

Air Force, Army coordinate fire

By Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke
11th Public Affairs Detachment

KANDAHAR AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Whether they are jumping out of aircraft or rolling in a convoy, one essential entity in any of the 82nd Airborne Division’s operations carried out here include an Air Force Tactical Air Control Party.

Without the TACP, the Army wouldn’t have a team to cover ground movements while an operation is taking place.

“We call and request air support,” said Senior Airman Bret R. Davidson, tactical air control specialist, 14th Air Support Operations Squadron (Forward), Pope Air Force Base, N.C.

The airman who is also a combat life saver does more than just call support on the radio, but does everything from performing 15-minute responses with the Quick Reaction Force in Bagram to helping in planning operations here, said Davidson.

A two-person team is able to ruck along the infantry or jump out of aircraft with paratroopers to work as a liaison for the Air Force and the Army. If the Army needs bombs dropped to explode a weapons cache or additional assets for a mission, the TACP is there to give pilots the big spectrum of where friendly forces are located and where they can land.

Having final authority of clearance of ammunition, they communicate to the ground commander to see what needs to be exploded.

“Most of the time they will tell us where we need (ammunition) dropped. Then we relay the request through a DD form,” said Davidson. The DD form, which gives grid coordinates, elevation, description, contact and point of the objective, is sent to the Air

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Photo by Sgt. W. Cullen James

Putting a spin on play...

An Afghan school boy takes some time for childish pursuits outside a girls school in Bar Sholtan, Afghanistan. Maneuver forces from Asadabad Fire Base visited the village to perform a medical assessment. Villagers and schoolchildren were seen for a variety of ailments, and Asadabad civil affairs troops handed out humanitarian aid items.

Korean engineers, way of the Da-San

By Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – “To be one and dynamic,” a Korean creed that represents centuries of pride and tradition, is the motto the Korean engineers live by and incorporate into their daily mission.

In addition to their main objective of reconstructing Bagram Air Base, the Korean engineers have made keeping tradition, values and boosting soldiers’ morale their secondary mission in Afghanistan.

“Hundreds of years ago, our ancestor Yak Young Jung used a crane to construct the Suwon Palace in Korea,” said Capt. Inju Hwang, information and operations officer, Korean Engineer Unit. “He is known as the first and most skilled engineer in Korea. We have named our unit the Da-San unit after

his pen name, so his legend will live on.”

In early February 2003, the Da-San unit was activated to begin their mission in Afghanistan.

“Most of the engineers in our unit are volunteers. Only about one-in-five were specifically selected,” said Hwang. “We have about 150 engineers consisting of 11 officers, 17 noncommissioned officers and 115 enlisted personnel. They are the best in the field and in what they do and they always give 120 percent.”

Since their arrival, the engineers have been tasked with multiple projects, to help rebuild the air base.

“Our main mission is paving the runway and Disney Drive, erecting new hard structures, installing electricity and doing whatever else needs to be done for the beautifi-

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)

U.S. 'not out of woods' on SARS

ATLANTA, Ga. — Despite the relatively low number of probable SARS cases in the United States — 39, with no deaths attributed to the disease — a top health official warned on Tuesday, “we’re not out of the woods yet.”

“We still have no capacity to predict where it’s going,” said Dr. Julie Gerberding, director of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention.

“The last thing that we can do at this point is relax and say, ‘Thank goodness we don’t have very many probable cases in the United States, and therefore maybe we’re not ever going to have any subsequent spread,’” she said. “This is exactly the time we need to continue to do what we’ve been doing.”

Blix, United States dispute inspectors' role in Iraq

UNITED NATIONS — The United Nations inspection team is prepared to return to Iraq to hunt for banned weapons of mass destruction, Hans Blix told the Security Council on Tuesday.

But the White House responded to the chief weapons inspector’s comments by saying the United States has taken over the job.

France called for a compromise, saying some way should be found to coordinate the efforts of U.S.-led coalition inspection teams now working in Iraq with the U.N. inspectors who left the country before the war.

And in a separate announcement, France proposed an immediate suspension of United Nations sanctions against Iraqi civilians, according to the French ambassador to the international body.

The debate over who should investigate deposed Iraqi President Saddam Hussein’s weapons program has echoes of the debate in the United Nations leading up to the war.

Officials: Seized artwork might be from Iraqi museums

WASHINGTON — Artwork possibly stolen from at least one Iraqi museum was seized at Washington Dulles International Airport and Boston’s Logan Airport during

the past week, government officials told CNN on Tuesday.

No arrests have been made, yet and no criminal charges have been filed, the officials said. Investigators must determine the value or significance of the artifacts before any other action is taken, one source said.

At least one of the people being investigated is a journalist, said government officials, who would not elaborate.

There was no word on what types of artwork were involved. Other items such as photographs of people in leadership positions — apparently stolen from private residences — also were seized, one source said.



Scott Peterson arrives for his arraignment hearing Monday.

Peterson prosecutor: Can't name crime scene yet

MODESTO, Calif. — The prosecutor in the Laci Peterson case cautioned Tuesday that although he believes she was killed at her Modesto, California, home, all the evidence is not yet in.

Scott Peterson, Laci’s husband, pleaded not guilty Monday at his arraignment on two counts of murder in the deaths of his pregnant wife and their unborn son. The charges carry special circumstances — under California law, the killing of a pregnant woman that kills her unborn child can be considered a double homicide, making the case eligible for the death penalty.

In the criminal complaint released a few hours before the arraignment, Modesto police listed the Peterson’s home as the crime scene. The crime’s time was placed at “on or about and between Dec. 23, 2002, and Dec. 24, 2002.”

But Stanislaus County District Attorney

Jim Brazelton said that information “may or may not be accurate” and has “nothing to do with the complaint [his office] filed in [the] case.”

Gingrich blasts 'diplomatic failure' at State Department

WASHINGTON — Former House Speaker Newt Gingrich blasted the State Department Tuesday for a series of what he described as diplomatic failures leading up to the war with Iraq, and warned that the pattern is poised to repeat itself.

In a speech delivered at the American Enterprise Institute, a think tank in Washington, Gingrich contrasted the experience of the State Department with the Defense Department. He said the State Department had failed in its efforts to apply diplomatic pressure to persuade Iraq to disarm and comply with U.N. resolutions, and it is time for “bold, dramatic change” at the department.

“The last seven months have involved six months of diplomatic failure and one month of military success,” said Gingrich, who sits on a Pentagon advisory committee.

Specifically, Gingrich cited as failures the United States’ inability to persuade Turkey to allow U.S. troops on its soil before the war and the failed attempt to win a second U.N. resolution authorizing the use of force against Iraq.

Deadline looms in Palestinian Cabinet stalemate

RAMALLAH, West Bank — Palestinian Authority President Yasser Arafat and his prime minister-designate remained sharply at odds Tuesday over the makeup of a new Palestinian government.

Palestinian officials are working against a midnight Wednesday deadline to find a solution that will satisfy both Arafat and Mahmoud Abbas, the prime minister-designate widely known as Abu Mazen.

Egyptian President Hosni Mubarak plans to send a high-level Egyptian official to Ramallah to meet with Arafat and Mazen in a last-minute effort to broker a compromise between the two men.

Passover seder celebrated on Bagram

Compiled by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Set in a background of oppression, observed by a people whose ancestors lived in oppression, Passover seder, the story of Jewish freedom, was celebrated in this land that is building its freedom.

Led by Col. Alan Beitler, Task Force-44 commander, the group celebrated with all the trappings of home 5,000 miles away from home, and the two nights of Passover seder were observed here by Jewish soldiers, airmen and Marines at TF-44 classroom.

Afghanistan created a motley crew of believers in attendance. Two doctors, a nurse, an interrogator from the prison, a Special Forces soldier, a Marine avionics mechanic, a military policeman, an officer from the civil-military liaisons office, a sergeant from the general's staff, the Christian chaplain and his assistant.

“The service had more meaning than most I have been to. There was something special about being away from home helping rebuild this Country. Words like peace and freedom seemed to have more meaning,” said Maj. David Santo, future plans officer, Strategic Plans and Policy, CJ-5.

The year 2003 translates to the year 5763 on the Jewish calendar. Passover is an eight-day religious celebration symbolizing the Jew-



Photo by Maj. David Santo, future plans officer, CJ-5

Col. Alan Beitler, Task Force-44 commander, leads the Passover seder celebration.

ish people's freedom from slavery and exile in Egypt in 1300 Before the Christian Era. It is a celebration not just of a specific historical

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cation of the base,” said Hwang. “Even though our mission limits us to inside the base, we would like to venture further out into the villages to help them build schools and whatever else they need to rebuild their lives.”

In just a couple short months, the Da-San unit has contributed immensely to many different improvements on Bagram.

Since their arrival in February, the engineers have installed electricity in the 678th Engineer Building, assisted with the construction of the new South dining facility, removed damaged HESCOS, paved Disney Drive, installed one of Bagram's only concrete mixers and various other projects, according to the engineer's mission statement. Other projects still to come are the complete reconstruction of the runway and Disney Drive.

When the Korean engineers aren't hard at work, they spend their time having fun and honoring old traditions.



Photo courtesy of the Korean Engineers

Soldiers from the Korean Engineer unit, pave the walkway around the new dining facility in Viper City. The construction of the DFAC is one of many projects that make up the unit's overall mission.

“Our commander, Lt. Col. Inhee Lee, is big on soldier morale,” said Hwang. “A few weeks ago, the soldiers' morale began to sink due to the stresses of the job. (Lt. Col.) Lee decided to have a smiling face contest where all the soldiers had to take pictures of themselves giving the biggest smile they could. The pictures were then judged to see who had the happiest face.”

Other events, like the tree-planting ceremony that took place on April 5, was to remind the soldiers of their history and why they are here.

“Every year in Korea since after the Korean war, we have a tree-planting ceremony,” said Hwang. “This symbolizes the rebirth of our country and its prosperity. We decided to honor the tradition here by planting five pine trees. By doing this, we are symbolizing the peace and prosperity of Afghanistan.”

According to Hwang, the Korean engineers are very proud of the work they are doing here because they share a special bond with the Afghans.

“Afghanistan looks much like our country did after the Korean War – desolate and barren with hardly a tree to be found,” said Hwang. “Our hearts go out to these people. If our beads of sweat can bring a little peace and prosperity to these people, then we will do whatever we can to help.”

TACP, from Page 1

Support Operations Command in Bagram that handles TACP on the ground.

The job is “very important because sometimes friendly forces are out of range. Sometimes assets need to be there on time,” said Staff Sgt. Matthew A. Richmond, terminal attack control, 14th ASOS.

“We prevent fratricide because we see the big picture,” said Davidson. “What we do is more of an art than a science. It comes down to talking to the pilot.”

If a TACP sounds unsure when asking for assistance, the ASOC may not act as quickly as they should, said Richmond.

Being assertive is a huge part of TACP’s job. They may tell where a pilot needs to drop ammunition. The helicopter has from 45 minutes to two hours to respond, depending on the location. “If he doesn’t do it, we have the authority to send him home,” said Richmond.

At the same time, the two say they enjoy their job.

Davidson said he picked this job not only because he wanted to serve his country and take on a challenge, but he “didn’t want an ordinary job. It was one of the only combat jobs that the Air Force has to offer.”

Since their job is combat-related, sometimes dangerous situations occur.

The late March ambush on the four-vehicle convoy during a mission killed one special operations soldier and TACP airman, Staff Sgt. Jacob Frazier. The ambush was in Geresk, a town near the Taliban’s birthplace of Kandahar.

“They thought the village was peaceful,” said Staff Sgt. Jesse Schnabegger, 14th ASOS and friend of the late TACP airman.

“When the (Special Operation Forces) guys rolled out, it was a much easier target.”

Despite the danger that is involved in the job, Richmond claims it is not entirely negative.

“It’s a great job. I love to see the places I go to, including Afghanistan. I can imagine doing this for 20 years,” said Richmond.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: “Spy Game.” Retiring CIA agent Nathan Muir recalls his training of Tom Bishop while working against agency politics to free him from his Chinese captors.



Tomorrow’s movie was unavailable at press time.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Thursday
Bagram:	Mostly cloudy H: 81F L: 54F	Rain H: 75F L: 52F
Kandahar:	Mostly cloudy H: 93F L: 61F	Dusty H: 86F L: 60F
Kabul:	Mostly cloudy H: 79F L: 46F	Rain H: 81F L: 50F
Uzbekistan:	Isolated showers H: 70F L: 48F	Mostly cloudy H: 71F L: 43F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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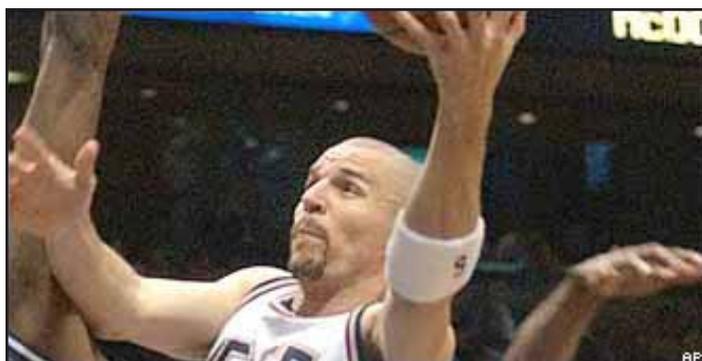
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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



Jason Kidd missed a game-tying shot in the final seconds.

Nets can't capitalize on missed free throws

EAST RUTHERFORD, N.J. — The Milwaukee Bucks fixed all their Game 1 mistakes except for one, which was just good enough to get a win.

Gary Payton had 22 points, Sam Cassell added 21 and the Bucks overcame three missed free throws in the final 10.4 seconds and 11 botched foul shots among 20 attempts to defeat New Jersey 88-85 Tuesday night and even their first-round series at one game apiece.

"I'd rather we have just one problem than as many as we had after the first game," Toni Kukoc said.

Payton and everyone around him had a much better game than they did in the series opener, when Milwaukee fell behind by as many as 31.

This time, it was the Bucks who thrived on the fast break, dic-

tated the tempo and played determined defense to seize the home-court advantage heading into Game 3 Thursday night at Milwaukee.

"That other game was a blowout because we didn't come to play. Today we came to play, and this is the way playoff basketball should be — tit-for-tat, going back and forth, and giving the fans a good game," Payton said.

Milwaukee finished at 45 percent from the line after shooting only 50 percent in Game 1. The Nets outrebounded the Bucks 45-34, but Payton and Cassell more than made up for it by carrying Milwaukee's offense in a game in which there were 30 lead changes and 18 ties, and neither team led by more than five points.

The Bucks still couldn't stop Kenyon Martin, who had 22 points and 12 rebounds, but they prevented Jason Kidd from again dominating the point guard matchup, and they limited the Nets to just nine fast-break points.

"I don't think we're ever going to be equal with them in rebounding, so we'll just have to make up for it in some other part of the game," Bucks coach George Karl said.

O'Neal back after attending wake

MINNEAPOLIS — Shaquille O'Neal returned from his grandfather's funeral in time to play Tuesday night for the Los Angeles Lakers against the Minnesota Timberwolves.

Wearing a black pinstriped suit, the all-star center arrived at the Target Center with his teammates about 90 minutes before Game 2 of the NBA Western Conference series.

"He's ready to play. Somber, but he's ready," Lakers coach Phil Jackson said.

O'Neal missed the Lakers' shootaround Tuesday morning, a day after flying to South Carolina for the wake. He had been expected in Minneapolis by Monday night, but arrived in town Tuesday afternoon.

After missing Monday's practice and Tuesday's shootaround, Jackson said O'Neal had to catch up on a few things. But the coach added he wasn't concerned about O'Neal's performance for Game 2.

"I talked to him a little bit about some things we want to do different," Jackson said.

O'Neal had 32 points and 10 rebounds in Los Angeles' 117-98 victory Sunday in the opener of the best-of-seven series.

Pippen return questionable

DALLAS — Scottie Pippen's surgically repaired left knee hurt so badly Tuesday he wasn't sure whether he could play Game 2 of Portland's first-round series against

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2002 NBA standings

Eastern Conference		Western Conference	
Atlantic		Midwest	
(2x)New Jersey	49-33	(1z)San Antonio	60-22
(4x)Philadelphia	48-34	(3x)Dallas	60-22
(6x)Boston	44-38	(4x)Minnesota	51-31
(8x)Orlando	42-40	(7X)Utah	47-35
Washington	37-45	Houston	43-39
Central		Pacific	
(1z)Detroit	50-32	(2y)Sacramento	59-23
(3x)Indiana	48-34	(5x)L.A. Lakers	50-32
(5x)New Orleans	47-35	(6X)Portland	50-32
(7x)Milwaukee	42-40	(8x)Phoenix	44-38
Atlanta	35-47	Seattle	40-42

x = clinched playoff berth.
 y = clinched division title.
 z = clinched conference title.

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Dallas on Wednesday night.

Pippen is sure of this: He's going to be in pain the entire postseason.

"There's not enough time for me to heal and be able to play at the level that I play at," he said.

The Trail Blazers need a productive Pippen to avoid being swept from the first round for a third straight year. They've already stretched their postseason losing skid to eight straight over four postseasons by dropping the opener to the Mavericks 96-86 Saturday night.

Pippen was 2-for-8 for five points in 32 minutes. He had four rebounds, five assists and a team-high four turnovers while wearing a protective sleeve over his entire leg.

"I'm pretty sore right now," he said Tuesday. "I've got some

swelling. Unfortunately, I'm sort of day-to-day. It's going to be a wait-and-see type of situation."

He didn't practice Monday or Tuesday. He said he was so uncomfortable that if there had been a game Tuesday, "I wouldn't even try it."

So while teammates went through drills, he headed to a pool for water therapy.

Legislation would eliminate penalties

ESPN — A potential flood of underclassmen would crash down on the NBA draft camp in Chicago if the NCAA Board of Governors approves new legislation offering a penalty-free, NBA-sponsored all-expenses paid trip there in early June.

Those who are undecided about entering the draft — Saint Joseph junior point guard Jameer Nelson, Syracuse sophomore forward Hakim Warrick, Alabama sophomore point Mo Williams, Notre Dame sophomore point Chris Thomas — might declare now if they can attend the camp at no cost to test their draft status without losing eligibility.

The Board of Governors meets Thursday in Indianapolis to likely endorse the legislation, which was unanimously approved by the NCAA's management council last week.

The legislation would allow college underclassmen to attend the NBA draft camp without having to reimburse the NBA for expenses. The underclassmen would also be allowed to play in the three games at the draft camp June 3-6 at Moody Bible Institute in Chicago without having to sit out a game-for-game penalty if they return to school.

"If we let kids put their name in the draft, then we need to allow them to realistically test themselves against competition," said Steve Mallonee, the NCAA's director of legislative services.

SEDER, from Page 3

event, but of freedom itself.

The "seder," from a Hebrew word meaning "order," ushers in the eight-day Passover holiday. Special foods are prepared for modern-day seder dinners, each a symbol for the original Passover dinner:

-Matzos, the unleavened bread, wrapped in a special cloth to recall the Jewish ancestors who fled from Egypt in haste.

-Bitter herbs, such as horseradish, to recall the bitterness of life in slavery in Egypt.

-Charoset, a paste of crushed apples, nuts, cinnamon and wine, to represent the mortar that Jewish slaves used to build the pharaoh's cities.

-The roasted shank bone of a lamb, which is viewed but not eaten, represents the lambs slaughtered so that their blood could be used to mark the Israelite homes and protect them from the plague.

-Sprigs of parsley symbolizing springtime that are dipped into salt water to represent the tears shed in anguish by the Israelites.

-A roasted egg, a symbol of life and renewal.

Four glasses of wine are consumed during dinner with proper blessings. An extra glass is poured "for Elijah" the prophet, who is assumed to be an invisible guest at the meal.

The group took turns reading from the Haggadah that tells the story of the Israelites' Exodus from Egypt. They also sang songs from the Haggadah and read blessings and prayers to commemorate the occasion and to celebrate Jewish history.

"The Afghan's have lived under an oppressive regime and now they are experiencing peace and freedom. I can imagine how the Jews felt when they entered the Promised Land. I see it in the expressions on the Afghan's faces every time I go off the base," said Santo.

They concluded the seder with the traditional hope to have it in Jerusalem next year, but definitely not in Afghanistan.

"Can you guys put the flag up again? I ran out of film."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support