



FREEDOM WATCH



November 5, 2002 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

U.S. kills Cole suspect

SANNA, Yemen — The United States killed six suspected al Qaeda members in Yemen Monday morning, including the man wanted in the bombing of the USS Cole, with a Hellfire missile fired from an unmanned CIA drone at the car in which they were traveling. It was the first direct U.S. strike against Osama bin Laden's al Qaeda network outside Afghanistan since the U.S.-led war on terrorism began after the Sept. 11, 2001 terrorist attacks. Officials with the CIA and Pentagon refused to discuss the report.

Saddam would consider resolution

BAGHDAD, Iraq — Iraqi President Saddam Hussein said Monday that Iraq would consider a new U.N. resolution for the return of weapons inspectors, but only if it respects Iraq's sovereignty, security and independence. State-run Iraqi Television

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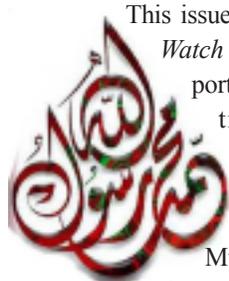
CG speaks of Ramadan

By Lt. Gen. Daniel McNeill
Combined Joint Task Force - 180

This issue of *Freedom Watch* contains important information about Ramadan, the ninth month of the Muslim Calendar, which commences this week and concludes in early December. It is a month of happiness and joy for Muslims, the month in which they believe that Allah revealed the Holy Quran.

For more than a billion Muslims

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Bagram soldiers Adopt-a-Village

By Spc. Joe Healy
82nd Airborne Division

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — A convoy of seven vehicles drove off Bagram Air Base Thursday, traveling on a dusty, dirt road to a remote village three miles northeast of the base.

The 25 volunteer soldiers in the convoy had one mission — to provide humanitarian aid to Afghans. The Adopt-a-Village program had begun.

"It is always great going out and helping the locals," said Staff Sgt. A.J. Handler, a soldier in the 401st Civil Affairs Battalion. "This is the first time we've provided aid to the village of Surat Khawl."

Although the distance between the base and Surat Khawl is short, the difference in life style is remarkable, said Sgt. Maj. Jim Miller, Headquarters and Headquarters Company,

82nd Airborne Division.

"These people here are dealing with basic survival issues," said Miller.

About 300 residents live in Surat Khawl, said Handler. Approximately 100 villagers were on-hand to receive the boxes and bags of humanitarian aid from the U.S. soldiers.

The aid included large bags of beans, rice and flour, said Handler. The food was distributed to everybody in the village. Children received stuffed animals, rubber balls, games and school supplies. Hats, jackets and mittens were dispersed to everyone. Female U.S. soldiers distributed clothes and shoes to female villagers.

"The mothers and daughters really appreciated the clothes and shoes we gave out," said Sgt. 1st

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Ramadan: Sensitivity for workers stressed

By Sgt. Reeba Critser
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — For the Afghans who fast, work may be demanding as the month of Ramadan approaches. Ramadan begins Wednesday and ends with a festival, Eid al-Fitr, Dec. 6. During this period, Muslims enforce the duty to keep the fast of Ramadan — which is one



Courtesy photo

Ramadan begins Wednesday and marks the beginning of the Muslim fasting period. Patience is stressed for Afghan workers during the month-long fasting.

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around the world — including some 8 million Muslims in North America — Ramadan is a “month of blessing,” marked by prayer, fasting and charity. Ramadan is not only an important time of worship and contemplation for our Muslim hosts here in Afghanistan, it is also observed by a number of Coalition forces, including some American troops.

It is imperative that all of us are aware of the cultural and religious significance of Ramadan — and that we do all we can to be respectful of our Muslim friends as they fast and concentrate on their faith.

Freedom of worship is something that all Americans, as well as our Coalition partners hold dear. Let us all exercise good judgment to ensure we are an encouragement to our Muslim friends during Ramadan. In doing so, we not only show our respect for their culture and beliefs, but affirm as well those beliefs we are fighting to uphold.

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of five pillars of Islam.

“The workers will need more breaks and they can’t have water,” said Capt. Chris Evans, 360th Civil Affairs Brigade, Fort Jackson, S.C. “Be patient with them; especially to those guys working for us. They will be tired and thirsty. To those Muslims training at the Afghan National Army site in Kabul, you can’t push them harder. They’ll be tired. They need more breaks.”

Soldiers who deal with Afghans workers on a day-to-day basis need to be considerate of the religious be-

liefs, he said.

“Don’t smoke in front of them, don’t drink water or eat in front of them because they can’t do the same,” said Evans, native of Rome, Ga. “Don’t offer them anything. They can’t take it.”

Fasting in the month of Ramadan is compulsory for every Muslim adult. It means refraining from food, drinks, smoking and sexual activity from dawn to sunset.

“*Ramadan is the month in which was sent down the Koran as a guide to humanity and as a clear sign for guidance and judgment (between right and wrong). So anyone of you who wit-*

nesses the month should spend it in fasting ...” (Koran, 2:185)

The importance of refraining in Ramadan is expressed in several sayings of the Prophet Mohammed.

“*He who fasts during Ramadan with faith and seeks his reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven; he who prays during the night in Ramadan with faith and seeks his reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven; and he who passes Lailat al Qadr in prayer with faith and seek his reward from Allah will have his past sins forgiven.*”

Fasting is mandatory for

every Muslim who is sane, an adult, able and resident. Breaking the rules of the fast can cause a penalty — one such penalty is to fast for an additional 60-day period or feed 60 poor people one average meal each.

Non-adolescent children, elderly or those chronically ill are exempt from fasting. Those who are pregnant, nursing, ill, traveling, menstruating or in post childbirth confinement, can fast at a later time. Muslims are permitted to break the ordained fast of Ramadan when there is danger to their health. In this situation, a Muslim should make up his

fast later.

It is not uncommon to see most Muslims eat dates or drink water after sunset.

“Be as sensitive as you would with other religions,” said Maj. (Chap.) Carl Rau, XVIII Airborne Corps, Fort Bragg, N.C.

He said that Coalition servicemembers are guests in Afghanistan and should respect Islamic laws.

“We should go out of our way to make it comfortable for Muslims,” said Rau, native of Frankenthuth, Mich. “After all, it is their holiest of holy months.”



Photo by Spc. Joe Healy, 82nd Airborne Division
Sgt. Maj. Jim Miller, HHC, 82nd Abn. Div., distributes toys and clothes to Afghan children from the village of Surat Khawl Thursday in the 82nd Airborne Division’s Adopt-A-Village program.

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Class Shannon Cromartie, HHC, 82nd Abn. Div. “You can’t realize the living conditions until you see it.”

Handler said without Miller’s work, the Adopt-A-Village program would not have been successful.

“It was Sergeant Major Miller’s idea,” said Handler.

Miller said he got the idea after going out with Civil Affairs

to visit an orphanage. After the visit, Miller emailed his friends and family in Jeffersonville, Ind., and recounted the experience.

“Once I e-mailed my friends back home, the project took a life of its own,” said Miller. “Boy Scout troops, churches and local businesses got together and started sending items over here.”

After collecting donations for six weeks, Miller’s office was full of boxes.

He emphasized the volunteer efforts of 82nd Airborne Division soldiers.

“I am also proud of the soldiers who volunteered to help out,” said Miller. “Especially the young soldiers who get to see first-hand the desperation of the people here.”

Miller said the Adopt-a-Village program has targeted Surat Khawl for future donations.

“We are going to sponsor and work closely with Surat Khawl in the future,” he said.

Cromartie said she wants to go on the next aid mission to Surat Khawl. She wants to visit her new friend.

“After all the goods were passed out and all of us soldiers were back in our vehicles leaving the village I saw one girl, all alone, looking at me,” said Cromartie. “There was one teddy bear left in a box, so we stopped our vehicle and I gave it to the lonely girl. The smile that spread across her face was beautiful.

“That’s what Adopt-A-Village is all about.”

HIND SIGHT

1840

Afghanistan surrenders to the British army.

1872

Susan B. Anthony is arrested for trying to vote.

1911

Calbraith P. Rodgers ends first transcontinental flight — 49 days from New York to Pasadena, Calif.

1930

Sinclair Lewis becomes the first American to win a Nobel Prize in Literature for his novel *Babbitt*.

1935

Parker Brothers company launches “Monopoly,” a game of real estate and capitalism.

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quoted Saddam as saying: “If a resolution is issued which respects the U.N. charter, international law, and the sovereignty, security and independence of Iraq and does not give a cover for America’s ill intentions, we will consider it within the perspective that might make us deal with it.” He added that Iraq could take that stance despite its view that there is no need for a new Security Council resolution.

Theatre siege captured on video

MOSCOW, Russia — Dramatic video pictures have been released showing the moment when Chechen gunmen stormed a Moscow theatre, taking nearly 800 people hostage. The footage was released as a 60-year-old woman became the latest former hostage to die as a result of the three-day theatre siege which began October 23. She died of acute cardiac insufficiency, Moscow’s Health Department said. All but two of the 120 victims have died as a result of inhaling an anaesthetic gas pumped into the building before Russian special forces raided the theatre. About 149 former hostages are still in hospital on Monday, six of whom are in a grave condition, spokeswoman Lyubov Zhomova said. Four of the 149 are children, Interfax added.

Bagram Air Base MWR movies

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

Tomorrow’s movie will be “He’s Got Game,” showing at the same time.

Labor Day Run t-shirts

The Army Space Command Labor Day Run t-shirts — sizes small, medium and extra large — have arrived. For more information, call Maj. Robert Zaza, 1st Lt. Shawn Price or Sgt. Samuel Huseby at DSN 303-587-5663, or stop by the Combined Joint Task Force - 180 Information Warfare Cell.

FREEDOM WATCH

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force - 180.

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All submissions are subject to editing for size and content by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Motel 6, CJTF - 180, Bagram Air Base.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	Today	Wednesday
Bagram:	Thunderstorms H: 64F L: 39F	Dusty H: 64F L: 35F
Kandahar:	Haze H: 81F L: 55F	Haze H: 79F L: 52F
Kabul:	Thunderstorms H: 61F L: 36F	Rain H: 59F L: 32F
Uzbekistan:	Partly cloudy H: 74F L: 45F	Haze H: 76F L: 44F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

Visit the CENTCOM Website 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 reeba.critser@us.army.mil



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

Buckeyes jump Hurricanes

Look who's No. 2 in the new Bowl Championship Series standings.

Ohio State, helped by a big quality win over Washington State earlier this year and Miami's drop in The *Associated Press* poll, has overtaken the Hurricanes in the standings released Monday.

The Buckeyes jumped three spots and nudged past defending champion Miami, which stayed unbeaten while posting its school-record 30th straight win Saturday, 42-17 over Rutgers.

But the Hurricanes had to rally in the fourth quarter, and that cost them. Oklahoma remained No. 1 while Ohio State moved into second with 5.57 points, 0.44 ahead of Miami.

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.

Wild, wacky weekend stuns them all

Bottom line

By Spc.
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What a weekend!

Four unbeaten teams were upset by a visiting foe and several schools, lingering for one more shot of glory, received a riveting jolt pursuing that dream.

***Georgia**— 20 years removed from celebrating a championship— was on the inside track to sneak into the elusive BCS title game in Tempe, Ariz.

That was until their perennial adversary Florida took a ferocious bite (20-13) of that glorious pie. It was a good piece of pastry; so good that the Bulldogs will still manage an automatic BCS bowl bid, but it will play second fiddle to a championship fiesta.

***Virginia Tech**, more famous for tutoring Michael Vick than anything else, was headed for a wild, much-anticipated match up with defending champion Miami. Everybody was looking forward to that epic battle.

Someone forgot to tell the Panthers, who beat the Hokies 28-21.

Pittsburgh, who won the national title in 1976, was receiving scant recognition despite being 3-0 in the Big East Conference. Now they are 4-0 in the conference

since its inception in 1991 and the national focus has shifted to Nov. 21, when the upstart Panthers meet the Hurricanes in what could ultimately decide Miami's national title hopes.

***Notre Dame**, who was everybody's favorite to win the crown after several mediocre seasons, forgot to learn from the past.

Boston College lurked in the same position in 1993, after the Irish survived a good Florida State Seminole team. The Eagles soared past them that season on a game-ending field goal, and they walloped a crushing blow this year (14-7) behind several Irish turnovers.

First-year coach Tyrone Willingham still has a chance to win it all, but it will need a lot of help from other schools. It probably will happen; besides the luck of the Irish is alive and kicking in South Bend.

***North Carolina State** lost? I didn't even know they were playing.

***Texas**, trying to rebound from their third straight bitter defeat to top-ranked Oklahoma Oct. 12, is still alive for their first title since 1969 after surviving an improved Nebraska Cornhusker squad. Amazing. Did you know the Longhorns are the only team to beat Nebraska at home since 1991!

Now, after stunning upsets around the country, Texas has moved into fourth place in the BCS poll and has their eyes set for a possible title run.

That should be easy.

Let's just hope they don't encounter those pesky Sooners.

Did you know ...

Shaquille O'Neal is eligible to come off the injured list Thursday in Boston. O'Neal had surgery on his right big toe on Sept. 12 to relieve pain caused by arthritis and bone spurs. O'Neal told the Times that the part of his toe where the arthritis was centered feels like it has healed, but the bottom of the toe — where the bone spurs were shaved — is still healing.

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Knicks streak in jeopardy

NEW YORK — The New York Knicks announced their 433rd consecutive sellout Saturday night for their home opener against Boston, but team officials predicted the streak will likely end Monday.

The game against the Celtics did not sell out until Saturday morning when a few hundred seats were sold at the walk-up window. More than 1,000 tickets remain unsold for Monday night's game against the Bucks.

"It's not an absolute, but it's more than likely the streak will end on Monday," team president Steve Mills said.

The Knicks brought a record of 0-2 into their home opener, having blown double-digit leads in losses at Detroit and Philadelphia.

Coming off a 30-win season in which they missed the postseason for the first time in 15 years, expectations are low — especially after Antonio McDyess went down with a season-ending knee injury in the third exhibition game.

The Knicks announced 41 sellout crowds of 19,762 last season, although Madison Square Garden often had several thousand empty seats for games late in the season.

"This is something all of us saw as inevitable at the end of last season," Mills said.

The Knicks did not raise ticket prices over the summer and exhausted their season-ticket waiting list of 2,000 names. Mills said about 2,000 season-ticket holders did not renew their packages, although he refused to divulge exactly how many season-ticket packages the team has sold.

"The demand for the highest-priced seats is as high as it's ever been," he said.

2002 NBA standings

Eastern Conference

Atlantic

New Jersey	4-0	1.000
Orlando	3-1	.750
Philadelphia	2-1	.667
Boston	1-2	.333

Central

Indiana	2-1	.667
Detroit	2-1	.667
New Orleans	2-1	.667
Atlanta	2-1	.667



Western Conference

Midwest

Dallas	2-0	1.000
San Antonio	2-1	.667
Houston	2-1	.667
Minnesota	2-2	.500

Pacific

Seattle	3-0	1.000
Sacramento	3-1	.750
L.A. Lakers	2-2	.500
L.A. Clippers	1-2	.333



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support

2002 Heisman Trophy candidates



Byron Leftwich, QB, Marshall

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

Ken Dorsey, QB, Miami

Season stats: 134-for-244 for 2,019 yards, 20 TDs, 8 INTs

Philip Rivers, QB, N.C. State

Season stats: 169-of-247 for 2,421 yards, 17 TDs, 7 INTs

Chris Brown, RB, Colorado

Season stats: 215 carries for 1,406 yards, 14 TDs

Willis McGahee, RB, Miami

Season stats: 160 carries for 1,034 yards, 16 TDs