

JUNE 7, 2002

TALON



Aviators host elementary school visit at Eagle Base

Inside this issue:

**Operation Active Harvest moving on streets
Country singer Toby Keith entertains troops**

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TALON

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Stabilization Force 11 Voices

“What would make this deployment easier?”



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Helicopter Repair Tech.
Co. B, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt.

“More MWR activities, such as fun runs.”



Pfc. Jesse West
Rifleman
Co. A, 1st Bn. 163rd Inf. Regt.

“Another phone center to make it easier for soldiers to call home.”



Staff Sgt. Steven Gianelli
Team Leader
Co. A, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. Regt.

“Soldiers being able to interact with the public to open their minds to the Bosnian culture.”

Friday, June 7, 2002



Task Force Eagle
Stabilization Force
SFOR XI
Bosnia-Herzegovina



CSM speaks...

PT integral part of being light fighters



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

What do you think of that Division Run? Just about 1,000 of us ran the

3.8 mile route. We truly had representation from everyone on Eagle Base. Even the nice folks from the Army and Air Force Exchange Service ran. Civilians from all over post ran with us. I even saw one retired warrant officer out calling cadence. Not bad for an old man, Guy Compton is younger than me!

The Air Force was there in good form and every one of them who started finished. I wish I could say that for some of us.

The Division run should be a wake up call for a lot of us. Back

home most of us run daily or at least three days a week. Here, I seldom see people out running. Lots of us go to the gym and ride the bike or lift weights but it's not the same. Remember we are an Infantry Division. That means walking. That means foot marching. That means running. That should tell you something. Get out and hit the road.

We opened the perimeter road for a reason. The reason is good Army physical training. Let's go do some.

It is too easy to just

sit in your room or stay late in the office. It's too easy to come up with an excuse. Like the TV ad says "Just Do It." Get out and work up a sweat. Don't sit around and cheat your body. Eat right; I'm even giving up milk salad.

I guess the bottom line is this ... we are going to have a division run once a month. We will run a little farther, 4 miles, and the goal is to run at a nine-minute-mile pace. When we cross the finish line I plan on being next to the Commanding General. Will you be with us?

Chaplain's Corner ...

Honesty is still the best policy

By Chaplain (Maj.) Alvin Shrum

MND (N) and TFE Chaplain

Honesty is still the best policy. Read the following story someone once shared with me and you will see what I mean. I am not sure if the story is true or not. However, we can still learn from its message.

While attending Duke University there were two sophomores who were taking organic chemistry. They did pretty well on all of the quizzes, midterms, labs, etc., so going into the finals, they each had a solid "A."

These two friends were so confident, the weekend before finals week, they decided to go up to the University of Virginia and party with some friends. So they did just that and had a great time. However, because of the late night parties and everything else, they overslept most of Sunday and

didn't make it back to Duke until early Monday morning.

Rather than take the final then, they found their professor after the final and explained why they had missed the test. They told him they went to UVA for the weekend and had planned to come back in time to study and take the test, but they had a flat tire on the way back and didn't have a spare and couldn't get any help for a long time.

The professor thought this over and then agreed they could make up the final the following day. The two guys were elated and relieved. They studied that night and went in the next day at the time the professor had told them.

He placed them in separate rooms and handed each of them a test booklet and told them to begin. They looked at the first problem, which was something about "free radical formation," and was worth five points. "Cool,"

they thought. This was going to be easy. They did that problem and then turned the page. They were unprepared for what they saw on the next page. It said: 95 points, Which tire?

Sometimes people think telling a lie is an easy way to avoid embarrassment or some type of unpleasant situation.

Others see it as a way to obtain profit or gain without working for it.

The Bible tells us that the things we do in darkness, secret, really aren't and one day they will be revealed. Ephesians 5:13 states, "But all things become visible when they are exposed to light...." This even includes the motives of our hearts.

So, the best way to avoid a lot of trouble isn't by lying, but by telling the truth.

After everything is said and done, honesty is still the best policy, and that's the truth.

May God bless each of you.

NordPol Battle Group teams up for Active Harvest program

By Andrey Bogomazov and
Dmitry Revyakin

1st PRSAB

The main stage of the Operation Active Harvest mission was conducted in the NordPol Brigade area of responsibility May 20-24.

Danish, Turkish, Americans, Polish, Lithuanian and Russians represented the demining teams that participated in the operation.

Before the weapons and ammunition collection took place, there was a two-day rehearsal in Doboj where several briefings and conferences took place. One of the highlights of the two-day event was the competition between the Explosive Ordnance Disposal teams.

Danish EOD section leader, Lt. Tokin Orenaes, organized the competition, which consisted of recognition and classification of various mines, hand grenades, ordnance and other munitions. In the end, the American EOD-team was the winner of this competition, being the first to complete the task. The American EOD-team was awarded a medal emblazoned



Courtesy Photo

Danish EOD section leader, Lt. Tokin Orenaes, briefs a group of soldiers during an EOD team competition May 20 and 21.

with the words: "EOD Competition Denneverike, SFOR 11."

Stabilization Force soldiers began going door to door May 23 inquiring if residents had ammunition or weapons they wanted to contribute to the

weapons harvest program. Soldiers were not allowed to search houses without the owner's permission. Russian soldiers and officers found it unusual to see the local residents voluntarily turn in weapons and ammunition

to the explosives ordnance disposal teams. In Chechnya, a man risks his life if he does not have a weapon.

The collection of weapons and munitions was actually conducted in the last two days. During that time, the Russian EOD team collected 3,500 pieces of ammunition, 25 kgs. of explosives, 9 kgs. of gunpowder and more than 9 meters of fuse material.

In the course of the operation the 1st Peacekeeping Russian Separate Airborne Brigade EOD team personnel found a common language easily which added to the cooperation factor with the representatives and their foreign counterparts. An interpreter wasn't necessary for interaction with the SFOR contingent from Lithuania and Poland because they spoke fluent Russian.

At the goodbye party the personnel of the Russian EOD-team was invited to enjoy the sauna and kebabs from the grill. Russian and Lithuanian soldiers sang songs and enjoyed the kebabs cooked by a Lithuanian soldier.

Army video game to debut this summer

By Heike Hasenauer

Army News Service

FORT BELVOIR, Va. — Starting in July, kids, as well as adults, will have the opportunity to play a realistic, interactive computer game that will take them on a virtual tour inside the Army.

"America's Army," to be distributed free of charge on the Web at americasarmy.com, will allow players to "experience" everything from the enlistment process at a recruiting station, to jumping out of a C-130 aircraft during an airborne operation and retrieving stolen Stinger missiles from enemy forces, said Lt. Col. George Juntiff, the Army Game Project's operations officer.

The Army's intent is not only to enhance kids' - and adults' - video-game-playing experiences and spark interest in the Army as a potential career, but reintroduce the Army to the population at large, said Paul Boyce, an Army spokesman at the Pentagon.

The idea for an Army game originated at the Office of Economic and Manpower

Analysis at the U.S. Military Academy at West Point, N.Y., as a recruiting tool for the assistant secretary of the Army for Reserve Affairs two years ago, said Maj. Christopher Chambers, deputy director of the Army Game Project.

The estimated \$8 million game - developed by computer scientists and master's degree program personnel from the joint services at the Naval Postgraduate School's Modeling Virtual Environments and Simulation institute, MOVES, in Monterey, Calif., will evolve over five years to cover all the Army's military occupational specialties, said Professor Michael Zyda, MOVES institute director.

The game, which is actually a two-part CD, one called "Soldiers," the other "Army Operations," currently includes 20 combat-arms MOSs, Zyda said.

In the "Army Operations" portion of the game, players can enter any of 20 infantry-squad-related scenarios, said "Operations"-CD producer Professor Michael Capps.

Real-life imagery of weapons, equipment and terrain have been coupled with an emphasis on training, Capps said. "We want players to have a good time, but we

want them to know, too, that when a soldier enlists in the Army, he's not simply taken to the top of a tower and told to jump. Training prepares him for whatever job he's expected to do."

In the "Soldiers" CD, players choose one of four existing soldiers as their game piece or create their own soldier, said NPS Professor John Hiles, who designed the "Soldiers" portion of the game.

The pre-selected characters possess both good and not-so-good-character traits, Hiles said.

"Players are given six resources and seven values to choose from as they make decisions that guide the character," Hiles said.

Recently showcased at one of the largest annual expositions for the computer-game industry, the Electronics Entertainment Expo in Los Angeles, Calif., "America's Army," was favorably received by representatives from some of the foremost gaming companies in the world, Army officials said.

They estimate one million of the double-CD game will be distributed to a target audience of 13- to 44-year-olds nationwide.

Medal of Honor awardee's son reflects

By Spc. Vincent Oliver

Assistant Editor, 305th PAD

When former Secretary of the Army, Louis Caldera, phoned Yeiki "Lefty" Kobashigawa to tell him that he would be one of 22 people whose Distinguished Service Medal was being upgraded to the Medal of Honor for meritorious service rendered during World War II, Kobashigawa's response was, "That was over 50 years ago. Just send it in the mail."

It wasn't that Kobashigawa didn't appreciate the importance of the medal upgrade, he was proud of his service to his country, but "he never liked to talk about the war," said Merle Kobashigawa, Yeiki Kobashigawa's son.

"If it wasn't for my daughter telling me she had seen her grandfather's name on the walls of Congress, during a trip to Washington D.C., we may not have ever found out that he had gotten the Distinguished Service Cross," said Kobashigawa, who works as an equipment specialist here at Eagle Base for the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command.

"That generation never talked about themselves," said the younger Kobashigawa speaking of his father's generation. "Just get the job done and don't blow your own horn. Don't bring shame on your family or your country."

In June of 1944, Company B, 100th Battalion, 442nd Regimental Combat Team, landed in Naples, Italy. The elder Kobashigawa felt it was his duty to fight alongside his comrades in some of the fiercest battles of the incursion into Italy. The fact that he had almost single-handedly taken out a German machine gun nest that had his platoon pinned down in the town of Lanuvio



Spc. Vincent Oliver

Merle Kobashigawa, an equipment specialist with the U.S. Army Aviation and Missile Command, reflects on his father's service with the 100th Bn., 442nd RCT during World War II.

was just another opportunity to do his job.

By the end of the war, the 100th Bn., 442nd RCT sustained 9,486 wounded and over 600 killed, the highest casualty rate of any American unit during the war. For their heroism, the men of the 100th Bn., 442nd RCT were awarded fifty-two Distinguished Service crosses, 560 Silver Stars and the Congressional Medal of Honor was awarded posthumously to Pfc. Sadao Munemori. The 442nd Regimental Combat Team was also awarded seven coveted Presidential Unit Citations for its performance during WW II. The men in the 100th Battalion alone had earned 900 Purple Hearts, 36 Silver Stars, 21 Bronze Stars and three Distinguished Service Crosses.

In June of 2000, Kobashigawa and his

family traveled from Hawaii to Washington, D.C. to the official ceremony upgrading his Distinguished Service Medal to the Medal of Honor. The following day, Kobashigawa was inducted into the Hall of Heroes at the Pentagon.

"Dad was kind of overwhelmed with all of that," said Kobashigawa of his father's reaction to the ceremony.

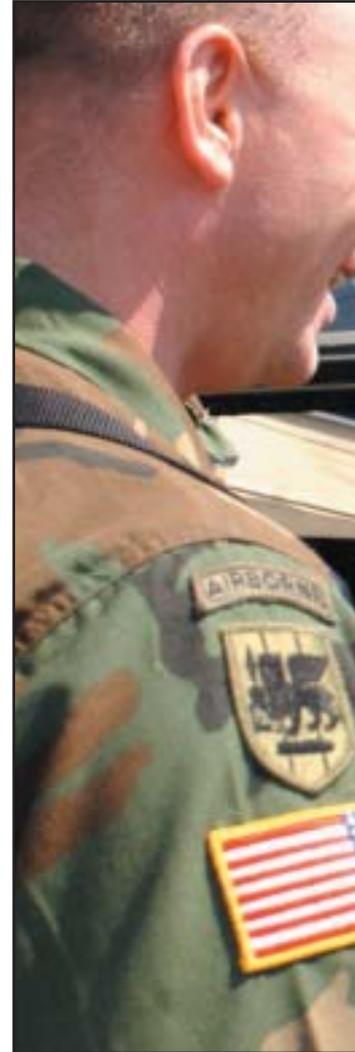
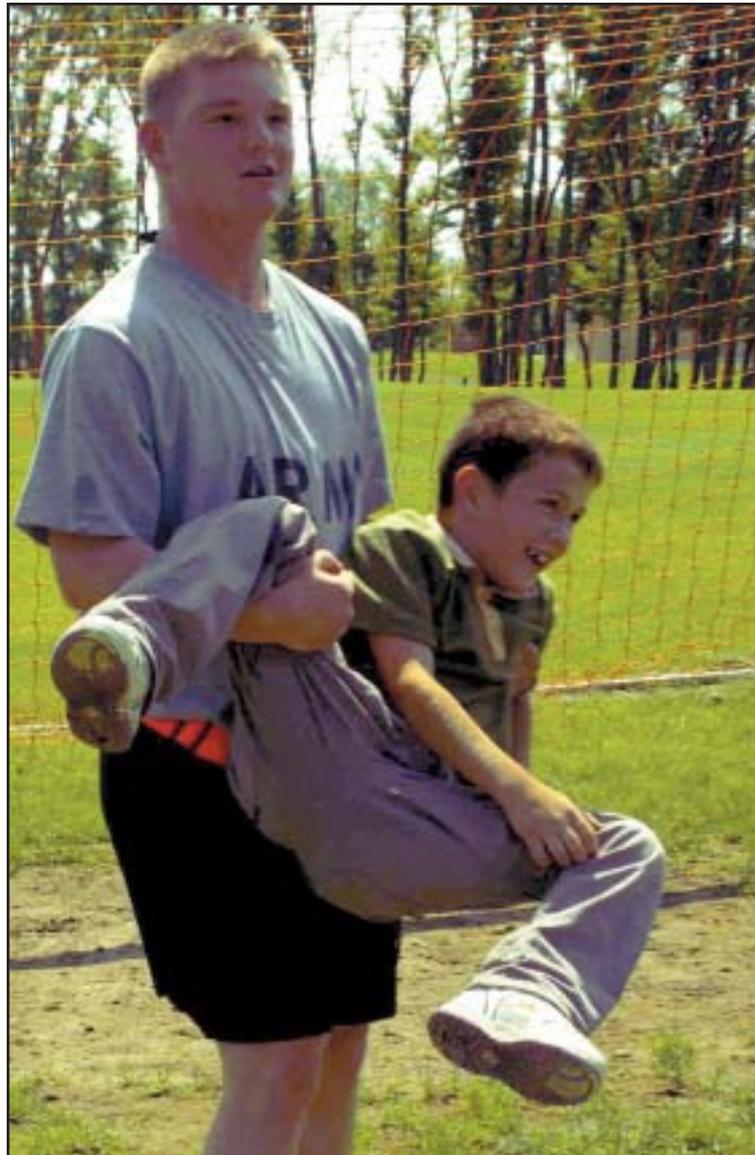
While touring the Pentagon, Kobashigawa remembered walking with his father into a room dedicated to WW II. When his father was shown a map of the area he had fought in, the elder Kobashigawa, who had, during the war, walked from the southern tip of Italy, all the way through to the north into France, declared, "I remember this. This is right before we crossed into France. That was the only time we got to ride in a truck."



Soldiers of the 100th Bn., 442nd RCT stand in formation in preparation for an inspection during WWII.

Photo courtesy of Associated Press

Spc. Larry Huff , radio retransmission operator, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., carries away his soccer opponent. The 37 children with the best grades were chosen to visit Eagle Base to see helicopters, throw footballs, kick soccer balls and eat lunch with aviation soldiers. At the end of the day, Task Force Aviation commander, Lt. Col. A.T. Ball, Jr., presented the teachers with a Xerox copy machine to help them with the paper demands of 150 students. The teachers, with tears in their eyes, thanked the soldiers for all their donations and caring.



CW3 Todd Buckhouse, OH children from the elementary



A girl from the elementary school in Suha looks out of the static Blackhawk display like a crew chief on a flight.

Task Force Aviation brings

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

There were children everywhere. They were laughing loudly, throwing Frisbees, kicking soccer balls and climbing on helicopters. Their smiles said it all; it was a good day.

The elementary school students were not the only ones with big smiles though. Their host soldiers from Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, were having just as much fun.

Even though Task Force Aviation soldiers sponsor 26 different local sites here in Bosnia and Herzegovina, there was something different about the May 31 visit. This time, the children came to the soldiers.

The 37 children from the elementary school in Suha were so excited about coming to Eagle Base, said Spc. Demekia Clark, supply specialist, HHC, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., who went out to the school to pick them up. "The kids ran to the bus and were singing songs the whole way here." Soldiers on base were just as excited as they scurried around getting the lunch and games ready.

By the time the little people arrived on Eagle Base the soldiers could hardly contain themselves. It only took a few moments of playing before it was hard to tell who was a child and who was a soldier.

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you don't see as a pilot, C... inquiring

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Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

-58D Kiowa Warrior pilot, Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th Avn., Regt., explains the features of the Kiowa Warrior helicopter to the elementary school in Suha during their visit to Eagle Base May 31.

Brings elementary students to Eagle Base

“I can’t see while working,” said CW3 Todd Buckhouse, Kiowa Warrior pilot, Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., who explained his helicopter to the elementary school students with a beaming smile.

“Playing soccer against the children who were all under 10-years-old was as easy as many of the soldiers thought.

“Kicking the ball and keeping it has been the hardest thing to do today,”

said Christine Taylor, personnel sergeant, HHC, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt. “They are so young and play so good. They’ve got me running all over the field.”

Taylor also did some running all over Bosnia, too, as she was a key player in gathering over \$700 and information on the purchase of a Xerox copy machine, a surprise gift for the school. Some donations came from the soldiers themselves while \$400 came from Wahiawa Middle School in Hawaii. The students there sold goodies and washed cars so that seven Suha schoolteachers’ lives would be easier.

“When we first arrived in country ... and asked what we could do for the school, they replied that all they really needed was a copy machine,” said Capt. Timothy Schmitt, civil affairs officer. “Right now, they must copy all tests and school documents for 150 students.”

“It added even more difficulty to their jobs, the teachers have reportedly not been paid for the last four months. And yet, they continued to teach. A few weeks prior to the Eagle Base visit the teachers went on strike. But, because of the love and dedication for the children and soldiers, they said they would be the best students for the visit. “Selecting which children could visit Eagle Base was the hardest thing to do ... but it is fun for us and

the children,” said Mara Maric, a teacher from Suha. “It’s the first time to do something like this.”

Soldiers and children alike enjoyed the day and expressed the desire for more visits of this type.

“It was fun to show the kids that we like to play and have fun too,” said CW3 Todd Buckhouse.

And once underway, there was no stopping the animated play of the soldiers and children, except for the call of, “Ice cream is here!”



A boy from the elementary school in Suha pretends to shoot from the crew chief position on a static Blackhawk display.

Task Force Warhawk begins Active Harvest

By Task Force Warhawk Staff

Camp McGovern Public Affairs

From as far south as Tuzla, Lukavac and Eagle Base, to as far north as the Sava River, Brcko, and Camps McGovern and Morgan, Task Force Warhawk soldiers went door to door asking local residents if they had any weapons they would like to turn in beginning June 2.

"I wish we could've spent the whole week doing this – establishing a rapport and then going back to ask if they'd like to turn over some weapons," said 1st Lt. James Miller, Company A, 1st Battalion, 163rd Infantry Regiment, platoon leader.

Miller stood several kilometers northwest of Tuzla, in a tiny hamlet typical of where he and other Task Force Warhawk leaders are focusing their first efforts in the weapons harvest program. "Our guys are enthusiastic about this."

Days earlier, several kilometers away Troop E, 238th Cavalry Regiment soldiers from Camp Morgan went door to door, about 5 kilometers south of Samac. It was their first day of Harvest and among the items they collected were a fully automatic AK-47 and half dozen grenades.

"We received a lot more stuff than I ever thought we would on our first day," said Sgt. Kurt Griffis of Trp. E.

"We are working with local authorities in this effort," said Task Force Warhawk commander Lt. Col. Courtney Carr. "We can't do this alone, and so far I'd like to applaud the local authorities and the people themselves."

Carr is participating in a media cam-



Cpl. Matthew McClelland

Sgt. Robert Brochin, Sgt. John Smith and Spc. Russell Parker of 5th platoon 238th Cav. Regt., talk to a local citizen during a recent Active Harvest patrol.

aign to advertise the weapons harvest in the local communities his soldiers are canvassing. He has appeared on television in Brcko with the mayor, and also in Tuzla with the chief of the Cantonal Civil Protection Agency.

Carr's company commanders, and their platoon leaders, are visiting the local radio stations with Active Harvest information, in an effort to make the weapons harvest the most successful ever.

"It's important the Bosnian people start realizing this is their program, for their future, soon to be administered by them," Carr commented during a televised broadcast. "They also have to understand we're not coming in

their homes searching for weapons. We're simply asking them to hand over the illegal and dangerous weaponry and ordnance."

Peranovic Milko, one of the residents Miller contacted near Tuzla got the message. "I saw your boss on TV the other night talking of Harvest," said Milko.

The man told Miller, and an accompanying Tuzla television news crew, that he's in full support of Active Harvest. "I think it's a good thing," Milko said. "People should turn in their weapons, it's time."

"If we can leave here leaving Bosnia a better place, having helped people, then I can say we really achieved something," Miller said.



1st Lt. James Miller, a platoon leader with Task Force Warhawk's Co. A, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. Regt. is interviewed by a TV TK crew regarding his Active Harvest mission on the outskirts of Tuzla June 2.

Sgt. Charles Dossett

Balkan Gunner 5 takes Glamoc valley by storm

By Staff Sgt. David Clements and
Capt. Timothy Schmitt

HHC, 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt.

Soldiers from 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment teamed up with British and Canadian artillery units for the Balkan Gunner Five training exercise at Glamoc May 14-16.

First Lt. Travis Molliere, the TF 1-25 Avn. Regt. signal officer, coordinated communications between the Canadian Offensive Support Group, the British field artillery and TF 1-25 Avn. Regt. aircraft and tactical operations center during the exercise in the Glamoc valley.

Overcoming differences in operating procedures between different military ground and air forces, the Task Forces OH-58D and UH-60 Blackhawk helicopters supported the artillery live fire exercise on Glamoc's Resolute Barbara Range.

Two teams of OH-58D Kiowa Warriors appeared on station and observed as British 155 mm artillery and 81mm mortars fired upon an unseen enemy advancing through the Glamoc valley. Spc. Jeremy King and Spc. Tori Palmer, both forward observers assigned to TF 1-25, worked directly with the Canadian artillery. King and Palmer called for artillery fire and observed fire missions using a Canadian Light Armored Vehicle and associated equipment.

"I felt right at home working with the Canadian forward observers," said Palmer, as the air cracked and ground shook as the volleys of artillery fire impacted on the Glamoc landscape.

The small pickup zone that was a quiet strip of land just hours before, became a beehive of activity. With clear skies and little wind to worry about, three UH-60 Blackhawks departed from Eagle Base and arrived right on schedule at the pickup

zone to load the Canadian reconnaissance and security parties, and sling load the fire direction center equipment in the first of three planned air movements.

The first lift, led by CW3 Gary Doak and CW2 Corey Cowley, loaded passengers and equipment then departed on a 15-minute flight enroute to the landing zone.

In a cloud of dust from the rotor-wash of a UH-60 helicopter, Spc. Donald Kirtley and Spc. Enrique Perez, crew chiefs aboard the lead aircraft, guided the aircraft's sling load to the correct position on the landing zone.

Canadian forces from the trail aircraft disembarked to secure the landing zone and prepare for the arrival of the 105 mm howitzers.

The fire direction center crew quickly unpacked their equipment and established communications as the security party swept the landing zone and established a perimeter.

From what appeared to be mass chaos, emerged a secured landing zone. Precisely 30 minutes later, the second group of aircraft led by pilots, 2nd Lt. James Campbell and CW3 Jim Lindsay arrived with three LG-1 Mark II howitzers with the Canadian artillery battery.

Crew chiefs Spc. Elie Aswad and Spc. Chris Everett carefully guided the 105 mm howitzers to their firing positions on the landing zone.

"This type of mission is always good training," said Aswad.

Once the loads were safely detached from the aircraft, the Blackhawks briefly touched down, allowing the gun crews to exit. Crews scrambled to de-rig and emplace the howitzers on the correct azimuth of fire.

The first three 105 mm howitzers were laid, safe and ready to fire when the UH-60s arrived with the last three gun sec-

tions. Again the howitzers were gingerly set down on the landing zone by the powerful utility aircraft.

Crews from the last three gun sections quickly emplaced their howitzers and established communication with the fire direction center.

At last, the firing battery was complete, and due to the powerful lift capabilities of the UH-60 Blackhawks, what had once been an empty field, now contained an artillery battery ready for battle. For the pilots of the TF 1-25 Avn. Regt., the mission ended much as it began; with a cloud of dust.

"This was an excellent opportunity for the assault company and air crews to participate in a combined exercise and maintain air assault proficiency," said Capt. David Bresser, commander of Company A, TF 1-25 Avn. Regt.



Photos by Capt. Timothy Schmitt



Above, Members of 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., arrive in an UH-60 at the landing zone carrying Canadian cannon crewmember and their 105mm howitzers. Left, Crew members of Q Btry., the 2nd Royal 22nd Regt. of Canada emplace the LG-1 Mark II howitzer on the correct azimuth of fire.

Toby Keith brings country to the Balkans

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

Toby Keith and the Easy Money Band brought a little hometown country to the Balkans on their first USO tour from May 25 to June 2.

The award-winning singer and his band performed five concerts in Kosovo and three in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

They said they chose the longer Balkans tour over the 2-day Afghanistan tour because they wanted the troops here to know they are still important despite the emphasis on the war on terror.

"I didn't want to just drop in for 48 hours and go back home," said Keith. "The Balkans has been secondary to what's been going on in Afghanistan. I wanted to come here and lay it on these people and say, 'we appreciate what you do.'"

Between concerts, Keith and his crew were able to get some real experience of military life. They did everything from riding in helicopters and playing softball with soldiers to shopping at the PX and firing weapons at the weapons simulation center. Through these activities, they said they gained a renewed appreciation for the military.

"Meeting all the soldiers has been the best," said Willie Roy, Jr., Easy Money Band trumpet player. "I have the utmost respect for them."

This taste of military life was not all beneficial though, Keith said.

"They say the Army travels on its stomach. I feel that I've gained 10 pounds. The food is so good."



Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

Country music singer Toby Keith entertains soldiers at Camp McGovern, June 2 during a USO concert tour of the Balkans.

After seeing all the military highlights, Keith said he wished he had followed in his father's military footsteps.

"It makes me wish that I would have had the opportunity to put in four years. I think I would have been a good soldier."

Even without being a soldier, Keith and his crew said they were able to "serve in their own way" and brighten the day of many soldiers.

"I would see Toby Keith over Garth Brooks again any day," said Sgt. Pat Riley, noncommissioned officer in charge of the Joint Visitors Bureau, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment.

The USO tour was not all about singing to fans, said Keith. "We're making new fans here."

This was evident to Keith and his band

when they met combat medic, Sgt. John McKinney, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt., in the McGovern chow hall. McKinney had no idea who Keith and his bandmates were. McKinney, who sports an Iron Maiden tattoo and says he is a "die-hard rock fan," went to the concert with his country music-loving fiancé. "I'm still a rock fan," said McKinney after the concert, but "Toby Keith is a good performer and is really sincere in his music," he said.

McKinney may not have been totally converted to country music after hearing him live, but he did say that Keith would be in his next top five CD purchases.

And making that kind of impact on someone is just what Keith and his band find worthwhile.

"It's very rewarding when you make a living doing what you love to do."



Top, Soldiers at Eagle Base enjoy Toby Keith and the Easy Money Band at Peacekeepers Hall May 31. Right, 1st Sgt. Barry Gavin, Comp. C, 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt. first sergeant, jams on stage with Toby Keith during his visit to FOB Connor June 2.





Cartoon by Spc. Eric Tagayuna

Ok guys, there's only three of us left. That means the element of surprise is crucial. I don't want either of you clowns pulling any funny stuff!!

News Briefs

Asian/Pacific Islander Month—In continued celebration of Asian/Pacific Islander Month, there will be a luau Sunday afternoon at Minue Park. There will be a volleyball game beginning at 3 p.m. and lunch, featuring a roasted kalua pig and an Asian/Polynesian buffet, will be served at 4:35 p.m. Other entertainment will include table tennis playoffs, a limbo contest, a martial arts demonstration and Polynesian dancers. For more information, call Master Sgt. Carol Cheley at 762-0086.

Equal Opportunity—There will be an Equal Opportunity Leaders Course graduation ceremony today at the EO office on Salute Alley at 4:30 p.m. Col. Mark Milley is scheduled to present certificates to the graduates. For more information, call Master Sgt. Carol Cheley at 762-0086.

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.



Spc. Vincent Oliver

Soldiers from 1st Bn., 14th Inf. Regt. and 1st Bn., 163rd Inf. Regt. make their way down Kamehameha Blvd. during the first SFOR 11 division run June 1.



Know the SFOR 11 Units ...

Headquarters, State Area Command, Washington Army National Guard

The Continental Army Command reactivated the 9th Infantry Division at Fort Lewis on April 21, 1972. Over the next few months, the division organized one armor, one mechanized infantry and seven infantry battalions, which was one less infantry unit than the standard for an infantry division. The division base had all its authorized elements except for the Honest John battalion.

Two years later the Army Staff directed the 9th to establish one brigade as an armored unit to support contingency plans, and when it became evident that the active Army was unable to field an additional tank battalion, the Washington Army National Guard agreed to furnish a tank

battalion as a round-out unit.

Although the 21-division, 21-brigade force did not alter the number of reserve divisions and brigades, the reserve components underwent numerous changes after the Army withdrew from Vietnam. Like the regular Army, the Guard began increasing its heavy forces in 1971 with the 32rd (Wisconsin) and 81st (Washington) Infantry Brigades being converted to mechanized infantry. In 1972, the states began modernizing their divisions and brigades using the recently published tables, but they lacked the materiel to complete the process.

The insignia was originally approved for Headquarters and Headquarters Detach-

ment, Washington National Guard on August 15, 1952. It was redesignated with description amended for Headquarters, State Area Command, Washington Army National Guard on December 30, 1983.

The crest is the crest of the coat of arms of George Washington. The State of Washington is a part of the "Oregon Territory," the American title which was established in 1846; the white and blue twists of the wreath signify the American settlement and control of the territory. It was approved for

color bearing organizations of the State of Washington on 16 July 1922.

One soldier from Eagle Base represents this patch.

His duties consists of providing personnel and administrative support to more than 250 soldiers and civilians in the Area Support Group. He also supervises, trains and assists three host

country national contractors. (This information was gathered at www.personline.army.mil.)



Eagle Base Firefighters train for the worst



Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

Above, Eagle Base firefighters from Station 2 carry an extracted pilot from a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter during a simulated crash May 22. The silver bunker suits are worn by the airfield firefighters and provide them with extra protection (over the regular brown bunker suits) from the extreme heat of fuel fires. The Eagle Base firefighters, who are American and Bosnian civilians, also provide CPR classes, fire prevention training and fire inspections by request. For more information, call

Below, Station 1 firefighters roll an "injured" pilot onto a back board before whisking him away by ambulance. The May 22 mock helicopter crash provided a chance to gather some hands-on experience.

