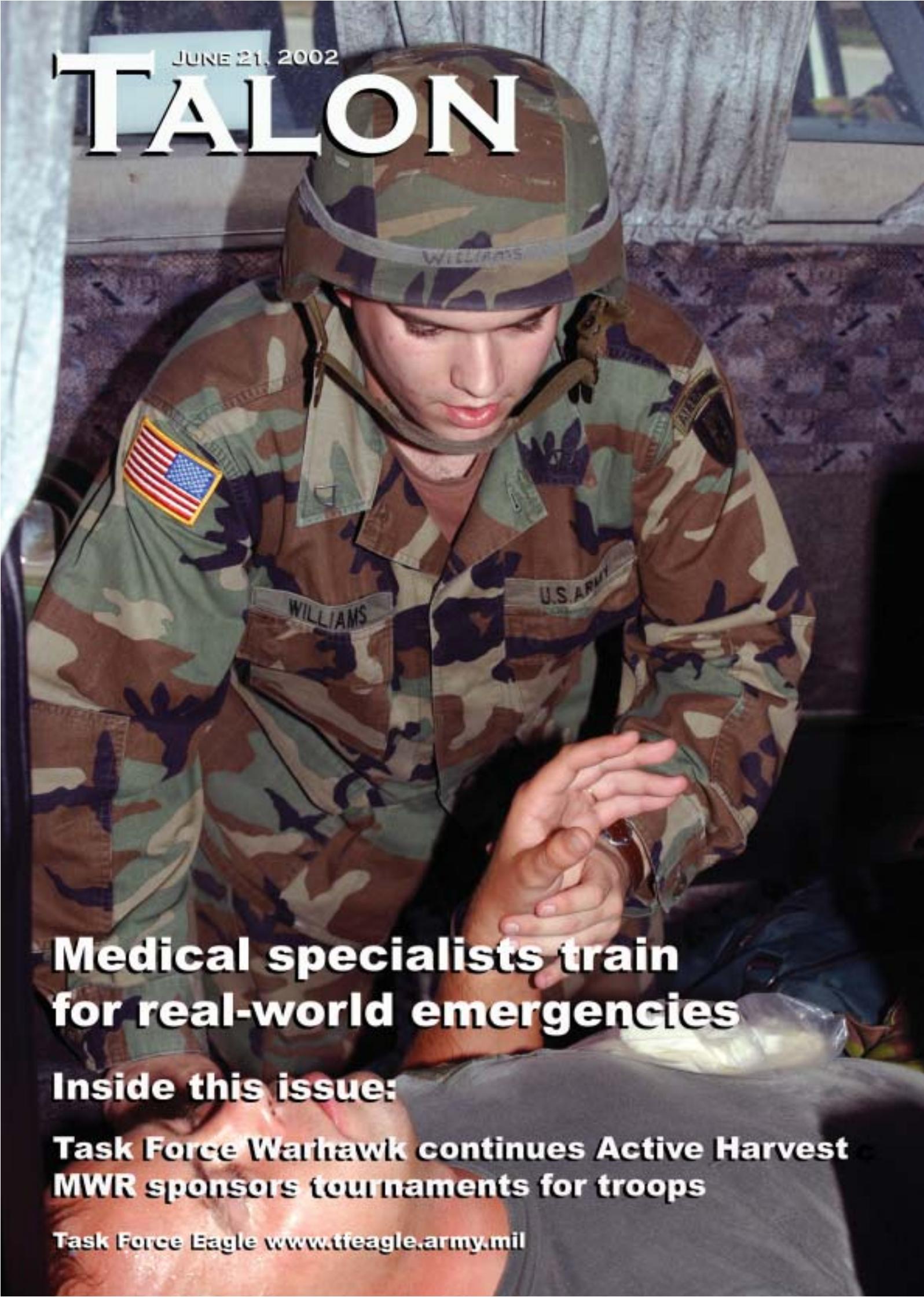


JUNE 21, 2002

TALON



Medical specialists train for real-world emergencies

Inside this issue:

**Task Force Warhawk continues Active Harvest
MWR sponsors tournaments for troops**

Task Force Eagle www.tfeagle.army.mil

TALON

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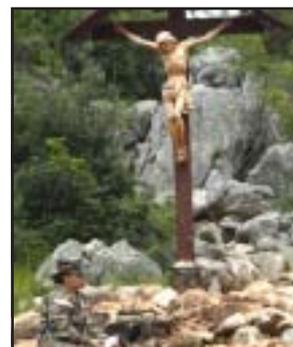
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**On the Cover - Pfc. Joshua Williams, medic, TFME, trains with other nations during the FINCON medical exercise. See story on pages 6 and 7.
(Photo by Spc. Vincent Oliver, 305th PAD)**



**Page 4 - Task Force Warhawk soldiers supervise two local police officers as they inspect a bag of ammunition that was given to them during an Active Harvest patrol.
(Photo by Cpl. Matthew McClelland, HHC, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt.)**

**Page 5 - Soldiers find peace at the spiritual site at Medjugorje during a religious retreat.
(Photo by Spc. Michelle Lunato, 305th PAD)**



Stabilization Force 11 Voices

“Who do you consider a father figure on this deployment?”



**Spc. Sherri Caufield
Supply Clerk
HHC, 1st Bn., 151st Inf.
Regt.**

“I would have to say Sgt. 1st Class Bryant Downing. He is always there for me. He is a great big teddy bear and I love him.”



**Spc. Timothy Griffith
Food Inspector
248th Medical Co., Vet.
Services**

“My NCOIC Sgt. Arturo Martinez. He’s been the one to step behind us and support us.”



**Sgt. Ricardo Castanon
Infantryman
Co. B, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.
Regt.**

“Staff Sgt. Hiram Sanders. He’s taught me a lot about transitioning from mechanized to ‘bravo.’”



Task Force Eagle
Stabilization Force
SFOR XI
Bosnia-Herzegovina



Ground Forces CSM speaks...

Complacency kills ... pay attention to detail



Command Sgt. Maj. Thomas Lee,
Multinational Division (North)
ground forces
command sergeant major

We are at the half way mark in our rotation here in Bosnia and Herzegovina, and we must remain focused on safety.

We have achieved a high level of operating awareness and proficiency in our Area of Responsibility. Some of us may think that we see the glimmer of light at the end of the tunnel. Inadvertently, we may be shifting our attention from what we are doing to what we are going to do. We may become so satisfied with our performance and knowledge that we don't focus on the standards that ensure success. I have seen the enemy, and that enemy is complacency. Complacency kills, especially on missions like ours. Now more than ever, our full attention must be placed on what we are doing. We must keep our heads in the game — period.

In the arena of vehicle safety, the entire vehicle crew must participate in the accident-free trip from start to finish. Precombat checks, rehearsals, fire and roll over drills, proper ground guiding, each and every task and element must be checked, rechecked and verified. In the area of weapons safety, our best friend, our issue weapon, can become our worst

enemy, if for only one moment we become lax and lose our focus. If we are sharp and sure, we will truly leave no one behind.

There have been too many accidents and serious incidents. To date, we have been very fortunate. No one in our task force has been killed or seriously injured. Our successes are the result of what we have done correctly, and our accidents are a result of letting down our guard.

Accidents are preventable, but prevention is not a chance happening. It is the combination of accurate and timely risk assessment, coupled with the precise execution of tasks to standard. If we as leaders focus our efforts, set the example and do the right thing, our success is inevitable. This fact goes double for first-line leaders because it is there that the rubber meets the road. First-line leaders are the keystone in our arch as it spans the chasm of our weaknesses.

**TASK FORCE EAGLE — BESHARP,
BESWIFT, BE SAFE!**

Soldiers are the 'stars' of Task Force Eagle;

they deserve *Talon* news magazine coverage

By Spc. Christina Davis

Talon Editor, 305th PAD

We are half way through our rotation here and I feel as though we have not even scratched the surface in making sure all the units here get coverage in the *Talon* magazine.

Some units get more coverage than others. Why is that? Part of the reason is that certain units are more visible than others. Another reason for their continued coverage is their constant communication with the *Talon* staff and the Task Force Eagle Public Affairs Office. The task force has more than 40 separate units, which comprise the more than 20 elements here.

As the editor, I would like to see each unit featured in the magazine before our rotation is over. We have fewer than 15 issues left.

To ensure that this happens, I need cooperation from the soldiers in the field. Let us know what you do, where you are and how to contact you. Let us know when you are going on a mission.

Sometimes we may need help covering a story. We have a limited staff of five reporters. Two of the reporters actually work on the *Talon* magazine. The other three work with the media operations section. The *Talon* magazine is a team effort from all the soldiers in the Public Affairs Office and those who

contribute from the field as stringers.

Either way, keep us

“As the editor, I would like to see each unit featured in the magazine before our rotation is over. We have fewer than 15 issues left.”

— Spc. Christina Davis, *Talon* editor

informed and your units will be featured in the Task Force Eagle and Multinational Division (North) publication, which is mailed to more than 250 units in the U.S. Army around the world, senators, congressmen and other news reporting agencies.

Our mission is to tell the Army story. With your help, we can do that better than anyone has done before.

The soldiers here are the “stars” of the *Talon*. We need to give them a chance to shine.

For more information on how to become a stringer, to inform the *Talon* staff of an upcoming event or for more information, call myself or Spc. Vincent Oliver, the *Talon* assistant editor, at 762-0190.

McGovern soldiers grow a harvest of hope

By Cpl. Matthew McClelland

Camp McGovern Public Affairs Correspondent

With two taps on the roof of the uparmored HMMWV, the gunner signaled it was clear and Company C, 1st Battalion, 151st Infantry Regiment pulled out of Camp McGovern for another day of Active Harvesting.

Task Force Warhawk is currently involved in Phase I of Active Harvest.

The soldiers are going door-to-door with local police officials and members of the International Police Task Force asking people to give up illegal weapons, ammunition, explosives or left over field gear from the war.

"The overall population thinks that this is a great program, and likes how we are going house-to-house. They feel free in giving up weapons and ammunition," said 1st Lt. Jesse Smith of 2nd Platoon, Co. C.

Co. C is the main maneuvering element on Camp McGovern with an area of responsibility that includes Brcko, Gradacac, Pelagicevo and Srebrenik. This day, 5th Platoon was operating in Gradacac. They arrived in town June 6 and made contact with a local town official.

The soldiers made arrangements to meet volunteers at the town hall, and 2nd Lt. Everett Baker's men waited for the volunteers and the local police to arrive. The soldiers then moved out on two different routes for the mission, acting as supervisors while the local police and town volunteers went door-to-door asking for any weapons and ordnance.

The intent was to let the local police establish themselves in the community, while the soldiers oversaw the process and showed a presence.

This particular day was very productive for 5th Platoon. They visited 178 houses and collected 2,000 rounds of ammunition, 50 hand grenades, and a large assortment of unexploded ordnance. They also found a small weapons dump—a well into which people were throwing old weapons.

Nevertheless, this was a normal Active Harvest day for Task Force Warhawk.

The company's leaders say their harvest numbers, what they've collected, have been high from day to day, exceeding their hopes.

"The turn out has been greater than we anticipated, and Phase I of the Harvest has produced great results," said Smith. "It's a lot more than we



Cpl. Matthew McClelland

Soldiers of 5th Platoon, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt., count out rounds that they received during an Active Harvest patrol.

ever expected."

The soldiers are also getting a better opportunity to talk to the local people and get a better idea how they feel.

"We have seen a lot of people that want things to go back to the way that it was before the war. It gives us hope that they really want to work to reestablish their country and get things back to normal," said Cpl. Jeremy Handley of 4th Platoon, Co. C.

The troops talked to a Serb farmer that had a Croat living next door to him. He said that before the war they were best friends.

He said they had barbecues every weekend, and sat together most every evening and talked. He has not seen his buddy since the war started and is afraid he will never see him again. He said that all he wanted was for things to go back to the way they were before the war.

Co. C's soldiers are hearing more and more stories like that. They say they're getting a great amount of weapons and ammunition. However, they say they are getting something even better than that during this Active Harvest — they are gaining hope.

Military officers to ask for assignments online

WASHINGTON — Army officers will be able to submit their assignment preference statements via the Internet by accessing the U.S. Army Personnel Command homepage beginning July 1.

The online preference statement will enable officers, for the first time, the ability to view open valid requisitions that assignment managers are working to fill, according to officials.

"In the past our customers have only been able to see open assignments on various branch websites," said Jan Frutiger, automation branch chief for PERSCOM's Officer Personnel Management Directorate. "With the online preference statements officers will have a broader view of the positions that assignment managers are working to fill. They will be able to evaluate the special requirements for the position before making their choice."

Branch, grade and area of concentration are the filters for the information that is shown on the preference statement. Officers can make selec-

"They will be able to evaluate the special requirements for the position before making their choice."

— Jan Frutiger, automation branch chief for PERSCOM's Officer Personnel Management Directorate

tions specifically by valid and open requisitions, by location or by specific duty such as joint, Reserve Officer Training Corps or recruiting. The assignment manager will then have immediate visibility to this information as he walks through the decision process for filling a requisition.

"The preference statement is what the field has asked for," said Brig. Gen. David Valcourt, the OPMD director. "It's going to empower officers to better participate in the decisions that impact their career and help streamline and improve the responsiveness of the officer assignment process."

Officers will be able to select their preferences on the PERSCOM homepage by clicking on the officer preference statement dog tag when the option comes online next month.

(Army News Service)

Peacekeepers find peace in Medjugorje

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

Edge Base soldiers participating in Operation Joint Forge are bringing peace to Bosnia, but on one special trip, they were able to bring peace to themselves.

After passing Stations of the Cross and climbing up the jagged mountainside of Medjugorje, a place where the Virgin Mary is believed to have appeared in June 1981, soldiers stopped to pray, meditate and



Capt. Robert Manning III, commander, HHC, 25th ID (L), takes a moment to think as he sits on Apparition Hill, which is visited by people from all ends of the earth. The retreat gave soldiers time away from missions and allowed them to focus internally.



reflect on their lives. Even though they were surrounded by many people on the same spiritual pilgrimage, they felt they were alone with their thoughts and God.

The reasons for their journey were different, but all soldiers said they found the answer of spiritual peace.

For some, the trip was about healing. "Something tragic happened in my life and I have a lot of pain in my heart," said Sgt. Laurie Pimentel, assistant to the Multinational Division (North) command sergeant major, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Infantry Division (Light), when she explained why she came on the "once in a life time" retreat. "It was a great opportunity for me to go up there and release some of that pain ..."

For others, the retreat meant finding the meaning in their lives. "I feel that I have been changed," said Spc. Ron Clobridge, operations battle update briefing operator, HHC, 25th ID (L), who recently found the Lord. The time on 'Apparition Hill' allowed Clobridge to look at his actions and helped him develop some goals. "I have a better attitude ... it lightened my load."

The power of the site that attracts more than 600,000 visitors a year was not just for the new Christians, but for the old ones as well.

"The peace that I have with God on a daily basis was transformed in a very unique way," said Maj. Charles De Rivera, officer-in-charge, 1986th Combat Stress Control Detachment, as he explained that he and another Protestant soldier shared experiences with one another up on the hill. "I learned, as a man of God and a Christian, that giving somebody else the good news of the gospel is part of our faith."

Besides being spiritually uplifting, the trip allowed many of the soldiers the feeling of appreciation from American tourists as

they stopped them in the street to thank them for their contributions and take their photographs.

"It was another blessing from God," said De Rivera.

"How would we know that out of all weekends there would be so many Americans there?"

The time of thankfulness, praise and reflection helped explain the deployment for most soldiers.

"The trip to Medjugorje reinforced the Stabilization Force message of peace because it is a place of peace," said Capt. Kieran Morris, legal advisor, Joint Military Affairs, 25th ID (L).

"The visit invigorated the values of all the soldiers here," he said.

Morris only hopes that these values could be given to all of the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

"This place will not see a lasting peace through the barrel of a gun but through a conversion of the hearts and minds of the people here."



Photos by Spc. Michelle Lunato

Above, the Virgin Mary statue stands where the first holy visions occurred in 1981. Since that day, visionaries say the Holy Mother appears daily. Many people say the statue evokes strong feelings to pray, repent and reflect. Rosary beads are left as a symbol of personal prayers.

Left, the detail of the churches awed soldiers as they toured the city of Sarajevo June 8. After the tour, the soldiers were able to dine at a local restaurant, where they were serenaded by a quintet. Sharing fellowship with other Christians was a large part of the retreat.

Nations come together to test emergency response skills

By Spc. Vincent Oliver

Assistant Editor, 305th PAD

Soldiers from Task Force Med Eagle, the Danish medical contingent and the Finnish Civilian and Military Cooperation personnel, or CIMIC, participated in the Finnish Contingent, or FINCON, medical training exercise at Eagle Base and Camp Comanche Saturday.

The training was designed to give CIMIC soldiers who frequently travel throughout Multinational Division (North) without a medical escort, the skills needed to request medical assistance in the event of an incident requiring medical intervention.

"In addition, our TOC (tactical operations center) personnel received additional training in receiving MEDEVAC requests from non-unit soldiers. The information doesn't come in the same format that U.S. forces usually send it in and they have to learn to keep the people on the phone long enough to extract the correct information to get them the medical assistance they need," said Capt. Timothy Green, operations officer for TFME.

A multi-vehicle accident was staged at Camp Comanche. The scenario included multiple wounded casualties in the vehicles, which were stranded in a minefield.

CIMIC soldiers were given casualty cards describing injuries from minor cuts and bruises to missing limbs due to exploding landmines.

At least one soldier in each vehicle sustained minor injuries. This soldier was designated to triage the others in the ve-



Lt. Col. Kenneth Fink, Task Force Med Eagle deputy commander of clinical services, and Sgt. Mayara Mercado, evacuation NCO, administer medical care to a Finnish CIMIC officer during the FINCON medical exercise Saturday.

hicle to determine the extent of their injuries and then call the TFME TOC for medical assistance via cellular telephone.

Medical personnel from TFME and Danish medical personnel from Danish International Logistic Center responded to the scene in ground ambulances as well as had MEDEVAC support from the 1085th Air Ambulance Company.

The mock casualties were taken to the TFME emergency room where the hospital staff received and treated the casualties, one of which was a CIMIC soldier exhibiting symptoms of extreme emotional shock and distress.

Members of the 1896th Combat Stress Co. escorted him to the relaxation tent for evaluation and treatment.

"This training was very valuable in the sense that we don't get to train that often in a real-life simulated situation that often," said 2nd Lt. Kalle Loihuranta, a Finnish CIMIC officer. "We're supposed to know what to do in these situations, and this is a test to see if we know what to do when the time comes to use these skills."



Photos by Spc. Vincent Oliver

Pvt. 2 Rodger Winston, a combat stress specialist with the 1896th CSC, consoles 2nd Lt. Antii Merilehto, a Finnish CIMIC officer, after Merilehto was brought to TFME for extreme combat stress during a FINCON medical exercise.

TALON



Left, Anne-Lise Flintegaard, a nurse with the Danish International Logistic Center, triages a Finnish CIMIC officer involved in a multi-vehicle accident during the FINCON medical exercise Saturday. Below, a TFME evacuation team rushes a MEDEVAC casualty from a UH-60 Blackhawk helicopter into the TFME emergency room. The day-long exercise included medical personnel from the U.S., Finland and Denmark.



Living, working up on the Hill

By Spc. Michelle Lunato

Photo Editor, 305th PAD

Deploying across the world was not enough for one platoon of Company B, 1st Battalion, 14th Infantry Regiment, soldiers. To get their jobs done, they had to remove themselves from Eagle Base and live isolated up on a hill.

Their home, Hilltop 1326, named to reflect the camp's altitude, houses radio communications equipment that supports the peacekeeping mission of Multinational Division (North).

"Without the hill, communications throughout this whole area of operation would not exist," said Sgt. Robert Metcalfe, radio retransmission communications chief.

The platoon knows the importance of their mission and "takes pride that they are keeping everyone in Eagle Base talking," said Staff Sgt. Michael Grimes, battalion communications chief who makes a weekly two-hour drive to the hill, which reaches slopes of 37 degrees. Grimes says he visits his soldiers to see how they are doing and bring them things that the weekly mobile post exchange doesn't have.

Besides supervising and maintaining radio equipment, the platoon performs patrols that allows them to get off the hill and interact with local nationals around Kladanj.

"The patrols are the highlight of the job here," said Sgt. Joshua Miller, team leader.

Even between maintaining equipment, patrolling villages and pulling guard duty,



Spc. Michelle Lunato

Soldiers living on Hilltop 1326 supervise and maintain radio retransmission equipment that allows the Multinational Division (North) area to communicate.

there is down time for the soldiers to fill.

Many of the soldiers said they fill their free time with emailing, reading, exercising, watching movies and playing games such as pool, dominos and spades.

As the deployment moves on though, time on the hill can get lonely for some soldiers.

"At first, I was happy to be away from everyone, but after a while it gets a little routine," said Pvt. 2 Chad Chapman, M249 gunner, who is on his first deployment.

But like any platoon, they stick together and try to keep each other motivated.

"Part of my job is keeping my soldiers

focused on the mission because of the complacency that might set in from boredom," said Miller.

Being isolated up on the hill does have its benefits, too.

"I feel really isolated myself, but it's not really a bad thing," said Miller.

"I like being in charge of my own section," said Metcalfe. There is a sense of more freedom up on the hill, but it never stands in the way of the mission.

"When you are doing your job and your doing it right, it doesn't matter who is around," said Miller. "We pay attention to standards and do the right thing up here."



Spc. Vincent Oliver

Pat-A-Cake

Spc. Victor Gonzalez, Co. B., 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., plays Pat-a-Cake with a child at Kuljan elementary school in Kuljan during a pizza party visit Wednesday to celebrate the end of the school year. The soldiers of Task Force Aviation have visited the school many times since March to donate school supplies they purchased and had sent from Hawaii. Recently, the soldiers donated a copier to the school.

TFME hosts rotations first ACLS recertification

By Spc. Vincent Oliver

Assistant Editor, 305th PAD

U.S. Air Force airmen, Army soldiers from Stabilization Force 11 and local Bosnian medical personnel from Tuzla University Medical Center participated in an Advanced Cardiac Life Support training class together at Eagle Base June 13 and 14.

The course was designed to bring the participants up to speed on the most recent changes in the field of advanced cardiac resuscitation, as well as giving some of the medical professionals an opportunity to recertify.

In addition to the military personnel and the two civilian students from the Tuzla University Medical Center, the Eagle Base fire department battalion chief, Kyle King, also participated in the training.

Part of the reason for inviting the guests from the Tuzla University Medical Center is the Stabilization Force efforts to reach out to the local medical community and maintain established professional ties where both parties can benefit, according to Capt. Todd Jackson, head nurse at TFME.

The Tuzla University Medi-



Photo by Spc. Vincent Oliver

Maj. Andrew Reynolds, an Air Force physician with the internal medicine department at the Landstuhl Medical Center in Landstuhl, Germany, assists Eagle Base fire department battalion chief, Kyle King during a recent ACLS training class at Eagle Base June 13-14.

cal Center staff members can benefit by receiving in-depth medical training from the U.S. military medical community, while allowing the SFOR medical professionals to continue an

established relationship with the civilians that may provide medical support to SFOR if needed.

"The main purpose of this training is to save lives," said

Maj. Andrew Reynolds, one of the instructors for the ACLS course and a doctor with the internal medicine department at the Landstuhl Medical Center, Landstuhl, Germany.

"We make a practice at Landstuhl of involving the local German nationals in our medical training. Number one, because we rely on them for medical support and number two, it helps with foreign relations, so we're trying to do the same thing here," said Reynolds. "Additionally, we get their perspective on their methods of life support, so it broadens our perspective, also."

"The training has been a good refresher and has helped me keep up my skills," said Sgt. Lori Miller, a licensed practical nurse at the TFME intensive care unit.

"This has been a very good experience for us. We are very happy to be here. We've seen some new equipment and learned some new techniques," said Alma Jurisic, a nurse at the Tuzla University Medical Center. "The instructors are excellent teachers."

On day two, each of the class participants took the recertification test and according to Col. Princess Facen, TFME head of nursing, everyone passed.

TFME helps tip scales in soldier's favor

By Maj. Joanna Reagan

Clinical Dietician, TFME

Soldiers have a choice while deployed with Task Force Eagle to improve or decline in fitness. There's no big secret to weight control. Eat to support the body's energy needs. Eat more, and the body will store it later as fat. Eat less and the body will burn up some of the fat stores. If soldiers starve (eat only once or twice a day), their body will fight against them. When they deprive themselves of food, their body reacts protectively against an ancient threat — famine.

Resting metabolic rate, the calories burned just to keep the body going, drops to a lower level to conserve energy. The body works harder to preserve the food it gets by storing it as fat. That's why people who regularly diet have higher percentages of body fat than non-dieters do. Instead of counting calories, know to what the body needs.

Guidelines For The Non-Diet Diet —

Eat every three to five hours. Start with breakfast. People who skip breakfast burn five percent fewer calories than those who eat a morning meal. A vehicle can't run without fuel, so how can the human body?

Eat when at a "3" and stop when at a "5" on the hunger scale.

10 – Absolutely stuffed (Thanksgiving meal)

9 – So full you are starting to hurt

8 – Very full

7 – Starting to feel uncomfortable (loosen belt)

6 – Slightly overeating

5 – Perfectly comfortable (just satisfied)

4 – First signals that it's time to eat

3 – Strong signals to eat (stomach growling)

2 – Very hungry, irritable, headache

1 – Extreme hungry, dizzy, shaky

If soldiers start eating at level "5" or above, then they are eating for external reasons, not internal hunger. If they start eating at level "1" or "2," then they are

over hungry and more likely to overeat. At levels "3" or "4," the body is saying that it needs nourishment. People can and should eat when they are hungry.

Eat a variety of foods from the Food Guide Pyramid.

Choose whole grain breads, cereals, rice and grains. Eat at least five fruits and vegetables a day. Choose low fat dairy products. Eat a small amount of protein in each meal (meat, poultry, fish, beans, eggs or nuts). Use fats, oils and sweets sparingly. Drink plenty of water, eight to 12 cups per day. Stay active.

Make it a goal to do 30-45 minutes of aerobic activity, five days-a-week. Vary the type — jogging, bicycle, brisk walking, treadmill — to avoid overuse injuries. Include strength training to build muscle. Muscle burns more calories than fat, thus, increasing metabolism.

Soldiers can improve their fitness and weight while deployed with Task Force Eagle. Stay focused!

For more information on diet improvement, call Maj. Sara Spielman at 762-0224.

Intramural Sports Volleyball

Team	W	L	Record
HHC, 25th ID (L) G-Shops	9	1	.900
556 PSB	7	2	.778
CIMIC & NSE	7	3	.700
AIR FORCE	7	3	.700
1st. Bn, 25th Avn. Regt.	6	3	.667
HHC, 25th ID (L)	6	4	.600
TFME 1	6	5	.546
TFME 3	6	5	.546
Co. C, 1st Bn., 25th Avn.	2	3	.400
S & M DUST OFF	2	4	.333
B&R, MWR	0	11	.000
TFME 2	0	11	.000

Softball

Team	W	L	Record
HHC, 25th ID (L)	2	2	.500
Co. B, 1st. Bn., 14th Inf.	6	0	1.00
549th M.P.	0	5	.000
TMB 1st. Bn., 163rd Inf.	0	5	.000
Co. D, 1st Bn. 25th Avn.	5	0	1.00
TFME 1	1	1	.500
JMA	4	1	.800
Co. A, 1st Bn., 163rd Inf.	4	1	.800
225th FLE	4	1	.800
Southern Comfort	1	4	.200
HHC, 1st Bn., 14th Inf.	4	1	.800
ASG	3	3	.500
Air Force	4	1	.800



Eagle Base MWR hosts tournaments for soldiers

By Spc. Christina Davis

Talon Editor, 305th PAD

To celebrate the U.S. Army's 227th Birthday, soldiers competed in a one-pitch softball and a Nations Cup Soccer tournament that ended Sunday.

The three-day softball tourney, hosted by the Eagle Base Morale, Welfare and Recreation, brought 10 teams with 150 players and 12 volunteers together at the Eagle Base "Tuzla Softball Field."

The top teams for the competition were the Camp McGovern Base Team, taking first place, Company D, 1st Battalion, 25th Aviation Regiment, which took second, and Co. B, 1st Bn., 14th Infantry Regt. which scored third place.

The soccer tournament brought not only eight teams with 128 players and five volunteers together; it attracted players from five countries to the soccer field.

The championship game on Sunday showcased the Portuguese team which defeated the Brown and Root team 3-2.

The competitions, which bring friendly sportsmanship to the fields

on Eagle Base, are brought by MWR for the peacekeepers here, said Ed Winters, the sports director for MWR here. A lot of time and effort go into putting the events together.

"When I was working in Germany with Youth Service I had soldiers come by all the time wanting to volunteer time to coach the kids, become officials and just help out in any way they could," said Winters. "Being deployed working in MWR and setting up these different events for the soldiers is one of my ways of saying thanks and giving back something. Plus, I like the games and for me knowing that the soldiers are walking away saying 'good game' or 'good tournament Mr. Winters' ... satisfaction is what I get out of it. I think it help the soldier's motivation knowing that they did something good, besides their job."

"What the soldiers get out of the tournaments is fun and competition," said Sgt. Jason Strom, the coach of the Area Support Group Eagle softball team.

The next tournament for the soldiers will be the 48-hour one-pitch softball tournament during the Independence Day weekend. Games will run for a full 48 hours.

Name correction



Cpl. Matthew McClelland

In last week's *Talon* 1st. Lt. Andrew Weaver, Co. C, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt., was incorrectly identified. Here, he scores during the game against a Tuzla team at the McGovern gym opening June 8.

Rebound



Photos by Cpl. Matthew McClelland

Above, Sgt. 1st Class Willie Williams of Task Force Warhawk grabs a rebound. Left, Maj. Jeff Grube of HHC, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt., blocks and allows 1st Lt. Andrew Weaver, Co. C, 1st Bn., 151st Inf. Regt., to grab the rebound.



Cartoon by Staff Sgt. Cory Wilson

News Briefs

TFME nutrition class — The Task Force Med Eagle Nutrition Clinic is holding a weight management class Tuesday from 10 to 11 a.m. at the library and conference room at the Eagle Base Education Center. For more information or to sign up, call Maj. Sara Spielmann at 762-0224 or Spc. Ingrid Sady at 762-0207. A minimum of five people are required for the class.

Longhorn Cafe renovation — The Longhorn Cafe will be under renovations until July 12. Use the main entrance for access to dining facility. The facility's right, left and food preparation areas are under renovation. Work will be stopped July 2 for July 4. Extended lunch hours will be from 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. during the first phase.

Celebrating 227 years



Spc. Christina Davis

Sgt. 1st Class Karen Bailey-Wilson, the Food Service liaison with G4 assists a Brown and Root food service specialist in serving cake at the 227th Army birthday celebration at Peacekeepers Hall June 14.

125th Finance facts

Bonus payments in a combat zone area — This is to clarify the effect of serving in a combat zone entitlement area. Some soldiers are under the impression that to qualify for the exclusion the soldier must be in the zone when he or she reenlists. This is not true. The Department of Defense FMR, Vol. 7A, Table 44-1, Rule 7, provides the provisions for applying the exclusion to a bonus.

The rule states that a bonus and its installments are exempt if the member reenlists or extends in a month during any part of which the soldier serves in a combat zone. If only one installment is due from a reenlistment that was entered into in a non-CZTE month, then the installment remains taxable, even if it is paid during a month in which the member is serving in a combat zone. This rule is based upon Internal Revenue Service rulings and legal opinions. This interpretation is also provided in IRS Publication 3, Armed Forces Tax Guide.

Thrift Savings Program frequently asked questions —

1. I want to stop my TSP deduction and get a refund of my money, how do I do that?

Soldiers can stop their Thrift Savings Plan deduction anytime by submitting a TSP-U-1 form to their servicing finance office or through the Employee/Member Self Service (E/MSS). Once the stop is processed the soldier would have to contact the TSP service office to withdraw their funds.

2. I am separating from the service, how do I get my TSP contribution?

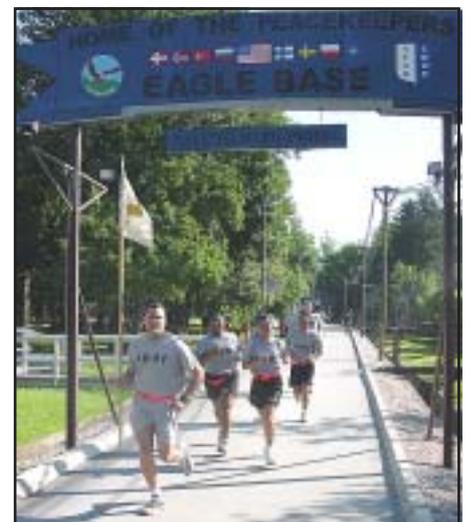
Soldiers who leave service must contact the TSP service office to obtain

information on removing their funds. The soldier will have several options. They can receive a single payment; request a series of payments; request a TSP annuity; or leave money in the TSP.

3. What is the TSP service office?

The TSP service office is the primary contact for participants who have left federal service. It also handles loans, inter-fund transfers, designations of beneficiaries, and withdrawals for all participants.

Travel Card Program update — The Government Travel Card program remains in effect until further notice. Soldiers with cards may continue to use them for official travel. To date, the program has not been terminated and there are presently no indications that it will be.



Staff Sgt. Charles Owens

Soldiers from the 125th Finance Bn. participate in the Eagle Base 5k run June 14.

Know the SFOR 11 Units ...

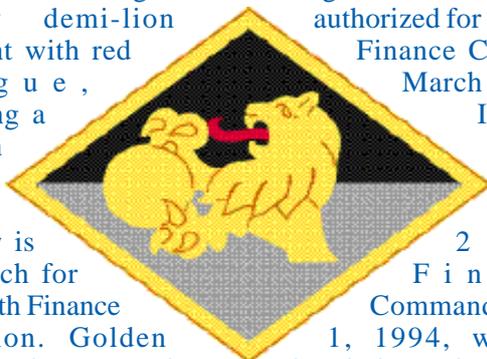
266th Finance Battalion



On a diamond divided black at top and silver gray at bottom with a golden yellow border, a golden yellow demi-lion rampant with red tongue,

grasping a golden yellow disc in its paw is the patch for the 266th Finance Battalion. Golden yellow and gray are colors traditionally associated with the Finance Corps. The association of the organization with Europe is recalled by the demi-lion.

The financial responsibilities of the unit are referred to by the yellow disc, representing money; and black suggests



solvency and fiscal accountability.

The shoulder sleeve insignia was originally authorized for the 266th Finance Center on March 5, 1987.

It was redesignated for the 266th Finance Command on Jan. 1, 1994, with the description and symbolism revised.

The unit crest is a gold-color metal and enamel device consisting of a black disc, the lower fourth is a green mound and a gold lion rampant grasping a small gold disc; and encircled by a gray motto scroll inscribed "FIRST

IN FINANCE SUPPORT" arcing from sides to base in gold letters, and passing behind a gold tower issuing from the upper portion of the disc.

Heidelberg, the location of the unit, is represented by the lion on the mound; device used in the coat of arms of the city and also by the tower, a dominant feature of the local castle.

The gold bezant (small disc) in the lion's claws is a heraldic symbol for coin and represents money, recalling the financial mission of the unit.

Gray is a color traditionally associated with the Finance Corps. Black, green and gold, while derived from the Heidelberg coat of arms, allude also to solvency and

financial responsibility.

The distinctive unit insignia was originally authorized for the 266th Finance Center on Jan. 20, 1987.

There are two soldiers here at Eagle Base representing this patch.

One is the battle noncommissioned officer for the Area Support Group.

He is from the 39th Fin. Battalion, Detachment C, located in Giessen, Germany.

The other soldier works as the administrative specialist and driver for the Directorate of Logistics.

He is from the 8th Fin. Battalion, Det. A, in Baumholder, Germany.

(This information was gathered at www.perscomonline.army.mil.)

Load 'em up, sir



Maj. Gen. Charles H. Swannack, Jr., MND (N) commander, assists pilots loading their OH-58D Kiowa Warrior helicopters with 2.75-inch rockets during Pacific Resolve.

The 1st Bn., 25th Avn. Regt., qualified with their helicopters' weapons in Glamoc, Croatia. The annual requirement consists of 'tables.' One table is a helicopter gunnery skills test. Another is a live-fire practice, followed by qualification.

Maj. Fredrick Choi