



# THE TALON *F.Y.I.*

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TASK FORCE EAGLE, TUZLA, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

DEC. 24, 1995

## News Briefs

### Christmas Eve Service

Catholic and Protestant Christmas Eve religious services will be conducted Dec. 24 in the Norwegian Dining Facility.

A Protestant service will be conducted at 11 p.m. followed by a Catholic service at midnight.

For more information, contact Chap. (Capt.) Harry Ranch at the 3-325 ABCT headquarters, Bldg. 21.

### Christmas Dinner

A Christmas Day dinner, complete with turkey, will be served from 1-4 p.m. at the Norwegian dining facility, Dec. 25.

### Laundry service begins

Quartermaster laundry service for soldiers of Task Force Eagle began yesterday. Soldiers may take their laundry to the building next to the Bosnia Grill.

Laundry drop off and pick up times are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 9 a.m. to noon. The normal turn around time is two working days.

Each person is limited to 15 pounds per week.

Cost is free.

### Get the message out

If you have information that you would like to have disseminated to Task Force Eagle, contact the Task Force Eagle Public Affairs Office in the headquarters building, second floor or come by *The Talon* office next to the Joint Information Bureau adjacent to the main gate.

All messages and ideas are welcome and all contingents in IFOR are encouraged to submit information, articles and/or photos to *The Talon*.



Spc. Scott Gentilcore

Soldiers from 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Combat Team unload from a C-130 Hercules aircraft at Tuzla Air Base, Dec 22. The paratroopers here are providing base security for Task Force Eagle command post, centered

around the U.S. Army's 1st Armored Division headquartered at Bad Kreuznach, Germany. Approximately 20,000 U.S. soldiers will participate in the Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

## TF Eagle assumes mission

By Spc. Scott Gentilcore

The United Nations flag was lowered at Tuzla Air Base headquarters Wednesday signaling the end of the U.N. mission in the former Yugoslavia.

The forces are being replaced by a 60,000-member peacekeeping force comprised mostly of soldiers from the North Atlantic Treaty Organization nations.

The brief ceremony at the U.S. task force headquarters in Tuzla was attended by the U.S. Army's 1st Armored Division Commander, Maj. Gen. William L. Nash, and U.N. Sector Northeast Commander, Norwegian Brig. Gen. Hagrup Haukland.

"Let me begin today by saying thanks," Nash said to a crowd of outgoing U.N. and incoming IFOR peacekeepers. "Thanks to the United Nations, the dedicated soldiers of UNPROFOR, and in particular to General Haukland for many trying years of difficult duty."

The ceremony was followed by a changing of signs over the front gate of what is now Eagle Base.

The U.N. sign was taken down and replaced with a Task Force Eagle sign, which identifies the former air base as being under NATO control.

Staff Sgt. Kenton R. Lewis said, 501st Military Police Company, 1st Armored Division, "The changing of signs signifies the start of the NATO mission."

Swedish Capt. Joakim Martell also believes changing over the signs makes a decisive point for the implementation force (IFOR).

"I think it is important to take down the U.N., marker that has been known around this area," Martell said. "It is good for the local inhabitants to see that IFOR is now here,"

The ceremonies began what is to be about a year-long mission for the U.S. forces.

## Quick Takes

### IFOR soldiers PX hours

The Norwegian Logistical Battalion post exchange is open to Task Force Eagle and Implementation Force soldiers during the following days and hours:

Tuesday, 5-7 p.m.  
Saturday, 2:30-5 p.m.

### Barber shop open

The Eagle Base barbershop, in the building behind the Quartermaster Laundry, is open to all Task Force Eagle personnel free of charge. The barber shop hours are:

Monday-Friday, 8 a.m.-4 p.m.  
Closed from noon to 1 p.m.  
Saturday, 8 a.m.-1 p.m.  
Sunday, closed.

### Postal service to begin

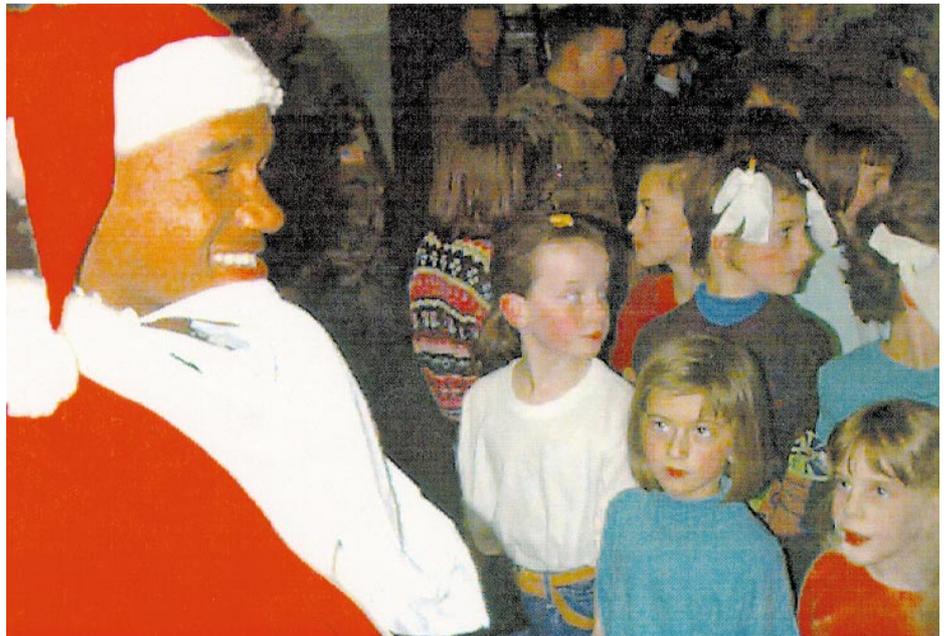
Mail service to and from Eagle Base and the U.S. sector is scheduled to begin this week.

The 2-566th Postal Company is scheduled to begin mail service for military and non-military mail at Eagle Base before Jan. 1.

Mail service is free as long as the package weighs 11oz. or less. Task Force personnel must write "FREE" in the upper right hand corner of the package where they would normally place the stamp.

Soldiers wishing to receive mail at Eagle Base should list their return address as:

Rank and Name  
Unit at Eagle Base  
Operation Joint Enderavor  
APO AE09789  
Mail going to areas other than Eagle Base requires a different APO.



Spc. Scott Gentilcore

Pfc. Ronald Spear, Company A, 3rd battalion, 325th Airborne Combat Team, plays Santa Claus for local school children at the Norwegian dining facility, Tuzla Air Base, Dec. 23. Santa and his battle dress uniform-dad helpers handed out presents to the children.

## Santa visits local soldiers, children

By Spc. Scott Gentilcore

American and Norwegian soldiers took the opportunity to enjoy some holiday cheer Saturday at school children gave a Christmas show in the Eagle Base dining facility.

The local children sang and danced to the delight of the more than 100 soldiers who crowded into the facility. The show centered around Christmas and the new-found Bosnian peace.

"Bosnia-Herzegovina is in Europe," said one young girl to the audience. "Europe is in the world. The world is in the universe. To say, Bosnia-Herzegovina is in the center of the universe."

A rendition of Silent Night was greatly received by the audience.

"The kids had a good time, the troops

had a good time," 2nd Lt. Nick Alexander said, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Combat Team. "It was different to hear different to hear some of the familiar songs as sung in a different language."

A special appearance from Santa Claus sent the children into a frenzy as he and his helpers handed out toys. Soldiers and airmen struggled to keep up with the demand as wave after wave of youngsters pressed forward to receive gifts. The troops were quickly reminded that children all over the world love Santa.

"This is great," Pfc. Ronald Spears said, Company A, 3rd Battalion, 325th Airborne Combat Team, who played Santa. "It's good to see these kids all excited about something after all that they have been through."

## THE TALON

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