

MAY 10, 2002

# TALON



## **Blues Traveler shakes ground during Balkan USO tour**

**Inside this issue:**

**JMA oversees continuing demining efforts  
NCO concerns identified by Army survey**

**Task Force Eagle [www.tfeagle.army.mil](http://www.tfeagle.army.mil)**

# TALON

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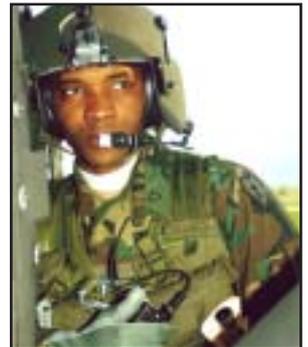
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**Pages 6 and 7 - Task Force Eagle aviators rise to the top during Joint Resolve. (Photo by Spc. Michelle Lunato, 305th PAD)**



## Stabilization Force 11 Voices

“What MWR activities would you like to see?”



**Staff Sgt. Evelyn Bonilla**  
Technical Inspector  
Co. D, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt.

“I would like to see more entertainment geared toward female soldiers.”



**Sgt. Gregory Potter**  
Finance NCO  
125th Finance Bn.  
25th ID (L)

“I think there should be more trips to different places.”



**Pfc. Jonathan Mooney**  
MP  
549th MP Co.  
3rd ID

“I think we should have a better variety of indoor sports.”



Task Force Eagle  
Stabilization Force  
**SFOR XI**  
Bosnia-Herzegovina



# CSM speaks...

## *Safety is everyone's business*



**Command Sgt. Maj.  
Michael T. Etheridge**  
Multinational Division (North)  
command sergeant major

Safety, safety and more safety.

It's as if that's all I hear lately. But every day since we arrived here we have had an accident of one type or another.

Okay, I know things happen. But most accidents are preventable.

If all of us are doing our jobs ... if all of us are looking out for the dumb mistake ... if all of us are watching out for our Battle Buddy, how come the number of accidents continues to climb?

Yes it's true that all of the accidents aren't our fault, but every one involves a U.S.

soldier. Every time we have a mirror slap we lose a vehicle for a few days getting it fixed.

We risk having a soldier get hurt by flying glass. He or she could possibly lose control of the vehicle and run off the road and hit something or someone.

Every time we back a vehicle up without a ground guide we violate our own rules and we invite an accident to happen. Today I watched a soldier just step out in front of a truck. He didn't look in either direction. He just stepped out into the road, trusting that the truck would stop, and it did. But what if it didn't? What if the driver had been distracted?

What if it had been foggy and he couldn't see? One dead soldier, that's what. Whose fault would it be? Ours! You and me! Why? Because we walk by this type of behavior every day and we do nothing about it.

We see soldiers doing things without thinking and we let it pass. Well no more! Step up to the plate and let's take care of ourselves and each other.

Let's give safety more than lip service. Let's keep our battle focus, do our risk assessments, mitigate the risks, do our jobs and bring everyone home in one piece.

## Single-parent soldiers truly 'Army of one'

By Denver Beaulieu-Hains

*Arnews*

WASHINGTON — Being a sole parent in the military is a lot of things: demanding, difficult, challenging; but the one thing it isn't — is impossible.

For three years as a single mother, I woke up at 4 a.m. to get ready for physical training, dressed and combed the hair of my three girls to make the 5:45 a.m. drop-off for the early morning before-school care.

My life depended on a long list of childcare providers, friends and family to ensure my family care plan was providing constant supervision for my children during frequent deployments and field exercises. I needed reliable care on a stand-by basis.

Most people won't admit their prejudices against mothers in the military, women in the workforce, and sole parents, in general. Some believe that single parenthood is a low-class, uneducated, never-been-married, desperate woman's problem and these women burden the system with gripes about childcare and special needs.

I offer that both my spouse and I were college-educated and were married for more than 10 years, and we both were committed to our military professions. All

the positives weren't enough to keep the marriage together.

Because of shrinking budgets and less personnel, we all do more with less and that makes old-fashioned ideas that alienate soldiers — enlisted and commissioned — impractical.

As a soldier, my biggest challenge was keeping the special challenges involving my children at home, and out of the workplace. I never wanted the perception to be that I was using my children to get out of 24-hour duty or weekend assignments. Most of my friends were also sole parents and we made it by keeping tight circles. We sometimes even exchanged keys to our homes in case we got the dreaded late-night or early-morning alert call.

Putting all the stereotypes behind us, what all soldiers need most to be successful is unbiased support and guidance through the military's many programs and services, like those provided by Army Community Services, childcare co-ops, single-parent support groups and parenting classes. Units should encourage soldiers to use the services, as well as other federal and state programs, which may assist with child-care subsidies and lists for state-trained and certified home-care providers.

Every soldier and soldier's family has the potential to serve as a vital member of a

support system that links sole parents and their children to an array of alternate fathers, mothers, cultures and experiences that not only serve as a support system, but also a source of enrichment.

Today, I'm an Army civilian. Nothing has changed. It was hard then and it's hard now. These days my employment hinges on a mobility agreement and five months of training, during which two of those months I completed a resident course at Fort Meade and couldn't bring my family.

My 12-hour days at the 25th Infantry Division (Light) in Schofield Barracks, Hawaii, were just the beginning of what was to be the rest of my life. When I accepted the job, the feedback I received was that I should settle into a career that requires less obligation, because I should be a mother first, and I am.

The most valuable lesson I've learned is that if I could be a sole parent and make it in the military, then I can do anything. Not only have I learned to think ahead and plan for the worst, I also feel that my children have benefited because of the other hard-working soldiers who surrounded us on a daily basis. My girls have learned the value of independence and self-sufficiency.

No, it's not an easy road to travel, but it's certainly possible using the "one Army, one team and one mission" theory with soldiers taking care of soldiers.

# JMA helps clear “field of dreams”

By Spc. Vincent Oliver

Assistant Editor, 305th PAD

The Bosnian countryside is littered with hundreds of thousands of landmines. With the help of minefield clearing trainers from the Humanitarian Demining Training Center in Fort Leonard Wood, Mo., and the Joint Military Affairs soldiers of Multinational Division (North), Bosnian armed forces are moving step by methodical step to clear as many of them away as possible.

HDTTC trainers traveled with the JMA to the town of Brvnik where they met with Republic of Srpska, or VRS, army officers and minefield clearing teams.

The HDTTC is responsible for training Special Forces soldiers in demining operations and is the only organization that trains humanitarian demining in the United States Department of Defense.

“What we are doing is ensuring that we have a proper training program for all the SFOR rotations, so that the soldiers that come in here understand what the international standards for demining are,” explained Paul Archangeli, HDTTC director.

Representatives from the Pentagon and the HDTTC came to Bosnia in July of 2001 to perform an analysis, devise a training program and then implement it. As a result, JMA personnel from Stabilization Force 10 were the first to implement the minefield clearing oversight program.

“Our job is to monitor the Bosnian armed forces soldiers, and insure that they are complying with SOPs, known as Standard Operating Procedures, and with the instruction to parties,” said Cpt. Damon Delarosa, JMA mine cell officer-in-charge.

The JMA’s role in minefield clearing is strictly oversight. Soldiers from the JMA Mine Action Center observe and audit Bosnian armed forces that do the actual demining of mined areas.

Mine clearing equipment in areas like this consist of MD8 mine detectors, which are designed to detect low levels of metal buried beneath the soil.

“This sight is particularly dangerous, so we are moving fairly slowly,” said Staff Sgt. John Carro of the JMA. Carro is the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the demining team in Brvnik. “Some of the area we’re clearing has been mapped, but because the lines of control switched so often during the war, it’s hard to tell where some mines are.”

At another minefield clearing site in the town of Olovo, Bosnian Federation



Photos by Spc. Vincent Oliver

**A VF soldier carefully marks the area he is working with red stakes and yellow engineering tape during a minefield clearing mission in the town of Olovo.**

soldiers, or VF, worked to clear a large field with different equipment. A small bulldozer-like machine, known as a Bozena, flailed the ground with lengths of metal chain.

The armored vehicle is used to disturb the ground where mines are laid. VF soldiers control the vehicle remotely from a safe distance.

A narrow road separated the field being cleared from a tract of land being plowed by a local farmer.

VF soldiers have had several disputes with the landowners because large tracts of the land had not been completely cleared of mines before the farmers began plowing them for this year’s crop. At least two local farmers have been killed and six others seriously wounded as a result of disturbing UXOs while plowing.

The task has proved to be a difficult one, but the JMA is working daily with Bosnian armed forces in an effort to continue to clear the Bosnian field of dreams one careful step at a time.



**A soldier with the VF army here scans the ground around him in preparation for demining in the town of Olovo.**

## Change of Command



Spc. Christina Davis

**Col. Andrew Posey, the ASG Eagle commander, spoke to the troops and guests during the change of command ceremony April 29 at the Eagle Base fitness center. Posey replaced Col. Tim Thurston. See next week's issue for a related feature story about the ASG and the organization's responsibilities.**

# Michigan high school donates "tons" of clothes

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

More than 1,500 pounds of clothes, shoes, toys and games were collected by Lakeview High School in St. Clair Shores, Mich., and donated to a local assistance group here.

Task Force Eagle's Deputy Political Advisor, Richard Kent, arranged the donation of over 90 boxes of supplies to an assistance group in Bratunac, the Association of Women of Podrinje, April 24.

Another shipment of 1,500 pounds of clothing was donated to an orphanage in Lukavac in March.

The organizer of this collection was Shirley Swan, Kent's high-school German teacher.

"She's an extraordinary lady and the German she has taught me has saved my life a few times," said Kent as he explained how difficult he made her life when he was a student. "And times haven't changed," said Kent as he added the fact that Swan had stored all

the donations she collected, which were worth roughly \$8,000, in her office until they could be shipped. As the boxes left Swan's keeping they filled Kent's CONNEX home on Eagle Base.

Kent said he picked the Podrinje association to receive the supplies because of their uniqueness.

"They embody the idea of multi-ethnic cooperation," he said. "Organizations like this offer Bosnia its one real hope for the future."

The group is Bosniak women and 1,500 Bosnian-Serb women, said Stanojka Avramovic, deputy president of the association.

"This is the only organization of its kind in Bratunac that has women of two different ethnic groups working together," said Kent.

The women in the association are the survivors of the ethnic cleansing that occurred in Bratunac in May of 1992. Hundreds of men and boys were reportedly executed throughout the city. The organization helps the Bratunac

**See Donate, page 8**

# Army study identifies NCO concerns

By Joe Burlas

Army News Service

WASHINGTON — Non-commissioned officers want better information as to how they stack up technically, tactically and leadership-wise with their peers, according to the latest round of the Army Training and Leader Development Panel study.

Based upon written surveys, focus groups and one-on-one interviews with more than 30,000 active-duty, Reserve and National Guard soldiers and spouses, the panel's NCO study results were released May 2.

"The NCO study is another example of the extraordinary integrity and credible authority of the chief of staff of the Army's Training and Leader Development Panel," said Brig. Gen. David Huntoon, executive agent for Army Leadership at Fort Leavenworth, Kan. "This report is about the U.S. Army taking a bold and

forthright look at itself — expressed in the clear and courageous voice of its soldiers. It's about the human dimension leading Transformation. And, it is about making a great, professional noncommissioned officer corps even better."

The NCO ATLDP results raised many of the same issues of an officer ATLDP study conducted in 2000. The officer study results were released last May.

Both studies agreed that Army practices are out of balance with soldier beliefs, the Noncommissioned Officer Education System needs improvement, there is a need for more trust and less micromanagement between seniors and subordinates, training resources need to be maintained, improved and provided as required and that pay and benefits could be better.

Combined Arms Center Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Pritchett, who purposely chose not to review the officer study findings in order not to be preju-

diced when evaluating the NCO data, said she wasn't surprised that the two outcomes were so similar.

"The NCO study just validates the earlier officer study — there are some real issues here that must be examined," Pritchett said. "It also shows the Army's commitment to its people — that the Army is not afraid and needs to take a close look at itself."

There was one comment from an NCO that did surprise many of the panel members, Pritchett said. The NCO wrote that he did not feel responsible when one of his soldiers failed to perform or meet standards. That comment reinforced many survey participants' views that top-down training management leaves little, if any, time for NCOs to conduct their own sergeant's time training, she said.

The study found that there is a need for more con-

sistent standards and better enforcement of those standards. Part of this issue reflects back to the perceived need to improve NCOES, because many Mission Training Plans are outdated or nonexistent. The MTP is a formal document that lays out the individual, leader and collective tasks, conditions and standards that each type of Army unit can expect to perform in carrying out its mission.

"There was a time that everyone in the Army trained to published tasks, conditions and standards," said retired Sgt. Maj. of the Army Robert Hall, who served as a senior mentor to NCO ATLDP members. "For many reasons — top-down management, OPTEMPO, 9-11, lack of current MTPs — the Army has slipped from training that way. There is a real need to ground the new generation (of NCOs) with using current MTPs."

While survey participants

**See NCO, page 11**



Above, Staff Sgt. Robert Payne, platoon sergeant, and CW2 Matthew Jenkins, Kiowa Warrior pilot, both of Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. prepare a helicopter for flight. Right, "Ghostriders" fly over the riot recording photographs and video.



## Task Force Aviation shows force in MN

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

A riot has broken out in the Multinational Division (South East) sector and the Spanish Multinational Specialized Units cannot keep it under control. French communication experts call the Portuguese riot control group for assistance. The scene does not look good.

As the Portuguese infantry soldiers double check their Darth Vader-looking riot gear, American OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters cruise the scene of the disturbance. They fly by gathering photographs and video of the events as well as gathering reconnaissance information for their team. Their mere presence of beating propellers causes some people to stop and stare.

While the Warriors disseminate vital information about the incident, the American UH-60 Blackhawk and the German CH-53 helicopters scoop up the riot teams and whisk them over to a safe landing zone near the growing disturbance.

Teams of soldiers in black shiny pads, shields and helmets run from the powerful helicopters seconds after they dust off the landing zone. They quickly form a human wall, pushing back the angry crowd. Their intimidating presence and forceful foot stomps help dissuade the crowd as the helicopters hover loudly overhead.

This dramatic event was a multinational demonstration of force given at Mostar, Bosnia and Herzegovina, April 26. But besides being a great show,

it was a time for Task Force Aviation to practice their skills and learn about how other countries operate.

"It was a good exercise in deploying. I learned how difficult things can be when working in a multinational exercise," said CW2 Angel Alejandro, Kiowa Warrior pilot, Co. B, 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment as he explained about the differences in techniques and equipment.

"Talking to the other countries is challenging, and we did that," said CW3 Todd Buckhouse, Kiowa Warrior pilot, Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. "We have a hard enough time talking to each other."

Task Force Aviation units definitely covered the communication spectrum considering there were eight countries involved in the demonstration.

As with any major exercise, there was an enormous amount of planning and coordination. This was evident since the demonstration "flowed like a dance," said Buckhouse.

And the perfection of the American's part in the dance was noted said Maj. Fredrick Choi, plans and operations officer, and Lt. Col. A. T. Ball Jr., commander, both of the 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. They were told that a Bosnian person in the audience said, "That's why the Americans are here."

To get that perfection, it took participation from all Task Force aviation units. Co. D 'Desperados' provided maintenance support, Headquarters and Headquarters Company 'Headhunters' provided fueling and flight operations, Co. G 'Vipers' controlled the pick up zone and the air traffic, and of course there were the "fly boys." The Warrior 'Ghostriders' reconned the riot area and secured a landing zone for the Blackhawk 'Blackjacks' to safely deliver the riot teams.

After spending a few

working long hours,

learned that every pa

"All the support p

machine and the know

those outside pieces

our future operations

Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th

The exercise made

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George Ferido, comm

Regt.

But learning how

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"The Europeans h

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said CW3 Mike Zanc

1st Bn., 25th Avn. R

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These friendships

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And this is what t

bonds.

They bonded as

multinational force.



Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

## ND(SE)

few days in cramped quarters and many of the soldiers said they part of the team was crucial. pieces functioned like a well oiled machine. Knowledge gained from working with the French was, and will be invaluable to the unit," said 1st Sgt. Bruce Robertson, commander, 1st Avn. Regt. The disparate elements a unit. "You can hear the voice on the radio now," said Capt. Robertson, commander, Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th Avn.,

to work better as a team and how to cooperate were not the only benefits of the exercise. It wasn't all about work. There

was a flair for life that Americans didn't have," said Alejandro as he spoke about the food, tasty meals devoured in the mess hall, restaurants on the Mostar base. "We're working together for the same goal," said Capt. Robertson, Kiowa Warrior pilot, Co. B., 1st Avn. Regt., as he explained that he was able to give school French instruction to speak French. He said that he was able to make the exercise about their friendliness and his ability

to work better as a team and how to cooperate were not the only benefits of the exercise. It wasn't all about work. There

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Above, Portuguese soldiers are in full riot gear, ready to board Task Force Aviation UH-60 Blackhawks and German CH-53s so they can be whisked off to a civil disturbance demonstration in Mostar April 26. Left, a "Blackjack" lands in a field surrounded by mountains to refuel.

# Transfer of authority - Transfer of tradition

By Staff Sgt. Igor Sheherbakov and  
Cadet Anton Semenov

*Russian Separate Airborne Brigade*

The last decade was the time of great global changes. The specter of the Cold War dramatically disappeared, and the former 'potential adversaries' became 'real partners' and combined efforts in their joint fight for peace in the world and struggle against global terrorism.

Here, on the ground of Bosnia, our soldiers met for the first time since the historical meeting on the Elba River in 1945. They met to accomplish their mission of bringing peace back to Europe, as it was a half century ago.

Working in one team, and overcoming the past years estrangement, soldiers of the two countries were gradually getting closer.

Representatives of the most human military profession – Russian and Ameri-

can medics were the first to enjoy mutual trust and support.

The Stabilization Force 10 rotation was a time of significant progress in our medics' relationships.

The new Task Force Med Eagle Commander, Col. David Rivera expressed his intent to continue and to enlarge this cooperation.

Indeed, new projects are impressive; however, successful cooperation is unthinkable without the personal ties, mutual respect, and friendship.

Unwilling to waste time, Rivera and his medical personnel traveled to Camp Ugljevik two days after Transfer of Authority, which was held April 5.

On the way to an Orthodox convent, the medics stopped at a shooting range to try Russian AK-47s.

Rivera and his team showed that they are not only skillful medics, but good soldiers too. The next site visited was the church submerged in the Priboj Lake

– "that's got to be seen – not told about."

The next step in solidifying this new partnership was a friendly game of basketball at Eagle Base after a daylong surgeons' conference.

This is what Lt. Col. Andrey Gorbunov said he thinks about the warm relationships our medics enjoy.

"Our countries are real scientific superpowers," said Gorbunov. "So, if we combine our potentials and share knowledge, we'll be able to take better care of our soldiers and local population. That's what we are trying to do."

The world is still very far from being perfect, and it's our mission to improve it. There are so many places where aid is sharply needed.

Only the omnipotent Lord knows where, beside the former Yugoslavia, Bosnia and Kosovo, our medics will join efforts again to give their helping hand to the needy.

## Soldiering, motherhood difficult during deployment

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

*Photo Editor, 305th PAD*

**S**unday is usually a day when mothers are flattered with attention and gifts, but for deployed moms in Bosnia, things will be a little different.

Their children are not here to smother them with hugs and kisses. And for most, neither are their spouses. As a small substitute, they will have the opportunity to hear the voices of their loved ones through phone calls and see their faces through video teleconferencing.

Maj. Lindy Stuart said it is "very hard" being away from her three boys and calls them often. "It is almost tearful," said Stuart as she explained that her oldest son, 3-year-old Jarod, always asks her the same question when she calls. "Mom, when are you coming home?"

Stuart said it is difficult for her boys to

understand. "They just know that mama is gone," she said as she stared at their pictures. Then, Stuart smiled broadly as she explained how she saw her 7-month-old, Aaron, crawl during her VTC May 4.

The VTCs have not been happy for all soldiers and their families though. "It hurt. It hurt a lot," said Sgt. Taheerah Armour, military police investigator, 549th MP Company.

She explained that her 2-year-old, Shakayla, cried during the entire conference because she couldn't touch her mother through the television screen. "The rest of the day I was depressed," she said. "I probably won't do it again."

For some, watching a recorded video of their children is better than a live conference.

"Some nights I sit and watch the video of them and laugh," said Staff Sgt. Tereasa Menke, division supply sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division (Light). "I watch it over

and over," she said.

Many of the mothers here said they try to keep themselves busy with missions and recreational activities.

Sgt. Michelle Flores, flight operations NCOIC, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, said she tries to focus on her mission and purpose for being here.

"I would go insane if I didn't understand why I was here," said Flores who has a 14-month-old boy, Emilio.

For now, these mothers make do with their phone calls, VTCs, letters, pictures and emails. On Sunday, many of them will be participating in the 10K run and the mothers-only Taste of Tuzla trip. None of this will give them back the time away from their kids, but it will keep them from being as sad.

"Keeping busy is a big part of making my time go by," said Maj. Sara Spielmann, chief dietician and deputy command administration, Task Force Med Eagle.

## U.S. Students collect, donate clothes to Bosnia citizens

### Donate, from page 5

widows, [both Bosniacs and Serbs] and their families by giving them clothing, helping them find work and assisting them in rebuilding their homes.

"The work that they do will provide the true healing to the country," said Kent. And this healing is being recognized.

Zejneba Sarajlic, president of the association, is scheduled to go to New York this month to receive an award from a women and children refugee organization.

This event, according to Kent, could help the association by introducing them to more people that could help. But for now, Kent and his hometown friends were able to do

that.

Their donations, which cost \$2,000 to ship, will be greatly appreciated by the women, said Avramovic as she explained why she gave so much of her time to the group.

"A lot of bad things happened to the people here," said Avramovic when she spoke about ethnic tensions in Bratunac. "I belong to those

people [Bosnian Serbs] and I feel obligated to fix it."

And fixing things is exactly what the Serb and Bosniak presidents of this organization are doing through their work.

"They are a beacon of hope to the rest of the world," said Kent. Avramovic's heart-felt thanks of Kent's work showed that she considered him a beacon as well.



Cpl. Matthew McClelland

Sgt. Karl "Cornbread" Zollman of HHC, 151st Inf. Regt. plays guitar with John Popper, lead singer of the Blues Traveler, at Camp McGovern April 28.

# Blues Traveler "rocks" the Balkans

By Spc. Christina Davis

Talon Editor, 305th PAD

Hundreds of soldiers lined up for autographs after the Blues Traveler performed at Peacekeepers Hall April 29, which was the last stop in the band's 10-day Kosovo and Bosnia and Herzegovina tour.

During their tour in the Balkans, the Blues Traveler band performed at Forward Operating Base Connor, Camp McGovern and Eagle Base. They shook the hands and signed autographs for every soldier that came before them.

To show the soldiers an even better time during the concert, the band invited soldiers and airmen to the stage to show off their

talents. During each show, a different military member played guitar with the band.

Sgt. Karl "Cornbread" Zollman of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 151st Infantry Regiment, played guitar at Camp McGovern. At FOB Connor 1st Sgt. Barry Gavin, Company C., 1st Battalion., 14th Inf. Regt. first sergeant, played guitar with the band. At Eagle Base 1st Lt. Luke Heusel, chief of physical therapy at Task Force Med Eagle, played guitar while Air Force Tech Sgt. Tim McCormick, security forces supervisor, 401st Expeditionary Air Base Group, played harmonica.

"To say it was 'a dream come true' is not really correct because no one ever imagines or dreams they will be playing with Blues Traveler," said Heusel. "As a blues guitar

player, getting to play with professionals like that is a real treat. It made my rotation."

Heusel said the memory of sharing the stage with the band will stay with him forever.

"Playing was great fun, but to have your guitar peers comment on your playing ability was by far the best," he said.

The concert, coordinated by the United Service Organization and Morale, Welfare and Recreation, was intended to give soldiers time to relax and take their minds off the pressures of being deployed.

"You always hear great things about MWR and USO, but it doesn't really impact most of us until they bring great entertain-

See Concert, page 11



Spc. Christina Davis



Allen "Mac" McNeil

Left, 1st Lt. Luke Heusel, chief physical therapist with TFME, and Air Force Staff Sgt. Tim McCormick, security forces supervisor with the 401st Exped. ABG, perform with lead singer John Popper. Above, 1st Sgt. Barry Gavin jams with the band at FOB Connor.

Right, Hundreds of military members lined up for autographs and photos.



Spc. Christina Davis

# TFE celebrates Asian Pacific Heritage Month

By Master Sgt. Carol Cheley

*EO Program Manager*

In June of 1977, Congressmen Horton (R-NY) and Mineta (D-CA) introduced House Resolution 540 into the House of Representatives.

This Resolution called for the President to proclaim the first week of May as Asian Pacific American Week.

In July, Senators Daniel Inouye and Matthew Matsunaga introduced similar legislation into the United States Senate.

Jimmy Carter signed Joint Resolution 72 in October 1978, officially declaring the first week in May as Asian Pacific Heritage Week.

Twelve years later, in May 1990, President George Bush signed a proclamation extending Asian Pacific Heritage Week to the whole month of May. Two years later House Resolution 5572 was signed, this public law permanently designated the month of May as Asian Pacific American Heritage Month.

So who makes up this group of "Asian Pacific Islanders?" There are numerous definitions.

The U.S. Census Bureau notes over "30 different groups from South Asia

(India), Southeast Asia (Vietnam), Central Asia (People's Republic of

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*"Americans recognize the diversity that makes up the fabric of this country, and the citizen's willingness to unite that makes the fabric strong."*

*- Master Sgt. Carol Cheley, EO program manager*

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China), the Pacific Rim (Korea), and the Pacific Basin (Philippines)."

The Department of Defense defines

Asian Pacific Islander as "a person having origins in any of the original peoples of the far east, southeast Asia, the Indian subcontinent, or the Pacific Islands. This would encompass China, India, Japan, Korea, the Philippine Islands and Samoa."

It is interesting to note that the cultures of Melanesia, Polynesia, South or Southeast Asia have about as much in common culturally as do the cultures of Africa, Germany, Central or South America. They don't share a common language, cuisine, family structure, religion or cultural beliefs.

This year's theme "Unity in Freedom" is supportive of the reality of America.

It acknowledges the diversity within the group, along with the need for unity, in the same way Americans recognize the diversity that makes up the fabric of this country, and the citizen's willingness to unite that makes the fabric strong.

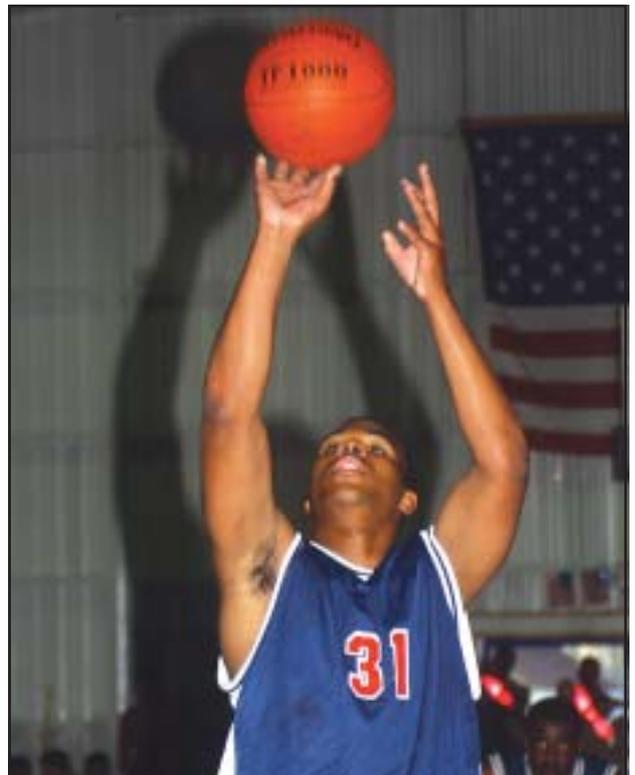
America is a country that has continually, though at times slowly, grown to comprehend, understand and value individual uniqueness, and to appreciate that "all individuals have dignity and worth" as stated in the *Human Goal Charter*.



## Slam dunk

Above, Eagle Base's female basketball team huddles close during the game against Tuzla University, April 28. They put up a rough fight but lost 64 - 28.

Right, Pfc. Jillian Rountree, military policeman, 549th MP Co., 3rd ID, gets down and fights for the ball. The games were played as an "opening ceremony" for Peacekeepers Hall.



Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

Above, Spc. Donsha Crudup, S-4 supply specialist, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., shoots a free throw. The males lost to Tuzla University 84 - 67.

## News Briefs

**Mother's Day reminder** — Mother's Day is Sunday. For those who forgot to send out those cards, and those who did send them out, remember to call Mom and wish her a Happy Mother's Day.

**Asia Pacific Islander Heritage Month** — The Equal Opportunity office is looking for volunteers for the committee for Asian Pacific Heritage Month. They need help planning a formal ceremony and luau. Meetings are at the EO office on Tuesdays at 1:30 p.m. For more information, call 762-0033.

**Free Calling Cards from Walmart** — Walmart has a program to give soldiers who are away from home serving their country a free calling card for Mother's Day.

For more information, go to the Website at [www.walmartstores.com/wmstore/wmstores/PromoMothersDay.jsp?categoryOID=8621&contentOID=11511](http://www.walmartstores.com/wmstore/wmstores/PromoMothersDay.jsp?categoryOID=8621&contentOID=11511)

**COOL program** — The Credentialing Opportunities Online program explains how Army soldiers can meet civilian certification and license requirements related to the military occupational specialties. The link is [www.armyeducation.army.mil](http://www.armyeducation.army.mil). For more information, call Kathleen



Spc. Michelle Lunato

## CSM defines PT gear rules

Proper wear of the Improved Physical Fitness Uniform and the Physical Fitness Uniform is expected by all soldiers here.

The IPFU/PFU is always worn with the reflective belt.

If the jacket is worn, the reflective belt will be worn over the right shoulder, and under the left arm.

If the jacket is not worn, the reflective belt will be worn around the waist.

The same applies to the gray sweatshirt with the PFU.

Remember that the IPFU and the PFU will not be mixed and the white socks cannot have logos.

Also, remember that the PT uniform is a military uniform. All military courtesies will be rendered. Have SFOR ID badges at all times and carry weapons according to the force protection guidelines.

For more information on the proper wear of PTs, refer to AR 670-1, paragraphs 1-7 and 1-8.

Connolly, the education services officer, at 762-7072.

**2002 Federal Children's Scholarship Fund** — Scholarship applications for the 2002 and 2003 academic year from the Federal Children's Scholarship Fund can be found online at [www.fedscholarships.org/](http://www.fedscholarships.org/).

The scholarship is designed specifically for children of federal employees and members of

the military community. All scholarship awards will be announced on or before Aug. 31. The deadline for application submission is June 1.

For more information, call Kathleen Connolly, the education services officer, at 762-7072.

**Football and Soccer field restrictions** — Morale, Welfare and Recreation is asking for all

Task Force Eagle personnel to observe the football and soccer field restrictions.

Posted signs will clearly mark whether the field is opened or closed for use. No physical fitness formations or any other activities are permitted on the field when it is closed.

For more information, call Tony Mullings at 762-3004.

## Army addresses NCO concerns

### NCO, from page 5

did not fault the NCO Evaluation Report per se, they said it was not being used effectively to provide the feedback they need to improve, according to Pritchett.

"Let's face it, people in the Army are competitive by nature," she said. "They want to know how they're doing compared to their peers. The NCOER just isn't doing that."

Many of the respondents, especially among the younger NCOs, said they would like to see something like the old military occupational specialty tests that were given annually more than 20 years ago, Pritchett said.

About one-third of NCOs surveyed do not believe NCOs maintain MOS skill proficiency, while more than half said

unit mission essential tasks are not being trained to standard, stated the study's final report.

"Don't look for any fixes coming out of this study because the NCO corps isn't broken," Hall said. "The NCO corps isn't like a rusty old heap sitting in the driveway; it is like a Mercedes just needing a wash and a wax. This study will help arm Army leadership with the facts it needs to make decisions that will ensure the NCO corps' and the Army's successes of the past 226 years will keep pace with Transformation."

The final report on the NCO ATLDP study is posted on the Web at [www.army.mil/features/ATLDNCO.htm](http://www.army.mil/features/ATLDNCO.htm). The earlier officer report is located at [www.army.mil/features/ATLD/ATLD.htm](http://www.army.mil/features/ATLD/ATLD.htm).

## MWR, USO host rock concert

### Concert, from page 9

ment from far away to your area," said Heusel. "It means a lot that a band like the Blues Traveler would devote some time to the troops. I can't say enough for the MWR guys."

Blues Traveler lead singer John Popper said that he loved doing this tour because he is "proud of each and every soldier out here."

"It is good to come and see the work here," said Popper after the autograph session. "You are living your beliefs. We are seeing idealism."

He said that soldiers are here for a reason. "And whatever the reason, it is noble."

# Know the SFOR 11 units ...

## 3rd Infantry Division, Fort Stewart, Ga.

The 3rd Infantry Division was activated at Camp Greene, N.C., in November 1917. Eight months later, at midnight on July 14, 1918 the Division went into combat for the first time.

During World War I, as a member of the American Expeditionary Force to Europe, the Division earned its name as the "Rock of the Marne." When surrounding units retreated, the 3rd ID remained rock solid. Although the stand was quite successful, they paid a high price. General "Black Jack" Pershing said it best, when he called the Division's performance one of the most brilliant historical military events.

World War II was to add even greater glory to the Marne Legend. As the sole United States fighting force for 531 continuous days of combat, the 3rd ID fought in places like Casablanca, Anzio, Rome, the Vosges Mountains, Colmar, the



Siegfried Line, Palermo, Nurnberg, Munich and Salzburg.

The most decorated soldier in World War II was among them: Lt. Audie Murphy, serving with the 15th Infantry in Italy and France.

There have been 49 Medal of Honor winners from the 3rd ID.

In April 1958, the Marne Division returned to Germany to secure the defense of Western Europe and ultimately win the Cold War.

In November of 1990, soldiers of the 3rd ID were once again called into action. Following Iraq's invasion of Kuwait, more than 6,000 Marne men and women deployed with Operation Desert Storm as part of the Allied Coalition which brought a swift end to Saddam Hussein's military aggression in the Gulf region. Nearly 1,000 soldiers deployed to Southeastern Turkey and Northern Iraq to Operation Provide Comfort to Kurdish Refugees. Almost 100 were part of

Task Force Victory, which began the task of rebuilding Kuwait.

A new chapter of Marne history began with the activation of the 3rd ID (Mechanized) at Fort Stewart and in the Coastal Empire.

The 549th Military Police Company, 3rd ID, is here in Bosnia and Herzegovina to perform route reconnaissance, enforcement area security, gather military police information and uphold law enforcement operations throughout the Multinational Division (North) sector.

They also have the only K-9 Detachment in the Balkans. These dogs are used in explosive and narcotics detection.

The three white stripes upon the blue square shoulder sleeve insignia are symbolic of the six campaigns in which the division participated in World War I. The blue field symbolizes the loyalty of those who placed their lives on the altar of self-sacrifice in defense of the American ideals of liberty and democracy.



The distinctive unit insignia's rock, inscription, and wyvern refer to the two designations by which men of the 3rd ID are popularly known, "Marne Men" and "Blue and White Devils." The rock represents the division's firm stand against the German offensive at the Marne River in World War I. It was there that the commanding officer, Maj. Gen. Joseph Dickman, stated "Nous Resterons LA," We Will Stay There. The wyvern, an heraldic form of the devil, bears the division's blue and white stripes on its wing in commemoration of the division's action at Anzio, Italy, in WW II where they were called "Blue and White Devils" by the enemy.

(This information was gathered from [www.stewart.army.mil](http://www.stewart.army.mil))

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## The history of the Vuk Karadzic Memorial

### *Women come together for peace*

By Richard Kent

*Task Force Eagle Deputy POLAD*

The high school in Bratunac is believed to be a site of executions during the war. It is thought at least six hundred men were murdered there in 1992.

Today, the school is once more a working high school. Accordingly, the widows and orphans of the incident there wish to commemorate their dead on the approximate anniversary of the events there.

Bratunac was about 65 percent Muslim at the start of the war in 1992. In May of that year, Serb nationalist paramilitaries took the town, and arrested several hundred Bosniac leaders, politicians, teachers and businessmen and held them to the high school building.

The school at the time was called

the Vuk Karadzic High School. Some 600 are thought to have been executed at the time and buried in remote areas around the town.

The city was 100 percent Serb at the end of the war; its Muslim former inhabitants had fled.

While postwar ethnic tensions were very high, a very unusual women's group, the Women of Podrinje, was founded to provide for cooperation between Serbs and Bosniacs in Bratunac. Its two leaders are Zejneba Sarajilic, a Bosniac whose husband died at the high school in 1992, and the other is Stanojka Avramovic, a Bosnian Serb who spent the war trapped in the town.

The two of them became fast friends after the war and founded the group both to commemorate the dead and to provide assistance to Serb displaced persons and Bosniac

returnees who wish to rebuild their homes in Bratunac.

On May 10, 2000, during Stabilization Force 7, the Women of Podrinje attempted to go to Bratunac to pray and lay a wreath in front of the Vuk Karadzic School. A mob intercepted the bus and stoned it, forcing the women to retreat before they could complete the remembrance.

In May 2001, the Women of Podrinje again tried to memorialize their dead at the VK school. However, riots in Trebinje, in Multinational (Southeast), and in Banja Luka, in MND (Southwest), caused the group to abandon their plans.

Tomorrow's ceremony is going forward. Should it take place without incident, it will serve as a major step forward toward communal healing and reconciliation in Bratunac.