

the Talon



Operation Joint Endeavor, Bosnia-Herzegovina

Serving the soldiers of Task Force Eagle

Bring on the Big Red One



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As Old Ironsides completes its mission enforcing the military aspects of the General Framework Agreement for Peace, the Big Red One covering force arrives to assure full capability through the end of IFOR's mandate, Dec. 20. With armor and air assets, 1st ID has the punch to get the job done.

See story, page 12

first is safety. There are going to be a lot of vehicles on the road in the next couple of months. It is essential that sergeants enforce the proper safety standards. Seatbelts must be worn! I know for a fact that a lot of soldiers are not wearing their safety belts. NCOs, enforce this standard.

You are ultimately responsible for the well-being of your soldiers. We want all of our soldiers to return home to the Central Region alive and in good condition. Part of taking care of each other is making sure your buddy buckles up.

Another factor we need to be aware of as we redeploy are poor road conditions. As the traffic increases and the weather worsens, road conditions will become more treacherous. During this deployment, we have experienced vehicles sliding off the road because of ice and rain and have also had some roll-overs. Extreme caution should be used to avoid accidents. Drive safely and always use

THE TALON

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No break in signal as 1st AD and 1st ID swap places

By Cpl. LEN BUTLER
100th MPAD

EAGLE BASE — The phone company is pulling out. Task Force Eagle soldiers needn't worry, though. A replacement is already here.

With the imminent redeployment of the 1st Armored Division, its primary organic communications asset, the 141st Signal Battalion is preparing to hand-off their Eagle Base operation.

Picking up the reins of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR's communications operation is 1st Infantry Division's Company B, 121st Signal Battalion.

The transition from Company B of the 141st to the 121st's mobile subscriber equipment unit is scheduled to begin Oct. 21, with completion no later than Oct. 28.

Co. B is gearing up for the transition.

The mobile subscriber equipment company has small extension node communication elements throughout Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Hungary.

Their main node center is at Eagle Base.

MSE phone calls are coordinated through Co. B, whether the call is for the unit across the hall or the Atlantic.

Telephone communication has come a long way since the days of old land line phones.

The MSE telephones of today are completely digital. Digital processors ensure a clear telephone signal.

Sgt. 1st Class Gerald F. Gunn, 35, of McRae, Ga., said the transition with the 121st will be smooth, with no disruption of

phone service expected.

"As each vehicle pulls out of its current position, a vehicle from the 121st will come behind it and position itself in the exact spot our vehicle just left," Gunn said.

All of the telephone cables leading into the communication tower will be disconnected by Co. B with another cable from the 121st immediately replacing it.

"The 135-foot communication tower assist our operations because we can't consistently get good signals out of the Tuzla Valley with the antennae we have alone," Gunn said. "With the height of the tower,

this allows the communications signal from being obstructed by trees and buildings."

"During the transition, the five antennae would remain," said Sgt. Earl W. Cox, 28, of Keyser, W.Va.

"All they have to do is trade our equipment for theirs, and it would eliminate having to take these down antennae and bring theirs up," Cox said.

"But it's really up to them."

Gunn said there will be drastic downsizing with communication access when 1st ID rolls in, be-

cause of the reduction in troops.

"Currently, we provide more than 390 phones for Eagle Base alone," Gunn said. "However, when 1st ID takes over the number of phones will be reduced half."

The unit is expected to redeploy to Germany, Nov. 19. Considering the length of their stay here, Gunn said there is much excitement around the node center these days.

"The soldiers here are ecstatic," Gunn said. "It looks like we'll be home for Christmas."



Cpl. Len Butler

Routine maintenance of the 135-foot communications tower at Eagle Base is performed by signal battalion technicians. The tower transmits signals out of the Tuzla Valley.

NEWS BRIEFS

1st AD website

The 1st Armored Division is on line. Read *The Talon* without having to download. Find maps, news releases, biographies and facts about 1AD. at <http://www.tfeagle.1ad.army.mil>

Phone rates cut

Beginning Oct. 15, servicemembers who have been using the AT&T Global PrePaid Card or are enrolled in AT&T's Military Saver Plus program will pay reduced per-minute rates 24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week. The lower simplified rates will be available on calls from Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia, and Hungary to the U.S.A., Germany, the U.K. and Italy through March 31, 1997.

Write to us

Your opinion is wanted. If you feel strongly about a certain issue concerning your involvement in Task Force Eagle, we want to hear about it. *The Talon* welcomes submissions from the field for possible publication. Please write with either comments or suggestions to:

Staff Sgt. Patrick Summers
The Talon
Operation Joint Endeavor
APO AE 09789

We will respond to every letter.

Viewpoints wanted

The Talon welcomes viewpoint articles from soldiers in the field. Please send us your viewpoint via e-mail or on disk, or drop off a hard copy at our office on the 2nd floor of the White House, Eagle Base.

Time to 'fall back'

Task Force Eagle will turn back the clocks one hour Saturday night. (Actually 0200 Sunday, Oct. 27th.)

Weekly weather forecast

	HIGH/LOW	CHANCE RAIN
Today	55/38	High
Sat	59/41	High
Sun	63/45	Moderate
Mon	60/48	Moderate
Tue	58/49	Moderate
Wed	57/48	Moderate
Thur	60/45	Moderate

Provided Oct. 23 by Internet Access Weather

■ COVERING FORCE

Soldiers get second shot at Sava

By Sgt. TIM PINKHAM
350th MPAD

ORASJE, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA — They came all the way from Texas to make sure the 1st Infantry Division would have a safe river crossing.

The 74th Engineer Company (Assault Float Bridge — Ribbon) from Fort Hood, Texas did more than build a pontoon bridge across the Sava River recently.

The engineers protected their work by building a mine boom.

"The mine boom stretches across the river upstream from the bridge and protects both the bridge and civilian ferry boats," said Sgt. James S. Maxey, noncommissioned officer in charge.

Maxey said the mine boom will block any mines that might float to-

ward the bridge.

It will also stop mines that might dislodge from the river bank during the rise and fall of the river.

The mine boom consists of aluminum beams, connected by cables.

Using MK-1 and MK-2 bridge directional boats, the mine boom was put in place across the river and anchored to the bank on both the Bosnian-Herzegovina and Croatian sides.

The 145 soldiers of the 74th live at Camp Stevens in Orasje.

Although they have only been in country for four weeks, Maxey and Pvt. Jacob L. Holloway are very familiar with the area.

Last December they volunteered to come to Bosnia-Herzegovina for six months and were attached to the 502nd Assault Float Bridge Compa-

ny from Hanau, Germany.

During that tour, they helped set up the pontoon bridges that the 1st Armored Division used to cross the Sava.

"When I left I didn't expect to see Bosnia again, but this summer my company came down on orders to go, so here I am," Maxey said.

"The company brought 22 bridge directional boats to Bosnia," Maxey, who is from West Virginia, said. "Boat operators must be the rank of sergeant or above."

Convoys will be streaming across the pontoon bridge for weeks, heading into Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"This bridge is strong enough to handle anything the Army has, including M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks and M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles," Maxey said.



Sgt. Tim Pinkham

Soldiers from the 74th Engineer Company (Assault Float Bridge — Ribbon) pilot bridge directional boats to position a mine boom across the Sava River.

Striker range puts shooters on target

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING
100th MPAD

STRIKER RANGE — Hundreds of shots were fired on the outskirts of Eagle Base recently.

In the prone position with their weapons on semiautomatic, American soldiers were instructed to take only well aimed shots.

Then, on command, members of the 141st Signal Battalion emptied their magazines with a volley of fire.

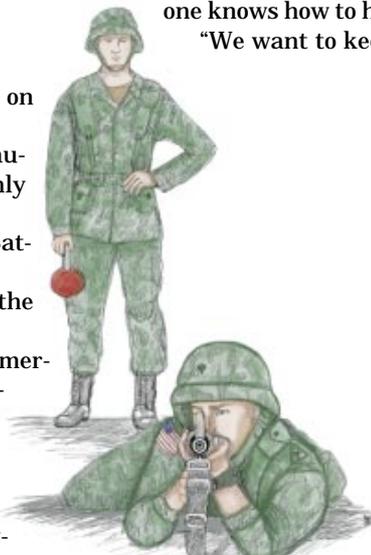
Striker Range is a familiar stomping ground for the cadre of Company B, 141st Signal Battalion.

"Since we've been in country, we've conducted numerous ranges for M16 and crew served weapon qualifications," said Staff Sgt. Patrick L.G. Bilon, 34, node center supervisor.

During Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR, Company B's primary mission is to provide communication, but while on Striker Range, it's to ensure that every-

one knows how to handle their weapon properly.

"We want to keep soldiers' weapon skills sharp," Bilon said.



red e p l o y m e n t

Week of work, relaxation at Hungarian last hurdle before heading home

By Sgt. JACK SIEMIENIEC
350th MPAD

TASZAR AIR BASE, HUNGARY — There are few places Task Force Eagle soldiers want to get to sooner and then leave faster than the Intermediate Staging Base.

Besides the Burger King and beer tent, the ISB means one more week of work for soldiers before they can take that bus ride back to Central Region or beyond.

The Reception, Staging, Onward Movement Cell — operated by the 71st Corps Support Battalion, 7th Corps Support Group — orchestrates the activities of units moving in and out of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

In either case, those units undergo a set regimen of activities. For those deploying to Bosnia-Herzegovina, it's a four-day process. Those coming out of Bosnia can expect to be at the ISB a full seven days.

According to 1st Lt. Matthew R. Laos, RSO op-

erations officer, the main motivation for his soldiers is to get people home safely.

"There is a process here to receive the soldier, put him through the ISB process and return him to Central Region fully mission capable," Laos said.

To accomplish this, an escort from the RSO walks each unit through its week. If at all possible, Laos said, the escort will be at the gate to meet the arriving unit as it pulls in. Immediately, the units download and turn in their ammunition and begin washing vehicles. The soldiers move by bus to the life support area where they are billeted. Over the next few days, redeploying units take inventories of their equipment and turn-in excess, exchange equipment, wash vehicles to prepare them for agricultural inspection, turn in laundry, perform organizational-level maintenance and schedule work orders for direct support. Also, vehicles are refueled or defueled as needed.

"We've got a whole maintenance company, the 158th Maintenance Company from the Alabama National Guard, just waiting to provide direct sup-

port," Laos said. "The RSO is facilities for commanders to their units.

Facilities include a Central of the week's drills include TA toms inspections.

One of the more important at the ISB is the Soldier Re pointments. Redeploying so with personnel, finance and r They can update their 201 files for future medical reference dergo dental screening.

The RSO helps units rail and ment and even prepare it for necessary.

In the LSA, there is a PX, evening, and, of course, two fo every night. According to Lao ly have the time and facilities t a beer, wind down from the d themselves ready for a great

DAY THREE:

Technical verification of equipment occurs; unit inventories equipment and order supplies not at direct support unit for delivery at home station. Submit DS work orders. Unit inventories and turns-in excess equipment.

DAY FOUR:

Unit purges fuel tankers, co in of excess equipment, c cle maintenance and conti tion of TIs. Commander's t issued and load plans revie conduct soldier readiness

DAY TWO:

Soldiers turn in laundry. Cleaning of equipment continues, along with technical inspections. Direct support work orders are submitted. Unit conducts TA-50 and organizational clothing and individual equipment layout.

DAY ONE:

Unit arrives at ISB, links up with unit liaison. Soldiers turn in ammunition; sensitive items are inventoried. Property book inventoried/reconciled. Equipment washed, equipment guards assigned. Soldiers move to LSA by bus.

KAPOSVAR

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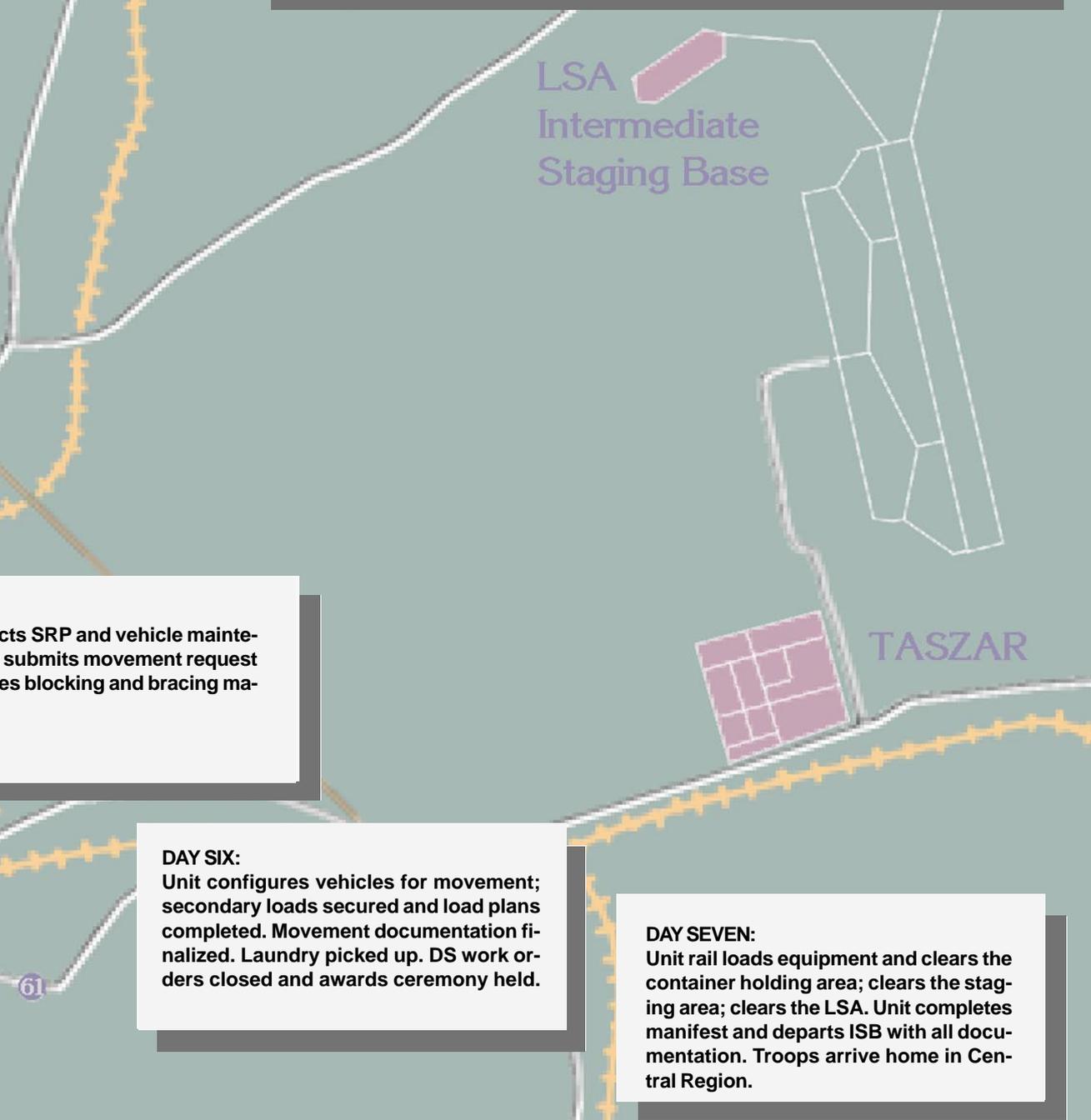
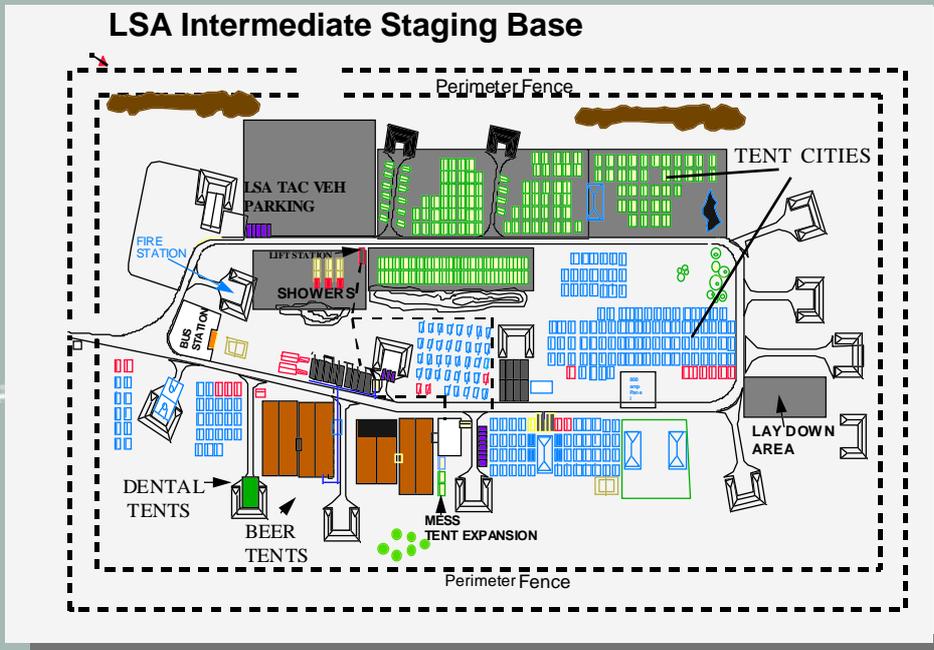
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DAY FIVE:
Unit conducts SRP and vehicle maintenance; unit submits movement request and identifies blocking and bracing materials.

DAY SIX:
Unit configures vehicles for movement; secondary loads secured and load plans completed. Movement documentation finalized. Laundry picked up. DS work orders closed and awards ceremony held.

DAY SEVEN:
Unit rail loads equipment and clears the container holding area; clears the staging area; clears the LSA. Unit completes manifest and departs ISB with all documentation. Troops arrive home in Central Region.

REDEPLOYMENT

Soldiers go to new heights to communicate

By Staff Sgt. ANNA M. PRUSAITIS
100th MPAD

ORASJE, Croatia — As IFOR troops and equipment begin to pull out of the Task Force Eagle area of operation and base

camps are being closed, others are being expanded. Building-up selected base camps is necessary to accommodate the incoming covering force which will set up a Division Tactical Assault Command at Camp Stevens.

A critical part of modifying and expanding the base camps is reestablishing or upgrading the communication systems. Most units redeploying take everything they brought with them, including communication lines.

This mission belongs to Old Ironsides' Company C, 141st Signal Battalion.

These communications experts started from the bottom and literally worked their way up after deciding CX11230 coaxial cable they were installing needed to be aerial.

"The cable has to go up and over a high traffic area," said 2nd Lt. Matthew T. Reiten, long extension node platoon leader. "If the line is left on the ground and you have a lot of traffic, it will eventually cut the cable," the native of Grand Forks, N.D., said.

Spc. Ernies I. Perez, a wire systems installer, and Sgt. John R. Rendon, a cable repairer/installer, immediately set to the task of running the wire to connect the small extension node and the radial.

As soon as the existing lines are taken down by the redeploying unit, all communications will go down, Reiten said.

The 'cable dawgs', as they are known, will also run another set of cables to the junction box to connect the phones, and connect the local area network.

Perez, a resident of Bronx, N.Y. said they must secure the lines high enough for the clearance of large military vehicles.

Whenever possible, existing materials such as electrical posts, buildings, and trees are used to elevate the cables.

If no such materials are in place, the cables are elevated and secured on long stabilizing poles.

In this particular task, the two-member team was able to use both an electrical post and a tree to run their aerial cable at Camp Stevens.

"I don't mind climbing the trees, I just have to be really careful getting down," said Rendon, a native of Vallejo, Calif.



Staff Sgt. Anna M. Prusaitis

Spc. Ernies I. Perez, wires systems installer, uses a long extender pole to elevate coaxial cable at Camp Stevens.

OSCE postpones Bosnia-Herzegovina local elections

By Spc. DANNY PASCHALL
100th MPAD

Ambassador Robert Frowick, the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe head of mission announced late Tuesday that the Bosnian municipal elections scheduled for Nov. 23 and 24 will be postponed.

Frowick, an American, cited continu-

ing political problems in municipalities across Bosnia. OSCE sources said they now hope the country's municipal elections will take place sometime between April and June of next year.

IFOR officials said that despite the delay, they remain committed to supporting the the international community's effort to bring peace and stability to the area.

Officials pledged to maintain full military capability until the end of IFOR's mandate, Dec. 20, 1996.

There are no plans to extend the current peacekeeping mission past that date.

Officials say they will continue to focus on carrying out the current military mission and the postponement will not affect redeployment.



Staff Sgt. Brenda Benner

Spc. Luis A. Deya (top) and Spc. William E. Lee, 55th Signal Company (Combat Camera), provide images from the field.

What you see is what we get

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING
100th MPAD

EAGLE BASE — A combat camera soldier's mission is to provide documentation, record historical events and prepare up to-the-minute imagery of the battlefield for use by operational planners at the highest levels. The mission dates back before World War II. Technology has evolved from hand wound movie cameras to the latest in digital transmission systems.

During recent events in Jusici, soldiers of the 55th Signal Company set up operations and provided Task Force Eagle planners immediate access to photographs as the situation developed.

"If a soldier is interested in seeing the army's big picture," said Capt. Van C. Oler, operations officer, "combat camera is the best career field available."

"I have the opportunity to get a feel for what everybody goes through and does. A lot of the time I take part in what they're doing. I've learned how to do a little bit of everything, from stacking concertina wire, to driving an M113 A1 track, to firing a 50-caliber machine gun," said Spc. Alejandro Cabello III, still and video documentation specialist. The 25-year-old native of Los Angeles has been a member of the unit since 1994.

However, there are trade offs. "Our soldiers deploy often; many have been deployed for more than 200 days this year. So far in 1996, I've been to Hawaii, Somalia, Cambodia, Korea, Germany, Australia, Ethiopia and Bosnia-Herzegovina," Oler, a 35-year-old Chicago native, said.

"Being away from my family is the only draw back to this job," said Cpl. William E. Lee, a document specialist from Mt. Airy, Md. "Listening to my children grow up over

the phone is hard to handle at times."

While serving in Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR, combat camera has been to the field with nearly every unit in theater.

One operation combat camera is presently involved in is the documentation of the exhumation of mass graves. "It's difficult to send a young soldier out to take pictures of hundreds of decomposed bodies, many of whom were tied at the wrists and ankles and shot in the back of the head. It's a rather unhappy mission and it's not necessarily what they thought they would be doing when they signed up... but they do it, and they are professional about it — I'm extremely proud of them," Oler said.

The development of digital technology and satellite transmission has allowed combat camera to take video and still photographs, then relay those images to the rear within minutes. As a result, they have become a very important part of the operational decision-making loop at brigade, division, corps, and theater levels.

Photographers and videographers document freedom of movement and weapons storage sites across Bosnia-Herzegovina to determine whether or not the former warring factions are in compliance with the Dayton Peace Accords. "If they are not, we now have 'same day proof' of the violations that we send to the Allied Rapid Reaction Corps," Oler said. "In the past, it would have been one party's word against the other; however, now we can provide the commanding general with the images he needs to prove his contention."

Even though they can't always be on the ground, through the hard work of combat camera soldiers, commanders are provided with valuable information required for the decision making process.

Army offers soldiers ultimate scholarship

WEST POINT — Lt. Gen. Daniel W. Christman, superintendent of the United States Military Academy, recently issued a call for applicants to the prestigious, four-year service academy.

Each year, approximately 200 regular Army soldiers are offered admission to West Point or to the United States Military Academy Preparatory School.

Interested soldiers must be U.S. citizens; unmarried, with no legal obligation to support dependents; less than 23 years of age prior to July 1 of the year entering USMA; of high moral character and have a sincere interest in becoming an Army officer.

Those interested in applying may contact Capt. Jim Brandon, soldier admissions officer, at DSN 688-5780, commercial (914) 938-5780, or via e-mail at: tj1632@westpoint-emh2.army.mil.

1-1 Cav trooper killed in vehicle accident

Staff Sgt. Charles A. Muserilli was killed Oct. 21 when the 5-ton truck he was riding in ran off the road and rolled over in a culvert filled with 5 feet of water.

Muserilli was a supply sergeant with Troop A, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry based in Buedingen, Germany. His unit was in the process of redeploying to Germany when the accident occurred near Slavon-ski Brod, Croatia.

Muserilli is survived by his wife Jane and four children, Erin 19, Joseph 14, Nicholas 10 and Katherine 7.

Allied Rapid Reaction Corps commander, Lt. Gen. Sir Michael Walker, Task Force Eagle commander, Maj. Gen. William L. Nash and 1st Infantry Division commander Maj. Gen. Montgomery Meigs were among those who paid their respects to the fallen soldier during a ceremony on the east ramp at Tuzla Air Base.

Soldiers from each of the eleven nations in Multinational Division-North formed an honor guard leading to the bay of the C-130 that took Muserilli home.

Anyone wishing to make a donation in memory of Muserilli may send it to:

Muserilli Family Trust Fund, Nations Bank, CMR 401, APO 09076

Redeployment puzzle final test

By Staff Sgt. BRENDA BENNER
100th MPAD

CAMP ANGELA — Imagine a gigantic thousand piece puzzle. If the interlocking pieces don't fall perfectly into place, chaos results. The complexity of the puzzle is compounded by its numerous participants.

Oct. 28 is the deadline for the 47th Forward Support Battalion to solve its redeployment puzzle.

Every soldier in the battalion has a dual mission to provide support for Task Force Eagle and prepare for their own trip home.

All three of the battalion's companies are leaving for Baumholder, Germany. Company B, the maintenance company, is commanded by Capt. Donna M. Dorminey, 29, of Edmeston, N.Y.

"We've been planning and preparing for a month," Dorminey said. "Our current training has been focused on pre-redeployment activities. At the same time we're fulfilling our primary mission of supporting our customer units."

Dorminey said redeployment is more challenging because soldiers' minds are on returning home and not on the mission at hand.

"Coming down here we had a sense of urgency and purpose, if things weren't done right it would impact our mission. Now that we're headed home it's easy to become complacent, to think short cuts can be fixed next year in Baumholder."

Every day, senior and junior leaders remind everyone that complacency must be overcome.

"I stress to my soldiers — fix your equipment now and have a good time at the ISB, or neglect it, break down on the convoy, and spend all your time tracking down supplies and repairing your vehicle," Dorminey said. "I think that motivates soldiers to do things right."

First Lt. Joseph E. Trella, 25, of Allentown, Pa., is the executive officer for Company C., the medical branch of the battalion. He is involved in the battalion's movement plans.

Trella has an overall view of the puzzle, but everyone in the battalion has a fist full of pieces.

"We have nightly meetings to go through the entire operation order and discuss all the tasks, not only those at the redeployment and intermediate staging bases, but of the entire movement itself," Trella said. "Everyone knows the whats, whens, hows, and whys of every



Staff Sgt. Brenda Benner

Mechanics Pfc. Jermal D. Washington (left) and Spc. Robert E. Christian, with Company A, 47th Forward Support Battalion, prepare a vehicle for redeployment.

phase of the redeployment."

The whole battalion cannot leave Bosnia-Herzegovina at once. Just as there are soldiers in place at the advance logistical element in Baumholder, there are many volunteers staying behind to continue the 47th FSB's mission.

Combat medic Spc. Sean P. Buchan, 21, of Centerville, Ohio, is one of those soldiers.

"It's necessary to leave behind medical, supply, and maintenance support," Buchan said. "I'll be helping with sick call and medical evacuations till the end of the year. By then, the next support battalion should be here to take our place. Many of us single soldiers don't mind staying. Better me than someone with a family."

Redeployment tasks are very detail oriented and time consuming. Combat medic Cpl. Sandra K. Evans, 28, from Shiner, Texas, is busy every day preparing her tracked ambulance for the long journey.

"We medics in Co. C have to inventory all

the medical equipment and send in the orders to resupply the kits," Evans said. "Getting the tracks ready takes a lot of time too. All the PMCS must be done and repair parts ordered for repairs."

Spc. Stephen L. Ney, 21, of Reading, Pa., is up to his neck in last minute technical inspections, calibrations and repairs. "Lately, we've repaired about 25 night vision goggles a week, and verified at least another 100 per week," Ney said.

As Oct. 28 nears, the squads, sections, and platoons of all three companies are putting together their portions of the giant puzzle.

As the battalion's first of nearly 200 vehicles and 400 soldiers leave the gate, four subsequent groups will follow at 30 minute intervals.

"There are nine different movements involved in this redeployment — all are at different locations and stages of the process. This really compounds the complexity of our mission," Dorminey said.

"We're making sure the rear detachment knows exactly when, and how many soldiers are coming through on a given day so they will receive a proper reception and support," Dorminey said. "The first soldier's return is just as important as that of the last soldier's."

"Fix your equipment now... have a good time at the ISB. Neglect it ... spend all your time ... repairing your vehicle."

— Capt. Donna M. Dorminey, commander of Company B, 47th Forward Support Battalion

Patriot game: when to salute old glory

By Sgt. JANET S. PETERS
350th MPAD

What is the difference between the United States flag and the colors? And when are you supposed to salute? Only three out of 30 soldiers at Eagle Base knew the answer to those questions when surveyed recently. Those questioned at Comanche Base did no better. A Sgt. Moralis Club inductee decided to get the information out.

Staff Sgt. George A. Merkle of Company D, 2nd Battalion, 227th Aviation Brigade noticed that soldiers at Comanche were not saluting when they passed a flag posted outside his office.

"Where I work there is an American flag, and when people walked by it they weren't saluting," Merkle said. "I wasn't sure if it was correct or not so I looked through Field Manual 22-5 and found that it is not necessary to salute the flag in that situation. But I felt that most people just didn't care and didn't know the regulation."

At the time, the Annapolis, Md. native was studying for the Sgt. Moralis board. The elite club recognizes outstanding non-commissioned officers in Europe for their leadership potential and ability to take care of soldiers. Merkle saw this as an opportunity for him to exercise that responsibility.

"As a technical inspector that's the way I teach," Merkle said. "When I see something wrong on the aircraft that the soldiers are working with, I'll ask them, 'what's wrong with this picture?' So when I asked soldiers why they weren't saluting the flag, it was to see if they knew if they were right or wrong. The most common answer was that no one else did and they thought it was a no-salute area."

At Eagle Base, one of the few who knew the correct answer was 1st Sgt. Georgiana M. Cleverley of HHC, 22nd Signal Brigade. "It is a matter of discipline and knowledge of what's important," Cleverley said. "The flag is a symbol of our country. In my opinion, we've got the best thing going. As sol-

diers — protectors of those ideals — we need to know and understand that."

The best way to understand the flag and how to render proper respect, is to read FM 22-5. Under paragraph E-5, it states: "a flag as distinguished from a Color is not saluted except during the ceremonies of raising and lowering the flag... a color is the U.S. flag trimmed on three sides with golden yellow fringe 2-1/2 inches wide. The Color is primarily for indoor display."

Charts list specific times and places where the hand salute is rendered, such as during reveille or during the playing of the national anthem. A key thing to remember is that when the colors (remember the fringe) are passing or a uniformed soldier passes the colors, the salute is given within six paces and held for six paces past.

Though the soldiers surveyed were unsure of specific circumstances, most agreed that when in doubt, salute — a good rule to follow.

■ SAFETY

Soldiers become teachers in Croatian classroom

By Staff Sgt. ANNA M. PRUSAITIS
100th MPAD

SLAVONSKI BROD — They come in all sizes, and just about

all of them get excited when they see an IFOR convoy headed in their direction. Their small faces light up with a smile and their little hands start waving

in a friendly hello as they walk or sometimes run dangerously close to IFOR convoys.

For this reason, the Civil Affairs Office based at Camp Sava North, visited a local primary school to explain to children the dangers of getting too close to IFOR vehicles.

Master Sgt. Dennis C. Munoz, operations noncommissioned officer with the 304th Civil Affairs Brigade, said children under nine years of age are especially unaware of the danger.

"Children that age are unable to grasp the dangers of getting too close to such large and powerful vehicles," Munoz said.

With the help of Zeljka Senjak, an interpreter, American soldiers told the children about IFOR, about the convoys and about why it is important to keep away from army vehicles when they pass through towns and villages.

The children eagerly participated in the discussion by asking questions about IFOR and the vehicles. One child wanted to know why HMMWVs have plastic windows. Munoz, a resident of Egg Harbor City, N.J.,

answered the question and also told the children that the plastic windows makes it very difficult for the soldiers to see clearly, especially when it rains. Another student asked about the weapons on top of the HMMWVs, and also wanted to know why the vehicles were so big.

"It's important that the children know we are concerned for their safety," Munoz said. "The roads are narrow, and sometimes we go up on the sidewalks, especially around tight corners. I tried to stress the danger to the children."

Munoz believes strongly in the importance of his mission. "I feel like any other parent; no one wants their children to get hurt."

Zdenka Cukoric teaches first through fourth grade at Antun Mihanovic primary school. Cukoric thanked the soldiers for the message they brought her classes.

"IFOR has done a lot in Croatia as well as in Bosnia-Herzegovina," she said. "I think this is a big step for IFOR soldiers to come and visit our children."



Staff Sgt. Anna M. Prusaitis

Master Sgt. Dennis C. Munoz answers questions about convoys with the help of Sgt. Tim R. Hernandez.



Sgt. Lance M. Kamisugi

The 1st Infantry Division covering force may be smaller than Old Ironsides, but with M1A1 Abrams Main Battle Tanks like these from 1st Battalion, 77th Armor — shown here near the Sava River — it also will be a robust force.

1st Infantry Division rolls in heavy

By Capt. TERRY L. CONDER
100th MPAD

None was quite sure what to expect when the 1st Armored Division crossed the Sava River and rolled into Bosnia-Herzegovina last December.

The media were here in force, ready to show the world what one journalist predicted would be "Hell in a very cold place." But "all hell" didn't break loose.

Why? Because Old Ironsides came in heavy, made it clear from the start that it was going to strictly enforce the peace, and hold the parties to the agreement accountable.

For 11 months 1st Armored Division soldiers have been professional. They have been evenhanded. They have been spectacularly successful. Now they are going home.

Eleven months ago Bosnia-Herzegovina was on the front page of every newspaper. It was the lead story in every television news broadcast. Now Bosnia-

Herzegovina hardly gets a mention in the world press.

But that could change very quickly. Our involvement is entering a critical time.

Transfer of authority from 1st Armored Division to elements of the 1st Infantry Division is scheduled for Nov. 2.

With municipal elections now postponed, Bosnia-Herzegovina is at a crossroads. For more than a year the country has enjoyed peace. IFOR has insisted that all sides follow the General Framework for the Agreement for Peace.

So far the parties to the agreement have cooperated. The question becomes, will their attitude change once the heavy firepower of the 1st Ar-

mored Division is gone?

Ask any 1st Infantry Division soldier that question, and you'll get the same answer. The parties to the agreement better not change their attitudes.

The Big Red One covering force is highly mobile, but it's coming in heavy. As of last Sunday over

1,000 Big Red One Soldiers were in Bosnia-Herzegovina. Nearly 2,000 more were on the road between the inter-

mediate staging base in Hungary and Slavonski Brod, Croatia. Eventually they will number 5,000 and with the 720th and 519th Military Police battalions staying on, the covering force will grow to 7,500.

And this covering force will carry plenty of firepower. M1A1

The Big Red One covering force is highly mobile, and it's coming in heavy ... this covering force will carry plenty of firepower.

Abrams Main Battle Tanks, M2 Bradley Fighting Vehicles, and AH-64 Apache attack helicopters will give commanders a fully mission-capable force right up to Dec. 20, the day IFOR's mandate ends.

Force protection has always been Task Force Eagle's main priority. That will not change.

As a covering force, 1st Infantry Division will have two main missions:

- Maintain force protection and security for the withdrawal of 1st Armored Division and supporting units in the MND-North sector

- Ensure that nearly all soldiers who are coming up on 365 days in Bosnia can go home, in accordance with Gen. George A. Joulwan's guidance.

The force was also to have assisted in providing security for the Nov. 20 municipal elections, now postponed.

The Big Red One is entering theater with enough firepower and manpower to make sure those missions are completed.