

THE TALON



OPERATION JOINT ENDEAVOR, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

SERVING THE SOLDIERS OF TASK FORCE EAGLE

Troops' labor sets school bells ringing

By Sgt. NICOLE SMITH
135th MPAD

RAINCI GORNJI, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The rain didn't dampen any spirits on Friday, November 8th, as it pelted against Rainci Gornji elementary school. Inside soldiers and students gathered to celebrate all the hard and vigorous work by engineers to improve the school conditions.

Thanks to soldiers from Headquarters Support and B Companies of the 94th Engineer Battalion, the 929 children who attend the elementary school, now have a strong foundation to get the skills they need for a bright future.

Soldiers of the 94th built a 60-foot covered walkway from the school to the gymnasium, laid asphalt for the new playground and access road to the school, installed safety fences, provided gym equipment, and rebuilt the concrete stairs (bombed during the war) that now lead from the new playground to the school.

The school, which has been standing since 1958, sustained substantial damage during the war. For over three years it was home to many refugee families driven to the area, but in this past year of peace it has returned to a building of knowledge for the young children.

"I feel really good being involved in a project like this," said Sgt. Ricky Wither

See **SCHOOL**, page 12



Pfc. Richard Knerr, from Company B, earth moving platoon, operates small emplacement excavator to prepare the school ground for asphalt lay down.

Sgt. Nicole Smith

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Mail early for Christmas

While some soldiers see their work schedules ease over the holidays, postal clerks see their work increase tremendously. Santa Claus might be the only person who can guarantee overnight delivery. The Army post office recommends these deadlines to ensure that your mail is delivered to its stateside destination before Christmas Day:

Nov. 22: Space Available Mail

Dec. 2: Parcel Airlift Mail
Dec. 11: Priority Parcels/ First Class Letters
Dec. 20: Express Mail
Dec. 21: Military Postal Service to Germany
Staff Sgt. Joann M. Butler, sergeant in charge of the postal operation center at McGovern Base, said her advice to all postal customers is to mail early.

■ FROM THE TOP

New system means promotion changes

This week I would like to talk about an issue that is very important to all the enlisted soldiers of the 1st Infantry Division. The Enlisted Distribution Assignment System is a relatively new system which now governs the promotion process and the duty assignments of active duty enlisted soldiers.



Command Sgt. Maj. James W. Laws
1st Infantry Division

I strongly urge units to make sure that each and every soldier becomes aware of how this system works and more specifically how it affects the tallying of promotion points and how it affects their chances for promotion.

Required information submitted through EDAS is: updated points, grade change transactions, non-promotable reason codes and transactions to remove a soldier from the Recommended List for Promotion of Enlisted Personnel (AAC-C10).

Please note that as of Oct. 1, no recompu-

tations have been authorized. In order to add or subtract points a reevaluation or promotion point adjustment to a soldier's promotion packet must be done.

For a reevaluation to occur, you must have at least 20 new points to submit. These reevaluations need to be turned in no later than the 25th of each month.

New promotion points will become effective three months from the month that the points are submitted. For example, if the points are added in November before the 25th, then the points will become effective Feb. 1, 1997.

If the points are turned in after the 25th of the month, they will not become effective until three months from the following month. For example, if the points are added in November but after the 25th, then those points will not become effective until Mar. 1, 1997.

I would ask that unit promotion personnel stay on top of this issue.

Here is further information concerning the EDAS. If a soldier has 700 points or more and does not submit any actions within a 24-month period, the soldier will still remain

on the AAC-C10. However, if a soldier has 699 points or less and does not submit any actions within a 24-month period based on the date of their latest approved promotion action, the soldier will automatically be removed from the AAC-C10 on the first day of the 25th month.

Soldiers whose current points are 781 or higher and who want to add less than the required 20 points, must have local approval from the Personnel Support Battalion Commander. This can only be done when the soldier has increased his current score by at least one third of the remaining point total needed to achieve 800 points. For example, if a soldier has 785 points, the remaining point total is 15. Therefore, the soldier would need to add at least five points because one third of 15 is 5.

Senior leaders, I want you all to be familiar with the intricacies of the EDAS. Proper knowledge of the system will allow you to take better care of your soldiers.

For further information, you may contact the 38th Personnel Support Battalion at MSE phone 553-7261.

■ SAFETY

Here's what to expect this winter in Bosnia

Don't be fooled. Winter is coming just like every year. During the winter months in the former Yugoslavia, soldiers should use precautions enroute to specific missions.

Cold weather can cause serious problems for the soldiers deployed to the Balkans.

What's the weather and climate of the Balkans? Temperatures in the region are similar to those in Grafenwoehr and Hohenfels training areas.

Winters are generally mild and rainy along the coast, with cold, snowy conditions in the mountains and the northeastern plains.

• **Winds.** Generally surface



Robert Mente
Safety Manager
TFE Safety

from December through March. For elevations below 4000, snow falls from one to 10 days per month from December to March, and elevations above 4000 generally receive snowfall from five to 15 days per month from December to April.

Conditions such as black ice,

winds are light and variable (less than 7 knots) year around.

• **Precipitation.** Snow is common inland

white-out and snow blindness are things soldiers should be able to recognize and guard against. Know what they are:

• **Black ice** forms in patches on roadways and is not visible to drivers.

Black ice usually forms under bridges and in sheltered areas where roads are shaded.

• **White-out** occurs when fog or snow in the air combine with snow or ice on the ground to form a thick, white blanket. In a white-out a driver can lose sense of direction or position.

• **Snow blindness** is a condition caused by ultraviolet rays on white snow or ice.

Snow blindness causes eye

strain and increases chances of accidents.

Cold weather can cause many injuries to soldiers.

Items such as clothing and equipment play a crucial role in preventing cold weather injuries.

For a more comprehensive reading and understanding on the winter campaign, the TFE Safety Office has plenty of *Winning In The Cold* books to issue to unit leaders.

Leaders must ensure soldiers are issued all appropriate cold/wet weather gear, that it is serviceable and that it fits properly.

Use them!

THE TALON

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Spc. J. Craig Pickett

Soldiers participate in the transfer of authority ceremony between 2nd Brigade Combat Team and 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry at Camp Alicia (now Dobol).

Second Brigade hands-off mission

By Sgt. 1st Class BRIAN KAPMEYER
350th MPAD

CAMP ALICIA — Soldiers of the 2nd Brigade Combat Team are leaving under much different circumstances than when they arrived in December's cold and snow.

On a sunny, warm afternoon, 2nd Brigade transferred authority of their part of the Bosnian peace enforcement mission to 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, at a ceremony here Nov. 3.

After 318 days in-country, the Iron Brigade soldiers were eagerly looking forward to returning soon to family and friends in Germany.

"While peace rests squarely in the hands of the Parties to the Agreement, we have given them a start — only a start. We have pointed them in the right direction. Our collective efforts are all but a chapter in the book," said Col. John R.S. Batiste, 2nd Brigade commander.

It will say in that chapter that brigade separated the former warring factions and established a two-kilometer wide zone of separation along the former confrontation line. For the first time in four years, roads were open to civilian traffic as obstacles and mines were removed and unauthorized checkpoints were dismantled.

"We stood firmly on the moral high ground and stared the factions down," Batiste said.

"We accomplished what many said was impossible over a 4,300 square kilometer

sector. We occupied the sector in the dead of winter. We separated factions — forced weapons into approved storage sites and compelled habitual compliance."

Second Brigade confiscated 342 illegal weapons and destroyed 195, monitored the clearing of more than 388 minefields and the destruction of 299 bunkers during their peacekeeping responsibilities.

"Operations were deliberate, synchronized, rehearsed and well-executed then and remain so to this day," Batiste said. "You young officers and NCOs remember that standard 20 years from now. Have the moral courage to do the harder right than the easier wrong."

The chapter will also indicate that the brigade supported the national elections. Iron Brigade soldiers assisted the Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe by securing polling places and monitoring voter routes allowing displaced persons to return to their former municipalities to vote in a safe environment.

The commander of the incoming Task Force 1-26, Lt. Col. Robin P. Swan acknowledged the efforts of 2nd Brigade. "The brigade's actions have gone far to establish conditions for a lasting peace," he said.

"The Lord has a plan for Bosnia, and we have played a small role in that effort," Batiste said. "We put our trust in the Lord."

To confirm his support for the newly arrived 1st Infantry Division soldiers, Batiste said "Remember, we are only a phone call away."

News briefs

Viewpoints wanted

The Talon welcomes viewpoint articles from soldiers in the field. Please send us your viewpoint via e-mail or to:

The Talon
100th MPAD-JIB
APO AE 09789

Promotion to Master Sergeant board on tap

A Department of the Army selection board is scheduled, Jan. 28, to consider soldiers for promotion to master sergeant. The board will review sergeant first class records for possible DA bar to reenlistment and subsequent separation under the Qualitative Management Program.

Eligibility criteria for promotion consideration to master sergeant:

- All sergeants first class with date of rank of July 31, 1994 and earlier with BASD between Jan. 28, 1976 and Jan. 28, 1989 (both dates inclusive).
- Primary Zone date of rank is July 31, 1993 and earlier.
- Secondary Zone date of rank is Aug. 1, 1993 to July 31, 1994.

Eligibility criteria for QMP consideration: All sergeants first class with date of rank of Jan. 31, 1996 and earlier and a BASD of Jan. 31, 1976 or later.

All eligible soldiers should contact the Personnel Services Support Team servicing their area to review their records by Dec. 2.

Points of Contact:

- Camp Dobol
Staff Sgt. Taft, MSE 553-8301
- Camp McGovern
Staff Sgt. Hernandez,
MSE 553-8096
- Eagle Base
Staff Sgt. Farrow, MSE 551-9024

Weekly weather forecast

| | HIGH/LOW | CHANCE RAIN |
|-------|----------|-------------|
| Today | 49/38 | High |
| Sat | 54/41 | High |
| Sun | 55/42 | Moderate |
| Mon | 57/40 | Moderate |
| Tue | 56/39 | Moderate |
| Wed | 55/41 | Moderate |
| Thur | 56/40 | Moderate |

Provided Nov. 20 by Internet Access Weather

Homeward bound



JO1 Scott Fleming

Bradley Fighting Vehicles of Company D, 4th Battalion, 12th Infantry Regiment line up on the north side of the Sava River, waiting for the rest of the convoy to cross from Bosnia-Herzegovina. Company D's "Death Dealers" are finally going home to Baumholder, Germany, after ten months in-country.

Camp's new name honors Big Red One veteran

By Capt. TAWANNA BROWN
350th MPAD

CAMP DOBOL — Oldtimers will remember it as LA Alicia. But to the soldiers of Task Force 1st Battalion 26th Infantry, the lodgment area that stands less than a kilometer north of the zone of separation on Route Hawk is now Camp Dobol.

The camp, headquarters for Task Force 1-26, was renamed in tribute to Theodore Dobol, the honorary command sergeant major for life of the 26th Infantry.

LA Alicia is the only U.S. camp to have been renamed since the transfer of authority from Old Ironsides to the Big Red One Nov. 10.

It was appropriate that the dedication ceremony took place on Veteran's Day in a land recovering from the scars of war.

It was fitting, too, that a young soldier, Spc. Angel Rivera, 28, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, designed and created the sign which sym-

bolizes the "Courage, Relentless Pursuit and Resourceful Daring" of both Dobol and the soldiers of Task Force 1-26.

It was not by chance that Lt. Col. Robin P. Swan, commander of the task force, chose the command sergeant major as the honorary soldier whose heroic legacy will serve as both a mentor and reminder for Blue Spaders during Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

Standing atop sandbags, Swan looked over an attentive platoon and explained the history of Dobol's military honors.

Dobol joined the military during World War II. He served the 1st Infantry Division with distinction throughout World War II, the Korean War and the Vietnam War.

He was heavily decorated during each tour and in Vietnam was promoted to command sergeant major.

Until afflicted with a recent illness, which placed him in a coma in a Chicago hospital, Dobol was still very active in the regiment.

He is one of the most honored and celebrated soldiers of the Big Red One. "These are not the jungles of Viet-

nam," Swan said.

"These are different times and this peacekeeping endeavor is a different type of mission with unique conditions," he said. "But they are just as dangerous and uncertain." Swan said it is appropriate that the soldiers of Task Force 1-26 invoke this great soldier's name as they undertake this mission in his honor and tradition of excellence.

To the everyday traveler who frequents Route Hawk, which borders the camp's perimeter, Dobol will have little meaning.

But to the soldiers who understand the legacy that the sign invokes — the crest, the motto, the lions that flank it and the name that preceded it — the challenge is clear.

In the months ahead, soldiers of Camp Dobol, as well as every soldier of TF 1-26, is charged with continuing the hallmark of honor established by the leader, soldier and comrade whose name this force will strive to uphold.

Forward unit provides FAST support

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING
100th MPAD

GUARDIAN BASE — The recent arrival of the 299th Forward Support Battalion signals a fresh concept in the world of operational support. The unit is implementing a faster way to get the job done.

This battalion is introducing Forward Area Support Teams to Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

In theory, establishing FASTs is similar to placing mini forward support battalions with the front line units.

A FAST has 33 soldiers, representing various ele-

ments of the 299th FSB, headquartered at Guardian Base. There are six teams in place at outlying base camps.

"They've taken slices from every section and scattered them throughout theater," said Staff Sgt. Anthony H. Fix, Camp Demi's FAST sergeant.

"Our FASTs have medical treatment and evacuation personnel, as well as fuelers, mechanics, communications, and water treatment specialists," Fix, 31, from Madison, Ohio said.

The battalion is pushing logistical packages forward to the base camps six days a week. "By distributing the

supplies, we take a lot of the burden off of the front line units by keeping them from having to drive to us," said Maj. Matthew Higginbotham, support operations officer.

Once the operations center at Guardian Base receives a requisition, the turnaround time to fill the order is 24 to 48 hours.

However, with winter approaching the camps are being given an extra five days of rations, medical supplies and fuel.

"It's a fudge factor, and it's all part of the concept. Just in case something goes wrong or the roads go black, they have

a buffer," Higginbotham, 33, from Greenwood, S.C., said.

In one short month the FAST concept is proving to be successful.

"The soldiers have it down to a system now. Once the 'log-pacs' are on the ground, the soldiers know where to go, and who to talk to. They do their business and move out," said Lt. Col. Kenneth S. Dowd, battalion commander.

"As far as manpower, it's tough on us, but this new way of doing things allows the task forces to look forward and perform their missions without the logistical hassles," said Dowd, 39, from Orlando, Fla.

Big Red One shoots for quick turnaround

By Sgt. JANET S. PETERS
350th MPAD

EAGLE BASE — His philosophy is JOAT/MON, which means "Jack of all trades, master of none." His goal is to keep his customers happy. His mission is to provide soldiers of Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR's covering force with the supplies they need to fulfill their mission.

Staff Sgt. Russell R. Rozen, of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Infantry Division (Forward) Unit Supply, arrived at Eagle Base, Oct. 15, to take the reins after 1st Armored Division redeployed.

He and his staff, Spc. Daniel Arrowood, Pfc. Samuel McCrea, and Pfc. Gregg Venenga, have restructured and reorganized the supply cage located at the back of the 21 Club. They hope to be fully operational by Nov. 22.

"I have a great bunch of guys and we're having a lot of fun working together and getting everything done," Rozen said. "I feel very privileged to be here and it is both an honor and a challenge to serve such a diversified group."

HHC division headquarters and attached elements can come to supply for Class II, IV, V and VII items which include tool-related items, building materials, ammunition and major end items.

"My supply policy is quite simple," the 45-year-old supply sergeant said. "All you have to do is submit a memo and include a point of contact, your section, the items requested and their national stock numbers. The requests

will be processed on a fill-or-kill basis and will be available for pick-up the following day."

Large bins are arranged in the supply area so designated representatives can come in and check for their requested supplies. Only those persons listed on a signature card (DA 1687) will be allowed to pick up items.

"A key point is that quantities of items requested will be for sustainment only," Rozen said. "I'm not here to stock anybody's shelves."

Any item not on hand will be requested through in-theater supply channels and a GSA catalog will be at the customer's disposal. Normal operating hours are 9:00 a.m. — 7:00 p.m.

"I can't think of another job I'd rather do," said the Ithaca, Mich. native. "Helping people get what they need to accomplish their mission is extremely exhilarating for me."

"I'm looking forward to meeting everyone and serving them in the best capacity possible."



Sgt. Janet S. Peters

Pfc. Samuel McCrea (left) and Pfc. Daniel Arrowood assist Staff Sgt. Russell Rozen (center) unpack a new shipment of supplies.

Soldiers of Task Force 1-18 hit the ground running Nov. 14 when they seized weapons at a storage site. The mission came only 12 days after the transfer of authority ceremony giving them responsibility for their sector.

The action followed days of civil unrest near the village of Celic, near McGovern Base.

Because of the unrest, IFOR officials declared the area around Celic a special zone of protection. The declared weapons site is the headquarters of the 254th Reserve Mountain Infantry Brigade of the Bosnia-Herzegovina entity.

By the end of the roughly six-hour operation, over 1,000 weapons were hauled away. These included Russian AK-47s, sniper rifles, rockets and various other automatic weapons.

In addition, over 1,500 grenades and 1,000 mortar rounds were confiscated. American troops filled two five-ton trucks and four HEMMTTs with weapons and munitions.

Also, two armored personnel carriers were towed back to McGovern Base with other seized items.

Units used for the operation cut across the task force. Tankers, engineers, military policemen, fire support and infantrymen rolled out of their base camps in the early morning hours to converge on the site.

The Americans used over 100 vehicles for troop transport, hauling, and security. Helicopters circled in the air.

The operation ran smoothly until the convoy attempted to leave the site and drive through town. At that point, gathered civilians tried to stop the vehicles, to the point of laying in front of some of the U.S. trucks.

Speaking at a McGovern Base press conference after the mission, Col. Michael Thompson, commander, 2nd Brigade, 1st Infantry Division, praised the troops involved, citing their confidence, restraint and discipline.

"It was a busy day," said Spc. William Young, a member of 1st Platoon, Company A. "We left about four o'clock in the morning and went to the weapons site. We rode out in a five-ton and had everything loaded in three or four hours. There was nothing going on, and the Muslim soldiers helped us load the trucks."

But on the way out the soldiers were tested.

"We were leaving in Bradleys and were somewhere in the middle of the convoy. We heard something hitting the side of the Bradley, and I

See **CONFISCATE**, page 12



Damage Control

Twelve days after their transfer of authority ceremony, 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry soldiers seized over 1,000 weapons, 1,500 grenades and 1,000 mortar rounds at a storage site near Celic. Then the hard part began.

By Sgt. JACK SIEMIENIEC
350th MPAD



Staff Sgt. Johnny Lovell, of the Task Force 1-18 intelligence section, surveys some of the cache of confiscated weapons.

Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

Americans, Russians engineer friendship

By Sgt. JACK SIEMIENIEC
350th MPAD

Even though the Russian army captain sat atop a U.S. Army armored personnel carrier and fingered the trigger of a .50-caliber machine gun, things hadn't gone horribly wrong with international relations.

Actually, just the opposite.

The occasion was an exchange of information hosted by the soldiers of Company B, 23rd Engineer Battalion at McGovern Base.

"We were sitting around in a planning meeting, talking about things we'd like to do," said Sgt. 1st Class Robert J. Chartier. "One of the things that came up was a 'show and tell' for the Russian engineers. We wanted to keep it as informal as possible and allow them to get a good feel for the equipment instead of just doing fixed, static displays."

Chartier, 34, the platoon sergeant for the assault and obstacle platoon, said the American engineers designed their day with their Russian counterparts to be "more of a walk around, climb on top, hands-on" type of experience.

To that end, the whole company participated, pulling out a combat engineer vehicle, armored vehicle launch bridge, the mine-proofing Panther, a combat engineer personnel carrier and the various sets, kits and outfits organic to an Army engineer company.

"Any type of exchange of information can only be good to foster better understanding," Chartier said. "Plus, this gives my soldiers the opportunity to showcase their knowledge of their equipment."

Chartier said the Russian engineers' missions parallel the work his company has been doing during their deployment. Namely, much mine clearing and mine proofing.

He said his platoon had worked with Russians once before, when they had cleared a road to a cemetery near Dubravice Gornje in the Russian sector. Also, one time the company sent a couple soldiers along on a joint patrol.

Engineers from both coun-



Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

Russian Army Capt. Alexander Kochelev examines contents of a combat engineer armored personnel carrier with its mine breaching equipment.

tries found similarities not only in the work they do, but also in the equipment they use.

One case is the engineers' armored vehicle launched bridge. A modified Class 60 tank chassis, the vehicle carries a steel launch bridge it can extend out and then retract.

On the Russian side, they use a T-55 chassis for the same job. Also, the next generation of AVLB for the engineers, the Wolverine, has its counterpart — a T-72 launched bridge.

One of the differences Chartier noted, however, involved the people operating the equipment.

"Their (the Russians) officers have to know everything technological about all their equipment and take a test every year," he said.

"We rely more on the maintenance section or the tank commander."

As the Russian officers moved from piece to piece, they were briefed by the enlisted people of all ranks who actually operate and fix the vehicles and other equipment.

Soldiers of both countries talked about their jobs and the other things that made them more alike than different, Chartier said.

"I think it's great," he said. "This really opens up people's eyes. It allows people to talk about their capabilities and

about our capabilities; maybe plan something for the future on a higher level. It's just a good thing overall."



Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

Pfc. Jorge Osorio, from 1st Platoon, Company B, 23rd Engineers, shows Russian Army Capt. Alexander Kochelev the capabilities of his armored personnel carrier.



Sgt. Janet S. Peters

Bishop Savva of the Russian Orthodox Church (left) listens as U.S. Episcopal Bishop Keyser speaks to Russian soldiers during a recent visit at Uglevik.

Russians join U.S. in partnership for prayer

By Sgt. JANET S. PETERS
350th MPAD

Freedom of the press, freedom of speech, freedom of religion — Americans have fought and died for and will continue to fight for these freedoms. This month in Bosnia-Herzegovina, a U.S. religious leader met with his Russian counterpart to help reintroduce religion to the Russian army.

The Right Reverend Charles L. Keyser, Episcopal Bishop for the Armed Forces, joined Bishop Savva of Krasnagorsk, the Bishop of the Russian Orthodox Church of the Military and Other Legal Institutions, at the Russian Brigade headquarters in Uglevik, Nov. 14. The bishops, dressed in their traditional flowing robes, enjoyed a guided tour through the compound and visited barracks, the field bakery, the medical facility and the dining hall. Communicating through a translator, Keyser and Savva worked to strengthen a bond of friendship and cooperation that began when Keyser visited Russia two years ago.

"Over the last couple of years the Russian Orthodox Church has been trying to re-establish its chaplaincy to the military" said James E. Solheim, director of news and information for the Episcopal Church Center. "The Episcopal Church and Russians have been consulting for several years. They sent a student over to study in New York, then two years ago we sent a group of U.S. chaplains to Moscow for a consultation. Bishop Keyser led that delegation."

At the end of that visit, Patriarch Alexy II said he would appoint a bishop for

Russia much like Keyser is for America. Savva was consecrated bishop for military chaplaincy of the Russian Orthodox Church a year ago.

"Bishop Savva and I have been working together for 18 months," Keyser said. "It feels great to be a symbol of reconciliation — Russian and American forces together as well as the two churches, east and west, working together. It has been a wonderful, friendly relationship."

"God gave me a mission to supervise the military pastors," Savva said. "It would be a sin for me to stay in Russia when we have sons of the church here. Right now we don't have a chaplain service like you have in the American Army, but I think in the near future we'll resolve this problem. We are committed to wherever the Holy Spirit takes us."

That strong commitment by Bishop Savva and Bishop Keyser has been aided by long-standing communication.

"The relationship between these two churches has been so cordial, they stayed in touch even during the Cold War," Solheim said. "When communism collapsed the Russians were free to do ministries that were forbidden for over 70 years. They have been consulting with us on social ministries, hospitals, and social service agencies. This is the fruit of that cooperation — a building block for the chaplaincy."

Bishop Savva will visit the U.S. at the beginning of the year to see how the American ministry works.

"Bishop Savva is asking questions and at the same time I am learning how the Russian military works," Keyser said. "We have shared this dream, and we are at the beginning of a long journey."

Rock 'n' roll group performing in theater

"16 City Blocks", a rock and roll band from St. Louis will be performing in Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR area of operations from Nov. 25 - 29. Their schedule:

Eagle Base — Nov. 25
Camp Demi — Nov. 26
Comanche Base — Nov. 27
Steel Castle — Nov. 28
Camp Colt — Nov. 29

"16 City Blocks" is a contemporary rock band with an enthusiastic following on the club and concert scene in the Midwest.

Magic act scheduled

"Charley," a magician who has amazed audiences all over the with his sleight of hand and up close "prestidigitation" will be in the area of operations, Nov. 27 and 28. Check with your local MWR staff for these and other upcoming events. Point of contact is David Carter at MSE phone 351-7307.

Zenica roads repaired

Citizens of Zenica, as well as folks just passing through, no longer have to worry about a rough ride to their destination, thanks to the work of the parties to the agreement.

The project began Sept. 26, 1996. All in all, 34 former Bosnian Muslim soldiers were employed for 50 days to complete the work. The project had a total cost of 33,000 dollars. The positive community impact of this work is that an estimated 20,000 people may experience more enjoyable and safer travel on the roads.

The work is just one of the 125 Community Infrastructure Rehabilitation Program projects currently in progress. These projects are funded by the United States Agency for International Development. There are 161 additional projects on the docket, for which work is slated to begin shortly.

CIRP is a series of work programs designated to rebuild key areas of the local infrastructure, and to help provide temporary employment for demobilized military personnel in Bosnia-Herzegovina. It is also intended to stimulate the return of displaced persons throughout the region, and to demonstrate the positive benefits of the peace process to the civilian community.

CIRP projects are expected to run through March of 1997.

Seabees break down Camp Kime

By Cpl. LEN BUTLER
100th MPAD

CAMP KIME — They may be hundreds of miles from the sea, but sailors from one of the Navy's construction battalions, better known as the Seabees, just keep sailing along with their mission in the middle of Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Detachments from Companies C and D of the 40th Naval Mobile Construction Battalion, based at Port Hueneme, Calif. were given the task of tearing down the hard-back tents, bunkers, wooden sidewalks, and many other structures that used to make up Camp Kime.

"When we leave here, there won't be anything standing. It will be absolutely barren," said Builder 1st Class Joseph A. Amadeo, 30, of Fall River, Mass.

Nothing will be thrown away. Steel Worker 1st Class Martin A. Andrews, 35, of Middletown, N.Y. said everything will be bundled and palletized to be used in the existing camps. "All of the sandbags, the wood, everything that we are taking apart will be used to make the camps that are staying, even better," Andrews said. "Everything down to the nail will be used again."

Activity was intense on an unusually warm November day, as Seabees used hammers to loosen the boards, stripping them away from the floor, then pounding out the nails. Two Seabees collected the wooden studs and beams and banded them together. A forklift picked up dozens of pallets of sandbags, loading them onto a flatbed trailer.

"We've got a project deadline, and there is no doubt the deadline will be met," Amadeo said. "We've got good people here. Look at them. They work hard. They are professionals. No one here has time for an attitude."

Before arriving at Camp Colt, Bosnia-

Herzegovina, Oct. 10, the Seabees were serving a deployment in Rota, Spain when they were called upon to participate in Operation JOINT ENDEAVOR.

"We're not really sure how long we are going to be here," Amadeo said. "We initially came here to help aid not only in the taking down of camps, but also to help with snow removal."

"Our company came here with the impression that we would be here for awhile. But it doesn't matter. We will take on any task or obstacle thrown at us," Amadeo said.

That type of 'can do' attitude dates back to the Seabees inception. Formally organized in March 1942, the Seabees were the idea of Rear Adm. Ben Moreell, who realized the danger of civilian construction workers in a combat zone. Moreell realized that the construction workers needed battle training in order to better protect themselves.

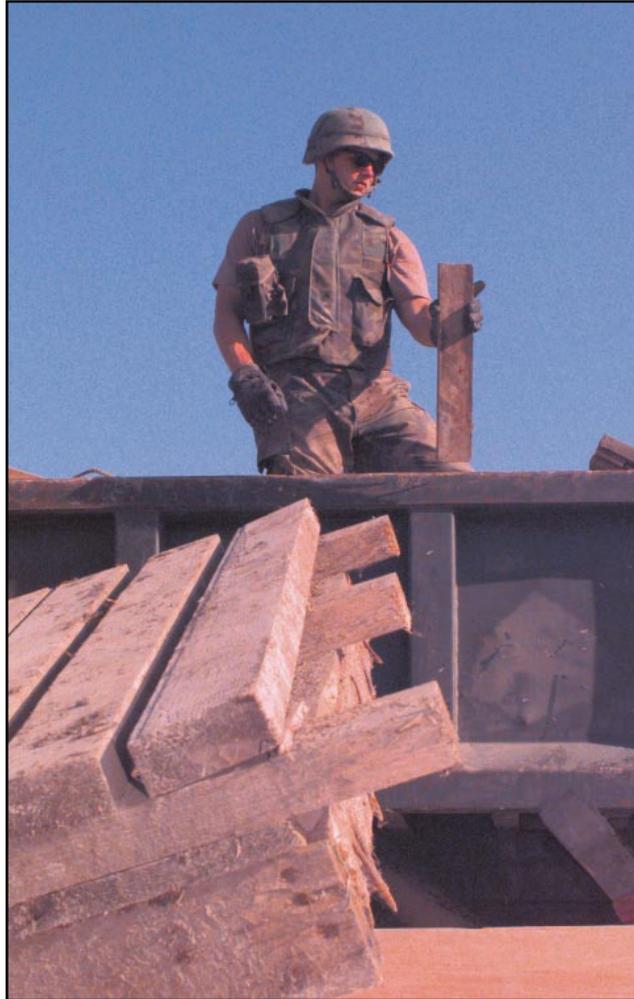
After civilian workers were captured and killed at Wake Island, the plan was put into action.

Civilian workers were taken into the Navy as part of a Construction Battalion, and the Seabee nickname (taken from the initials C-B) was born.

Their symbol is a bee in a sailor hat holding a Tommy gun with assorted tools in his many 'hands'.

Since World War II, the Seabees have been an important part of Navy and Marine Corps operations.

Andrews said he feels a little odd about tearing down a camp, instead of building one. "We usually build things," Andrews said. "In the 17 years I've been in the Navy, this is the first time I actually get to tear something down."



Spc. Aaron Reed

Builder 3rd Class Michael L. Martin loads recycled lumber onto a truck at Camp Kime.

Demi medics patch 'em up, move 'em out

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING
100th MPAD

CAMP DEMI — "We patch them up and move them out," said Sgt. Daniel D. Cozine, a combat medic and evacuation sergeant for Company C, 299th Forward Support Battalion.

Through a combined effort, a handful of soldiers from the treatment and ambulance squads are capable of reaching, treating and transporting wounded.

"After we stabilize the injured, we MEDEVAC them from the field, either by ground or air, to a higher echelon of care at the Blue Factory," said Cozine, 26, from West Branch, Iowa.

As medical personnel, their main mission while in theater is to conserve the fighting strength of troops.

The treatment squad, con-

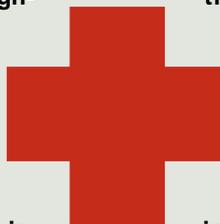
sisting of a physician's assistant and a few combat medics, is doing just that as they assist the 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry, in the aid station at Demi.

According to Capt. Matthew E. Mattner, company commander, in addition to providing daily sick call to the soldiers, the two squads train for mass casualty scenarios.

"At all times, they maintain approximately 72 hours of supplies for high intensity combat," said Mattner, 31, from Pittsville, Wis.

"We have the knowledge and capabilities to do our jobs...but hopefully they won't need us in our area of expertise," Cozine said.

As part of the covering force, the 299th FSB is settled in and prepared for the challenges they may encounter during their tour in Bosnia-Herzegovina.



Engineers smooth out rough roads

By Staff Sgt. BRENDA BENNER
100th MPAD

Electricians, plumbers, carpenters, and masonry specialists are working out of their element repairing the narrow, mountainous road to a hilltop base.

There's no need for alarm; these multi-talented soldiers of 1st Platoon, Company B, 62nd Engineer Battalion, know the business of repairing roads.

They are making improvements to a failing bridge headwall and washed-out areas of the road to guarantee that soldiers assigned to the hill aren't stranded this winter.

Spc. Edward M. Cebula, 23, of Dupont, Pa., knows that they can handle the task despite their various backgrounds.

"I'm an electrician, but I've worked on road projects before," Cebula said. "We get our road work experience by getting involved. I'm glad we are tasked with this. This is our first official road project since we arrived here a few weeks ago. Our main mission here is to break down the base camps."

The work crews are ready to dig in now

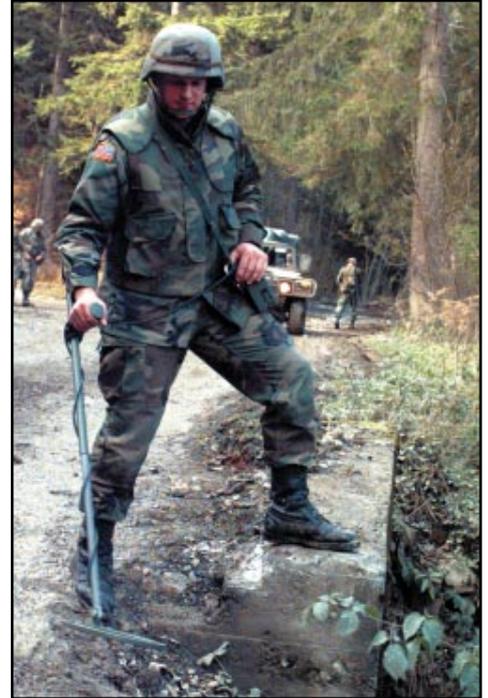
that all the behind-the-scenes coordination is complete. There is an incredible amount of logistical issues to tackle before the first shovel strikes the dirt.

"The planning phase of this project is crucial," said Staff Sgt. Benjamin B. Milligan, project noncommissioned officer-in-charge. "We must have the right type of rock, sand, and gravel to use as a foundation."

Milligan said the concrete culverts for the drainage areas must be large enough to channel the amount of water flowing off the hillsides. "Large pieces of timber are required for the bridge treadway and headwall," he said.

Besides orchestrating the arrival of supplies, Milligan, 31, of Louisville, Ky., has been busy helping with initial site assessments and determining the amount of total man-hours required to make the project a success.

"It's important that everyone has a chance to get their hands in it," Milligan said. They've been eager for road work. We'll rotate 32 soldiers through the work crews. They'll have to work quickly to meet our goal of a five-day road closure. We will definitely utilize every soldier."



Staff Sgt. Brenda Benner

Spc. David A. Mackler, Company B, 62nd Engineer Battalion, sweeps for mines before repairs begin.

Artist in uniform paints memories of deployment

By Master Sgt.
KATHY D. WRIGHT
350th MPAD

Getting deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina could be worth an additional \$500 for Spc. Rogie A. Agustin — that is, if the soldier from Company B, 3rd Battalion, 5th Cavalry Regiment wins the 1996 U.S. Army humor cartoon contest.

His submission for the competition was based on the battalion's motto during deployment, "Peace in the Posavina or deal with us," and included a sketch of an IFOR soldier keeping former warring factions troops apart.

"It took me awhile to decide what I was going to draw," Agustin said. "But after thinking it over I knew whatever it was, it would have to relate to Opera-

tion JOINT ENDEAVOR and what was going on here."

Soon after arriving in country last June, the 21-year-old infantryman began impressing his fellow platoon members with his artistic abilities, especially with his rendition of what would later become the company mascot on the side of his track vehicle.

"Originally they had a stick figure painted on the side of our Bradley and I was told I could try to come up with something better. Since we're called the 'Warriors' I decided to use that as inspiration," said the Sacramento, Calif. native.

Three days and some model paint later, Agustin's design was met with wide-spread approval, and requests for more of his handiwork have been flooding in.

The two-year Army veteran is accustomed to being popular, ever since the time his 7th grade classmates discovered his talent for drawing caricatures.

"I got my first lessons

when I was around 10 years old by studying how-to-draw books," Agustin said.

"Then in high school I took classes in graphic arts, but mostly I've been self-taught. I learn a lot by just looking at other people's work," he said.

The art form he has grown to admire the most is one that can't be found hanging on the walls of a museum.

"I'm really interested in graffiti. The way they use design and color fascinates me. These artists express how they live. That's what I aspire to do."

Although not certain what's in store career-wise, Agustin has goals of going to college and combining his love of art with the world of computers.

He believes his time spent in Bosnia-Herzegovina will give him a good experience to "draw" upon.

"I've certainly learned to make good use of my resources since art supplies were hard to come by," said the Kirch-Goens, Germany-bound Agustin. But more importantly, it helped me think about what we were doing here. Now I'll have more stories to tell in my work," he said.



Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

Spc. Rogie Agustin poses with some of his artwork.

CONFISCATE

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guess we were right in front of the HEM-MTT that people were laying down in front of," Young said.

"We dismounted and pushed the crowd back and picked up the people on the ground. They spit on us and pushed us ... I got hit in the face with a shoe."

1st Lt. Kelly Eiland, a platoon leader with Company C, 3rd Battalion, 5th Cavalry, had his platoon of four M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles at the site and watched the dismounted soldiers work as his vehicles rolled out in the convoy.

He said Apache helicopters swung low, kicking up dust in their rotor wash and helping to push back the crowd.

The infantrymen then collapsed back on the convoy as it left, jumping up and riding out on the last vehicles.

Young, an infantryman since 1992, said he had experience with crowd control from a previous mission in Haiti.

He also said his unit had trained at Hohenfels prior to their deploy-



Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

Spc. Aaron Johnson, Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion, handles confiscated M-60 rockets at McGovern Base.

ment to Bosnia-Herzegovina.

"We trained to do exactly what we did today," he said.

Asked if he would go through it

again, Young said, "Sure. We're here for six months.

"If we have to do it everyday, we'd do it everyday."

SCHOOL

from page 1

spoon Sr., the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the dump trucks used by 94th Engineers. "We're here helping out the kids. My mission was to help clear out all the dirt, glass and rubble on the site. I'd rath-

er see the kids playing on a nice asphalt playground than in the garbage and mud. When I see smiles on their faces, that tells me I am doing my job and the mission is a success."

The elementary school did not let IFOR's effort go unappreciated.

"I can't give enough thanks," said Mr. Nedzad Dzafic, the school director.

"The celebration ceremony is very modest compared to all that the engineers and IFOR have done. They gave us big support. Without their help we would have never been able to do on

our own what has been done here. We want to show all representatives of IFOR how much we appreciate their help and hard work."

The ceremony included singing by the choir, skits, a poem reading, and traditional Bosnian dancing and singing performed by the students of the school.

"I came here to your country last November," said Col. Steven Hawkins, the Task Force Eagle Engineer Brigade commander, in a speech given at the celebration ceremony.

"I have seen the magnificent change in your land. My engineers had an important part in that; for that I am very proud.

"I look at your children, and they have become part of my family. We have lived with you here, in your community for a year.

"We have seen your children wave, we have seen them smile, we have seen them grow. They certainly represent your future and the continued peace in Bosnia-Herzegovina."



Sgt. Nicole Smith

During recess, children watch as a soldier from the 94th Engineer Battalion spreads gravel in preparation for laying the asphalt.