

AUGUST 22, 2003

# TALON



## **Taking care of the animals**

**Inside this issue:**

**MPs on Eagle Base  
Faces in the Crowd**

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

# TALON

Published in support of  
Operation Joint Forge  
August 22, 2003  
Volume 10, No. 22

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The *Talon* is produced in the interest of the servicemembers of Task Force Eagle. The *Talon* is an Army-funded magazine authorized for members of the U.S. Army overseas under the provisions of AR 360-1. Contents of the *Talon* are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Task Force Eagle. The *Talon* is published weekly by the Task Force Eagle Public Affairs Office, Eagle Base, APO AE 09789. DSN Telephone 314-762-0190. Email story ideas, and photo to: **Donald.Johnson@email-tc3.5sigcmd.army.mil**. The Task Force Eagle web address is **www.tfeagle.army.mil**. Printed by PrintComTuzla. Circulation: 3,500.

## Money matters

# Finance detachment prepares for change

by Capt. Michael J. Diaz  
249th Finance Detachment

Each soldier on this deployment is going through the process of becoming mentally and emotionally ready to depart this theater for home. While I will not attempt to help you with your mental and emotional status, I will offer a few tips from a financial perspective to help your transition to the home front. Also, I will provide a few updates on finance operations during the remainder of SFOR 13.

The first detail each of us needs to remember is that someone else has been handling financial matters in our absence. Please don't forget to give credit where it is due as you transition back into whatever financial role you play in your household. Moreover, keep in mind to proceed back into financial matters in a cautious manner.

Next, if you took advantage of the Soldiers and Sailors Civil Relief Act and lowered any debt to the 6 percent limit, please contact your creditors immediately upon completion of this



Diaz

deployment.

Please note that our finance cashier cage and military pay section will be closed all day on Saturday, Sept. 6, due to a mandatory software upgrade. We will continue to stay open on Wednesday evenings until 8 p.m. through Sept. 3 depending on the new SFOR 14 finance commander's policy.

You will experience long lines at finance during the transition to SFOR 14. Please keep in mind that the cashiers will not only be new but will be processing each transaction two times due to the software upgrade. I ask you to bear with all of the cashiers and realize that they are held financially responsible for

any loss of funds that can occur in a deployed environment. We will keep three cashier cages open on Eagle Base as much as possible during the transition period to alleviate some of the long waits.

If you feel that you have a pay problem, please visit our military pay customer service section in Bldg. 1021.

You will be required to cash out your Eagle Cash Card and obtain U.S. dollars before leaving Bosnia and Herzegovina. The cash out process is authorized within 10 days of your departure date.

If there are extenuating circumstances that do not allow you to cash out your Eagle Cash Card, the U.S. Treasury will refund your balance. However, the processing time is definitely longer than the cash-out process. Moreover, the refund process on low balance cards is very costly to the United States government.

Thank you for doing your part to save taxpayer dollars. Please don't hesitate to visit our finance office with any questions and be safe on your journey home.

**"Money talks...but all mine ever says is good-bye."**  
—Anonymous

**"Finance is the art of passing currency from hand to hand until it finally disappears."**  
—Robert W. Sarnoff



**About the cover: Capt. Bruce Lancaster and Spc. Stephen Summers work together to give a goat shots during a Task Force Medical Eagle VETCAP in the villages of Majdan and Lukici. by Sgt. Guy D. Choate.**

### Correction

In last week's edition of the *Talon*, Sgt. Benjamin Shunko's name was misspelled. We regret the error.

# MPs perform variety of tasks

Story and photo by Sgt. 1st Class Ronald D. Covington  
343rd MPAD

As the Multinational Brigade (North) strives to provide a safe and secure environment for Bosnia and Herzegovina, its military police, customs agents and K-9 teams work to secure the safety of its troops.

"Of the troops and for the troops is the MP motto," said Sgt. 1st Class Aniello Burr from McCloud, Kan., and assigned to the 35th MP Company, 35th Infantry Division (Mech.).

The Area Support Group Eagle customs agents ensure that all mail shipped out of Bosnia is lawfully packaged. Customs MP Sgt. William Burger said agents inspect mail and packages for sanitation and safety. He said this is an important task because an unclean container can cause harmful effects to the agricultural environment, which can result in an unstable situation at home.

The K-9 unit is also assigned to ASG Eagle and is detached from various support groups from all over Germany. Every military working dog is a patrol dog, and is trained to bite when necessary.

These are not toy poodles. The units' smallest dog can take

down a grown man in a moment's time. They provide an augmentation to the law enforcement and guard force, through deterrence, show of force, and the detection of intruders.

"Being on a K-9 working dog team is one of the best jobs in the military," said Staff Sgt. Joseph Maks from Evans, Ga. "I enjoy working with dogs, and traveling to the deployment opportunities that come along with the job."

The K-9 teams are broken down into narcotics detector dog teams – NDDTs – and explosive detector dog teams, or EDDTs.

EDDTs search buildings, vehicles, aircraft, baggage, cargo, and weapon storage sites. They also sweep areas for VIP visitor protection. One recent mission was the visit of the Pope. These dogs also provide a quick reaction team which respond to bomb threats, and suspicious vehicles.

NDDTs perform postal, customs, vehicle, aircraft and health and welfare inspections. All the dogs are available to assist in security and crowd control.

The 35th ID MPs perform a variety of duties dealing with the camps and routes used by



"We assist, protect and defend," said Pfc. Jamie Burwell, shown above on Eagle Base. "I don't think that anyone is an MP that doesn't want to be."

all SFOR personnel. Their 24 MPs assigned to Eagle Base can be seen in a number of places as they encourage safety and security. They do everything from walking and driving patrols to working as personal security for the MNB (North) commanding general.

Twelve MPs from the 35th MP Company assigned to Camp Butmir work for the SFOR commander.

When working patrols, the MPs primary task is to enforce safety procedures around the base. They do not hesitate to

stop vehicles to make on-the-spot-corrections or give warnings.

Burr said they do not want to see any incidents that could have been prevented.

"We assist, protect and defend, said Pfc. Jamie Burwell of Salina Kan.

"I don't think that anyone is an MP that doesn't want to be. Most of us have some type of law enforcement background in the civilian world. It is fun; you get to meet a lot of people. I know just about everyone on Eagle Base."

## Welch: Donation 'to provide for the children of Bosnia'

Story and photo  
by Sgt. Guy D. Choate  
343rd MPAD

Health specialists from Task Force Medical Eagle donated children's vaccine to the Public Health Institute of Tuzla Canton August 13.

The medicine consisted of more than 1,000 doses of Hepatitis A vaccine and medical supplies to include IVs, syringes, gloves, tracheal tubes, bandages, and splints. Altogether, the donated vaccine and supplies are valued at approximately \$22,000.

"This medicine is intended to provide for the children of Bosnia and Herzegovina," said Maj. Thomas Welch, OIC for the 145th Medical Logistics De-

tachment, Task Force Medical Eagle.

"After speaking with representatives from the Public Health Institute, we realized there was a need for this medicine in certain locations throughout the country. We hope the vaccine proves beneficial in preventing the spread of Hepatitis A."

The vaccine has been collected from Eagle Base and the outlying camps in Multinational Brigade (North) throughout the duration of SFOR 13's rotation.

"We were getting rid of it, so by giving it to them we are putting it to good use," said Staff Sgt. Ramon Guerrero, warehouse inventory/warehouse supply NCOIC for Task Force Medical Eagle.



Soldiers from the 145th Medical Logistics unit at Eagle Base and local health clinic employees unload donated supplies in Tuzla recently.

"Hepatitis A is a disease we meet with quite frequently, so these are valuable vaccines,"

said Dr. Ademir Ahmetovic, an epidemiologist at the Public Health Institute.

# TF Med Eagle vet provided

by **Nedima Hadziibrisevic**  
Media Specialist

Task Force Medical Eagle staff provided veterinary medical care to the villages of Lukici and Majdan Aug. 14, conducting the first Veterinary Community Action Program for SFOR 13.

“Task Force Medical Eagle worked in conjunction with Task Force South to identify these areas as places in need of this type of support,” said Maj. Thomas Welch, medical logistics officer for TFME.

Welch explained how TF South soldiers, while on patrol in the areas, met with local leaders and discussed the need for large-animal medical treatment.

After TFME agreed to supply the veterinary care, TF South soldiers distributed flyers advertising the VETCAP.

Twenty-five households in both communities provided animals for the VETCAP. According to Maj. Ora Rawls, TFME executive officer, approximately 200 animals were treated during the daylong event.

“The assistance we provided was veterinary care for farm animals and livestock — and that would be horses, cows, pigs,

sheep, goats and chickens,” said Capt. Bruce Lancaster, OIC for TFME’s Veterinary Services.

In addition to treating animals, farmers received hands-on training on the care and treatment of animals by TFME staff.

Majdan resident Rosa Bozic was thrilled with SFOR’s veterinary assistance.

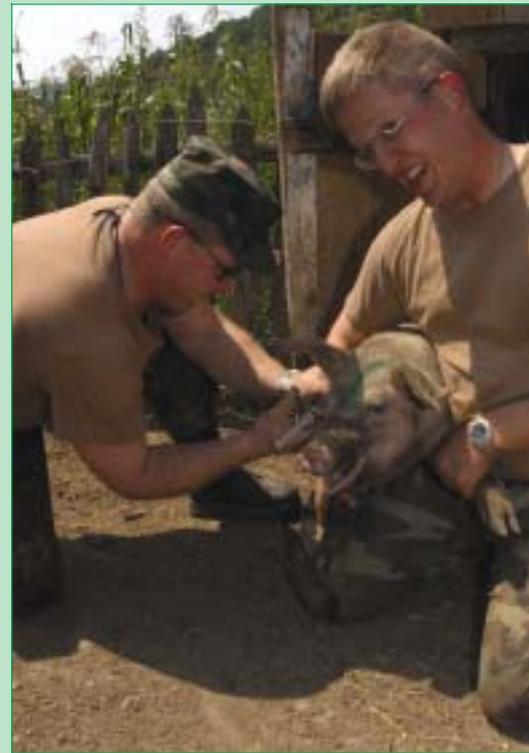
“This is a great help to us. Any kind of assistance is welcomed,” she said of the free treatment. One dose of the free vaccine alone costs 20 km, or \$12, a substantial savings for many of the farmers whose animals have not received veterinary care in some time.

Many of the other village residents expressed their thanks to TFME and the TF South soldiers who patrol their land.

“They were pretty happy to see us and pretty happy to see that we take some kind of interest in their well-being. This response has been very positive,” said Lancaster.

Welch added that the VETCAP should serve to strengthen the relationship between SFOR and citizens of Bosnia.

“I hope it will show that we care and that we are able to use some of our expertise to make their animals better, make their livelihood better,” Welch said.



by



by Master Sgt. D. Keith Johnson

***I've got my eye on you*** -- Spc. Stephen Summers and a very large hog take a moment to size each other up prior to Summers and Capt. Bruce Lancaster entering the pen to give inoculations. “It gave me a little taste of back home,” said Summers, of Bowling Green, Ky., whom is accustomed to working with animals on the family farm. Summers is serving in Bosnia and Herzegovina as a medic with Task Force South.



Spc. Scott Austin grabs one of six pigs being treated at Majdan. “Everything that could have gone wrong didn’t, but everything went right; it was a perfect operation,” said A. Medical Eagle.

# ...es community support



(Left) Maj. Chuck Eberth finishes inoculating a pig with the help of Spc. Scott Austin. "It's rewarding to get the opportunity to interact with the local farmers," said Eberth, of Basehor, Kan. He said, "It's fun to get back to my roots," referring to time spent on the family farm.

(Right) Capt. Bruce Lancaster inoculates one of the many chickens treated during the VETCAP.



by Master Sgt. D. Keith Johnson

Sgt. Guy D. Choate



by Master Sgt. D. Keith Johnson

...ng chased from a pen on one of the farms in right with the VETCAP, did. We had more went great with no injuries to any of the ustin, animal care specialist for Task Force



by Sgt. Guy D. Choate

"The cost is actually fairly high because we're using the best stuff. It's pretty much the Cadillac of the program they're getting here," said Lancaster as he treats the horse of one of the residents of Majdan.

## 'Doc' loves his job

by Master Sgt. D. Keith Johnson  
343rd MPAD

Capt. Kenneth Bruce Lancaster is the veterinarian for Task Force Medical Eagle for SFOR 13. And, he's right at home working with the animals here in Bosnia and Herzegovina.

Lancaster has been practicing veterinary medicine in Idaho for 25 years, specializing in large animal medicine. He was selected as the 2002 Veterinarian of the Year for the state of Idaho, and is the president of the Idaho Veterinary Medical Association.

Lancaster, from Idaho Falls, Idaho, is part owner of a company specializing in

equine and bovine reproduction. His company is involved in the cloning of mules, and had one born in February and another in March, with two more due.

He has 13 years of military service, including a tour in Vietnam as an enlisted soldier, and is currently the only U.S. Veterinary Corps officer in the Balkans.

In his spare time, Lancaster is an associate professor of veterinary studies at Washington State University.

Lancaster's crew here includes Staff Sgt. Kimberly Jordan, from Camilla, Ga., and Spc. Scott Austin, from Denver, Colo. All are members of the 993rd Medical Detachment (Veterinary Services), a U.S. Army Reserve unit from Aurora, Colo.

# A look at some of the XO's in the Crowd



**Capt. Trent Player and Spc. Jamel Coleman (background) inspect collected weapons that Company A has "demilitarized." The inoperable weapons will be shipped home by the company for display in Task Force South units.**

## Capt. Trenton P. Player

**Family:** Player and his wife, Susanne, reside in Rock Hill, S.C., with children Lexie, 10, and Josh, 4.

**Job title:** Executive officer, Company A, 4th Battalion, 118th Infantry Regiment.

**Best thing about deployment:** "I have been exposed to countries and cultures that I probably never would have had it not been for this deployment," he said. "This year on active duty has given me the opportunity to learn how the Army works behind the scenes. Normally we show up at drill and the full-time personnel handle the logistics and most of the paperwork. That is not the case here. I think this will help me perform better as an M-day soldier."

**Life away from home:** Although he misses his family, Player is glad he volunteered for the deployment. "The Guard has been good to me over the years so when I got the call to go there was no real question. It was my duty," he said.

**Favorite hobbies:** "I enjoy working out in my spare time and I think I've watched more non-Disney movies in the last year than in the last 20 of my life."

by 2nd Lt. Chris Dunphy

## First Lt. Jeremy V. Magruder

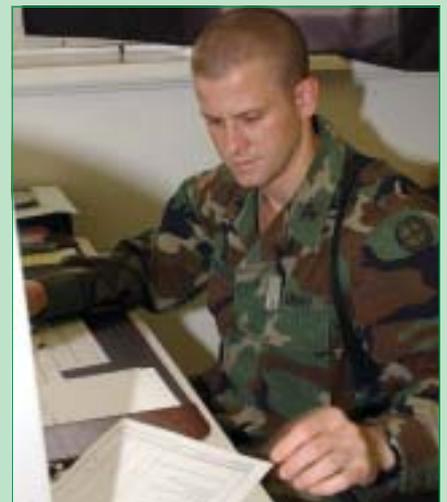
**Hometown:** Columbia, Mo.

**Civilian occupation:** Innovative readiness training manager, Missouri National Guard Headquarters. Magruder works for a program that provides assistance to humanitarian, nonprofit and government organizations.

**Job title:** Executive officer, HHC, 35th Infantry Division (Mech.) Magruder enjoys his job, considering it a challenge-filled assignment that provides him a sense of accomplishment.

**Hardest part about deployment:** Magruder said the deployment's hardest part has been being separated from friends and family back home. Still, he doesn't regret a moment. "I volunteered for this rotation because I look forward to new experiences and the opportunity to make a difference," he said. "This deployment has been a learning experience for me through both watching others and personal experiences. I'm glad that I came."

**Hobbies:** Relaxing at the movie theater and playing volleyball.



**"This deployment has been a learning experience for me," said Magruder.**

by 2nd Lt. Chris Dunphy

## Chief Warrant Officer 2 Kenneth M. Henderson

**Family:** Henderson and his wife Yolanda, sons Kayle 12, Ashton, 11 and Chandler, 7, live in Lincoln, Neb.

**Civilian job:** Henderson is an organizational maintenance shop chief with the Nebraska Army National Guard.

**Military:** Henderson is the executive officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 167th Cavalry Regiment. He's had a lot of new experiences as a cavalry XO. "It's broadened my knowledge," said Henderson. "My lane got real wide." He has been in the Nebraska Army National Guard for 21 years. Although most of his career has been in the maintenance field, he enjoys being in the cavalry now. "I really like the cav." All three of his brothers are in the Nebraska Guard.

**Goal:** Henderson's ultimate goal is to be a chief warrant officer 5 maintenance technician.

by Master Sglt. D. Keith Johnson



**Henderson has had a lot of new experiences as a cavalry XO. "It's broadened my knowledge."**

# On the home front

News items of interest to Task Force Eagle members

## Idaho



### Students get passing marks

**POCATELLO** – After comparing District 25 Idaho Standard Achievement Test results with state results and standards, Pocatello and Chubbuck schools fared very well and school officials are pleased with the results.

Director of Curriculum Chuck Wegner said the district is performing near the state scores.

“What’s encouraging is more students are above the

proficiency standards than below,” Wegner said.

The ISATs began last year, but Wegner said students are already showing improvement over the fall 2002 scores.

Last year’s tests will start providing a baseline for educators so they can start comparing between years and monitor students’ progress.

– Idaho State Journal

## Illinois



### Governor blasts casino layoffs

**SPRINGFIELD** – Gov. Rod Blagojevich blasted the casino industry Aug. 13 for recent layoffs and reductions in operating hours, raising the possibility of the state taking over riverboat licenses and hiring a management firm to run them.

But a casino industry spokesman doubted state government could find reasons to revoke all nine operating licenses under current law.

Blagojevich accused the casino industry of using employees as “pawns in a political game” to roll back in-

creased gambling taxes instituted July 1.

“It seems to me that they’re using the working people as leverage to put pressure on the Legislature to roll back their taxes,” Blagojevich said at a Democratic Party brunch at the Crowne Plaza hotel in Springfield.

East Peoria’s Par-A-Dice casino laid off 70 workers Aug. 12, and four other casinos received approval from the Illinois Gaming Board to reduce their operating hours.

– State Journal-Register

## Texas



### Perry: Turn off tap to Mexico

**AUSTIN** – Gov. Rick Perry said Aug. 14 that diplomacy has not worked, so the United States should consider “turning off the tap of the Colorado River of water into Mexico” as punishment for withholding water from American farmers.

“There comes a point in time where we must take further steps,” Perry said in his sharpest words yet in the long-running dispute with

Mexico over water on the border.

“We’ve discussed, we’ve cajoled, we’ve done everything in a diplomatic realm that’s possible, and none of it has worked,” he said.

“If Mexico continues to refuse to live up to the obligations of the 1944 treaty, the United States should consider turning off the tap of the Colorado River of water into Mexico,” he said.

– Dallas Morning News

# News You Can Use

## Chapel



### Eagle Base Chapel

762-7089/7090

#### Sunday

- 9 a.m. Liturgical (Lutheran/Episcopal) Service
- 11 a.m. Collective Protestant
- 1 p.m. Gospel Protestant
- 3 p.m. Latter-Day Saints
- 7 p.m. Catholic Rosary

#### Monday

- Noon Christian Meditation
- 7 p.m. Gospel Praise Team Rehearsal
- 8 p.m. Christian Meditation

#### Tuesday

- 7:30 p.m. Women’s Bible Study, ISSO (Building 3307)

#### Wednesday

- 11 a.m. Bible Study, USAF Rock Conference Room

- 6 p.m. Protestant Praise Team Rehearsal

- 7 p.m. Gospel Praise Team Rehearsal

- 8 p.m. Bible Study

#### Thursday

- 6 p.m. Roman Catholic Rosary

- 6:30 p.m. Roman Catholic Education Night

#### Friday

- 6:30 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal

- 8 p.m. Joy Service

#### Saturday

- 1 p.m. Protestant Praise Team Rehearsal

- 6:30 p.m. Roman Catholic Mass
- 7:30 p.m. Gospel Choir Rehearsal

### FOB Connor

761-2211

#### Sunday

- 6 p.m. Protestant Service

#### Monday

- 5 p.m. Bible Study
- 6 p.m. Roman Catholic Communion Service
- 7 p.m. Protestant Service

### Camp McGovern Chapel

763-2250

#### Sunday

- 9:30 a.m. Collective Protestant

- 11 a.m. Roman Catholic Communion Service

#### Wednesday

- 7 p.m. Bible Study

#### Thursday

- 7 p.m. Praise Team Rehearsal

### Camp Morgan

764-2215

#### Sunday

- 4 p.m. Collective Protestant Service

- 4 p.m. Roman Catholic Communion Service

## Cold War certificate still available

All members of the U.S. Armed Forces and federal government civilian personnel who faithfully served the United States between Sept. 2, 1945, and Dec. 26, 1991, may apply for a Cold War Recognition Certificate.

Applicants must certify that their service was “faithful and honorable”, and they must supply a copy of a supporting document which proves that they served during the Cold War era. The certificate may be awarded posthumously to those whose relatives apply on their behalf.

Any document which

shows that the intended recipient was a U.S. government employee during the Cold War era will be accepted as proof. The document must contain the name of the recipient, the Social Security Number or Military Service Number or Foreign Service Number which was included in the request for the certificate, and a date showing at least one day of service within the range of Sept. 2, 1945 and Dec. 26, 1991.

For more information, or to print out an application, go to <https://coldwar.army.mil>.

# Off duty ...

by 2nd Lt. Chris Dunphy



(Left) The Morale, Welfare and Recreation-sponsored "Apollo Night" talent show Aug. 15 at Peacekeepers Hall got off to an energetic start. Here, Brigade Signal Sgt. Maj. Robert Parker is coaxed into an impromptu dance by the show's host, Sgt. Anthony Brown (background), with Brown's assistant Staff Sgt. Sylvia Gomez.



The talent show's organizers created a memorable way of getting some performers' attention in the persona of Staff Sgt. JoAnn Brown (with wig and broomstick above). Here, Lt. Col. Laura Ward performs a rendition of "Harlem Nocturne" on the soprano saxophone.



Sgt. Doug Tappan hits some smooth high notes. Tappan was one of 16 participants to perform in the talent show.



Audience members show their appreciation for the night's performers.



In one of the more rambunctious acts, Spc Qwan Smith, left, and Staff Sgt. Eric Bell, rap a tune early in the night's show.