



FREEDOM WATCH



November 30, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Launchers, missiles found near Kenya airport

MOMBASA, Kenya — Kenyan authorities said Friday they found two launchers and two unused surface-to-air missiles less than one-quarter mile from the end of the runway where an Israeli charter aircraft narrowly escaped being shot down as it took off Thursday. The authorities would not divulge what type of missiles they found. Israeli intelligence sources have said the missiles used in the attack were “almost certainly SA-7s, or Strela missiles.” Israeli and Kenyan investigators were looking for evidence of who was behind the bombing Thursday that killed 16 people, including the three suicide terrorists. They said it could be part of a crude manual detonator that set off the plastic explosives packed in terrorists’ car at the hotel entrance.

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Bagram Coalition see stars



U.S. CENTCOM Commander Gen. Tommy Franks' talks to the press at the Bagram Air Base JOC. Franks spent the last six days visiting troops under his command, with his wife, to thank them for their support.



Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki films his holiday message to troops supporting Operation Enduring Freedom at the JOC on Bagram Air Base with CJTF - 180 soldiers.

Story & photos by Sgt. Reeba Critser
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — It was still dusty on Bagram Air Base when they visited last. This time, its different. This time, it was 34 degrees Fahrenheit, there was no dust and snow was on the mountains.

This time, it was different for Army Chief of Staff Gen. Eric K. Shinseki and U.S. Central Command Commander Gen. Tommy Franks.

Both visited with Coalition service members Friday at the Joint Operations Center. They ate and talked with them before boarding their C-17s to

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New Stop-Loss freezes mobilized Reservists

By Joe Burlas
Army News Service

WASHINGTON — The Army’s newest Stop-Loss measure will keep all mobilized Reserve and National Guard soldiers in the Army until at least 90 days after their unit demobilizes.

The new announcement will help reserve-component unit readiness because it keeps mobilized reservists from departing their unit and the Army in the middle of a mission at the end of their enlistment officials said.

The latest of six Stop-Loss announcements since the first measure was implemented a year ago was sent to the field by an “All Army Activities” message Nov. 4. Specific implementing instructions went out

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their next destination.

In addition, Shinseki filmed his holiday commercial on site, which will later be aired on Soldiers Radio and Television.

"The holiday season is a time to pause and reflect on the peace and freedom we enjoy," he said. "These are the gifts of the American soldier to the nation and to freedom-loving people everywhere."

Shortly after he boarded his plane, Franks' flight landed.

His wife, Cathryn, joined him on his six-day tour of Coalition bases supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. The tour took them to Bahrain, Djibouti, U.S.S. Abraham Lincoln, Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Pakistan, Krygystan and Afghanistan.

"This time of year is special to us," Franks said. "It's



Photo by Sgt. Reeba Critser

Coalition servicemembers laugh at U.S. CENTCOM Commander Gen. Tommy Franks' jokes at the JOC. Franks visited Bagram Air Base Friday to thank Coalition troops for their support in the war against terrorism.

about Thanksgiving. This is a time when we all need to be giving thanks for the blessings of liberty, for the blessings of freedom, what these young people are doing every day of their lives over here, so that's what it's been about for me for the last week or so."

After cracking a few

jokes about a duck, grasshopper and a bear in a bar, Franks got down to business.

"Just about 14 months ago, the United States of America learned how vulnerable we are to terrorism," he said. "We are an open country. We have democracy, freedom and liberty – very vul-

nerable in the 21st century. We learned a lot about ourselves, our expectations, our armed forces and that we're a long way from home."

Franks said the world learned a lesson from the terrorist attacks Sept. 11, 2001.

"Let the record reflect that there has never been a

Coalition like you represent, standing far away from the shores of the countries all of us represent, simply saying terrorists made a bad mistake. We got a long ways to go, but we can get there. Keep your head up, be proud of who you are because the world has never seen anything like you."

"I spent yesterday doing what I was supposed to do on Thanksgiving," Franks said. "I spent yesterday being thankful for your sacrifice. When it comes time to open a can of whoop-ass, you're the ones to get it done."

Before Franks left, he sang a country song.

"Rain dripping down around my hat,

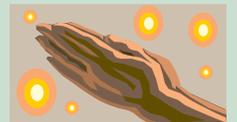
"Sure is cold today

"Here I am standing in Bagram Base ...

"Thanks a lot and God bless all of you."

Religious services

All religious services on Bagram Air Base are no longer at the Viper City Chapel. The services times will remain the same, but the location is the Dragon City Chapel, by the MWR building.



STOP-LOSS, from Page 1

Nov. 21 via Military Personnel messages 03-040 and 03-041.

"This is a unit-based Stop-Loss versus the previous individual-skill announcements," said Lt. Col. Bob Ortiz, chief of Enlisted Distribution and Readiness Branch, Office of the Deputy Chief of Staff, G1. "Basically, the reserve leadership asked for some help in preventing readiness degradation of RC units when mobilized."

The measure takes effect upon Reserve and National Guard soldiers the day their units are

alerted for mobilization.

Ortiz explained how soldiers leaving their units for retirement or separation while their unit was mobilized has created a domino effect on RC unit readiness.

"When a soldier leaves, that leaves a hole in the unit that has to be filled," Ortiz said. "In order to fill that hole, reserve commands have been reaching into other units that haven't been mobilized, which cannibalizes that unit for trained and qualified individual replacements. That leaves a readiness problem for the units giving up the replacements when it is their

turn for mobilization. This Stop-Loss measure is designed to fix that problem."

Mobilized reservists impacted by previous Stop-Loss announcements must remain in the Army in a Ready-Reserve status for 90 days after if their unit demobilizes or for one year after their skill was identified as critical to the needs of the Army by a Stop-Loss message, whichever is later. This part of the newest measure impacts about 25,000 reservists, Ortiz said.

Prior to August when the 12-month policy went into effect,

Stop-Loss soldiers were frozen in the Army unable to retire or separate the end of their enlistment for an indefinite period. The 12-month policy was implemented to provide impacted soldiers some predictability while meeting the manpower needs of the Army in selected shortage skills, Ortiz said.

The Army will continue to assess its manpower needs on a monthly basis and make appropriate Stop-Loss decisions as necessary, Ortiz said.

Stop-Loss does not impact involuntary separations or mandatory retirements.

HIND SIGHT

1782

The British sign a preliminary agreement in Paris, recognizing American independence.

1919

Women cast votes for the first time in French legislative elections.

1935

Non-belief in Nazism is proclaimed grounds for divorce in Germany.

1945

Russian forces take Danzig in Poland and invade Austria.

1948

The Soviet Union complete the division of Berlin, installing the government in the Soviet sector.

1979

Pope John Paul II becomes the first pope in 1,000 years to attend an Orthodox mass.

BRIEFS, from Page 1

‘Soft start’ for Iraq inspections

BAGHDAD, Iraq — U.N. weapons inspections in Iraq were on hold Friday — the Muslim holy day of prayer. The inspectors were using the day to “fine tune” their operations and mount a security sweep at their offices to check for bugging devices. U.N. inspectors and their hosts had “hit it off” during the first two days of inspections, which are due to resume on Saturday. On Thursday the inspectors declared themselves satisfied with their inspection at the al-Daura animal vaccine plant, which had doubled in the past as a biological warfare facility. UK Prime Minister Tony Blair’s “dossier” on Iraq said that there could be a “resurgent” bio warfare program there.

Italy declares flood emergency

ROME — The Italian Government approved emergency funds Friday for six regions in Northern Italy which have been hit with flooding and mudslides during several days of torrential rain. No immediate figure was announced, but going into the Cabinet meeting, the government was expected to approve 100 million euros in funds for the regions of Liguria, Piedmont, Lombardy, Veneto, Friuli-Venezia Giulia and Emilia Romagna. The bad weather has also claimed at least one life this week, after a man died in a landslide, reports said. Another man was missing after falling into a river.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

Tomorrow’s movie will be “The Last of the Mohicans,” showing at the same time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 28F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 55F L: 25F
Kandahar:	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 66F L: 37F	<i>Partly cloudy</i> H: 68F L: 37F
Kabul:	<i>Haze</i> H: 57F L: 34F	<i>Haze</i> H: 59F L: 30F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Clear</i> H: 56F L: 32F	<i>Clear</i> H: 60F L: 33F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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COALITION SPORTSZONE



2002 Bowl Championship Series

TEAM	TOTAL
1. Miami, Fla.	2.89
2. Ohio State	4.21
3. Oklahoma	9.09
4. Georgia	10.07
5. Iowa	12.43
6. USC	13.37
7. Notre Dame	13.83
8. Washington St.	20.25
9. Texas	22.78
10. Kansas St.	23.82
11. Michigan	24.91
12. Colorado	28.18
13. Florida	28.79
14. Penn St.	29.69
15. Colorado St.	32.72

Razorbacks head to Atlanta

Matt Jones threw a 31-yard touchdown pass to DeCori Birmingham with 9 seconds left, and David Carlton made a long extra point to give Arkansas a 21-20 victory over the Tigers (No. 17 *ESPN/USA Today*, No. 18 *AP*) on Friday.

The ending was nearly as stunning as LSU's win over Kentucky on Nov. 9, when Devery Henderson caught a 75-yard touchdown pass on the game's final play for a 33-30 victory.

"First of all, I feel very bad for our players," LSU coach Nick Saban said. "We won a game in 13 seconds and then lost this one in (34) seconds. It's just the way the ball bounces and we were the victim today."

Arkansas scored twice in the last half of the fourth quarter to win the SEC's West Division title and advance to the conference title game against Georgia next Saturday in Atlanta.

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

Longhorns destroy Aggies; Slocum future cloudy

AUSTIN, Texas — Chris Simms won't win the Heisman Trophy, a national championship or even a Big 12 title.

Instead, he and Texas will have to be satisfied with doing something no Texas quarterback had done in 55 years: leading the Longhorns to three straight victories over rival Texas A&M.

Simms passed for 278 yards and three touchdowns to lead 10th-ranked Texas past A&M 50-20 Friday, a result that certainly won't stem speculation that Aggies coach R.C. Slocum will be fired.

Simms was the gem of Texas' 1999 recruiting class and the failure to win the championships Texas fans expected weighed heavily on his career. He made his final home game, in front of 83,711 at Royal-Memorial Stadium, a memorable one. He'll leave

Texas 15-0 as a starter at home.

"I know everybody back home in New Jersey was watching," said Simms, whose father, Phil, helped the New York Giants win the 1987 Super Bowl. "I had to put that last one good showing on TV. It's tough to explain — I almost started crying before the game when I had to hug my mom, but it ended up being a great day."

The game was played four days after A&M freshman defensive tackle Brandon Fails died after collapsing in his dorm. Aggies players wore stickers on their helmets with his No. 89. Fails will be buried Saturday.

"Without a doubt, we had a major distraction with a young man's death," Slocum said. "I wouldn't want in any way to somehow attribute this loss to losing this player. That wouldn't be fair to his family."



2002 NBA standings

Western Conference

Midwest

(1) Dallas	14-1
(3) San Antonio	10-6
(5) Houston	8-6
(6) Minnesota	9-7
(7) Utah	8-7

Pacific

(2) Sacramento	12-5
(4) Seattle	9-7
(8) Phoenix	7-6
Portland	7-7
L.A. Clippers	6-10

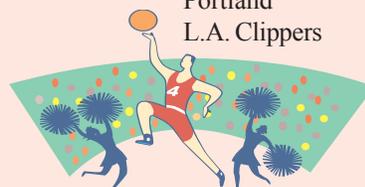
Eastern Conference

Atlantic

(2) Philadelphia	13-4
(5) Boston	11-4
(6) New Jersey	10-6
(7) Orlando	9-7
Washington	6-8

Central

(1) Indiana	12-2
(3) Detroit	12-4
(4) New Orleans	11-4
(8) Atlanta	8-8
Milwaukee	7-8



Pacers hand Mavericks first loss of the season

INDIANAPOLIS—Mavericks owner Mark Cuban bit his lower lip as he walked off the court, wearing a look of dejection and disappointment for the first time since last spring.

Unbeaten no more, Dallas was denied a spot in the NBA record books Thursday night by an Indiana Pacers team that showed a Thanksgiving Day national TV audience why it has the best record in the East.

Repeatedly working the ball inside to take advantage of its low-post talent, Indiana got 28 points from Jermaine O'Neal and inspired efforts from Al Harrington, Brad Miller and Ron Artest to defeat the Mavericks 110-98.

The Pacers prevented Dallas (14-1) from matching the 1948-49 Washington Capitols and 1993-94 Houston Rockets for the best start to a season in NBA history—15-0.

“They could have made history tonight, and I don't think anybody wanted history to be made against us,” Artest said. “So that probably gave us a little extra boost.”

Solution from Friday's Traffic Crossword in the *Freedom Watch*

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

P	A	A	R		S	T	E	A	M		S	H	A	M
E	L	B	E		P	I	N	T	A		T	I	R	E
C	A	R	A	V	A	N	V	A	N	V	A	N	N	A
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N	O	M	I	N	E	E		L	I	N	D			
			O	D	S		M	A	S		S	P	A	T
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L	O	S	E		N	I	T		A	S	A			
			S	A	N	S		E	R	E	M	I	T	E
C	H	I	C	H	I		A	M	O	R		C	O	S
R	E	B	U	S	B	U	S	B	U	S	S	E	R	S
A	R	I	D		A	N	T	E	S		M	U	S	E
T	O	D	O		L	O	I	R	E		U	P	O	N

Stanford in finals after upsetting powerful Gators

NEW YORK— They lengthened the 3-point line by 9 inches for the Owens Coming Preseason NIT but it hardly disturbed Stanford's Matt Lottich.

Firing from 20 feet, 6 inches instead of the college standard 19-9, Lottich nailed a pair of crucial 3-pointers to fuel the Cardinal's comeback against No. 7 Florida 69-65 Wednesday night in the semifinals of the preseason NIT.

“Obviously we're pleased and we probably surprised some people,” Stanford coach Mike Montgomery said.

Lottich also directed Stanford's zone defense, shouting out assignments. It helped a very young team.

“The zone is really helping us,” Montgomery said. “It took them out of their press and we were very concerned about the press.”

*“Alright,
MREs ...
Marines
Ready to
Eat.”*



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support