

MARCH 5, 2004

TALON



Working hand in hand

Inside this issue:

Curing together
G5; mission 'outside the wire'

Task Force Eagle www.tfeagle.army.mil

TALON

Published in support of
Operation Joint Forge
March 5, 2004
Volume 14, No. 23

**Commander,
Multinational Brigade (N)**

Brig. Gen.
Richard Nash

Public Affairs Officer

Maj. Jarrod Krull

Command Historian

Master Sgt. Tim Peterson

Commander, 135th MPAD

Capt. Chuck Traxler

Command Information Officer

1st Lt. Julieanne Gertken

NCOIC, 135th MPAD

Master Sgt.
Edwin Holt

Talon Editor

Sgt. 1st Class
Clinton Wood

Print Journalists

Sgt. Sarah C. Danielski
Spc. Jeremiah Wickenhauser

Broadcast Journalists

Sgt. Kent Westberg
Sgt. DeAnne Gilger

Media Specialists

Aleksandar Ilic
Nedima Hadziibrisevic
Haris Lelic



The *Talon* is produced in the interest of the service members 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: Clinton.Wood@email-tc3.5sigcmd.army.mil. The Task Force Eagle web address is www.tfeagle.army.mil. Printed by PrintComTuzla. Circulation: 3,500.

End of Rotation goodies from TFE Public Affairs Office

As Stabilization Force 14 nears the end of the rotation, the Task Force Eagle Public Affairs Office and 135th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment would like to offer you something to help you remember your tour of duty.

We have a limited supply of all the Talon magazines published during the rotation. They are available to Soldiers on a first-come first-served basis. Once they are gone, they are gone. Stop by the Public Affairs Office, Bldg. 2001, to pickup your copies.

We have also developed an outstanding end of rotation DVD. Unfortunately we were unable to find funding that would allow us to provide them to Soldiers at no cost.

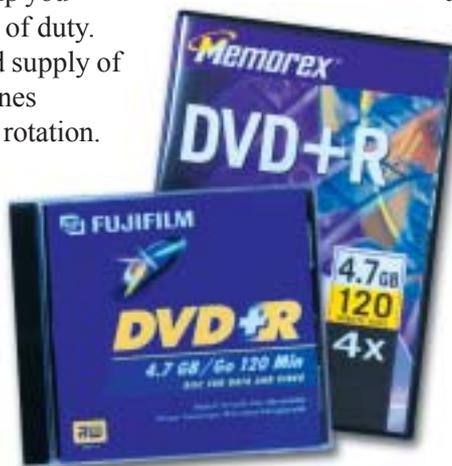
So, if you would like a copy of the SFOR 14 DVD, you will need to bring a blank DVD+R disk to the public affairs office. You can leave the blank DVD with the PAO staff and we will burn a

copy of the video onto your DVD. We can only do one DVD at a time, so you will need to leave the DVD and check back in a few days to see if it is completed.

Please ensure you provide us with a **DVD+R** disk, not

the DVD-R disk. We can't use DVD-R disks. Blank DVDs are available for sale at the PX.

Contact Capt. Chuck Traxler at 762-5235 if you have any questions.



A new sign was unveiled on Eagle Base to officially name the building commonly known as the Bull Pen, Dervishian Hall. The hall was named in honor of 2nd Lt. Ernest H. Dervishian, a 34th Inf. Div. Soldier who was awarded the Medal of Honor during World War II. The sign serves as a lasting reminder of the 34th's accomplishments and commitment to the SFOR mission.



Soldiers from the Bosnian-Croat Federation stack SA-7 surface-to-air missiles at the VR range to be destroyed later. The weapons were destroyed as part of a special U.S. State Dept. program to reduce, remove and destroy man-portable air defense systems world wide. Photo by Sgt. Sarah C. Danielski, 135th MPAD

Curing together: BiH Armed Forces facilitate first joint MEDCAP



Photos by Aleksandar Ilic, TFE Media Specialist

Spc. Anthony Smith, TF Bearcat medic, takes a local citizen's temperature and checks her blood pressure as part of medical services offered at the program.

Story by Nedima Hadziibrisevic
TFE Media Specialist

PAPRACA, BiH—For the first time, armed forces in Bosnia and Herzegovina worked together as part of a Medical Civil Action Program to provide assistance to civilians in this medically underserved community of the Sekovici municipality. About 180 preregistered citizens of this community, nominated by 5th Corps Army of Republic of Srpska (VRS), had an opportunity to receive free medical and dental screenings as well as medications in the program jointly conducted by Multinational Brigade (North), Federation Army (VF) 2nd Corps and VRS 5th Corps soldiers, along with Sekovici Public Health Department personnel.

“It is a very good indicator that (armed forces in BiH) have a commitment to peace and are dedicated to their medical mission,” said Maj. William Eckberg, Task Force Med Eagle, MNB (N) MEDCAP coordinator.

Papraca was selected for the MEDCAP based on its humanitarian need and because displaced persons

have returned in the area.

The patients underwent medical and dental examinations and initial treatments for conditions like glaucoma, hypertension, diabetes and arthritis. After screening they were supplied with a 30-day supply of medication by a pharmacist and a BiH physician.

“This is a good, human, operation for our population to get help on the spot, to receive certain services such as laboratory and EKG, and to be seen by a physician,” emphasized Capt. Sabina Hajvaz, 2nd Corps doctor.

“The most important thing for

them is to get medicine on the spot, so they do not have to walk.”

The MEDCAP also was unique because SFOR provided most medical supplies and expertise while the armed forces in BiH and local authorities provided the doctors and other personnel to examine the patients.

“This project, where the citizens of Bosnia help themselves, is very positive and is how these events will be conducted in the future,” Eckberg said.

Lt. Col. Niko Rudic, 5th Corps doctor, participating in his third MEDCAP, acclaimed the program as well as the cooperation with SFOR.

“The cooperation with SFOR is great,” he said. “It can be commended on all levels.”

Although Papraca has a health clinic, it only offers basic aid. Residents have to travel 15 kilometers to Sekovici to receive advanced care.

Needless to say, patients, mostly elders, were thrilled to have this program in their community. For Capt. Errol Lader, TF Med Eagle dental officer, this was an excellent occasion to provide assistance to the people in the area. “As far as I am concerned, the more patients that I am able to help, the more worthwhile the mission is,” he stressed.



Capt. Sabina Hajvaz (right) and Lt. Col. Rudic, assisted by Dara Perisic (far left), work side by side during a recent MEDCAP in Papraca. The event was in the local elementary school.

Making a safer Bosnia and world

U.S. Embassy, Federation and RS Armies, and SFOR come together to destroy weapons

Story and photos by
Sgt. Sarah C. Danielski
135th MPAD

Man-portable air defense systems are a dangerous threat to both military and civilian aircraft all over the world. Recently, Stabilization Force worked to reduce that threat by destroying approximately 5,000 SA-7 surface-to-air missiles belonging to the Bosnian-Croat Federation and Republic of Srpska Armies.

The missiles were acquired by the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Embassy through a special program to remove, reduce and destroy MANPADS world wide.

“We want to get these weapons out of potentially unstable governments,” said Col. David Elicerio, Joint Military Affairs chief for Multinational Brigade (North). He explained that the U.S. Embassy negotiated with both the Federation

the world to shoot down everything from military helicopters and planes to civilian commercial airliners. Most are acquired on the black market.

“Currently we are seeing the SA-7 go for between \$5,000 and \$10,000 on the black



Front of the SA-7 surface-to-air missile showing the heat-seeking sensor.



The SA-7 surface-to-air missile has a range of six miles and is capable of shooting down commercial aircraft. The missile destroys targets by locking on to the heat signature of its intended target. The missiles are currently being used by terrorist groups world wide.

and RS to give up a large portion of their SA-7 arsenal.

The weapons originated in the MNB (NW) and (SE) areas of operation, but officials and soldiers from all three MNB's as well as soldiers from the Federation and RS armies came together to collect, transport, inventory and ultimately destroy the weapons.

“This was truly a joint venture where we built upon the relationships we formed with the brigades and the two entities,” said Elicerio.

MANPADS can be used by various terrorist groups all over

market in Iraq,” said Elicerio, “so we’ve done some good here to keep these from falling into the wrong hands.”

The Yugoslavian-made shoulder-fired SA-7's pose a threat to aircraft by locking onto the heat signature of its intended target after it is fired. Recently a jet liner belonging to Federal Express was shot and damaged in Iraq by a similar surface-to-air missile system.

“When Soldiers leave here on the planes I think they’ll feel better knowing there are 5,000 less things that can go wrong,” said Elicerio.

After all the missiles were accounted for and inventoried they



Capt. William Dickinson, 666th EOD, tapes together M5 plastic explosives as he readies rows of SA-7 surface-to-air missiles for detonation at the VR range. Approximately 5,000 missiles were destroyed at the range in less than two weeks.

“Our job is to make this place safer and we do that job everyday.”

-Staff Sgt. James Hayes

were transported to the VR range for destruction. Federation and RS soldiers, as well as U.S. Soldiers, were on hand to assist the 666th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Detachment with the destruction by unloading and stacking the weapons and helping to prepare the detonation charges.

The whole operation from collection to destruction was



cial and military aircraft. The heat-seeking can be bought on the black market and are

completed in just less than two weeks. The task to destroy the mass amount of weapons in such a short amount of time presented some challenges for the EOD team.

“I’m very proud of the unit and

proud of what they’ve accomplished,” said Capt. William Dickinson, 666th EOD commander. Dickinson explained that with some personnel away for schools, the already tasked Operation Armadillo mission to destroy harvested weapons, and now the operation to destroy the SA-7’s, the unit’s Soldiers had to put in a 110 percent effort.

“It’s great that we get to participate in the Global War on Terrorism,” Dickinson said. “This is 5,000 missiles that can’t be used to shoot down a jet airline carrying our troops.”

Staff Sgt. James Hayes, also with the 666th EOD had similar thoughts.

“Anything we can do to make the



Staff Sgt. James Hayes, 666th EOD, demonstrates how to hold the shoulder-fired SA-7.

world a safer place, whether its blowing up grenades and other ordnance, or keeping these missiles off the streets; it’s worth it,” said Hayes. He said he feels good knowing he is doing his part to make Bosnia and Herzegovina, as well as the rest of the world, a little less dangerous.

“Our job is to make this place safer,” Hayes said, “and we do that job everyday.”



Soldiers from the Bosnian-Croat Federation Army line up SA-7 surface-to-air missiles and stack M5 plastic explosives so that the weapons can be destroyed. The weapons belonged to both the Federation and RS armies but were destroyed through a special program coordinated by the U.S. State Department and U.S. Embassy.

G5, mission 'outside the wire'

Story by Master Sgt. Edwin Holt
135th MPAD

The primary mission and role of Civil Affairs, G5, is to advise the commander on civil and military issues said Maj. Kristine Shelstad, deputy G5.

These issues are generally anything that the military does that impacts the civilian community and anything the civilian community does that impacts the military.

"G5 is the liaison with all organizations in the international community that are our partners in implementing the Dayton Peace Accords," Shelstad said.

It's a major role for Shelstad and the 11 Soldiers in G5, but one in which Shelstad feels her group has done very well with during Stabilization Force 14.

The section is under the leadership of Lt. Col. Susan Rasmussen, assistant chief of staff, G5. Joining Rasmussen and Shelstad are Capt. Michael Reineke, Staff Sgt. Brian Morelli, Sgt. Douglas Heller and Spc. Bradley Bergan.

There are also five soldiers from the Slovakian military on the G5 staff: Maj. Ivo Dobias, Maj. Anton Laca, Capt. Milan Ravsa, 1st. Lt. Milan Hazlinger and 1st. Lt. Miro Zatherecky.

"We are fully integrated as a staff," Shelstad said.

Because the reduction of SFOR was on the horizon when SFOR 14 began its rotation, there was special emphasis on integrating more civilian organizations into assuming direct responsibility for future issues within the civilian community.

"We worked with some groups that had never been

involved with SFOR," Shelstad said. "The result is that these organizations have more situational awareness of the needs of people in their communities."

Working with the community has also had a positive impact on G5 according to Shelstad.

"During our time here, we have had an opportunity to work with our multinational partners and make some very good civilian friends," Shelstad said. "We have met some really great people in the civilian organizations while getting our job done."



Photo by Maj. Jarrod Krull, TFE PAO

Maj. Kristine Shelstad (right) talks with two teachers from a local school during a G5 mission as interpreter Edina Semusdinovic listens.

Another positive G5 staff agree they will take away from their experience in SFOR 14 is the opportunity they have had to visit schools and orphanages and to allow Soldiers from other sections to join them on their missions.



Photo by Master Sgt. Edwin Holt, 135th MPAD

Lt. Col. Susan Rasmussen, (center) points to a slide during a G5 coordination meeting. G5 is: front row, from left, 1st Lt. Milan Hazlinger, 1st Lt. Miroslav Zathurecky, Capt. Milan Ravsa, Maj. Anton Laca, Lt. Col. Susan Rasmussen, Maj. Kristine Shelstad, Capt. Daniel MacGuire, Maj. Greg Geary, Capt. Michael Reineke. Back row, from left, Maj. James Hennessy, Capt. Marc Jenny, Staff Sgt. Brian Morelli, Maj. Ivo Dobias, Mirza Jamakovic, Maj. Tim Steinert, Sgt. Douglas Heller, Edina Semusdinovic and Edim Hajdarbegovic.

FLE out front in deployment



Photo by Chief Warrant Officer Daniel McGowan, TFE FLE

The FLE maintenance crew gathers prior to an equipment quality assurance check. From left, Chief Warrant Officer Michael Alexander, Staff Sgt. Chris Senger, Chief Warrant Officer Mark Nagel, 1st Lt. David Hintgen and Chief Warrant Officer Michael Randall.

Story by Master Sgt. Edwin Holt
135th MPAD

As far as Capt. Gary Diamond knows, Stabilization Force 14 saw for the first time a Forward Logistics Element and G4 integrated into their respective operations.

Talk to the leaders in both sections and they will point to each other and say the partnership has been vital to the operation and the overall functioning to the American element of the deployment.

“It was really under the guidance of Lt. Col. John Dewey that we began planning and then training together, and saw the value of working so closely as a team,” Diamond said. “G4 initiates and the FLE tracks. We work hand in hand.”

The sections have integrated their work schedules and now look for ways to assist each other, Diamond said. “G4 and the FLE have never worked together like this, to my knowledge, in any of the other SFOR deployments.”

Diamond is the Material Management Center Officer in Charge, and in a good position to evaluate the partnership between the two sections. The FLE manages the overall procurement of commodities, supplies, and parts used by the American Soldiers of Multinational Brigade (North).

“The FLE is also responsible for quality assurance checks for parts and equipment ordered,” Diamond explained. “The FLE needs to verify the need to repair or procure items. We are the approving authority.”

To accomplish this, the FLE has expertise in multiple areas. Along with Diamond, 18 Soldiers work in the section.

Master Sgt. Hal Gorder has the dual role of motor sergeant and first sergeant. Master Sgt. Bruce Pederson and 1st Lt. Dan Dobler

work in supply and services where they facilitate such things as fuel and bottled water. Class IX Aviation parts falls on Chief Warrant Officers Daniel McGowan and Robert Martinez.

The maintenance section is staffed by 1st Lt. David Hintgen, Chief Warrant Officers Michael Randall and Mark Nagel, Sgt. 1st Class Richard Mackey and Staff Sgt. Chris Senger.

The medical section is Maj. Chris Luhman, Staff Sgt. Charles Kauzlarich, Sgt. Erika Lee, and Spcs. Greta Weiss and Shannon Munstenteiger.

Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Campbell holds the Combat Service Support Automation Management Officer position.

Finally, Chief Warrant Officer Blake Dixon manages the warehouse on Eagle Base that is part of the Supply Support Activity Center.

The success of SFOR 14 and its partnership experience between the FLE and G4 could be a model for future deployment operations.

“It has worked for us,” Diamond said.



Photo by Master Sgt. Timothy Peterson, TFE PA

The FLE, front row from left, Spc. Shannon Munstenteiger, Sgt. Erika Lee, Chief Warrant Officer Mark Nagle, Master Sgt. Bruce Pederson, Master Sgt. Hal Gorder, Capt. Gary Diamond, Chief Warrant Officer Blake Dixon, Maj. Chris Luhman and Sgt. 1st Class Richard Mackey. Second row from left, 1st Lt. Dan Dobler, Chief Warrant Officers Robert Martinez, Daniel McGowan and Michael Randall, 1st Lt. David Hintgen, Staff Sgt. Chris Senger, Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Campbell, Staff Sgt. Charles Kauzlarich and Spc. Greta Weiss.

 **In our sights** 



Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Clinton Wood, 135th MPAD

A Bosnian man leads his horse-drawn wagon with a flat tire while a fellow Bosnian waves to SFOR American Soldiers as a car whizzes by on the road near Camp Commanche last week.



Photo by Master Sgt. Edwin Holt, 135th MPAD

Spc. Stephanie Robertson, 34th MP Co., heads to a mission at the White House on Eagle Base Wednesday.



Photo courtesy of KFOR PAO

Brig. Gen. Richard Nash (right), commander MNB (N) meets with Brig. Gen. Rick Erlandson, commander MNB (East), in Kosovo, during MNB (E)'s Transfer of Authority ceremony Feb. 26. The 34th Inf. Div. is currently in command of both MNB's.



Photo by Master Sgt. Edwin Holt, 135th MPAD

Scrabble was in line after a hard day's work for Carlos Dicho, TASC, (left) Maj. Jennifer Flikke, Sgt. Stacey Brown and Lt. Col Paul Waterbury all of JMA at Triggers.