TALON

Operation Joint Forge
Saturday, November 4, 2000

Task Force Eagle
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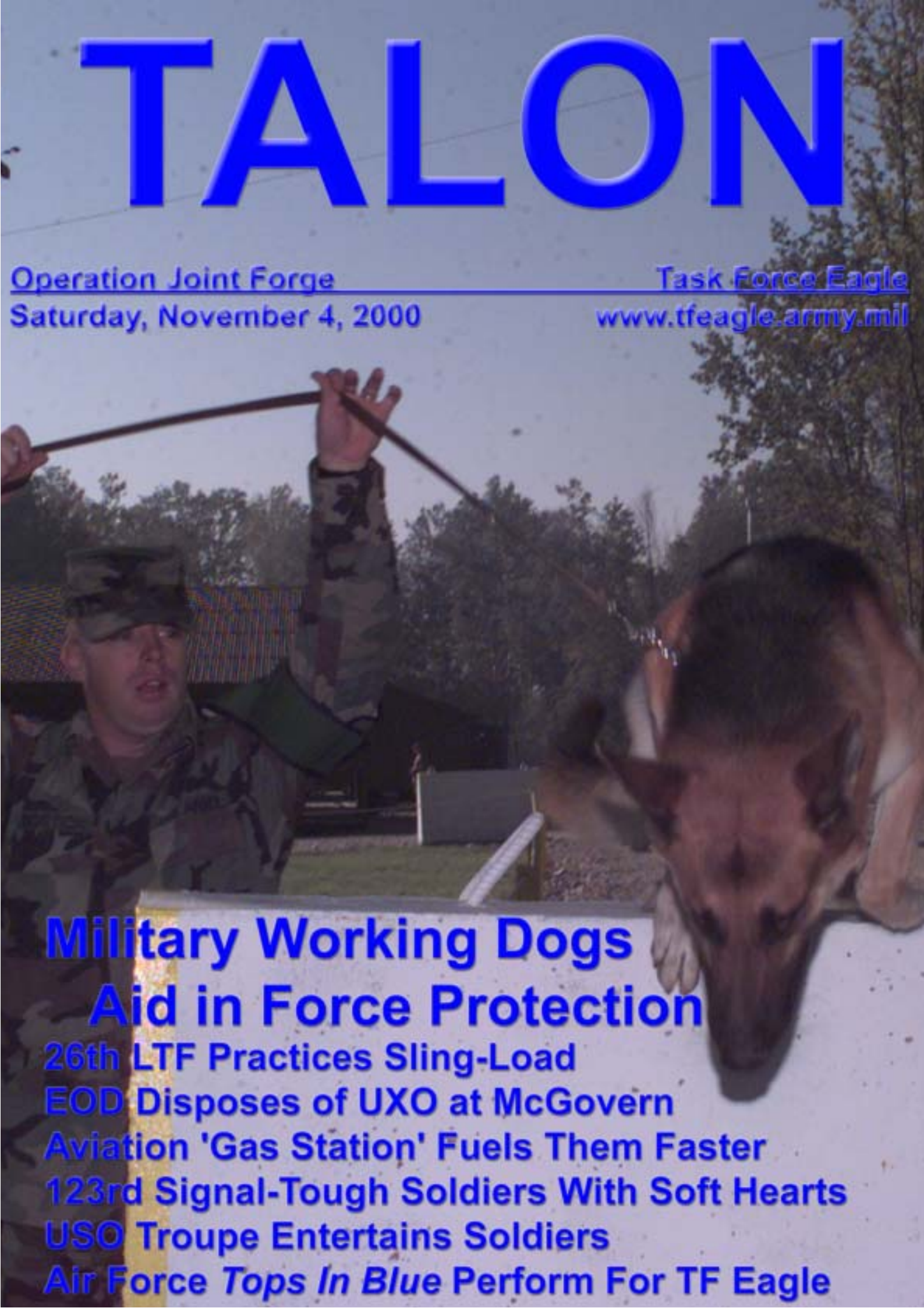

Military Working Dogs Aid in Force Protection

26th LTF Practices Sling-Load

EOD Disposes of UXO at McGovern

Aviation 'Gas Station' Fuels Them Faster

123rd Signal-Tough Soldiers With Soft Hearts

USO Troupe Entertains Soldiers

Air Force *Tops In Blue* Perform For TF Eagle

MAKE HERE HOME!

There is great power in the word 'home'. It brings to mind sayings like, 'Home, Sweet Home,' 'Home Is Where the Heart Is,' or, 'There Is No Place Like Home.' All of these sayings are true for us to one degree or another. O, of the fondness that thoughts of home and the comfort of family bring.

But, we are not there and right now all we have are those thoughts. I recall a friend from school days who vowed never to refer to her dorm room as 'home.' Others would say they were headed home, but she would always say, "I am going to 'The Dorm.'" I can imagine that prisoners refer to their cells with the same tone.

Her effort was a good one. 'Home' was a place of significance, meaning and belonging. Her dorm room deserved none of those descriptions. And so, she made herself and the rest of us constantly aware of the fact that we were not home.

Some of us may have similar attitudes about our current residences. We are not home. This place will never replace our homes, nor should it. But, for this deployment, it is where we reside. Making it more like home is important for our well-being. The prophet, Jeremiah, encouraged the people of God in exile to make homes for themselves in the land of captivity. He wrote, "Build houses and settle down; plant gardens and eat what they produce," (Jeremiah 29:5). His guidance was for them to settle into their new situation.

For us this guidance is that we should make this place, for me Camp Commanche, into our 'homes.' I need to look for ways to make a home here. Units do this by putting up signs with unit names and crests. I did this by posting family photos in my work area and in my room. You can import part of your home to your temporary home. The important thing to remember is that this is our 'home' for a while. Try truly living here.

Likewise, I urge you to consider your spiritual home. Jesus said, "For where your treasure is, there your will heart be also" (Matthew 6:21). Where is your spiritual heart? Find your spiritual treasures and you will find your spiritual home. For many this discovery begins with recognizing God's unconditional love. I hope you find it too.

THOUGHTS FOR THE DAY

Saturday: The happiness of your life depends on the quality of your thoughts.

Sunday: An atheist is a person who has no invisible means of support.

Monday: If you have the smile of God, sooner or later you can expect the frown on men.

Tuesday: True faith is not just believing God can, it's knowing that God will!

Wednesday: If you can give but one gift, make it the gift of a good example.

Thursday: Your character is what God knows you to be. Your reputation is what others think you are.

Friday: If the going gets easy, you may be going downhill.

Chaplain (MAJ) Phillip C. Conner
Aviation Brigade Chaplain

Talon stock photo

TALON

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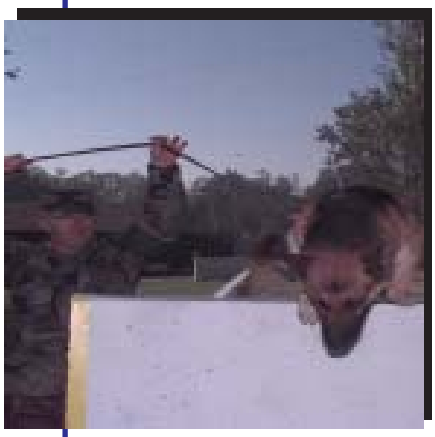

ON THE COVER 9

Sgt. Larry Bostick trains with his partner, Ronny, shown during a canine version of PT. Military working dogs have long aided soldiers in accomplishing force protection and other dangerous roles (**Photo by Spc. Chris Carney**)

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Soldiers form the 26th Logistics Task Force Prepare for a Sling-load exercise that took place here at Eagle Base. (**Photo by Sgt. Joseph C. DeCaro**)

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Air Force *Tops In Blue* sings and performs for soldiers at Eagle Base. (**Photo by Sgt. Shannon Woods**)

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On Leadership: A Few Thoughts

(Part 1)

By Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp
Commander, MND(N)

After reading some of my recent articles in the Talon, I am sure you have seen the reference to the critical role of leadership on more than one occasion. There are many great military manuals written on the subject that provide the theory as well as the practice of effective and substantive leadership. From time to time, I think it is important to share with you my thoughts on the subject and provide you with some "words of wisdom" as you strive to become the most effective leader possible. This is the first of three articles that I hope you will find useful in your continual development as a leader.

Teamwork is essential. We all contribute to the success of the mission. This is not a trite statement. For instance, if the security force did not maintain its vigilance 24-hours a day, the planning centers could not focus on providing detailed plans for our units. If the planning centers did not conduct sufficient analysis while considering all courses of actions to assure mission success, then our units couldn't achieve that success. If our support troops did not ensure that our equipment was in top-running shape, then we would all come to a standstill. And if our servicing troops did not ensure that our personal needs were tended to, then our pay, mail, chow, and the like would be affected. This illustration shows the necessary link between all troopers in MND (N), and the reliance we share among one-another. Teamwork is essential both among and within units. For the officers and non-commissioned officers I rate, teamwork is one of the key components of my evaluation rating. I would rather have a tank platoon with all four tanks "Q1," than a platoon with 3 tanks "distinguished" and 1 unqualified." Teamwork is simply the name of the game.

Treat everyone with dignity and respect. This is one of the most essential ingredients to being an effective leader. We all must challenge ourselves to live by the golden rule of treating others, as you would like to be treated. I understand that times can be tough and missions can seem like a heavy weight. But that does not give us the right to take our frustrations out on each other. We must remain poised and confident to tackle the tough missions head-on and keep our frustrations from each other. Tf we do this, we will continue to maintain a positive working and living environment

Know yourself and seek improvement. We all come from unique backgrounds and experiences and possess certain abilities and strengths. At the same time, none of us are perfect and can always find room for improvement as we strive to become more

Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp

competent leaders. This can be achieved in many ways. Take time to determine the shortcomings in your duty performance, military bearing, attitude, and self-direction. Ask for feedback from those around you. This is probably the hardest thing to do, but I guarantee it is worth it. If you identify a shortcoming, develop a plan to improve and correct it. In addition, we have many facilities on our basecamps that are tremendous resources for self-improvement. Simply stated, it starts with you... take the time to become *"all you can be."*

Be humble. It is okay to be impressed with your duty description or the amount of responsibility you have been given but it's not okay to be impressed with yourself. If we truly understand where the action happens, we can plainly see that the soldiers we lead really accomplish the mission. For example, I am often humbled by the conscientious work ethic of peacekeepers in the Multinational Division (North). When I am briefed on the great work you do everyday, I can truly see who makes things happen in our areas of operation. That being said, look deep into your sections and units and see where the 'rubber meets the road' and who is truly responsible for allowing you to be a successful leader.

Never take pleasure in someone else's misfortune. It may be tempting at times to find satisfaction in another's shortfall such as the person who is not doing as well as you. However, the odd thing about a large organization such as ours is that you might find yourself on this end the very next day! Always look for opportunities to help a fellow soldier or unit through a difficult situation. There are many demands placed on us throughout the longevity of our mission. There are also times when others may be struggling and need a helping hand to get the job done. Never turn your back on them. Give a quiet hand and remember that one day you may be in the same situation that requires a little assistance as well. I find there is probably no greater satisfaction than when someone says to you, "you really came through for me... thanks".

-Continued next issue

Rock of the Marne!

USO Troupe Uplifts Spirits at Camp McGovern

Story and photos
By Spc. Jodie M. Moore
318th PCH, Camp McGovern

With a musical mix of oldies, show tunes, and modern pop, the USO Troupe of Metropolitan New York brought a high-energy performance to Camp McGovern October 22.

Performing in their last concert in Bosnia-Herzegovina, the Troupe consisting of: Stacy Turner, Stephanie Ferrari, Victoria Reed, and Erin Wheatley expressed gratitude by performing for the hardworking soldiers here in Bosnia.

RECORD—Soldiers at Camp McGovern sit back and enjoy the USO performance.

Singing such songs as, "America the Beautiful," "What's Love Gotta Do With It," "Proud Mary," "Under the Boardwalk," and "My Heart Will Go On," the Troupe captivated the mostly male crowd.

Throughout the night the Troupe worked the audience, singing and even dancing with the soldiers. Staff Sgt. Selby K. Primus, HHC 315th JVB (Joint Visitors Bureau) out of Ft. Stewart, Ga., was one of the lucky few who actually shared the spotlight with a USO performer on stage. After his spontaneous dance number, Primus had nothing but positive feelings on the show. Primus declared the show was, "Very wonderful. It uplifted my spirit. I was feeling down today until I came here," he said.The Troupe ended the evening with a rousing rendition of "America of the Beautiful." The soldiers gave the Troupe a standing ovation for their uplifting performance. "Outstanding," said Staff Sgt. Michael O. Williams, 3rd SSB (Soldier Support Battalion) out of Atlanta, GA., on the USO Troupe performance, "Out of all of the shows, this was the best one yet," added Williams.

60's DOO WOP — Much to the delight of the audience, Erin Wheatley, a USO Troupe member, serenades a 57th Medical Company Air Ambulance soldier.

NEWEST MEMBER?— Getting involved in the act, Staff Sgt. Mchael O. Wiliams, tries on USO member, StacyTurner's red boa.

The USO Troupe brought a much-deserved respite to the soldiers at Camp McGovern.

HOOK-UP—26th Logistics Task Force soldiers review hook-up procedures prior to a sling load exercise at Eagle Base, Bosnia-Herzegovina, October 14th.

SIGNAL—A 26th LogisticsTask Force soldier receives training on hand and arm signals during the exercise.

SLING-LOAD EXERCIS

Story and photos
By Sgt. Joseph C. DeCaro
69th PCH, Eagle Base

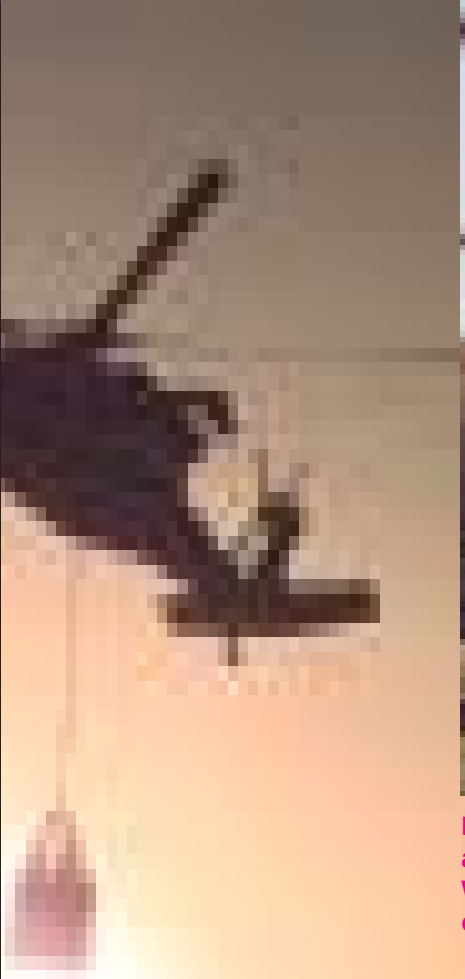
Soldiers of Company A, 26th Logistics Task Force, 3rd Infantry I
Airfield on October 14th. UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters partic
were provided by the Commanding General's Flight Detachme

"The exercise was intended to train both the task force soldiers an
Stacy A. McKinney, Co. A, 26th LTF. "The sling-load practice is nece
Bosnian winter. The sling-load technique will be utilized to supply pe
such as Camp McGovern or Hill 722," she said.

Sgt. 1st Class Walcott Wynter, NCOIC of the exercise, is air assaul
of Operation Desert Storm. "My unit's peacekeeping mission here is

The exercise required loads of MRE's and bottled water, which w
before being hooked-up to the helicopters. At a minimum, it took
generated by the helicopter blades and provide hand and arm signal

During the night training, chemlights were used as illumination t



LIFT-OFF—(above) 26th Logistics Task Force soldiers hook-up a load to a UH-60 Blackhawk at Eagle Base, Bosnia-Herzegovina on the October 14 exercise.
WHERE DO YOU WANT IT?—(center page) Once successfully loaded, the UH-60 Helicopter transports the supplies to their final destination.

BIG LOAD—Soldiers of Company A, 26th Logistics Task Force, rig 1,200 lbs. of rations in prepartion for the sling-load.

SE A SUCCESS

Division (Mechanized), practiced their sling-load techniques on Tuzla
ipating in the exercise, which ran from late afternoon into the evening,
nt and the 57th Medical Company.
d the pilots and crew chiefs of the Blackhawk helicopters," said 2nd Lt.
essary because the roads may become impassable during the upcoming
etroleum products, food, water, and medical supplies to outlying areas

t qualified and has experience sling-loading howitzers during the heat
totally different from the desert war, though," he said.
eighed approximately 1,200 lbs. These loads were secured and rigged
three soldiers to hook-up the load, discharge any static electricity
s for the pilots as they approached the landing zone.
o help guide the pilots to the payload.

EOD Finds And Safely Disables Anti-Personnel Grenade At Camp McGovern

Story
By Spc. Jodie M. Moore
318th PCH, Camp McGovern

An anti-personnel rifle grenade was dug up by Brown & Root on Camp McGovern on October 26.

The mine was unearthed from a clay pit during remodeling on the edge of post.

A two man team consisting of: Staff Sgt. Michael R. McCaddon, and Spc. John M. Healey from the 363rd EOD (Explosive Ordinance Disposal) in Casa Grande, Arizona, were called in to take charge of detonating the mine at Camp McGovern.

EOD generally works in two man teams, said Staff Sgt. McCaddon. One-person coordinates and the other works on the actual detonation.

"I basically worked on setting up the shot, while Staff Sgt. McCaddon did all the coordinating for the detonation," said Spc. Healey.

There's a lot of planning that goes into the detonation of a mine. When a mine is found on post, there are extra precautions that must be taken. "We take into account the personnel in the area. The positives and negatives of detonating the mine in place or moving it are also looked at. The whole overall operation is coordinated with S-3," said McCaddon.

According to Spc. Healey, incidents on post are not typical.

"This is just the second explosion on post. A child came up to the front gate carrying a similar device about a month ago," said Spc. Healey.

Even so, the EOD team here stays pretty busy overall. Two months into their deployment here, EOD has worked on upwards of 50 explosions, said McCaddon.

Being deployed to Bosnia does come with risk. Unexploded mines are a real threat here. To deal with this ongoing threat, the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) can rely upon EOD. On this day, the two-man team safely detonated the mine. Air and land traffic were then given the go ahead to precede.

Thanks to the EOD team, Camp McGovern can continue the MNDCN mission safely for another day.

FARPS Provide Full Service Refueling For Helicopters

Story
By Sgt. David Lietz
318th PCH, Eagle Base

A forward arming and refueling point (FARP) is one of the most dangerous places for a soldier to work in the Army. Generally, a FARP is the size of a football field, and it's the location where helicopters are refueled and fresh ammunition is loaded on board.

FARP's usually contain 6 to 8 refueling points. They can be set up within 45 minutes to an hour.

Each point will have ammunition needed for a particular type of helicopter.

"We put out the amount of ammo that an OH-58 warrior crew has requested. That includes 2.75 inch rockets and 50 caliber ammunition," said Staff Sgt. Machelle Winn, 1-229 HHC aviation ammunition specialist, Fort Bragg, North Carolina.

The ammunition is pre-positioned on the point so when the helicopter lands, it can be loaded quickly.

FARPS are illuminated with chemical lights set on top of a flare panel at night. This helps the pilots locate the FARP.

The Apache crews use heat signature panels, which can be picked up by infrared sensors.

Stinger and hellfire missiles can also be loaded.

"depending on the mission will determine how they configure the aircraft weapons systems," said Sgt Daniel Laffin, shift leader at Comanche FARP, 3rd Infantry Division Aviation Brigade.

"We are here to support the aircraft. We can operate in rain, sleet, and snow with no problems.", continued Sgt. Laffin

"If there are bullets flying down range we will be here to support aircraft. However if we have lightning within three nautical miles we shut down the FARP. We can operate in any type of terrain.

We can be airlifted by Chinook, inserted on a mountaintop, do our mission and vacate the area. Lightning is our enemy. A lightning strike hitting any type of fuel source can be potentially deadly.", explained Sgt. Laffin.

Normally each FARP point requires two personnel plus a refueler.

On Apaches, the pilots do not get off the aircraft to maintain safety while refueling.

On an OH-58, the person occupying the right seat, or co-pilot, will get out and man the fire extinguisher during the refueling. He watches for flash fires or anything out of the ordinary.

For example, a hose rupture or any type of ignition source, said Sgt. Laffin.

According to Sgt. Laffin, all of the Army helicopters, with the exception of the OH-58 kiowa aircraft, use the D-1 nozzle, a closed circuit refueling nozzle that is NATO friendly so that all other allied nation aircraft use the same fuel nozzle.

K-9 Units Play a Vital Role in the Operations at Eagle Base

Story by Sgt. David Lietz
318th PCH, Eagle Base
Photos by Spc. Chris Carney
318th PCH, Eagle Base

Sgt. James Bockelmann, 42nd Military Police Detachment, 16th Military Police Brigade, Fort Bragg, NC., and Sgt. Larry Bostick, of the 89th Military Police Brigade, Fort Hood, TX., work with some very special partners performing their military police duties. Their partners, Ronny and Uvarted, are military working dogs.

Military dogs have been around since Roman times. They have been used in WWII, and the Vietnam War, on scouting missions, tunn.

LISTEN UP— Sgt. James Bockelmann prepares Uvarted for the next mission. Military working dogs usually travel everywhere their masters go.

HEEL— Sgt. Larry Bostick leads Ronny to their next mission. Whether seach and apprehension, mine or narcotics detection, these K-9 units have lived up to their motto, "Guardians of the Night".

Military dogs, like their human counterparts, receive Army Achievement medals, and even Army Commendations for their work.

There are five types of K-9 teams: explosive detection dogs, narcotics detection dogs, patrol dogs, narcotics patrol dogs, and explosive patrol dogs.

In regards to patrol work, K-9 teams are used to assist military police officers in building searches, scouting missions to locate a suspect, and also in suspect apprehension. K-9's are also used as a psychological deterrent.

"More often than not, the presence of a MP dog diffuses a situation," according to Sgt. Bostick.

The five service branches send their dog handlers to the Department of Defense K-9 Handler's School at the 341st Training Squadron, Lackland Air Force Base, for a three-month course.

Once there, the handler works with a dog but is not issued a dog until he gets to his assigned duty station.

The majority of military working dogs are purchased in Europe. About half of the dogs are bought by DoD in Germany, Belgium, France or the Netherlands. Generally, a military working dog has a career of eight years.

Most dogs work until 10 years of age, on average , according to Sgt. First Class Jeffery Ridenour, 163rd MP Detachment, Fort Campbell, Kentucky.

"This is the best job in the Army," said Sgt Bostick.

While preparing for a health and welfare search Monday morning, he explained additional duties a K-9 team can perform.

"In the States, we work with the Secret Service in advance of the President, VicePresident and other VIP'S," said Sgt. Bostick. "We also do garrison law enforcement, building searches and traffic enforcement."

Sgt. First Class Ridenour agreed, "Usually we end up getting tasked from higher headquarters to support the various agencies. We assist civilian law enforcement agencies for bomb detection. That's the biggest area we support in the civilian sector. We also work with the U.S. Customs Service and the Drug Enforcement Agency."

Currently, there are seven dog teams based in Tuzla, and not surprisingly the motto of the K-9 corps here at Eagle Base is "Guardians of the Night."

DONATIONS PLEASE—Capt. Charles D. Simpson, commander of the 123rd, and translator Sehic Suada pass out donated items.

For Those In Need—

B Co, 123rd Signal Lends a Hand

Story and Photos
By SPC Christopher D. Carney
318th PCH, Eagle Base

Members of Bravo Company, 123rd Signal Battalion, spent the afternoon at a Tuzla refugee camp with local civilians on October 25, providing support and giving out needed items to families who have been affected most by the years of war in the Balkans.

Capt. Charles D. Simpson Jr., commander of Bravo Company, commented on why help was needed for these families.

"A lot are from the Srebrinica area and may have lost homes or family members," he said. "There are 50 people, 25 to 30 of whom are children, living in a single building. They share a two-story house with only one bathroom that was donated to them by a British couple."

Spc. Marie J. Leon, who helped box the donations, said the work was time consuming, but worth it.

"These people need it," Leon said. "If we can do anything to help these people no matter how small, it is better than nothing."

"I've done this kind of work in the States,"Spc. Leon said. "It breaks my heart to see that most people take advantage of what they have. To see people with no shoes on their feet or clothes on their back is hard."

The 123rd gave out over 300 pounds of items to the grateful families. Items such as blankets, toothbrushes and winter clothes were especially well received. According to Spc. Arthur Baird, seeing people in need can be an eye opening experience and can even change the way a person feels about something.

"At first I thought what was the point of coming over here, but once you see things it changes. It's hard to be indifferent to suffering when you see it firsthand. There is no way to help everybody, but the ones we touch directly we make a difference," said Spc. Baird.

Making a difference seems to be a trend in the 123rd Signal. Spc. Leon has previous experience working with the needy, and Spc. Jody E. M. Bryan does as well.

"I used to work at a soup kitchen back home," said Bryon. "It's great that we can go down there and help people out. I am glad we get to do this here, people need it more."

Lt. Paul T. Bequette stated his feelings while handing out goods: "This makes all of the work worthwhile."

BEARER OF GIFTS—(Left) Boxes and boxes of gifts we graciously donated. Here Spc. Aurthur Baird prepares to share the wealth.

THE CANDYMAN CAN—(Right) 1st Sgt. Harry E. Simmons releases a smile as he gives a group of childern candy.

WHAT A SHOW—2nd Lt. Sarah Cantrell (left) graces the audience with her amazing musical talent while 1st Lt. Eric Cameron (right) bellows out a solo on his trumpet and (Bottom Right) Dorothy, the Tin Man and Scarecrow skip along the Yellow-Brick Road.

AIR FORCE 'TOPS' PERFORM FOR FULL HOUSE AT EAGLE BASE

Story by Sgt. David Lietz
318th PCH, Eagle Base
Photos by Sgt. Shannon Woods
69th PCH, Eagle Base

With trumpets and guitars wailing, men and women dancing, and soldiers enjoying themselves during a magical evening of entertainment at the sports complex, a group of airmen performed an array of songs and routines that had everyone smiling.

Tops in Blue, one of the oldest and widely traveled groups of its kind, featured talented airmen who played a variety of instruments and performed song and dance routines.

"The show has different themes and performers each year," said Air Force Captain Chris Kniffen, tour director/keyboardist. "It's a fantastic show… very high energy! I can't say enough good things about these people. They go the extra mile."

Some of the highlights of the show included a power-packed trumpet duet of Lionel Ritchie's 'All Night Long', and a drum solo by Sr. Airman Kevin Armstrong performed during 'The Heart of Rock and Roll' by Huey Lewis. In Addition, a soulful rendition of 'You Make Me Feel (Like a Natural Woman)' by vocalist 2nd Lt. Sarah Cantrell, drew applause from the audience.

Even more amazing than the performance itself is their incredibly intense schedule and workload. A typical work week includes four shows in four different locations.

"The schedule is demanding," said Capt. Kniffen. In one day, the group travels to a location, most of which are Air Force, Army and Naval installations, sets up

The following are the dates that you should have your mail and packages in for items going to CONUS for Christmas delivery—

Space Available	20 Nov 00
Parcel Airlift	4 Dec 00
Priority Parcels	11 Dec 00
First Calss Letters & Cards	11 Dec 00

To ensure your family and friends get their packages to you within OJF (CONUS TO OJF Only) send by—

Standard Mail	6 Nov 00
Space Available Mail	27 Nov 00
Parcel Airlift	4 Dec 00
Priority Parcels	11 Dec 00
First Class Letters & Cards	11 Dec 00

DAYS GONE BY— Chief Warrant Officer 5 Peter Kalogris(left) and Captain Buddy Meador watches as the sun sets on another day.

SOLDIER'S SPOTLIGHT

HAIL TO THE CHIEF

Story and photos by Sgt David Lietz
318th PCH, Eagle Base

Chief Warrant Officer 5 Peter Kalogris, a native of Long Island, NY, has 6,800 hours of experience flying helicopters. Involved in Army aviation since 1967, he has flown every helicopter in the Army's inventory except the Apache and the Kiowa Warrior.

"On my first tour in Vietnam, I flew Huey helicopters. Then on my second tour I flew the Chinook," said Chief Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris, who was shot down twice and received the Silver Star for providing suppressive fire to cover a medical evacuation of wounded U.S. troops.

Today, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris works at the Task Force Med Eagle as a safety officer, an instructor pilot and a battle captain.

"The battle captain runs the Tactical Operations Center. We do all the coordination for dust offs (Medical Evacuations) by air or ground," he said.

"If the helicopters are grounded due to fog at night or early in the morning, we will send the Danish SISU, which is an armored ground ambulance." However after completing a risk analysis, 99 times out of 100, a rescue crew is airborne within 10 minutes.

But sometimes the decision to fly a mission is difficult. The MEDEVAC pilot knows that if they cannot fly a mission for whatever reason, there is a potential for loss of life, limb or eyesight.

"This is the responsibility of a MEDEVAC pilot that no other pilot has!" said to Chief Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris.

Each mission must be carefully assessed to insure that the four crew members; pilot in command, pilot, crew chief and medic, are not put in unnecessary danger while responding to help others. Good judgment and common sense are important, according to Chief Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris.

"MEDEVAC pilots needs to make good decisions every time," said Cheif Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris.

This is why MEDEVAC pilots keep safety foremost in mind. "If I have to land due to bad weather I will. But if there is anyway to fly the mission, we will get there."

Perhaps it is this can-do attitude that helped to Chief Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris earn 19 air medals including the Distinguished Flying Cross, which is the highest award for military flying, during his extensive career as a soldier.

ALWAYS ON THE READY— Cheif Warrant Officer 5 Kalogris' UH-60 Blackhawk sits on the flight line awaiting to be called to duty once again.