revamp artificial insemination research and distribution in the country, improving the

gene stock of animals throughout Afghanistan. It is the only compound of its kind in the country owned by the Ministry.

“Small, low-producing animals are extremely inefficient in meat and milk production,” said Col. George Maughan, CJCMOTF commander. “This facility will improve the genes of milk and beef cattle throughout Afghanistan.”

Around the artificial insemination farm, billboards proclaimed a saying that has a lot of meaning for Afghan farmers. Translated, it says, “The family which has a cow, is not afraid to invite a president.”

When asked about this quotation, Dr. Muhammad Dawood, a veterinarian attending the VETCAP, said it means that a family with livestock isn’t worried about providing food for themselves or others.

“Most of the people’s economy in this country is with their livestock,” Dawood said. “Livestock is going to play an important part in our country’s economy.”

Sayed Husain Anwari, Afghanistan’s Minister of Agriculture, summed up the importance of the artificial insemination farm project and other reconstruction projects for agricultural improvement. “With the help of the world community to rehabilitate our country with projects like these, we will be able to join the world community in fighting terrorism around the world.”

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are excellent trainers,” said Baker. “We have also had the opportunity to receive training from experts at the engineer school house at Fort Leonardwood, Mo.”

Operating motorized mine-clearing equipment, is also a new concept for C Co. After only a few weeks of training, the soldiers took their first ride in the cab of a hydrema through a minefield, Friday.

“This is the first time we have had the chance to use hydremas and D7 bulldozers in mine-clearing training,” said Baker. “The troops are very eager to learn how to operate them, and set off some mines.”

Friday’s exercise served two purposes, Baker said.

“The area being cleared has been a big priority recently, and needs to be completely cleared for construction. It also gives our soldiers a chance to train on equipment they will be using throughout the deployment,” he said.

According to Baker, C Co. has advantages that will help to improve future mine-clearing missions in Afghanistan.

“We are combat engineers whereas the soldiers in the 769th are construction,” said Baker. “We are trained to do our job under enemy fire. These are skills that may be put to use here.”

“Being a whole company, deployed for the sole mission of mine clearing, we have the advantage of command and control,” he said. “I can send a whole platoon out to complete a mission as opposed to one or two people, which will ensure the mission is carried out with more safety and success.”

The soldiers of the newly arrived engineer battalion have mixed feelings about their new jobs and the focus of their mission.

“I have been waiting for an opportunity like this for a long time,” Pfc. Jy Gehring, light equipment operator, light equipment platoon, 3rd squad, C Co., 27th. “I like operating the hydrema and I’m ready to start blowing stuff up.”

“When I first found out we were coming here and what we were going to be doing, I was nervous,” said Spc. William Evans, team leader, light equipment platoon, 1st squad, C Co., 27th Engineer Bn. “I was pretty anxious

when I got into the hydrema. I didn’t know what the impact would be like if we hit a mine. It’s still pretty exciting stuff though.”

Baker said the company’s mission, is not only in Bagram.

“We have three hydremas and two D7 bulldozers. We will use them to clear mines

here, in Kandahar or anywhere else we are directed to.”

“The 769th has done very well in their time here,” said Baker. “I feel confident in the training we have received, and I hope we will be as effective in accomplishing our mission.”



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde

The hydrema is the most popular piece of equipment used to clear unexploded ordinances. The armored cab, operated by two people, uses a drum to rotate chains which flail the ground and detonate mines.

Black History Month

February is Black History Month. In light of all the accomplishments made by African-Americans, every day this month the *Freedom Watch* will highlight an individual.

George Washington Carver, *agricultural chemist*

Born 1864? **Birthplace:** Diamond, Mo.

Born a slave, he later, as a free man, earned his college degree from Iowa State College. In 1896 he joined the staff of Tuskegee Institute as director of the department of agricultural research, retaining that post the rest of his life. His work won him international repute. Carver’s efforts to improve the economy of the South (he dedicated himself especially to bettering the position of African-Americans) included the teaching of soil improvement and of diversification of crops. He discovered hundreds of uses for the peanut, the sweet potato, and the soybean and thus stimulated the culture of these crops. He devised many products from cotton waste and extracted blue, purple, and red pigments from local clay. From 1935 he was a collaborator of the Bureau of Plant Industry. Carver contributed his life savings to a foundation for research at Tuskegee. In 1953 his birthplace was made a national monument.

Died: 1943

FREEDOM'S VOICES

Freedom or honor, a woman's choice

Just my Opinion

Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs
Detachment



Most women regardless of race, country or creed are all born with certain instincts. The instinct to care and nurture, the desire to love and be loved, the content feeling of looking in the mirror and finding what makes them beautiful.

But what would you do if one day someone not only took your freedom, but your natural traits that make you a woman. How would you act if someone told you that you could no longer provide for your family, or that responsibility supersedes love and you had to spend the rest of your life with someone you despised.

As an American woman, I have never had to face these horrors, which have been realities to many women in Afghanistan.

I remember reading an article a few weeks ago that said at one time 50 percent of Afghanistan's workforce were women. The Taliban quickly put a stop to that, driving the nation further into poverty since many of these women were the sole providers for their families.

Even the simple things American women take for granted like having

people you've known all of your life greet you as you walk down the street are only memories for many of these women. Let's face it. Even your own mother wouldn't recognize you in a burqa.

If an American woman becomes pregnant, she has all the advantages of prenatal and medical care available to her if she decides to take it. However, Afghanistan is probably one of the worst countries in the world for a woman to give birth. Not only is health care limited, but many women are not even allowed to see physicians since the majority are male.

Since my arrival in this country, I have seen many of these women. Not their faces, just their forms covered from head to toe. I've seen them look on in confusion, as I talked to the local male elders as if I was their equal.

From a distance they stared at me in awe and interest, but as soon as I would approach they would run the other way, afraid I may see their face and their honor would be compromised.

Every time I would leave a village, a sense of disappointment would come over me. I thought to myself, "These women really don't know why we're here. They don't know that we're here to help and they don't have to hide anymore."

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STREET TALK

Who was your most influential African-American leader and why?



"I like James Baldwin because his writings were inspirational and can still be applied today."

Maj. Greg Smith
CJTF-180 CA officer

"Maya Angelou has influenced me the most. She has been through the same things black women still go through and she lived to tell about it."

Spc. Ranada McGruder
Movement control specialist
657th MCT



"I am inspired by Alan Keys because he ... stands up for what is right."

Maj. Timothy Loudermilk
Joint Operations Center
CJTF-180

"Barbara Jordan did not let the fact she was a black woman limit her capabilities. She is the reason I attended the University of Texas."

Capt. Erin Jackson
OPs officer, OPs cell
CJTF-180



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Visit the CENTCOM Web site at www.centcom.mil and click on the CJTF-180 link to get the latest editions of the Freedom Watch.

To be added to the daily distribution list email william.james@us.army.mil

Legal Assistance answers tax Q and As

From the CJTF-180
Legal Assistance Office

The Tax filing season is upon us. Once a week from now until April 15 there will be a Question and Answer column in the *Freedom Watch* addressing some commonly asked tax questions. Everyone who has served some time in a combat zone has a Combat Zone filing extension giving them at least 180 days beyond April 15 to file their federal income tax return. The specifics of this rule are described below. However, even if you have the extension, you will eventually have to file your taxes. Some of the questions and answers that will appear in this column will address deployment related tax issues arising when you eventually file. Also, remember, if you have any questions on tax matters you can stop by the legal assistance office located in Motel 6.

If you have served in a combat zone your deadline for filing taxes with the IRS is extended for 180 days after the last day you are in a combat zone.

In addition to the 180 days, your deadline is further extended by the number of days you were in the combat zone during the filing period, which is Jan. 1 to April 15. If you entered the combat zone before the beginning of the filing period (Jan. 1), which most of us have, and you remain through April 15 your deadline is extended by a period of time equal to the entire filing period. (i.e. Jan. 1 through April 15, 105 days).

Q: I am a member of the U.S. Armed Forces serving in Afghanistan. Is any part of my 2001 military pay for serving in this area excluded from gross income?

A: Yes. Afghanistan comprises the combat zone. If you serve in the combat zone as an enlisted person or as a warrant officer (including commissioned warrant officers) for any part of a month, all your military pay received for military service that month is excluded from gross income.

For commissioned officers, the monthly exclusion is capped at the highest enlisted pay, plus any hostile fire or imminent danger pay received.

Therefore, for 2001, the most an officer can earn tax-free each month is \$5,043 (\$4,893, the highest monthly enlisted pay, plus \$150 hostile fire or imminent danger pay). Although the Defense Authorization Bill had not been signed when this publication was written, we expect the officer exclusion to increase to \$5,532.90 in 2002 (\$5,382.90, the highest monthly enlisted pay, plus \$150 hostile fire or imminent danger pay). Amounts excluded from gross income are not subject to federal income tax.

Q: My spouse is currently serving in the U.S. Armed Forces in the combat zone and will be eligible for discharge when they return home. If they are discharged upon their return, will the payment for the annual leave that they accrued during their service in the

combat zone be excluded from gross income?

A: Yes. Annual leave payments to enlisted members of the U.S. Armed Forces upon discharge from the service are excluded from gross income to the extent the leave was accrued during any month in any part of which the member served in the combat zone. If your spouse is a commissioned officer, a portion of the annual leave payment they receive for leave accrued during any month in any part of which they served in the combat zone may be excluded. The leave payment cannot be excluded to the extent it exceeds the maximum enlisted amount (see Q & A 2) for the month of service to which it relates less the amount of military pay already excluded for that month.

Q: My spouse is a member of the U.S. Armed Forces who is now serving in the combat zone. Am I entitled to an extension of time for filing and paying their federal income taxes? Are any assessment or collection deadlines extended?

A: For both questions, the answer is yes. In general, the deadlines for performing certain actions applicable to their federal taxes are extended for the period of their service in the combat zone 180 days thereafter. During this extension period, assessment and collection deadlines will be extended, and interest and penalties attributable to the extension period will not be charged.

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Just as I finished that thought and turned to get into my vehicle, almost every time there would be a cluster of about three or four women standing about 20 meters away. Simultaneously, as if they planned it out, they would look side to side to make sure no males were watching and then in unison, turn their eyes on me.

I briefly held my breath not knowing what was going to happen. Four hands would begin to rise from underneath their veils, and all at once without saying a word, they said "thank you" with a thumbs up.

I smiled and returned the unspoken gratitude. Less than a second later they turned and walked off.

In that moment, my pride as an American woman and soldier, grew tenfold. I knew that I wouldn't be able to restore their freedom, or show them how a woman's life should be, but it didn't matter. For a few seconds they showed their independence, and acknowledged me not as a photographer or soldier, but as a woman.

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Marine's top NCO praises leadership



Photo by Staff Sgt. Christina Bhatti

Sgt. Maj. Alford McMichael, sergeant major of the Marine Corps and Gen. Michael Hagee, commandant of the Marine Corps address Marines during their visit Thursday.

Compiled by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment

July 1, 1999 marked a historical day for the Marine Corps — the first African-American sergeant of the Marine Corps took the reigns. Sgt. Maj. Alford McMichael now serves as the 14th sergeant major of the Marine Corps.

In light of Black History Month, the Freedom Watch took the opportunity to ask the sergeant major some questions about his role in the Marine Corps and his thoughts on ethnicity. Although he's the first African-American to serve in the this role, McMichael credits his leadership and the Marine Corps for his opportunities.

Q. What advice do you give to young Marines?

A. Focus on what their leadership has given them, follow the instructions of their

NCO's and staff NCO's who are truly trying to make sure they are the best equipped and best trained. As long as they do that, they shouldn't fall prey to the misconception that they are not as good as those before them.

The Marines that we have today are as good, if not better. I'm excited about what they are doing and how well they do it, and how proficient they are.

They have some of the best ideas we have ever had. We have to depend on their ideas and what they have to say if we want to retain them

Q. What advantage does the Marine Corps have for African-Americans?

A. I don't think the Marine Corps has segregated itself to look for any special advantages for any ethnicities. I think what the Marine Corps focuses on is making sure that the Marines from the bottom

to the Commandant are getting what they expect from the leadership because the leadership is getting what they expect from young Marines by meeting our standards. I don't think any of these young Marines, African-American or any other, wake up any day of the week and say they want to make the Marine Corps miserable or be miserable in the Marine Corps.

It's a two-way sword. The leadership has to understand that our Marines, regardless of their ethnicity, have expectations and we have to try to meet that. And the young Marines have to understand that when we give them certain tasks, we are not trying to make their life miserable, we are trying to progress to meet the standard of the 21st century.

Q. What was the key to your success that brought you to this level of leadership?

A. I've tried to do what I have been asked to do and follow through on the things that are important to all Marines, especially young Marines.

I think it's imperative the leadership understands we have to be an example everyday. Our Marines look up to us and if we are not happy with who we are, they will not strive to replace us. I've tried to live my career as a staff NCO and show that it's OK to achieve things, but you never forget where you come from.

I don't think I've reached this point by ethnicity or color but by the opportunities I've been given.

(Editor's note: Interview conducted by Marine Capt. Melanie Hudson, Bagram AB Joint Visitor's Bureau.)

Chaplain's corner

By Chap. (Maj.) Marvin Luckie
CTF-82 Chaplain

The Combined Task Force-82 Religious Support Team will conduct a weekly Bible study before and during the season of Lent starting Tuesday from 1200Z-1250Z. Walk on up to the CTF-82 administration building second floor conference room. All are welcome for an open and frank discussion of the Christian life.

Every person who believes in Jesus Christ has become a new recruit in the army of God. But a recruit without training is of no use on the battlefield. The recruit must understand his purpose; he must understand himself and his limitations; he must understand his enemy.

In 2 Timothy 2, Paul sends instructions

to a young man he had recruited on his second missionary journey.

From Acts 16 we know that Timothy was raised amid conflict. He was born in the area of Lystra, where had faced tremendous opposition on his first missionary journey.

Timothy must have seen battles of another sort at home in the struggle between his Jewish mother and grandmother and the belief of his Greek father.

People saw Timothy's motivation and commitment and spoke well of the young man (Acts 16:2). Paul had been looking for



*Chap. (Maj.)
Marvin Luckie*

someone to train and when he heard about and saw Timothy, he knew he had found his man. The Greek in Acts 16:3 says that, emphatically, *this* is the man Paul had been looking for. So Paul took him.

The verb translated "took" means to seize. Paul probably marched up to Timothy's mother and said, "Lois, kiss your son good-bye. He's coming with me," and he took him.

Verses 4-5 tell us that Paul, Silas, and Timothy passed through a number of cities, delivering the apostolic letter of Acts 15:23-29 and encouraging the young churches on their route.

Come and join us as we dig in a little deeper into the power source, training, combat, motivation, and rewards. Blessings; Preacher 6 out.

Afghan Info

By Maj. William Mott
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — When war is being raged, very little is sacred. Whether directly or collaterally, religious and historical structures can be damaged or destroyed beyond repair. Ousting the Taliban from Afghanistan, who employed such terrorist tactics as using civilian buildings as safe houses, brought additional destruction to these sites.

Banded by barbed wire, mired in mines and swamped in sewage the mosque on the 769th Engineer Battalion, compound sits solemnly waiting for the day when a practical peace returns, and people's prayers echo from in its now empty walls.

"There are five mosques in this area and only one is active," said Chap. (Col.) Richard Rogers, Combined Joint Task Force-180 chaplain, who is interested in rebuilding the mosque located on the 769th compound into a respectable simple place of praise.

"This mosque is structurally sound, has been manually swept for mines twice but needs to be swept by the dogs before

it can be deemed safe," said Rogers. The mosque probably has some internal plumbing that could be easily repaired, and with some electrical work, concrete, paint and landscaping it could be easily restored, he added.

Behind Motel Six on Dragon Base one of the more dilapidated mosques is barely standing. "It is off limits because the roof is in danger of falling in," said 1st Sgt. Leonard P. Houser mayor of Dragon Base. I had a request to clean it up, but had to deny it because of safety, he added.

Rebuilding the mosque would offer a great opportunity for the Coalition Forces to work together and allow workers the opportunity to have a sacred place for their prayers during the day, said Rogers. The funds needed for complete restoration would be minimal.

Masjed e Jame, a mosque located in the province of Herat is an 800-year-old blue-tiled mosque. The call to prayer can be heard throughout the city, as the morning and evening calls to prayer are heard here on Bagram. The other mosques in this area are located on the North compound, and by the air base barbershop.

The active mosque is in Bagram village.

Funds for mosque restorations usually come from private donations. Military funds cannot be used for rebuilding mosques according to doctrine, said Rogers. Normally another country offers to rebuild the mosque as a gesture of good faith.



Masjed e Jame is an 800-year-old blue-tiled mosque in the province of Herat.

Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



How to improve All-Star Weekend

ESPN — If you were me — and you wish you were in your heart of hearts, don't you — you've been bored by All-Star Weekend the past few years. Nothing against 2-Ball, but this isn't what's drawn eyeballs to the February Extravaganza. We want to see 3-pointers and dunks. But ever since MJ got a homer call in Chicago in the '88 dunk contest over 'Nique, nobody's really wanted to throw down. But it can be that way again. Three adjustments/changes will again make All-Star weekend the event we once loved.

1. Make the dunk contest worth people's while. The Commish has done a great job of getting corporate sponsors inside the L's tent. Now it's time for him to lean on them a little. Have each of the league's top five sponsors put up \$500,000 each. Have one of the shoe companies (rotate it if you like) match that \$2.5 mil. Then put the stash at center court. Winner take all. You think Vince and T-Mac and Kobe might show up with \$5 mil at stake? You think you might

get some buzz going?

2. One-on-one. Have eight guys go at it, four games between them of one-on-one up to seven, win by two. But I'd have a twist. I would match up extremes and opposites. For example, would it be fun to see Earl Boykins go up against, say, Shawn Bradley? Or Q Richardson against D Miles? Or Oak against Tyrone Hill? This would also be a way to get some other guys involved in the weekend that fall short of All-Star status but are still having strong seasons.

3. Make the 3-point contest the final event. It's the only event that has real drama.

Knicks' furious comeback falls short

NEW YORK — Kobe Bryant and Shaquille O'Neal have the Los Angeles Lakers playing like champions again.

See **SPORTS**, Page B4



Music Notes

Vacancies In Metallica, Bizkit so far filled with jokes

LOS ANGELES — We know Metallica and Limp Bizkit will headline the Summer Sanitarium Tour, but what we don't know is who will be in those bands. Or do we?

"We got Yngwie Malmsteen," Fred Durst deadpanned Wednesday at a press conference to announce the tour, which also features Linkin Park, the Deftones and Mudvayne.

"Oh man, he was next on my list," Lars Ulrich said of the Swedish metal guitar virtuoso.

"I'll take Steve Vai and give you him," Durst shot back.

Of course, Durst and Ulrich were joking. Metallica's bassist slot and Limp Bizkit's guitarist slot remain vacant. The latter band appears close to finalizing a replacement for Wes Borland, though.

"We know who. It's all good," said Durst, sporting a Minor Threat T-shirt. "We're going to let you know who that is the second you see us. We're not going to make a big deal about it. It's just going to be somebody really strong."

As for Jason Newsted's old role in Metallica, Ulrich said the band hopes to fill the opening by the end of the month.

Spector claimed to be 'relatively insane'

Four weeks before Phil Spector was arrested on murder charges, the revolutionary producer told a British journalist he was "relatively insane."

In an interview published Tuesday in the *London Daily*

(Compiled from MTV.com)

Telegraph, Spector talked about his mental struggles as well as his reputation as a mad genius and recluse.

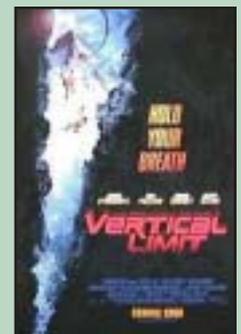
"I would say I'm probably relatively insane, to an extent," the Wall of Sound innovator told author Mick Brown, who called the interview Spector's first in 25 years. "I take medication for schizophrenia, but I wouldn't say I'm schizophrenic. But I have a bipolar personality, which is strange. I'm my own worst enemy."

Spector also revealed that his mother and father were first cousins and that after years of not accepting it, he is facing it now. "I don't know, genetically, whether or not that had something to do with what I am or who I became," he said.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

2000 hrs. at the MWR building: A high-adrenaline tale of young climber Peter Garrett, who must launch a treacherous and extraordinary rescue effort up K2, the world's second highest peak. Confronting both his own limitations and the awesome power of nature's uncontrollable elements, Peter risks his life to save his sister, Annie, and her summit team in a race against time.

Tomorrow's movie will be "The Cell."



SPORTS, from Page B3

Bryant dazzled New York with an array of drives, jumpers and dunks, and O'Neal overpowered the Knicks inside as the Lakers won 114-109 Thursday night to enter the All-Star break with a winning record for the first time this season.

"Kobe and Shaq have shown they're the top two dogs in the league," teammate Robert Horry said.

"They're carrying us. You have to give the credit to those two guys," he added.

Bryant matched his season high with 46 points and O'Neal added 33 as the Knicks had no answer for Los Angeles' dynamic duo. Bryant (40) and O'Neal (28) combined to outscore the Knicks in the first three quarters as the Lakers took a 97-67 lead.

The Lakers (24-23) then survived a spirited fourth-quarter rally by the Knicks to end the first half of the season with their fifth straight win, including four on the road.

"That was quite a show the first three quarters," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said. "Shaq and Kobe put on a show tonight. It was a spectacular performance by Kobe tonight."

Solution from Saturday's Mohammad Ali Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

(Courtesy of infoplease.com)



2002 NBA standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

- (2) New Jersey 34-15
- (5) Boston 27-22
- (4) Philadelphia 25-24
- (8) Washington 24-25
- (7) Orlando 24-26

Central

- (1) Indiana 34-15
- (3) Detroit 32-15
- Milwaukee 25-23
- (6) New Orleans 26-24
- Atlanta 19-30



Western Conference

Midwest

- (1) Dallas 38-10
- (3) San Antonio 33-16
- (6) Utah 29-20
- (7) Minnesota 29-20
- (8) Houston 26-22

Pacific

- (2) Sacramento 34-17
- (5) Portland 32-16
- (4) Phoenix 29-21
- L.A. Lakers 24-23
- Seattle 21-27



By Mark Baker

Pvt. Murphy's Law

Kandahar chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 1130Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel choir practice

Tuesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox/Catholic Bible study
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 1130Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice

Bagram chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0500Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 0630Z — Protestant worship
- ❖ 0830Z — Latter-Day Saints worship
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel service

Monday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers

Tuesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0700Z — Roman Catholic mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Protestant mid-week service

Thursday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Bible study

Friday

- ❖ 0700Z — Rosary and prayers
- ❖ 0830Z — Islamic Jumaa'h prayer
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian hymn service
- ❖ 1430Z — Jewish prayer

Saturday

- ❖ 0530Z — Seventh-Day Adventist worship
- ❖ 1130Z — Orthodox Christian Divine Liturgy
- ❖ 1430Z — Gospel Choir practice
- ❖ 1500Z — Rosary and prayers

K2 chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0330Z — Liturgical service
- ❖ 0430Z, 1200Z — General protestant service
- ❖ 0600Z — Roman Catholic Mass
- ❖ 1300Z — Latter Day Saints

Monday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

Tuesday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

Wednesday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Midweek Praise service

Thursday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass

Friday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1245Z — Catholic Rosary and Mass
- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study

Saturday

- ❖ 0430Z — Devotions and prayer
- ❖ 1200Z — Roman Catholic Mass

CJCMOTF

chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0630Z — Nondenominational service

Tuesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Catholic service (every other Tuesday)

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study



	Bagram	K2	Kabul	KAF
W Today	 Hi — 54F Lo — 27F	 Hi — 59F Lo — 33F	 Hi — 50F Lo — 19F	 Hi — 61F Lo — 32F
e Sunday	 Hi — 55F Lo — 23F	 Hi — 63F Lo — 34F	 Hi — 54F Lo — 23F	 Hi — 61F Lo — 37F
a Monday	 Hi — 55F Lo — 23F	 Hi — 65F Lo — 36F	 Hi — 52F Lo — 27F	 Hi — 64F Lo — 36F

KMTC chapel hours

Sunday

- ❖ 0430Z — Protestant Service
- ❖ 0530Z — Roman Catholic Mass/Eucharist
- ❖ 0630Z — Latter Day Saints
- ❖ 1630Z — Protestant Service

Wednesday

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible Study

Friday

- ❖ 1530Z — Thank God It's Friday fellowship and singing

All events are held in FOB195 Chapel/Conference Room area.