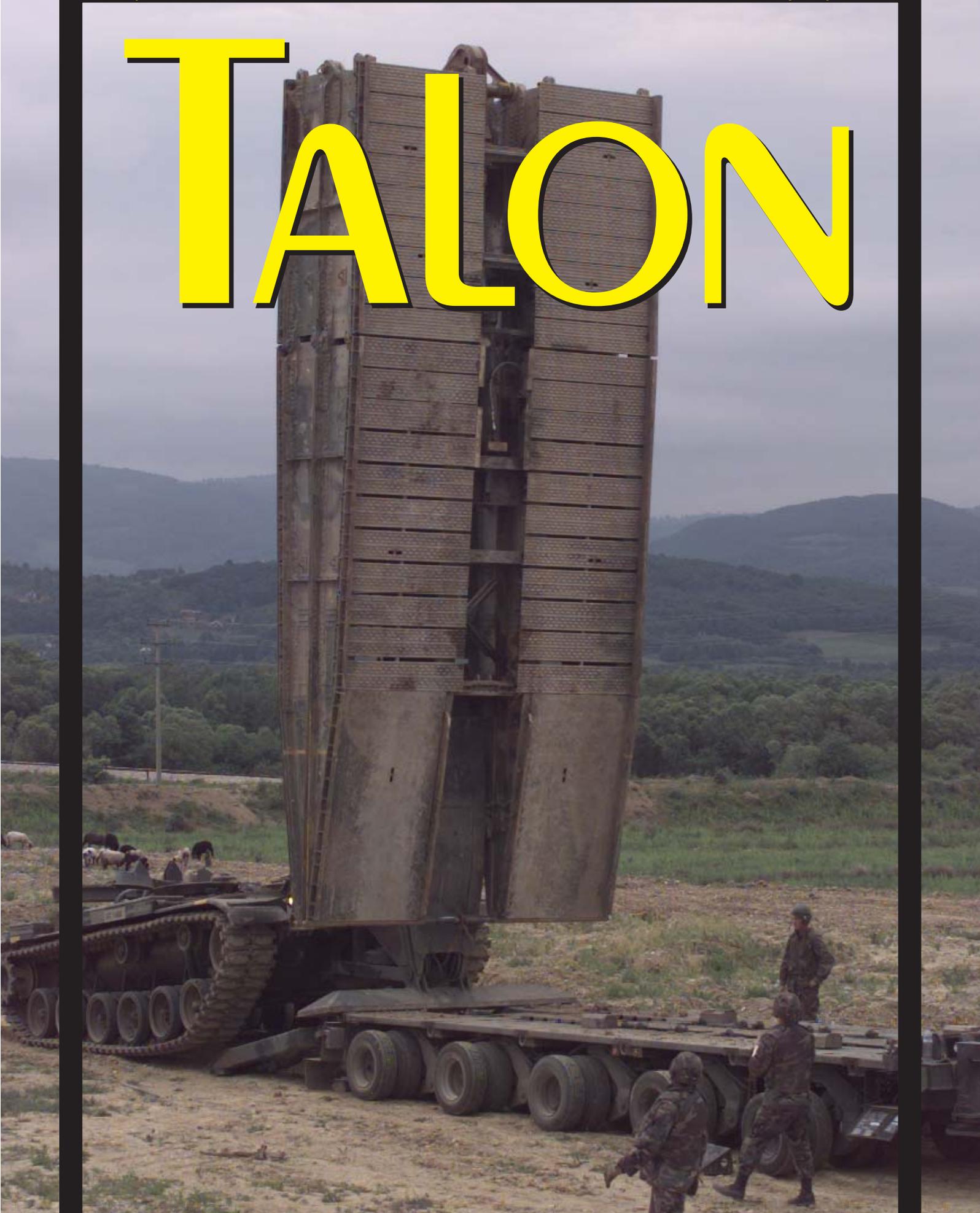


TALON



Talon

Inside



Supplying TFE 5 Meeting Eagle Base needs **Seabees' SEA huts at McGovern 8 Tent replacement and expansion** **PSYOP visits school .. 11 Building relations**

Contents

Up Front

Up Front 2
Recognition of soldier's good efforts

Community Project Funding 3
CA assists community

McGovern's Battle Desk 4
Command information center

Heavy Equipment Movers 6-7
HET crew

NY Library Sends Books 9
Expanding camps' library

Going Home Made Easier 10
Processing for home station

141st Sig Bn Exits 12
440th Sig Bn takes reins

By Command Sergeant Major
Carl E. Christian
Task Force Eagle CSM



Each and every day I either observe or hear about soldiers and leaders who go above and beyond the call of duty. Soldiers who pull a second guard duty to cover for someone else without complaining, or stay in the office once they are off duty to ensure actions are running smoothly. And then there are the ones who work through lunch, or dinner to accomplish the mission. I am sure we can all think about those times, when our fellow soldiers were with us all night working beyond the call of duty.

Two words that come to mind which best describes this individual. "Super Troopers." Do you have Super Troopers in your unit?

We say we are the best of the best. If so, then we should expect our people to give superior effort as being part of one's job description, a part of their duty, to be expected given the position, etc. But, the reality is there is an awful lot that soldiers do which is not within their scope, but they do it anyhow because it benefits the group.

Soldiers should not feel their work is done in vain. Leaders have to know that they can maintain their soldier's performances better with a little appreciation. An expression of gratitude and a pat on the back goes a long way. As we see and hear about the good deeds of soldiers, we need to act on this by giving credit where credit is due.

The Task Force continues to do extremely well in all areas because of the efforts of all of you. I would like to express my appreciation to each of you by saying, "Thanks, keep up the great work, be safe and remember,...TODAY IS THE BEST DAY TO BE A SOLDIER."

On the Cover

Heavy Equipment Transporter (HET) team members work with M-60 tank crew members to load an Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB) onto the HET trailer outside Camp Dobil. (Photo by Sergeant First Class Sherry L. Claus, see pages 6 and 7).

The Task Force Eagle Web site is located at www.tfeagle.army.mil

The Task Force Eagle web site offers breaking news and photos on its web site. The Web site provides information concerning the Turk, Russian, and NORDPOL Brigade assigned to Task Force Eagle, as well as U.S. soldiers stationed in Bosnia. The Talon On-line is updated every Saturday.

Task Force Eagle Commander Major General Larry R. Ellis
Editor in Chief Major Jim Yonts
OIC First Lieutenant Jacqueline E. Abbar
Managing Editor Sergeant First Class Frank Casares
NCOIC Sergeant First Class Buddy Ferguson
Layout and Design Editor Corporal Martha Louise Reyna
Assistant Editor and Photo Editor Sergeant Robert R. Ramon
TFE Webmaster Specialist Stephanie L. Tatum

THE TALON is produced in the interest of the servicemembers of Task Force Eagle. *THE TALON* is an Army-funded newspaper authorized for members of the U.S. Army overseas, under the provision of AR 360-81. Contents of *THE TALON* are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Task Force Eagle.

THE TALON is published weekly by the 1st Armored Division (Task Force Eagle) Public Affairs Office, Eagle Base, Tuzla, Bosnia-Herzegovina APO AE 09789, Telephone MSE 551-5230, Sprint 762-5233.
 E-mail: talon@email-tc3.5sigcmd.army.mil. Visit the Talon and other Bosnia-Herzegovina related items from the TFE homepage: www.tfeagle.army.mil. Printed by PrintComTuzla. Circulation: 5,500.

Projects bridge gap between military and civilians

Story and photo by Sergeant Tim Fischer
196th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

When they climb into their Humvees everyday and leave the front gates of Camp Bedrock, these soldiers are a pivotal military link in the peacekeeping efforts of Operation Joint Guard in Bosnia.

This five member civil affairs team is from Camp Bedrock. Along with daily support missions for Task Force 2nd Regiment, 6th Infantry, this team is in charge of a U.S. Funded Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project (CIRP).

Sergeant Anita R. Ontiveros, a member of the 321st Civil Affairs Detachment from San Antonio, Texas said, "The CIRP program is just another way the U.S. can provide the people of Bosnia a chance to not only rebuild, but to also employ citizens." Ontiveros, a 21-year-old born in Texas into a military family expressed, "We are the bridge between the military and the civilians, thus civil affairs."

The five member team from Bedrock is actively engaged in efforts of rebuilding some of this country's simple, yet essential, life necessities. Water supply repairs, road and bridge repairs, elementary schools and health clinics repair, are some of the CIRP's considerations.

USAID/Bosnia (MIS) program (United States Agency for International Development/Municipal Infrastructure and Services), fund and approve the CIRP projects. The CA teams monitor approved projects through completion of them.

CIRP was developed to respond to urgent, small-scale community infrastructure needs identified by municipal and community leaders. These needs include the importance of employing former military personnel into civilian society and accelerating the economic and social rehabilitation at the community level in order to demonstrate the benefits of peace.

"It is also our job to continuously keep in touch with the local leaders to ensure the money is being spent on the specific job it was allotted for," stated Ontiveros. "I enjoy seeing the schools being fixed and the children having the chance to proceed in their studies."

Consideration for the CIRP program is based on compliance with The Dayton Peace Accord and cooperation with Stabilization Forces (SFOR). Civil Affairs teams must be available and coordinate with municipalities when proposals are being reviewed to

immediately make changes to the proposals to make sure it passes.

Working directly with the civil affairs team, local communities submit the proper documents to secure the funding for each rebuilding project.

"In order for the local people to get the money they must use 50% of the funds to employ laborers," said Ontiveros. "We are trying to stimulate the economy along with the rebuilding. However, this is what I enjoy about my job - talking to the people and making a difference."

The CIRP program is just another way the SFOR is trying to make a difference in the Balkans. This civil affairs team is out there in the community talking to the local people and making a difference.



Sergeant Anita R. Ontiveros visits a school applying for the Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation Project. Giving the elementary class a box of pencils is just a kind gesture the CA team practice.

Battle desk – hub of information

Story and photo by Sergeant Terry L. Welch
345th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Let's say you're on patrol in Brcko or Dizdarsusa. Let's say you have a problem. Don't worry. You've got help only a radio call away.

It's the Battle Desk in Camp McGovern's Tactical Operation Center. Three soldiers work the desk at any given time: the radio operator, the Battle NCO and the Battle Captain. Their job is to track and advise soldiers outside the confines of McGovern.

On the day shift – one of three shifts at the Battle Desk – it's First Lieutenant Demetrius D. Brooks who has the role of the Battle Captain. When on duty, the Philadelphia, Penn., native is not only responsible for the three soldiers he works with, but also the entire TOC. Intelligence, aviation, engineers and others assist him in gathering the information that he needs to provide the commander of 3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (3/2 ACR). "The Battle Captain is really the liaison between the actual situation that's going on 'out there' and the squadron commander," Brooks said. "Any questions that come up from the soldiers on the ground are my responsibility; to either make a call on or call higher if it's out of my realm to answer."

Brooks said he relies heavily on both his Battle NCO and radio operator to assist him in gathering the correct information and coming up with solutions to situations outside of McGovern's perimeter. Staff Sergeant Delmus McGill, who hails from Los Angeles, Calif., is the day shift Battle NCO and said that when the 3/2 ACR first took over McGovern, it wasn't easy to know what to tell soldiers in the field or the commander on the post. Reference material on how to handle each situation was a big help. "When it was new to us," McGill said, "we'd have to refer to the books – they've got flow charts on how to deal with each situation – but after doing this so much, now we 'tag team' off of each other."

McGill said it's not uncommon for he and Brooks to include Private First Class Michael Cole, from Mt. Vernon, Ill., their radio operator, in the decision making process. McGill said he has no doubt in the abilities of the junior soldier. "Each one of

us is interchangeable, because we all know each other's jobs," McGill said. "If someone's gone to chow or whatever, the others know what needs to happen for a situation."

It's the same for the other two shifts as well, according to McGill. "Continuity is the key to running a successful Battle Desk."

For Cole, the feeling of camaraderie and respect is one of the best parts of working at the Battle Desk. "We all work together



Private First Class Michael Cole (left) looks on as Staff Sergeant Delmus McGill writes down information as it's called in by a patrol.

as a team in here," he said. "I've learned a lot."

The soldiers at the Battle Desk, by virtue of having to track the movements of troops and vehicles in the sector, also serve as a clearinghouse for information. "People are always coming in, asking about when the bus to Taszar is coming through or whatever," McGill said. "We're the hub of information."

As if to prove the point, McGill is interrupted, after saying the above, by a soldier wanting to know if anyone had called a cab, as one was waiting at the main gate. McGill looked amusedly at Brooks. After assuring the questioner that no one had requested a taxi, McGill laughed. "That's probably the weirdest question we've ever been asked. We've never heard that one before," he said.

The comfortable, easygoing manner of the soldiers aside, they said they know that their job is extremely important. Cole said it's a big responsibility and people have to know that the Battle Desk soldiers are there to help them when they need it. "You've got people out there on the ground and when you're at this desk, it's your job to watch out for them," Cole said.

If we don't have it, we can get it

Story and photo by Specialist Nancy McMillan
196th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Working in a supply warehouse may not seem too terribly hard to some. But, to the soldiers of the Regimental Headquarters, Headquarters Troop (RHHT), 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (2/ACR), furnishing the 1st Armored Division (1AD) and all temporary change of stations (TCS) units with needed supplies and material, is a fast-paced, hard-labored job.

Staff Sergeant Rolinda Tompkins, the supply sergeant for the four-person team said, "We just don't pull the merchandise off the shelves and hand it to the customer. We also have to pick it up at the designated area and manually stack it on the

wooden platforms."

The customer is the last step in a long series of transactions that occur for receiving merchandise.

"If there was such a thing as a starting point, it would be on Sundays," said Tompkins, 43, from Cambridge, Md. "We take a manual inventory of everything on Sundays — that's the reason why we're closed."

After the count, Tompkins plugs the information into the computer, which keeps a running tally of the items needed to bring the stock level up to par.

"I then make a spread sheet, annotate the document number, items and quantities needed and take that to the DSSA (Depot Supply Support Activity)," Tompkins said.

The DSSA, made up of the 127th Aviation Support Battalion and the 4th Squadron, then types the information into their computer — another step in appropriating merchandise since the two computer systems are not compatible.

"We then get a reconciliation, or a status report that tells us the standing position of the supplies — whether or not they're on the way or back-ordered," Tompkins said. According to Tompkins, items that are hard to come by or have no stock number are purchased on the local economy with a PRNC (Purchase Request and Commitment).

"Once the supplies come in, I drive the five-ton over to the DSSA and load them up," said Tompkins. "And, that's three times a day."

The team then work together to unload the truck and haul the material inside the warehouse with nothing more than a dolly.

"We don't have any forklifts," said Private First Class Schnandre Nedd, a customer service specialist. "We unpalletize everything and put it on the shelves by means of climbing a ladder and having someone lift the merchandise above their head and up to me," said the 20-year-old Houston, Texas native.

"AAFES is good about helping us with jacks and forklifts," Tompkins said, "especially with unloading and raising the pallets in the storage area."

According to Nedd, there was a priority to have a storage area when the unit first arrived here in July 1997. They needed to convert a "supply room" into a supply warehouse for a more efficient and expedient flow of merchandise and to serve the customers better.

"The task was accomplished, with the help of Brown & Root, but it took three weeks," Tompkins said. "They were building the wooden shelves as we were sorting out the boxes scattered about the floor."

During those weeks, the team labored for long hours, seven days a week, in what was once the place where they had worked and lived.

"That doesn't even include the typical Army duties such as range fire, CTT, PT tests and guard duty," said Tompkins. "We worked hard then and still do."

The unit that will replace them when they leave will enjoy and reap the rewards of all their hard work.



Private First Class Schnandre Nedd, a customer service specialist with RHHT, 2/ACR, pulls merchandise from a shelf to give to a customer.

Heavy duty movers

Story and photos by
Sergeant First Class Sherry L. Claus
196th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

A Heavy Equipment Transporter, or HET, is a huge trailer attached to a tractor for a combined total of 48 tires, and carries some of the heaviest pieces of equipment in the U.S. Army's inventory. Hauling a maximum load of 71 tons – or 142,000 lbs – is the norm for the massive vehicles operated and maintained by a seven-soldier crew from Company B, 123rd Main Support Battalion out of Dexheim, Germany.

Stationed at Guardian Base, the HET team is attached to Supply and Transportation Troop, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (2/ACR) under the supervision of HET OIC, First Lieutenant Heather L. Blood.

The 32-year-old Uncasville, Conn., native, is a member of Regional Support Squadron, 2/ACR, currently based at Guardian Base. She finds that most people – no matter what country they're from – find the HETs at least a little fascinating.

During a recent mission, Dynamic Resolve at Glamoc, there were HET-type vehicles from several countries gathered together working. Sergeant Brandon L. Lloyd, 28, from Wilmington, N.C., remarked, "They checked out our trucks and we checked out theirs."

The HET team's most recent mission was to go to Camp Dobol, pick up an Armored Vehicle Launched Bridge (AVLB) and an M-60 tank chassis and deliver them to the railhead at Lukavac. This was a first for them, what made this trip unique was the fact that the AVLB was actually loaded onto the HET trailer by the M-60 chassis instead of the usual crane employed to do the job.

"This is the first time we've had to actually load this way – thank God!" said Blood, as she watched the whole process. "But as usual, these guys came through!"

The team members really enjoy the various aspects of their jobs, especially the traveling involved and getting to know other nationalities along the way.

"We're not stuck on base camps all the time and we get to work with other countries like we did at Glamoc," said Sergeant Brian Wade, a 28-year-old from Phoenix, Ariz. "We worked with the Germans, British, Finns, Dutch and Swedes there. What an experience!"

It's not all fun and games for the heavy equipment movers and shakers, though. There is a lot of work and planning involved in each mission.

"Most bridges can't accommodate the combined weight of the HET and it's load so we usually have to download the tanks, drive the HET across, drive the tank across and reload the tank onto the HET," explained Blood. "It's vital that we do a good route recon prior to each mission, otherwise we may have to back track and you don't want to do that with one of these monsters!"

Despite all the hard work involved, the HET team is very satisfied with their mission. "Each one is a little different and it's always a challenge anytime we drive on these narrow, winding roads," Lloyd said. "And I wouldn't trade this job for any other over here!"

After a long and tiring day, there were still smiles on the team's faces and excitement in their voices as they discussed their upcoming mission of hauling Russian tanks.

There may only be three HETs in the area, but you can be sure they will be there when they're needed. They will certainly be up to the challenge!





Heavy equipment transporter (HET) team members load the M-60 chassis onto the HET trailer.



Seabees begin construction of new SEA huts

Story and photo by Sergeant Terry L. Welch
345th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Camp McGovern became a hive of activity May 11, as a detachment of Seabees from Naval Mobile Construction Battalion 133 and employees of Brown and Root began work on the expansion of the camp.

The camp, is not only getting bigger, but also better. The first round of building began with the construction of hard-sided plywood cabins known as South East Asia huts (SEA

huts). Not only will the SEA huts provide sturdier living quarters for McGovern soldiers, but also more importantly they will provide more comfort for those living inside. Steelworker First Class Derek Allen, the assistant project supervisor and a native of Mt. Vernon, Ill., said he would definitely choose to live in SEA huts over tents. "It's going to be a lot nicer for these guys," he said. "Each hut will have it's own air conditioning/heater unit, insulated ceilings and floors, and even covered walkways."

The huts are being built in group of five connected buildings, each group having its own shower and latrine unit. Currently, some soldiers are required to walk relatively long distances from their tents to get to those facilities. "This is about as close to barracks as possible. It's going to look like condos," Allen added.

The Seabees couldn't just drop in and start building, though. First Brown and Root started the process by prefabricating some of the supports and struts that will hold the huts together. The sailors laid out "Geo-textile" on the ground in order to facilitate water drainage. Then, the Seabees' large equipment operators dumped trucks full of rock to be spread out by bulldozer, creating a level area on which the huts would be built.

With the movement of so much equipment and materials, safety is a high priority for the Seabees. The current higher temperatures could have been a problem too, especially because the sailors were working on a field of white rock, which reflected the heat of the sun. "Safety of your work crew has to always be your number one priority," said construction worker Kenneth Bruce, "You have to worry about heat stress and thirst and keeping the body as cool as possible. They let us take our blouses off while we're working out in heat like this."

Equipment Operator First Class (Seabee Warfare) Ernest Miguez, the landscaping project supervisor said that it's easier for him to take care of his sailors because they've been treated well by the Army. "They've been doing a lot of things for us, made us feel welcome," the Heflin, La., native said. "Brown and Root has been real nice, too. We're learning a lot from them. We're normally building actual buildings, but these guys are out here doing this kind of stuff all the time."

The tents that McGovern soldiers are currently living in now have been around for nearly three years. As the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment prepares to leave in June, the plan is for the soldiers to leave in stages, thereby leaving tents empty which can be replaced by the new SEA hut units.

Eventually, the entire camp will have the SEA hut structures. And that, will provide better living conditions for Camp McGovern soldiers.



Petty Officer Second Class Nathan Kimball (right) and Seaman David McCleery position a culvert section as Chief Petty Officer Tony Little looks on and helps them align it.

Library sends books to troops

Story and photos by
First Lieutenant
Lillian Sydenstricker
196th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

The post office in Camp Dobol, Bosnia, is quite busy these days as boxes of library books filter in from a library in Queens Borough in New York City.

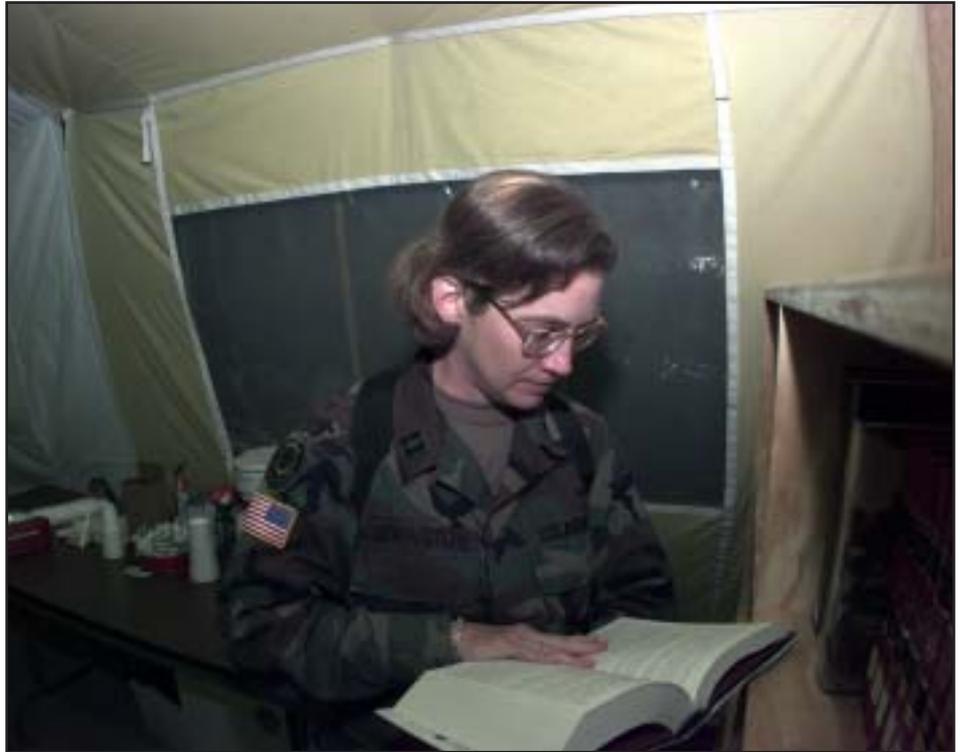
"These books will help the soldiers that are taking college courses as a basic reference material," replies Master Sergeant Mark Hammer, 47, a soldier serving in the peacekeeping operation in the war-torn Balkans — Operation Joint Guard.

Hammer is a member of the 353rd Civil Affairs Command, a Reserve unit from New York.

Debbie Hammer, Hammer's wife, the division manager of the Social Science section at the Queens Borough Library, coordinated the exchange of reference books to the soldiers serving in Bosnia.

Mrs. Hammer not only sent a few books to the troops, she sent 12 boxes! The books, ranged from encyclopedias to current popular reading material. "I just cannot imagine anyone, anywhere, not having access to books," Mrs. Hammer adds.

Mrs. Hammer and her son, Joshua, 16, an Internet trainer at the library, sent the books from their home in New Hyde Park, N.Y.



Captain Rozanne Edrington quickly searches through the donated books from a New York library.



Master Sergeant Mark Hammer reviews a book that was donated from a New York library.

The books were donated to 2nd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (2/ACR), from Fort Polk, La. Both Camp Dobol and Camp Demi are under the command of the 2/2 ACR.

"The books will eventually get distributed to both camps, depending on the courses the soldiers are taking," explains Hammer.

Currently, two colleges have representatives at both camps to assist soldiers in furthering their education. Central Texas College offers a wide range of courses. They have courses from basic Science to Shock, Concepts and Treatment, and even Criminal Law.

A soldier can obtain an Associates or Bachelors degree from the University of Maryland in Communication, Computer Science or Business.

"Research material will be a great help to all college students," says Lisa Day, of Jacksonville, Fla., a teacher from the University of Maryland.

Hammer adds, "These books will come in handy when you're needing to do a research paper for one of the classes."

So, thanks to the Hammers, soldiers have reference books that will allow them to work towards a degree while serving their country at the same time.

Base camp conducts redeployment processing

Story and photo by Corporal James E. Baker
345th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

For the first time, Camp McGovern soldiers are getting their redeployment processing handled at their base camp, which reduces the time that they will remain in Bosnia. In previous rotations, soldiers had to spend up to 5 days at Taszar, Hungary to redeploy.

Scheduled for June redeployment back to their home duty stations, the first group of McGovern soldiers has completed the soldier readiness program (SRP) implemented at the base camp. The SRP consists of administrative and financial briefings in addition to medical and dental screenings.

The three-day out processing enabled the soldiers to tie up loose administrative and financial ends in addition to addressing any health concerns that may have occurred during their deployment that began in mid-August 1997.

"The soldiers are motivated to get things in order to make their transition back to their home stations as smooth as possible," said Private First Class Jamie Rhoads, 20, of Durant, Okla. Rhoads is the accounting specialist of the 215th Finance Company based at Fort Sill, Okla., who briefed the soldiers on how to fill out the necessary paperwork for travel pay and reimbursement of expenses.

The process also involved routine medical and dental examinations to trouble shoot any potential health conditions that the soldiers will have to resolve upon returning home.

A traveling dental team led by Colonel Byron Lindsey, the Task Force Dental Surgeon, based at the Blue Factory at Guardian Base examined the troops. Dental X-rays and visual inspections were conducted.

The team has visited all the base camps, where 2nd Armored Cavalry Regiment (2ACR) troops are located. The results have been largely positive according to Colonel Lindsay.

"The overall dental health of the soldiers is quite good," said Lindsay.

The medical personnel on McGovern provided the screening of their fellow soldiers. Consequently, there is less need to call on external personnel to assist with the SRP. The reduction of the screening time of the redeploying soldiers is saving significant time.

With the completion of this first of two 3-day cycles, the troops can look forward to a short overnight stay in Taszar en route to their home stations.

"Just the thought of getting things done without unnecessary delay is an added bonus for troops going through the SRP at their base camp, their morale shoots up dramatically," said First Lieutenant Robert W. Jenkins, the 3rd Squadron, 2nd Armored Cavalry, Regiment Medical Platoon Leader.

Two hundred and seventy six-soldiers went through the first cycle that completed last week. The second three-day cycle will occur at the end of this month. The new streamlined system has worked as intended.

"The soldiers were very patient and cooperative because they realized they're on the last leg of their journey home," said Sergeant First Class Fay Angles, of Clermont, Fla., who is a licensed professional nurse with the Medical Troop of the Regimental Support Squadron. Angles oversaw the blood drawing of the troops. The SRP with a series of closely spaced stations went well, according to Angles.



Dental technician, Specialist Christine Bornaes prepares a fellow soldier for a dental X-ray during his redeployment processing.

Establishing goodwill with the children

Story and photo by Sergeant Terry L. Welch
345th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

Today, he wears the full “battle rattle” of a soldier, but back home in Durant, Okla., he’s a teacher. So when Specialist Charles Andrews walked into a school in Modrica with a box of school supplies, it was like being back in the classroom.

Andrews is a team member of the 345th Psychological Operations Company at Camp Colt – an Army Reserve team based in Dallas, Texas. While PSYOP teams have many uses during combat missions, here in Bosnia-Herzegovina the teams

have found new ways to help the Stabilization Force (SFOR) ensure that the peace enjoyed by Bosnia’s citizens lasts. One of those ways is by helping in distributing donated school supplies and passing out copies of *Mirko* – a magazine for children with a focus on tolerance.

Andrews said it’s important to get the message of tolerance to the children of Bosnia. “If you can stop intolerance with the kids, well, that’s something you’ve done for the next generation,” he said. “It’s just like in the U.S. with drug or crime prevention, but here, it’s hate prevention.”

Staff Sergeant Michael Corley is the team leader for the Colt team. He said that his team tries to establish rapport with the children, as well as to develop good relationship with school administrators in order to get the PSYOP message out.

Take a ride with them through the streets of the local towns and you’ll see that it appears to be working. “Every time we drive by, we have kids waving at us,” said Corley, a father of two children who lives in Sanger, Texas. “They do that to a lot of SFOR vehicles, these kids know who we are.”

The need for people to relate to them makes the soldiers of the PSYOP team somewhat unique. According to Andrews, getting to meet the people of Bosnia is one of the best parts of their job here.

Corley, said it’s especially important for him to be working with children. “Ten years ago,” he remarked, “I wouldn’t have the same thoughts about this as I do now. But because I have kids of my own, I look at these children and see the scars this war has left on them. They don’t want to go back to it. I don’t want them to go back to it either.”

Since the school supply mission is one that the PSYOP teams across Bosnia have invented for themselves, it has been incumbent upon the teams to find those supplies themselves, without government funding assistance. “We all have contacts back home: church groups, school groups and family,” said Corley. “The word gets out here “in country,” too. We received three boxes of clothes from a Headquarters, Headquarters Troop (HHT) battery from Tuzla.”

After entering the school at Modrica, Andrews and Corley spoke with the school’s principal before visiting one of the classes to talk to the children and hand out *Mirkos*. “A lot of the kids are talented here,” said the principal, Petar Milankovic. “This helps a lot. It doesn’t matter if it’s one pencil or a hundred pencils. Everything helps.”

Andrews said that anyone who wants to can help the children of Bosnia by asking people back home to send donations. “There are PSYOP teams all over,” he said. “We really can’t get too much. If we did get swamped, we’d send it to one of the other teams.”

Thanks to soldiers like Andrews and the PSYOP teams, the children will have a brighter outlook.



Specialist Charles Andrews, 345th PSYOP team, watches with a Bosnian boy as the boy's face appears on an instant photo.

141st Signal Battalion passes the mission to 440th Signal Battalion



Photo by Corporal Andrew Van Derhoff
304th Mobile Public Affairs Det.

The Transfer of Authority (TOA) between the 141st Signal Battalion, from Bad Kreuznach, Germany, and the 440th Signal Battalion, from Darmstadt, Germany, became official at Eagle Base on May 23, 1998.

The 141st Signal Battalion deployed to Bosnia in September 1997, as part of Task Force Eagle in support of Operation Joint Guard. The 440th Signal Battalion will provide support to Task Force Eagle units until the closure of 1st Armored Division mission in Bosnia.