

Air conditioning on freeze for some troops

Story by Pfc. Kelly Hunt
4th Public Affairs Detachment

Bagram, Afghanistan – The air conditioning units are posted by each tent, hooked up and ready to go, but before troops get anxious, getting the cool air circulating in some parts of base will take more effort than just plugging the units in.

Most areas of base have fully functional air conditioning units giving them a break from the summer heat, but there are areas that have not been so lucky.

Kellogg Brown and Root personnel and members of Prime Power have been brainstorming, working all angles to ensure that the issue is resolved as quickly as possible.

“There are many reasons for the hold up with the air conditioning being turned on,” said Gavin Paterson, utility supervisor for Brown and Root. “Recently the issue is that the power plant is being overloaded by the amount of electrical equipment being plugged into it.”

The issue isn’t a mistake that can be pinned on anyone, said Paterson. The lack of power was caused by the instant influx of personnel on base and the amount of electricity they use.

Last year, planning began to bring air conditioning units to base. At that time, the base was much smaller and the availability of power generated from the power plant to feed the new units would have been sufficient, but the base has expanded quickly and with the amount of improvements in the quality of life here, electricity usage has sky rocketed, causing a kink in the planned air conditioning project.

“If you stand outside AAFES (Army and Air Force Exchange service) any day, you’ll see playstations and microwaves coming out,” said Paterson.

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Hanging mortars



Photo by Staff Sgt. Keith Thompson

AYUBKHEL VALLEY, Afghanistan -- Indirect fire infantrymen from Company D, 2nd Battalion, 505th Parachute Infantry Regiment, practice live-firing their 60mm mortars during Operation Warrior Sweep Sunday. The company spent 17 days in the field during the largest operation since Operation Anaconda before returning in a ground assault convoy Tuesday. "It's quite a success for this battalion to conduct this large of a mission," said Capt. Tho Nguyen, Co. D commander.

Scientists closer to figuring out how Malaria works

Story by Doris Ryan
Bureau of Medicine and Surgery Public Affairs

SILVER SPRING, Md. — Navy researchers, working with a team of international collaborators, are beginning to understand how the malaria parasite survives and thrives in the human body. Malaria is a life-threatening parasitic disease.

Capt. Daniel J. Carucci, Director of the Malaria Program at the Naval Medical Research Center, said, “Last year, we identified over 5,000 genes (from the malaria parasite). Now we need to know something about what the genes do. We need to know how they contribute to the parasite’s lifecycle.”

This week, researchers will publish in the journal Science, details from a study on the inner workings of some of the genes that make up the parasite, Plasmodium falciparum, the deadliest form of malaria and something of an intra-

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World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



U.S. troops stand guard in Fallujah on Tuesday.

U.S. civilian contractor dies in Iraq blast Tuesday

TIKRIT, Iraq — A civilian contractor from the United States was killed Tuesday in Iraq when the car he was driving ran over an improvised explosive device, the U.S. military said, on a day marked by a number of incidents in which a U.S. soldier was injured.

The contractor, whose identity was not disclosed, was in a military convoy when the explosion happened just north of Tikrit.

Tikrit is the ancestral home of deposed dictator Saddam Hussein.

According to *The Associated Press*, the contractor was employed by Kellogg Brown & Root, a subsidiary of Halliburton, a Houston-based oil field-services and construction company. The U.S. military offered no confirmation. Halliburton has contracts for reconstruction in both Iraq and Afghanistan.

In Fallujah, a U.S. soldier from the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment was wounded in a rocket-propelled grenade attack when a mob shouting anti-U.S. slogans ransacked a police station. The crowd also set police cars on fire.

Witnesses said shots were fired at U.S. troops, who returned fire from inside the building.

The crowd did not disperse until a U.S. helicopter started hovering over the area, *CNN* Correspondent Rym Brahimi reported from Baghdad. U.S. authorities have not confirmed the incident.

Fallujah has been the scene of several attacks on U.S. forces, and tensions between residents and coalition forces has remained high.

Last month, the U.S. military reduced its presence at one police station in the city, in part, because of complaints from Iraqi police, who said the U.S. troops were putting them in danger.

Jakarta evidence may link to Bali

JAKARTA, Indonesia — Searching through rubble, forensic experts have found clues that could link Tuesday's bomb blast at a Jakarta, Indonesia, hotel to attacks last year in Bali, *CNN* has learned.

At least 14 people were killed and more than 100 injured when a powerful car bomb was detonated at lunchtime Tuesday at the five-star JW Marriott Hotel in central Jakarta, authorities said.

Forensics experts said one of the bomb ingredients was potassium chlorate — the chemical used in October's Bali nightclub bombings that killed more than 200 people. Indonesian police have blamed the Bali attacks on the radical Islamic group Jemaah Islamiyah, which has been linked to al Qaeda.

Last month, a raid on a suspected terrorist bomb-making factory netted a large quantity of potassium chlorate and a suspected member of the group.

No one has claimed responsibility for Tuesday's attack on the Marriott hotel, but suspicion surrounds Jemaah Islamiyah. In the past few weeks, police have said there were warnings that the group might be planning a major attack.

French troops foil massacre in northeastern Congo

NYANDA, Congo — French troops on helicopter patrol over the lush green savannah of troubled northeastern Congo stopped a massacre in progress Tuesday in a remote village, although nine villagers died, residents said.

The attack began before dawn when Lendu tribal fighters armed with automatic weapons and machetes raided this tiny

village of the Hema tribe from two directions, chief Nguna Manasse said.

The attackers came in two waves, Manasse said. The first, dressed in military uniforms, fired on fleeing villagers; the second in civilian clothes hacked the wounded with machetes.

"There were so many of them, I could not count because we were running," Manasse said after he and other residents ventured back to the village 12 miles south of Bunia, the capital of troubled Ituri province.

Manasse said it wasn't clear who the uniformed attackers were — although Lendu tribal fighters often don uniforms taken from rivals. But there was no doubt that the men in civilian clothes armed with machetes were Lendus.

Tens of thousands of people have been killed in tribal fighting in resource-rich northeastern Congo since a rebellion backed by neighboring Rwanda and Uganda broke out in August 1998. Although the main rebel groups have reached peace deals with the government in Kinshasa, 1,000 miles to the west, and have joined the administration, violence over land and cattle and gold and power continues in Ituri.

Villanova professor charged with killing her baby

ST. PAUL, Minnesota — A Villanova University history professor accused of fatally slitting her 6-month-old daughter's throat was charged Tuesday with second-degree murder.

The girl, Raya Donagi, was found bleeding and unconscious Monday after her grandmother called 911 about 9 a.m.

Police said the girl's mother, Mine An Ener, gave the infant her morning feeding and then carried her to the bathroom, pausing in the kitchen to get a knife. Police said she told them she laid the baby on her back and then leaned over, pressing the 12-inch knife's blade twice across Raya's throat.

"I killed my baby with a knife," authorities said Ener, 38, told medics when they arrived.

A little change makes a big difference

Story and photo by Sgt. Greg Heath
4th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – At the Bagram Post Exchange sitting on table near the store entrance is a modest wooden box filled with “pogs.”

The “pogs,” given to soldiers as change at the PX, are often lost, discarded or forgotten, but what PX manager Maria Price hopes will happen is that service members will begin to use their spare change to help change the lives of some young girls in Bagram Village.

According to recent studies done by the United Nations Children Fund, only three out of ten girls ages 7-18 are enrolled in school in Afghanistan, and only 21 percent of Afghan women are literate.

About three months ago, Price and the rest of the PX staff adopted Bagram School for Girls, and with money donations and help from friends and family at home, they provided some much needed supplies for the impoverished and underprovided school.

“They have nothing,” said Price. “The girls don’t even have desks, they were sitting on the floor the last time we saw them.”

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cellular chameleon. The study focused on the 48-hour blood stage of malaria.

Carucci explained part of the lifecycle. The parasites require well-coordinated sets of genes switching themselves on and off, to change shape and function as it moves through the body. The bite of an infected mosquito inserts parasites into the blood stream. As parasites evade the body’s immune system, they navigate to the liver to invade and multiply in individual cells. In a new form, the parasites burst from the liver cells and locate, invade, and reproduce in red blood cells. In increased numbers, the parasites destroy the red blood cells in which they have been multiplying. In yet another form, the parasites remain within the confines of the red blood cell and are ingested by another biting mosquito, and change shape and function yet again in the mosquito’s body.

Navy researchers partnered with collaborators at Scripps Research Institute who have developed a wafer thin gene chip to study the 48-hour cycle.

The PX workers alone couldn’t afford to buy what the kids needed, said Price, so they made it into a base-wide drive.

“It’s about helping the children,” said Price, who hopes others can help empower the children through education.

“It’s five or 10 cents to me and you, but just by dropping in your pogs you are also doing your part to help the Afghan children.”

PX customers have helped the cause greatly since the donation box was put out, donating more than \$1000 so far. One customer even dropped a \$100 bill in the box.

“It’s an underprivileged country, and people need an education,” said Airman Nathan Rice, 455th Expeditionary Security Force Squadron, who donated his spare pogs as he walked out of the PX.

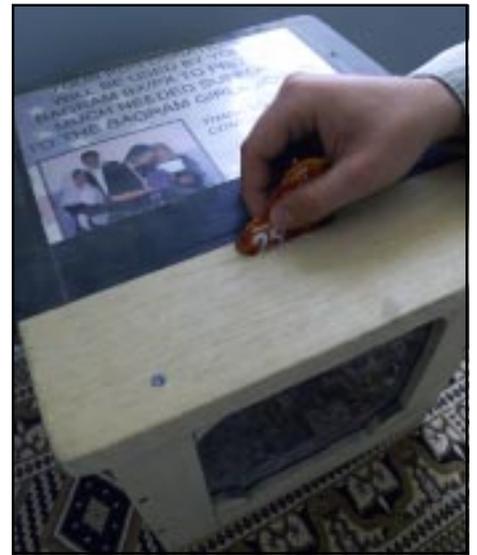
Initially he didn’t even know what the donation box was for, but he said he doesn’t like keeping loose pogs.

“It’s better in (the box) than in the garbage can,” he said.

Price plans to speak with the girls’ school headmaster to see what their greatest needs are, and hopes to soon start a project with the money.

“We will just build it or buy it or whatever we need to do to help,” said Price.

Price hopes that the donations keep



A soldier donates pogs to the Bagram Girls School. The pogs serve as change at the Bagram PX, and the money donated is used to improve the impoverished school.

coming and that the program can continue even after she leaves.

“It’s a great feeling knowing that you can help the children, because they all deserve a break and they all need to be taken care of,” Price said.

“This is the best way to help someone; by helping them learn, they can help themselves afterwards.”

Using highly synchronized blood cultures, the researchers collected samples every six hours to determine which genes were expressed (turned on or off). They discovered certain patterns to the genes and identified 15 clusters involved in the blood stage.

Carucci pointed out that inside the clusters are genes whose functions are known, and many more whose functions are not known. For example, researchers know the function of some genes involved with red blood cell invasion.

From this research, they can now infer that many of the genes that lie within the red blood cell invasion cluster may also carry out that function.

Potential drugs can be developed to interfere with that process.

He said, “This published study is another major milestone in advancing research against one of the world’s most important parasitic diseases. This is the first time that anyone has systematically looked at the complete genome of *Plasmodium falciparum*, and characterized the genes that are responsible for parasite growth and development.”

FREEZE, from Page 1

As quality of life improves, troops are loading up their tents with lamps, CD players, televisions and coffee pots. Though this makes life easier, it uses a lot of power generated from the power plant, said Paterson.

The power plant is split into two sections. About 60 percent of the power-supply runs under ground to various areas on base while the other 40 percent runs above ground in the overhead power supply, said Paterson.

The reason some parts of base are receiving air conditioning and others aren't, is due to this split.

"The underground (part) of the power plant (supply) is maxed out," Paterson said. Areas such as the Thai and Korean compound run off the overhead power supply, so they are still able to receive air conditioning units, but areas such as the Dragon Compound are in for a wait.

The problem "is in the process of being resolved," said Master Sgt. Mark Smeragliulo, Company A, 249th Engineer Battalion (Prime Power), Hawaii. "There is an area in Dragon that is an issue, but there is a plan to fix it; it's just going to take time."

Smeragliulo, like Paterson, said that despite the problem with the air conditioning units, the many improvements on base are constant and are happening very quickly and encourages troops to be patient.

"There's a lot more air conditioners this year than there were last year," he pointed out. "It's constant improvement and we're miles ahead where we were last year; it's constant building."

"As you move up in the standards, everything has to move up," said Smeragliulo. "And eventually you hit a cap."

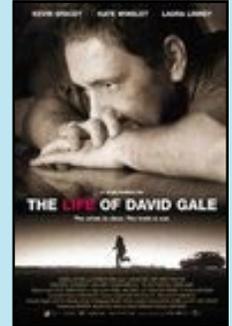
Any issues concerning Prime Power and the available power supply right now are being worked out, he said.

But despite the lack of power, Paterson's team is staying on top of the game, installing air conditioning units daily so that they will be established when power is found.

"We have the air conditioners here, we have the man power and we are installing them so when the power increases, its simply the issue of turning them on," said Paterson.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: "The Life of David Gale." The story follows a University of Texas professor, Dr. David Gale, an advocate for the abolishment of capital punishment, who is falsely convicted of rape and murder of another activist. He suddenly finds himself on death row.



Tomorrow's movie will be "Bad Boys."

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Thursday</i>
<u>Bagram:</u>	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 93F L: 70F	<i>Mostly clear</i> H: 95F L: 72F
<u>Kandahar:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 104F L: 81F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 104F L: 84F
<u>Kabul:</u>	<i>Dusty</i> H: 93F L: 70F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 93F L: 70F
<u>Uzbekistan:</u>	<i>Clear</i> H: 97F L: 60F	<i>Clear</i> H: 98F L: 57F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

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Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from *ESPN.com*)

Cuban: Kobe scandal great for the NBA

ESPN – It was only a matter of time before the Mavericks owner weighed in on the Kobe Bryant scandal.

During an interview with “Access Hollywood’s” Pat O’Brien, Mark Cuban commented on the charges filed in Colorado against Bryant, the Los Angeles Lakers guard accused of sexually assaulting a 19-year-old woman.



Kobe Bryant

“From a business perspective, it’s great for the NBA. It’s reality television, people love train-wreck television and you hate to admit it, but that is the truth, that’s the reality today,” Cuban told the TV show.

NBA commissioner David Stern quickly rebutted Cuban’s comments on Tuesday.

“Any suggestion that there will be some economic or promotional benefit to the NBA arising from the charge pending against Kobe Bryant is both misinformed and unseemly,” Stern said in a statement. “That idea does not reflect the views of the NBA, NBA owners generally, or others associated with our sport.”

In its Tuesday editions, *USA Today* asked Cuban to elaborate on his “It’s great for the NBA” comments.

“Notoriety sells in this day and age,” Cuban told the newspaper. “... I can’t think of anyone who is going through a legal problem who doesn’t get high attention. Is that cold-blooded? Yeah. But it is bottom-line reality.”

Cuban added: “I don’t want to compare Kobe with O.J. (Simpson) because Kobe’s case hasn’t been decided, but the reality is there is more interest in him (Kobe) now.”

Cuban also said the intrigue will make Dallas’ season opener against the Lakers on Oct. 28 “must-see TV.”

“Take away the personal aspect and the reality is that there will be more people watching our game against the Lakers,” Cuban told *USA Today*. “Who do you know won’t watch the Lakers game with Kobe?”

Bryant is scheduled to attend a preliminary hearing on Wednesday at the Eagle County Justice Center at approximately 6 p.m. ET. Bryant will be read the charges against him and may enter a plea.

Bucks to hire Milwaukee native Porter

ESPN – Milwaukee native Terry Porter, after just one season on an NBA bench, will be named Wednesday as the new coach of the Milwaukee Bucks.

ESPN.com has learned that Porter beat out Phoenix Suns assistant coach Marc Iavaroni and Atlanta Hawks interim coach Terry Stotts in the race to replace George Karl. The Bucks completed final interviews over the weekend when owner Sen. Herb Kohl returned to Milwaukee in a break from his political duties.

Porter served as an assistant to Rick Adelman in Sacramento

last season after 17 seasons as a player. Despite his inexperience, Porter is considered a good coaching prospect whose odds were undoubtedly boosted by his ties to the area. The Bucks’ status as a starting-over team, after a steady dismantling of the group that reached the Eastern Conference finals in 2002, gives Porter time to grow as a head coach.

The Bucks considered several candidates after the July 20 dismissal of Karl. Porter, Iavaroni, Stotts and Detroit assistant coach Mike Woodson were the four finalists. Kohl will undoubtedly be hoping for Porter, who went to the NBA Finals twice as Portland’s floor leader, to have a strong influence on T.J. Ford, the Bucks’ rookie point guard who was selected eighth overall in June draft.

Kings trade Clark to Jazz for future picks

SACRAMENTO, Calif. — The Sacramento Kings traded center Keon Clark and two second-round draft picks to the Utah Jazz on Tuesday for a second-round choice.



Keon Clark

The Kings made the move strictly for financial reasons. Sacramento’s payroll is one of the NBA’s highest, and owners Joe and Gavin Maloof apparently had second thoughts about the stiff luxury-tax bill they probably will pay after acquiring All-Star center Brad Miller two weeks ago.

Clark exercised his \$5 million contract option for the upcoming season a few days before the Kings acquired Miller and his seven-year, \$68 million contract from Indiana.

“This was a very difficult decision, but we have to consider the overall economic ability of our team in this market,” said Geoff Petrie, the Kings’ president of basketball operations. “With this trade, we think we found a good situation for Keon while reducing our economic exposure for the upcoming season.”

Clark is headed to his fourth team in five NBA seasons. He averaged 6.7 points, 5.6 rebounds and 1.9 blocks last season after signing with the Kings as a free agent, starting several games while Chris Webber was injured.

After striking out with several big-name free agents despite having \$20 million of salary-cap room, the Jazz finally landed a player for their rebuilding effort following the departures of Karl Malone and John Stockton. Clark has played extensively at center and power forward in his career.

After trading Hedo Turkoglu to San Antonio in the three-way trade that brought Miller to Sacramento, the Kings are hoping to resign Jim Jackson, who averaged 7.7 points and 4.2 rebounds last season as a valuable backup. Jackson has attracted the interest of several teams, including New Jersey.

SPORTS, from Page 5

Former Panther Carruth loses bid for new conspiracy trial

RALEIGH, N.C. — Former Carolina Panther Rae Carruth lost a bid Tuesday for a new trial on his 2001 murder conspiracy conviction despite an error by a lower court.

A state appeals court ruled that although the trial judge shouldn't have allowed handwritten notes from the victim to be admitted, the notes didn't prejudice the jury because of the overwhelming evidence against Carruth.

Carruth's lawyer, Gordon Widenhouse, said he would seek an appeal before the state Supreme Court. He said the notes were the strongest evidence prosecutors had to make their case that Carruth was involved in a conspiracy.



Rae Carruth

Carruth, a first-round draft pick of the Panthers in 1997, is serving a prison term of 18 years and 11 months for plotting to kill his girlfriend, Cherica Adams.

Carruth was found guilty of conspiracy to commit murder, shooting into an occupied vehicle and using a gun to try to kill the baby Adams was carrying. He was acquitted of a murder charge that could have brought the death penalty.

Adams was eight months pregnant with Carruth's child when she was shot while driving. She died a month later.

Her scribbled notes given to police detectives were a major part of Carruth's appeal. His lawyers argue the statements, given after surgery and while Adams was taking pain killers, amount to hearsay.

Clarett snubs Hall of Famer Allen

WARREN, Ohio — Not even a Hall of Fame running back can catch up with Maurice Clarett these days.

Clarett, Ohio State's enigmatic tailback at the center of investigations, didn't show up for an arranged meeting with newly inducted Hall of Famer Marcus Allen, Clarett's high school coach said.

Coach Thom McDaniels had helped set up the Sunday evening meeting with Allen, who was enshrined into the Hall earlier that day.

"Marcus wanted to meet him," McDaniels said. "He thought he might be able to enlighten him, help him and direct him in a path that perhaps Marcus has already gone down.

"Maurice just needed to be where he needed to be. He didn't even call us."

Allen declined to comment on the proposed meeting during Monday night's Pro Football Hall of Fame game. McDaniels said Allen had set aside an hour — shortly after the induction ceremony — for the meeting at a downtown hotel.

Clarett is being investigated by the university for his aca-

demical performance and whether he broke any laws by giving police false information about items he reported stolen from a car.

The NCAA has also inquired about the star running back's amateur status.

In the meantime, Ohio State is keeping Clarett from practicing with the defending national champion Buckeyes until the inquiries are concluded.

On Tuesday, Clarett's attorney, Scott Schiff, said the sophomore running back is eager to put the turmoil behind.

"I think it's time to avoid the distractions and work toward Maurice getting back on the field and playing college football," Schiff said.

McDaniels feels his former player made a mistake by passing up the chance to get some helpful advice from one of the NFL's all-time greats.

"It's very disappointing," McDaniels said. "I think it was a blown opportunity for Maurice to meet someone who knows more than him and has been to a place where Maurice wants to go."

McDaniels said he speaks with Clarett regularly but had not heard from him yet.

"When he knows I'm mad at him, I won't hear from him," McDaniels said.

One of Clarett's former teammates at Ohio State said the 19-year-old is being targeted by the media and others.

"Give the guy a break," Green Bay defensive end Kenny Peterson said following Monday night's Hall of Fame game. "Let him go to school and let him play. Let him alone."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support