

# THE TALON



OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

SERVING THE SOLDIERS OF TASK FORCE EAGLE

## ■ MINE SNIFFERS SEE ACTION

# Dogs, engineers clear training area

By Staff Sgt. AMY GUNNERSON  
203rd MPAD

GLAMOC — Mine-detecting dogs and their handlers recently teamed up with engineers for the first time since the Vietnam War to detect mines around the airfield and proposed temporary living area here for the 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation.

The Army expects more out of the dogs today than ever before.

The mines and explosive detection rate for canine teams in Vietnam was 70 percent.

The goal of the canine team attached to the 18th Military Police Brigade is 90 percent.

That percentage can be raised to 99.9 percent when the dogs work with an engineer team consisting of a remote-controlled mini-flail, a metal mine detector and a prober, said Capt. Frederic A. Drummond, commander of Company A, 16th Engineer Battalion.

The unit is a one-of-a-kind outfit that provides engineer support to the NATO command.

Drummond's engineers and the canine team attached to the 18th MP Brigade had 2 1/2 days to ensure the airfield and proposed tent area, ammunition storage and fuel storage areas were free of mines and unexploded ordnance.



Staff Sgt. Amy Gunnerson

Staff Sgt. Xavier Sandoval's dog, Reza, searches for unexploded ordnance at the Glamoc airfield.

This unique combination was developed by U.S. Army Europe during the early stages of Operation JOINT EN-

DEAVOR, and it is still a test program.

From the Army's 13 bomb-detecting dogs, five dogs were

selected to be re-trained as mine-sniffing dogs and have been training with their handlers since October.

"This is the way (mine detection) is supposed to be done — slow and deliberate," said Sgt. 1st Class James Jackson, kennel master for the 18th MP Brigade canine unit as he watched the dogs go down the lanes.

Jackson deployed from the 53rd Area Support Group in Bad Kreuznach, Germany.

"When you have the time and have troops and million-dollar aircraft in this area, there is no reason to take the risk," Drummond said.

Even though risk analysis put the area at a low threat for mines, Drummond said the airfield was hotly contested during the war.

A nearby ridgeline regularly drew mortar fire.

As he walked, Drummond pointed out to the field which is randomly punctuated with craters and dents in the airstrip from "mortar splat."

The area was proofed with a combination of the remote-controlled mini-flail — which cleared the large open areas where aircraft will be parked — and the canine mine-detecting and probing team in the smaller tent areas. The range

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## AAFES to expand services

By Capt. JOHN GOHEEN  
29th MPAD

Pizza, Whoppers and hand-dipped ice cream are coming to Task Force Eagle.

The American fast-food favorites are among a series of new products and services the Army and Air Force Exchange Service plans to add this

month, said Bob Van Loan, AAFES regional manager.

"We're just trying to make everyday life a little more fun for the soldiers," said Van Loan, who works out of Lukavac. "Our mission is to provide goods and services to the soldiers wherever they happen to be."

See **AAFES**, page 12

From the top

# Leadership is foundation for NCO Corps

*Editor's Note: Command Sgt. Maj. Jack L. Tilley is attending the Armor Conference at Fort Knox, Ky. He has asked his fellow command sergeants major to fill in for him.*



**Command Sgt. Maj. Wilbur S. Graham Jr.**  
22nd Signal Brigade

Therefore, to lead is to be out front, show the way, be the guide and motivate. Don't drive your soldiers, lead them. Soldiers are led, not managed. Do something — lead, follow or get out of the way!

**Training** is an NCO's No. 1 priority, and serves as our first wall. NCOs must use

performance-oriented training, which includes explanation, demonstration, application and examination.

Training is a way of life because it develops confidence, high morale and ultimately creates success.

The second wall is **caring**.

We must care for our soldiers and their families as we do for our immediate family. Soldiers know the difference between caring because "it's a job" and caring because you are genuinely concerned. We must keep the welfare of soldiers and the accomplishment of the mission equally balanced.

The third wall is **maintenance**, which is caring of a different nature. The key to success is how well our equipment performs. We must train our soldiers how to maintain their equipment.

**Resources** is the fourth wall. It's important that we conserve everything, including our time. We must be able to operate with less — less people, less equipment and less basic supplies. STOP waste and abuse.

**Influence of Higher Headquarters** is the roof of this building. It's something you have little or no control over so don't get overly concerned about what your higher leaders are doing. Provide input, but stay on top of those things over which you have control.

The welcome mat at the door must be our **Warrior Spirit** — our **pride**. NCOs must develop esprit de corps within their group. A certain amount of boasting that you are the best is good for morale. But don't let it be just idle gossip.

If you build your house on a solid foundation with straight walls, a good roof and a welcome mat, you will be able to take care of your soldiers and accomplish all your missions.

"Doing to do better ..."

When I talk to noncommissioned officers, I often use what I call "The NCO Victory Model" for building a house that is constructed with a foundation, four walls and a roof. This house, if built correctly, will produce the finest qualities an NCO can possess.

**Leadership** is the building's foundation. Leaders are the single most important factor in achieving military victory.

Viewpoint

## Seminars help Army set pace in war on discrimination

Civilian media reporting, in its zeal to sell newspapers and boost ratings, has done an injustice to the Army's commitment to root out racial and sexual bias.



**Spc. George Roache**  
29th MPAD

As a National Guardsman — who in civilian life is a journalist for a statewide daily newspaper — I think I am qualified to make this assessment.

Sensational reports of racially motivated shootings at Fort Bragg, N.C., notwithstanding, the Army is far ahead of general society in teaching sensitivity to and appreciation for the ethnic, cultural and regional differences among people.

Its most effective tool is the

Equal Opportunity Leadership Seminar.

At one such seminar recently at the 4th Air Cavalry Brigade, I saw how effectively it teaches hard lessons.

In a mock job interview, two prospective female employees taught one male soldier how sexual harassment felt.

*Bend over and pick up that pen, they said. Stand up and turn around. Take off your shirt and flex your muscles. Are you married? Are you in shape?*

He felt belittled.

More importantly, he acquired an appreciation for how women feel when sub-

jected to sexism.

Soldiers should make judgments about individuals as people and cultures based on their own experiences, not what they hear.

They also need to be skeptical of the media-perpetuated stereotypes.

The seminar's role-playing and other exercises were designed to expose how people react in a given situation.

Helping soldiers recognize potentially racist or sexist behavior in themselves and others will hopefully make them better people as well as more effective leaders.

None of them are going to change the world as far as equal opportunity is concerned. But if they can modify their own behav-

ior and carry that over into their units, they've done a great deal.

Things will never be perfect. This is because the Army draws from a society where individuals have learned their basic values and outlooks as children.

Real or perceived, discrimination is a virus that will debilitate unit morale, efficiency and fighting ability.

The key is fair treatment of all soldiers based solely on merit, fitness, capability and potential.

That's the seminar's — and the Army's — loftier goal.

The society that condemns the Army for isolated instances of violence would do well to take lessons from how the military teaches its servicemembers to get along.

# THE TALON

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# Laundry serves field troops

By Sgt. 1st Class JACK LEE  
203rd MPAD

STEEL CASTLE — Along with hot food and showers, a way to launder clothes makes life in the field a little more bearable.

Many soldiers were pleasantly surprised to learn they wouldn't have to do their own laundry while on the peace enforcement mission to the Balkans.

"The laundry service is great," said Spc. Brian L. Lonto, 362nd Engineer Company (Combat Support Equipment), Fort Bragg, N.C. "I did not expect this kind of service in the field — I thought I would have to do my own laundry by hand."

"We have lots of positive feedback on the laundry system," said Philip Parenti of Brown & Root Inc.

There were some problems at the beginning with the start-up phase, but "now, the major laundry service at Lukavac is doing a fine job," he said.

The laundry here is taken to Lukavac to be washed. On the average, 150 bags a day are turned in with a two- to three-day turn around.

That doesn't mean all soldiers are punctual in picking up their laundry.

Recently, a soldier picked up laundry that had been washed and was on the shelf for two months.

"He came in to pick up a recently processed bag of laundry, I remembered his name, and gave him the other bag. He just forgot he turned it in," said Adaleta Avdich, laundry service supervisor.

Along with that volume, many soldiers have left items in their pockets.

"We have found keys, ID cards, dog tags, wallets, money, pictures of families - lots of stuff," Avdich said.

Found items are returned to the laundry, who then takes them to local Brown & Root offices, which returns the item to the individual.

One soldier said he left his ID tags in his pocket and thought they were gone for good.

"I was surprised when they were returned to me about two weeks later," said Staff Sgt. Istvan Cernik Jr., 501st Military Intelligence Battalion.

Sometimes the bags don't get out of the building. Recently, a soldier came running in, asking for his bag.

"He remembered he left his wallet in his in his dirty clothes," said Avdich, who thought nothing of digging through the mound of dirty laundry for his bag.

The laundry tries hard to make each soldier's visit a pleasant one. Their goal is to have each soldier leave laughing. One soldier told Mevlija Pozhegich, laundry worker, the laundry was his favorite place to visit here.

"I have found the soldiers to be very polite and never have had any problems in dealing with the Americans," Pozhegich said.

Jasmina Bajrich was nervous when she started working at the laundry.

"I have never been in contact with the Americans before and didn't know how they would behave," Bajrich said.

She added that her friends have asked her how U.S. soldiers are, what they are like. "You Americans are very friendly, very polite," she said.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Aerobathon raises money

What began as a simple idea ended with a local charitable organization receiving a \$1,800 donation.

Twelve people took part in a nine-hour aerobathon, organized by Sgt. 1st Class Ann Hoople, 18th Military Police Brigade operations sergeant. The event was held in March at Comanche Base.

Members of the 4th Aviation Brigade, 709th Military Police Battalion and the 18th Military Police Brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Company also participated.

Money raised during the marathon was placed in the care of the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion, which donated the money to "Feed the Children," an agency that has spent the last four years in the former Yugoslavia.

"That's the whole reason I decided to do the aerobathon," said Spc. Kelly Van Den Heuvel of the 432nd.

Laura Jennings, Tuzla project manager, said the donation would go to help build a kindergarten near Dobo.

### Preventing heat injuries

With temperatures on the rise, Task Force Eagle soldiers and their leaders must take steps to prevent heat injuries, say medical experts.

They advise drinking at least two quarts of water an hour when temperatures break 90 degrees. This advisory pertains especially to soldiers working in armored tactical vehicles and on hot surfaces such as airfields and motor pools.

Soldiers should also know heat-injury symptoms. There are three types of heat injuries: heat cramps, heat exhaustion and heat stroke.

The symptoms of heat cramps are cramps accompanied by excessive sweating. Treatment is easy: move soldier into a shaded area, loosen clothes and slowly drink water.

Heat exhaustion is more serious. Besides cramps, sweating is more profuse and leaves cool, moist skin. Victims suffer headaches, nausea, chills and a loss of appetite.

Heat stroke victims usually have hot, dry skin. They have stopped sweating and have other symptoms. In severe cases, victims have seizures, lose consciousness and experience breathing problems.

For heat exhaustion and heat stroke cases, seek medical attention immediately.

## Hard day's night



Spc. Glenn W. Suggs

Soldiers from the 4th Battalion, 12th Mechanized Infantry, unload a HEMTT late in the day at the life support area at the Glamoc range during a recent live-fire training exercise.

# Bosnian engineers help inspect bridges

By Spc. WENDY M. FIRESTONE  
203rd MPAD

The phrase "joint endeavor" became more than the name of a peace enforcement operation for some Task Force Eagle engineers recently.

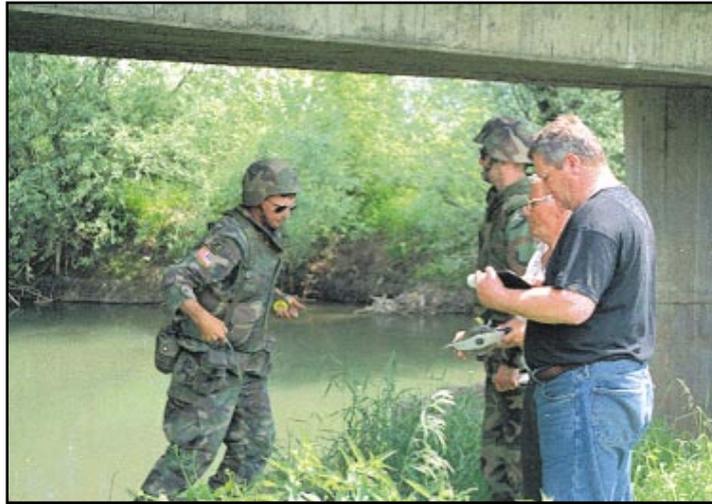
Ahmet Imamovic and Husein Osmanovic, two Bosnian engineers, joined task force Engineer Brigade soldiers to conduct a bridge reconnaissance along portions of routes Skoda, Utah and New Jersey.

The reconnaissance was conducted to verify current information on the routes' bridges and to collect any new information on these routes for future use.

"The information they gathered will help us determine our bridging requirements in the future," said Capt. Peter Sturdivant, Task Force Eagle Engineer Brigade plans officer. "The biggest benefit of hiring local engineers is that they are the ones who are responsible for the upkeep of the bridges."

This gives those responsible for the local highway system a good idea of the many roads and bridges that need attention throughout the country, he said.

Osmanovic is a masonry expert who helped build some of the structures that were tested, and Isam-



Ahmet Imamovic (right in black shirt) and Husein Osmanovic inspect a bridge with engineer soldiers.

ovic is with the Civil Engineer Building Institute of Tuzla.

"They are subject matter experts," Sturdivant said. "(Osmanovic) even knew who the contractors were that built some of the bridges."

Sturdivant said that the knowledge local engineers have makes it much easier to judge work quality.

They assisted U.S. Army engineers in calculating the condition and height restrictions of many bridges.

They used a Schmidt Hammer, Austrian engineering equipment that sends sound waves through a structure to measure concrete density.

Many key personnel took part in the reconnaissance. Measuring bridge conditions involves going below the structures.

Two soldiers of the 20th Ordnance Detachment (Explosive Ordnance Disposal) also joined the soldiers to make sure the bridge sites were free of unexploded ordnance and possible mined areas.

Staff Sgt. Michael A. McKimney, a technical engineer supervisor with the 94th Engineer Battalion, ensured the two local engineers were doing proper classifications on the bridges, as well as observing the different tests and methods they used.

"I enjoy working with professionals, and those guys were definitely professionals," McKimney said. "They definitely knew their job."

The feeling was apparently mutual.

Imamovic — who is about to receive his doctorate from Zagreb University — and Osmanovic spoke highly of the professionalism the U.S. soldiers displayed during the reconnaissance mission.

They said they felt very safe during the mission, especially when they rode through the zone of separation. They said it had been seven years since they set foot on the Republika of Srpska side.

Although the reconnaissance missions in the future may not involve local engineers, the joint endeavor was viewed as very positive.

"I hope we set the basis of a good relationship so we can use their expertise in the future," Sturdivant said.

He said the local engineers' construction knowledge and technical expertise is vital because they helped build the bridges.

"It's more than a gesture," he said. "(The relationship between the locals and IFOR) improves when they are a part of something like this. It leaves a lasting impression."

## Panther mine roller clears area for new Sava bridge

By Spc. WENDY M. FIRESTONE  
203rd MPAD

SLOVANSKI BROD— A Panther Mine Roller found another mine here on May 27.

Company B, 16th Engineer Battalion was proofing an area for the placement of a Hungarian military float bridge on the Sava River near the city of Bosanski Brod.

The Panther mine roller was proofing areas near three boat ramps for the bridge, where 21 anti-tank and anti-personnel mines were found.

Twelve were blown up in place while the Panther was brought in to proof for those that remained.

While in the process, the Panther hit a mine covered by the muddy terrain.

The vehicle sustained some damage, but the driver got away without a scratch.

Sgt. Dennis Mitchell of Company B op-



Spc. Richard F. Cancellieri

A Panther mine roller was damaged after striking a mine near Slovanski Brod.

erated the Panther when it hit the previously undetected mine.

"It did exactly what it was designed to do," Mitchell said. "It destroyed the

mine and not the driver."

The Panther can be manned from inside the vehicle or can be operated by remote control from a distance.

# Brig. Gen. Cherrie bids adieu to task force

By Capt. JOHN GOHEEN  
29th MPAD

Spc. Frank C. Johnson had faith.

On a cold morning nearly three months ago, Johnson and the rest of the scout platoon, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry made quick work of some bunkers along the zone of separation south of Tuzla.

Blew the bunkers to smithereens, he said.

Brig. Gen. Stanley F. Cherrie, along that day to observe, was so impressed that he promised to one day return and present coins to the entire platoon.

On Sunday, the assistant 1st Armored Division commander for maneuver made good on that pledge.

Johnson said he never doubted Cherrie would return.

“(Cherrie) looked at me and said, ‘Johnson, you didn’t think I would come back did you?’” said the 24-year-old Lexington, Ky., native. “But I always knew he would. He always took the trouble to see us and talk to us back in Baumholder (Germany). I knew he would come back and see us one more time before he left.”

Cherrie is scheduled to leave Tuesday for an assignment at Fort Leavenworth, Kan.

He is spending many of his final days in Task Force Eagle much like he did Sunday at Lodgment Area Demi — visiting soldiers.

The Mauricetown, N.J., native has seen units from Olovo near the task force’s southern boundary to Gradacac in the north.

He visits offices, motorpools and remote checkpoints. He gives away coins, shakes hands and poses for pictures. He talks. He asks questions. He listens.

In most cases, it’s not his first visit, but it will be his last.

It’s all his way of saying good-bye.

More importantly, it’s his way of saying thank you.

“(Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR) is the single most important thing I’ve done in 32 years of military service,” said the Vietnam and

Operation DESERT STORM veteran. “At the height of the war 400 people a day were being killed. We’ve stopped that.

“We’re literally saving a country,” Cherrie said. “What’s happening here is miraculous. Kids are going back to school. The mom and pop stores have reopened. People are walking the streets. And it’s the soldiers who’ve made it all possible.

“I just want to thank them for what they’ve done; what they are going to do.”

Cherrie says every soldier here is special. But he was a little extra affection for the soldiers from Baumholder, his home base since joining the 1st Armored Divi-



Staff Sgt. Joseph Garrison

**Brig. Gen. Stanley F. Cherrie speaks with 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry scouts.**

sion in November 1994.

“I lived with them. I saw them at the PX. I met their families and kids,” he said. “They’re the ones I know the best.”

The admiration is mutual, say soldiers who call Baumholder home.

“He attended our unit awards ceremonies back in Germany. This coin is the fourth time I’ve received an award or something from him,” said Sgt. Alan J. Goetzinger, 25, of Thousand Oaks, Calif., and a scout from 4-12th. “He takes the time to tell us what we are doing is important. It’s nice to be acknowledged.

“He also remembers your name, your face,” Goetzinger said. “He does things that you wouldn’t expect from someone in that position. He also gives you the feeling that he wouldn’t make you do anything that he wouldn’t do. It’s a drag he’s leaving.”

“You can approach him, talk to him,” said Sgt. Jeff S. Schlieve, 27, a member Company A, 4-12th from Sunnyside, Wash. “He’s just a real down-to-earth person.”

Cherrie takes such comments in stride.

“I think that if you want to find out what’s going on that you have to get out and spend time with the soldiers; live with them, talk to them,” he said. “And I want to be approachable. I try not to forget my roots. I have a common background. My dad was a mechanic.”

Maybe that’s why he seems so at ease around soldiers, regardless of rank, specialty or duty location.

“I love being around soldiers in the field,”

Cherrie said. “I love the fact that they just do it because it’s the right thing to do. They never complain. They don’t mind getting dirty.”

“And the soldiers here have far exceeded our expectations,” he added. “It’s far, far harsher here than we thought. We knew these guys were good. We just didn’t know they were this good.”

Cherrie likes to share the praise for U.S. soldiers he received from Bosnia-Herzegovina Army II Corps Commander Brig. Saed Delic at the B-H Independence Day Celebration March 1 at Tuzla Stadium.

“He told me that U.S. soldiers always looked so professional, ready to take care of business,” Cherrie said. “He told me that every soldier he saw was in proper uniform, every convoy he saw had four vehicles, every gunner was alert and ready. He touched his eye and said ‘We notice that.’

“About 4,500 of his troops were on the field that day,” he said. “And he says to me, ‘My men are fighters. They aren’t soldiers, yet. You have soldiers.’”

Cherrie has been in in Bosnia-Herzegovina since the 1st AD’s Assault Command Post arrived on Dec. 17.

He says leaving will be tough — in part because this will be his last assignment to a tactical unit.

“I will now always be engaged to what happens in Bosnia-Herzegovina, just like I was after Vietnam,” he said “I was with the first wave to cross the Sava, and I will watch very closely what happens over here until everyone that’s here now returns home.”

Cherrie will become the Assistant Deputy Chief of Staff for Training, Training and Doctrine Command. He will oversee the Centers for Army Lessons Learned, the National Training Center and the Joint Readiness Training Center.

# Unit serves as eyes and ears of Eagle Base

By Spc. CESAR G. SORIANO  
29th MPAD

They are the eyes and ears of Eagle Base. From exterior perimeter foot patrols to reconnaissance convoys in surrounding neighborhoods, the soldiers of Task Force Striker are constantly on the watch, protecting the headquarters base of Task Force Eagle.

Task Force Striker is comprised of soldiers from five batteries of the 5th Battalion,

3rd Air Defense Artillery; plus infantrymen from 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry; and military police officers from 212th MP Company.

TFS soldiers also make up the Quick Reaction Force. They are supplemented by interior roving guards from almost every unit at Eagle Base.

Everyone pulls his share for base security.

Task Force Striker was organized in February to handle security when the 3rd Battalion, 325th Infantry returned to Vicenza, Italy, said Capt. Michael "Mic" S. Sisley, a Uvalde, Texas, native who is TFS's assistant operations officer.

Sisley said Task Force Striker is smaller than 3-325 but has twice the capability. The difference is in high-tech equipment.

"We make up for our size by using electronic means as

much as possible such as Avengers (an air defense artillery system) with night capability," he said. TFS also has increased its fields of fire by clearing brush and building new guard towers.

The exterior perimeter is nearly 10 kilometers in circumference. Soldiers watch the perimeter using a combination of guard towers, bunkers, Avenger positions and MP checkpoints.

"Since we've been here, we have had no successful penetrations of the wire," Sisley said.

Foot patrols are the backbone of force protection. At any given time in any weather condition, soldiers walk the muddy exterior perimeter trails, which snake through wooded terrain, swamps and cut through farmers' fields. The trail is enclosed by layers of concertina wire with trip flares and high-tech motion sensors.

The squads carry heavy firepower and maintain constant communication with TFS headquarters. Everyone is cross-trained, mostly as infantrymen and Avenger scouts.

"We're like a mini special forces unit. Everyone is combat medic qualified," said Sgt. Michael Leache from Savannah, Ga., squad leader for Team Renegade.

During a patrol by Team 3-Alpha-1, soldiers encountered a family farming in an area thought to contain mines. The

patrol called in an interpreter to explain the dangers to the farmers, thus avoiding a possible catastrophe.

When they aren't patrolling, soldiers are manning bunkers, doing force protection or training.

TFS soldiers also rotate from patrols to being on QRF status. It also has its own motor pool, where mechanics maintain their many HMMWVs, Avengers and tracked vehicles.

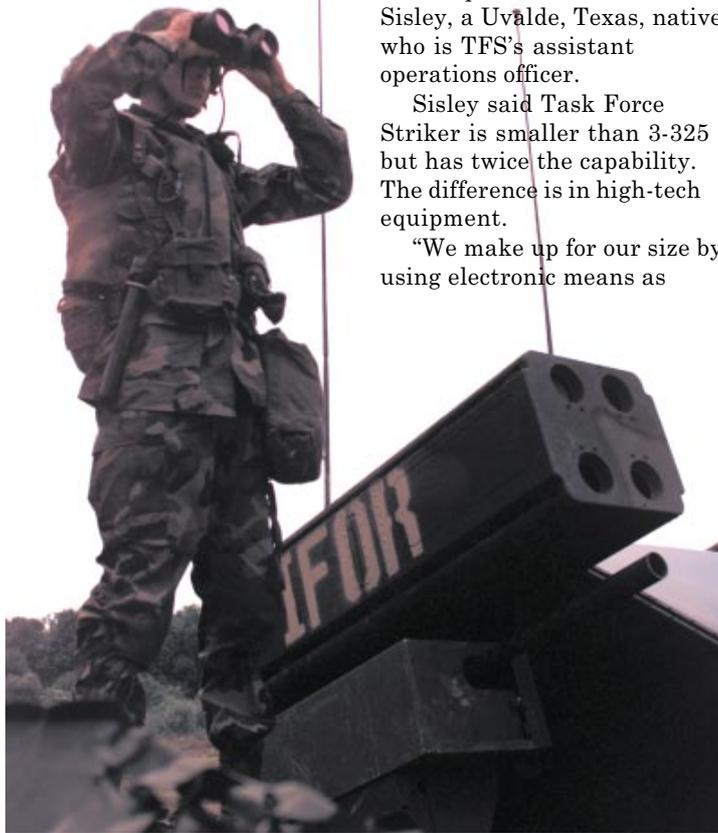
TFS recently grew with the addition of Battery A, 5-3 ADA, originally based at Lodgment Area Lisa.

"This has been a great learning experience for those of us who have never been deployed," said Cpl. Eivind O. Forseth, while showing off the capabilities of his Bradley vehicle modified for air defense artillery.

A Bradley gunner from Billings, Mont., Forseth said, "Seeing a new culture, you can't help but realize how easy we've got it as Americans."

Pfc. Jeff Stebbins from Cape Cod, Mass., is an Avenger scout and M-249 squad automatic weapon gunner for Team Renegade.

As he walks in the 90-degree heat, he wipes the sweat off his face and smiles at children waving at him. "This is the best part — seeing the little kids' faces smile as we walk by them — seeing the good stuff we're doing for these people who have been through a lot," he said.



Sgt. Rick Roth



Spc. Cesar G. Soriano



# TASK FORCE STRIKER



*Spc. Cesar G. Soriano*



*Spc. Cesar G. Soriano*



*Spc. Cesar G. Soriano*

**Clockwise from top: Pfc. Jeff Stebbins pauses during an exterior perimeter patrol; Pfc. Erik J. Arnold and Cpl. Manuel S. Salazar make their way across a makeshift foot bridge in the swampy area of the eastern perimeter of Eagle Base; Team Renegade walks the northern route of Eagle Base, which cuts through several farm fields; Cpl. Richard Anaya of Team Renegade points out a feature to Spc. Suzanne Anaya while on exterior perimeter patrol; Cpl. Andrew J. Williams scans his sector from atop an Avenger at Observation Post Bravo.**

# Joulwan joins reflagging of 1-26 Infantry

**Sgt. KELLY C. FISCHER**  
358th MPAD

CAMP COLT — The Supreme Allied Commander, Europe made a special trip to Bosnia-Herzegovina to visit soldiers whose unit was redesignated to a battalion he served with and commanded.

In a reflagging ceremony May 31, Company D, 2nd Battalion, 15th Infantry Regiment officially became part of the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment. Gen. George A. Joulwan flew here for the ceremony.

When the 3rd Infantry was deactivated in April, its units were reflagged under the 1st Infantry Division. In a ceremony in Schweinfurt, Germany, the 2-15 became the 1-26.

But Company D had been deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina since January in support of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

The company is attached to 4th Battalion, 67th Armor, 1st Armored Division.

Because of the deployment, Company D was not able to participate in their parent battalion's redesignation.

"The importance of the reflagging is that it is a formal ceremony for our company with one great unit, the 2-15 Infantry, changing its designation to another great unit, the 1-26 Infantry," said Company D Commander Capt. Peter J. Badoian.

Following the ceremony, Joulwan asked soldiers to gather around him in the shade of an M1A1 Abrams tank.

Joulwan had the soldiers remove their kevlar helmets and the atmosphere turned informal as he told soldiers of his experience with the 1-26.

Joulwan served in Vietnam as commander



Sgt. Kenneth Glenville

## Soldiers retire the flag of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 15th Infantry.

of Company B, 1-26 from June to November 1966 and as battalion operations officer from November 1966 to July 1967. He was battalion commander in Bamberg, Germany, from July 1975 to March 1977.

"You served two great units that I am very familiar with, the 16th Infantry 'Can Do' and the 'Blue Spader' 1st of the 26th Infantry," said Joulwan.

"I can tell you that your mission here in Bosnia is every bit as important as any mission that the 26th Infantry has had since its foundation in 1901."

Joulwan's words became heavy with emotion as he spoke. He talked about a

memorial located outside of Mons, Belgium, to the soldiers of the 26th Infantry. "The dead listed there of the 26th Infantry — they are with you today, and don't you ever forget it."

The 1-26 soldiers seemed touched.

"When he came over here and gave his speech — that's when you felt something," said Sgt. Scottie J. Magrum, 25, Company D, 1-26 dismount leader, from Loveland, Colo.

"I kind of took it deep in my heart," Magrum said. "When you could see that he was getting choked up, I'll be honest with you, it started to get me a little choked up too."

## Clamshell tent serves as helicopter repair station

**Spc. GEORGE ROACHE**  
29th MPAD

Spc. Jordan Walma said it is easier to do structural repairs to Black Hawk helicopters indoors.

"There's too much rain and dust for fiberglass work on the flight line," said the Company D, 7th Battalion, 227th Aviation sheet metal worker.

Thanks to the Clamshell hangar on the Eagle Base flight line, the Company D maintenance troops are sheltered from those concerns.

"The Clamshell is a god-send," said Sgt. James Wright, a technical inspector who ensures maintenance work is done properly. "It helps keep us warm and dry in the winter and allows us to stay cool and comfortable in the summer. We can do heavy maintenance without

being out in the rain."

Technically a large area maintenance shelter, the canvas-and-steel-beam enclosure gets its "clamshell" nickname from its looks.

At 200-feet long and 75-feet wide, it provides one roof under which Company D's sections can work closely together.

"There's ample space," said Chief Warrant Officer Bob Morrill, production control officer who schedules maintenance.

"Everything is co-located. All the parts are here. Production Control and Quality Control are side-by-side. The orderly room is right in the Clamshell. We don't have to go very far for anything," he said.

Although most maintenance is performed on the flight line to save time, the Clamshell has adequate room for a Black Hawk needing major work — a

generator gone bad, rotor heads to be removed or a main transmission that must be changed.

After they pull out an engine or identify what's broken, the component repair platoon does the specialized work.

"We break the helo down to its different systems — electrical, avionics, power train, powerplant, airframe, hydraulics," said Sgt. 1st Class Clarence L. Gates Jr., platoon sergeant. "We troubleshoot, test and repair or replace that part or item."

The Clamshell lets them keep their 1,000 different items and 862 parts out of the



Spc. George Roache

## Soldiers repair part of a helicopter in the Clamshell at Comanche Base.

weather.

"We have a lot more space than in the rear and working out of a tent here was a hassle," she said. "Now we're more organized. Instead of stuff being piled up outside, we have locations in a storage unit we can go to."

# Soldiers mourn loss of leader, friend

By Staff Sgt. AMY GUNNERSON  
203rd MPAD

GUARDIAN BASE — One did not have to know Sgt. 1st Class Curtis D. Wilson, 92nd Military Police Company, to understand what kind of soldier he was.

More than 300 NCOs, officers and friends attended his memorial service June 1, many of them spilling outside the doors of the conference center here. They paid him a final, living tribute by recounting not only his heroic sacrifice in saving another life, but his everyday deeds that made him, in their words, a "soldier's soldier," "leader," and "friend."

Soldiers of the 18th MP Brigade base camps and Lukavac, where Wilson's MP platoon was based, gathered to honor the memory of the man who gave his life to save a cook caught in a fire in the Lukavac dining facility May 7.

Wilson, 35, of Farmhamville, Iowa, died of his injuries May 28 at Brooke Army Medical Center at Fort Sam Houston, Texas.

Soldiers in Wilson's unit said that he awoke with others before dawn when an explosion occurred as Pfc. Tiffany N. Frazier, 21, of Detroit, was lighting a stove to cook breakfast.

A gasoline-fueled burner exploded, setting off a chain reaction of explosions that included nearby burners, gas cans and small arms ammunition.

Wilson ran to Frazier's aid and received second and third-degree burns in the secondary explosions. Frazier continues to recover.

At the dignified ceremony here, as scriptures were read and memories shared, the only emotion expressed more than admiration for their fellow soldier was love.

According to 1st Sgt. Merle D. Jones, the pain of Wilson's death could be slightly



Staff Sgt. Amy Gunnerson

**Sgt. William A. Fleeger, 92nd MP Company, waits outside a conference room to line up the company's rifle team for a 21-gun salute.**

eased knowing he had died doing what he loved — helping soldiers.

"He wasn't the type of NCO to get a cup of coffee and watch soldiers work. He was there helping soldiers work. He was a soldier's soldier," he said.

Jones said he hoped the memorial service would help soldiers accept Wilson's death and make the best of a terrible situation.

Part of moving on, he said, will be supporting Wilson's widow, Andrea.

"He taught people how to get along, no matter what rank," said Pfc. Dara Day, who worked with Wilson in HHC.

Sgt. Gwendolyn Robinson, a food service

sergeant with the 92nd MP Company, remembered Wilson as "a friend and big brother — all in one. From day one, I knew he was a great guy. He put soldiers first. He was a guy you can't forget."

She said Wilson was always willing to give her a ride so that she could attend church before working on Sundays.

As the ceremony concluded, the speaker's thoughts seemed to echo all as he said, "You have had a long fight. Rest in peace now, my friend."

In addition to his widow, Wilson is survived by his father and mother, Jack F. and Eula M. Wilson of Farmhamville.

## Red Cross helps soldiers handle deployment issues

By Staff Sgt. BRIAN BOWMAN  
203rd MPAD

**W**orld War I. World War II. Korea. Vietnam. Operation DESERT STORM.

During every major U.S. military deployment this century, the American Red Cross has been there. That tradition of service continues during Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR, with seven American Red Cross workers now in Bosnia and two in Hungary.

"We brought people in from all over the world," said William Wright, the team director of operations for the current 90-day

rotation of Red Cross workers. Wright said the nine members came not only from the United States, but from military bases in Germany, Korea and Japan.

The No. 1 function of the Red Cross is emergency communications. "We're the main source between military and civilians for emergency communications," Wright said.

Wright said that one of the most important things the agency does is verify the emergency leave situation.

"We're here to provide information to the units so they can authorize a soldier's leave," Wright said. "If we do our job properly (the servicemember)

gets to go home quickly and take care of business. It gives us a sense of worth."

During Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR, the American Red Cross has helped process 627 emergency leaves for deaths and 1,046 emergency leaves for illnesses. The organization has processed more than 7,000 messages, working not only with U.S. soldiers but also civilians.

The Red Cross is headquartered at Lukavac, but workers get out to the entire task force, as well as to U.S. soldiers and civilians in places like Sarajevo and Split, Croatia.

During one typical week recently, Red Cross members vis-

ited 11 different U.S. base camps.

"If the soldiers can't get to us," he said, "we get to them."

Locally, the office is open 24 hours a day, offering books, coffee and playing cards.

The organization, started by Civil War nurse Clara Barton in 1881, has had an affiliation with the military since the early 1900s. Walt Disney and Ernest Hemingway served the organization as ambulance drivers in World War I. And, though the Red Cross' missions have evolved through the years, one thing remains the same: "We're here for the troops," Wright said. "We enjoy being here."

# Pre-made bunkers airlifted to hilltops



Spc. William R. Hall

Soldiers work to secure a pre-made fighting position atop a HEMTT before it is slingloaded by a Chinook helicopter.

By Spc. WILLIAM R. HALL  
203rd MPAD

The soldiers of the 16th Engineer Battalion, stationed at Camp Bedrock, faced a dilemma.

They had been given the mission of providing soldiers living on top of Hilltop 1326 with 12 force protection fighting positions and one bunker.

The pre-cut fighting positions and bunker could not be delivered by vehicle because of the narrow road to the soldiers' home, said 1st Lt. Bill Tennant, executive officer for Company A, 16th Engineers.

The trek to the hilltop, the highest hill in the area at 4,250 feet, was impassable to all but HMMWVs, which were unable to carry the large load, Tennant said.

The 16th, which deployed from Bamberg, Germany, in December, called on the help of Company A, 159th Aviation from Hungary to solve their problem.

The 16th palletized and slingloaded all the pre-cut wood, which Chinook CH-47 helicopters lifted with ease to the site.

The engineers then followed up to assemble the fighting positions and the bunker on site, Tennant said.

The soldiers of the 165th and 501st Military Intelligence Battalions who live on Hilltop 1326 are in the process of trying to construct a mini-basecamp.

The air delivery of fighting positions is just a small part of project "Slate Construction." The effort helped install guard bunkers, pro-

TECTIVE shelters and fighting positions for U.S. units all over the sector.

"We started out with a small tasking and have spread throughout the Tuzla Valley area," said Staff Sgt. Jeff Morreli, noncommissioned officer-in-charge.

"When we first started out, we could produce two-man fighting positions at the rate of 15 per day shift and 15 per night shift," said Morreli.

To date, they've produced 326 of the positions.

"Production has slowed down now," said Sgt. Randy Spohn, cutting foreman. "We were building faster than people could sandbag what we built."

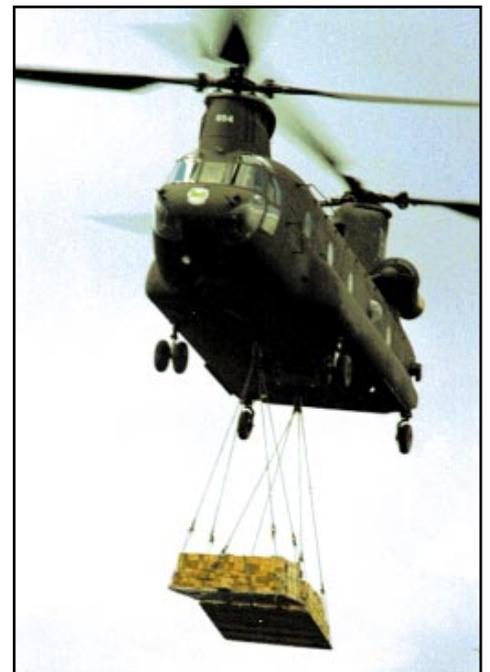
Morreli said that they were prepared for the slingload mission with the fighting positions — they used the same technique to deliver sandbags to construct the helipad.

"Most of the time, we build them here and (the units) will come pick them up," Spohn said.

The unit has taken on the added duty of overseeing force protection construction at other basecamps, he added. A platoon will convoy to other camps and supervise the placement of bunkers, shelters and ensure they are properly reinforced.

The 16th sees no end in sight for project, "Slate Construction."

"We started ... and we never stopped," said 1st Lt. William Reding,



Spc. William Hall

A CH-47 Chinook helicopter delivers pre-cut wood for fighting positions to Hilltop 1326.

platoon leader in Company A, 16th Engineers. "Right now, it's going really well. Now the big focus for us is personnel bunkers.

"We are going to go over 400 (bunkers built), and it's an operation that can last the whole time we're here."

## PERSONALITY OF THE WEEK

## Civil affairs NCO dubbed 'individualist'

**Sgt. 1st Class STEVE THIESE**  
358th MPAD

Webster's Dictionary defines an individualist as "one who asserts individuality by independence of action or thought."

The word also describes Sgt. Suzanna E. Raker, 48, of the 432nd Civil Affairs Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Green Bay, Wis.

Raker is a linguist assigned to the Eagle Base Civil Military Cooperation Center.

However, she spent her first four months in Bosnia at the NORD-POL Brigade headquarters at Dobo.

"I think that Webster wrote that description with Sgt. Raker in mind," said Staff Sgt. Dave Lukowski, Raker's supervisor.

"I guess I am an individualist," Raker said. "I tell people that the thing I like about CA is that we're the branch of the Army that really gets to think on our feet, and be creative."

"The CA mission is always evolving," she said. "No matter

what you think your mission is or what you're trying to do, it's going to change as the civilian situation changes or as the needs of the military change."

Her abilities have helped her diffuse several potentially dangerous situations. While visiting a local village, she was confronted by a group of men.

"Being able to think on my feet, being able to listen and respond quickly and accurately in their language, allowed me to put their fears to rest," she said.

Raker is a gifted linguist, fluent in Finnish, German, and Serbo-Croatian. She is also learning Swedish.

"Speaking the language, even just the simplest phrases and courtesies like 'thank you,' is seen as very respectful and very cooperative by the people on all sides," she said.

Raker's diverse background also serves her well.

She claims she was one of only two women to serve with a combat unit in South Vietnam.

She has an undergraduate degree in English, and an ad-

vanced degree in forestry, both from Auburn University.

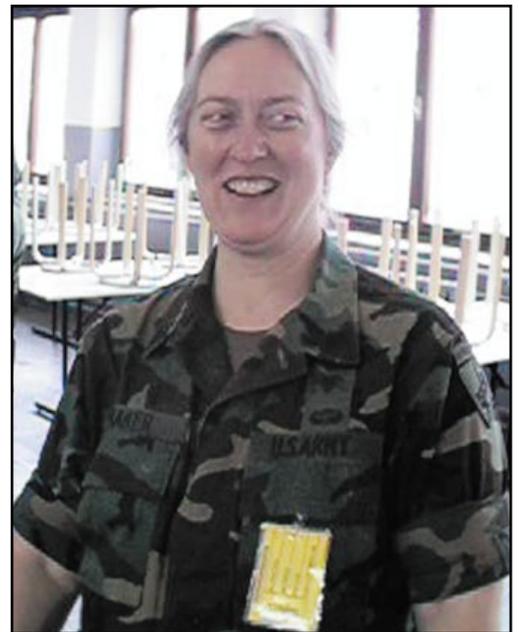
She has been a psychological evaluator for the Army, and has been a smoke jumper for the U.S. Forest Service.

Raker and her husband now own a 120-acre farm just outside Calumet, Wis., near Lake Superior, where she raises honey bees and hay.

When on patrol with IFOR allies, Raker makes it a point to visit with local farmers.

While much CA interaction is with local government and civilian officials, Raker said it is also important to measure the feelings of the people.

"It's the people of this coun-



*Sgt. 1st Class Steve Thiese*

**Sgt. Suzanne E. Raker speaks four languages, including Serbo-Croatian.**

try who want to put this nation back together, and in the end will be doing the work," she said.

"Sure she's an individualist," Lukowski said. "But that's what makes her one damn fine CA person."

## Armor magazine illustrator shares art with troops

**By Pfc. JODY JOHNSTON**  
358th MPAD

KIME BASE — Patriotism can be demonstrated in many different ways.

Some people join the armed forces, some write patriotic songs, and some create drawings or paintings.

Jody Harmon decided to show his patriotism by sending several drawings to bolster the morale of soldiers serving in the 1st Brigade area.

A former Armor School soldier, Harmon now is an illustrator for Armor magazine.

He was asked by a sergeant at Fort Knox, Ky., if he wanted to donate some pictures to send to Task Force Eagle, so he rounded up a few and sent them off.

When asked in a telephone interview why he chose to send the pictures, he said, "They seemed very patriotic, and they also had a lot to do with armored vehicles."

The pictures included one of the Operation DESERT STORM ground war, one of an Apache helicopter, one of Gen. George S. Patton and two of an M1A1 Abrams tank.



*Pfc. Jody Johnston*

**Sgt. Ralph B. White, 23th Engineer Battalion, looks at a Jody Harmon print.**

"The pictures usually take me about one or two weeks to complete," Harmon said. "They are done with a charcoal pencil and then colored with pastels."

"The one of the Desert Storm ground war was done before the ground war had even begun," Harmon said. "I took a few tanks and then put them on a desert background."

He added, "That picture is hanging in

all of our Middle Eastern embassies, and it's in the Pentagon as well."

Many of Harmon's pictures are recognized Army-wide. His art is shown at the Washington Armored Forces monument.

"I just published a book of my art work last week. It contains about 50 different works of mine," said Harmon.

He said he has always loved armored vehicles.

"I joined the Army as a tanker, but I really wanted to be an illustrator."

"Since I couldn't be there, I decided to send a part of me to help with the mission, and support all the of the soldiers that are there as a part of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR," Harmon said.

"I think it's some fantastic art work," said Sgt. Ralph B. White, 23rd Engineer Battalion.

"It's nice to know that civilians are thinking of us. It's one thing to have your mother send you a letter, but it's another thing to have a total stranger send you something. It's makes our job a little bit easier," White said.



Staff Sgt. Amy Gunnerson

**Sgt. George T. Husby, Company A, 16th Engineer Battalion, uses a metal detector to scan an area for mines.**

## DOGS

from page 1

will be used by the 2-227th during aerial gunnery.

While the robot-like miniflail can work for hours without needing a rest or a drink of water, the dogs are able to detect metal, explosives or plastic buried several inches in the ground.

The dogs indicate a possible hazard by a change of behavior, which only a canine handler may notice, said handler Staff Sgt. Xavier Sandoval, 26th Area Support Group, Heidelberg, Germany.

A handler picks up on a change in the dog's behavior in a certain area, and the dog will go into a final response, which is a sit. Then the engineers' mine-sweeping team comes in with the metal detector and prober.

"This dog knows what she's doing," said prober Sgt. Terry Schutz, Company A, 16th Engineer Battalion, of Reza, Sandoval's canine partner. "Everything she has sat down on, I've found a metal object after probing."

"If you don't have faith in the dog, you shouldn't walk behind the dog, that's just what I believe," said canine handler Staff Sgt. William F. Finch Jr., 100th ASG from Grafenwoehr, Germany.

Finch said time and training is what gives a handler confidence in his dog.

"This is what it's all about," said Drummond as he pointed to the day's finds.

Among the unearthed items were bricks of TNT, safety rings and springs from anti-personnel mines and AK-47 rounds.

"That AK-47 round could have been the fuse in a mine. They have about the same amount of metal. I'm a believer in the dogs. I'll work with them anytime," Drummond said.

## AAFES

from page 1

Other offerings will include additional food, recreational items and clothing in their retail stores, snack and soft drink vending machines and photo processing, said AAFES officials.

AAFES also will open a Bosnian souvenir and gift shop near its Eagle Base retail facility. A similar store is already open at Lukavac.

"The new products and services are part of the normal business planned for this deployment," Van Loan said.

"First we opened the retail stores. Then we focused on the services, sewing and barber shops. Now we are bringing in the food."

The fast food will be provided by some familiar names: Anthony's Pizza, Baskin-Robbins ice cream and Burger King.

AAFES plans to open a pizza stand at Eagle Base, and locate small ice cream carts at Lodgment Areas Angela and Linda and Eagle Base.

Booths selling hot dogs, hamburgers, candy and cold drinks are already open at Gentry Base, Lodgment Area Linda and Lukavac.

Van Loan said similar facilities are planned for Kime Base, Lodgment Areas Angela and Lisa, Comanche Base and Camp Bedrock.

AAFES already has the same fare available on wheels. Four large snack-bar vans travel from base camp to base camp.

"Right now we are doing a better job of getting (the vans) to camps near Tuzla Valley," Van Loan said. "We will get the outlying areas with greater frequency after we create our satellite kitchens at Kime and Linda. We also have a fifth truck en route."

In addition, AAFES has purchased a Burger King kitchen van for the task force area.

Van Loan said it has not been decided if the truck will be mobile or remain at one

location.

AAFES also is now installing snack and soda vending machines at base camps.

"There is limited refrigerator space at the PXs," said Bill Dawson, AAFES's services manager for Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"This will give soldiers another source for cold drinks."

Up to six vending machines will be installed at most camps, he said.

"We'll start (installing the machines) in the 2nd Brigade and work our way north," Dawson said.

New and coming attractions at base camp retail stores include film processing, sporting goods, board games, luncheon meats, fresh vegetables, ice, coolers and a limited line of perfumes and cosmetics, said John McGhee, AAFES retail manager for Tuzla-area stores.

"We also now have what we call the 'Build a Barbecue Kit,'" he said. "Tell us how many people a few days in advance and we'll put together everything you need: steak, hot dogs, hamburgers, buns, condiments, charcoal. All you need is a cook."

McGhee also said he expects to see the first of several new lines of T-shirts later this month.

"We're going to try some T-shirts for kids," he said. "That will be something soldiers can send home to their kids. We also have some amusing T-shirts coming in and some other surprises."

McGhee said business has been brisk but AAFES isn't looking at the bottom line here.

"We're doing about \$1 million each month in sales at Eagle Base alone," McGhee said.

"But we're still operating at a loss here. Transportation costs from Germany are very high. We do this strictly for the troops."

Any proceeds will go to Morale, Welfare and Recreation activities and facilities, he said.