

The Fort Huachuca Scout



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Patriots Day commemorates fallen innocents

THE HONORABLE DONALD H. RUMSFELD
SECRETARY OF DEFENSE

Patriots Day is a day to remember and honor the people who lost their lives in the attack on the Pentagon, along with those who perished in Pennsylvania and New York, and to celebrate their lives and their legacies. The Nobel Prize-winning American author, William Faulkner, said, "I believe that man will not merely endure; he will prevail. He is immortal because he has a soul, a spirit capable of compassion and sacrifice and endurance."

The patriots who lost their lives in the Pentagon on September 11 embody that spirit. They are all heroes, not just because they gave their lives, but because they lived their lives as free Americans, and many in service to their country.

We're a nation at war. Terrorists are trying to defeat

what we Americans stand for — for peace, freedom, tolerance and respect for human life. So we've undertaken an enormous effort to prevent them from spreading their creed of bloodshed, of hatred, of intolerance. This war on terrorism will be a long, hard struggle requiring our patience, our commitment and our will. Make no doubt about it, we are winning. And we're winning because we have a superb team of Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Coast Guardsmen and civilians who are 100 percent dedicated to winning this war. They've already made tremendous sacrifices. They're all patriots too, truly America's heroes.

Those who lost their lives in the Pentagon three years ago were aircrew members, innocent passengers, inside the Pentagon, officers and enlisted, active duty and reserve, civil servants, contractors. Some were just beginning their careers, and some had a long record of honorable service.

They were from all over the country and from a wide range of background. But they were all dedicated to serving our nation and defending our freedoms. For those in the Pentagon, their hard work helped build the armed forces that we have today and paved the way for this important fight. And our success on this war on terrorism wouldn't have been possible without the sacrifices they made before September 11th, 2001.

In my view, it wasn't just their deaths that made them heroes. They're heroes because they lived lives of dedication to duty and service to country. We're proud to have known them, and they'll be sorely missed.

They won't be forgotten by their friends and families, who love them, or the co-workers, who respect them, or the nation that's so grateful for all they did. And in the memory of all those killed at the Pentagon three years ago, we will not merely endure; we will prevail.

Afghan soldiers share our values, professionalism

BY MAJ. WILLIAM S. WYNN
OFFICE OF MILITARY COOPERATION, AFGHANISTAN

If you would exchange their AK-47s for M-16s and give some of them shaves, they would look very much like U.S. Army Soldiers.

That is the thought that went through my head as I looked at the Afghan National Army, or ANA soldiers sitting on the runway at Kabul International Airport in the early morning hours of Aug. 16. They were soldiers who were waiting to deploy into what could have been a combat operation against their own countrymen.

In fact, apart from their weapons, beards and dialects, the Afghan soldiers I observed reminded me of Soldiers of the 82nd Airborne Division, waiting on the "Green Ramp" at Pope Air Force Base, N.C., to depart on a mission. Certainly the speed at which the decision had been made to deploy these soldiers and how quickly they were ready to deploy rivaled that of the 82nd, a comment that was later echoed by a senior U.S. Army commander in Afghanistan.

As I continued to watch them, sitting on their equipment and wondering - as all soldiers do - when someone is going to tell them to move out, I noticed that each of the soldiers was dealing with the upcoming mission in his own way. Here and there small groups talked, some slept and some nervously teased each other. They had reason to be nervous. The news coming from Shindand was that there had been heavy factional fighting and a number of killed and wounded. Earlier deploying ANA soldiers had retaken the airport without incident but no one could be certain that this unit's deployment there would be equally peaceful.

Even without looking at their rank, I could easily make out the noncommissioned officers and officers. They moved from group to group and from soldier to soldier, encouraging them and reminding them of what the Afghan people expect of them. The overall atmosphere portrayed by the ANA officers, NCOs and soldiers was confident and professional. It was clear to me that these men were ready to answer the call to serve their country. First Sgt. Muradi Mohomad told me that his soldiers were ready to go and had achieved a high level of readiness and proficiency.

"Every one of them wants to go to Shindand and perform their mission of bringing peace and order to the Afghan citizens, that is why we joined the ANA," Mohomad said. As he told me this, I could see that this was not just someone telling a foreign officer what he thought the officer wanted to hear; this man believed in his troops, his

mission and the Afghan National Army. The word came down: load up and get on the plane. We boarded a Belgian C-130. The flight to the Shindand National Airport was about an hour and a half. It turned out to be an unexpected learning experience for me. While I am no stranger to military air transportation, this was my first flight with non-U.S. military personnel and at first, I felt awkward and isolated among the ANA troops.

That changed when the soldier sitting next to me, ANA Pvt. Abdul Kabir, began talking to me in English. It did not take long for me to become impressed with this ANA soldier. He was soon showing me pictures of his family from his wallet. While looking at them and talking with him about his family, it dawned on me again about the similarities that exist between soldiers, regardless of the country they serve. There is a commonality that transcends cultures and languages, a common bond that soldiers who volunteer to serve their country have among one another.

When we landed at Shindand Airport, the ANA soldiers exited the C-130 smartly and moved off to link up and augment their comrades who had arrived earlier. The success of the ANA during this operation was due to the army being created as a force from and for all the people of Afghanistan, said ANA Lt. Col. Sherbete Wardak, commander of the 5th Kandak, 3rd Brigade, one of three battalions sent to restore national government authority at Shindand. More unusual was our interview with four of Amanullah Khan's militia fighters.

It was Amanullah Khan's militia which had taken control of the airport from Herat Governor Ismail Khan's forces on Aug. 14. It was because of these fighters that the soldiers I had accompanied had been sent here, possibly to fight them, yet they proclaimed their gratefulness to the Afghan government for sending the ANA to restore peace and order - the peace and order that they had upset. The militia fighters also stated that they have been fighting for too long and with the presence of the ANA, they truly believe that they will experience peace.

"We want one united Afghanistan that is accountable to the Afghan people," said Mohammad Ishaq, who is Amanullah Khan's deputy commander. "The ANA is an army of our own." Brig. Gen. Afzel Aman, the ANA on-scene commander, said he was proud of his soldiers. "They have proven that they are capable of providing peace to the people of Afghanistan," he said.

I left with an appreciation for just how much the ANA has matured and changed into a truly professional military force in just a matter of two years, a force that is truly of the Afghan people and for the Afghan people.

The Fort Huachuca Scout

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Pictograph path gets MI renovation

BY AMANDA BAILLIE
SCOUT STAFF

Two ancient Indian sites have been given a modern day facelift, thanks to the efforts of a group of Soldiers.

Members of Company A, 306th Military Intelligence Battalion, spent five hours of their free time working to repair the old and worn viewing platforms which allow visitors to see rare painted rock art on Fort Huachuca.

The sites at Garden Canyon and nearby Rappell Cliffs Rock Shelter attract hundreds of tourists every year.

But the frequency of visits has taken its toll on the wooden steps, handrails and platforms leading to the pictographs, leaving them worn, in poor condition and possibly dangerous.

However, eight volunteers from the 306th have now replaced the missing planks, repaired the handrails and made the two areas much safer.

"I like to go hiking in Garden Canyon and I noticed that the bridges at the pictographs sites were in a poor state and virtually falling apart," explained Staff Sgt. Kenneth Long. "So I found out who was responsible for the upkeep of the sites and asked if we could fix them."

Staff at the fort's Environmental and Natural Resources Division were delighted with the offer of help.

"The MI guys were looking for a voluntary project and we were more than happy to accept," said Charlie Slaymaker, of ENRD. "We really appreciate folks doing things like this. These pictographs are one of the best assets the fort has. They are very unusual and uncommon in this part of Arizona."

Both sites are listed on the National Register of Historic Places and served as temporary campsites in the Prehistoric Era.

The rock art panels, painted on the

protected cliff walls, or may not have had ritual or ceremonial meaning to the campsite inhabitants.

The larger of the two areas at Garden Canyon, located near the top of the canyon, contains 53 identified elements painted on the roof and vertical face of the rock shelter.

The prehistoric pictographs, painted in red and black, date to circa A.D. 1300, while the Apache art, primarily white, date from circa A.D. 1700.

Although the viewing areas have been worked on by 306th, the Soldiers would like to do more.

"The supplies we had were paid for by the Directorate of Installation Sup-



Courtesy photo

The prehistoric wall art has a new walkway leading to it thanks to members of the 306th Military Intelligence Battalion.

port, but we still need more wood and paint to finish the job," said Long. "Hopefully we can get some more supplies, even it means fundraising for them, and go back again and complete all the work that needs doing."

Signal Soldiers take NVGs on moonlit drive

BY SGT. M. WILLIAM
PETERSEN
PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCOIC
11TH SIGNAL BRIGADE

Without the glow of the full moon, the trucks that recently took to the back roads of Fort Huachuca would have been nearly invisible. But while their headlights were turned off, the drivers were getting used to seeing just how bright the night can be.

Nearly 50 Soldiers from 269th Signal Company gathered after sundown Aug. 30 to take part in familiarization training with night vision goggles.

After the Soldiers had a chance to see the world through NVGs, they were given an opportunity to get behind the wheel and try blackout driving.

"Tonight the Soldiers are driving for only two miles just to get some beginning experience in driving with NVGs," said 1st Sgt. Bobby Williams, 269th Sig. Company first sergeant and primary instructor for the training. "Right now we're still refitting [from Operation Iraqi Freedom.] We're hoping within the next six months we'll be fully NVG-capable."

In convoys of five trucks at a time, ranging from humvees to a full-size wrecker, the "Power

Pack" Soldiers drove along a short route around the back roads of Fort Huachuca. In each vehicle was a pair of Soldiers, one with prior NVG experience and one trainee.

"I'm used to using [NVGs] already," said Spc. Rufaro Mudiwa, a generator mechanic with 269th Sig. Company during

"Your depth perception is very different in NVGs, so you have to always watch your footing and where you're going."

Spc. Rufaro Mudiwa

the training. "I used them in Korea, so this is refresher training for me."

The experience of the Soldiers already trained on NVGs was useful during this training, with each providing assistance to the NVG novices. As the newly-trained troops drove the route for their first time, they had the experience and eyes of another Soldier to help them.

"Before you wear NVGs, it helps to know your surround-

ings, get a good walk-through and take it slow," said Mudiwa. "Your depth perception is very different in NVGs, so you have to always watch your footing and where you're going."

"Everything looks different, so you just have to adjust your vision and get used to these things," said Spc. Philip Scott.

"We're starting to get re-focused on deployment and operations in blackout conditions," said Capt. Lisa Gniady, 269th Sig. Company commander. "This is just to get the Soldiers familiarized with the NVGs, so we're taking it slow. Our next phase will take the Soldiers driving a longer distance. Eventually we'll work our way into a complete system set-up under NVGs. That's our goal, but we're taking it slow."

In a tactical environment, it is common for troops to operate under blackout conditions to keep Soldiers safe and conceal troop movement from the enemy. Even a flashlight with a red lens can act as a beacon to enemies in some situations. With NVGs, light can be kept to a minimum without hindering a unit's mission.

For 269th Sig. Company, their mission of providing communications on the battlefield keeps them thinking tactically and training for any circumstance.

"We are a unique unit. We are



Photo by Sgt. M. William Petersen

Spc. Ny-Isha Peake of 269th Signal Company lets her eyes adjust to night vision goggles prior to rolling out on a short convoy during her company's NVG training on Aug. 30.

involved in any mission the 11th Signal Brigade takes on," said Williams. "There's always a Tri-Band needed, and we're the only Tri-Band company in [Network Enterprise Technology Command.]"

The AN/TSC-145 Tri-Band Satellite Communication Terminal is a highly-mobile tactical data package and satellite terminal all on a single humvee. The Tri-Band can provide communications capabilities to hundreds of Soldiers in a tactical environment.

With the operational tempo

always fast and furious, the Soldiers of 269th work hard to stay mission-ready. With some of its Soldiers still serving overseas and the potential for new missions always around the corner, the 269th takes pride in being one of the most deployed companies within the often-deployed 11th Sig. Bde., according to Williams.

"Despite people leaving and new people coming in, this company is always motivated," Williams said. "It's a continuous effort to stay trained, but the Soldiers have a lot of pride."

Pets used to treat war trauma

BY AMANDA BAILLIE
SCOUT STAFF

They say that a dog is man's best friend, and Jack Jones could not agree more.

The Vietnam veteran says his life has been totally transformed, thanks to the companionship of his faithful pet Chesty.

Quite by chance, Jones discovered that his new puppy had the ability to help him through his post-traumatic stress disorder, a condition he has suffered with since the 1960s.

Now, three years later and with the backing of the Veteran's Administration, Jones is training cane corso dogs, a rare Italian breed known for their stamina, to become assistive pets for other former Soldiers in similar situations.

"I bought Chesty when he was six-weeks-old and I noticed that when I started

to get anxious or angry he would lick my hand or do things that would distract me," explained Jones. "Really the dog trained me. I decided to take him to a training school and that got me talking to other people, which I was never able to do comfortably before. I also started leaving the house for longer periods because I could cope with situations more easily because of the dog."

Jones was just 18 when he found himself in Vietnam with the Marine Corps in 1965.

"I was part of the 1st Battalion 9th Marines and they called us the walking dead," he said. "There were no safe places and I was always on hyper alert, and have been ever since. I was a kid of 18 and I saw and did things no kid should be asked to do."

After six months Jones left Vietnam, with the physical and emotional scars that have haunted him all his life. He left the



Courtesy photo

Cane corso dogs, such as this one, are being used to help servicemembers through post traumatic stress syndrome.

Marines after four years, following orders from state to state and job to job. He was to return to Vietnam for a third time.

What followed was years of drifting

See **DOGS**, Page 9

CFC gears up to top last year's donations

BY SPC. JOY PARIANTE
SCOUT STAFF

The Combined Federal Campaign is running from Sept. 21 to Nov. 4 and post CFC coordinators are hoping to surpass last year's total contributions of more than \$419,000.

This year's goal is set at \$430,000 and coordinator Master Sgt. Robert W. Ellis is confident that Fort Huachuca can go above and beyond in dona-

tions.

"I have found that Fort Huachuca has a great community spirit and I'm very hopeful that we will see it continue to grow with this year's CFC," he said. Last year, only 25 percent of those eligible to donate did so. "We could really do great things if we could raise that level closer to fifty percent," Ellis explained.

The CFC is a forum for donations with over 1,900 differ-

ent charities and organizations participating in the program. The CFC makes donations easy by putting the groups all together allowing for single or multiple donations to be made, via cash, check or payroll deduction, by government employees.

"The goal of the CFC is to help raise funds for a wide variety of charitable organizations while making it as easy as possible for the government

employee," Ellis said.

In order for an agency to be eligible for CFC, Ellis said, they must apply every year and meet certain criteria to assure donators of the organization's authenticity. Organizations involved with the CFC include Boy Scouts, Girls Scouts, the YMCA and local youth programs. "Most of us have no idea how much we are affected by the agencies in the CFC and how much they do touch us

and those around us," Ellis said.

Each unit will have its own unit coordinator or keyworker, however, Ellis said that he and Capt. Rachel Thorne, another post coordinator, are available to answer any questions that possible donators may have.

"When we give to the CFC, we are helping not only others, but many times ourselves and family members," Ellis concluded.

NSPS addresses civilian employment issues

BY AMANDA BAILLIE
SCOUT STAFF

Employees were given the chance to raise their concerns over proposals for the biggest overhaul in the civilian personnel system in more than a century.

The Department of Defense is planning to bring in a new program, called the National Security Personnel System, which will see sweeping changes in areas such as pay increases, hiring and firing and labor relations.

Originally planned for implementation on Oct. 1, NSPS will not now be fully introduced until 2007/2008.

In the meantime, civilian employees are being asked for their views in a series of town hall meetings taking place in military installations across the United States.

David Snyder, Assistant G-1 for Civilian Personnel Policy, attended two sessions at Fort Huachuca, where he gave a presentation on NSPS, before taking questions from employees.

"Even though we do not have all the details, or know what it will look like, the DoD decided it was time to get out and talk to people," said Snyder. "Employees have the opportunity to see how the process lays out

and to provide input.

"NSPS gives us the authority to develop a new human resources system, labor relations and the appeals and grievance process."

The DoD has decided to bring in NSPS because the current system of hiring staff is too slow, jobs cannot compete with equivalent civilian companies and employees who perform poorly are given the same pay increases as those who do exceptionally well.

One of the biggest changes, which has also caused one of the biggest concerns for employees and unions, is the proposed pay for performance system.

Under NSPS, supervisors will be able to award employees who give an outstanding performance more pay than their colleagues who fail to achieve within the workplace.

Snyder said this could result, in some cases, in workers who perform badly receiving no pay increase at all.

A draft form of NSPS will be published in the Federal Register in December, and will be open for 30 days for comment.

It is hoped that a pilot scheme will run for six

months from July 2005, followed by a second pilot in January 2006. The plan is to fully implement NSPS by July 2007.

Snyder said concerns over pay for performance, and the ability of supervisors to assess employees fairly and professionally, had been raised at all of the town hall meetings held so far.

"The feedback has been similar and we have lots to do," he said. "There have been concerns about how supervisors will handle their responsibilities. People have also been concerned about the old boy network, which I think is unfounded. With the proper kind of education I think will allay any fears and in ten years' time we will look back and see what a good job we have done."

Union representative Bill Turner, of the American Federation of Government Employees, said after the second meeting: "I think it went well but we have had a lot of people coming to us with their concerns. The problem is that there are currently no specifics and we still have a long way to go."

Further information about NSPS is available on the Web site www.cpms.osd.mil/nsps or www.cpol.army.mil

Senior rater eliminated on select OERs

BY JOE BURLAS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Senior raters evaluating lieutenants, captains and warrant officers one and two will change the way they compare the rated officer with his or her peers in the active Army after Oct. 1.

Specifically, the change eliminates the use of block 7b of the Officer Evaluation Report, Department of the Army Form 67-9, for company grade officers and warrant officers one and two.

The current senior rater profiling

contains four ratings: above center of mass, center of mass, below center of mass retain and below center of mass do not retain. With Human Resources Command input, it reflects where the senior rater has rated other officers of equal rank in the past and where the senior leader thinks the rated officer falls in a direct peer-to-peer comparison.

Senior rater profiling will be retained for use in rating majors and above, and warrant officers three and above.

"We're getting away from that competitive peer-to-peer comparison at the

company grade and lower warrant officer level to allow more leader focus on developing leaders and fostering closer unit cohesion," said Maj. Gen. Dorian T. Anderson, Human Resources Command commanding general.

Along with the end of peer-to-peer comparison at the company level, the Army will also expand developmental plans and counseling requirements beyond junior officers to include captains and warrant officers two in the active Army effective Oct. 1. Future versions of DA Form 67-9-1a, Junior Officer De-

velopmental Support Form, will have the word "junior," deleted to reflect the inclusion of more senior officers and warrant officers.

The OER enhancements will eventually be made in the Army Reserve and National Guard, but each has its own unique requirements and timeline, officials said.

"Evaluations have to do two things: provide good solid feedback to the rated individual for development and it has to

See OER, below

FEGLI gives employees chance to change

BY SPC. SUSAN
REDWINE
SCOUT STAFF

The Federal Employees' Group Life Insurance Program, the largest group life insurance program in the world, is holding open season now through Sept. 30.

"It's an opportunity for federal employees who are enrolled in the program and want to change their options," said Tom O'Brien, Civilian Personnel Advisory Center director.

FEGLI covers more than 4 million federal employees, retirees and fami-

lies. Anyone who is eligible for the program can participate in the open season.

People who are not enrolled in the FEGLI program can elect basic and any or all optional coverages, and people who are already enrolled can in-

crease coverage if they so choose.

This is the first FEGLI open season in five years, said Michele Darby, human resources assistant at CPAC. Darby cautions that the changes people elect through open season won't become effective

until Sept. 1, 2005.

"The importance of open season is that employees will be able to change what they want to change," O'Brien said.

"I'd encourage people to take advantage of it because they don't usually have open season," Darby

said.

To make the changes to your insurance, go to the Employee Benefits Information System Web site, <https://www.abc.army.mil>, or call the Interactive Voice Response System at 877-276-9287.

OER, from above

provide information for the system to use to select those qualified individuals for promotion to the next higher grade," Anderson said. "The challenge is to find the balance between feedback for individual development and the information promotion boards need for selections. The enhancements of eliminating senior rater profiling, and at the same time requiring more senior involvement by raters in counseling and mentoring process, allows company grade officers to get more useable feedback about how they are doing in their job."

Company grade officers identified the lack of useful and ongoing feedback via OER requirements, and a "zero-defects" environment perception fostered by the OER process as major concerns during an exten-

sive look at the Army's methods of growing and developing leaders. The Officer Army Training and Leader Development Panel results that identified those concerns were released in May 2001.

In 2002, the Army moved to mask, or remove to the restricted file, all lieutenant OERs once the officer reached the rank of captain in order to address part of the panel's findings.

The decision to mask those OERs at the rank of captain was to allow junior officers more room to grow, ease the zero-defects perception and effectively remove comments from a junior officer's file that may be a reflection of an initial learning curve, said George Piccirilli, Evaluation Systems chief.

As far as the last OER enhancements go,

Piccirilli said they are "in keeping with the Army's spirit of transformation — we are truly focusing on leader development."

To those who might think that the elimination of senior rater profiling is a ploy to retain more company grade officers in the Army, Anderson said that assumption couldn't be further from the truth as promotion selection rates are the highest they have been in decades. The selection rate of captain promotion board over the past six years has been consistently more than 90 percent. The selection rate of the last captain board, held last fall, was 92.3 percent.

"There is a perception among officers in the field that they can make no mistakes — that if they do, they will get a senior leader middle box check and that means they're not

going to be promoted," Anderson said. "The truth is that the promotion system picks up plenty of officers with center-of-mass ratings. The current enhancements allow for more interactive and ongoing discussions between the rated officer and rater about how the officer is doing and allows for timely correction of errors along the way."

The enhancements will also bring deeper depth of experience and knowledge into the mentoring process, as brigade commanders will have to review the development plans battalion

commanders create for their captains, Anderson said. Under the current junior officer development system, company commanders create plans for their lieutenants and battalion commanders review them.

"The OER enhancements that we are talking about — expanding the requirements of the use of the developmental support form for company grade officers and warrant officers two, as well as eliminating the block check requirement for company grade officers and warrant officers one and warrant officers two

— allows for leaders to focus on the real development of their junior officers," said Anderson. "What we want to do here is ensure that our junior leaders are given the opportunity to be sufficiently mentored as future joint and expeditionary leaders and warriors."

An Army Knowledge Online mass mailing to all active Army officers went out Aug. 16 explaining the OER enhancements in greater detail. In addition, a HRC Military Personnel Message giving implementing instructions was sent the same day to all Army personnel activities.



Kudos

Instructor, Sailor, civilian recognized at luncheon

BY SGT. KRISTI T. SAAVEDRA
SCOUT STAFF

Three members of the Fort Huachuca community were recognized at the Military Affairs Committee luncheon held Sept. 1.

Capt. Antone Malone, small group instructor, military intelligence captain career course, Company A, 304th Military Intelligence Battalion, was awarded Instructor of the Quarter (third quarter).

"I feel honored and blessed to receive this award," said Malone, who was recently selected for promotion to

major.

Malone suggests to anyone who wants to receive the honor to rehearse, rehearse and rehearse.

"Just relax and have fun with it," said Malone.

Sailor of the Quarter was awarded to Petty Officer 1st Class Brian Mullis, Center for Cryptology Detach-



Capt. Antone Malone

ment Fort Huachuca leading petty officer.

Mullis, now a four time winner of the title, was unable to attend the ceremony.

Chief Petty Officer Charles Abrams, of the cryptology detachment, accepted the award in Mullis' absence.

"He's my right



Philip H. Martin

hand man," Abrams said. "Without him we couldn't do the job we have."

Civilian of the Month was awarded to Philip H. Martin, Raymond W. Bliss Army Health Center, who has been working for the government since 1972.

Afghanistan prepares rehearsal for election

ARMY NEWS SERVICE

The Afghan government is preparing to conduct a dress rehearsal for the country's Oct. 9 presidential election.

The date of the exercise, which will address voting procedures, logistics and security, will be announced later, a Combined Forces Command Afghanistan official said Monday.

The U.S.-led coalition in Afghanistan, the U.N.'s International Security Assistance Force, and the U.N. Assistance Mission in Afghanistan will assist the Afghan government in conducting the exercise, the spokesman said.

More than eight million Afghans, out of an estimated eligible voting population of nine million, have registered to vote in the election, according to research by the Institute for Afghan Studies. Forty-one percent of registered Afghan voters are women. The Institute for Afghan Studies is a nonprofit, non-political and independent organization, founded and run by young Afghan scholars from

around the globe. The mission of the institute, according to its Web site, is to be a center for research and a credible source of information about Afghanistan.

President Hamid Karzai is on the list of candidates along with 17 others — including a woman — hoping to be chosen for Afghanistan's highest office. Afghan parliamentary elections are slated for the spring of 2005.

The new Afghan army is being counted upon to contribute heavily to security needs for the elections, the command spokesman said. In fact, the official said, recent Afghan National Army operations "have greatly honed the skills and abilities of ANA soldiers and units and will enhance the effectiveness of their performance in the election security mission."

Reconstruction missions continue across Afghanistan, the official noted, with the opening of more roads, schools and hospitals. In Gardez, for example, project assessments began for the building of two schools, an irrigation well, and a possible hydroelectric plant.

The program to gather weaponry turned in by dis-

banded militia also continues, the official said. About 1,300 heavy weapons have been turned in to the ANA in the regions in and near Kabul, Gardez, Mazar-e Sharif, and Jalalabad. Heavy weapons turn-ins are expected to start in Konduz sometime this week.

However, anti-Afghan-government activity continues, with insurgent forces attacking pro-government and coalition troops in Oruzgan Province Sept. 4. No coalition casualties occurred during the fighting, and two suspected enemy fighters were later captured and detained for questioning, the official said.

In another Sept. 4 attack, a U.S. Protections and Investigations vehicle detonated an improvised explosive device in Gazni Province. No one was injured in the explosion. Afghan soldiers detained two suspects at the scene.

Coalition forces in Afghanistan also fought insurgent troops in Zabul Province Saturday, killing two of the enemy and wounding one. The injured enemy was taken to a coalition medical facility for treatment.

Women's Equality highlighted in Afghanistan

BY STAFF SGT. MONICA R. GARREAU
SPECIAL TO AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

The ratification of the 19th Amendment to the U.S. Constitution on Aug. 26, 1920, was a turning point for America. The amendment officially acknowledged all U.S. citizens, regardless of gender, as equal. Most importantly, it gave women the right to vote. Each year, citizens across America recognize this date as Women's Equality Day.

"Women were the last group to be allowed the right to vote," said Master Sgt. Carol Cheley, Combined Joint Task Force 76 equal opportunity adviser. "It opened the doors for everything else. Once we had the right to vote, it

gave us a voice in the government and a voice in the decision-making process. And because of that voice, women have been given the right to defend their country."

The picketing, hunger strikes, political rallies and petitions of the Women's Suffragist Movement in America lasted nearly 20 years. All this was brought to an end when the Constitution was amended with the phrase, "The right of citizenship of the United States to vote shall not be denied or abridged by the United States or by any State, on account of sex."

And with the assistance and guidance the coalition is providing to the newly formed democratic Afghan government, local women will not have to picket or hold hunger

strikes to make their rights known. By recognizing Women's Equality Day, "we present democracy to the Afghan people, (showing them) that everyone has a right to citizenship and a voice in the government, to include the women."

The Joint Electoral Management Body has reported that 41 percent of registered voters are women — an astounding number, considering the harsh restrictions placed on the women of Afghanistan during the ruthless reign of the Taliban.

With the progress made since the fall of the Taliban regime, the women of this country have been granted many rights that were out of their reach for decades. If the last 84 years in America are any indicator, the women of Afghanistan have a bright future ahead of them.

We still remember, 2004

Three years later, a nation still honors some who gave all

Like many cities, towns, community organizations and schools across the U.S., members of the FortHuachuca community will gather with local residents to mark Patriots Day and remember the September 11 attacks and honor those who were killed that day by the enemies of freedom.

Three years ago, more than 3,000 innocent people lost their lives when a calm September morning was shattered by terrorists driven by hatred and destruction.

On Sept. 10 and 11, Fort Huachuca will commemorate the third anniversary of terrorist attacks that occurred in New York City; Shanksville, Pa.; and the Pentagon on Sept. 11, 2001.

To remember, honor and celebrate our freedom, post military and civilian personnel will observe a moment of silence at their desks or in small groups at 10:10 a.m., Friday, Sept. 10.

On Saturday, Sept. 11, post flags will be flown at half-staff. At 7:10 a.m. Saturday, the time of the last terrorist attack, the post public address system will play "America the Beautiful."

To honor the memory of those who lost their lives in the terrorist attacks on Sept. 11; respect the courage of those who survived and overcame many obstacles in their recovery; and applaud the heroism of those who risked their lives to help others; members of the post community are encouraged to fly our nation's flag and wear red, white and blue on Friday and Saturday.

"September 11, 2001 will always be a fixed point in the life of America," said President George W. Bush in an address to the nation. "The loss of so many lives left us to examine our own. Each of us was reminded that we are here only for a time, and these counted days should be filled with things that last and matter: love for our families, love for our neighbors, and for our country; gratitude for life and to the giver of life."

(Editors note: This article was compiled from DoD news releases and a local news release)



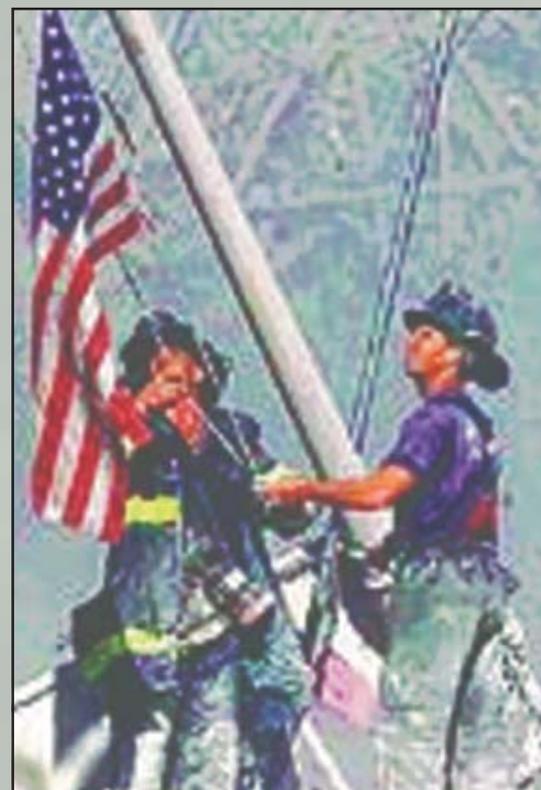
Courtesy photo

The World Trade Center towers in New York City were the first targets in America struck by terrorism.



Courtesy photo

The Pentagon was also struck by a hijacked airplane, which destroyed a section of the Washington, D.C. building.



Courtesy photo

Firefighters raise the flag to honor those who died in New York, Washington, D.C. and Pennsylvania and showing that our pride was still strong.

Range closures

Today – AD, AF, AL, AU, T1, T1A, T2
 Friday – AD, AF, AL, AS, AU
 Saturday – AG, AU, T1, T1A, T2
 Sunday – AU, T1, T1A, T2
 Monday – AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2, T3
 Tuesday – AK, AL, AM, AU, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2, T3
 Wednesday – AH, AK, AL, AR, AU, AW, AY, T1, T1A, T2, T3
 For more information, call Range Control 533-7095.

Changes in speed limits

Since August 19, there have been some changes made to the speed limits posted at the Main and East Gates. These changes will aid in improving the flow of traffic entering and exiting the installation on a daily basis.

Outbound lane speeds at both gates have been changed. East Gate outbound lane speed has increased from 25 mph to 45 mph, while the Main Gate outbound lane speed has changed from 25 mph to 35 mph due to the completion of construction. There were changes made to the inbound lane speeds of either gate. Posted speed limits should be adhered to by all drivers of any vehicle.



Heritage Partnership survey

In an effort to better serve the needs of the Army community in and around Fort Huachuca, the Sierra Vista Army Community Heritage Partnership survey is now available. Military, civilian personnel, retirees and their families are invited to provide input. Pick up surveys at the Commissary, Jeannie's Diner, the PX and the Thunder Mountain Activity Centre or on the Fort Huachuca homepage. For more information, call Holly Sickels at 538-1427.

MP Ball

The 18th Military Police Detachment will hold its annual ball at 5 p.m. Friday at Thunder Mountain Activity Center.

Fort Huachuca welcomes newcomers

Army Community Service wants to welcome newcomers to the Fort Huachuca community. The Huachuca Welcome - a newcomer's orientation - is scheduled for 9 a.m.,

Friday and again, Sept. 24, at Murr Community Center. The orientation provides one-stop access to the information needed to make the transition to Fort Huachuca a smooth one for spouses and family members. Information about school and youth programs, health care services, employment assistance programs and more will be provided. A tour of the post is included.

Pre-register for the welcome by call ACS at 533-2330. For more information, call Pamela Allen at 533-5919.

AFTB Level I marathon class

Army Family Team Building will offer AFTB Level I as a "marathon" one-day class, 8 a.m. – 5 p.m., Saturday, at Murr Community Center, Building 51301. AFTB Level I, also known as "Army 101" provides an introduction to Army life. For more information or to register, contact Andrea Sovern, AFTB program manager, at 533-3686 or e-mail huachuca_aftb@hotmail.com. You may also sign up for the class by calling Army Community Service at 533-2330.

Crime free housing workshop

The Sierra Vista Police Department will be conducting a crime free housing workshop from 8 a.m. to 5 p.m. Tuesday in the Police Department Training Room. The workshop will cover crime prevention techniques, applicant screenings, ways to combat illegal activity and fair housing laws.

For more information, call the police department at 452-7500.

AFTB Level II

Army Family Team Building will offer AFTB Level II, 8:30 a.m. – 2 p.m., Tuesday – Sept. 17, at Murr Community Center, Building 51301.

For more information or to register, contact Andrea Sovern, AFTB program manager, at 533-3686 or e-mail huachuca_aftb@hotmail.com. You may also sign up for the class by calling Army Community Service at 533-2330.

ASE certification examination

The Automotive Service Excellence Certification Examination Registration deadline for the November test cycle is noon on Tuesday. Registration forms may be picked up at the Testing Office at the Education Center, Building. 52104, Room 3. Up to three tests are funded by DANTES for active duty Soldiers with eligible MOSs. Unfunded tests are \$24 each for regu-

lar tests and \$48 for advanced tests. All examinees must pay the \$31 registration fee.

Additional information can be found on the Web at www.ase.com or the DANTES Web site at www.dantes.doded.mil. Click on the Certification Programs and then Fully Funded.

For more information, call Diane Lee Jette, test examiner, at 533-1701.

Finding writers all over post

The Fort Huachuca public affairs office is providing a stringers course 8 a.m.- 4:30 pm, Sept. 24 at the quality training center. The course will be an all day affair and taught by personnel from PAO.

The stringers course provides Soldiers and civilians with the basics of public affairs, to include classes on elements of news, broadcast news, hometown news release, community relations, feature writing, straight news, external medial, sports writing, photojournalism, interview techniques, stylebook highlights, crisis communications and the commanders access channel.

Golden Knights tryouts

The U.S. Army Parachute Team, "Golden Knights" are currently accepting applications to attend their annual Assessment and Selection Program in September. A downloadable version of the application is available on the Golden Knights' Web site: www.armygoldenknights.com. To become a Golden Knight, applicants must have a minimum of 150 freefall parachute jumps, a flawless civilian and military record and volunteer to become Airborne qualified. Applications are now being accepted, packets can be sent to the U.S. Army Parachute Team P.O. Box 70126, Fort Bragg, NC 28307. For more information, call Golden Knight Administration Office at 910-396-4800.



Give blood

The American Red Cross is asking for support to help save lives by replenishing the blood supply due to summer shortages. During the summer months the demand for blood has outpaced the donations received. For more information, call 800-GIVE-LIFE.

Keep your pets from scratching, prevent fleas

BY 1ST LT. JOSHUA BAST
 ENTOMOLOGIST

BROOKE ARMY MEDICAL CENTER, FORT SAM
 HOUSTON, TEXAS

Fleas are tiny wingless insects that annoy pets and disgust owners. When an adult flea bites an animal, a variety of irritating and/or allergy-causing substances from its saliva are injected into the skin, causing an itchy area. After a blood meal, the fleas drop off the host to lay eggs.

After the immature stages develop into adults, they wait for another host to come along. Humans can serve as incidental hosts, but fleas cannot survive solely on human blood. Fleas enjoy temperatures in the 70s, and like 70 to 80 percent humidity. Depending on whether your pet resides indoors or outdoors, this can make fleas a year-round

problem in some areas.

Individuals who don't even own a pet are often aggravated by flea bites. The bites are usually from fleas carried by feral cats roaming the neighborhood or entering spaces under the house. Adult fleas may enter the first floors of the buildings through small cracks or other openings and subsequently bite people inside.

This is one reason the feeding of stray dogs and cats (intentional or otherwise) is not permitted on installations. Personnel must place rotten (or decaying) materials in sealed garbage bags and close lids to refuse containers to minimize attracting flea-infested animals.

Flea allergy is an extremely itchy condition that can be triggered by only a couple of flea bites. In dogs, the abdomen and rump are the most commonly affected areas. These itchy areas may develop oozing scabs. Cats,

on the other hand, typically overgroom; they may have hair loss but not develop skin lesions.

Many times residents returning home from vacation will find their houses infested with fleas soon after their return. This is because the developing immature fleas can go into a form of hibernation when no hosts are present. When the pet or residents return, the vibrations cause all the fleas to mature into ravenous adults all at the same time.

In heavily infested areas, flea-control treatment must include all pets and the pet's indoor and outdoor environments. Skipping any of these areas may mean treatment won't be successful. If there's not a heavy infestation, treating the pet may be all that's necessary. Extensive vacuuming and washing of your pet's bedding is also important to prevent adults from developing.

Flea preventatives are the simplest way to treat animals. If your pet has flea allergies, a topical adult flea preventative is better than an oral product. The goal is to kill adults before they bite so that the animal is not exposed to saliva. Many products require monthly application. Preventive flea treatments will neither harm you or your pets due to mild toxicity and targeted modes of action.

Getting rid of fleas will make both pet and owner happy. For more information on specific flea-control products or with questions about diagnosing and treating flea allergies in your pet, contact your installation's Veterinary Treatment Facility. If your home is infested with fleas despite treating your pet, contact your installation pest control or, if living off-post, a commercial exterminator.

DOGS, from Page 4

also suffering from severe mood swings, flashbacks and an inability to control his anger or cope with everyday situations, particularly in a crowd of people.

This eventually led to him leaving his job with Social Security and taking off to live in a California forest for three years.

"I lived in a tent by a lake so I was able to fish and catch animals to eat. The forest rangers just left me alone and I just stayed away from people," he said.

Jones eventually tired of his outdoor lifestyle and managed to get a job back at the Social Security office.

One night he was watching television and came across a program about post-traumatic stress disorder.

"A light bulb went on in my head," he said. "I listened to what was being said and realised this was what had happened to me."

Jones decided to start a Veterans' Rap Group, where former servicemen could talk about their experiences and their concerns since leaving the forces.

"We could share things and find out that we weren't crazy after all," he said.

He also started seeing a counsellor, who officially diagnosed him with post-traumatic stress disorder.

And, along with another vet, he lobbied Congress to get an outreach program for veterans started in his local town, where he used his experiences to become a counsellor.

He later transferred to another program in Hawaii, but the stresses and strains of his demanding role took their toll until he eventually "flipped out".

"I started driving up into the mountains and visualising myself driving off into the ocean," he recalls. "Then one day I just totally flipped out and attacked one of the supervisors. I don't even remember doing it."

Eventually, after moving back to California and then to Mexico, Jones and his fourth wife Pamela were persuaded by friends living in Benson to move to Whetstone, near Sierra Vista. Liking what they saw, the couple bought a house four years ago and Jones has no plans to move on.

Until three years ago he could not leave the house unless he had a gun. Today, his dog Chesty, one of four Cane Corsos he owns, provides him with the reassurance he needs.

"As soon as he senses me getting anxious or enraged he will jump up and lick me, taking my mind off other things," said Jones, 57, who also takes medication and attends a weekly therapy session. "Having the dogs also means my wife can now go out and work, whereas she couldn't leave me before. It has totally transformed my life. I even went for a meal in a restaurant for the first time in many years."

After attending a 12-week assisted dog training course earlier this year, funded by the VA, Jones now intends to start breeding Cane Corsos, which can then be matched to other veterans.

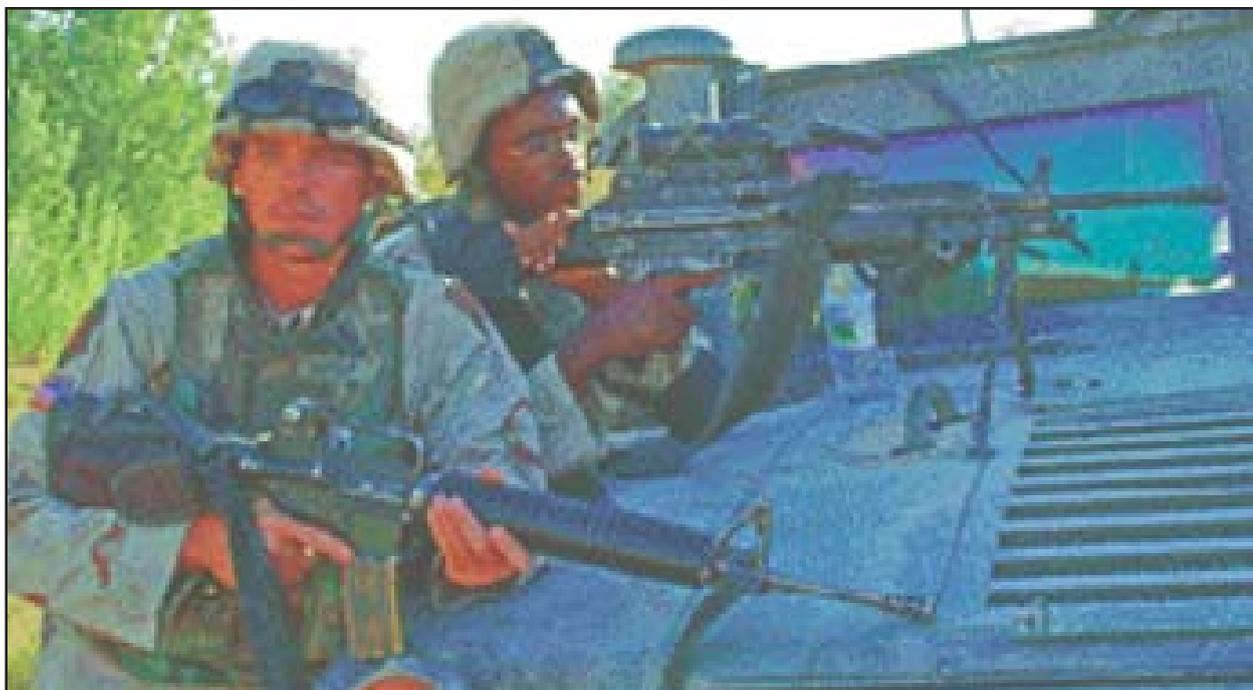
He has also set himself up as a dog trainer, offering basic obedience classes.

Anyone interested in finding out more about assisted service dogs can call Jack Jones at 456-0038.

Don't miss it



The Commissary's annual fall Case Lot Sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. on Sept. 17 and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sept. 18. Some items will be as much as 68 percent of regular price. Come early for best selection.



Look out

Pvt. William Knight (left) and Pfc. Gregory Guyton keep a sharp watch for suspicious activity as other 1st Infantry Division soldiers and members of the Iraqi National Guard sweep for improvised explosive devices during a joint day patrol outside the city of Baqubah, Iraq, on Aug. 23, 2004. For more information on the goings on in Iraq, see Pages 16 and 17. DoD photo by Pfc. Elizabeth Erste, U.S. Army. (Released)

GWOT : untold

Iraqi army opens new base

BY SGT. JARED ZABALDO
AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Iraqi flag was raised over the newly refurbished and rebuilt forward training base in Numaniyah, Iraq, Sept. 1 in a ceremony on the station's parade grounds, signaling an end to the roughly \$165 million coalition project.

The opening coincides with the arrival of the Iraqi Intervention Force's 3rd Battalion recruits, who join two

other battalions currently training at the base. Numaniyah will serve as the Iraqi army's 2nd Brigade headquarters. The base is a step toward rebuilding the nation, said the 5th Division commander.

Since renovation began early this year, coalition efforts have included work on existing buildings — mostly shells without windows, electricity, and septic systems — and the addition of new structures, sewers, electricity, air conditioning, security and various other projects on the base.

Located roughly 90 miles southeast of Baghdad in the Wasit province, the base was formerly a project under construction by Yugoslav contractors for the former regime. It will now operate as a training base for new recruits and serve as the home station for three battalions of the Iraqi Intervention Force, the Iraqi army's counterinsurgency wing.

In addition to serving as a much-needed training base for the Iraqi armed forces, the base employs roughly 2,000 workers from surrounding areas. Local citizens have been in on the project from the ground up, helping or employed in many critical aspects including school construction and refurbishments, medical assistance and water projects.

Joining bases in Kasik, Kirkuk, Taji and Kurkush, Numaniyah may also include base housing for soldiers' families. Two base dining facilities will be complete in the coming months, as well, with the capacity to feed roughly 3,000 soldiers each.

An Iraqi Police Services regiment also is slated to begin special military operations in urban terrain training—and counterinsurgency instruction with the arrival of a large officer class later this month.

About 2,500 soldiers are garrisoned and training at Numaniyah.



A Bradley rolls out of entry control point at International Airport, marking the official transfer of Security forces.

Infantry ensu

BY PFC. ERIK LEDREW
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

For every company of armored tanks and Bradleys that pushed into the volatile portion of Baghdad's Sadr City during the Iron Horse Brigade's Operation Iron Fury, there was a platoon of dismounted Soldiers like the infantrymen of White Platoon, "Comanche" Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment.

When the call came for 2-5 Cavalry to mount up in their Bradleys and move into Sadr City at 5:15 p.m., August 17, the Soldiers of White Platoon crammed into the troop transport area at the rear of their Bradleys, where they sat with equipment and weapons resting on their laps, waiting to hear that command ring out over the troop speaker in back: "Dropping ramp!"

After rolling out of Camp Eagle's gate, Comanche proceeded to "Route Charlie," a street in Sadr City that was their designated area of responsibility for the operation.

Around 8:15 p.m. that evening, after hours of slowly creeping up Route Charlie in the hopes of spotting an improvised explosive device before it could detonate on one of their vehicles, the Soldiers reached an intersection that was their first-day objective. It was time for the White Platoon to dismount.



Photo by Spc. Brandi Marshall



Photo by Tech. Sgt. Scott Reed, U.S. Air Force

Army Spc. Tim Brunson gives the thumbs up to some Iraqi children during a Medical Civil Assistance Program on June 22. Brunson is a tank driver from the 1-185th Armor Division.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Ashley Brokop, U.S. Air Force

U.S. Army soldiers pull out mortar rounds, fuse-like items and car batteries in the An Najaf Cemetery in Iraq, on Aug. 15.

success stories



Photo by Spc. J. Tashun Joyce

...ent one, the main entrance to Baghdad
...turnover of force protection duties to Global

ires success

Under the imminent threat of rocket-propelled grenade attacks, possible IEDs and sporadic small arms fire, the platoon proceeded to clear several nearby buildings and alleyways, before locating a house where the Soldiers could adequately provide overwatch for the rest of their company staged along Route Charlie.

They spent the night there, hunkered down in make-shift guard positions on the roof of the building, defending the slew of armored vehicles on the streets below from would-be assailants and eliminating persistent insurgent snipers slinging lead their way.

After a night filled with mortars, sniper fire and very little sleep, the Soldiers raided a nearby house, netting a slew of detainees and a variety of weapons, such as a Dragunov sniper rifle, an AK-47, an RPG launcher with several armor-piercing rocket-propelled grenades and a couple of mortars. They even found a Mahdi Army uniform.

At noon, the platoon piled up in the back of their Bradleys, linked up with the rest of Comanche Company and moved-out to establish another strong-point further up Route Charlie.

The platoon's actions on the first day, and the days that followed were only a small part of Operation Iron Fury. The Soldiers insist that it's all in a day's work for a 2-5 Cavalry trooper.

Brighter future for people of Iraq

AMERICAN FORCES PRESS SERVICE

Iraq's future is a little brighter on many fronts. Another electricity generator has been brought on line and a shelter for abused Iraqi women has opened its doors, and Iraqi border guards now have night goggles and new Jeeps.

An electricity generator that had fallen into disrepair after decades of war and neglect is back on line today in northern Iraq, producing enough electricity to service 51,000 Iraqi homes.

The 17-megawatt generator at the Mullah Abdullah Power Station in the Tameem governorate is the sixth generator that Iraqi and U.S. engineers have brought on line this month.

"This is very good news," said Raad Shalal, a senior Iraq Ministry of Electricity official. "This will help to reduce the shortage of electricity across the country."

Iraq and U.S. engineers have reduced the shortage this month by adding 169 megawatts to the national grid. This brings the grid to a total of more than 53,000 megawatts—enough to service 15.6 million Iraq homes. This far exceeds the pre-war electricity level of 4,400 megawatts, officials said.

"We know how important electricity is to the safety and security of the Iraqi people, and we continue to work on their behalf with the ministry to bring the country additional electricity," said Lt. Col. Jeffery Ogden, director of the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers' Restore Iraqi Electricity Directorate.

"The increase in demand is a good sign of a thriving economy emerging from three decades of isolation."

Brighter futures don't always come in the form of incandescent lighting, though.

Iraq's first safe house for battered and abused women proves that good things can come out of the rubble of war.

The Baghdad safe house, which opened its doors in April, is the brainchild of Army Capt. Stacey Simms, who

worked for the 352nd Civil Affairs Command while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. Simms began this project under the guidance of the Coalition Provisional Authority and in conjunction with the Ministry of Labor and Social affairs.

The project was handed over to Maj. Martha Boyd, senior consultant, Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs, Iraq Reconstruction Management Office, in February.

With the transfer of power to the interim Iraqi government, the women's shelter has fallen under the minister of labor and social affairs. The safe house operates on a \$75,000 annual budget, which includes payroll.

For the first time, Iraqi women have a place to escape from physical or sexual abuse, officials said.

Social services for Iraqi women are often limited, especially for women over the age of 18. Iraqi orphanages typically take responsibility for women under 18 and in need of help. They consider those over 18 on a case-by-case basis, but those arrangements are only temporary, officials explained.

The safe house opened at an undisclosed location within the city limits of Baghdad for the protection of the clients and staff. It also "provides hope in this country that domestic violence does not need to be tolerated," Boyd said in the release.

Open 24 hours a day, seven days a week

under tight security, the shelter can host up to 16 women. Ideal capacity, however, is no more than eight people so the staff can provide individual attention.

The safe house not only provides temporary protection, but also educates the family that abuse is not acceptable. If an Iraqi woman is raped, the shelter can protect her from honor killings—an accepted cultural practice in some parts of Iraq.

In another development that will brighten night border patrols in Iraq, members of the Iraqi Border Patrol battalion in Diyanah received 25 sets of night-vision goggles and 10 Jeep Libertys from Multinational Corps Iraq on Aug. 28.

The goggles were purchased by Task Force Olympia with funds from the Commander's Emergency Response Program, and cost about \$100,000. The goggles will help the IBP conduct night patrols to capture smugglers near the border.

Multinational Corps Iraq donated the vehicles so the IBP soldiers will have enough vehicles to conduct multiple missions at the same time, officials said.

"These vehicles will make our jobs easier and allow us to prevent smugglers from crossing the border," said the IBP logistics officer. Until now, the companies only had enough vehicles to conduct one mission at a time.



Tech. Sgt. Scott Reed, U.S. Air Force

Service News



AF provides aid to Russians

Two C-130 crews from the 38th Airlift Squadron at Ramstein Air Base, Germany, flew medical and humanitarian supplies Monday.

The crews dropped off about 36,000 pounds of medical and humanitarian supplies for use by relief agencies in the treatment and support of hundreds of victims of the recent terrorist act in Beslan, Russia.

The Russian government requested assistance after the U.S. offered support. The officials here said they appreciated the aid.

"They said it was nice that our countries were in such community with one another, ... that we were living like brothers in the midst of tragedy," said Air Force Staff Sgt. Clayton E. Bronnee, a Russian linguist with the 426th Information Operations Squadron. "They said they felt very bad for us when 9/11 happened, and they appreciate our help and support now

that this tragedy has befallen them."

The humanitarian supplies included sheets, blankets, medicine, burn kits, bandages and dressings, as well as specialized medical equipment.

Navy Doctor earns award

Navy Orthopedist Capt. Marlene DeMaio received the Frank Brown Berry Award in Federal Health Care in August in recognition of her research and development of better body armor for Marines in combat zones.

Awarded annually by U.S. Medicine magazine, in partnership with Delta Dental, the Brown Berry Award recognizes an outstanding contribution to medicine emanating from the federal sector.

DeMaio's project, completed while she was assigned to the Armed Forces Institute of Pathology, focused on evaluating three different types of body armor systems.

DeMaio and her team of medical doctors, engineers, corpsmen and technicians,

knew that protective gear was effective, but military weapons could cause injuries behind the armor.

"The project was a team effort to validate the efficacy of the Interceptor body armor system, and to gather information to develop and improve body armor," said DeMaio. "It is saving lives, by all accounts."

The award is open to federal health professionals from all fields, including research, administration and clinical practice.

1st Recon Bn. made history

Twelve Marines and Sailors of the 1st Reconnaissance Battalion, 1st Marine Division, received the Navy and Marine Corps parachutist wings for conducting parachute operations in a combat zone in Iraq on Aug. 28.

The gold wings, considered by many an "airborne promotion," are a distinction of an advanced Navy and Marine Corps parachutist. The ceremony, held at Camp Fallujah, Iraq, was unique in of itself.

Within the past year, many of the 12 1st Recon Battalion parachutists earned their silver wings, the U.S. Army parachute badge, upon successfully completing the Airborne Course, Fort Benning, Ga.

The coveted gold wings, however, require more experience than what was achieved at the three-week basic airborne school.

To bring home the gold, parachutists must successfully complete a minimum of five additional static-line or free-fall jumps with a Navy or Marine Corps unit.

Jumping in a combat zone, during Operation Iraqi Freedom, waived that requirement for the unique dozen of 1st Recon Battalion parachutists.

For some of the Marines, it was only their sixth jump, right out of airborne school. Regardless, senior leaders of the unit were impressed by their mission accomplishment under stressful combat conditions.

Ultimate sacrifice paid in support of OIF

The Department of Defense announced the deaths of two Soldiers, one Sailor and four Marines who were supporting Operation Iraqi Freedom over the past week.

Spc. Joseph C. Thibodeaux, 24, of Lafayette, La., died Sept. 1 in Hawijah, Iraq, when his patrol came under enemy attack. Thibodeaux was assigned to the Army's Headquarters and Headquarters Company 2nd Brigade Combat Team, 25th Infantry Division (Light), Schofield Barracks, Hawaii. The incident is under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Nicholas Perez, 19, of Austin, Texas and **Capt. Alan Rowe**, 35, of Hagerman, Idaho both died Friday as a result of enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Perez was assigned to 3rd Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif. Rowe was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Lance Cpl. Nicholas Wilt, 23, of Tampa, Fla., died Friday due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Wilt was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

1st Lt. Ronald Winchester, 25, of Rockville Cen-

ter, N.Y., died Friday due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Winchester was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif.

Petty Officer 3rd Class Eric L. Knott, 21, of Grand Island, Neb., was killed Saturday when the area in which he was working was struck by enemy fire. Knott died of shrapnel wounds. Knott was assigned to Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 4, Port Hueneme, Calif.

Staff Sgt. Gary A. Vaillant, 41, of Trujillo, Puerto Rico, died Sunday in Khalidiya, Iraq, when his tank ran over an improvised explosive device. Vaillant was assigned to the 2nd Battalion, 72nd Armor, Camp Casey, Korea. The incident is under investigation.

Pfc. Devin J. Grella, 21, of Medina, Ohio, died Monday in Iraq, after an improvised explosive device exploded near his convoy vehicle. Grella was assigned to the Army Reserve's 706th Transportation Company from Mansfield, Ohio. The incident is under investigation.

Spc. Tomas Garces, 19, of Weslaco, Texas, died Monday in Baghdad, Iraq, when his convoy was attacked by enemy forces using an improvised explosive device. Garces was assigned to the Army National Guard's 1836th Transportation Company from Fort Bliss, Texas. The incident is under investigation.

Lance Cpl. Michael J. Allred, 22, of Hyde Park, Utah., **Pfc. David P. Burrige**, 19, of Lafayette, La., **Lance Cpl. Derek L. Gardner**, 20, of San Juan Capistrano, Calif., **Lance Cpl. Quinn A. Keith**, 21, of Page, Ariz., **Lance Cpl. Joseph C. McCarthy**, 21, of Concho, Calif., **Cpl. Mick R. Nygardbekowsky**, 21, of Concord, Calif. and **Lance Cpl. Lamont N. Wilson**, 20, of Lawton, Okla. died Monday due to enemy action in Al Anbar Province, Iraq. Gardner was assigned to Headquarters Battalion, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif. The other Marines were assigned to 2nd Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force, Camp Pendleton, Calif.



2004 Fun Festival Entertainment

This year's Fun Festival will offer a variety of entertainment for all ages and musical tastes.

Rap and Hip Hop will be featured Sept. 17, with Tucson's talented, young star, Dario performing from 10:15 - 11:30 p.m. His style encompasses songs in Spanish, Pop, R&B and Hip Hop rhythms.

Saturday's lineup will feature a Latin flavor, headlined from 9:30 - 11 p.m. by pop vocalist, Pilar Montenegro.

Montenegro is one of Mexico's biggest pop music stars. In 2003, at Billboard's Latin Music Awards, she won three awards.

Sunday will feature classic rock and country, with "Bone Canyon" and "Partners" performing.

The 2004 Fun Festival will be held Sept. 17 - 19 at Veterans Memorial Park located off Fry Boulevard, Sierra Vista. Festival hours are 4 p.m. - midnight, Friday; noon - midnight, Saturday; and noon - 6 p.m., Sunday.

The Festival is open to the public and there is no admission charge to enter the grounds or the entertainment events.

Along with the live entertainment and DJs, many other activities will be available for

those attending the festival including laser tag, moon bouncers, softball tournaments, food, craft, art, commercial and novelty vendors and more.

One of the Fun Festival's biggest attractions will be the popular City of Fun Carnival, with rides for all ages and thrill levels.

Carnival ride tickets are on sale now. Tickets purchased in advance are sold at a savings of \$2 per 10 tickets. Advance carnival ride tickets are \$6 per sheet of 10. The price goes up to \$8 per sheet of 10 at the carnival. Fort Huachuca ticket outlets are MWR Box Office, Desert Lanes and MWR Rents. Tickets may be purchased in Sierra Vista at Safeway. For ticket information, call 533-2404.

Vendor space is still available. Military



Dario

units, private organizations and individuals from the surrounding community have an opportunity to raise funds at the Fun Festival. Call 538-2022 for more information.

Vista Transit will provide shuttle service to Veterans Memorial Park all three days during the Fun Festival. The hours will be: 4 p.m. - 9:30 p.m., Friday; 10 a.m. - 9:30 p.m., Saturday; and noon - 4 p.m., Sunday. Buses will make trips to the park at 30-minute intervals.

Shuttles will leave from the Military Intelligence Village transfer point on Fort Huachuca, the Mall at Sierra Vista, Hastings Music & Books and the Calle Portal/Fry Blvd. bus stop.

Cost will be \$1 for adults, and 50 cents for senior citizens, disabled citizens and students, college-age and under.



Pilar Montenegro

Sept. 17

4 - 5:30 p.m.—36th Army Band
6 - 7 p.m.—DJ Dirty Red
7 - 7:45 p.m.—3 AM Drift (Alternative)
7:45 - 8 p.m.—Nick Q (Jazz)
8:50 - 9:20 p.m.—Young Entrepreneurs (Rap/Hip Hop)
9:25 - 9:55 p.m.—Sirus (Rap/Hip Hop)
9:55 - 10:05 p.m.—DJ Dirty Red
10:05 - 10:15 p.m.—Denyce (R&B/Neo Soul)
10:15 - 11:30 p.m.—Dario (Pop)
11:30 - Midnight —DJ Dirty Red

Sept. 18

Noon - 1 p.m.—Academy of Fitness Martial Arts
1:30 - 3 p.m.—Alma Dolores Dance Troop
3:30 - 4:30 p.m.—Los Atrevidos (Latin Music)
6 - 9 p.m.—Primo (Latin Music)
9:30 - 11 p.m.—Pilar Montenegro (Pop)

Sept. 19

1 - 3 p.m.—Bone Canyon (Classic Rock / Country)
3:30 - 5:30 p.m.—Partners (Country)

Box Office

Willie Nelson is coming to Tucson

The MWR Box Office now has tickets available for Willie Nelson in concert, 7:30 p.m., Sept. 29 at the Tucson Convention Center. The Box Office also has tickets for the following attractions at TCC: Sept. 17, Nancy Wilson in concert for the NAACP Freedom Fund Gala; Sept. 23 - 26, El Tiradito; and Oct. 7, Margaret Cho. Tickets for all TCC events may be purchased 10 a.m. - 4 p.m., only. Arizona Cardinals football packages are also available at the Box Office, for NFL games Oct. 3 - Jan. 2, 2005, in Tempe, Ariz.

The MWR Box Office has available the Tucson Attractions Passport, which includes 46, two-for-one offers and discounts toward many different attractions, museums and shopping, in Tucson and the surrounding area. The book can be purchased for \$15. A few of the attractions included are: Kartchner Caverns State Park, Bisbee Mining and Historical Museum, Tombstone Courthouse, Old Tucson Studios, Tucson Raceway Park, Ramsey Canyon Preserve, the Patagonia-Sonoita Creek Preserve, the Pima Air and Space Museum, plus many others. Call 533-2404 for more information or drop by the MWR Box Office located in Bldg. 52008 on Arizona Street, across from the Commissary. They're open Monday - Friday, 9 a.m. - 5 p.m.

Boating safety class scheduled

A boating safety class will be offered 8 a.m. - 5 p.m., Saturday at the MWR Rents Building 70914, Irwin Street. The class is free and open to the public. Completion of a boating safety class is required for anyone who wishes to rent a boat from MWR Rents. Call 533-6707 for more information.

New fitness program starts Monday

Fitness Interval Training will be offered 5 - 6 p.m., Monday, Tuesday and Thursday at Barnes Field House Stage Room, beginning Monday. The F. I. T. program will include a variety of training such as aerobics, kickboxing, sculpting with weights and mat training. The monthly fee for the class is \$35. Students can also pay on a bi-monthly basis for \$18, or \$5 for individual classes. If you bring a friend to the class, you will receive a 50 percent discount on your fee for that month. For more information, call Kathy Gray at 533-0041 or 533-5031.

Try the lunch buffet at TMAC

Beginning Sept. 14, the newly-remodeled Thunder Mountain Activity Centre will offer a lunch buffet, 11 a.m. - 1 p.m. Tuesday - Friday. The cost will be \$7 per person, and that includes full salad bar, dessert and a non-alcoholic beverage. The menu is being revamped, but will still include some of the favorite entrees from the previous buffet menu at LaHacienda. Each day will feature a different theme, such as "Savory BBQ Day" Wednesday and "a Taste of Deutschland" Friday. Now is the time to make reservations for your holiday parties at TMAC. For catering information and reservations,

call Carol Geujen at 533-7322. For general information and room reservations, call 533-3802.

Def Jam Comedy show returns Oct. 1

The LakeSide Activity Centre will present the Def Jam Comedy Show at 10 p.m., Oct. 1. Returning to the LakeSide to host the show will be comedian Ice Cream.

Headliner for the evening will be Joey Medina, "The Original Latino King of Comedy." Also performing will be Manny Llanez, a hot, new Latino comedian. The show is open to the public and features adult entertainment. An after-party, featuring Latino music, will be held at the LakeSide after the show. Another after-party, featuring Top 40 and Hip Hop, will be held at Time Out. Tickets are \$13 in advance and \$18 at the door, and are on sale now at MWR Box Office, LakeSide Activity Centre and Sierra Vista Safeway. Admission to either after-party is included in the ticket price. For more information, call 533-2194.

CISM on post

The Council of International Military Sports (CISM) presents the World Championship Military Boxing Championships. More than 20 countries have signed up to compete, including the U.S.A., Germany, Ukraine, Barbados, Morocco, South Africa and Turkey and others. Opening ceremonies will be Oct. 24 and bouts start Oct. 25 at Barnes Field House. The first three nights of the competition are free. Final three night ticket prices are as follows: Oct. 27—\$5; Oct. 28—\$5; Oct. 30—\$8; or \$15 for 3-night package. Tickets go on sale Sept. 20 at MWR Box Office and Sierra Vista Safeway. For more information, call Les Woods at 538-1690.



Fort Huachuca Directorate of Morale, Welfare & Recreation

The Directorate of Morale, Welfare & Recreation is responsible for content appearing on the MWR page in The Fort Huachuca Scout. Questions about this section should be directed to MWR Marketing Director, Paula German, at 538-0836 or send an e-mail to paula.german@hua.army.mil or visit us on the Web at mwrhuachuca.com.



Movies

The Bourne Supremacy plays at 7 p.m., tonight at Cochise Theater. For a complete listing of this week's movies, see Page 17.

Local wildlife provided water

BY SPC. SUSAN REDWINE
 SCOUT STAFF



Courtesy photo

The environment in and around Fort Huachuca has long been recognized as unique. In an effort to conserve and sustain the wildlife in the area, dozens of water catchments have been installed on post and off.

There are about 40 such drinkers on post, according to Sheridan Stone, wildlife biologist on post. The majority of the drinkers are about 30 years old, although a few were installed later, he said.

A recent effort by the National Wild Turkey Federation has not only rehabilitated five drinkers on post, but has led to the purchase of a water trailer for hauling water to the drinkers when necessary.

Stone noted that the drinkers were patched up where the materials allowed for repairs and new pieces were installed as necessary.

Although the NWTF funded the repairs, the drinkers are not just for wild turkeys.

"They are designed to accommodate all wildlife," Stone said, "small animals and big animals alike."

The interest of the NWTF, however, is due to the rare Gould's Turkey that is native to this area. The species had been practically wiped out by the end of the 19th century due to hunting the destruction of habitat. The turkeys have been reintroduced in recent years from habitats in Mexico, Stone said.

"The population of wild turkey, particularly the Gould's Turkey is because this is the only place you can find them in the U.S.," Stone said.

The interest in keeping Gould's Turkey populations up in the Huachuca Mountains is so that these animals can eventually be used to repopulate other mountain ranges and habitats in southern Arizona.

"The advantage of having a larger population more spread out is so that the species has a better chance for surviving diseases and native disasters," Stone said.

Because of the efforts to keep the drinkers on post functional, Fort Huachuca has more places an animal can drink per square mile than any of the surrounding area, Stone said.

B Troop rides back in Arizona's history

BY CHRISTOPHER ZIMMERMAN
 PROGRAM COORDINATOR
 B TROOP, 4TH U.S. CAVALRY (MEMORIAL)

The men and women of B Troop, 4th U.S. Cavalry (Memorial) rode back into their own past in Apache Pass, Ariz. on Saturday to commemorate the 1886 surrender of Geronimo and to honor the Soldiers who were buried at the Fort Bowie cemetery. Ten troopers and one lady began their historic ride on the west end of the pass near a site marked ominously with a sign describing a wagon train massacre that had occurred during the war with Cochise in the 1880s.

Apache Pass had originally been named Puerto de Dado by the Spanish who meant that it would be a roll of the dice as to whether or not you would survive going through the pass. B Troop, led by Pete Criscuolo, embarked on the ride in authentic cavalry uniforms and tack riding upon their "geldings of hardy color" and following the markers for the old Butterfield Stage line that ran through the pass. Capt. Christina Truesdale wearing the authentic period clothing of a lady of means rode astride as the rugged terrain precluded the use of a sidesaddle.

Truesdale's sharp looking outfit quickly earned her the nickname "Queen Victoria" which she accepted with good humor although she said she would have preferred to have been named "Queen Elizabeth" because she was a better looking queen.

As the troop wound through the rugged terrain of the pass they speculated about what it would have been like to bounce along the trail in a stagecoach while worrying about an Apache ambush which could have come from anywhere. Eventually, the column crested a hill and descended into a small grassy valley in which the old Fort Bowie cemetery stands as a lonely monument to the men who fought and died there. The cemetery once held about a hundred people, most of whom were Soldiers. In 1894 when Fort Bowie closed, the Soldiers were removed and reburied in San Francisco. However, a few people were left and stark white tombstones mark their graves in the lonely little cemetery. Some of those left had been Soldiers but were civilians at the time of their deaths and so were not moved with the other Soldiers. One of those, O.O. Spence, a Congressional Medal of Honor winner, lies there still.

After halting the troop, Criscuolo read a short history of the conflict that had existed in the now quiet valley. At the end of his remarks he read aloud the name of each Soldier that had been buried there and the unit they had served in. At the end of the long roll of names the peaceful quiet of the valley was broken by the sharp crack of a gun salute fired with the troopers' Springfield trapdoor carbines. Three volleys were fired and then they mounted up and rode on up to the trail to the old Fort Bowie ruins where the Ladies Auxiliary had prepared an authentic 1880s picnic for the dusty riders. They dismounted and enjoyed a feast of cold meats, hard boiled eggs, salads, bread, and cakes. The cakes had been especially made to be horse-friendly so the troopers could share the picnic with their loyal four-legged comrades which snapped up the goodies with relish.

After a short rest, the troopers and ladies finally had to pack up and ride back to the trail head, leaving the quiet ruins until next year when once again in early September they will be compelled to return to their roots in the rugged, dusty pass where Geronimo, Cochise, and B Troop once rode.

Hunting season is here; be safe

SCOUT REPORTS

Here is a detailed look at Fort Huachuca hunting rules, courtesy of the Environmental Resources Division.

Who can hunt in post?

All active and retired military personnel, worldwide. Arizona requires a 30-day residence for military personnel before an Arizona hunting license may be purchased.

Full-time civil service employees of Fort Huachuca, and the spouse and legal dependents 10 years old or older, of the above individuals. Proof of civil service status will require showing a Fort Huachuca Identification Card.

A valid Arizona licensed hunter and Fort Huachuca permit holder who is 21 or older may sponsor two guest hunters for a 72-hour hunt. The sponsor is authorized four guest hunts per year. The sponsor is required to sign a statement provided by the Sportsman Center vouching for the guest hunter's competence with the firearms used on the hunt, hunter safety and that the guest hunter is in compliance with Arizona Hunting Regulations and Fort Huachuca's Hunting Fact Sheet.

A guest hunter is only authorized to hunt game birds, rabbits and coyotes. Active or retired military are not allowed to hunt as guests.

A guest hunter is required to sign a statement of liability provided by the Sportsman Center in order to receive a guest hunter permit.

Guest hunter permit fee is \$3 per year.

Guest hunters must register their firearm(s) through the military police Weapons registration section (533-1840 or 533-0897), as required by law.

A guest hunter must remain

within visual and voice range of the sponsor at all times during the hunt.

A guest hunter may hunt with more than one sponsor, but may not exceed three hunts for the year. All guest hunter requirements apply for each sponsor.

As a hunter, what rules do I need to know to hunt on post?

A: All post hunters are expected to review "Arizona Hunting Regulations for 2003/ 2004" regarding jaguar identification, www.azgfd.com. Rifle hunters, especially predator hunters, should be aware that jaguar may be in the area and are fully protected.

A post hunting permit is required of all post hunters.

Post hunting permits are sold only at the post Sportsman Center, 533-7085, open Wednesday through Sunday.

Proof of completion of a bonafide hunter education course is required to obtain a Fort Huachuca hunting permit.

Bonafide courses are AGFD hunter education courses, any state sponsored hunter education course, or a card or certificate of completion from the issuing state, not just a license from a state requiring hunter education, an National Rifle Association hunter safety course, or the German hunting course. The only exception to this requirement is for a guest hunter.

You may register for an AGFD Basic Hunter Education Course at the Sportsman Center. This course is offered on post during August, October and January if at least 20 participants enroll. It lasts 20-hour spread over five evenings (two weeks) and a Saturday morning range day, so plan accordingly.

Abide strictly by all hunting regulations published yearly by

the Arizona Game & Fish Department.

All firearms used on post must be registered through the Military Police Weapons Registration section (533-1840 or 533-0897) as required by law.

Anyone entering Fort Huachuca will be required to show identification at the gate they enter.

Eligible dependents under 16 years must be accompanied by a properly licensed adult when hunting.

All weapons will be transported in a completely unloaded condition on post.

Bow hunters must transport arrows in a quiver.

Target practice and sighting in are not authorized away from an established shooting range.

Any shot fired (except as noted below) in a game management area must be in an attempt to take legal game by a legally licensed and signed-out hunter.

A hunter using a muzzleloading type weapon may, at the end of the hunt, discharge the weapon in a safe manner, rather than having to pull the charge or charges.

Hunting and/or shooting within a radius of 200 yards with a bow and arrow or quarter mile with a rifle, shotgun or pistol near the following locations, people, or situations is prohibited:

Any building, tent, maneuver or bivouac area when in use.

Any test site, such as Scott Peak, Aerostat or Black Tower.

Libby Army Airfield. Garden Canyon and Huachuca Canyon picnic areas.

Ammunition storage

areas.

Recreation areas or other places when non-hunting public, including horseback riders, or post personnel are congregating.

Any location or situation in which a prudent person would perceive danger to life or property is not authorized for hunting.

No hunting is allowed within 100 yards of any major road or a road likely to have regular traffic.

All hunters anywhere on post must wear safety colored (red, yellow, or orange) upper garments and hats during any firearms deer or javelina hunt, unless in an archery-only area. Members of their party going afield must also wear safety colored clothing.

All deer, lion, bear and javelina harvested on post must be checked in at the Sportsman Center on the day killed.

Trapping on post is not authorized for private individuals.

There are specific areas for archery-only hunting on post. The map of these areas lists special rules hunters must follow when using them.

All waterfowl hunting must be conducted with steel shot

Legal shooting times are during daylight hours (except for migratory bird hunts, which run according to federal regulations).

Vehicles, including motorcycles and off-road vehicles, are not authorized to travel cross-country. Firebreaks and dirt roads maintained for vehicle access may be used for access to game management areas by properly signed out hunters.

A hunter may not possess or transport any alcoholic beverage while hunting.

Military training and firing schedules have priority over all hunts; therefore, some or all, game management areas may be closed to hunting on any given day.

The caution means there either is training or non-hunting recreational activities scheduled to occur in that area.

If upon reaching the assigned area, you feel there are too many other people in the area, or you are hunting in an area that may cause adverse comments, please leave and sign-out for a different area.

Failure to abide by post and state hunting regulations, laws, rules or command directives may result in loss of post and state hunting privileges, as well as fines and imprisonment.

Army's cowboys visit wounded Soldiers

Bullriders, rodeo stars visit wounded heroes of Global War on Terrorism

BY BRETT MCMILLAN
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Four of the Army's eight professional cowboys visited patients at Walter Reed Army Medical Center in Maryland Aug. 31, thanking them for their service in the Global War on Terrorism.

Bareback bronc rider Andy Bolich, saddle bronc rider Cody DeMoss, bull rider Jarron Nunnemaker, and Xtreme Bulls rider Zack Oakes introduced themselves as members of the Army's team of cowboys — a team which most Soldiers didn't know existed — and listened as the patients told their stories:

Engineer tells cowboys about IED

A combat engineer with the 9th Engineers Battalion serving in Iraq, Staff Sgt. Howard Andrews told the visitors his job was to destroy improvised explosive devices. Following the standard procedure, on one particular day while destroying an IED, a piece of it flew off about 300 meters, cut through the Humvee he was in and severed his left leg at the ankle.

"I don't have a really awesome story about how the enemy was firing on us or anything," Andrews said. "It

was a quiet day ... I'm trying to get better and get back on my feet, or foot, and get another foot attached so I can get back in the Army," he told the cowboys. He thanked them for stopping by.

Rodeo fan appreciates visit

Reclined in a bed on Ward 57, his foot blown off by a grenade Aug. 12 while pulling security in Baghdad, Cpl. John Oshia said he was glad to be alive. He said fragments in his vest were about a centimeter from where he was carrying high-explosive rounds.

A Houston, Texas, native and rodeo fan, Oshia said he appreciated the visit. "I appreciate the fact that you have cowboys who actually care about injured Soldiers, to be able to spend time away from the rodeo, away from training just come out here and see us."

"It is nice to know that people care enough to take time out of their busy schedules to remember that some people are less fortunate and maybe are not able to do the things they would like right now," remarked his mother, who also seemed to enjoy the visit.

Cowboys also impressed

"Those guys have some incredible stories," remarked Bolich, after visiting with several Soldiers wounded in Operation Iraqi Freedom. "Hopefully we helped them a little bit because they are awesome."

Bolich said what stood out in his mind from the visit is that most of the Soldiers want to stay in the Army and get back to work. "They had no regrets

and they are proud to do what they do. That's pretty inspiring."

A professional rider for four years now, Bolich said he was glad to be part of the team of seven cowboys and a cowgirl representing the Army's team, which formed this year.

Cowboys proud to represent Army

The Army's partnership with the Professional Bull Riders and Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association for 2004 with an option to renew in 2005, is designed to assist the Army in its recruiting, outreach and awareness-building efforts. Both organizations have named the Army as their exclu-

sive military partner. As such, the Army is the official pre-event pageantry provider and will be authorized for recruiting booths at various PRCA and PBR events.

Riding bulls professionally for seven years, Nunnemaker said he is proud to be a part of the Army team. "I couldn't ask for a better sponsor, the unity, the family, it's like one big family, the support and it's an honor and a privilege to be a part of."

He said the visit to Walter Reed was difficult to put into words, but it gave him a deeper appreciation for all service members. "Some have given their lives and some have given their limbs. It's the ultimate sacrifice for sure."



Brett McMillan

Staff Sgt. Howard Andrews welcomes the visit of the Army's cowboys, members of the Professional Bull Riders and Professional Rodeo Cowboy's Association. A combat engineer, Andrews was wounded in Iraq while destroying an improvised explosive device.

Warrant Officer Association

The U.S. Army Warrant Officers Association, Arizona Silver Chapter will hold a golf scramble beginning at 7:30 a.m. on Saturday. There is a limit of 36 4-person teams. For more information, call Chief Warrant Officer Don Marquis, 533-4050; Chief Warrant Officer Keith Steiner, 533-4614; Chief Warrant Officer Chely McAninch, 533-3479 or Chief Warrant Officer Erin O'Hara, 533-4843.

Adult flag football league

Parks and Leisure Services in Sierra Vista will be offering a Four-On-The-Fly Adult Flag Football League starting Nov. 10th. Teams will consist of eight players per roster and participants must be 16 or older. League registration is \$200 per team, beginning Monday, running through Oct. 4. Registration will be taken at the Oscar Yrun Community Center, Ethel Berger Center and the Cove. For more information, call 458-7922.

Punt, pass, kick competition

Parks and Leisure Services in Sierra Vista will be conducting the NFL/Pepsi Punt, Pass and Kick Competition from 1 to 3 p.m. Sept. 25 on Arbenz Field. The competition is free and open to girls and boys 8-15. Registration is ongoing at Oscar Yrun Community Center, Ethel Berger Center and the Cove. A copy of each participant's birth certificate is required at registration in order to compete. For more information, call 458-7922.

Case lot sale

The Commissary's annual fall Case Lot Sale will be held from 10 a.m. to 7 p.m. Sept. 17 and from 9 a.m. to 6 p.m. Sept. 18. The warehouse will be loaded with bargains by the case, some items as much as 68% off regular Commissary prices. The sale will be held inside the Commissary warehouse, patrons can enter the sale through the double doors to the left of our fresh meat cases. Come early for best selection.

Greyhound adoption day

There will be a greyhound adoption day from 10 a.m. to 2

p.m. Sept. 25th at Arizona Feeds/Ramsey Canyon Feed and Pet Store, 4107 East Glenn Rd., Sierra Vista. The available dogs are ex-racers, recently retired from the track. They make outstanding indoor companions and get along well with children, other dogs and pets. For more information, call 378-1763.

Trekkers Oktoberfest

Thunder Mountain Trekkers and Sierra Vista Elks Club are hosting their annual Oktoberfest Sept. 24 and 25. On the 24th, there will be an evening walk, followed by food and live music. There will be a morning walk on the 25th. The next Thunder Mountain Trekkers meeting is at 7 p.m., Sept. 28, 311 Wilcox Dr. in Sierra Vista. For more information, call 378-1763.

Patagonia fall festival

The Patagonia Fall Festival: "A Celebration of Music & Art" at 10 a.m. Oct. 9 and 10, in the Town Park. Visitors will enjoy over 140 arts, crafts, entertainment, specialty food, not-for-profit, and living gently booths of exhibitors from around the West.

Musicians from around the region will offer a diverse selection of international as well as local musical genres including Andean, Classical, Jazz, Variety, Bluegrass, Folk, Rock 'n Roll, and Blues. Patagonia Town Park is located on Route 82 between Sonoita and Nogales. Admission and entertainment are free to the public and wheelchair accessible.

For more information contact the Patagonia Visitor Center at (520) 394-0060 or (888) 794-0060 or visit www.patagoniaaz.com.

Senior women's softball

The Hot Flashes, a senior women's softball team from Sierra Vista/Bisbee, is recruiting players that are at least 47-years-old. This team travels to women's senior softball tournaments in Arizona and bordering states. For more information, call Cheryl Linendoll, 459-0607.

Trekkers

The Trekkers are an internationally sanctioned non-com-

petitive sports club, sponsoring four weekend walks and eight year round events in Arizona.

The year round events consist of walks at the Coronado National Memorial; Fort Huachuca; Naco, Ariz. to Naco, Sonora, Mexico; historic Bisbee; Tombstone; Benson; and Sedona.

For more information, call Wendy or Dave Breen at 378-1763.

Poets sought

Poet enthusiasts are sought for a Fort Huachuca spoken word movement. The organization will offer poets and poetry appreciators the opportunity to exchange verses and thoughts, express themselves through the spoken word or focus their talents. For more information, call Sgt. 1st Class Donald Sparks, 533-2622 or 456-7770.

New classes at MWR Arts Center

The MWR Arts Center is offering new classes. "Polaroid Manipulation" is offered 6 - 8 p.m., Thursdays. This class teaches the student how to turn an ordinary Polaroid picture into a "work of art." Cost of the class is \$28 and includes all materials.

For more information, call 533-2015 or stop by the Arts Center, located in Building 52008 on Arizona Street.

Internet access at Main Post Library

Internet access is now available at the post's main library. Access Army Knowledge Online, use ProQuest and other online library databases along with all other authorized sites. No commercial e-mail is allowed. The library is open 10:30 a.m. - 7:30 p.m. Tuesday through Friday, and 8:30 a.m. - 5:30 p.m. Saturday.

Trailer rentals in Yellowstone

Mountain Home Air Force Base in Idaho has 13 trailers available for rent at Yellowstone National Park for active duty and retired military, Department of Defense civilians and their families.

Trailers are available for between \$60-\$70 a night. For more information, call Mark Lothrop, Outdoor Recreation manager at (208) 828-6333.

Latest CAC news

For the latest news in the Fort Huachuca community as well as all of your military branches worldwide, the Commander's Access Channel (Channel 97) is your first and most reliable source.

The Fort Report airs weekdays at 6 a.m., noon, 6 p.m. and 10 p.m. Army NewsWatch follows at 6:05 a.m., 12:05 p.m., 6:05 p.m. and 10:05 p.m. Catch Air Force TV News right after at 7 a.m., 1 p.m., 7 p.m. and 11 p.m.

Be sure to top it all off with Navy/Marine Corps News at 7:30 a.m., 1:30 p.m., 7:30 p.m. and 11:30 p.m.

This week on The Fort Report, we let you in on what happened during the latest National Security Personnel Systems town hall meetings. We also highlight the acting commander of the U.S. Army Intelligence Center and Fort Huachuca, Brig. Gen. Warner Sumpter, as he sat down with us to share his thoughts on exiting the top position on post.

For more details, call Channel 97 at 538-0050 or 533-5511.

If you're interested in posting your message on the Commander's Channel, e-mail your request to channel97@hua.army.mil.

Never forget

Sept. 11, 2001



At The Movies

Showing at the Cochise Theater

Today -7 p.m.

The Bourne Supremacy
PG-13

Friday -7 p.m.

Harold and Kumar go to White Castle
R

Saturday -7 p.m.

I, Robot
PG-13

Sunday -2 p.m.

I, Robot
PG

Monday - Wednesday

closed

Reduced prices on Thursday

Allen finishes 18th in modern pentathlon



Photo by Tim Hipps

Anita Allen rides Dino to a first-place finish in the equestrian show jumping portion of the women's modern pentathlon in the 2004 Summer Olympic Games in Athens, Greece.

BY TIM HIPPS
ARMY NEWS SERVICE

Anita Allen defied all odds by finishing 18th in women's modern pentathlon Aug. 27 in the 2004 Summer Olympic Games at Goudi Olympic Complex.

Allen, a member of the U.S. Army World Class Athlete Program at Fort Carson, Colo., accomplished the feat despite undergoing left ankle surgery last November without having needed time to properly rehabilitate. She also missed nearly a year of healthy training for the Olympics before and after the operation.

The highlight of her five-sport performance here was a flawless, first-place ride aboard Dino in the equestrian show-jumping event.

"My ride, gosh, I couldn't have asked for anything bet-

ter," said Allen, 26, of Star City, Ind. "I did something well today, and just for a moment it felt really good."

Hugary's Zsuzsanna Voros won the gold medal with 5,448 points. Latvia's Jelena Rublevska took the silver with 5,380 points. Great Britain's Georgina Harland claimed the bronze with a 5,324 total.

Perhaps nobody had more reason to smile than Allen, who finished 18th with 4,996 points.

"How could I not be happy?" she asked. "I'm at the Olympics. This was the best opportunity in the world. The whole experience was very encouraging and positive.

"Everyone has been so friendly and so incredible - just the support I've gotten from friends and family and Soldiers. It's really made my day when I get e-mails from

people I don't even know wishing me well, and people in the crowd saying, 'Captain Allen, great job. Go! Go! Go!' It's amazing how small the world can be."

Allen's feeling of accomplishment, however, was one long day in the making.

She opened with a 22nd-place finish in 10-meter air pistol shooting and followed with 12 victories and 19 defeats in epee one-touch fencing, good for 26th place in the 32-woman field.

"Believe it or not, that was OK for me," she said. "Take my years' experience times three and you probably have the youngest one out there, so I was very happy with the fence."

Team USA's Mary Beth Iagorashvili, who finished 15th with 5,052 points, encouraged Allen throughout the fence, as did WCAP pen

tathlon teammate 1st Lt. Chad Senior, who competed the day before.

Allen's day worsened in the 200-meter freestyle, which she swam in 2 minutes, 31.16 seconds for a 29th-place finish.

On the 3,000-meter cross-country run, Allen, a former cross-country and track star for the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., was disillusioned by passing only four women with a 10th-best time of 11:04.37.

What's the No. 1 thing Allen will take from the Olympic experience?

"That if I put my mind to something that I'm going to do it, I'm going to do it," she replied. "And to believe in yourself - if you have that dream, to go for it, and hopefully people will believe in you."