

# Freedom Watch

April 12, 2003 ❖ Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom ❖ Bagram, Afghanistan



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Adam Johnston

## A general visit ...

*"I remember when being safe and walking on the concrete roads were the two most important things to remember here because of all the mines. Things have gotten a lot better since then due to all your hard work. I am very proud of you all," said Gen. Tommy Franks, commander, Central Command, while addressing a mass formation of American and coalition forces during his visit here.*

*After his speech to American and coalition forces, Franks shook hands with soldiers and signed autographs. For more photos, see page B2.*



Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

## Polish, U.S. sappers unite to demine

Story and photos by Pv2 Terri Rorke  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** — In a country that may as well be called one big minefield, the mission of finding and destroying mines in Afghanistan doesn't come easy. It requires skill, coordination and teamwork.

"It is a joint effort between the Polish sappers, the U.S., the mine dogs and the 527<sup>th</sup> (Engineer Battalion, Louisiana) National Guard," said Staff Sgt. Raymond Waldorf, 27<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, and Fort Bragg, N.C. about what it takes to demine Bagram.

Since the 27<sup>th</sup>'s first mission here in February, the Polish sappers have been working by their side in an effort to clear various areas of mines.

Polish sappers are military engineers who lay, detect and disarm mines, which is the specific reason why they are deployed here.

"We are here specially for de-mining and proofing after the heavy equipment," said Tomek Bujnowski, Polish sapper commander.

The sappers go out in moon boots and detect the area where the American engineers work.

"They check in the morning and after we are finished," said Waldorf. "We basically work hand in hand."

If a hazard is identified, the sappers will come out to take care of it.

So far, the 27<sup>th</sup> has detonated 43 mines, said Waldorf, with the sappers working with them at almost every occasion.

The sappers are used to going on two-week missions and here they are on a sixth-



*A Polish sapper uses a metal detector to locate mines. The sappers main mission here is to demine the area along with the 27<sup>th</sup> Engineer Battalion, Fort Bragg N.C.*

See **MINE**, Page A4

# World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



*U.S. Marine Gunnery Sgt. Dan Ferguson, left, patrols the University of Baghdad Friday.*

## **Bush: Saddam 'no longer in power'**

(CNN) — President Bush said Friday the priority of U.S.-led military forces in Iraq now is “to rid the Iraqi people of any vestiges” of Saddam Hussein’s regime.

Bush, speaking at the National Naval Medical Center in Bethesda, Maryland, outside Washington, said he was unsure whether Saddam is dead or alive, but “I do know he’s no longer in power.”

In Iraq, looting and disorder have gripped Baghdad and other cities in the absence of civil authorities. The U.S. military was moving in special military units to provide security and they should arrive in the coming days, Bush administration officials said.

After nightfall, fires raged at several buildings in Baghdad, including a bank and the Ministry of Planning.

U.S. Marine officers were trying to persuade civilian police and firefighters to return to their posts, but they showed little inclination to do so, military officials told CNN.

The Pentagon approved a plan Friday under which the U.S. military would ask other nations to send non-military police forces to Iraq, officials said. The plan makes clear that these will not be military combat units.

## **Stronghold of Tikrit may be Saddam’s last stand**

(CNN) — There is little doubt whose town Tikrit was. In better days, the streets were decorated with larger-than-life murals of former Iraqi leader Saddam Hussein.

Located about 100 miles north of Baghdad, Saddam’s hometown of Tikrit prospered under his regime. The city had modern roads and new mosques. Its schools and hospitals were rated some of the best in the country.

But that was before the war. Military analysts now say the town could be the place where Saddam’s forces make their last stand.

Once protected by the Republican Guard’s Adnan Division, Tikrit is currently defended by elements of the Special Republican Guard, Fedayeen militia and Baath Party loyalists, according to the United States.

Coalition forces have bombed the city for several days, targeting radio centers, V.I.P. retreats and barracks of the Republican Guard units. U.S. special forces have also blocked the roads between Baghdad and Tikrit, hoping to cut off any Iraqi retreats from Baghdad.

## **U.S. interim administrator visits Iraq**

UMM QASR — The man the Bush administration hopes will guide Iraq from tyranny to democracy made a brief visit to the country Friday, but did not say when he would be able to get started in his work on the transition.

Retired U.S. Army Lt. Gen. Jay Garner, who will serve as civil administrator in charge of reconstruction and humanitarian aid until an interim government can be formed, was briefly heckled after he toured a school in the port town of Umm Qasr.

He met earlier at British military headquarters in Umm Qasr with officers and a group of local Iraqi leaders who Garner said had “braved oppression” under Saddam Hussein.

Speaking with Japanese reporters after the meeting, Garner said Iraq “was the jewel of the Middle East at one time and it can be the jewel of the Middle East again.”

“And as we all know, not to offend you any, but a lot of civilization began here also, and law began here. And so we’re returning all that,” he said.

“We have a chance, at this moment in time, for the Iraqi people, to bring democ-

racy and the right way of life back to their people. And that’s what I have to do.”

But he shed no light on when exactly he’ll start. “When am I planning to go to Baghdad? As soon as they let me. I don’t know when that will be, but I think it will be soon.”

Later, as he made impromptu comments during a tour of a local elementary school, Garner was heckled in Arabic by a sole protester.

“I think this man is wrong,” Garner responded. His interpreter waved the man away, and Garner returned by motorcade to Kuwait City.

## **Military issues most-wanted list**

QATAR — U.S. military leaders issued a most-wanted list of former Iraqi leaders they said must “be brought to justice.”

Coalition troops in the field have been given a list of 52 former regime leaders in several forms — one of them a deck of playing cards with images of the people’s faces and job descriptions — “to ease identification when contact does occur,” Brig. Gen. Vincent Brooks said Friday.

The leaders would be “pursued, killed or captured,” he told reporters at U.S. Central Command headquarters.

Brooks said coalition forces had seen evidence that members of the Iraqi government were trying to escape the country and that special operations forces destroyed five small planes hidden north of Tikrit, Saddam’s ancestral homeland and a stronghold of the former ruling Baath party.



*U.S. soldiers walk near a massive arch of swords at Saddam Hussein’s military parade grounds Friday in Baghdad.*

# U.S. News (Compiled from CNN.com)



Rubble from the explosion is seen in this aerial view of the food additive plant in Louisville.

## Explosion at Kentucky food plant kills one

**LOUISVILLE** — An explosion ripped through a food additive plant Friday, killing a worker and spewing a cloud of ammonia over parts of Louisville.

Residents near the D.D. Williamson & Co. plant were asked to stay inside their homes and some were evacuated after the explosion at 2 a.m. shook windows more than three miles away.

The blast ruptured a tank holding 40,000 pounds of ammonia. Firefighters tried to control the leak, but the tank was empty six hours later.

Five workers were inside the plant at the time of the explosion. Four escaped uninjured, but the fifth — Louis C. Perry, 44, of Louisville — was killed, authorities said.

Perry had noticed the leaking tank and was walking toward the area at the time of the blast, Fire Capt. Ronel Brown said. Jefferson County Deputy Coroner Eddie Robinson said he died of multiple blunt force trauma sustained in the explosion.

The plant makes caramel coloring for food products and drinks. The ammonia was used as a refrigerant, said R.N. Bartlett, spokesman for Jefferson County Emergency Management.

## Shuttle debris search finishing up

**LUFKIN, Texas** — The Federal Emergency Management Association said it plans to complete its search for debris of the space shuttle Columbia as early as the end of April.

The U.S. Navy is expected to finish dive operations in the search area this weekend, FEMA said in a news release Thursday.

On February 1, Columbia broke apart while returning to earth, killing all seven astronauts aboard. An independent investigative team has been focusing on damage to the tiles — possibly caused by frozen foam insulation that broke loose from the liquid fuel tank during liftoff and struck the underside of the shuttle — as the cause of the disaster.

FEMA released the following information on the search for debris as of April 9:

- More than 13,000 members of the ground recovery team have recovered 60,200 shuttle debris pieces over a 10-week period, after searching over 76 percent of the 621,000-acre search area. About 4,900 personnel are searching for more debris.
- Ground and air personnel have searched more than 2.1 million acres, which includes Western states such as New Mexico, Nevada, Utah and California;
- The main debris search corridor is located in Texas and is 10 miles wide by 240 miles long, stretching from Ellis County to the Louisiana border;
- More than 70,700 pounds of shuttle material has been shipped to Kennedy Space Center in Florida, representing 32 percent of the shuttle's total weight;
- More than 90 federal, state and local agencies are participating in the recovery effort;
- Estimated completion time for the search operations is between three to five weeks (April 30 — May 14).

## Cypress Gardens, Florida's oldest theme park, to close

**ORLANDO** — Cypress Gardens, one of Florida's oldest theme parks and a tourism pioneer that helped create the state's eternally sunny image, will close because of a drop in visitors since the September 11 attacks, officials announced this week.

The park, known for its water-ski shows and Southern belles, will close Sunday. Cypress Gardens, in Winter Haven about 35

miles southwest of Orlando, opened in 1936 and served as the backdrop for Esther Williams movies during its heyday.

The park never recovered from the tourism drop after the 2001 terrorist attacks, Cypress Gardens officials said, and the fear of travel generated by the war in Iraq worsened the situation.

The park had 42,000 fewer visitors in March 2003 than it did in March 2002, park spokeswoman Stacy Huey said.

"This is a painful decision which the owners and operators ... have little or no control over," Huey said.

Park managers purchased Cypress Gardens from Anheuser-Busch in 1995. Since then the ownership group has had losses of \$6 million, Huey said.

## President, first lady visit wounded servicemembers

**WASHINGTON** — President Bush on Friday presented Purple Hearts to several soldiers, sailors and Marines wounded in Operation Iraqi Freedom and also watched as two Marines wounded in combat in Iraq were sworn in as U.S. citizens.

The president and first lady Laura Bush visited Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Washington and the National Naval Medical Center in nearby Bethesda, Maryland, before heading to the Camp David presidential retreat for the weekend.

"I came today to thank the troops and their families and their loved ones for the sacrifice," Bush said.



President Bush shakes hands with Army Sgt. 1st Class Thomas Douglas, who received a Purple Heart. Also pictured is Douglas' wife, Donna.

**MINE**, from Page 1

month-long combat mission, said Bujnowski.

“For most of them it is the first time they are working with Americans,” said Bujnowski.

In a recent project, the team discovered two anti-personnel mines, said Waldorf.

“There is a susceptible risk for working in a mine area. (But) it is compensated for with the 90-pound mine suit and helmet the engineers wear,” he said.

Not only do the engineers wear protective gear, but also they use two Mine Clearance Armor Plated D7 bulldozers in the field.

The MCAPS can take up to a 10-kilogram anti-tank explosion and are bullet-

proof up to 7.62 force.

The Polish always have a surgeon on site in case of an emergency, while the Americans are required to have a combat lifesaver there and a flight line ambulance also, said Waldorf.

“(There) is good cooperation. I enjoy working with them,” said Bujnowski, who has been working with the Americans since his arrival here seven months ago.

Not only do the Polish sappers work with American engineers, but they also work with the other coalition forces in different projects.



*A Polish sapper shows off a newly detected anti-tank mine.*

## A-10 maintainers log Air Force first in Afghanistan

Story and photos by  
Tech. Sgt. Adam Johnston  
*455<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary  
Operations Group*

**BAGRAM**, Afghanistan — Maintainers here are performing groundbreaking maintenance checks on aircraft under a unique program they say is an Air Force first.

Maintainers with the 104<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Fighter Squadron are completing the first-ever “contingency phase maintenance” at the Army’s Bagram Air Base. Contingency phase maintenance is a process that allows maintainers here to add “shelf life” to the active use of A-10 Thunderbolt II aircraft in Afghanistan. The aircraft, also known as the Warthog, provides close air support to Army ground forces at this base 25 miles north of Kabul.

Maintenance officials here say what makes this fete so unique is that it’s the first time such work has ever been done

in a contingency since the A-10 joined the Air Force fleet in 1975. “This is extremely unusual,” said Chief Master Sgt. William Staats, superintendent of A-10 maintenance with the 104<sup>th</sup> EFS. “Most Air National Guard deployments are 60 to 90 days so things like phase maintenance have never been required,” said Staats, a Maryland Air National Guardsman with 34 years of maintenance experience. “But with the war starting, all that has changed,” he said.

In late January, Air Force Chief of Staff Gen. John P. Jumper told all current and deploying airmen that they would be gone from home longer than the previously targeted three-month rotations of the Air Expeditionary Force construct. While this announcement notified airmen that they’d be on the road longer, it also meant that Air Force equipment - like the A-10 - would also be in the field longer.

All Thunderbolt IIs are grounded after 400 flight hours -



*Maintenance technicians with the 104<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Fighter Squadron at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan replace parts on the first A-10 going through contingency phase maintenance here. Maintainers here say they are accomplishing the first-ever contingency phase maintenance on the A-10 in the field.*

in war or peacetime — for safety reasons and maintenance checks, officials with the 455<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Operations Group said.

Before an A-10 can get airborne after that time period, certain maintenance checks must be performed to ensure the safety and reliability of the Warthog.

Crews accomplish this

higher-level maintenance when they remove a Warthog from the active fleet, pull access panels from its airframe and perform a myriad of system checks and preventative maintenance — where necessary — to ensure an aircraft is functioning properly under advanced criteria that day-to-day maintenance checks

————— See **A-10**, Page A6

# FREEDOM'S VOICES

## Absence makes the heart grow fonder

### Just my Opinion

Staff Sgt.  
Christina Bhatti  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs  
Detachment



Growing up, everyone is taught that marriage is hard. It will have its ups and downs and everything that comes inbetween.

I thought this was absurd when I was younger.

I grew up in the "TV generation," and the marriages I saw were always happy and the families always worked out their problems and ended each episode with a hug and that cheezy music.

Now that I am married, I know that the ups and downs and everything in between is true.

The story of my husband and I is a long and coincidental road. We met on a deployment and we both are once again deployed -- this time to different countries.

Not only are we dual military, but we are also not in the same service, so there is no chance that we will ever be stationed together, and as I am finding we will never be stationed close to each other.

These are the obvious downs.

He says that sometimes its good that we are apart and that he only needs to hear my voice to be happy because then he knows that I am safe.

I, on the other hand, need a little more reassurance; and with our two branches of service having slightly different views on family, it can be challenging.

But, I must say that sometimes our time apart is wonderful.

*I have sacrificed  
some of my dreams  
to help make my  
husband's come  
true. His happi-  
ness is my goal.  
And he feels the  
same.*

When we fight, our distance is a blessing because we have adequate cooling time, and it gives us both a chance to realize how stupid the fight really was.

Ironically, my husband and I are closer in distance now than we have been since

we were married -- he is in Kuwait.

Absence truly does make the heart grow fonder.

Even though we have only been married five months (I spent four months here), I have already learned that a marriage is about compromise and sometimes sacrifice.

———— See **MARRIAGE**, Page B2

## STREET TALK

*Who do you know that is  
serving in Kuwait?*



"Sgt. Raymond. He's from my unit in the States."

**Sgt. 1<sup>st</sup> Class  
Michael Flynn**  
1<sup>st</sup> COSCOM, Joint  
Logistics Command  
Fort Jackson, S.C.

"My son, he fixes electronics on Apaches."

**Beth Negrete**  
supervisor,  
Army and Air Force  
Exchange Service



"My girlfriend, Jullian Rouleau. She is in communications too."

**Pfc. Eric Lepage**  
50<sup>th</sup> Signal Brigade  
Fort Bragg, N.C.

"Spc. Walkins, we left her in the rear to take care of PAC, but she ended up deploying too."

**1<sup>st</sup> Sgt. Sydney  
Johnson**  
229<sup>th</sup> Aviation Regiment  
Fort Bragg, N.C.



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**A-10**, from Page A4 \_\_\_\_\_ may not reveal.

"It's phenomenal," said Lt. Col. James Coleman, 104<sup>th</sup> EFS. "Not only is this being done at an Army base but crews here were able to complete this process in 48 hours," he said. Contingency phase maintenance on the first A-10 here began late last month and will continue on all A-10 aircraft assigned to the 455<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Operations Group here. Coleman said similar such work at home stations routinely averages about a week. "They really jumped into it," he said.

Although maintainers may have jumped at the opportunity to prove their mechanical prowess while deployed, Coleman said that gearing up maintainers for the challenge was not a snap decision.

"Extremely apprehensive" is how Staats characterized reaction to the initial word that higher-level "phase" maintenance was being considered by Air Force officials at Bagram. "But," he said, "we were able to



*Tech. Sgt. Richard Silk, A-10 phase dock monitor with the 104<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Fighter Squadron at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan replaces parts on the first A-10 going through contingency phase maintenance here. Maintainers here are accomplishing the first ever official contingency phase maintenance on the A-10 in the field, which will give the aircraft the ability to fly an additional 400 hours.*

bring in additional people and our unit's maintenance capability is pretty high because as Guardsman we stay with the same people and plane for years," Staats explained.

"We've got several folks who have been working on the A-10 since we got them," he said.

Approval for Air Force maintainers to do contingency phase maintenance at an Army base came from U.S. Central Command and U.S. Central Command, Air Forces, officials here said.

"I think the concerns at CENTCOM and CENTAF levels about doing this type of maintenance were resolved because we happen to have a very experienced crew

here," he said. Coleman said being able to do this type of maintenance in the field is largely because his maintainers contain, "The right skill mix and the right people."

## Personnel in combat zone get tax extension

Story by Spc. James Merrill  
*Claims & Legal Assistance*  
NCOIC

The 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 also extended by the number of days that were left for to file taxes when the combat zone was entered.

**Q:** I am a member of the U.S. Armed Forces performing services 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 re-

ceived 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 her 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 received 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 for the month of service to which it relates less the amount of military pay already excluded for that month.

**Q:** I am 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 his 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 his federal taxes are extended for the period of his 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.

For more information, contact the Office of the Staff Judge Advocate located in Motel 6.

## Interpreter bridges gap by teaching

Story and photos by  
Spc. Debralee P. Crankshaw  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

**T**ranslating for the Army is their main mission, but one interpreter has used her position to better the lives of some Afghans.

Najla Farzana, culture consultant/interpreter, volunteers as a teacher at the Bagram Air Base Boys School. She teaches English to boys and men in grades 9 through 12, but the ages range up to 32. The school has an attendance of 3,300 boys and men.

There is also a girls school, but Farzana only teaches the men and boys because the girls don't attend school past 8<sup>th</sup> grade and English is only taught to 9-12 graders.

Farzana started teaching in August, but first visited the school in May, 2002 with a previous civil affairs team. They delivered chairs, desks, school supplies and painted the school at that time.

She wanted to teach these children the first time she visited the school, but couldn't because of her work schedule. Now, her schedule has changed so she volunteers at the school.

Not only does Farzana teach English, she also tries to get school supplies for the schools as often as she can, and is trying to get a soccer field built for them and she even paid for the children's team uniforms. She has taken some of the children and teachers to the hospital and supplied two buses for children who walk five to six kilometers to school.

Farzana was also instrumental in beginning a volleyball team, a soccer team and a choir group this year. The school also added an art class this year and is hoping to start a music class.

"I know I don't have any teaching experience, but they had so many questions so I



*Najla Farzana, culture consultant/interpreter teaches English to 9<sup>th</sup>-12<sup>th</sup> graders at the Bagram Air Base Boys School three days a week. For her, the best part of teaching them is when she sees them smile and knows they've learned something.*

thought it would be a great way to bridge the gap," said Farzana.

Even without teaching experience, Farzana believes her students have improved in their English skills since she began teaching them.

Farzana does what she can, but still doesn't believe she does enough.

"Sometimes I get frustrated because I can't do enough, but I know I am making a difference in their lives," she said.

She tries to teach them with subjects they can all relate to, but it's difficult to find a common ground.

"I have to try to teach them with things they can relate to – not Mickey Mouse or Marilyn Monroe. I tried to teach them with traditional Afghan foods, but some students still didn't know those," said Farzana.

Even the worst part of her volunteering is worth it to her.

"The worst thing is the work. I never

thought it would be this hard to teach, but it is worth the work. It's very fulfilling," she said.

Sometimes Farzana is saddened by teaching her classes.

"The saddest part about teaching them is them not knowing what a tiger looks like, what an elephant looks like," said Farzana. "Pictures were forbidden during the Taliban so they have never even seen a picture of these animals."

Some of the Taliban ideas are still in the Afghan's minds, but Farzana doesn't let that bother her or affect her teaching.

"Most of the children are happy I am here," said Farzana.

"A couple of times the principal has told me children won't come to school because they don't want a woman teacher. Some try to intimidate me. But no matter what they do or say, nothing is going to stop me from doing this."

**MARRIAGE**, from Page A5

I have sacrificed some of my dreams to help make my husband's come true. His happiness is my goal. And he feels the same.

It took me two marriages to realize this. My first marriage was a wrong fit from the start and quickly went to shambles.

We were too young and didn't understand the concept of sacrifice.

We were only out for ourselves, hoping the other person wouldn't get in the way.

Now I want my husband to "get in the way," because it reminds me that I am no longer just one person, but two people who have become one.

Statistics show that 50 percent of all marriages in the United States fail. Most divorces state "irreconcilable differences." There are very few differences that are irreconcilable -- most couples just don't want to take the time to work it out. Communication is key.

A lot of marriages in the military fail because of the high operations tempo piled on top of the lack of communication. I am lucky to have a spouse who understands the military and knows that I must do what I have to do.

So the next time you are on the phone with your spouse and they are frustrated about you being away, just be patient with them. They may not get why you are gone, instead of yelling, be patient and let them vent. Don't be a statistic.

**Solution from Friday's  
Crossword in the *Freedom Watch***  
(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

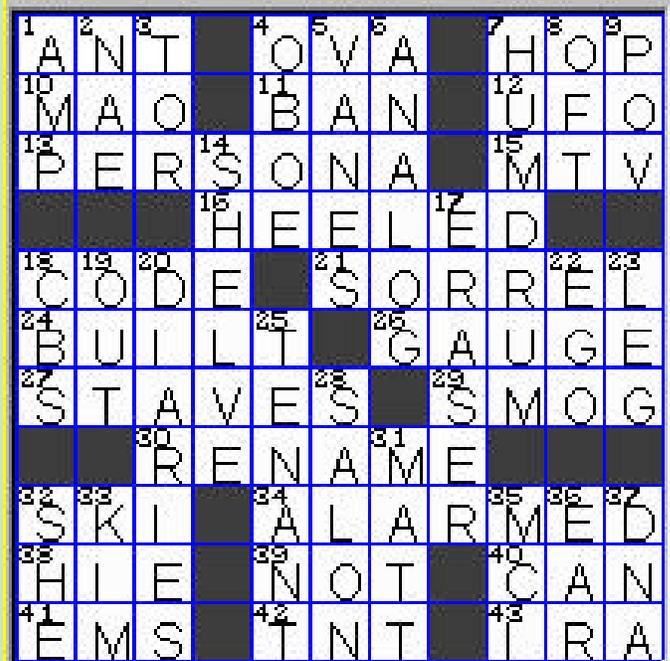


Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Adam Johnston

*(Above) Airmen from the 455<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Operations Group stand at attention as U.S. Central Command's Gen. Tommy Franks addresses a mixed crowd of coalition forces here Friday. Franks spoke to members of Combined Joint Task Force-180 about the continued work they are doing in America's War on Terrorism.*

*(Above right) Servicemembers stand in formation listening to Franks' speech.*

*(Right) After his speech to American and coalition forces, Franks shook hands with soldiers and signed autographs.*



Photo by Air Force Tech. Sgt. Adam Johnston

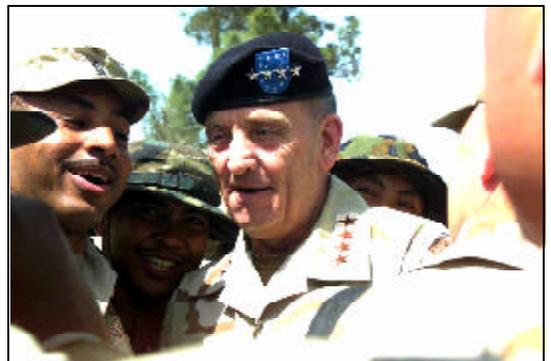


Photo by Pfc. Christina Carde 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

# 2<sup>nd</sup> King and Queen of Spades named



Story and photos by  
Pfc. Christina Carde  
11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment

## THE "HI-FIVE" OF TRIUMPH!



*These two players rejoice after narrowly winning the first round*

**BAGRAM, Afghanistan** – The King and Queen of Spades Tournament, back by popular demand, kicked off with its second meet Friday at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation building. Teams began to show up promptly at 1430Z to test their skill against opponents, to see who would once again take the coveted title of king or queen of the tournament.

Spc. Rick Robinson, tournament host, 11<sup>th</sup> Public Affairs Detachment, 142<sup>nd</sup> Corps Support Battalion, Warrior Brigade, Fort Polk, La., said after the last tournament and the feedback he received, he knew there had to be a second one.

“We had a really good turnout for the last tournament. Better than what I had originally expected,” said Robinson. “After the tournament, I had a lot of people come up to me asking when the second one was going to be. Finally, I decided it was time to bring the tournament back.”

According to Robinson, the differences between the first and second tournaments were few, but the first one helped to point out some problems.

“During the first tournament, there was some confusion about the bidding rules,” said Robinson. “This time around, we changed the rules a little to make them more specific. That way there would be no confusion.”

Since the tournament seems to be something everyone enjoys, Robinson said it is definitely something he wants to do again.

“I don’t know how much longer I will be in country, but I definitely want to have at least one more,” said Robinson.

“For the next one, I want servicemembers to bring everyone they know – commanders, friends, relatives – everyone.

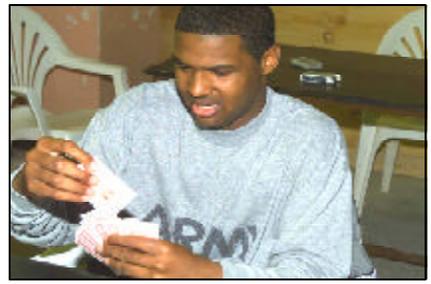
We’ll try to end the night with some prizes and I’ll turn the tournament over to a new host, who will make sure the tournament lives on.”

## WINNING HAND...



*This player can't hold back a smile after he looks at his winning hand.*

## & LOSING HAND



*Disappointment is evident after a look at his cards.*

## THE SMACK DOWN!



*To show off their good card, it is common for players to smack it down.*

# Chaplain's corner

By Maj. (Chap.) Tom Killgore  
CTF-82 Chaplain

The other day I read a quote from our Secretary of State, Colin Powell.

Speaking in Davos, Switzerland, he said while his voice growing hoarse, "We've put wonderful young men and women at risk, many of whom have lost their lives."

"We've asked for nothing but enough land to bury them

in." Every- where we turn today we are reminded of the soldiers who have given the ultimate sacrifice.

The humbling reality is that they did it willingly.

They did so not be-



Maj. (Chap.) Tom Killgore

cause they had some death wish; rather, they understood they were part of something much larger than themselves—freedom.

This week is holy week. It is a week in which we are reminded

of Jesus Christ who paid the ultimate sacrifice for us by dy-

ing on a cross for the entire world.

He understood that he was part of something larger than Jesus Christ the man—Spiritual Freedom. Let these words be your guide this holy week: Jesus said, "The thief comes only to steal, kill, and destroy; I have come that they might have life, and have it to the full." John 10:10

Hope to see you at our 0100Z Easter Sunrise Service at the Blue Hangar.



## Music Notes (Compiled from MTV.com)



Destiny's Child

Destiny's attack the Broadway; plan new Album

Wednesday at New York's Sony Studios, Jay-Z was spitting his quintessential pimp game and Beyoncé was eating up every bit of it. Brooklyn's Finest was going through a laundry list of his most alluring qualities, including his walk, his talk and his integrity. All "B," as Jay calls her, could respond with was, "I like it."

And so did the engineer, who was grinning as he fixed the sound on the pair's vocals. Hip-hop's latest incarnation of Bonnie and Clyde wasn't physically in the building, but the soundman was making the duo's presence felt as he reviewed the collaboration for Beyoncé's upcoming *Dangerously in Love* LP, which drops in June.

### Avril Lavigne stages successful revolt at tour opener

Demurely clad in a simple yellow T-shirt

and black bondage pants, Avril Lavigne didn't need to frolic about in choreographed routines to impress her minions. A simple rock show, devoid of flash and fancymoves, demonstrated her back-to-basics intentions, and the audience, composed mostly of straight-haired teenage girls at their very first concert (with chaperones, of course), responded like they were watching the Beatles on "The Ed Sullivan Show" in 1964.



Avril Lavigne performs at Toronto's Air Canada Centre.

### Tommy Lee takes stand as wrongful death trial begins

Tommy Lee took the stand in his own defense in Santa Monica on Tuesday in the wrongful death suit brought against him by the parents of a boy who drowned in his Malibu pool in July 2001.

Accused of negligence, the rocker repeatedly placed the responsibility for the children on the guardians who accompanied them to his son Brandon's birthday party. "If [the kids] were alone, it would be my prob-



Tommy Lee exits court in Santa Monica, CA, Wednesday.

lem. They weren't," he testified, according to wire service reports. Lee said he did everything he could to ensure the safety of the children who came to his home.

He testified that his aim in building the pool was to make it "child-friendly."

### Gunman Opens Fire On Snoop Dogg And His Security Team

An unknown assailant opened fire on Snoop Dogg and his entourage on Thursday night in Los Angeles, injuring one of the rapper's bodyguards.

Police said that at about 9 p.m. on Thursday night, Snoop was in a car traveling south on Fairfax Avenue.



Snoop Dogg

A sedan carrying an unspecified number of black males that was traveling in the opposite direction then shot at Snoop's crew.

# Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



San Juan's baseball fans were ready to embrace the Expos.

## No place like 'home'

The Expos could get used to this type of homefield advantage. Playing the first of 22 "home" games in Puerto Rico, the Expos hammered the Mets 10-0 on Friday. Tomo Ohka allowed just one hit in eight innings and the Expos hit three home runs as their never-ending road trip continued. They open in Montreal April 22.

## Royals open with eight consecutive victories

**CLEVELAND** — Kansas City manager Tony Pena is in no rush to find a cure for his flu-ridden Royals.

The Royals became the first team in 13 years to begin the season with eight consecutive victories, beating the Cleveland Indians 1-0 Friday night behind seven sharp innings from Runelvys Hernandez.

"Sure, let's keep it going," Pena said when asked if he wouldn't mind the flu bug lingering as long as the Royals kept winning.

"We started the game with 16 guys sick, Mike Sweeney got it during the game and our closer was sick in the bullpen. That's 18."

Rookie Mike MacDougal made it 6-for-6 on save chances as the surprising Royals extended the best start in team history.

The last major league club to start 8-0 was the 1990 Cincinnati Reds, who went on to win the World Series.

## Byrd likely sidelined 2-4 months

**PHILADELPHIA** — Atlanta pitcher Paul Byrd will have surgery this week to remove a bone spur from the back of his right elbow on Friday. The veteran is expected to miss two to four months, and there's at least a slight possibility he could miss the entire season.

The 32-year-old Byrd has been on the 15-day disabled list with tendinitis in his right elbow since March 21. He is still experiencing discomfort after a rehab appearance with Double-A Greenville last Saturday.

## Rivas goes 3-for-4 as Twins find some offense

**TORONTO** — The Minnesota Twins ended a week of frustration.

Corey Koskie drove in three runs as the Twins ended a six-game losing streak with a 6-4 victory over the Toronto Blue Jays on Friday night.

Toronto started Minnesota's losing streak with a three-game sweep in the Metrodome last weekend. The defending American League Central Division champion Twins also were swept by the New York Yankees.

"It's been a long time since we won a baseball game," Minnesota manager Ron Gardenhire said. "You always tell yourself it's not that big of a deal, but believe me, when it starts to add up, you need a win. That was a big win for us. It's a morale booster."

Minnesota's Luis Rivas, who went 3-for-4, hit a tying triple in the seventh inning off Cory Lidle (1-2) and Jacque Jones followed with a sacrifice fly to make it 5-4.

The Twins hadn't scored more than three runs in their previous seven games.

## Moreno reportedly the frontrunner to buy Angels

Arturo Moreno, who made his wealth in the outdoor advertising business, has become a leading candidate to buy the Anaheim Angels, the *Los Angeles Times* reported on Friday.

Sources told the newspaper that Moreno has surpassed real estate developer Frank McCourt and the Nederlanders (James and Robert) as the top candidate to buy the Angels from Walt Disney Co. Negotiations between Moreno and Disney have gotten "feverish," a source told the newspaper.

"He's definitely the No. 1 guy," a source told the Times. Moreno could not be reached for comment by the Times.

According to the newspaper, Major League Baseball commissioner Bud Selig will meet with Moreno soon to discuss the possible sale of the World Series champs.

Moreno has a minority share in the Phoenix Suns, and used to have a small share of the Arizona Diamondbacks.

## Bagram Air Base MWR presents

2000 hrs. at the MWR building: "Half Past Dead." Criminal mastermind Donny/49er #1 has set in motion a plan to infiltrate a high tech prison in order to persuade a death row inmate to reveal the whereabouts of \$200 million worth of gold.

Tomorrow's movie will be "The Truth About Charlie."



# Standings

## 2003 American League

<b>E A S T -</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ROAD</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>STRK</b>	<b>L10</b>
NY Yankees	8	1	.889	-	3-0	5-1	65	29	Won 4	8-1
Boston	6	4	.600	2.5	0-0	6-4	72	60	Won 1	6-4
Toronto	5	5	.500	3.5	2-5	3-0	60	56	Lost 2	5-5
Tampa Bay	4	6	.400	4.5	4-6	0-0	58	79	Lost 1	4-6
Baltimore	3	6	.333	5	2-4	1-2	37	54	Won 1	3-6

<b>CENTRAL -</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ROAD</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>STRK</b>	<b>L10</b>
Kansas City	8	0	1.000	-	5-0	3-0	42	20	Won 8	8-0
Chicago Sox	6	4	.600	3	3-0	3-4	51	34	Won 2	6-4
Minnesota	4	6	.400	5	0-3	4-3	30	36	Won 1	4-6
Cleveland	3	6	.333	5.5	1-3	2-3	24	31	Lost 2	3-6
Detroit	0	9	.000	8.5	0-6	0-3	14	54	Lost 9	0-9

<b>W E S T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ROAD</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>STRK</b>	<b>L10</b>
Oakland	7	3	.700	-	5-1	2-2	61	41	Lost 2	7-3
Anaheim	5	5	.500	2	3-1	2-4	52	40	Won 3	5-5
Texas	4	6	.400	3	2-4	2-2	40	66	Won 2	4-6
Seattle	4	6	.400	3	1-3	3-3	39	45	Lost 3	4-6

## 2003 National League

<b>E A S T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ROAD</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>STRK</b>	<b>L10</b>
Montreal	6	4	.600	-	1-0	5-4	44	24	Won 2	6-4
Philadelphia	5	5	.500	1	3-3	2-2	64	45	Lost 2	5-5
Florida	5	6	.455	1.5	4-3	1-3	59	61	Won 3	5-5
NY Mets	4	6	.400	2	3-3	1-3	30	50	Lost 3	4-6
Atlanta	4	7	.364	2.5	3-4	1-3	46	74	Lost 1	4-6

<b>CENTRAL</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ROAD</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>STRK</b>	<b>L10</b>
Houston	7	2	.778	-	5-2	2-0	43	36	Won 3	7-2
Pittsburgh	7	3	.700	.5	1-2	6-1	47	38	Won 2	7-3
Chicago Cubs	5	5	.500	2.5	2-2	3-3	56	42	Lost 2	5-5
St. Louis	4	5	.444	3	3-2	1-3	57	52	Lost 3	4-5
Cincinnati	4	6	.400	3.5	3-4	1-2	46	61	Won 1	4-6
Milwaukee	3	7	.300	4.5	0-3	3-4	43	57	Won 1	3-7

<b>W E S T</b>	<b>W</b>	<b>L</b>	<b>PCT</b>	<b>GB</b>	<b>HOME</b>	<b>ROAD</b>	<b>RS</b>	<b>RA</b>	<b>STRK</b>	<b>L10</b>
San Francisco	10	1	.909	-	4-1	6-0	67	43	Won 3	9-1
Colorado	6	4	.600	3.5	5-1	1-3	67	61	Lost 1	6-4
San Diego	5	6	.455	5	4-4	1-2	52	55	Won 1	5-5
Los Angeles	5	7	.417	5.5	2-1	3-6	41	37	Lost 2	4-6
Arizona	2	8	.200	7.5	1-3	1-5	30	56	Lost 3	2-8

### 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

CJMOTF

chapel  
hours

**Sunday**

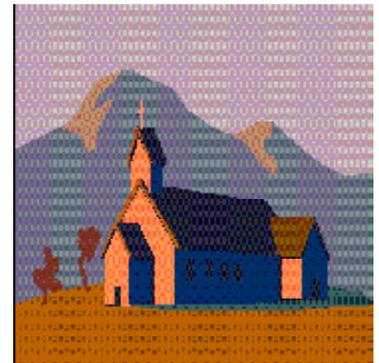
- ❖ 0630Z — Nondenominational service

**Tuesday**

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

**Wednesday**

- ❖ 1430Z — Bible study



	Bagram	K2	Kabul	KAF
<b>W Today</b>	 Hi — 82F Lo — 52F	 Hi — 85F Lo — 53F	 Hi — 50F Lo — 48F	 Hi — 102F Lo — 70F
<b>e Sunday</b>	 Hi — 81F Lo — 55F	 Hi — 70F Lo — 53F	 Hi — 77F Lo — 46F	 Hi — 100F Lo — 70F
<b>a Monday</b>	 Hi — 81F Lo — 50F	 Hi — 74F Lo — 50F	 Hi — 75F Lo — 45F	 Hi — 99F Lo — 64F

### 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.