



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente

### **Concrete value**

Capt. Madison Morris explains to William C. Anderson how engineers perform strength tests of concrete as it's delivered. Captain Morris is the 1st Expeditionary Red Horse Group Bagram site commander and Mr. Anderson is the Assistant Secretary of the Air Force for installations, environment and logistics. Mr. Anderson visited here Wednesday to conduct facility and base development assessments, as well as evaluate construction requirements.

## **Weasels assist coalition forces**

By Maj. Eric S. Elliott  
 Public Affairs Officer

The 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron here has been supporting Operation Mountain Lion since it began April 12.

The squadron's C-130 Hercules aircraft have delivered supplies such as food, water and ammunition for coalition combat operations.

"Our crews helped position personnel and equipment to forward locations before the operation began, even as our mission planners worked with other joint planners to determine suitable drop zones," said Lt. Col. Thomas Lawrence, 774th EAS commander. "Once the operation began, we capitalized on the C-130's flexibility by delivering essential supplies to units via airdrop and traditional air-land missions." Since the beginning of the operation, the squadron has flown thousands of pounds of supplies to coalition ground forces.

Many of these forces were operating in isolated parts of the country where it would be difficult to bring in supplies by land.

The squadron flew two missions April 25, dropping 12 pallets of supplies to ground forces.

"The C-130 has the capability of resupplying troops in very remote areas, in all weather, day or night," Colonel Lawrence said. "Our aircraft are equipped and our aircrews are trained to fly and deliver supplies where others can't."

— See 'Mountain Lion,' Page 5

Camp Cunningham's



# Top View

## AEF 9 and 10 prepares to depart, has made Bagram a better place

By Col. John Buckingham

455th Air Expeditionary Wing vice commander

Reveille sounded in the form of an alarm clock on that January day. It was warm outside for some but extremely cold for others. The one constant for all was the destination: Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Air and space expeditionary force nine and 10 was underway. Active Duty, Guard and Reserve from all over the world seamlessly joined together to fight the Global War on Terrorism. What a job you have done. I would like to take you back to January and recap some important events and feats all of us endured during this deployment.

The first individuals we all met were Brig. Gen. Bruce E. Burda, 455<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing commander and Chief Master Sgt. Fredrick Ricker, the 455<sup>th</sup> AEW command chief master sergeant, two superb leaders who lead by the motto "people first, mission always." One request they made was before you leave, make things a little better than when you arrived. I believe we've accomplished this. The C-130 squadron arrived here. Different A-10s were now in place after flying 14,000 miles from Alaska. The Sailors from my home state of Washington were getting settled and doing a remarkable job with their Prowlers.

By the first part of February we were rolling, protecting the airfield and generating and flying sorties, unloading and loading aircraft, continuing construction projects and taking care of the needs of individuals. In the middle of February, Combined Joint Task Force 76 completed its changeover. About 12,000 new Soldiers started arriving. The Airmen of this wing were instrumental in making this enormous task possible.

New leadership always means changes. You were the first

stop for Lt. Gen. Gary L. North, 9<sup>th</sup> Air Force and U.S. Central Command Air Forces commander, on his trip around the theater. He gave you a big thumbs up and told you we're right on track. After meeting him, I knew we were in good hands with his strong leadership. Maj. Gen. Benjamin Freakley, the new CJTF-76 commanding general was in town. Bagram started to change.

March came in like a lion and began with President and Mrs. Bush making a surprise stop to thank Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines for their service.

Then Airmen were asked to stand guard on the base perimeter.

This time we had to explain that the Air Force is trained, equipped and manned for a specific job and we do that job very well, but we do not have the manpower to accomplish that particular task. The Army reluctantly understood.

Then one day in March "Old Glory" was lowered from over Camp Cunningham, and we were reminded that we shouldn't take things for granted. There was an empty feeling across the camp and thank goodness the next morning she was raised with pride and honor once again.

Later in March, we paid tribute to the memory of Senior Airman Jason D. Cunningham who gave the ultimate sacrifice in support of his country and for whom our camp

is named. This was one of the highlights of my tour, and I was extremely proud to be a part of that day.

April brought the final planning and execution of Operation Mountain Lion. Again, the 455<sup>th</sup> was asked to step it up a notch and support a huge ground effort spearheaded by the 10<sup>th</sup> Mountain Division to rid the Taliban in the rugged mountains of northeast Afghanistan. Fortunately, our leaders made sure this operation was well resourced and Coalition Forces, Afghanistan



Colonel Buckingham

**Bagram Bullet**  
Editorial Staff, Disclaimer

Brig. Gen. Bruce Burda ..... Commander, 455th AEW  
Maj. Eric Elliott ..... Chief, Public Affairs  
Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente ..... Editor/NCOIC, Public Affairs



*This newspaper is an authorized publication for Airmen and Sailors deployed to Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Contents of the Bagram Bullet are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government or the Department of Defense. The editorial content is edited, prepared and provided by the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing Public Affairs office.*

National Army and Afghanistan National Police are in the region to stay.

Now May is right around the corner and all are looking forward to reuniting with family and friends. What have we done you ask? Through March, A-10s flew about 1,200 sorties and 3,900 hours, the EA-6Bs flew about 250 sorties and 700 hours, the C-130s flew about 1,300 sorties and 1,600 hours, and the single EC-130 flew about 100 sorties and 500 hours.



Airmen from the logistics readiness squadron moved 1.5 million short-tons of cargo, pumped 5,500,000 gallons of fuel and kept more than a hundred vehicles working. Security forces accomplished 106 fly-away missions, protecting our assets at austere locations. Our medics saw more than 2,200 people and the aero-medical evacuation flight cared for 253 patients on 76 missions moving them to better equipped facilities. Public affairs made sure our story was told around the world. The list goes on and includes a plethora of accomplishments all of you have helped attain.

The sun is beginning to set, and our days here are coming to an end. You can almost hear that

familiar sound of a lone bugler beginning to play "Taps."

We will soon be redeploying back to our home stations. Reuniting with friends and family, but before I leave, realize I am extremely proud of all of you for what you are, who you are and what you have done. Thank you for your service. I salute you. God Bless America!

## One family, two sides

*a history lesson on "Taps"*

Reportedly, it all began in 1862, during the Civil War, when Union Army Capt. Robert Ellicombe was with his men near Harrison's Landing in Virginia. The Confederate Army was on the other side of the narrow strip of land.

During the night, Captain Ellicombe heard the moans of a soldier who lay severely wounded on the field. Not knowing if it was a Union or Confederate soldier, the captain decided to risk his life and bring the stricken man back for medical attention. Crawling on his stomach through the gunfire, he reached the stricken soldier and began pulling him toward his encampment. When the captain finally reached his own lines, he discovered it was actually a Confederate soldier, but the soldier was dead.

He lit a lantern and suddenly caught his breath and went numb with shock. In the dim light, he saw the face of the soldier. It was his own son. The

boy had been studying music in the South when the war broke out. Without telling his father, the boy enlisted in the Confederate Army.

The following morning, heartbroken, the father asked permission of his superiors to give his son a full military burial, despite his enemy status. His request was only partially granted. The captain had asked if he could have a group of Army band members play a funeral dirge for his son at the funeral. The request was turned down since the soldier was a Confederate. But, out of respect for the father, they did say they could give him only one musician. The Captain chose a bugler. He asked the bugler to play a series of musical notes he had found on a piece of paper in the pocket of the dead youth's uniform. This wish was granted. The haunting melody, we now know as "Taps" used at military funerals was born.

## Brief Bullets

### Ceremony

The wing's monthly promotion and recognition ceremony will be held 1630L Saturday in the phase hangar. Come support the enlisted Airmen who are being promoted and recognized.

### Services calendar

Events are hosted by Services every night at 1900L in the Rec Tent. For more information, or to make a suggestion, contact Tech. Sgt. Hallett at 231-4360. This week's events are as follows:

Today: Bingo  
 Saturday: Texas Hold'em  
 Sunday: Bugout Bash  
 Monday: Gary Sinise visits  
 Tuesday: Ping Pong  
 Wednesday: Texas Hold'em  
 Thursday: Dominoes

### Bugout bash

The AEF 9 and 10 Bugout Bash is scheduled for Sunday. Air Expeditionary Force nine and 10 will hold a barbeque and sports day as Airmen prepare to depart here. Events include an amazing race, volleyball, dunking booth, laundry cart race and much more. To volunteer, or make a suggestion, see your first sergeant, the Airmen Committed to Excellence council, Middle Tier Association or Top 3.

### MTA meeting

The next Middle Tier Association meeting is scheduled for 1800L Wednesday in Town Hall. The Middle Tier Association is for staff and technical sergeants who want to be involved in morale functions here.

### ACE meeting

The next Airmen Committed to Excellence meeting is scheduled for 1500L today in the Oasis. The ACE is a private organization for senior Airmen and below to help provide morale-boosting events for deployed Airmen on Camp Cunningham.

# 774th gives aid to ground troops



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente

Senior Airman Travis R. Robotkay gives the signal to stop the driver of the cargo loader carrying container delivery system pallets. Airman Robotkay is a 774<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Airlift Squadron loadmaster. He is a guardsman deployed here from Kulis Air National Guard Base, Alaska.

## Mountain Lion

### From Page 1

Two of the drop zones used during the operation were on the side and crest of a steep mountain. This created particular problems for planners who had to determine the best flight path to help the aircrew hit the target while preventing the bundles from going over the edge of the mountain, the colonel said.

“We’d never used drop zones like these,” Colonel Lawrence said. “This mission required a lot of preparation and planning. We knew that if we missed the drop zone, the supplies would fall down into the

valley and be of no use to the ground troops.”

Three aircraft flew these missions, dropping 34 pallets, each weighing about 1,000 pounds, “on time and on target,” he said.

“The mission was a success because we were able to bring the ground forces the supplies they needed,” Colonel Lawrence said. “It was rewarding to be able to directly support our fellow warriors in harm’s way, and (it) also reconfirmed the unparalleled capabilities of the C-130 and of our Airmen.”

Besides resupplying troops, the 774th also has delivered more than

30,000 pounds of humanitarian supplies to villages in the Korengal Valley, one of the poorest areas of the country, said Army Lt. Col. Michael Forsyth, Task Force Spartan effects chief. Supplies included food, medicine, fuel, clothing and water.

“We want to build trust and confidence among the people for the coalition and its efforts, and we believe by establishing this trust the local populace will be willing to cooperate with coalition forces in identifying insurgents, caches, enemy leaders and threatening activities,” Colonel Forsyth said. “A positive connection with the population is the key to denying the insurgents the ability to sustain themselves or to reenter the area.”

## Things to know before going home

# Retraining eligible must comply by May 15

**RANDOLPH AIR FORCE BASE, Texas** - To meet the Fiscal 2006 Noncommissioned Officer Retraining Program objectives for 30 undermanned Air Force Specialty Codes, Airmen identified as retraining eligible must complete their retraining packages by May 15.

Nearly 1,100 Airmen who have not completed their administrative requirements face separation if they fail to comply with this Air Force policy.

"It's critical the Air Force balances the enlisted corps across all Air Force specialties to meet its mission requirements," said Maj. Gen. Tony Przybyslawski, Air Force Personnel Center commander here. "The NCO Retraining Program is a vital tool to ensure the Air Force has experienced NCOs serving in all career fields."

Airmen who decline retraining must separate on their current date of separation or when their term of service expires. They are ineligible for promotion, voluntary assignment consideration and reenlistment or extensions for the remainder of their enlistment. Declination may preclude Airmen from enlisting in another service branch or into the Air Force Reserve or Air National Guard. In addition, the Air Force will not score promotion tests for Airmen who tested as of May 15 and declined retraining.

"Airmen must commit to retrain now, because those who wait too long will be separated," said Col. Kurt Pfitzner, chief of the personnel process and development division at AFPC.

The two-phased Fiscal 2006 NCORP is a multi-purpose program designed to rebalance the enlisted force by moving NCOs from career fields with overages to those skills experiencing manpower shortages. It included a voluntary retraining phase that ended in October and an involuntary phase which began Nov. 30 and is still in effect. To date, the Air Force has only retrained 442 Airmen toward the Air Staff goal of 1,069.

For more information regarding retraining policy, Airmen should contact their base military personnel flight or major command retraining office. *(Courtesy of the Air Force Personnel Center)*

## SARC reminds Airmen of available agencies

April is Sexual Assault Awareness Month, which creates an opportunity to highlight the new Department of Defense and military services policies addressing sexual assault prevention and response.

Restricted reporting allows a sexual assault victim to confidentially disclose the details of his or her assault to specified individuals and receive medical treatment and counseling without triggering the official investigative process. Servicemembers who are sexually assaulted and desire restricted reporting under this policy may only report the assault to the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator or a health care provider. However, consistent with current policy, they may also report the assault to a chaplain. Although a report to a chaplain isn't a restricted report under this policy or the provisions of this directive, it's a communication that may be protected under the military rules of evidence or applicable statutes and regulations.

Health care providers will initiate the appropriate care and treatment, and report the sexual assault to the SARC in lieu of reporting the assault to law enforcement or the command. Upon notification of a reported sexual assault, the SARC will immediately assign a victim advocate to the victim.

The VA is a volunteer who will assist the victim through the crisis by being supportive and by accompanying the victim to appointments as necessary.

Restricted reporting is available at this time only to Active Duty, Reserve and Guard servicemembers provided they are performing federal duty.

Unrestricted reporting is recommended for victims of sexual assault who desire medical treatment, counseling and an official investigation of the crime. When selecting this option, a victim should use current reporting channels, such as their chain of command, law enforcement or report the incident to the SARC, or request healthcare providers to notify law enforcement. Upon notification of a reported sexual assault, the SARC will immediately assign a VA. Details regarding the incident will be limited to only those personnel with a legitimate need to know.

As the current rotation winds down, remember to be respectful to each other and to look out for the safety of each person here.

Sexual assault is a crime. The 455<sup>th</sup> Air Expeditionary Wing commander has a zero tolerance for sexual assault. For more information concerning the Sexual Assault Prevention and Response Program, contact the SARC at 231-2245, or visit him in bldg. 737. *(Courtesy of the Sexual Assault Response Coordinator)*

## Camp Mayor Reminders

### CAMP CLEANUP

There will be a Camp cleanup to include weed eating Sunday morning. Due to the Bug-Out-Bash, clean up will start at 0830L.

### AFGHAN HOLIDAY

Due to the Afghan national holiday, Victory Day, there will be no bazaar today. Be aware of this celebration and how it will impact the local population who come onto post for daily employment work.

### POWER OUTAGE

There is a power outage scheduled for Sunday beginning 0600L to 1800L. Not all power feeders will experience the outage for the full 12 hours. There may be a short delay in initializing the facilities that have backup generators when the power grid is first shut down. Cadillacs A, B, C and D, and the Red Horse and distinguished visitor showers will not be operational until power is restored. Do not attempt to use these facilities until power is restored.

Cadillacs E and F, located near the tower and basketball court, in addition to the latrines across from the 774th Expeditionary Airlift Squadron operations tent and in front of the 755th Expeditionary Mission Support Group Explosive Ordnance Disposal flight building will be the only facilities available until full power is restored.

### MOTOR VEHICLES

Be aware of the post rules for operating motor vehicles. Army and Air Force security forces are patrolling the base for violations of speed and operation. Make sure to wear proper safety equipment and use proper safety procedures when operating Gators and other all terrain vehicles. Violators and their first-line supervisors are subject to corrective training in a day-long program conducted every Sunday.

### END OF ROTATION

Approximately two weeks, or less, remain until air and space expeditionary force one and two begin arriving. Prepare good continuity books, checklists and other job-specific programs for a good turnover.

A reminder that many are under the 30-day mark prior to redeploying back home. Everyone is required to complete a Post Deployment Health Assessment at this time. Visit Flight Medicine to complete the PDHA. Remember to bring the out-processing checklist as well.

### DFAC CLOSED

Freedom Fighter Café, also known as the Aviation Dining Facility, will be closed for maintenance Monday.

### COMEDY SHOW

Dog Tag Comedy will be performing 2000L today in the the Bagram Airfield Morale Welfare and Recreation Clamshell.

### MEET AND GREET

Gary Sinise will be signing autographs during a meet and greet in the Rec Tent 1400L Monday.

## Bachelor degree seekers may apply for AFA grant

Senior Airmen through senior master sergeant Community College of the Air Force graduates pursuing a bachelor's degree are eligible to apply for the Air Force Association's Aerospace Education Foundation's Pitsenbarger Award, formerly known as the Eagle Grant.

The application and instructions are available on the web at <http://www.afa.org/aef/aid/pit.asp>.

Airmen should list their decorations, citations and awards for the past six years.

Additionally, the narrative should be no more than two pages.

The proof of current enrollment should be signed by a school official.

## Comm tip of the week



### MAPPING THE NETWORK DRIVE for NIPR:

- Right-click on "My Computer", Select "Map

Network Drive"

- In the drop-down box select the letter "S"

- Type in

`\\BGRMA7NAFS\DRIVE\S`

DRIVE press "Enter"

- Ensure the "Reconnect at logon" box is checked

- Click Finish

## *Airmen guide ANA leaders in proper processes*

By Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente  
Editor

**KABUL, Afghanistan**—The Afghanistan National Army Central Workshop is a strategic level depot for vehicles, tanks, aircraft, weapons, communications and ground support equipment. In the center of Kabul, the main depot is a large fenced-in area surrounding long-standing facilities, some without electricity. In this compound, the largest, most diverse Air Force embedded training team in Afghanistan is composed of 18 members mentoring ANA Central Workshop leaders on military procedures and responsibilities in sustaining facilities and equipment of the Afghanistan National Army.

“We’re trying to revitalize a nation that’s been at war for a long time,” said Master Sgt. Martin W. Fox, 755<sup>th</sup>

Expeditionary Mission Support Group ANA ETT mentor for armament, test, measurement, diagnostic equipment and manufacturing divisions for the Central Workshop. “As ETT mentors we teach the ANA civilians to be self-sufficient.”

“The ANA must be able to support itself when coalition forces leave,” said Maj. Kenneth D. Heath, 755<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Mission Support Group ANA Central Workshop ETT senior mentor. “We have to design facilities and processes that will enable the ANA logistics system to provide the soldier the right equipment at the right time.”

Mentoring the Central Workshop commander and senior staff, Major Heath has faced challenges during his five-month deployment.

“The language barrier has been one of the biggest challenges I’ve faced,” he said. “I’ve learned that most of the terms our military uses don’t translate into Dari.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente

Jawed, right, interprets a discussion between Master Sgt. Martin W. Fox, left, and Hakim, middle, about improvements required in the armament section and the safety needs of workers to meet upcoming Afghanistan National Army requirement. The armament facility has no electricity at the moment. Sergeant Fox is assigned to the 755<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Mission Support Group ANA ETT as a mentor for the armament, test, measurement, diagnostic equipment and manufacturing divisions for the Central Workshop.

The interpreters on our team have to work very hard to ensure everything is translated correctly.”

Working in 19<sup>th</sup> century factories without windows and lights is an additional challenge, said Sergeant Fox.

The Central Workshop ETT is working to build the Central Workshop from the ground up, said Major Heath. The former workshop was destroyed during the Afghanistan-Russian war.

Currently, the Central Workshop has 114 permanently assigned personnel and approximately 200 Afghan civilians who are working for partial salary until the depot is rebuilt and operational.

The ETT is in the process of designing the new depot as well as identifying the equipment needed to support the required maintenance activities, the major said. Once operational, the Central Workshop will employ 1,704 employees assigned to seven headquarter sections and nine divisions with 53 separate branches.

# ENDURING FAITH CHAPEL

**Weekly services:**

**Muslim**

Fridays ..... 1800L (1330Z)

**Jewish**

Fridays ..... 1900L (1430Z)

**Seventh Day Adventist**

Saturdays ..... 0930L (0500Z)

**Roman Catholic**

Saturdays ..... 1945L (1515Z)

**Liturgical Protestant**

Sundays ..... 0830L (0400Z)

**Protestant**

Sundays ..... 1130L (0700Z)

**Latter Day Saints**

Sundays ..... 1300L (0830Z)



**Church of Christ**

Sundays ..... 1400L (0930Z)

**Korean Protestant**

Sundays ..... 1545L (1115Z)

**Gospel**

Sundays ..... 1730L (1300Z)

## DFAC hours

**Breakfast**

0530 to 0900L

**Lunch**

1130 to 1330L

**Dinner**

1630 to 2100L

**Midnight**

2330 to 0100L

DCUs and Air Force physical training uniforms are mandatory when dining at any of the facilities here.

No bags, purses or backpacks are allowed in any of the dining facilities.

# Plausible Denial

By Jurgi



Good news...  
Bad news...  
Worse news...

*Jurgi*  
April 06

Camp Cunningham residents who have rights to the shared drive can access other Plausible Denial cartoons at S:/SHARED FILES/PLAUSIBLE DENIAL.



Photo by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Redente

### *Thunderbolt service*

Staff Sgt. Justin D. Stone services an integrated drive generator on an engine of an A-10 Thunderbolt II. Sergeant Stone is assigned to the 455<sup>th</sup> Expeditionary Aircraft Maintenance Squadron as a crew chief. He is a Campton, Ky., native deployed here from Eielson Air Force Base, Alaska.

## **MTA MOVIE NIGHT**

**The Middle Tier Association hosts Movie Night 1900L Mondays at the MTA Snack Shack. Monday's movie will be *The Sentinel*. Cast includes Michael Douglas and Kiefer Sutherland. Rated PG-13. Pete Garrison is the most decorated agent in the history of the Secret Service - the president's last line of defense. The agent is wrongly suspected of targeting the president for assassination. Garrison has become the Secret's worst nightmare. As he uses his formidable skills to try and prove his innocence and find the real assassin, Garrison is tracked by his equally adept former protegee.**

## Bagram's Best



**STAFF SGT.  
DARRYL C. LYLES**

Sergeant Lyles here as the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing and Combined Joint Task Force 76 Air Component Coordination Element Protocol noncommissioned officer in charge. He is deployed here outside of his career field of a security forces desk sergeant from the 90th Security Forces Squadron at F.E. Warren Air Force Base, Wyo.

After his career in the Air Force, the Chicago native, hopes to become a federal air marshal using the experience the Air Force has given him.



**STAFF SGT.  
JOSEPH A. QUEVEDO**

Sergeant Quevedo is a Central Air Force Construction Management Office engineering technician. He is deployed here from the 22nd Civil Engineer Squadron, McConnell Air Force Base, Kan.

The Pampanga, Philippines, native hopes to complete a successful 20-year career in the Air Force and be a mentor to new Airmen.

He has been in the Air Force for 10 years.



## Logicians give kites to children at Egyptian hospital



Photos by Master Sgt. Paul S. Raymond

Above: Lt. Col. Richard A. Peterson looks on as Senior Airman Jason R. Miller shows a young child how to play with a toy. Colonel Peterson is the 455th ELRS commander and Airman Miller is an aircraft services specialist. Their squadron received donations from their home station and Japanese local nationals from Yokota Air Base, Japan.

Right: Senior Airman Michael W. Allen hands a kite to a young boy visiting the Egyptian hospital here for medical care Sunday. Airman Allen is an aircraft services specialist for the 455th ELRS.



Above: Senior Airman Gregory Bonfiglio hands a yo-yo to a child visiting the Egyptian hospital here. Airman Bonfiglio is assigned to the 455th Expeditionary Logistics Readiness Squadron as aircraft services specialist.

