



FREEDOM WATCH



September 14, 2002

Published in the interest of those serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Bagram, Afghanistan

News briefs

(Compiled from CNN.com)

Bush wins support from world leaders

UNITED NATIONS — Most international leaders Thursday appeared satisfied by President Bush's intent to work through the UN to deal with Iraq. Bush's speech drew a positive reaction from Russia and France, two permanent members of the Security Council with the power to veto any resolution and who have opposed a unilateral U.S. military response. Russia supports resuming weapons inspections in Iraq, but also has opposed the use of military force. However, Moscow is increasingly frustrated with Iraq's intransigence on the issue, and observers say Russia would not defend Saddam in a standoff with the international community. This week French President Jacques Chirac proposed a two-step process in which the United Nations would first pass a resolution to demand weapons inspectors return to Iraq for a brief

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CHLC opens three new schools

Story & photo by Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
28th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — What a difference a year can make.

The Sept. 11, 2001, terrorist attacks, for some Americans, brought feelings of hatred toward Afghans and Muslims in general. However, just one day after the one-year anniversary, the American Army helped officially open three new schools in Afghanistan, symbolizing new found feelings of hope.



Students at the Karabach Bazaar School in Bagram wave their country's flags in celebration of their school being officially opened.

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Photo by Pfc. Nathan Akridge

Dousing the flames

The Bagram Air Base Fire Department responded to a small fire near the Post Exchange yesterday afternoon. Service members in line at the PX noticed smoke coming out of a CONEX and notified the military police. The MPs and the fire department quickly smothered the flames before they spread to nearby tents. An MP at the scene said he believed the cause of the fire was an improperly disposed of cigarette.

Intl. soldiers fire weapons at range

By Spc. Ann Marie Schult
XVIII Airborne Corps

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — The temperature was not too hot, everyone showed up on time, the range was clear and ready for use. Every weapon was well-oiled and had plenty of ammunition.

Members of five countries brought their weapons, and were all at the range for the same purpose — to learn about each others weapons.

The 82nd Airborne Division, Fort Bragg, N.C., soldiers; British Royal

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marines, Italian airmen and Polish soldiers gathered at a small range at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan for an afternoon of learning and coalition esprit de corps.

Lt. Col. Sergio Stefani, the Italian air force commander, organized the event. He wanted everyone to learn to how to fire each others' weapons. Some of the weapons used include the M16, M4, Beryl 5.56MM GSW rifle, British light support weapon, the Polish Heckler & Koch G36 and the Italian Beretta AR701.

"Soldiers might need to use them at one time or another in an effort to defend the camp or themselves," Stefani said.

After a brief demonstration on the functions of a



Photo by Spc. Ann Marie Schult, XVIII Airborne Corps
Spc. John Townsend (left), 82nd Airborne Division, and Sgt. Miguel Acosta (right), Spanish air force, fire weapons down range as an Italian airman observes.

Beretta by an Italian soldier, participants took to the lanes with anxious looks and cautious hands.

Sgt. 1st Class Rocky Marciano, 82nd Abn. Div., smiled as he emptied a magazine into a paper plate target posted on a sheet of plywood, downrange.

"Learning things like

this is very important for soldiers, it is part of their training, good for morale and it is important for soldiers from different countries to work together, sharing what they know," Stefani said.

Some thought the event was a good disruption to the monotony of the air base.

"It's a break from the

day-to-day running of Bagram Air Base," said Royal Marine Sgt. Peter, "we get to meet different people and fire different weapons as well."

A Polish soldier picked up his weapon and a full magazine, walked up to an American and asked him if he wanted to fire the weapon. The I'll-show-you-mine-if-you-show-me-yours attitude was par for the afternoon.

British Royal Marine Andy Cullen was lying on the ground with his L-16 sniper rifle teaching any and everyone who came near him how to fire it.

"It's got a bit of a kick," he tells a soldier, as she takes aim and fires at a red bucket down range.

When the sun was low and the shadows high, a

cease fire was called, all the weapons accounted for and all the ammunition put away.

The group gathered at Camp Azzurro, the Italian compound, where Stefani handed out certificates, indicating that the recipient participated in the event, listed the weapons used and the countries that participated.

"This is a good example of one bad thing that became a good thing," said Chief Warrant Officer Carlos L. Negron, 101st Service Support Battalion.

"September is the anniversary of what brought us all here," he said. "When all the nations of the world get together, we do good things. I hope our children enjoy what we will build out of this thing."

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All three schools opened with ribbon-cutting ceremonies attended by Bagram Air Base Commander Col. Christopher Pritchett and Parwan Province Gov. Amunallah Mi Mi, as well as village mayors, the Afghan minister of education, Northern Alliance military leaders and area elders.

"Apply yourself and learn good ideas," Pritchett said at the school ceremonies. "Help Afghanistan long into the future. Where your fathers and grandfathers fought to maintain war, you will have to fight to maintain peace."

The schools were just three of seven education projects being worked by Bagram's Coalition Humanitarian Liaison Cell. Some had been bombed out and had to be completely redone before the children could return. Others could still

operate, but their conditions weren't conducive to a healthy learning environment.

Parwan Girls School in the Jabul Saraj district was one of those schools. Some of the work included expanding the 24-classroom building to accommodate its 700 first through 12th-grade students. Six classrooms had been bombed out during the war.

The structure was in such bad shape, that the students' only water source was a dirty underground stream that flowed through the school. The bathrooms were so badly kept that they nearly made some of the CHLC team members sick during their assessment.

"We ended up spending some extra money to get the toilets off the ground and put two extra ones in," said Maj. John Wiegand, the CHLC team leader. "It will never be an American toilet, but it will definitely



Photo by Staff Sgt. Rhonda M. Lawson
Governor Amunallah Mi Mi addresses the students at Lazy Shafaq in Bagram. Lausy Shafuga was the second school Thursday to receive the official ribbon cutting.

give them a more sanitary toilet."

The stream was also replaced with an underground pipe that will give the girls clean water to drink.

During construction, the girls continued to attend school, but received their classes outside under trees or in tents.

"We specifically wanted to do

an all-girls school because we know how they've been suppressed during the Taliban and al Qaeda timeframe," Wiegand said.

The second school to be reopened that day was Lazy Shafaq, an all-boys institution named after

HIND SIGHT

1812

Napoleon Bonaparte's invasion of Russia reaches its climax as his *Grande Armee* enters Moscow—only to find the enemy capital deserted and burning, set afire by the few Russians who remained.

1814

Francis Scott Key writes the words to the “Star-Spangled Banner” as he waits aboard a British launch in the Chesapeake Bay for the outcome of the British assault on Fort McHenry during the War of 1812.

1960

Iraq, Iran, Kuwait and Saudi Arabia form OPEC.

1975

Mother Elizabeth Ann Seton becomes the first native-born American saint in the Roman Catholic Church.

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period of time. If inspectors are refused access, the UN would then reconvene “to decide whatever action should be taken.”

Canada PM links 9/11 to ‘arrogant’ West

OTTAWA — Canadian Prime Minister Jean Chretien has linked the September 11 suicide attacks to the perceived arrogance and selfishness of the United States and the West. Chretien is the first leader of a major western nation to suggest that the suicide hijackers might have been motivated by what he describes as the misguided policies of a rich and powerful West that did not understand the need for restraint. The veteran prime minister, who has been in power for nine years, told the CBC in an interview aired late Wednesday that there was “a lot of resentment” about the way in which powerful nations treated the increasing number of poor and dispossessed people in the world.

Putin hardens stance on Georgia

MOSCOW — Russian President Vladimir Putin used the first anniversary of the terror attacks on the U.S. to issue an ultimatum to the ex-Soviet state of Georgia. In a televised speech on Wednesday to the Russian people — and in a letter on Thursday to world leaders — Putin said Georgia risked military strikes unless it curbed the rebels Moscow accuses of mounting acts of terror against Russia from the Pankisi gorge. Speaking on Wednesday, Putin called on the Georgian leadership to create a secure border, otherwise he reserved the right for Russia to act in its own self-defense. Putin said he would consider launching strikes unless Georgia took action to end “bandit” incursions across their common border.

Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER REPORT:

	<i>Today</i>	<i>Sunday</i>
Bagram:	<i>Dusty</i> H: 93F L: 55F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 91F L: 57F
Kandahar:	<i>Sunny</i> H: 97F L: 55F	<i>Sunny</i> H: 97F L: 57F
Kabul:	<i>Haze</i> H: 90F L: 52F	<i>Dusty</i> H: 84F L: 54F
Uzbekistan:	<i>Clear</i> H: 92F L: 56F	<i>Clear</i> H: 91F L: 55F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

FREEDOM WATCH

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

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Freedom Watch, an Army newspaper publication, is produced by the 28th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

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

To be added to the daily distribution list, e-mail reeba.critser@us.army.mil

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COALITION SPORTSZONE

The Day in Sports

(Compiled from ESPN.com)

Tennis: Pain with the gain

There was good news and bad news for Yevgeny Kafelnikov at the President's Cup on Friday. The third seed beat Paradorn Srichaphan to reach the final, but dislocated his finger in the process. After the match, Kafelnikov couldn't hold his racket and considered pulling out of the event. Even more important to Kafelnikov, the injury might hamper the Russian's status for the Davis Cup semis.

Soccer: Getting serious in Serie A

There hasn't been much room to breathe the past four seasons in the Serie A. This season will be no different. As the new battle gets under way Saturday, Inter, AC Milan and defending champion Juventus are all again frontrunners for the title. And the action will likely be welcomed by fans, who watched drama over finances and television rights during the offseason.

Associated Press Top 25

(as of Friday)

TEAM	PTS	Last week	This week
1. Miami, Fl. (68) (2-0)	1,844	d. Florida 41-16	@ Temple
2. Oklahoma (3) (2-0)	1,700	d. Alabama 37-27	vs. UTEP
3. Texas (3) (1-0)	1,667	Idle	@ N. C.
4. Tennessee (2-0)	1,642	d. M. Tenn. 26-3	Idle
5. Florida St. (2-0)	1,606	Idle	@ Maryland
6. Ohio St. (2-0)	1,341	d. Kent St. 51-17	vs. Wash. St.
7. Michigan (2-0)	1,333	d. W. Mich 35-12	@ N. Dame
8. Nebraska (3-0)	1,241	d. Utah St. 44-14	@ Penn St.
9. Georgia (1-0)	1,211	Idle	@ S. Carolina
10. Washington St. (2-0)	1,164	d. Idaho 49-14	@ Ohio St.
11. Virginia Tech (2-0)	1,135	d. Marshall 47-21	@ Tex. A&M
12. Florida (1-1)	1,027	lost to Miami 41-16	vs. Ohio
13. Oregon (2-0)	948	d. Fresno St. 28-24	vs. Idaho
14. Washington (1-1)	855	d. San Jose St. 34-10	Idle
15. Michigan St. (2-0)	700	d. Rice 27-10	vs. Calif.
16. Marshall (1-0)	649	Idle	@ V. Tech
17. USC (1-0)	538	Idle	@ Colorado
18. Colorado (1-1)	415	d. San Diego St. 34-14	vs. USC
19. No. Carolina St. (3-0)	402	d. Navy 65-19	vs. Wk. Fst.
20. Notre Dame (2-0)	374	d. Purdue 24-17	vs. Michigan
21. Texas A&M (2-0)	368	d. Pittsburgh 14-12	Idle
22. Wisconsin (3-0)	294	d. W. Virginia 34-17	vs. N. Illini
23. UCLA (1-0)	213	d. Col. St. 30-19	@ Ok. State
24. Colorado St. (2-1)	173	lost to UCLA 30-19	vs. Louisvil
25. LSU (1-1)	171	d. Citadel 35-10	vs. Mia, OH

Dropped Out: No. 22 South Carolina

2002 Major League standings

American League East				GB
N.Y. Yankees	93-54	.633	-	
Boston	83-63	.568	9.5	
Toronto	67-80	.456	26	
American League Central				GB
Minnesota	85-63	.574	-	
Chicago (AL)	73-75	.493	12	
Cleveland	66-81	.449	18.5	
American League West				GB
Anaheim	91-55	.623	-	
Oakland	91-55	.623	-	
Seattle	84-62	.575	7	
National League East				GB
Atlanta	92-53	.634	-	
Florida	72-75	.490	21	
Montreal	72-76	.486	21.5	
National League Central				GB
St. Louis	85-62	.578	-	
Houston	79-69	.534	6.5	
Cincinnati	72-75	.490	13	
National League West				GB
Arizona	90-56	.616	-	
San Francisco	83-63	.568	7	
Los Angeles	83-64	.565	7.5	



Thursday's scores

Baltimore 8-3 Boston
 Montreal 11-8 N.Y. Mets
 Cleveland 12-5 Minnesota
 Pittsburgh 5-3 Philadelphia
 Detroit 4-2 Kansas City
 Florida 13-3 Atlanta
 Chicago Sox 13-2 N.Y. Yankees
 Chicago Cubs 7-6 Cincinnati
 Toronto 5-2 Tampa Bay
 St. Louis 3-2 Houston
 Colorado 5-4 Los Angeles

**W
I
L
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C
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NL

1. San Francisco .568
 2. Los Angeles .565
 3. Houston .534
 4. Cincinnati .490
 4. Florida .490
 6. Philadelphia .486

AL

1. Anaheim .623
 1. Oakland .623
 3. Seattle .575
 4. Boston .568
 5. Chicago Sox .493
 6. Texas .473

CHLC, from Page 2

an Afghan general named Shafaq, who was killed by the Russians during the war.

The boys' school is a 21-classroom, two-story structure that teaches grades one through 12 to more than 1,200 students. UNICEF tents are also used as extra classrooms. Although education was able to continue in the building during construction, the students were limited to one floor while the other received the necessary repairs.

"The boys' school was targeted specifically because of its proximity to the (Bagram Air) base," Wiegand said.

The last school to be opened Thursday, the Karabach Bazaar School, in the Kabul Province, was the one that required the most work. Wiegand explained that the building had been used as a refugee camp for about a year.

"It had approximately 40 families, and if you think of a family here, it's approximately 10 people," he said. "So it was about 400 people living inside that school with no roof."

After working with the local government to find a new

place for the refugees, the CHLC and local contractors remodeled the building.

"The entire area was fully bombed out. We needed to give them a few areas of hope," Wiegand said. "Education is that big hope."

The CHLC oversaw the work of local contractors.

"We said if we get one project finished to task, we know we'd be successful," Wiegand said. "(Thursday), we saw three of the seven schools completed."

Wiegand added the CHLC's involvement with the schools won't stop now that the work is done. They will continue to distribute school supplies, check on the students and teachers, and ensure that the buildings hold up.

"Relationships made can't be forgotten," he said. "We'll be working to continue our relationship with the schools, and as we transition out, we will encourage and hope that our follow-on teams do the same thing."

"I would say we gave everybody a hand up, and not a handout," Wiegand said.

Work has begun on the CHLC's next three projects.

Solution from Friday's Campus Crossword in the Freedom Watch

(Courtesy of QUIZLAND.com)

D	R	I	F	T		S	P	C	A		Z	E	D			
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A	P	E			A	R	E	S	O		A	I	D	A	N	
M	E	N			N	A	S	T			G	E	E	N	A	



Jewish high holy days

Yom Kippur services will be Sunday and Monday in Karshi-Khanabad, Uzbekistan. Any Jewish soldier, who wishes to attend, can contact the unit chaplain or call DSN 318-231-4018.



By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support