



FREEDOM WATCH



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

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Iraq vents fury at U.N. resolution

BAGHDAD, Iraq—The Iraq parliament has been expressing its anger on the U.N. resolution which threatens possible military action if Iraq does not disarm. Iraq's parliamentary speaker Saadoun Hammadi said a debate by parliament on the U.N. order would continue on Tuesday. A final decision on the resolution passed unanimously by the U.N. Security Council last week will lie with the Revolutionary Command Council, Iraq's highest authority which is led by President Saddam Hussein. Iraq has until Friday to accept the terms of the U.S.-promoted Security Council resolution demanding Baghdad allow U.N. arms inspectors unhindered access to any site suspected of producing chemical, biological or nuclear weapons or face "serious consequences." Washington has been adding to the pressure on Iraq with senior Bush administration officials warning the U.S.

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Weapons caches found Saturday were destroyed with C4 explosives.



Soldiers from Company A, 1st Battalion 505th Infantry Regiment, Fort Bragg, N.C., search for weapons caches in the Hindu Kush Mountains.

82nd soldiers locate more weapons caches

Story & photos by Staff Sgt.

Rhonda M. Lawson

28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan—Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, 82nd Airborne Division took to the mountains Saturday afternoon in search of more weapons caches.

The unit, based in Fort Bragg, N.C., descended on the Hindu Kush Mountains because of a tip from Gen. Razzak,

commander of an Afghan Military Force in Kohi Sofi.

"Gen. Razzak told us he had caches and wanted us to do an assessment," said Capt. James Wright, Company A commander. "This mission was fairly unique because we were being led there."

The mission became unique in more ways than one. Razzak had told

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Cheheltan School rises from civil war

By Staff Sgt. Zelda

Thomas-Gates

300th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

KABUL, Afghanistan—Cheheltan School officially reopened in September, with the help of The Transitional Islamic State of Afghanistan, Hope World Wide and the Coalition Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force.

Cheheltan first opened its doors 45 years ago, as a

primary school in the Paghman district. Although the village was destroyed by civil war, education within the community was not. They used houses, metal shipping containers, vehicles and tents as classrooms. Boys and girls between the ages of 7-18 from 12 different villages within a three-kilometer radius attend the school.

"If we are to rebuild our

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Photo by Sgt. Robert Huhn
Col. George P. Maughan (right) helps cut the ribbon for the reopening of the Cheheltan school.

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country, we need to rebuild with the teacher's who are responsible for our children's education," said Mohammad Ajmal Faiz, President of Secondary Education. "We have done this here at Cheheltan. The Coalition Joint Civil Military Operations Task Force has helped us rebuild our education in Afghanistan."

The staff of the Cheheltan school, which consists of one headmaster and 15 teachers, will prepare 900 young Afghan boys and girls grades one to nine for high school. The school is a single story school building consisting of twelve classrooms, one staff room and one storeroom.

"This project took a long time and had many detours, but this dream has turned into a reality," said CJCMOTF Commander Col. George P. Maughan.

With many schools heavily damaged during 23 years of war, these projects will make a difference in the lives of the students attending these schools and provide a more suitable environment in which to teach and learn.

"This school will help produce the future leaders of Afghanistan — the future engineers that will help rebuild this country, the future doctors that will help care for the sick, and the future teachers that will produce future leaders for the generations to come," Maughan said.

"If a nation doesn't have education, doesn't have a school, the nation is nothing, it has nothing," said Mohammed.

The CJCMOTF is conducting humanitarian projects throughout Afghanistan, which include school repairs, medical facilities renovation and well drilling projects.



Photos by Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson

A number of caves were found empty during Company A, 1st Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment's, search for weapons caches.

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the 82nd about two caves that held weapons caches, but they found an extra one on the way, which held 21 Russian 9M28F rockets.

The second cache, which held 90 rockets, gave the second surprise of the day.

All of the weapons were deemed unserviceable, so the 705th Explosive Ordnance Disposal team from Fort Polk, La., began laying C4 explosives to destroy them in place. The second explosion's blastwave was larger than expected. Although all of the soldiers and locals were evacuated, debris fell more than 900 meters away, injuring two soldiers and breaking the windows on a nearby building, drawing concern from the locals.

"That was totally unexpected," said Sgt. Matthew Farmer, 705th EOD. "The blastwave should have gone under 300 meters. We were 960 meters away. The only thing we can conclude was there could have been other things under the rockets."



Locals remove rockets found in a cave near the 505th PIR area of operation in the Kohi Sofi region.

Their next surprise came the following morning. Sgt. 1st Class Ruben Garcia, with Co. A, 1st Bn., 505th PIR, was conducting personal hygiene when he decided to glance into a cave near the company's area of operation. No one expected him to find 107mm rockets in one of them.

After reporting them, soldiers were sent to guard the cave. AMF soldiers later came and hauled

them away to be destroyed.

Despite the surprises, Maj. Craig Osborne, the battalion operations officer, credited the AMF for the work they were doing.

"It's good that the AMF is taking initiative to secure their country," he said. "We're relying on the AMF to show us where the known caches are. If we try to go to every cave, we'd be here until I'm 75 and still not be half through."

HIND SIGHT

1859

The first flying-trapeze circus act is performed by Jules Leotard at the Circus Napoleon.

1903

The Lebaudy brothers of France set an air-travel distance record of 34 miles in a dirigible.

1927

Canada is admitted to the League of Nations.

1968

The U.S. Supreme Court voids an Arkansas law banning the teaching of evolution in public schools.

1971

President Richard Nixon announces the withdrawal of about 45,000 U.S. troops from Vietnam by February.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

would be ready to take unilateral military action should Iraq violate the resolution. There was heavy criticism of the U.N. resolution from the 250 lawmakers at Monday's session. They said the inspections order was unworkable, it imposed "impossible demands" on Iraq, and that it was mostly a plan to launch a U.S. strike on Iraq.

Residents clean up after killer storms

Emergency workers and stunned residents across the South and Great Lakes regions picked through shattered homes and buildings Monday after a string of tornadoes left at least 36 people dead and dozens injured. Homes, schools, churches and businesses were flattened from Alabama to Pennsylvania after more than 70 tornadoes touched down. Most of those killed were in Tennessee, where 17 people died; 12 died in Alabama, five in Ohio, one in Pennsylvania and one in Mississippi. One of the hardest-hit communities was Mossy Grove in northeastern Tennessee, where a tornado cut a swath about a mile wide and a mile long, killing eight people in the Appalachian town and surrounding Morgan County. Fourteen people in the county remained missing late Monday.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

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

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Wednesday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 61F L: 36F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 57F L: 37F
Kandahar:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 72F L: 43F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 70F L: 46F
Kabul:	<i>Haze</i> H: 54F L: 41F	<i>Haze</i> H: 61F L: 39F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 75F L: 54F	<i>Rain</i> H: 68F L: 45F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE



2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Oklahoma	2.04
2. Ohio State	5.57
3. Miami, Fla.	6.01
4. Texas	10.03
5. Washington State	13.05
6. Georgia	15.03
7. Notre Dame	15.33
8. Iowa	16.29
9. USC	19.37
10. Virginia Tech	20.88
11. Michigan	31.62
12. N.C. State	32.40
13. Florida State	33.75
14. Florida	36.95
15. Kansas State	38.20

1-2 punch: Buckeyes, Canes top BCS

Miami might be No. 1 in two polls, but Ohio State is atop the latest Bowl Championship Series standings.

The Buckeyes (11-0) have 3.41 points to lead Monday's chart, while Miami (9-0) is No. 2 with 4.10 points. Each moved up one spot after previous BCS leader Oklahoma lost to Texas A&M 30-26 Saturday.

If Ohio State and Miami — the only unbeaten teams remaining — win the rest of their games, they will play for the national championship. The top two teams in the final BCS standings released Dec. 8 will play in the national title game at the Fiesta Bowl in Tempe, Ariz., on Jan. 3.

Miami, the defending national champion, temporarily lost the top spot in the AP media poll last week but is now a unanimous No. 1 following a 26-3 win over Tennessee.

The Hurricanes, also No. 1 in the coaches' poll, have won a school-record 31 straight games.

The Buckeyes are ahead of Miami for one big reason — quality win points. Ohio State has a 4.21 composite total, compared with Miami's 4.10. But the Buckeyes got a 0.8 deduction for a 25-7 victory over Washington State on Sept. 14. Miami has no bonus-point deduction.

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

McNeal awarded with starting nod

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — One week after looking like the true freshman that he is, Texas A&M quarterback Reggie McNeal came off the bench and led the Aggies to an upset of No. 1 ranked Oklahoma.

The Aggies' quarterback of the future has arrived.

After getting spot duty throughout the season, McNeal got his most extensive playing time under the spotlight against the top-ranked Sooners and threw four touchdown passes in a 30-26 victory that dented Oklahoma's national championship hopes.

"Yes," coach R.C. Slocum said without hesitation Monday when asked if McNeal would start Saturday's game against the Missouri Tigers. "Based on his performance last week, I think he's earned it."

McNeal played briefly in A&M's upset loss to Oklahoma State Nov. 2. He threw three incomplete passes, two of which could have been intercepted. A week later, McNeal shellshocked the Sooners with his running and passing.

"I had to stay calm," McNeal said. "If the team sees me panic, even though I'm just a freshman, they see the quarterback panic and not feeling comfortable with himself; that would make them feel something was wrong.

"I just had to stay cool about the whole situation."

McNeal didn't start out very well but on his second series, he hit Terrance Murphy with a 61-yard touchdown pass midway in the second quarter and closed out the half with a 40-yard touchdown pass to Greg Porter in the back of the end zone.

He completed eight of 13 passes for 191 yards, four touchdowns and one interception. He rushed 16 times for 89 yards, making his biggest impact of the season after replacing starter Dustin Long.

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Candidates

Byron Leftwich, QB, Marshall

Season stats: 191-for-289 for 2,995 yards, 19 TDs, 7 INTs

Ken Dorsey, QB, Miami

Season stats: 152-for-279 for 2,265 yards, 21 TDs, 8 INTs

Carson Palmer, QB, USC

Season stats: 217-of-346 for 2,746 yards, 22 TDs, 8 INTs

Jason Gesser, QB, Washington St.

Season stats: 190-for-320 for 2,696 yards, 24 TDs, 8 INTs

Willis McGahee, RB, Miami

Season stats: 190 carries for 1,188 yards, 17 TDs

Trophy

Georgia will be without Edwards for huge SEC tilt

ATHENS, Ga. — Terrence Edwards stood on the sideline with an ice pack on his left shoulder. Boss Bailey sat on a training table with his right knee wrapped in ice.

No. 7 Georgia (9-1, 6-1) is clearly shorthanded heading into its most important game of the year.

The Bulldogs can clinch a spot in the Southeastern Conference championship game by beating Auburn on Saturday, but they'll have to do it without their leading receiver. Edwards is out three-to-six weeks after separating his shoulder early in the fourth quarter of a 31-17 victory over Mississippi.

Bailey went out late in the first half with a sprained knee. While his prognosis is better than Edwards', coach Mark Richt isn't sure if the senior linebacker will be able to play against Auburn.

Edwards' injury creates the most pressing concern. The Bulldogs already are playing without Damien Gary, who is expected to miss the rest of the regular season with a torn leg muscle.

"I don't know what we're going to do right now," Richt said. "We've got a real problem at receiver. Of our most productive players, two of the three are out."

Fortunately for Georgia, Fred Gibson returned against Ole Miss after missing two games with torn ligaments in his left thumb. He didn't miss a beat, catching four passes for 97 yards, including a 17-yard touchdown.

But the Bulldogs will need more than one receiver. Reggie Brown and Michael Johnson can expect to play bigger roles. Also, freshmen Bryan McClendon and Mario Raley will get more playing time.

"Maybe these guys will be able to step up and do something," Richt said.

Georgia could have clinched the SEC East against Florida, but took its first loss of the season. Now, the Bulldogs have another opportunity to play for their first conference championship since 1982.

Aggies cause Sooner stumble

COLLEGE STATION, Texas — Oklahoma escaped Kyle Field two years ago, clearing the way for the Sooners to win the national title.

They couldn't pull off another victory against Texas A&M on Saturday, and now the Sooners (No. 2 *ESPN/USA Today*, No. 1 *AP*) might not get another shot to win it all.

"I never talked about it when we had a BCS future. I don't know that we have one now and don't really care," coach Bob Stoops said after his top-ranked Sooners lost 30-26.

The Sooners (8-1, 4-1 Big 12) certainly will drop from the No. 1 position in both the Associated Press poll and the Bowl Championship Series standings. Second-ranked Miami had an easy 26-3 win at Tennessee on Saturday.

"No, y'all don't have to ask us about the BCS anymore," tight end Trent Smith said.

The Aggies (6-4, 3-3) beat a No. 1 team for the first in school history behind freshman quarterback Reggie McNeal, who came off the bench to throw for 191 yards and four touchdowns.

McNeal had scoring passes on three straight possessions to give Texas A&M its first lead. His fourth TD, a 40-yarder to Terrence Murphy with 1:51 left in the third quarter, put the Aggies ahead 27-23 before the teams traded field goals in the fourth quarter.

Terrence Kiel, who was burned for an earlier touchdown, intercepted Nate Hybl's pass with 1:12 left to seal the victory.

When the Sooners won the national championship two years ago, they arrived here coming off three straight impressive wins over Top 25 teams. Then they overcame a 10-point deficit in the fourth quarter to win 35-31, propelling them to the national title game.



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support

“For the last time Roth, we’re going to the G-U-L-F, gulf!!”