

the Talon



Operation Joint Endeavor, Bosnia-Herzegovina

Serving the soldiers of Task Force Eagle

EAGLEBASE — It was definitely not a typical Sunday for Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 5th Battalion, 3rd Air Defense Artillery.

They were called on to put aside their duties preparing for redeployment to destroy a cache of small arms confiscated by Implementation Forces.

“This is the first time we as a unit have ever done anything like this,” said 1st Sgt. Michael J. Leshinsky, 39, of Detroit.

Eight M-48 rifles, two 30-round ammunition magazines and two types of AK-47 automatic rifles were confiscated in accor-

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FROM THE TOP

Desert Storm experience good teacher

Iron Soldiers, we are on our way home.

We have brought peace to a country that just one short year ago was ravaged by war. People have been able to return to their jobs and put food on their tables. Children are back in school. Our enforcement of the General Framework Agreement for Peace has been successful.

Each and every soldier who has served in Task Force Eagle should take pride in the part he has played in making this happen.

During the final weeks of our deploy-



Command Sgt. Maj. Jack L. Tilley
1st Armored Division

ment, I would like to focus on a few issues that are always important, but take on special significance during redeployment.

If I've said it once, I've said it a thousand times; complacency is our worst enemy.

We cannot let ourselves lapse on matters of safety. Sergeants, combat inattention to detail through proper guidance and motivation. Remember the motto: Be, Know, Do.

Be the most squared-away soldier you can possibly be. Know your responsibilities. Do your job and perform your duties in a professional manner.

Do not let your soldiers down by failing to enforce the standards.

Be aware of bad road conditions. Slick, wet, and muddy roads are hazards that we must be consistently

aware of and guard against.

Proper convoy procedures should be followed. Avoid excessive speed and always wear your safety belt.

This week, I would also like to emphasize the dangers of drinking and driving. It has been a long and challenging deployment and I imagine that soldiers would want to blow off some steam.

NCOs, I want you to make your troops aware of some sobering statistics. In 1991, when troops were returning to Central Region after DESERT STORM, there were 132 POV accidents from April 1-Sept. 30. Of those accidents 37 were fa-

As we prepare for the transfer of authority from America's Tank Division to the Big Red One, soldiers need to stay focused on the mission and on safety.

During this period, as the 1st Armored Division redeploys for home, and the 1st ID deploys into various sectors, safety must be the top priority for leaders and soldiers at all levels. Vigilance is essential. Staying focused on the mission is key. Do not allow preventable accidents to overshadow the superior accomplishments of the past 11 months.

Both divisions have trained hard for the mission. We need to execute like we trained. We all know how to conduct rail head operations and convoy movements. We know how to set-up and break camps. We have done these missions before.

We need to identify the risks associated with the missions and apply appropriate countermeasures.

As our soldiers travel the along the road-

ways of Bosnia-Herzegovina, Croatia and Hungary, we need to be constantly aware of hazards. Soldiers will encounter more troop movement, civilian movement, mud, rain, slick surfaces, fog and road erosion. In addition to these poor road conditions there are numerous other obstacles, both moving and stationary that will increase the possible risk of an accident. Keep in mind that daylight will get shorter — it will soon be dark around 5:00 p.m.

As we prepare to enter the upcoming phase of the IFOR mission, soldiers need to concentrate on risks of all operations and take actions to reduce them. Remember:

Protect the force

- Keep troops informed
- Identify risks; apply countermeasures
- Make sure you and your people get crew rest
- Plan. Tailor operations to avoid risk of cold weather operations
- Execute like you trained
- Make sure the troops have a buddy —

who's your buddy?

- Don't let troops operate gear w/o proper training and a license
- Do fire prevention rehearsals
- Ensure weapon safety, security of weapons, sensitive items
- Ensure proper planning, execution of rail operations
- Do convoys right way — by the book

Protect the soldier

- Take care of your buddy
- Know your turf
- Think through risks ... take actions to reduce them
- Know when you're too tired
- Use your cold/wet weather gear ... use it properly
- Know what causes cold weather injuries ... prevent them
- Know how to prevent carbon monoxide poisoning
- Do not operate military equipment w/o proper training, license, confidence
- Know, use fire prevention
- Be able to clear your weapon in your sleep
- Know your role in convoys, emergency procedures for convoys
- If you didn't drop it, don't pick it up

Robert Mente
Safety Manager
TFE Safety

THE TALON

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■ TOTAL FORCE



Sgt. Janet S. Peters

Chief Warrant Officer Harlan Sparrow and Chief Warrant Officer Eric Puette prepare for another mission.

Guard pilots show Army aviation to be seamless

By Sgt. JANET S. PETERS
350th MPAD

They brought with them experience, knowledge and enthusiasm. Thirteen National Guard pilots came to Bosnia-Herzegovina to fill vacancies in the 2nd and 7th battalions, 227th Aviation, 4th Aviation Brigade and proved that "seamless integration" of forces is possible.

When Brigade Commander Col. William L. Webb III of the 227th initiated a request to the National Guard for pilots back in May, guard soldiers from Detachment 1, 151st Aviation Battalion of Eastover, S.C. were "ready to strike."

The 151st Marauders were made up of Apache, Kiowa and Black Hawk pilots from South Carolina, Texas and Idaho. Four of the volunteers went to the 7th Lift Battalion and eight to the 2nd Attack Battalion at Comanche Base. One was sent to the 127th Aviation Support Battalion in Kaposvar, Hungary.

"They integrated us into their units," said Chief Warrant Officer Harlan Sparrow. "We went through some in-country training and then they put us to work. When we got here they didn't know what to expect, but it didn't take long for them to discover that we had our stuff together. The Guard and active Army blended extremely well; it was a cohesion."

The guard soldiers not only integrated into the unit smoothly, they stepped into active duty jobs without any problems. Sparrow became the battalion standardization pilot after that position was vacated.

"I'm a manager of each battalion's instructor pilots," Sparrow said. "I never expected

to be in this position, but I was in Vietnam and had about 11,000 hours of flying experience."

Chief Warrant Officer Rusty Nance was asked to take over as battalion master gunner. Chief Warrant Officer Donald Garnto's expertise in safety was recognized and he became safety officer at company level.

"They weren't expecting our level of experience and that we could back it up," Sparrow said. "From their experience here since December, we learned how to operate in an extreme environment and in this new task of peacekeeping."

Maj. Joseph F. Clegg, battalion operations officer for 2nd Bn., has a very high opinion of the Guardsoldiers.

"It was a blessing. We were going through the summer rotation and losing soldiers returning to home station," Clegg said. "We found that we could get National Guard pilots here faster than active duty and they sent us top-quality individuals to bridge the gaps. They have been vital to our operations, flying about 33 percent of our missions every day."

When the 2nd and 7th Battalions redeploy back to Hanau, Germany at the end of October, nine of the Guard pilots will stay here. Seven of those nine, along with active duty pilots, will form "Team Comanche" and fly gun cover for the commanding general.

Lt. Col. Earl Yerrick, battalion commander in South Carolina, allowed many of his personnel to come to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"He believed it was a good opportunity for us to work with active duty and to learn," Sparrow said. "It has been an exciting challenge and we'd like to keep the door open for future projects in the "seamless Army."

NEWS BRIEFS

Big Red One website

The 1st Infantry Division is looking for help designing and producing a Big Red One website. Anyone interested in helping may contact Maj. Bill Dupont at MSE 551-3351.

Wanted: newspapers, magazines, books

Connect is a Scottish charity organization that has distributed over 20,000 English language school books all over Bosnia-Herzegovina. The books were donated by Oxford University Press. The majority of schools here teach English but suffer from a chronic shortage of school books and English teachers.

Connect would like assistance in stocking the libraries and reading rooms in the Tuzla region with English language newspapers and books.

Connect accepts donations of magazines, national newspapers and books.

For information on how to donate, please contact Rupert Wolfe Murray or Alina Boboc at PTT phone 387 75 214 988.

Contact Claims office

Failure to take measures for your household goods, unaccompanied baggage and POV storage shipments, may preclude the government from collecting from the contractor. Take responsibility and hold contractors accountable or your claim may be denied.

Upon return to Central Region, you should call your local claims office if you discover any damage or loss in storage or shipment to ensure the proper processing of your claim.

Bad Kreuznach: 490-7217
Baumholder: 485-6507
Kirch-Goens: 346-8264

Weekly weather forecast

	HIGH/LOW	CHANCE RAIN
Today	54/32	High
Sat	53/31	Moderate
Sun	57/39	Moderate
Mon	59/42	Low
Tue	56/37	Moderate
Wed	53/32	High
Thur	49/30	High

Provided Oct. 30 by Internet Access Weather

One-quarter Cav troopers reclaim Dutch APCs

By Spc. J. CRAIG PICKETT
350th MPAD

KOZLUK, Bosnia-Herzegovina — Dutch soldiers, along with 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry soldiers recently reclaimed two armored personnel carriers that were stolen during the fall of Srebrenica in July 1995.

Troop B, 1-4 Cav. discovered the two

APCs when they were on a routine reconnaissance mission.

"As soon as we saw them, we knew they didn't belong," said Capt. Robert G. Ivy, Troop B commander.

He contacted Task Force Eagle officials, who in turn contacted the Dutch army to let them know that a 2nd Brigade platoon had located the missing equipment.

The Dutch sent out an explosive ordnance disposal team to check for trip wires, booby traps and mines.

"I won't move them; I won't touch them until they are cleared, because they've been here a long time," said Capt. Hans Van Der Zehden, the Dutch officer in charge.

Van Der Zehden brought members of a transportation unit to haul the APCs to Camp Alicia and then to a Dutch camp.

The disabled vehicles will be sent to Holland where they will be inspected. Van Der Zehden said the vehicles hadn't been tampered with too much and should be functional.

To ensure no problems would develop during the retrieval operation, a quick reaction force consisting of two Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Kiowa warrior helicopters from 1-4 CAV and military policemen supported the Dutch soldiers.

Liaison personnel from Air Force and 2nd Brigade fire support element also supported the mission.

Ivy, from Baxter, Ga., said this was a typical day, but with a twist. Normally his men are on patrols conducting route and site recons or checking operations at checkpoints.

This is the first time they've found United Nations equipment and assisted in the recovery.

The operation went smoothly because of the close coordination with the Dutch. They recovered their equipment, and the 1-4 CAV troops had another successful day.



Spc. J. Craig Pickett

A Dutch APC that was stolen after the fall of Srebrenica is reclaimed by Dutch soldiers and 1st Squadron, 4th Cavalry soldiers.

Hello Big Red One, goodbye Old Ironsides

By Sgt. TIM PINKHAM
350th MPAD

KIME BASE — The infantry has the armor covered.

The much-anticipated re-deployment of 1st Armored Division has begun, while at the same time 5,000 soldiers from the 1st Infantry Division are deploying to Bosnia-Herzegovina from Germany.

In the sector of Bosnia-Herzegovina presently controlled by 1st Brigade Combat Team, the covering force is from 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry, from Schweinfurt, Germany.

The soldiers arrived in traditional infantry manner — slogging through boot-clinging mud.

"We love the weather, we brought it with us," said Capt. Wade A. Foote, commander of Headquarters and Headquar-

ters Company, 1-18 Infantry.

His scout platoon arrived last week at Kime Base (Gunner), while the battalion headquarters has settled in at K i m e (H e a d - q u a r - t e r s). The rest of the battalion arrived this week and is stationed at Gunner, C o l t Base and Lodgment Area Walker.

Although the incoming soldiers will miss spending both Thanksgiving and Christmas with their families, Foote said his troops have good attitudes.

"Most soldiers want to go to their job for real, rather than

just train," Foote, 29, said. "We have an excellent organization and we are ready to do the job. The guys before us did a good job. The mission has been a complete success.

We came down here so these guys could go home."

The commander's comments were echoed by several members of the scout platoon.

"It's a good feeling to help the units who have been here all year go back to their families," squad leader Sgt. Godfrey I. Griffith said. "They have been over here a long time. They did a good job and

"It's a good feeling to help the units who have been here all year go back to their families. They have been here a long time."

Sgt. Godfrey I. Griffith

need to go home."

Griffith, who hails from Brooklyn, N.Y., said his platoon appreciates the good living facilities which were set up by those who preceded them.

"I hope the stability stays as it is, and the ethnic groups work out their differences," Griffith said. "I remember the Olympic Games in Sarajevo."

"I wasn't too excited about leaving my family," Spc. Robert D. Blume said. "We just got to Germany."

Blume and his wife, Melody, have been married for one year.

"I think it's a worthwhile mission," Blume said.

"If I can do my small part, it's worth it. It's only fair that they're out by the original mandate. I feel for them; they've been here all year and definitely deserve to go home."

Mobile office keeps bridge traffic flowing

By Staff Sgt. BRENDA BENNER
100th MPAD

SAVA RIVER — Their office-on-wheels has three radios and running water, but no desk or leg space. The running water comes via the rain when it's pouring on their HMMWV.

This field expedient office belongs to reserve soldiers Sgt. 1st Class Larry A. Husk and Maj. Thomas E. Slaughter. The Rear Tactical Operations Center soldiers control movements across the newly installed Sava River ribbon bridge from the comfort of their HMMWV.

Husk, of the Kaiserslautern-based 313th RTOC, and Maj. Thomas E. Slaughter, of the Baumberg-based 316th RTOC, take the discomfort in stride.

Slaughter, 42, of Jackson, Miss., the plans officer on site, coordinates the 1st Infantry Division's vehicles in the staging areas.

He, along with convoy commanders and military police at the outlying checkpoints work out last-minute kinks.

They decide which convoys take precedence for the river crossing.

Husk, 47, from Grafton, W.Va., keeps a mental image of all the movements around the north bank of the river to orchestrate the intricate movements as convoys jockey for position.

"Right now we have convoys waiting their turn for the bridge," Slaughter said.

"The first convoy to arrive at



Staff Sgt. Brenda Benner

Sgt. 1st. Class Larry A. Husk, plans noncommissioned officer for the 313th Rear Tactical Operations Center, uses his HMMWV as an office while he controls traffic over the Sava River floating bridge.

the staging area is not ready yet; they're waiting for one straggling vehicle," he said. "Others behind them with later starting times are ready to roll across now. We must figure out ways to get everyone across the bridge."

"We don't let northbound traffic interfere with incoming southbound traffic," Husk said. "People can think of us as a gigantic traffic light."

With winter weather conditions arriving soon, movements will become difficult and take longer.

"Regardless of rain, sleet or

snow, convoys will cross this bridge. The bridge must stay open," Slaughter said.

To the casual observer, the HMMWV seems like a retreat from the cold winds above the river. But that's hardly the case.

While he fills out paperwork with convoy identification numbers, Husk must constantly avoid the annoying rain drops that find their way onto his desk.

It is noisy and chaotic as all three radios blare over one speaker.

The conference call enables all concerned parties to read

from the same sheet of music.

"We're in this Hummer office 8-10 hours a day and always on the radios," Husk said.

"It's where we do all our work. We just spread our maps over the hood for briefings. It's not all that bad. We're so busy in here that time goes by quickly," he said.

Being cooped up certainly has its disadvantages, but as they suggest, their situation could always be worse.

Sure, they get cramped legs and stiff necks, but with a case of MREs, they never have to walk in the rain to eat.

Deputy Secretary of Defense visits troops

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING
100th MPAD

CAMP LINDA — Deputy Secretary of Defense John White headed a group of Pentagon officials visiting Task Force Eagle soldiers last week. White attended the usual redeployment briefings and gave a press conference, but his focus was on meeting the troops.

Moments after landing at Camp Linda, White, a former Marine, pinned rank insignia onto the collars of two promoted 2nd Brigade soldiers. He then presented each soldier with one of his coins.

Following the ceremony, the deputy secretary mingled with the troops.

"You are the pride of the whole United

States of America," White said. "There were a lot of predictions... that there would be problems here, but there haven't been any. I want to congratulate you on behalf of the Secretary and on behalf of the President for what you've accomplished here. You've done a flawless job.

"We have spent over three billion dollars in Bosnia-Herzegovina," White said. "I want to make sure the taxpayers' money is well spent. As we leave, take back everything that is reusable."

White, who holds a doctorate in economics from the Maxwell Graduate School at Syracuse University, N.Y., spoke openly with the press. He answered questions about the importance of our presence in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"There was a war going on here. People were being killed by the thousands," White said. "We wanted to stop that killing and of equal concern to us was the fact that war can spread. World War I started from this area. We and our European allies want to make sure we could provide these people with an opportunity to have a peaceful existence and live without war."

"The mission will be finished on the 20th of December, but there will be a covering force which is perfectly consistent with the mission and with the mandate," White said. "The most important thing to us is that we keep the promise to everyone that soldiers are only over here for one year."

IN the WOODS

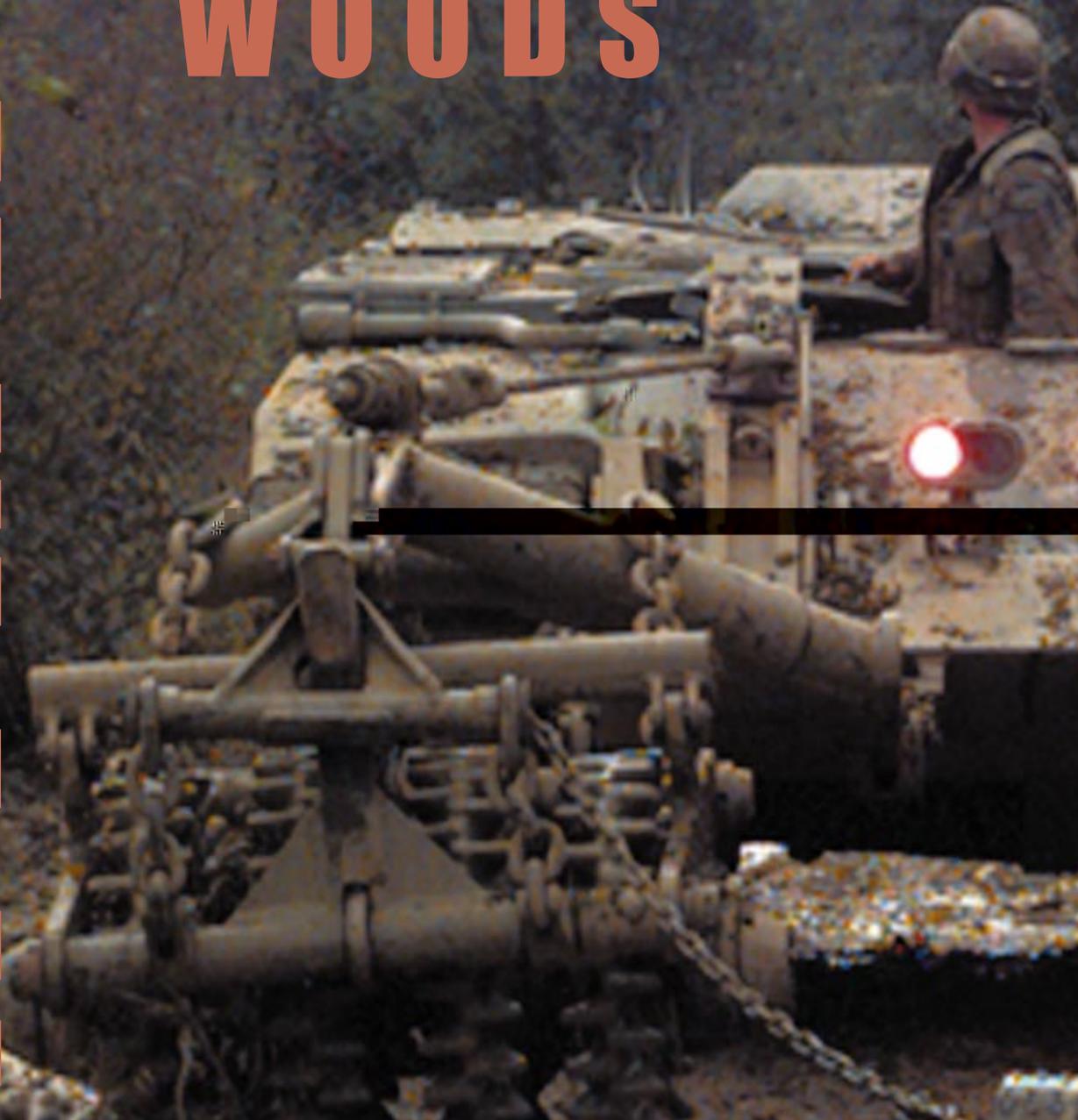
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Story and photo by Sgt. JACK SIEMIENIEC
350th MPAD

Inch by inch, kilometer by kilometer, Task Force Eagle engineers have moved across Bosnia-Herzegovina's roads and countryside, opening the way for citizens to carry on with their lives.

The soldiers from Company B, 23rd Engineer Battalion, lodged at McGovern Base, recently spent a series of days proofing for mines on a short road near Camp Kime, making it a little easier, a little safer, for the local people and IFOR to get around.

"Today we're route proofing," said 1st Lt. Peter K. Lacina, platoon leader of the assault and obstacle platoon for the company.

"We're looking for mines along Route Punch. The entities checked and cleared this in the past. But we still had to come through with the Panther and combat engineering vehicle to ensure all the mines were out."

It is a process the parties are well familiar with. Engineers have been working for months with the militar-



ies of the parties to the peace agreement. After coordinating with the parties on where mines were emplaced during the four-year struggle, soldiers go out with Bosnian Serb or Bosniak soldiers and support their work to remove them.

Once the soldiers who placed the mines say the area is clear, engineers come through with the Panther to proof the way.

The Panther is a remote-controlled M60 tank chassis, without its turret. Wide rollers are attached to its front and an operator directs its movement across questionable ground from a safe distance.

The intent is for the rollers to explode any mines not already cleared, saving lives and equipment. Video cameras mounted on the Panther front and rear permit the operator to guide the vehicle without seeing it every second.

After the Panther has made three passes over the ground, Lacina said, a CEV moves through, scraping off about the top

six inches of soil to double-check there are no mines left.

On this job, the CEV also smoothed-out ruts and filled-in a former trench line that cut across the road.

A few days earlier, the Panther had exploded an anti-personnel mine missed by the entities. The rollers had set off the mine and no damage resulted.

Again, the Panther proved its worth. But this time it was an anti-tank mine, set along the side near the drainage ditch, only seven feet from the center-line of the road.

The rollers did their job. No one was hurt. No vehicles were damaged.

Minutes later the CEV rolled by, filling in the hole left by the explosion.

As a local man walked down the tree-shaded lane, on his way to market, Bravo soldiers were still on the road, stringing barbed wire to mark the safe route.

And the work goes on.

■ COMMUNITY RELATIONS

Children get tons of help from families

By Spc. J. CRAIG PICKETT
350th MPAD

HAN PIJESAK, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The Baumholder military community is again helping the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina, this time with more than 4,000 pounds of donated supplies for an elementary school.

Winter clothes, school supplies, toys, a television and videocassette recorder were among the items collected by Chaplain (Maj.) Guy E. Glad from 3rd Battalion, 12th Infantry, at Baumholder.

"The people of Baumholder responded incredibly. One man even wrote a check that covered the cost of the TV," Glad said.

The project was initiated by 2nd Brigade Civil Affairs following a visit to the school. When the rear detachment and family support group heard about the need, they contacted Glad who collected, organized and shipped the donated goods within ten days.

Glad then traveled to Han Pijesak to meet with the recipients.

The schoolmaster, Jovanka Micic, was very grateful for the donations.

"It's very significant for the kids and



Spc. J. Craig Pickett

Chaplain (Maj.) Guy E. Glad reads from the Bible to a group of school children while the schoolmaster Jovanka Micic (right) and a translator listen.

the school. Everything will be a great help," she said. "Before, kids were playing with rifles and ammunition, now they have toys," Micic said.

She will distribute the winter clothes to displaced children from Sarajevo.

The school will use the television and VCR to show educational videos.

"The donations have been very well-received; just look at the faces of the children," Glad said after the children helped soldiers unload the 5-ton truck.

Eighth grader, Predrag Novkovic, 13, said, "It will be better for education."

Miroslav Radulovich, an 11-year-old fifth grader, said, "It means a lot to me;

I'm very thankful."

Glad plans to continue the drive. "Many more people in Baumholder are willing to give. I could only bring so much."

Micic thanked him and said, "Anything else you bring will be over the cup (icing on the cake) as we say."

The important thing is we have become friends and developed a relationship."

It is hoped that programs like this, orchestrated on both sides of the zone of separation, will help the people of Bosnia-Herzegovina move closer to the life they knew before the war.

Soldier earns degree while on deployment

By Sgt. ANDREW AQUINO
350th MPAD

Task Force Eagle Commander Maj. Gen. William L. Nash took the time during a recent Battle Update Brief to recognize a soldier who accomplished something special.

Nash presented Staff Sgt. Fred Workman of the 25th Chemical Detachment with a diploma from the City Colleges of Chicago and a Task Force Eagle coin.

Workman, 25, is the first soldier in Task Force Eagle to graduate from the program that began here in February.

Workman said he's been seriously pursuing his associate's degree in general studies for more than two years.

He started taking classes at Fort Huachuca, Ariz., his pre-

vious station.

"Everyone in the military can get an education," Workman said.

"When soldiers take classes they succeed with the knowledge they learn from them."

Workman said he believes that knowl-

edge is power, and knowledge is a stepping-stone to his goals for success.

"It's already helped me in my military job," Workman said. "I can write better now."

With a shrinking military force, Workman said, the modern soldier has to be smarter to stay ahead of the game.

"To be more competitive, you need to get more education, both military and civilian."

Classroom credit hours

convert directly to promotion points.

"Soldiers will regret not taking advantage of

their education benefits while they are in theater," said Christine Harrison, education counselor at the Army Learning Center at Eagle Base.

The Education Center offers more than 20 different traditional courses and many more independent or corre-

spondence courses.

There are some independent study classes as well.

Classes are available on videotape or CD-ROM and soldiers can take the tests when they have the time.

Some self-paced classes take 3 to 6 weeks to complete.

There is a 75 percent tuition reimbursement plan for most soldiers, she said, and the GI bill provides \$20,000-\$30,000 for soldiers to further their education during and after active duty.

Harrison said that soldiers interested in taking college classes should visit their nearest education center.

Counselors are ready to work with anyone who is planning to pursue civilian or military schooling. Their tent is located in Tent City 2, Eagle Base, Tuzla.

"To be more competitive, you need to get more education, both military and civilian."

Staff Sgt. Fred Workman



Photo by Spc. Bryan Driver, artistic rendering by Spc. Teresa L. Unger

A Task Force Eagle honor guard pays final respects to a beloved Iron Soldier.

Cavalry remembers Apache trooper

By Sgt. JACK SIEMIENIEC
350th MPAD

CAMP WALKER — "How easy it was to like this man and how hard it will be to accept his absence from our family," said Staff Sgt. Giani Manieri, of Headquarters and Headquarters Troop, 1st Squadron, 1st Cavalry.

He spoke of his close friend Staff Sgt. Charles Angelo Muserilli.

Manieri's words came during a memorial service in Muserilli's honor Oct. 23 at Lodgment Area Walker.

Museilli, 40, supply sergeant for Troop A was killed when the truck he was riding in left the road and flipped over into a water-filled ditch near Slavonski Brod, Croatia, Oct. 21.

Although his troop was scheduled to begin its redeployment the next morning, the large hall at Walker was filled with over 200 soldiers including division, brigade and squadron leaders who gathered to reminisce and honor his memory.

Manieri, a member of the support platoon, rode often with Muserilli on the supply runs the squadron had dubbed "The Blackhawk Express."

"When a family loses one of its own, there's a great sense of loss within them. Moose was one of us. Just as an adopted child is welcomed into a caring home, the Blackhawk Express quickly adopted Muserilli as part of the team," Manieri said.

"He was an intellectual who never advertised it. He was funny, witty and compassionate. I hold a high standard for friendship. There are many people I associate with on a daily basis — that I laugh and talk with. But there are only a few that

I consider friends. Moose was one of those few — he was my friend."

Muserilli was described by others as a quiet man who kept a lot inside, but was a warm, friendly person who worked long and hard at his job.

His commander, Capt. Thomas Dorame, talked about Muserilli's 13 years in the Army, his 18 months in Apache Troop.

"It takes a lot to be a soldier," Durame said. "A soldier embodies everything good about a man. Muserilli was a hero — an unsung hero. He was there every day selflessly serving — an American hero."

Another member of the Blackhawk Express, Staff Sgt. Charlie Higgins said they met on Muserilli's first day in the unit and Higgins helped him move into the barracks.

Muserilli, married and the father of four children, came to Germany alone so that his daughter could finish high school in the States. Higgins said he and Muserilli became fast friends.

"During lunch we played racquetball, and at night we shot pool and threw darts.

"Muserilli touched my life — he meant a lot to me. He was my friend. He'll always be part of my heart; I'll never forget him."

During the service, several speakers urged the soldiers of Apache Troop to carry on and keep focused as they make their way home.

The squadron commander, Lt. Col. Timothy Cherry offered his condolences to Muserilli's family and finished his words with the wish, "Staff Sgt. Muserilli, we will see you on the high ground. Blackhawk."

Those wishing to make contributions to a memorial fund may address it to: The Muserilli Family Trust NationsBank, CMR 401, APO AE 09076.

COT program change

The law governing free travel associated with consecutive overseas tours has been changed to permit soldiers who have been deployed one year from the date they redeploy to take their COT leave.

This relief is part of the fiscal year 1997 Defense Authorization Act. Guidance is expected to be released later this month. Contact your personnel section for more information.

Travel restricted

Soldiers who have served in Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR need to remember that post-deployment leisure travel to Bosnia-Herzegovina requires special authorization from their chain of command.

This policy is for the protection of soldiers and their families.

Moving the mail

The 90th Personnel Services Battalion (Forward) will be redeploying to Germany on Nov. 6. The 38th Personnel Services Battalion (-) assumed responsibility for providing personnel support and postal support within the area of operations today, Nov. 1.

Listed below are the locations of the 38th units. Eagle Base, Tuzla East and Slavonski Brod will remain in the same locations. Camp Angela operations will move to Camp Alicia and Camp Gentry operations will move to Camp McGovern.

As a result of the reshaping, base camps will be supported as follows:

Eagle Base office will support —
Eagle Base, Camp Bedrock, Comanche Base, Guardian Base/Blue Factory, Camp Angela (until closure).

Camp Alicia office will support:
Camp Alicia, Camp Demi, Steel Castle

Camp McGovern office will support:
Camp McGovern, Camp Colt, Camp Gentry (until closure)

Slavonski Brod office will support:
Slavonski Brod, RSB (Life Support Area)

Points of contact are:
TF 38 Commander, Maj. Sedlak — 551-9016

Command Sgt. Maj. Hoffer — 551-9034

Personnel Detachment Commander, Capt. Frett — 551-9016
Postal Company Commander, Capt. Tayman — 551-9061/9052
HHD Commander/S3, Lt. Nelms — 551-9004.

Small arms repairer Spc. Drake S. Mitchell, Company B, 299th Forward Support Battalion, 1st Infantry Division, drags electric cables to hook up work stations in the motorpool.

Staff Sgt. Brenda Benner

Forward support sets up shop at Guardian

GUARDIAN BASE — First of the first is officially here. First Infantry Division's 299th Forward Support Battalion soldiers are unpacking their bags at their new home in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

The 299th is the first to set up camp and the first to have a 1st ID camp mayor.

The base is buzzing with activity as the Schweinfurt, Germany-based troops rearrange operational and personal living areas to fit their mission.

"We are going through a transition period with the departing 1st Armored Division," said Sgt. 1st Class Keith Williams, 37, operations sergeant with the forward support unit.

"Our soldiers are busy setting up the tactical operations center and modifying the perimeter to suit the force protection aspect of our mission," he said.

"Our soldiers rotate with 1st AD soldiers on guard and other duties," Williams, from Birmingham Ala., said. "The shared duties allow their troops an opportunity to pack and give our soldiers a chance to get familiarized with their new areas of responsibility."

Direct support and motor pool sections from Company B are engaged in reorganization tasks to become fully operational.

"We are in the middle of labor intensive expansion of our work area and rearrange-

ment of the shop," said small arms repairer Spc. Mitchell Terry, 23, of Sperryville, Va. "After pounding in grounding rods and hooking up the electricity, we'll be ready for customers."

While five truckloads of supplies were on their way, the logistics specialist was busy getting the computers on-line.

The computers need to be ready to organize the mountains of paperwork documenting receiving and technical supply operations.

"Supply sections will be swamped when the supplies arrive," said Spc. Anthony G. Rosado, 22, of Marianna, Fla. "Our computers will track the status and document numbers of all orders."

"I am ready to fire up the computers," said Terry, an augmentee from the 601st Aviation Battalion, Katterback, Germany.

"We will have everything from washers and bolts to generators," Cpl. Nayla C. Hollien said. "The volume of our stock could rival that of a large office supply and automotive parts warehouse."

"Our mission is to provide logistical support the covering force," said Hollien, 23, of Chillicothe, Ohio. "We'll be running a 24-hour operation, seven-days-a-week. Our mission

Tuzla kids trick or treat with G.I.s

By Sgt. ANDREW AQUINO
350th MPAD

Ghosts, witches and goblins aren't that scary to children who have grown up with fear. To some, it actually seemed a little comforting to learn about an American tradition that centers around spooky things.

Bearing masks, treats and a real pumpkin, soldiers of Headquarters Company, 205th Military Intelligence Brigade recently introduced the scary delights of Halloween to the wide-eyed children of a local school.

The children laughed as soldiers passed out candy at the Pazar elementary school classroom in Tuzla.

For many, it was the first time they met U.S. soldiers up close.

With the help of an interpreter, Capt. Chris Blombach, Headquarters Company commander, ex-



plained to the class the meaning behind the American tradition of wearing masks as a way of frightening away evil spirits before the holy days.

"I think it was a good way to let the kids know a little bit about Halloween," said Master Sgt. Nicholas Rozumny, the brigade's civil affairs noncommissioned officer.

The second-graders watched with rapt amazement as the soldiers cut away the eyes, nose and mouth of an American-style Jack O'Lantern.

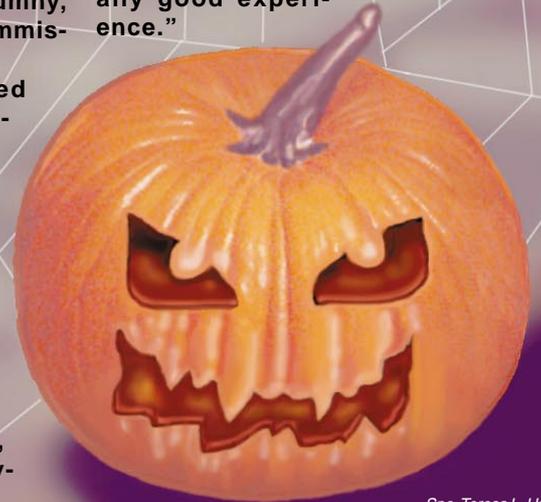
The symbolic sentinel was placed in front of the classroom, glowing an eerie yellow with the help of a chemical light stick.

Thanks to generous contributions through the unit's family support groups in Wiesbaden, Germany, the command was giv-

en the chance to give something to the community.

The school received boxes of educational supplies such as pencils, paper, board games and art supplies for the children.

"I think the kids had a really nice time," Blombach said. "It was a really good experience."



Spc. Teresa L. Unger

Turkish entertainers take center stage in Zenica



Warrant Officer Giuseppe Melillo

Zinnur Karaca entertains Turkish troops with a belly-dance routine at Turkish Brigade Headquarters in Zenica.

By Capt. MICHAEL H. MIETZNER
and Maj. HASAN SEVINSEL
Coalition Press Info. Center

ZENICA — There was a feast of sorts for the eyes and ears at the Turkish Brigade headquarters at Zenica recently, when singers, belly-dancers, traditional folk-dancers and a military band entertained members of the Turkish Brigade.

The special entertainment troupe, sponsored by the Turkish Air Force, flew into Sarajevo and then drove to Zenica.

The troupe consisted of pop, rock and traditional Turkish singers, belly-dancers and a traditional Turkish folk-dance group.

They were supported by the local Turkish military band from Zenica.

The evening started with a reception at headquarters to allow the entertainers to mingle with the soldiers prior to the show.

It was an extraordinary photo opportunity for those who remembered to bring their cameras and a relaxing evening for the soldiers and guest alike.

There was plenty of traditional Turkish finger food as well as various beverages.

The morale troupe deployed with everything from tablecloths and tables to the food and equipment for the show. The Turkish Air Force dedicated CN-235 CASA and C-160 Transal transport aircraft to support the tour.

After the reception everyone was bussed to a community center gymnasium just outside the former steel plant that serves as the brigade headquarters. The unit recently renovated the community center with money donated by every deployed Turkish soldier.

The audience was comprised mainly of Turkish Brigade members along with some local dignitaries and a handful of other IFOR soldiers.

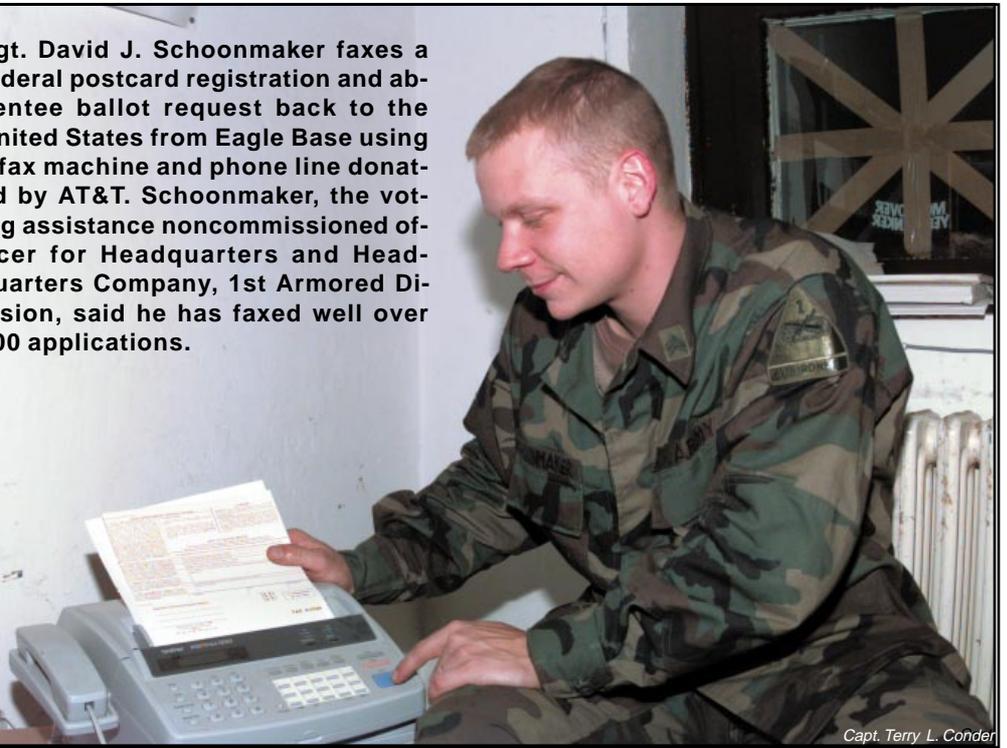
Any homesickness was soon cured by the traditional songs performed by Omer Danis.

Many thought the highlight of the evening was Zinnur Karaca who dazzled the crowd with her stunning belly-dance routine. She was outdone only by the singing of Zeynep Turkes, who had the audience ecstatic with her repertoire of songs.

The Turkish Brigade includes two armored battalions and a logistic unit headquartered at Zenica Eight Turkish F-16s also support IFOR.

FAX THE VOTE

Sgt. David J. Schoonmaker faxes a federal postcard registration and absentee ballot request back to the United States from Eagle Base using a fax machine and phone line donated by AT&T. Schoonmaker, the voting assistance noncommissioned officer for Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Armored Division, said he has faxed well over 100 applications.



Capt. Terry L. Conder

SHUTOUT from page 1

Jamison said the potential for danger will increase during redeployment, and soldiers must not let their guards down.

"This is the worst time to get complacent," he said. "Redeployment means many new soldiers in theater and many more soldiers on the roads. Terrorists know this and are more likely to attack during times like these."

Danger comes in many forms, and according to Jamison, terrorists are experts in the black-eye business.

"Terrorist are usually smart and rehearse their plan," Jamison, 34, from Parker, Pa. said. "It requires a heightened aware-

ness to detect a potential terrorist attack."

A terrorist's motives are usually political Jamison said.

"The U.S. has a large press corps, and terrorists know any attack on American forces will make front page news. Many terrorists see attacking U.S. soldiers as a way of influencing foreign policy," he said.

The recent terrorist attacks in Saudi Arabia have made terrorism a more prominent issue. "Soldiers traveling home should be very cautious because everyone in green is a potential target."

Jamison said soldiers can do some simple things to keep safe during redeployment. "Soldiers on guard duty can prevent an attack by checking badges and questioning people. During this critical time everyone needs to remain vigilant and stay alert."

GUNS from page 1

ton, 27, of Palm Springs, Calif.

Hoehne noted 31 notches on one of the AK-47's. "No one will ever know what those notches really mean," Hoehne said. "But I can't help but wonder if each notch was a life that was taken. I feel especially glad that we're getting rid of this one."

It took 90 minutes for Hoehne and Huston to turn the weapons into a pile of splintered wood and smoldering metal fragments.

The weapons remains were documented, placed in a box, and then taken back to 2nd Brigade.

"The flow is the same as it was when we initially received the weapons, only reversed," Roberts said.

Roberts said the destroyed components will ultimately be returned to the faction that they came from, along with documentation of the serial numbers.

Hoehne said it made him feel good to play a small part in getting rid of these implements of war.

"I hope when we leave the Bosnians will actually keep the peace and not have to go back to using these types of weapons again," he said.

After destroying the weapons, soldiers



Cpl. Len Butler

A mound of metal fragments is all that is left of 10 weapons seized by Implementation Forces from Bosnian Serb police in Zvornik.

went back to the task of preparing for their redeployment to Central Region, scheduled for Nov. 10.

Leshinsky expressed immense pride in his troops.

"These guys have been doing a great job here for the last 10 months," he said. "When you think about it, destroying the weapons that brought us here is a great way of going out."