

# THE TALON



OPERATION JOINT GUARD, BOSNIA-HERZEGOVINA

SERVING THE SOLDIERS OF TASK FORCE EAGLE



Staff Sgt. Brenda Benner

Explosive ordnance disposal technician Pfc. Mike D. Lindenberg inventories rifle grenades collected during an amnesty campaign.

## Amnesty leads to explosion

By Staff Sgt. BRENDA BENNER  
100th MPAD

CAMP ANGELA — Repeated explosions could be felt and heard miles away. Flashes of orange and yellow, visible from Camp Bedrock, lit up the darkening sky.

Mounds of grenades, mines, and various munitions brought in from Federation police stations were being systematically destroyed by the 2nd Ordnance Detachment, Explosive Ordnance Disposal, at a newly modified demolition site prepared especially for this occasion. The EOD detachment is comprised of both Army and Navy servicemembers.

Earlier, police officers from the Tuzla Valley area delivered two truck loads of munitions and unexploded ordnance collected from surrounding communities.

Staff Sgt. Curtis B. Johnson, operations sergeant for the forward EOD detachment, was proud to be involved in this unique opportunity to rid municipalities of dangerous and unstable weapons.

"This is the first time I've been involved in an amnesty turn in," Johnson said. "These weapons are not coming from approved weapon storage sites. We can't legally transport them in our military vehicles, so they're delivering the goods. The local police stations

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## Sailors join army for blast

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING  
100th MPAD

CAMP BEDROCK — A young private walks on the icy wooden planks leading him towards his destination. Focusing on the slippery walkway, he is startled by the presence of an approaching servicemember. The private sees an eagle on the oncoming soldier's collar and delivers a sharp

salute. "First to Battle!" he barks. The man says nothing in return; he simply cracks a slight smile as he passes.

"It's happened to all of us," said Navy Petty Officer 1st Class Timothy Surratt, an electronics technician first class for Explosive Ordnance Disposal, Mobile Unit 8, Detachment 10.

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**What they're saying**

**"You will tell stories about driving your HM-MWV along treacherous roads lined with mines; about countless patrols in miserable weather, never knowing if you would be attacked; and about enduring the weight of full-protective gear every day..."**

— *William J. Perry*  
*Secretary of Defense*

**"You are helping us to fulfill a sacred pledge — to keep our nation the greatest force in the world for peace and freedom, for security and prosperity"**

— *William J. Clinton*  
*United States President*

**"In Bosnia, the killing fields have been converted to grain fields. This fall Bosnians had a harvest of wheat and corn instead of a harvest of death and destruction."**

— *William J. Perry*  
*Secretary of Defense*

**"We will not hesitate to use force to provide security to the people and (a reason) not to fight."**

— *Gen. William W. Crouch*  
*LANDCENT Commander*

**"NATO is not a police force."**

— *William J. Perry*  
*Secretary of Defense*

**LAYING DOWN THE LAWS**

Today marks almost two months since the 1st Infantry Division has taken over command of Task Force Eagle.

I'd like to congratulate all Big Red One soldiers for the competent and professional way we have carried out the mission so far.

However, there is an area where we are beginning to lapse: uniform standards.

Just because we are on a deployment doesn't mean that our military standards should fall by the wayside.

There are several groups here in theater wearing the military battle dress uniform. Soldiers should wear the uniform properly.

AR 670-1 contains the uniform standards that we, as soldiers, are expected to follow.

A good rule of thumb is that if an article of clothing wasn't issued by the clothing issue facility, it probably isn't authorized.



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

A few examples of violations that I have noticed are the wearing of bandanas with the BDU uniform and soldiers wearing PT caps under their Kevlar helmets.

Soldiers are authorized to wear civilian clothes when doing PT on their own. However, there is to be no mixing of the Army PT uniform with civilian clothes.

I am calling upon the professionalism of senior leaders to make sure that subordinates are aware of the proper wear of the Army uniform and its accessories.

We are professional soldiers. We should look the part.

Let's get this situation under control.

**SAFETY**

By **R.A. MENTE**  
*TFE Safety Manager*

According to the U.S. Consumer Product Safety Commission, nearly 300 people in the United States die from toxic gas every year.

This poisonous gas that can kill people in their homes or tents has no smell. What is more important, it has no taste and no color.

Throughout the base camps in Bosnia-Herzegovina, Task Force Eagle soldiers run the risk of being exposed to this silent killer.

What is carbon monoxide? Carbon monoxide is produced by the burning of any fuel. Kerosene heaters in sleeping areas, and vehicle heater and exhaust systems are a potential CO source.

When these heaters are properly maintained and kept in good

working condition, they will produce little CO. However, improperly operating heaters can produce fatal CO concentrations in your environment.

Likewise, using charcoal indoors or running a vehicle without proper ventilation can cause CO poisoning.

Know the symptoms of CO poisoning. The initial symptoms of CO are similar to the flu (but without the fever).

This include dizziness, fatigue, headache, nausea, and irregular breathing. If this happens to you, go outside for a fresh air; and if the symptoms reappear when you are back inside—you may have CO poisoning.

Examine the condition of equipment before any operation. Periodically open tent flaps to allow flowing of fresh air to come in.

**THE TALON**

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# Ether is cardinal sin

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING  
100th MPAD

EAGLE BASE — "Ether is like 'crack' to vehicles! It's a quick start — but in the end it messes up the whole system," said Pvt. Jason S. Gray, a light wheeled vehicle mechanic for Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery.

According to mechanics, shooting ether is a cardinal sin, and the troops should never do it. "A lot of people are opting for the instant start instead of treating the real problem," said Spc. Shereef S. Morse, a light wheeled vehicle mechanic.

In below-freezing weather vehicles tend to be a little stubborn. For best performance, starting vehicles at least once a day (twice is ideal) and letting them run for approximately 30 minutes above a normal idle is a good idea. This will prevent fuel hoses from freezing, increase circulation of fluids, and batteries can regenerate themselves. Drivers should avoid cranking the vehicle for more than 30 seconds at a time. If, after five minutes, it does not respond, mechanics should be called.

"If they continue trying to turn it over, the starters tend to burn out," said Morse, 24, from Los Angeles. "So instead of having a minor set back like a dead battery, we now have to replace the starter and any other component that was pushed to failure."

In addition to spending extra time on

vehicle maintenance, soldiers should pay close attention when driving on dangerous Balkan roadways. The road's icy surface is disguised by a blanket of white snow, and to the untrained winter driver this combination could be deadly. Gray, 20, from Mariposa, Calif., suggests watching your speed. "Don't try to rush yourself, the convoy will wait. Go at your own pace and make sure that your safety is the number one priority."

Snow chains may be an inconvenience to put on, but the end result is beneficial. "Our battalion commander has made it mandatory for every vehicle to have snow chains on all of its tires," said Pvt. Jeff A. Hummert, a M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle mechanic.

"I've noticed that when the HMMWVs don't have chains on the rear tires, they tend to slide around corners if the drivers use the breaks at all. If they had chains on all four tires this wouldn't happen because the chains cut through the ice," said Hummert, 19, from Pittsburgh.

According to the troops of service battery, the best trick of the trade for having a reliable vehicle during the winter season is to keep up daily primary maintenance checks and services. Even vehicles that aren't driven every day should be checked for leaks and cracked or broken hoses. "Every trick of the trade you need to know is in the manual — if you follow it, you shouldn't have any major set backs," Morse said.



*Spc. Cheryl A. Kraning*

Pvt. Jeff A. Hummert, an M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle mechanic for Headquarters and Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 7th Field Artillery, works on a 5-ton truck.

## NEWS BRIEFS

### Feeling stressed out?

The 1st Infantry Division Mental Health section cares about you. Visit their website at:

<http://freud.bteam/1idmental-health>.

They can also be emailed at: [dmh@flyaway.isenet2.readadp.com](mailto:dmh@flyaway.isenet2.readadp.com).

### Big Red One website

Access the Big Red One website at:

<http://www.1id.army.mil>

### Changing uniforms

How are your uniforms?

Soldiers in country more than 90 days, arriving prior to Oct. 3, are eligible for clothing bag item two. This includes two sets of BDUs and one pair of combat boots.

Supply sergeants switching uniforms for a unit or battalion must coordinate with the logistics section who will ship the uniforms in from Hungary. Uniform switchout at the individual level will be handled by the 240th Quartermasters on the way out of the intermediate staging base.

For soldiers arriving after Oct. 3, the logistics section has requested a clothing bag item three for boots.

Supply sergeants may contact Cpt. Gary Smith or Staff Sgt. Carl Alexander at 553-7062 with any questions.

### Sleeping bag turn-in

Is that bag getting kind of crusty?

Do you find yourself shaking out your sleeping bag and having a mound of dirt and several small animals fall out?

Well, maybe it is time to turn that thing in. Brown and Root offers sleeping bag exchange for a few days every month at all base camps in the area of operations. Days vary depending on the base camp.

If the type of sleeping bag you receive does not match the one you turned in, don't worry.

At the intermediate staging base, upon redeployment, another exchange can take place so that the type of sleeping bag matches your clothing record. Check with your first sergeant or mayor's office for more information.

# Military police take on all tasks

By Sgt. LANCE M. KAMISUGI  
100th MPAD

SLAVONSKI BROD, Croatia — The 529th Military Police Company is getting it done on the roads of Croatia.

"All four platoons have done an outstanding job with the MP mission in Croatia," said Sgt. 1st Class Dale W. Cowan, operations sergeant for the 529th from Socorro, N.M. "This mission has been a challenge considering the duties we were asked to carry out."

Military police are positioned all over Croatia. They provide battlefield circulation control, area security, and law enforcement. They also monitor convoys at traffic control points and escort heavy equipment transport systems traveling to and from Bosnia-Herzegovina. "Our area of responsibility extends from Nasice to Brcko, or the eastern side of Croatia," said 2nd Lt. Sarah G. Ross, of Grand Rapids, Mich., 4th platoon leader.

The 1st, 2nd and 3rd platoons perform the same duties as the 4th platoon, but in different locations.

The 1st platoon lives by the border in Barcs, Hungary and patrols along the northern roads of Croatia through the towns of Nasice and Grubisno Polje. During the redeployment of the 1st Armored Division, the 1st platoon sent teams of HMMWVs to pick up HETS and escort them to Hungary. Trying to keep the HETS together on the narrow Croatian roads demanded aggressive driving techniques.

"We needed to drive down the center of the road and encourage oncoming traffic to move off

to the side because the HETS are so wide," said 2nd Lt. Ronald H. Upton, of Dallas, Texas.

The majority of MPs in the 2nd and 3rd platoons are part of the 272nd Military Police Company out of Mannheim, Germany. They are attached to the 529th MP Co.

The 2nd platoon, based in Kutina, escorts all convoys along the western route in Croatia. This was a heavily used road for the HETS during the redeployment of the 1st Armored Division. They picked up the convoys in Slavonski Brod and escorted them through Kutina before releasing the convoy to the 1st platoon at Grubisno Polje.

"The looks on their (redeploying soldiers) faces gave me a good feeling," said Pfc. Charles C. Haislip, of Lewisburg, Tenn. "I was getting them home in time for the holidays."

Slavonski Brod serves as a major cross point between Croatia and Bosnia-Herzegovina for NATO forces. Units going home crossed the fixed bridge and stayed at the redeployment staging base in Camp Sava North before leaving for Hungary.

Slavonski Brod is also home for 3rd and headquarters platoons of the 529th MP Co. The 3rd platoon provides law enforcement for Camp Sava North and the

surrounding areas.

Recently there was an incident where 4th platoon MPs were in the right place at the right time.

While at a traffic control point monitoring convoys near Dakovo, an accident happened involving a U.N. vehicle. As three MPs rushed to the scene to initiate first aid

and start to reroute the traffic, Pfc. Tara A. Bourgeois called for help. "There were difficulties with the radio signal, so Spc. Tucker had to use the Euro-tracking system to call our headquarters in Slavonski Brod," said Bourgeois from Houston.

The quick response by the MPs helped save a life in that situation.

The 529th is known as the "Honor Guard" in Heidelberg, Germany. Besides law enforcement, their duties include providing a salute battery and color guard for retirements and retreats of the United States Army Europe and 7th Army.

The mission in Croatia has given Sgt. James G. Wheatley of San Bernardino, Calif. The experience he feels is necessary for an MP.

"This deployment has shown me another side of the MP mission," Wheatley said. "I think other peacekeeping missions like this are definitely in the future for the MP Corps."

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***"The looks on their faces gave me a good feeling ... I was getting them home in time for the holidays."***

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— Pfc. Charles C. Haislip

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Pfc. Cameron K. Myers, from the 529th Military Police Company, ties down an antenna on his HMMWV.  
Sgt. Lance M. Kamisugi

# Engineers lay down parking lot

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING  
100th MPAD

CAMP BEDROCK — Enough is enough! Spc. Rory T. Windsor says he's sick of all of the mud!

"Vehicles are constantly getting stuck, and it's a drag having to trudge through the stuff," said Windsor, a heavy equipment operator for Company B, 62nd Engineer Battalion.

Through the combined efforts of the 62nd Engineers' Company A, Company B and Headquarters Support Company, mud pits

may be a thing of the past.

At Guardian Base a parking lot, once a field of boot clinging mud, is being renovated.

"Company B is constructing the parking lot at Guardian Base, the support company is running the quarry and Company A is in charge of the scraper operation," said Maj. James C. Skidmore, operations officer.

Operations are being conducted 24 hours a day 7 days a week. However, scraper operations are only being conducted at night.

"We weren't going to use the scrapers at all because of their size — it was either night ops or nothing," said Skid-

more, 32, from Midland, Texas.

Anytime operations are conducted at night, the general assumption is that it is unsafe. Because of the enormity of the equipment, it's safer and more efficient. Soldiers confidence levels are higher at night.

"If we drove during the day we would have to deal with all of the horses, children, and hectic traffic," said Sgt. Brian P. Cook, 29, senior construction supervisor from Harrison, Ark.

The soldiers of the 62nd Engineers will continue to drive through the night in their on-going battle against mud.

# AVLB's not just for bridging anymore

By Spc. CHERYL A. KRANING  
100th MPAD

CAMP BEDROCK — When engineers of Task Force Eagle first arrived in Bosnia-Herzegovina, they erected armored vehicle launch bridges over streams and destroyed bridges to get to their destination. Soldiers realized that the added height given to vehicles when they drove over AVLB's exposed much of the vehicle's underside, making AVLB's a convenient choice for wash racks.

"It was the field expedient way of doing things," said Capt. Anneliese M. Steele, Company B commander, 62nd Engineer Battalion. "Using the AVLBs as washracks was the temporary fix for cleaning and maintaining vehicles."

The 64th Engineers realized that AVLB's cannot be used as washracks permanently, and have begun work to replace them.

"The AVLBs are expensive and they have other uses in this theater," said Steele, 31 from Toledo, Ohio.

The first prototype model for the replacement concrete wash rack is being constructed at Camp Bedrock. The cold weather presents a special challenge for this project. Accelerators are being used to speed up the setting time for the concrete. Upon completion of this project, Company B will make their way to other basecamps, gathering up AVLBs and replacing them with the concrete structures.

Steele said the new wash racks will expedite the cleaning process and also help prepare for redeployment. "The new washracks will enable soldiers to clean out their vehicles extensively before they even go back to the rear for their final inspections and cleaning. The only thing soldiers will have to worry about is the interior."



Spc. Cheryl A. Kraning

Pfc. Chad A. Gouza, a general construction equipment operator for Headquarters Support Company, 62nd Engineer Battalion, cleans his vehicle at Camp Bedrock's washrack.



Sgt. William R. Milligan, a member of Team A, Task Force 1-26, mans an M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicle at the entrance to the Zetra Ice Area in Sarajevo.

Spc. J. Craig Pickett

# Zetra Guards

What was once a facility for the finest athletes on ice is now a home for soldiers and a haunting reminder of Sarajevo's past glory.

By Spc. J. CRAIG PICKETT  
350th MPAD

**Once** the center of attention during the 1984 Winter Olympics, Zetra Ice Arena is a haunting reminder of the constant shelling of the structure and the city absorbed during four years of war.

Today the arena is engulfed by military forces and equipment, serving as the headquarters for NATO forces in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Providing security for this makeshift military compound are soldiers from 1st Platoon, Team A, 1st Battalion, 26th Infantry Regiment, equipped with M2 Bradley Infantry Fighting Vehicles forming a defensive triangle around the arena.

"We're here to ensure the safety of the contractors and everyone at the Zetra arena," said Pfc. Matt T. English, 24, from Garland, Texas. "We monitor the traffic coming in and out and check all IDs."

The soldiers rotate between working the main gate and manning the Bradleys.

"We've organized the shifts of guard duty for maximum efficiency of personnel and maximum rest," said Sgt. William R. Milligan, 32, from Twin Falls, Idaho. "We've tried some different schedules, and the one we have now seems to be the best."

The soldiers have had the opportunity to interact with people from many countries. Platoon leader 1st Lt. Antonio Paz, 25, from San Jose, Calif., said, "We took over duties from the Danish, and for the first week and a half we worked side by side with the British."

The soldiers of 1st Platoon will be relieved by Norwegian troops on the next security changeover.

Sgt. Cliff A. Leach, 26, from Roscoe, N.Y. said, "A lot of different units are here; it's a combined effort. I've had a chance to talk to people from other nations. You can learn a little from them, and they can learn a little from you."

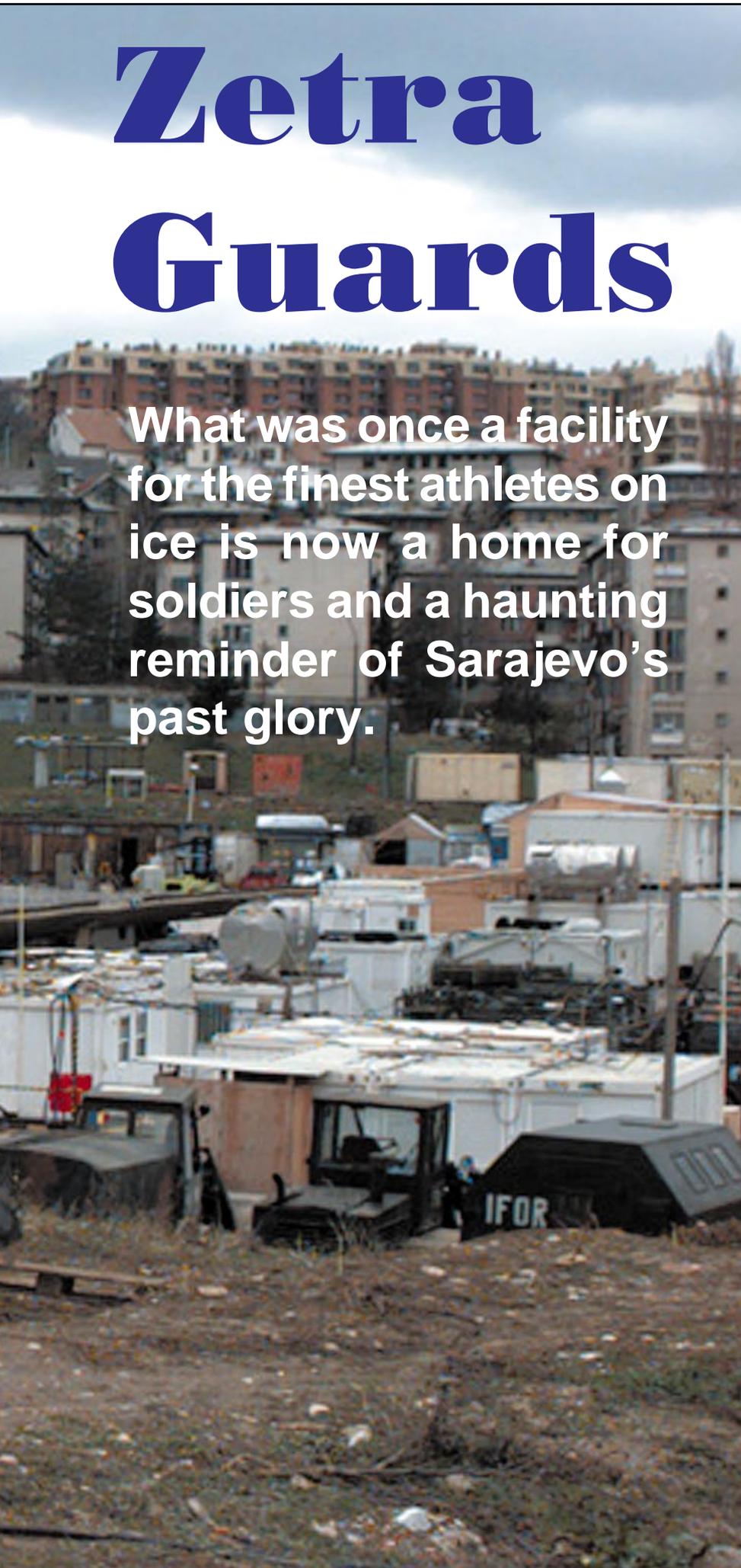
Sarajevo is located in the French sector, which has impacted the way the platoon works. "There is a whole different mentality here in the French sector," Paz said. "Force protection is downgraded to BDUs and soft caps, so as not to portray a threat to the local population."

While on guard duty, however, soldiers must wear all their battle gear.

Like many soldiers deployed to Bosnia-Herzegovina, the troops in Sarajevo live in conexes, and go through the same routine of guard duty, chow, sleep and back to guard duty.

The conexes and chow hall are set up inside the ice arena. The concrete floor that used to be covered by ice and Olympic skaters is now home to the daily activities of soldiers.

"It's not too bad here," Pfc. Ron C. Herring, 23 from Long Beach, Calif. said. "I feel our presence is helping innocent people."



# Turkish Brigade brings muscle, hope to Zenica

By Maj. HASAN SEVINSEL  
CPIC-Tuzla

ZENICA, Bosnia-Herzegovina — The Turkish Brigade, working in Multinational Division North, has played a vital role in the peace process. By promoting a healthy relationship with civilian authorities, the Turks have made large strides in improving the lives of people devastated by war in Bosnia-Herzegovina.

Throughout Balkan history, Turks have traditionally been involved in humanitarian aid projects and social activities. Turkish-made bridges, mosques, churches and schools are still used in some Balkan countries.

The Turkish Brigade repaired 21 schools and donated 1,262 track suits, and over a thousand pairs of sport shoes to local students. The brigade also constructed a 7 km water pipeline, repaired eight sewage systems, renovated 16 polling stations, 19 km of village road, and 16 bridges. Turkish Brigade engineers renovated one Catholic church, four mosques, one Orthodox church and one school.

Turkish Brigade medics have treated more than 24,000 patients and accommodated more than 5,400 dental appointments.

Last spring, they organized competitions of painting, poetry and composition as well as folklore shows for 625 local children. May 19th, a youth race, organized by the Turkish brigade, allowed children the chance to compete and win prizes.

Turkish soldiers provided hot meals for 348 displaced persons for a three-month period, and 32,000 standard food packages and 12,000 children's food packages were distributed in Zenica. Financial support from the Turkish Brigade's Humanitarian Aid Fund sponsors social activities, and evacuates needy local patients to overseas medical centers, while providing eyeglasses, prostheses and direct financial aid to needy people in the area.

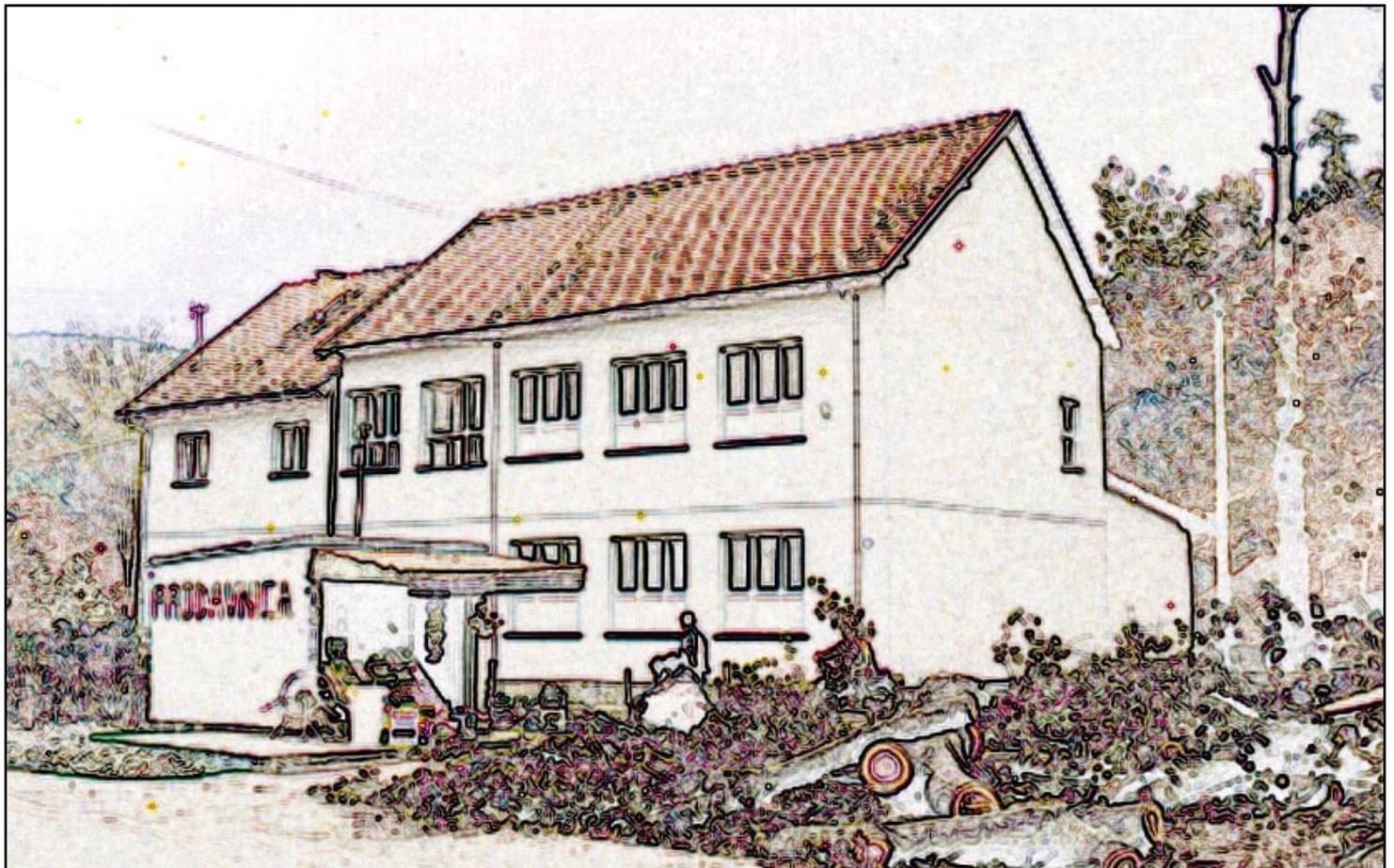
The brigade's engineering assets and soldiers have provided nearly 6,000 hours of support to humanitarian activities. More than 136,000 U.S. dollars and nearly 6,000

Deutsche marks have been spent in order to fund the brigade's humanitarian support programs. All the expenses associated with those are paid for by the Humanitarian Aid Fund, which consist solely of donations by Turkish Brigade personnel.



Maj. Ali Demirel

**Turkish soldiers unload a truck full of building material for a construction project near Zenica.**



Maj. Ali Demirel

**The Turkish Brigade has repaired this war-damaged elementary school near Zenica.**

# A year in the life of Andrei Zotonov

By Lt. Col. ANDREI ZOTONOV  
*Russian PAO, Liaison Officer  
to Task Force Eagle*

**A**t the beginning of 1996, for the first time, I and many other Russian officers and soldiers arrived on Bosnian soil.

I was shocked by what I encountered.

It seemed that the very air was full of the tears and endless grief of the many thousands of people who, during this war, had lost their loved ones, lost their homes and had been left to face their fate on their own.

In the teary eyes of Bosnian Serb, Bosnian Muslim and Bosnian Croat women I read emptiness and, even more devastating, a complete lack of any hope for the future.

In speaking of the peaceful operations in Bosnia-Herzegovina, we agree that the quick and decisive deployment of multinational forces stopped the war in Bosnia-Herzegovina. That the lives of many innocent citizens were saved due to the courage of IFOR soldiers. Russian and American officers and soldiers working together, shoulder to shoulder, carried out their duties to separate the armies of Bosnian Serbs, Bosnian Muslims and Bosnian Croats. Officers of the Russian and Americans staffs received invaluable experience in the organization and planning of joint military operations, including operations preventing armed clashes and provocations between the parties to the agreement.

This is the first military operation since the end of the Cold War that Russian and American soldiers have had the opportunity greet each other warmly with a strong hand shake and a friendly *zdravstvui*, or *hello*.

We talk a lot about the successes of these operations and the political advantage gained by our governments here. But these discussions are always accompanied by hidden and very heavy feelings which tear at my heart ... memories. Heartfelt memories of the suffering of people unknown to me — people who lost their families, and their hopes. There are ghostly images of destroyed houses, and the eyes of frightened and hungry children.

When you see the dreadful remnants of this civil war, it makes you realize fully just how much these people need peace, and how thin the line is between life and death, between happiness and grief.

I have been here almost one year. In that time much has changed in this

land, much has changed for the better. People no longer live in constant fear expecting a new war. Men, having put down their weapons, have started to work in the fields. Children are going to school again.

And there is one more very important thing. It happened to me on one of my last trips around Bosnia-Herzegovina.

While walking down the street of a Serbian village that was almost totally destroyed during the war, I saw a young woman nursing her infant child in the doorway of her home. Quite unexpectedly I saw something in her eyes that made me smile and believe in this country's future.

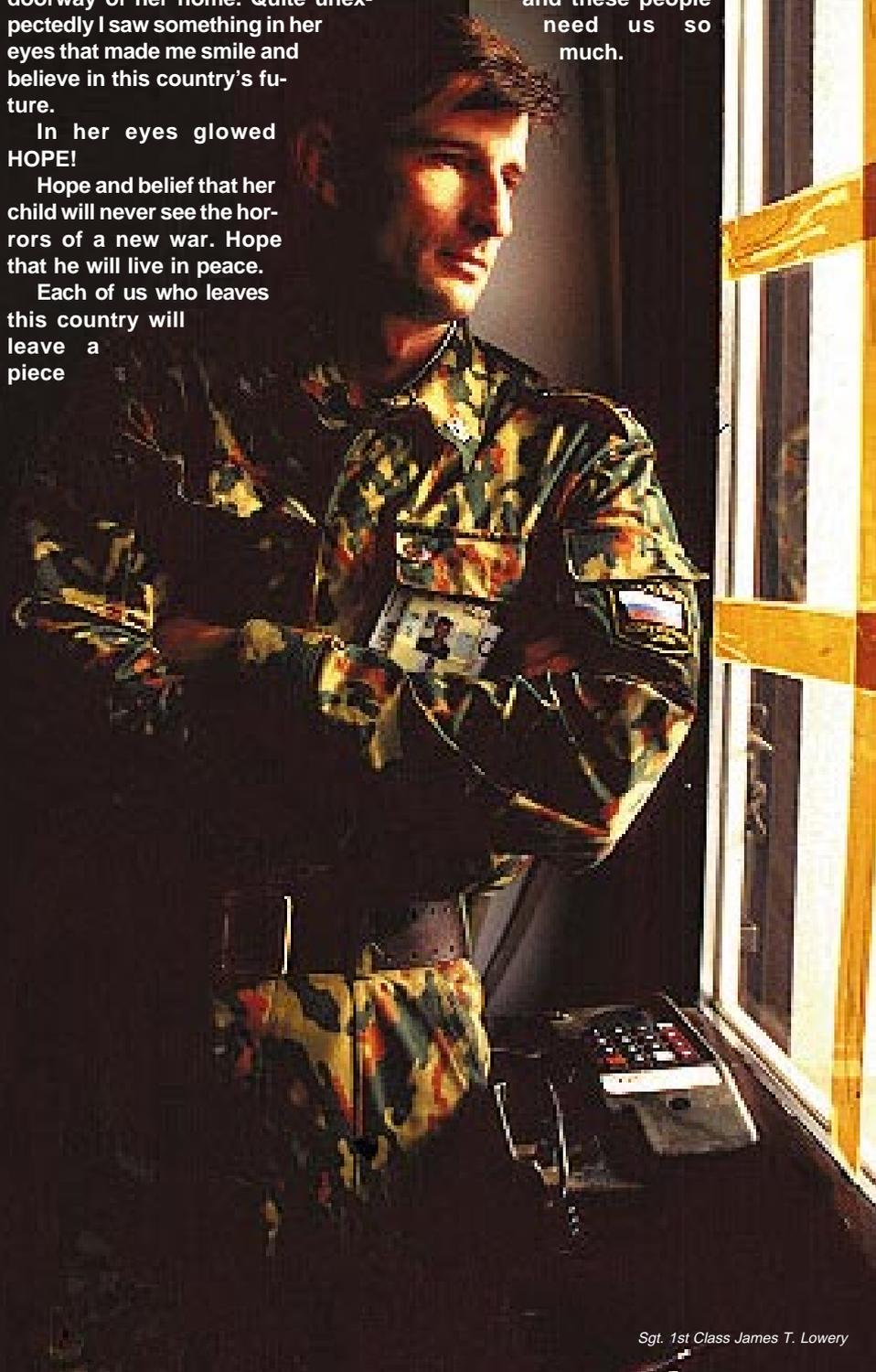
In her eyes glowed  
**HOPE!**

Hope and belief that her child will never see the horrors of a new war. Hope that he will live in peace.

Each of us who leaves this country will leave a piece

of our soul with these people. And I think that for each of us, the words *children, parents, home, happiness and peace* will have a completely new meaning, like the word *hope* has for me. The realization that we are doing something that could save someone's future and bring happiness fills our lives with warmth.

After a year in Bosnia-Herzegovina, it is clear why this country and these people need us so much.



Sgt. 1st Class James T. Lowery

# 299th forward area support team gets job done at Dobol

By Spc. J. CRAIG PICKETT  
350th MPAD

CAMP DOBOL — The 299th Forward Area Support Team is the lifeline of Camp Dobol and its soldiers.

The team handles all classes of material, from water and Meals Ready to Eat, to parts for tracks and trucks. "The whole task force relies on the forward support team," said Sgt. 1st Class Will N. Boyne, 35, the sergeant in charge.

A flat rack of parts and other supplies arrive daily, keeping the task force operational. Sgt. 1st Class James L. Smith, 37, said, "We supply six companies with class nine parts." The Springtown, Texas, native said the parts keep more than 300 tracks and countless numbers of wheeled vehicles rolling. They also receive 10,000 gallons of fuel each week to keep everyone on the road.

Spc. Sharana M. Redd, 24, from Charleston, S.C., said, "I log everything that comes through. We then separate and issue the supplies. After lunch we receive things that are to be turned back in."

Helping keep trucks on the road are eight mechanics, who work seven days a week, up to 10 hours a day or "whatever the mission requires," said Boyne., a native of Marlette, Mich. "Our goal is to get things set up for bad weather." They are well on their way to achieving that goal. They are building a supply tent to keep parts out of the weather, and they have a maintenance tent set up with heat and fluorescent lighting.

"The working conditions

are excellent," said Spc. Jeremy J. Shapin, 21, a mechanic from Grandville, Mich. Shapin and the other mechanics are able to carry out their job much as they would in the rear. Turning up the radio and tuning out the weather, the mechanics are sometimes able to have a 24-hour turn around on a down vehicle.

"The facilities are better than I thought they would be," said Spc. Angel S. Contreras, 22, from Montclair, Calif. Contreras is an armament technician who helps out with the supplies when he's not busy repairing weapons.

The 28-member team at Dobol includes medics, fuel handlers and supply personnel. "All my guys are from different battalions," said 2nd Lt. Chong H. Yim, 25, from San Antonio. "They've been thrown together; many didn't know each other prior to coming here."

A medic with the 299th, Spc. Michelle A. Majewski, 19, from Chicago, Ill., said, "We all seem to look past our differences.

"This has been a definite experience, I've learned a lot of new things about my MOS." The doctors in the aid station teach classes and keep the medics up to date on medical practices.

Although the soldiers come from different units, this has not stopped them from excelling during this deployment to Bosnia-Herzegovina. Boyne gives all the credit to his team.

"I have the best group of soldiers you could ask for. Their motivation has been good; their performance is outstanding."

Spc. Ramiro Lopez (top right photo), from Mathis, Texas, scrapes a HMMWV part, getting it ready to put back on. (Bottom photo) Mechanics Pfc. Robin I. Henley, 18, from Turlock, Calif. and Spc. Jeremy J. Shapin, (behind Henley) 21, from Grandville, Mich., work on a HMMWV in their maintenance tent at Camp Dobol.



Spc. J. Craig Pickett



Spc. J. Craig Pickett

# Big Red One brothers serve together

By Sgt. JACK SIEMIENIEC  
350th MPAD

As the two walk into the company command post, 1st. Sgt. Charles E. Williams looks up and smiles, "Ah, Clemmons, Daniel and Clemmons Steve."

At Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion, Williams uses the naming system to keep two of his soldiers straight. Dealing with brothers make it necessary.

"We're more like friends than brothers," Spc. Steve F. Clemmons, 24 said. Standing next to him at McGovern Base, in Bosnia-Herzegovina, his brother, Sgt. Daniel E. Clemmons, 23, nodded in agreement and smiled.

Smiles come easy to the two, and although neither talks about it much, it's clear the brothers are also close friends.

"It makes a big difference, so far from home, but you've got your family. He's got his big brother; I've got my little brother," Steve said.

The two, both combat engineers with Company A, have been deployed as part of 1st Battalion, 18th Infantry Regiment since mid-October. The Marianna, Fla., pair enlisted together in October 1992, going through their initial entry training together. After that it was off to Germany, to the 10th Engineer Battalion of the 3rd Infantry Division. Daniel went to Company A; Steve, to Company B.

Talking to both becomes confusing as they complete one another's sentences and even speak in unison at times. "In basic training, we would both get dropped for push-ups, because they thought we were trying to protect each other," Steve said. "We were in the same

platoon and even squad — they confused us a lot."

"It (basic training) was our first experience, not away from home, but out in the world," Daniel said. "Most of the time you go alone, but we were there together. If something happened, we always had someone to talk to."

After their first tours in Germany the two went in different directions, Daniel heading to Fort Carson, Colo., and Steve to Fort Knox, Ky., both reporting for duty the same day. But one year later, Steve came down on orders to return to Germany and requested his old unit, now named Alpha, 9th Engineers as part of the reflagging that changed 3rd Infantry Division in Germany to the 1st Infantry Division.

Shortly thereafter, Daniel's orders arrived at Fort Carson.

"I got orders to come back to Germany, and asked to come back to the same unit," Daniel said. He wanted to return to Schweinfurt, to the battalion, because he knew his brother was there.

"When I got there the first sergeant snatched me and said, 'I've got your brother.'" Now back together again since March, Steve drives a HEMMT as part of Headquarters Platoon while Daniel is a team leader in 2nd Platoon.

With Daniel's promotion to sergeant at the be-

ginning of December, Williams has seen a change in Steve. "Clemmons, Steve has always been a good soldier, but lately he's been working a little harder. I think he's making sure he's stays even with his brother," the first sergeant said.

Sgt. 1st Class Jeffrey Stivers, of 2nd Platoon, said, "I don't think they're in competition, but you can tell they do look out for each other. If he doesn't have a mission, Daniel will volunteer to ride with Steve. It's kind of funny, but they know what the other is doing during the day and if there's a card game or dominoes, it's not unusual to see them sitting at the same table."

The brothers say they are part of a close family of six boys and one girl.

"People called us twins," Steve said. "If I dated one sister, he dated another sister."

Asked if they ever have arguments, neither will admit to it.

"Can't really say," Daniel said. "We're going to have disagreements, but we'll sit and talk about it and come to an agreement."

Now at Company A, their separate missions may keep them apart. "If there's no mission, I'll either go down to his tent or he'll come to mine," Daniel said. "It's easier, because you've got family here — there's always someone to talk to."



Sgt. Jack Siemieniec

Sgt. Daniel Clemmons, left, and his brother, Spc. Steve Clemmons are combat engineers with Company A, 9th Engineer Battalion at McGovern Base.

## EOD from page 1

have stored the munitions and they took the initiative by asking SFOR for help in destroying them," he said.

More than 1,800 pieces of unexploded ordnance found their way to the quarry. EOD technicians opened the crates and inventoried each item. The growing list included over 1,200 rifle grenades, 110 land mines, and 141 high explosive anti-tank rockets.

"I'm glad to see that they had so much to give up," said EOD technician Pfc. Mike D. Lindenberger, 23, from Fairfield, Calif. "This is a large collection."

1st Infantry Division Provost Marshall, Lt. Col. Barry L. Keith, 43, of Spencer, Ind.,

helped with coordination between the International Police Task Force, local police stations, civil affairs, EOD, military police, and the Staff Judge Advocate office. He observed the exchange as the many rows of crates and boxes grew.

"Many of the munitions were still in their original crates and in pristine condition," Keith said. "These were weapons that could still be used, not a bunch of old rusted pieces. I'm actually surprised by the amount turned in. It's a success to get these off the street, and out of storage. This will assist in our force protection as well as the safety of the communities."

1st Lt. Jorge R. Serrano, 29, of Minneapolis, Minn., commander of 2nd EOD forward, said numerous details covered dur-

ing planning this event were vital to a safe and successful mission.

"There's many advantages to this method of having them bring the weapons to us," Serrano said. "It's not our mission to go out and collect munitions from police stations. This reduces the hazards to our personnel. We use our expertise to destroy the weapons in a controlled environment. This also reduces the need for extra storage areas, and the security and logistical concerns involved."

"I have hopes that more municipalities across Bosnia will request our support," Johnson said. "It's important to get the dangerous homemade weapons out of storage. It's a safety issue as well as following the provisions of the Dayton Peace Accords."



Spc. Cheryl Kraning

**Petty Officer 1st Class Jeff I. Moleski, explosive ordnance senior technician for the Army/Navy EOD team, uses a training aid to demonstrate an example of the kind of explosive he encounters.**

## JOINT from page 1

"The junior army personnel are so conditioned to look out for senior-ranking officers that when they see a bird with wings they immediately salute," Surratt said. "However it does go both ways. Being Navy, it's difficult distinguishing between Army officers and enlisted when they're all wearing subdued rank."

With downsizing and budget constraints, the military is moving toward more frequent joint efforts in all four branches of the service.

"We now look at one another as an entire unit and no longer as individual entities," said Chief Petty Officer Jeff D. Treisch, detachment first sergeant.

The formation of a joint Army/Navy EOD detachment for service in Bosnia-Herzegovina is a prime example of a force merger. When the 2nd Ordnance Detachment, EOD, based at Grafenwoer, Germany, was called upon to be part of the covering force, they lacked enough soldiers to man detachments in both the rear and in theater; so, the Navy provided the solution. "It's the first time in history

that a joint EOD detachment comprised of Army and Navy personnel has been created," said 1st Lt. Jorge R. Serrano, forward detachment commander.

The detachment's chain of command is interwoven from top to bottom. They have five fully functional, two-man teams, each headed by a navy petty officer or an army sergeant.

Since arriving in theater the detachment has completed more than four dozen missions. In addition to providing unexploded ordnance emergency response, the unit also assists in weapon site inspections, confis-

cated weapons destruction, and bunker destruction.

The "once sailors — now soldiers" didn't have complications meshing with their sister service's way of operating.

"At first I thought it was quite arduous to have to add an extra 20 pounds of equipment onto my apparel, but now that I'm here, I realize there is a method to the madness," said Surratt, 38, from Brooksville, Fla.

According to Treisch, 38, from Warren, Ohio, every branch of service has its own idiosyncrasies, "but it's never anything you can't adapt to and overcome," he said.