

TALON

Operation Joint Forge
Saturday, December 2, 2000

Task Force Eagle
www.tfeagle.army.mil

Dobol vs. Tojsici Village Soccer Team



**TF Eagle 5-Star Thanksgiving Dinner
"Unbreakable" World Premier
Commander's Cup Competition**



On Pilgrimage in November

We all are on a pilgrimage of sorts. While we all can easily confirm the fact that we are en route, the goal of each of our travels is more difficult to discern unless we have faith that helps in the direction and the ultimate goals of life. For every major world religion, the pilgrimage is a celebrated way to search for God. It consists of the journey, the arrival, the experiences in the holy place, and the return. In each of these stages, God works a gift in the life of the pilgrim. It may be a miraculous cure, or divine response to an offered need. For many, it may be the renewal of a forgotten faith or the simple opportunity to once again consider the holy as having a needed place in a life too filled with distractions and stress.

In late November, 48 members of Eagle Base had a chance to experience the meaning of a pilgrimage. It was to the place where the blessed Virgin Mary is reputed to be appearing to the faithful since 1981. The place is called Medjugorje. The trip was an arduous five hour bus ride south through the rolling hills, mountains and river valleys of Bosnia. For those who had signed up to come, it was an adventure as well as an opportunity to meet new friends and get to know old ones even better. It was a chance to get away, refocus attention on the spiritual and search once again for the holy spirit.

The significant thing about a pilgrimage is that despite the planning, the unexpected always intervenes. Perhaps this is God's way of showing us how truly dependent we are on him. In our case the unexpected was the skill and speed of the bus driver that allowed an extra hour for stop-off in Butmir both for lunch and dinner; not to mention the precious chance to stretch and find a toilet. It was the passage through villages that still showed the scars of war that once again reminded us of the purpose of the SFOR mission. It was the fortuitous arrival at MND (SE) Espana-Mostar and discovering that we had many pilgrims who could speak Spanish. It was our prayer with other nations that showed us more of what we have in common rather than our differences.

Medjugorje in the off-season is the best time to go. The absence of the crowds gives the visitor the feel for the expansiveness of the spaces there. The flocks of sheep that freely graze around the church of St. James are more courageous when the pilgrims are fewer. While the guides all have their itinerary, there is more time to linger, ask questions, pause for a quiet prayer and see things the rushed tourist would never consider. There was even a rare visit with one of the visionaries who actually sees the Blessed Mother every sixth day.

For the troops that went, the climb up Apparition Hill was the climax of the journey. The rough terrain and mud made conditions difficult, much like life in general. It was the intermittent pauses for prayer and the breathtaking view that rewarded the pilgrim. Who can describe the hearts of those who gathered around the place where Mary actually appeared? The quietness was intense. The meditation we experienced opened up the soul to healing and forgiveness. Fittingly, nature played its part as well when it rained as if to cleanse us upon our departure.

Tired, but happy for the chance to experience the gift of God at Medjugorje, we returned in the dark and were received by the lights of Comanche and Eagle, renewed and restored.

Thoughts For The Day

Saturday: If you're not afraid to face the music, you may someday lead the band.

Sunday: Some minds are like concrete – all mixed up and permanently set.

Monday: The yoke of the Lord will never fit a stiff neck.

Tuesday: The business of faith is to see things that are out of sight.

Wednesday: The measure of our real character is what we would do if we knew no one would ever find out.

Thursday: Digging for facts is better than jumping to conclusions.

Friday: Don't grumble if you don't get what you want; just be glad you don't get what you deserve.

By Chaplain (CPT) Edward Moran
401st EABG Chaplain

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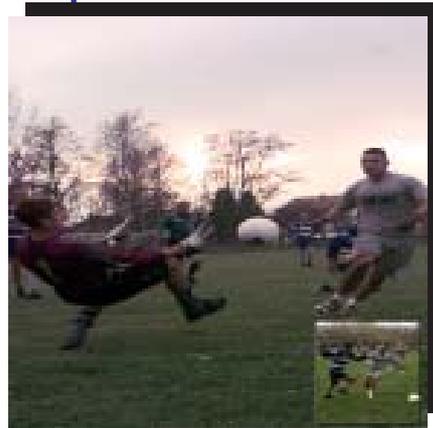
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Spc. Bruce Torres, HHC 1-64 AR, has the goalie falling head over heels in a vain attempt to deny Camp Dobol's team their first goal of the game. (inset) 1st Lt. Thomas Kurtz, HHC 1-64 AR, fights for control of the ball in the first half. (Photos by Sgt. Noreen L. Feeney)



THANKSGIVING 10-11

MEANS FOOD

FOR EVERYONE
All Food the imagination could conjure was on display at Eagle Base as well as all the hilltops and base camps. (Photo by Sgt. Keith McGrew, Combat Camera)



JOINT PATROL

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A joint patrol involving the Turkish and Polish armies took place during the Bosnian election. (Photo by Sgt. David Lietz)

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ON LEADERSHIP: A FEW FINAL THOUGHTS (PART THREE)



By Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp

Commander, Multinational Division (North)

I would like to conclude my discussion on the essential elements I believe necessary in being an effective leader. This is the final part in a three-part series.

Throughout the two previous articles, I discussed leadership in terms of individual qualities and practices that yield positive and effective leadership. Also, I talked about teamwork and its need in everything we do here in Multinational Division (North). During this last part, I want to focus on those qualities that are more interpersonal and add aspects of the human dimension to leading our soldiers.

Compassion. Our mission here can be challenging at times, and it is easy to forget about those who are truly responsible for getting the job done. We may sometimes get so mission focused that we forget that we are leading other human beings who have emotions, shortcomings, and imperfections. Compassion is patience with our soldiers during the most difficult situations. Compassion is tolerance and the ability to “underwrite” honest mistakes in the course of daily duties. Compassion is taking a “listening-break” even though your work continues to pile up. And most importantly, compassion is the fullest extension of treating others with dignity and respect. Compassion does not mean we coddle those we lead. It does not mean that we do not ensure standards are kept. But, as we continue in our mission we always consider that those we lead are not ‘unbreakable.’

Caring for soldiers. I have said throughout my articles on leadership that soldiers are our most precious resources. Often times one may think that care of soldiers means giving them time off or assuring quality leisure facilities are available at their requests. These are a part of, but not the real meaning, to this important aspect of leadership. Care of soldiers also means things like: holding soldiers to tough, realistic standards of soldiering; expecting excellence in all tasks and not allowing shortcuts to be taken; providing others specific and thorough guidance for the conduct of a mission or completion of a task which minimizes confusion.

How we care for soldiers has a direct and lasting impact on how effective a leader they will become. As leaders we must understand that how we care for our soldiers will shape their leadership qualities in the future. As leaders we must continue the tremendous legacy of soldier care and identify ways to build our soldiers to assure they achieve all that they set out to accomplish.

Spirituality. Often times, spirituality can seem the furthest from what we do as leaders. Yet, developing your own spirituality respective of your individual belief system is an integral part of maintaining a moral and ethical stronghold as a leader. Spirituality offers us inspiration and solace in the most troubling times. Spirituality provides a manner by which leaders’ can gauge their “moral azimuth” and identify measures that may be taken to improve. Lastly, taking quiet reflective time and delving into one’s

Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp

own spirituality can provide an inner peace that leaders need especially when the ‘going gets tough.’ Developing your own spirituality translates to a leader that is more able to think clearly and remain balanced and poised in the toughest situations. I ask that every leader take a good look at the role spirituality plays in the conduct of your duties.

Whole person concept. Lastly, the Army’s “whole person concept” used in many evaluation tools simplifies how leaders must be measured. If you are a brilliant tactician, but cannot influence the smallest unit to achieve that task, the plan you’ve written is meaningless. If you maintain the highest levels of personal physical fitness, yet foster a leadership climate of suspicion and contempt, you have achieved little as a leader. Or, if you maximize soldier’s time off or relax standards, yet you have soldiers ill-prepared for boards or not professionally developed in their military occupational specialty, then your good intentions were just that, which yields little substantive results. Excellent leaders are simply a compilation of **all** positive leadership characteristics and more.

In closing this three part series, I hope you have seen how I envision an effective and successful leader. As we strive to improve in our leadership abilities, we are charged to reflect on these type of characteristics and identify where our shortcomings and hurdles are to maintaining effective leadership. There is no formula or map that one can follow to assure positive and effective leadership. Rather, it is personalized to each leader’s uniqueness under girded by the values, standards and duty ethic demanded by the service to our country. Take this charge very seriously and gauge whether you are really setting the standards of leadership in word, deed, duty and life. I applaud your continued improvement efforts in your individual journey toward being the most effective leader possible!

Rock of the Marne!

DOBOL SOCCER TEAM TAKES ON LOCALS IN MATCH

Story and photos

By Sgt. Noreen L. Feeney

318th PCH, Camp Dobol

An Army convoy drives through a small town about 10 kilometers southeast of Tuzla. A curious crowd gathers as the entire convoy pulls off the road near a playing field.

Most of the local citizens have never seen an American without a flak vest or Kevlar and have no idea what is going on. They watch in awe as the soldiers come out of their battle gear like butterflies out of cocoons.

Some of the soldiers are carrying soccer balls, some are carrying water, but all are still carrying their weapons. As the Americans approach the opening to the field dressed in the distinctive gray and black Army physical fitness uniform, it becomes obvious what is about to take place.

Amidst the daily patrols, the 24-hour guard duty and the constant ID checks, Camp Dobol has taken a giant step in peaceful relations with the citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The newly formed Camp Dobol Soccer Team took the field for the first time against the Tojsici village team in an officiated game Nov. 19.

Sgt. 1st Class Gary White, of the 13th Psyops Battalion here, arranged the game up with the local team.

"All we're doing is building a relationship with the local populace," he said. "Hopefully we all will do more of these kinds of things so they know what we're about and that we can be trusted."

The game was supposed to have been between soldiers and local citizens. However, when the opposing team showed up with matching uniforms and cleats, it was discovered that many of them were from a local Canton team, which is equivalent to college level, according to Sgt. 1st Class White.

Nevertheless, that didn't bother the Camp Dobol team one bit.

Pfc. Bill Jones, a mechanic assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), here, couldn't wait for the game to start.

"This is going to be great," he said with anticipation. "I've been playing for 15 years. I've played Africans, Italians and Germans, but I've never played Bosnians before."

The game started out on the defensive for the Americans, as the Tojsici team came in with their feet flying. They made several shots on goal early in the game, but were unable to get it past Pfc. Jones, the American goalie. Throughout the entire game, he made several diving saves using everything from his toes to his face and held off

the ever-charging Tojsici team for almost nine minutes before the first ball got past him. It wasn't long before the Tojsici team was able to find some holes in the unpracticed American defense by scoring two more quick goals via some fancy footwork.

Without cleats on a wet and muddy field, the Americans were at a definite disadvantage, losing several key possessions due to slipping and sliding. Spc. Bruce Torres, HHC, 1-64 AR, was one who lost a key possession on a steal deep in Tojsici territory.

Charging down the field at double time, Spc. Torres snuck around the opposing player, and stole the ball with a clean sweep of his foot. Still heading toward the goal at full throttle, the goalie took a chance and came out of the net to challenge him. Spc. Torres, not wanting to take out or hurt the goalie, turned to the side; in doing so, he

I can play the Americans when I get older."

After a brief rest, the soldiers were ready for a fight. They scored first in the second half when the goalie came too far onto the field, making it easy for Pvt. Chris Jenkins, HHC, 1-64 AR, to pass the ball to a wide open teammate, scoring the Army's third goal.

Two more goals for the villagers made the score 8-3 in their favor; but the Army was not done yet.

An illegal play by the Tojsici team netted a free kick for Capt. Richard Correz, Commander, HHC, 1-64 AR, who kicked the ball so hard and fast, it got by three defenders before finally being stopped by the fourth. The goalie had committed an illegal move during the free kick, thereby setting up a penalty kick taken by Pfc. Heliodoro Delaluz, HHC, 1-64 AR.



SLASHING—The Camp Dobol team's offense slices through the Tojsici team's defense to bring the ball down the length of the field.

slipped and lost the ball.

Spc. Torres more than made up for his 'slip' later on in a break away and shot that was completely out of reach of the flailing arms of the goalie, to successfully make the first goal for Dobol.

The Dobol team started to slow down near the half; allowing three more goals for the local team. Ultimately, the half ended with a 6-2 lead by the Tojsici team.

During the half time break, several local children grabbed the field for a little play on their own.

Ermin Smigalovic, a 10-year-old local resident, said he thought it was a good idea to play each other and he wished he and his friends were big enough to play the Americans.

"I think it will achieve peace," he said. "I hope they keep playing these games so

Pfc. Delaluz made good on the penalty shot and the game ended with the score: Tojsici team 8, American soldiers 4.

With the game over, the American team stopped to warm up with coffee before taking the convoy back to post.

1st. Lt. Daniel Sinclair, assigned to the JMC cell of HHC, 1-64 AR, although exhausted, said he still had a great time playing with the locals.

1st. Lt. Sinclair went on to say, as he finished his coffee, "We came out there to play and we were faced with great athletes and even better sportsmen."

Pfc. Jones, while battered and bruised, still had a lot of energy left.

"I love this; it was great getting out and doing something different. If they do this again, I'll have my mom send me my soccer cleats," Pfc. Jones said with a smirk.

NEW APO OPENS



OPEN FOR BUSINESS—(above) Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp, Commander, MND (N), and Col. Samuel B. Retherford, Commander, 1st PERSCOM, cut the ribbon at the new APO (below) which has a distinctive old west appeal to it.



FIRST SALE—(above, right) Lt. Col. Thomas Pope, Commander, Eagle Base, is the first customer at the new APO, buying a commemorative stamp (below, left and right) depicting 3d ID World War II Medal of Honor recipient Audie Murphy. The stamp was purchased from Spc. Christopher A. Graham, (above, left), Lead Finance Clerk, 129th Postal Company.



Story and photos
By Spc. Christopher Carney
318th PCH, Eagle Base

A grand opening ceremony for the new Army Post Office (APO) building took place here, the morning of Nov. 20, across from the Longhorn Cafe.

The ceremony began with a speech by Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp, Commander, Multinational Division (North), and was immediately followed with a ribbon cutting by Maj. Gen. Sharp and Col. Samuel B. Retherford, Commander, 1st PERSCOM (Personnel Command), Schwetzingen, Germany.

Brig. Gen. Stephen J. Ferrell, TFE Assistant Division Commander, and Lt. Col. Thomas G. Pope, Commander, Eagle Base, were also in attendance.

After the ribbon cutting the post office had its first customer. Lt. Col. Pope made the first purchase, a stamp, from Spc. Cristofer A. Graham, Lead Finance Clerk, 129th Postal Company, marking the post office as officially open for business.

A tour of the new facility for the VIPs showed off the capabilities and improvements made over the previous building that will help the mail be delivered in a timely manner.

Finally a cake that honored the new building was cut and enjoyed by all.

The new post office, which took six months to build, is open just in time for the holiday season.

Sgt. Emmitt Benton, Operations Noncommissioned Officer in Charge, 129th Postal Company, said, "The holiday rush began around Nov. 15 and with this facility we can better review the mail and have it home for Christmas."

Sgt. Benton commented more on the new facility, "We can accommodate everybody now. The new building will help to make the post office more accessible to customers and it is similar to any post office that people would find in the United States."

Sgt. 1st Class Sara Carter, Technical Inspector, 129th Postal Company, is also glad to have the new facility.

"Previously we had an aluminum building and before that we had a tent. This new building will give us a nicer atmosphere," Sgt. 1st Class Carter said.

In Maj. Gen. Sharp's speech, he explained all of the hard work that the postal company does and the importance of that work.

"They perform a seven-days a week operation and handle over half a million pounds of mail a month," said Maj. Gen. Sharp, "Over 5.5 million dollars worth of postal items pass through the office in one month."

WELCOME—**MND (N) Commander Maj. Gen. Walter L. Sharp gives a short speech at the opening of the new post office.**



"It is the conduit between us and our family members. The postal company gives their time and energy, and your efforts absolutely amaze me. It is a busy time for postal personnel but I am confident that this new facility will help you do your job more effectively," said Maj. Gen. Sharp.

November 15 through Dec. 11, the holiday rush, is the busiest time for all postal workers. That's the timeframe most people send packages and mail home to their loved ones.

In order for mail to get there on time, Sgt Benton had one piece of advice. "Make sure that you send your stuff out as soon as possible and we will make sure that it gets there. Anything that people need we will accommodate. Their stuff will get out," said Sgt. Benton.

Sgt. 1st Class Darlene Horne, Platoon Sergeant, 129th Postal Company, said that the postal company will continue to provide the best of service for every one of it's customers.

"Our plan is to handle customer service, to take care of soldiers, and to process their mail in a timely manner. We're here to support the soldiers," Sgt. 1st Class Horne said.

The different deadlines ensure that your packages and letters reach the United States in time are dependent upon what class they are sent.

Surface Air Mail (SAM), is a special service for parcels paid at standard mail postage rates. The packages are transported first by surface then by air on a space-available basis. The SAM package deadline was Nov. 20.

Parcel Airlift Mail (PAL), sends packages via air transportation on a space-available basis. The PAL deadline is Monday, Dec. 4.

Priority Parcels and First Class Letters should be sent before Dec. 11 to be received on time; while Express Mail should be sent out no later than Dec. 18.

For further information, contact the Eagle Base APO at 762-7042.



ZOS REOPENED NOVEMBER 20

Story and photos

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

The grand reopening of the Zone of Separation, an all-in-one recreation facility, was held here Nov. 20.

Command Sgt. Maj. Mark T. Baker, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), welcomed the newly reopened ZOS with comments prior to the ribbon cutting.

"It's a great day for all soldiers on McGovern," said Command Sgt. Maj. Baker. He said he knew the soldiers were eager for the ZOS to reopen, and acknowledged that the while it had been behind schedule, it was well worth the wait.

"This is a better facility right now. I think your going to love the ZOS. It's the best facility on this camp right now, by far," said Command Sgt. Maj. Baker.

The newly reconstructed ZOS is open 24 hours. The building provides a central place for soldiers to relax and socialize. This facility also holds a library, movie-theater and the MWR movie rentals.

"I'm very excited about the ZOS. It will give me a chance to do something fun in my free time," said Spc. Kevin D. Zayas, 3rd Soldier Support Battalion.

Johnny L. Davis, MWR Sports and Fitness Coordinator, said the ZOS was developed with the soldiers in mind. Mr. Davis would like soldiers to view the ZOS as an escape. "It's a place for them to go, so they think they aren't here for a minute," Davis said.

The soldiers lined up to get a tour and enjoy the ceremony planned for the reopening.

The ZOS provides a relaxation spot for the soldiers, here. "It's a place to get away from the barracks. A place to relax other than the Rose Garden," said Staff Sgt. Paul F. Webb Jr., A Company, 1-279 IN.

Grand reopening events included spades and pingpong tournaments. The prizes given out were CD's, free haircuts, t-shirts and gift certificates.

A reception was held following the ribbon cutting ceremony. The event was catered by the dining facility, here. The ZOS was renovated by Brown & Root construction.

CUT THE TAPE—Command Sgt. Maj. Mark T. Baker, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), cuts the ribbon at the ZOS grand reopening ceremony held here, Nov. 20.

422ND CIVIL AFFAIRS AND DANISH TROOPS MONITOR REBUILDING

Story and photos

By Spc. Jodie M. Moore

318th PCH, Camp McGovern

The 422nd Civil Affairs unit, here, and Danish soldiers from Dobož met Tuesday, Nov. 14, to check on the progress of rebuilding taking place all over Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The 422nd CA has the distinct job of helping people in BiH get back on their feet. They work jointly with local groups, private organizations and other MND (N) services to achieve this goal.

The 422nd CA and the Danish soldiers went to several locations to check on water, schools and building materials.

A new water reservoir with larger capacity is expected to be completed in Modrica by Christmas day. Building materials, enough for six new houses to be built, are to be delivered to a Roma Camp in Stazevac.

Follow up visits are scheduled to check on the continuing progress with the upcoming winter.

The projects are funded by the Norwegian Refugee Council.



GREETINGS—Children at a Roma Camp in Stazevac are all smiles. They were excited to see the American and Norwegian soldiers who came to pay them a visit.



WINNERS—Division Engineers were the runners up (left) and the TFME winners (right) received trophy for the cup from Maj. Gen. Walter Sharp, while all received t-shirts.

AND THE WINNERS ARE...

5K Turkey Trot Run: Overall Team Trophy went to SOCCE

3-on-3 Basketball: Trophy went to 103rd MI

Pingpong: Division Engineers

Volleyball: Division Engineers

APFT: Overall Trophy TFME

1st place—

Male: Sgt. Lloyd Haskett, 123rd Sig. Bn, Score of 379

Female: Lt. Col. Pauline Knapp, TFME, score of 380

Darts: Division Engineers

Foosball: Division Engineers

Weightlifting: 123rd Sig. Bn

Dodgeball: TFME

Turkeybowl Football Game: Division Engineers vs. TFME...
TFME wins the commanders cup.

COMPETITION—Teams compete in dodgeball for the Cup.



THEY'RE OFF—#92 Mike Kenny, and #258 Scott Kennan, both from the 103rd MI, were among the runners during the 5k race, which was the first event in the vaunted Commander's Cup.

COMMANDERS CUP HELD AT THANKSGIVING FESTIVITIES

Story and photos

By Spc. Christopher Carney

318th PCH, Eagle Base

Thanksgiving for most is a time to relax and enjoy a day off of work. For many soldiers, however, Thanksgiving was a time to run, lift weights and compete in multiple events. The winners of the Commander's Cup trophy.

The Commander's Cup event was held on Thanksgiving. It consisted of a Physical Fitness Test (APFT), 3-on-3 basketball, dodgeball, volleyball, football and flag football. The two highest scoring winners of the events were invited to take place in the flag football game. The winner of the flag football game decided the winner of the Commander's Cup.

The Commander's Cup was held to bring people together on a day of fun and to just have fun after working so hard during the week.

The winners of each event and of the entire cup were given trophies at a ceremony in the recreation center. Maj. Gen. Sharp was at the ceremony to give out the trophies to everyone on a job well done.



h from the 94th MP Company, lead the way for this pack
Commanders Cup.

D As PART OF ES

ck, maybe catch a football game and enjoy
y. For many soldiers on Task Force Eagle,
ole sports to win the coveted Commander's

sted of a 5K "Turkey Trot" run, an Army
oosball, ping-pong, darts and weightlifting
nit. The teams competed together and the
he final competition, a flag football game.
nder's Cup.

that normally would have been spent with
ck.

and T-shirts at a ceremony held at Triggers
e trophies to the victors and congratulate



GET READY—The division Engineers
prepare for the football game that
would decide the overall champion
(above), while earlier in the day teams
battled over the volleyball trophy (be-
low).



RUN ON—#476 Jamaal Golden, HHC 3d ID(M), cheers as he rounds a corner
during the 5k run.



Thanksgiving

Photos by Sgt. David Lietz
318th PCH, Eagle Base

Sgt. Keith McGrew
Combat Camera



The 94th MP Company displays a cake at Camp Dabol.



Soldiers in 3-15 Infantry show their creativity with this dessert tray at Camp McGovern.



These soldiers and their furry friend were all smiles at Hilltop 1326.



The judges at Camp Comanche's parade display approval. Some of the soldiers took part in the food service duties.



Soldiers lend a helping hand by serving the others at Camp Comanche.



In Bosnia-Herzegovina

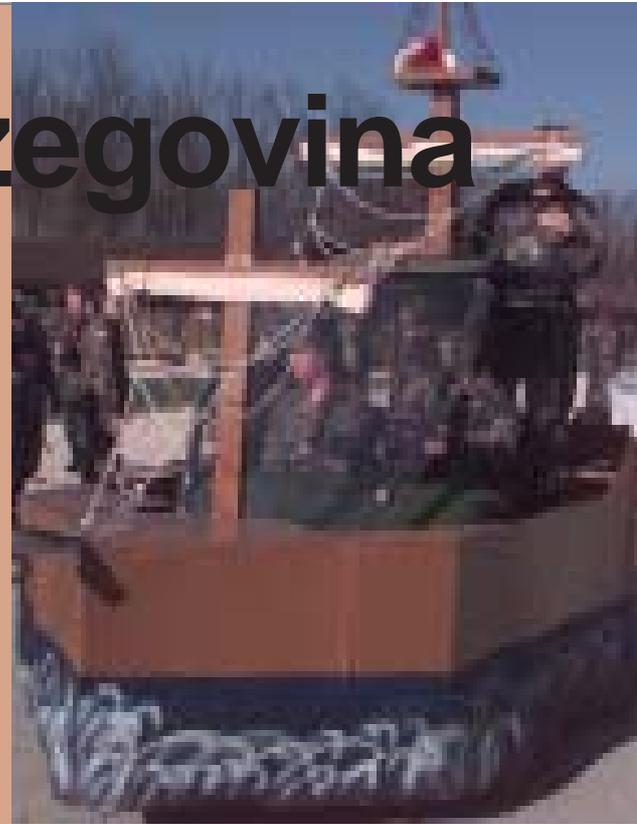


Soldiers from the 3d ID(M) Band welcome their new flute player (seated, left) at Camp McGovern

A local man and his horse parade around the Balkan Inn at Eagle Base.



An empty dining facility at Hilltop 722 awaits the hungry soldiers on Thanksgiving.



One of the prize-winning floats slowly moves down the streets of Camp Comanche.



3d ID(M), 'Rock of the Marne', shows a sweeter side (above), while Hilltop 1326 welcomed Thanksgiving with open arms (below)





WORK TOGETHER, EAT TOGETHER—Polish and Turkish soldiers examine a map before their joint patrol (left), and afterwards they all relax and have lunch together (right).

TURKISH AND POLISH JOINT PATROL STRENGTHENS RELATIONS BETWEEN THE TWO ARMIES

Story and photos

By Sgt. David Lietz and Pfc. Marc Marin
318th PCH, Eagle Base

A joint Polish and Turkish Army patrol monitored polling places in both countries' areas of responsibility on Saturday, Nov. 11, during the Bosnian elections.

Five vehicles took part in the mounted patrol that monitored the activities at nine polling sites, located mostly in the region of Zepce.

The population of Zepce is approximately 55 percent Croatian, 40 percent Muslim and five percent Serbian. Quality of life is greatly improved from the war, with running water and electricity in every house in this community of 6,000 residents. Worldwide humanitarian organizations helped to reconstruct the local Muslim and Croatian homes.

"We expect good cooperation during the patrol," said the Patrol Commander, 1st Lt. Tomasz Trzcinski, of the Polish Army.

Only polling sites were checked during the patrol. Any problems or situations encountered at the election sites were to be referred to the International Police Task Force.

Before the patrol started, Turkish and Polish soldiers spread maps on the hood of a patrol vehicle and double-checked the patrol plan. At the first polling site checked,

a school, all was reported calm and normal. Local citizens were going about their Saturday morning routines of shopping, visiting with friends, eating at sidewalk cafes and today, voting. This pattern would be repeated all day.

As the patrol passed through the towns on winding roads on Election Day, young children, holding their parents' hands, waved at the soldiers as they drove by. The friendliness of the children was a good sign of the peace process' continual success.

"It's a sign that SFOR is accepted," said 1st Lt. Baris Konak, of the Turkish Battalion Task Force.

"This is an honor to provide a safe and secure nation for these people. All the nations need peace," 1st Lt. Konak said.

The patrol was also an opportunity for the Turkish and Polish armies to work together on a joint mission.

"We have practiced reconnaissance with the Polish soldiers three times. This is our fourth patrol with the Polish army," said 1st Lt. Konak.

About midway through the patrol, the Polish and Turkish soldiers stopped and ate lunch together at a temporary Turkish base, which was set up earlier in the day, specifically for the elections. Fresh bread and bean soup, along with tea, was served to the soldiers.

"We had a good lunch with our friends," said 1st Lt. Konak. "We are happy to come together for lunch."

The patrol then boarded their vehicles, with the Polish soldiers climbing into their 4-wheel drive Honker and the Turkish soldiers loading into their Land Rovers.

"Such missions are very important to increase relations between both armies. This will help us with operations in the future," said 1st Lt. Gungor Sevin, 2nd Motorized Company, Turkish Battalion Task Force.

The joint patrols also provide the opportunity for both armies to learn each other's area of responsibility in case of an emergency situation.

"Such kinds of missions test interoperability," said Maj. Bronislaw Kordas, Bravo Company Commander, Nordic Polish Battle Group.

"It's a chance to learn about different kinds of weapons and communication systems, too," Maj. Kordas said.

At the end of the patrol, the soldiers of the Turkish and Polish armies stopped along a road and wished each other well. After exchanging small gifts, they returned to their respective bases. Each soldier learned something about his colleagues that day and developed a camaraderie that will help ensure a continual working relationship in the future.



TRIPLE AAA—Defensive driving using the three A's will keep you from needing roadside assistance on your journeys in Bosnia-Herzegovina, and may save you from a serious accident as well.

Story by SGT Phillip Puleo

TFE Safety

Photo by SGT Andrew Johnson

TFE Safety

When you're at the controls of any military vehicle, it is important to remember that defensive driving is a full-time job. A safe driver is not someone who has been lucky enough to avoid accidents, but is one who drives defensively all the time. Driving standards in Bosnia-Herzegovina demand more skill, knowledge and decision-making ability than what most are used to.

If you are a driver who has a safe attitude about your driving, you will be able to drive with a sense of confidence in inclement weather, on difficult roads and through heavy traffic. In addition, to be a good driver you should respect all traffic laws and be courteous to others while anticipating the behavior of other drivers. When bad weather affects driving conditions, you must adjust your driving speed and habits. The number of traffic accidents and vehicles running off the road during inclement weather would be greatly reduced if drivers would anticipate the slippery road conditions and make appropriate adjustments.

Defensive Driving is Driving to Prevent Accidents, in Spite of the Incorrect Actions of Others or Adverse Weather Conditions...

Alertness involves watching and recognizing accident factors instantly. Stay alert while driving. Keep your mind free of distractions while your attention is focused on the conditions of the road and vehicles around you. As a defensive driver you must operate your vehicle in a manner to avoid being involved in a preventable accident or contributing to one. This includes assistant drivers. Another pair of eyes on the road could be the difference, so stay awake.

Anticipate road hazards and know how to protect yourself from them. The driver must anticipate traffic problems that are likely to develop. You should also decide whether these developments could be dangerous and whether you should avoid them.

Awareness of the operators and vehicle's limits is essential. Knowing that your vehicle will not fail you because you did all the pre-operation checks is essential. Most important, get enough rest the night before a trip. You should get at least seven or eight hours of sleep or you may be courting fatigue. Long-distance driving is hard work. You must be fresh and alert. So remember, drive safely and drive to survive.



THANK YOU— MND (N) Chief of Staff Col. Barry Fowler gives a short speech commending the continuous effort by the AAFES and MWR staffs. Col. Fowler, a Bruce Willis fan, was more than happy to be in attendance at the premier of his favorite actor.

A NIGHT AT THE MOVIES WITH AAFES, MWR

Story and photos by
Spc. Danny C. Martin Jr.
318th PCH, Eagle Base

Masses of people scurry in, trying to find the perfect seat. The aroma of perfectly prepared popcorn, freshly baked pizza and the ever-popular red-rope licorice floats around the complex, teasing the senses of everyone in the room. The lights dim and the audience rises to pay respect to the “Star Spangled Banner” as it blasts through the huge speakers and images of gallantry and military pride grace the gigantic plywood and sheetrock movie screen. It’s movie time.

The Army-Air Force Exchange Service and the office of Morale, Welfare and Recreation, in conjunction with movie studios like Buena-Vista Pictures, Sony Entertainment and Metro/Goldwyn/Mayer, offers the hit movies just like an average cinema to Multinational Division (North). Under the supervision of AAFES General Manager, Balkans Division, Mr. Tony Bencina, the servicemembers of MND (N) are able to enjoy a movie every night. The defining characteristic that separates the AAFES theater here from the average one, is that you don’t have to pay a dime to enjoy a movie.

“It’s a privilege for us to be able to see a movie for free,” said Spc. Donnell Gaines, a soldier in B Company, 4th Battalion, 64th Armor Regiment, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), who was enjoying his first night off in two weeks. “You’re able to relax. And the fact that you don’t have to pay... that’s the best thing about it.”

An old saying states, “nothing in life is free.” If this is so, how is it that AAFES can offer free movies every night, to whoever wants to go? In this case, the saying is true.

According to Mr. Mike Lowry, an AAFES employee, the 3rd Infantry Division (Mechanized) has funds set aside for AAFES to use for various programs. “For every soldier who watches a movie here,” Mr. Lowry said, “MWR pays a royalty of \$1.50 to the studios for each person who watches.”

Last Wednesday night was a rare and special occasion. The Buena-Vista motion picture, “Unbreakable,” starring Bruce Willis and Samuel L. Jackson, made it’s world premier here. Plus, the suspenseful drama was graciously donated by Buena-Vista, alleviating MWR of it’s \$1.50/person royalty payment. Everything about this movie was free, with the exception of the concessions, which according to Mr. Darrin McCready, AAFES food service manager, are generously priced.

In addition to “Unbreakable,” five more new movies are currently on their way to entertain the people of Eagle Base and the rest of MND (N). “We hope we’re able to bring an event like this premier again,” said Mr. Lowry.

The theater, which was built in late December, 1999, in place of the original that was destroyed when it collapsed in the early-morning hours on Dec. 16, due to heavy snowfall.

The current theater, located inside the Eagle Base Sports Complex, had it’s grand opening on Jan. 2, hosting an average of 150 people a night, according to Mr. Lowry.

When you look at the hard work and continuous effort put forth by the staff, you can only tip your hat in thanks for all the amenities they have brought to MND (N).

Before “Unbreakable” made it’s worldwide premier, Col. Barry Fowler, Chief of Staff, awarded Mr. Bencina with a commendation, praising him and his staff for their excellence and dedication to the servicemembers of MND (N).

“The movies are a big morale boost for the soldiers,” Spc. Gaines stated while attending the premier. Mr. Lowry added, “I think the soldiers truly enjoy the films.”

For some of the servicemembers in MND (N), going to the movies may seem almost like a pastime. For now, the days of going to the Sunday matinee at the post theater with family and friends are gone. The AAFES and MWR staffs are constantly striving to simulate the joys of home. With the “Unbreakable” premier, this group of dedicated individuals proves once again that they are continuously trying to make Eagle Base and the rest of MND (N) as homelike as possible.

SNACKS— Just before the start of the film, Spc. Donnell Gaines grabs a snack from the AAFES food staff.



THANKS— Command Sgt. Maj. William J. Gainey, 2nd Bde. Command Sgt. Maj., and soldiers from the audience, display a banner giving thanks to Buena-Vista Pictures for the donation of “Unbreakable.”



AN HONORABLE PASSING

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

Photos by
Staff Sgt. Freddie E. Gurwell
Sgt. Akeiva D. Bryant
Combat Camera

Servicemembers at Camp McGovern paid respects to a fellow soldier, Staff Sgt. John A. Gallagher, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 3rd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment, 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), Tuesday. A memorial service was held here in his honor at the McGovern Center.

Shared stories and fond memories were how soldiers chose to remember the life of Staff Sgt. Gallagher. It was his sense of humor, and commitment to his family and the Army, that stood out in the minds of his friends and fellow soldiers as they honored him.

Staff Sgt. Gallagher's eulogy was given by fellow soldier and friend, Staff Sgt. Charles A. Limerick, of Bravo Company, 3-15 IN.

Staff Sgt. Limerick shared stories and memories of the good times he shared with Staff Sgt. Gallagher. He said that these services are to provide comfort to the living and one must remember the legacy. The legacy one leaves behind is what is truly important he said.

"What is John's legacy," asked Staff Sgt. Limerick. "Some would say it was his wife

and children. This is true because they carry John with them, and they will for the rest of their lives."

Staff Sgt. Gallagher, is survived by his wife, Sabine, their two children, Angela and John, and his parents, Florence and John A. Gallagher.

Staff Sgt. Limerick felt that even beyond his family legacy, Staff Sgt. Gallagher was just a good human being. He was a rare person in that he was just happy to be alive said Staff Sgt. Limerick. He believes this was his best asset and thus his true legacy.

"John Gallagher," said Staff Sgt. Limerick, as he choked back his emotion, "was a good and decent man who loved his family very much. I am proud to say that he was my friend."

Staff Sgt. Gallagher had a long and decorated military career. He joined the Army on Oct. 27, 1982. His awards and decorations included the Meritorious Service Medal (with 4 oak-leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (6 OLC), Army Achievement Medal (4 OLC), Good Conduct Medal (5 loops), Overseas Service Ribbon (2), Army Service Ribbon, NCO Professional Development (2), and the National Defense Service Medal. He also earned his Drivers and Mechanics Badge.

It was his distinguished service and his commitment to his soldiers that the Battalion Commander, Lt. Col. Stefan J.



HONORED—Capt. Blumhardt places a Meritorious Service Medal on Staff Sgt. Gallagher's memorial.

Banach remembered.

"Staff Sgt. John A. Gallagher was a soldier's soldier. He personified what it means to be a 'Can Do' soldier," said Lt. Col. Banach. "He lived the NCO Creed and served as a role model for all his men to emulate."

Capt. Glen B. Blumhardt, Company Commander, HHC, 3-15 IN., presented a posthumous Meritorious Service Medal and Maj. Walter L. Sharp, Commander, Multinational Division (North), placed his general's coin besides Staff Sgt. Gallagher's Kevlar, identification tags and combat boots at the end of the ceremony, in final tribute to a long and distinguished career.

Lt. Col. Banach said, "Scriptures also tells us to 'Be faithful until death, and I will give you the crown of life.' Staff Sgt. Gallagher has finished the race and now has his crown of life and eternal rest."

Today was a day of remembrance at Camp McGovern to honor a soldier who diligently served his country, family and fellow man. His life and legacy will continue to live on the hearts and minds of all Camp McGovern soldiers.



FINAL JOURNEY—The body of Staff Sgt. John A. Gallagher, who was described by his peers as a "Soldier's soldier," is carried onto a C-130 Hercules.

SALUTE—Staff Sgt. Michael D. Britt, C Company, 3-15 IN, renders a final salute to honor Staff Sgt. Gallagher.





COMANCHE 'PRINCE'—Not exactly Bel Air, but Pfc. Lamont Womack adapts to his new environment in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

SOLDIER'S SPOTLIGHT



IN WEST PHILADELPHIA, BORN AND RAISED...

Story and photos
By Sgt. David Lietz

318th PCH, Eagle Base

One of the more popular television shows of the 90's, "The Fresh Prince of Bel Air," told the story of a teen-age boy who was plucked from his natural West Philadelphia, Pa., environment and placed in a high-class Bel Air, Calif., home. A similar version of that story is

Originally interested in being a medic, Pfc. Womack decided otherwise, choosing to pursue aviation operations.

During his six-week AIT at Fort Rucker, Ala., Pfc. Womack learned about aircraft fuel management, flight plans, weather information and information on keeping flight records.

"Pfc. Womack is a quick thinker, very fast on his feet," said Capt. Katie Karwan, a battle captain in the 3d ID (M) Aviation Brigade. "The mark of a true champion is to come back quickly after defeat," she said.

Capt. Karwan added, "If he hears me on the phone needing information, he's already started dialing the phone trying to get the information even before I put down the phone!"

"My mom always says to believe in yourself," said Pfc. Womack. "Make sure you do your best!"

Pfc. Womack is considering following in his mother's footsteps, who is a special education teacher at Alan Locke Elementary School in West Philadelphia. "My ultimate goal is to be a teacher. I know I want to teach high-school kids," Pfc. Womack said.

"I would like to teach English," Pfc. Womack stated. Now, he is serving his country and the citizens of Bosnia-Herzegovina. "I'm just trying to do the mission and make the world a better place."

unfolding at Camp Comanche.

Twenty-year-old West Philadelphia native, Pfc. Lamont Womack, an aviation operations specialist with the 3d Infantry Division (Mechanized), Aviation Brigade, is the subject of this real-life situation.

"It has always been in the back of my mind to join the Army," Pfc. Womack said. One day while playing basketball in a gym at Penn State University, an Army recruiter approached him. Pfc. Womack, who was studying liberal arts at the time, made the decision to enlist.

When he originally enlisted, he saw it as an opportunity to make money, but something happened at basic training that would change him.

"Once I started basic training and found out what the Army is all about," Pfc. Womack stated, "my whole attitude changed. It's just like in the commercials."

**"I'm just trying to do the mission and make the world a better place."
Pfc. Lamont Womack**

SERVING PROUDLY— Three years ago Pfc. Lamont Womack never imagined that he'd be in the middle of Bosnia-Herzegovina. He continues to serve proudly as a member of SFOR 8, with his fellow soldiers from the 3d ID(M), Aviation Brigade.

