

SEPTEMBER 27, 2002

TALON



**Task Force Aviation bolsters
ability to respond in Balkans**

Inside this issue:

**Secretary of the Army visits soldiers
Finnish Army share common goals with U.S.**

Task Force Eagle www.tfeagle.army.mil

TALON

Published in support of
Operation Joint Forge
September 27, 2002
Volume 9, No.2

**Commander,
Multinational Division
(North)
Brig. Gen.
John T. von Trott
762-9700**

**Command Sergeant Major,
Multinational Division
(North)
Command Sgt. Maj.
Horace Pysher
762-3493**

**Public Affairs Officer
Maj. Shawn Mell
762-5239**

Media Operations Officer
Maj. John Dowling

**Public Affairs NCOIC
Sgt. 1st Class
Kelly Luster**

**Command Information
Chief
Sgt. 1st Class**

Talon Staff
354th Mobile Public
Affairs Detachment

**Editor
Sgt. 1st Class
Kelly Luster
762-0190**

**Assistant Editor
Spc. Jessica Abner**

The *Talon* is produced in the interest of the service members of Task Force Eagle. The *Talon* is an Army-funded magazine authorized for members of the U.S. Army overseas under the provisions of AR 360-1. Contents of the *Talon* are not necessarily the official views of, nor endorsed by, the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army or Task Force Eagle.

The *Talon* is published weekly by the Task Force Eagle Public Affairs Office, Eagle Base, Tuzla, Bosnia and Herzegovina APO AE 09789. Email at Kelly.Luster@email-tc3.5sigcmd.army.mil. The Task Force Eagle web address is www.tfeagle.army.mil. Printed by PrintComTuzla. Circulation: 3,500.

From the Editor...

Each morning as I walk to my office here on Eagle Base, I do so on a route that takes me up "Salute Alley." Many here know it well. I wonder though, do they also read the sign that states, "Salute with Pride." Additionally, many soldiers do not know exactly why they salute.

No one knows the specific origin of the salute, but speculation has it people greeted each other, they would raise their right hand (generally the weapon hand) with the palm exposed so someone traveling in the opposite direction could see no weapon and consequently meant to do no harm. According to the U.S.

Army Quartermaster School, the following history is probably the most accurate.

Saluting was a long-established military custom for juniors to remove their headgear in the presence of superiors. In the British Army as late as the American Revolution, a soldier saluted by removing his hat. But with the advent of more cumbersome headgear in the 18th and 19th centuries, the act of removing one's hat was gradually converted into the simpler gesture of grasping the visor and issuing a courteous salutation. From there it finally became conventionalized into something resembling our modern hand salute.

As early as 1745 a British order book states "The men are

ordered not to pull off their hats when they pass an officer, or to speak to them, but only to clap up their hands to their hats and bow as they pass."

Whatever the actual origin of today's hand salute, clearly in the tradition of the U.S. Army it has always been used to indicate a sign of *respect* – further recognition in the profession of the military, courtesy is both a right and a responsibility of *every* soldier.

You have the honor of wearing one of the greatest uniforms in the world and serving the greatest military force. In doing so you also accept the responsibilities that go with each. So the next time you approach a fellow soldier, greet them and "Salute with Pride."

Word on the street...

"What comes to mind when you think of safety?"



Staff Sgt. Amy Weaver
422 Medical Detachment
Veterinary Services

"The pull-up bar. I was getting down from the pull-up bar and broke my foot on the frame. You have to be careful."



Staff Sgt. Clyde Walker
Supply Sergeant
Co. B, 142nd Military Intel.

"Reflective Belts. What I would like to know is why we have to wear the reflective belts with the new reflective PT uniforms."



Sgt. Brian Leonhard
Armorer
HHC, 28th Inf. Div.

"Making sure safety standards are fully enforced and looking out for your fellow soldier."



About the covers: Front, CW2 Jed Dilworth, Apache pilot, 1st Bn., 183 Avn., inspects the rotor during pre-flight inspection. Back, 2nd Lt. Risto Holappa, CIMIC team, Finnish Army, inspects a shelter in the village of Smoluca, Bosnia and Herzegovina.





Task Force Eagle
Stabilization Force
SFOR XII
Bosnia-Herzegovina



**Command Sgt. Maj.
Horace Pysher**
Multinational Division (North)
Command Sergeant Major

We are in the beginning stage of our rotation here in Bosnia and Herzegovina. We are still gaining familiarity with the dangerous road conditions, the aggressive driving habits of the local citizens and situational awareness of our surroundings.

TFE CSM says... Safety is everyone's business

In the very near future, we will be faced with yet another driving challenge; winter road conditions.

We have already been involved in several vehicle crashes, or what others like to refer to as accidents. Fortunately, these accidents have been minor and did not result in any injuries...yet!

According to Webster's Dictionary, an accident is defined as an unfortunate event resulting especially from carelessness or ignorance. In other words, an accident is something that can and should be prevented.

What caused these accidents? Failure to use ground guides, leaving the mirrors out on the HMMWV, and just plain old inattentiveness.

So how do we prevent vehicle accidents? Maybe we should start with standards, situational awareness, patience, re-

spect for others on the roadway and good leadership. Sound familiar?

The time has passed for words. We have all heard of the first, second and third effects of our decisions. Your decision to violate safety standards will result in the first effect; the damage or injury caused. The second effect is responsibility. The third effect is accountability.

Safety is everyone's business. If you see an unsafe act, make on the spot correction, no matter what your rank. You must follow the standards that have been implemented; these are time-tested standards that have proven to be effective.

I made a promise to your families and the command that I would bring every soldier home in the same condition or better than when they departed. I need everyone's help and cooperation in making sure that promise is fulfilled. **Roll On!**

Policy revisions explain benefits for deployed soldiers

Staff Sgt. Marcia Triggs

Army News Service

With more detail, but less legalese, a revised deployment and mobilization policy on Operations Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle will hopefully eliminate problems with orders, Army officials said.

Some soldiers have shipped their privately owned vehicles overseas on temporary duty orders, which is not allowed, said Lt. Col. Nobel Lugo, a finance action officer for the Deputy Chief of Staff for Personnel, G1. Then there are some soldiers who are getting unauthorized per diem, he added.

The Personnel Policy Guidance, which is published at <http://www.odcsper.army.mil/>, contains eight sections that outline everything from deploying to redeploying troops who are engaged in the war on terrorism. It also delves into

equipment, medical and dental and family assistance for deployed troops.

"The biggest problem is that soldiers don't know what their entitlements are," Lugo said. "The PPG is written in simple terms so that anyone can understand it. It's not for a specific audience, but I advise the people who publish orders to visit the Web site."

Example, travel orders for both operations are printed in the policy because clerks were using orders that were made for other operations and just changing the name, Lugo said. Soldiers also need to understand that the entitlements are different for both Enduring Freedom and Noble Eagle.

Reserve-component soldiers mobilized for the state-side operation, Noble Eagle, are authorized movement and storage of their household goods. However, personnel assigned to Operation Enduring Freedom

are not authorized to store or move their household goods, the PPG states.

Entitlements are not only different between Noble Eagle and Enduring Freedom, soldiers participating in the same operation may have inequities of benefits.

Personnel mobilized for Noble Eagle, who had to leave their local commuting area, are entitled to travel pay to the duty station and then back home after the mobilization. They are also authorized per diem during the entire period of active duty, according to the policy.

Personnel ordered to duty at a location within their local commuting area are also entitled to travel pay to the duty station and back home after the mobilization. However, they are not authorized per diem or mileage during the active-duty tour, the policy states.

"Even though the first PPG

came out Oct. 19, it left a lot for interpretation," Lugo said. "It was finalized, but we were still writing and rewriting. There will be changes, and we'll reflect that in the policy."

The entitlement section had the most changes, but that's always the case, said Lt. Col. Corrina Boggess, the chief of Military Mobilization Branch, Operations Division, G1. As an operation matures, additional information comes in. Awards are another example of entitlements that have to be added later in the operation.

Initially there are no awards for a particular operation, but now mobilized reservists can wear the Armed Forces Reserve Medal with "M" device, Boggess said.

For more information about benefits available for soldiers serving in Operation Joint Forge, go to <http://www.dfas.mil/> on the Internet and click on "money matters."

Dynamic Re



Above, An AH-64 Apache provides cover fire for incoming UH-60 Black Hawks carrying soldiers from the 2nd Inf. Bn., Portuguese Army. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster. Below, An UH-60 Black Hawk prepares to drop troops in a hot LZ. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster. Left, CW3 James Newcomb, Apache 183rd Avn., inspects the tail rotor of an AH-64 Apache during pre-flight. Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster.



Dynamic Response '02

by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster

Editor, 354th MPAD

GLAMOC, Bosnia — While Portuguese armored vehicles roared through a pitted valley, smoke billowed from smoke grenades. Mortars were fired from a point out of site and slammed the objective. Then a formation of ominous aircraft emerged over the horizon and pummeled the targets with deadly accuracy. Blackhawk helicopters navigated the uneven terrain and finally dropped their cargo — soldiers from the Portuguese 2nd Infantry Battalion.

Task Force Aviation and the Portuguese Army participated in Iberian Resolve II, an exercise that is part of Dynamic Response. Dynamic Response is an exercise designed to assure the people of Bosnia and Herzegovina that NATO will rapidly reinforce SFOR with a highly effective, mobile, combat force. Although this is the first Dynamic Response of SFOR XII, it is not the first time it has been done.

Dynamic Response was first carried out in 1998 using more than 1,822 soldiers from six countries including the United States, Turkey, Romania, Poland, Italy, and the Netherlands. The exercise uses soldiers from the Strategic Reserve Force (SRF), which is a multi-national force that include several military specialties. The exercise typically goes through several “dry runs” before ending a live-fire exercise.

Due to the the crisis in Kosovo in 1999, Dynamic Response was canceled. In 2000 it was held only in the Kosovo area of operation. During 2001, it was held in the SFOR area and again six nations participated.

During this exercise, soldiers of the Portuguese Army assaulted a hill and simulated taking enemy fire. After calling for support, the Portuguese soldiers

dropped artillery on the objective after which Apaches provided cover fire so soldiers could be transported safely. The infantry soldiers took the hill before moving to the pick up zone.

One of the concerns with any live-fire exercise is safety. CW3 Pete Haack, Black Hawk pilot, Task Force Aviation, said, “Safety is paramount, especially when you’re dealing with live ammo and people on the ground.”

According to Haack, there was a great deal of coordination with the soldiers on the ground. A site recon was conducted as well as dry-fire rehearsals to ensure the safety of all

those involved.

Maj. Doug Smith, plans officer, helped plan the exercise and worked in conjunction with his Portuguese counterpart, Maj. Eduardo Pombo. “I think it was an overwhelming success. We overcame several barriers including language,” said Smith.

CW3 Edward DeGuisto, Black Hawk pilot, Task Force Aviation, said that after flying on a mission like this, he better understands why we’re here.

“Most people don’t know the extent of the destruction from the war. Once you see it, then you know why you’re here.”

UH-60 Black Hawks
by CW4 Kim Harris.
landing zone. Photo
the gunner, 1st Bn.,
e-flight inspections.



Above, Sgt. Craig Handy, Apache crew chief, 1st Bn., 183rd Avn., inspects a 30 mm canon on the AH-64 Apache. Below, Portuguese soldiers run to the safety of a waiting UH-60 Black Hawk. Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster.



SFOR partners share common goals

Story and photo by
Spc. Jessica Abner

Assistant Editor, 354th MPAD

BORICE, Bosnia —When you think of the United States Army, what is the first thing that comes to mind? Perhaps it is the slogan “Army of One” used in Army magazine ads and television commercials. The U.S. Army is not alone in Bosnia and Herzegovina. Soldiers from around the globe join an “Army of One” in the SFOR mission, here.

Although all militaries comprising SFOR wear different uniforms, they share a common goal- to contribute to a safe and secure environment. The Finnish Army is just one of the international partners located here on Eagle Base, that are contributing to the future of the Balkans.

Government service, whether civil or military, is mandatory for Finnish citizens. If the choice is to serve with the Finnish army, the soldier attends basic combat training and is required to serve six months active duty. After completing active service, the soldier is considered a reservist. Reserve soldiers can volunteer to deploy on missions such as Bosnia and Herzegovina, but it is not required.

Out of the 105 deployed Finnish soldiers, most are stationed here at Eagle Base. Like the citizen-soldiers of the U.S. Army Reserve and National Guard, Finnish soldiers put their civilian lives on hold when deployed.

Senior Lt. Timo Gromberg, who has been here since December 2001, is a team leader on the CIMIC (Civil Military Cooperation) patrol team. The CIMIC team is comparable to Task Force Eagle’s civil affairs unit here on Eagle Base and has earned a reputation for their abilities.

“I believe that CIMIC and civil affairs is absolutely the most critical part of the SFOR



Senior Lt. Timo Gromberg, a Finnish CIMIC team leader, addresses concerns with a returnee in a village in Bosnia and Herzegovina, while on patrol.

mission right now.” said Lt. Col. Walter Lord, Deputy G-5, Civil Affairs, Task Force Eagle.

“Our task is to help returnees, refugees and displaced persons return to where they used to live,” said Gromberg. “It’s all about the Dayton Peace Accords and creating a positive atmosphere because the citizens have a right to return to their pre-war homes.” Gromberg said the CIMIC team receives training related to their job, but most training comes from on the job experience.

“Someone has got to do this job here, so why not me?” said Gromberg. According to Gromberg, the Finnish soldiers join the military for reasons similar to their U.S. counterparts, some of which include college money and education. But for others like Gromberg, it may be patriotism.

“I guess it has to do with family values. My grandfather fought in World War II and

was wounded three times. He could have been released from service the first time he was hurt, instead he always went back,” he said. According to Gromberg the citizens of Finland owe it to the people who gave their lives in previous wars to protect the independence of their country and if a war occurs he would willingly sacrifice his life to keep it free.

The goals of the Finnish military and U.S. military are similar in many ways. Not only do the Finnish CIMIC team and Task Force Eagle civil affairs do the same kind of work, soldiers from both countries share the same opinion about the importance of supporting the citizens of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

The soldiers at Eagle Base speak different languages, wear different uniforms, and come from different countries. Those barriers fail to present a problem when it comes to the mission of building the future of Bosnia and Herzegovina.

CIMIC training enlightens MND (N) soldiers

Eighteen soldiers from MND (N) gathered last week in Sarajevo for the Civil Military Cooperation Course at Camp Butmir. The students studied subjects such as CIMIC liaison, project identification, country assessments, displaced persons and refugee centers, planning, and establishing CIMIC centers.

Soldiers learned more about civil affairs within the SFOR area of operation. Troops from Finland, France, Germany, Italy, Spain, Switzerland, Turkey, and the United States participated. In addition to classroom training, soldiers learned invaluable lessons on how to work with multinational partners.

“The main focus of the training was the development of projects like roads, bridges, and schools,” said Capt. John Sheaf, MND(N) reconstruction officer. He went on to say these infrastructure improvements would go a long way in helping to rebuild Bosnia and Herzegovina. Soldiers participating in the

CIMIC training are now able to do a better job coordinating projects throughout the region.

The class attendees gained firsthand knowledge and familiarity with international organizations operating in Bosnia and Herzegovina such as the Organization for Security and Cooperation Europe (OSCE), the United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR), the Office of the High Representative (OHR), and the U.N. Mission in Bosnia and Herzegovina (UNMIBH). These international organizations also play a larger role in the rebuilding process.

Students observed two civil affairs projects in the region- a rebuilt school and a new road that was once heavily mined and in disrepair. The projects are examples of how civil-military cooperation efforts can work to help rebuild people’s lives, communities, and attitudes.

Army Secretary visits Eagle Base to thank citizen-soldiers for their efforts

by Maj. John Dowling

354th MPAD, commander

EAGLE BASE, Bosnia — Army Secretary Thomas White recently paid a visit to Stabilization Force 12 soldiers at Eagle Base to thank them for their service just 24 hours after the formal assumption of command.

The 28th Infantry Division of the Pennsylvania National Guard assumed command of Multinational Division (North) from Hawaii's 25th Infantry Division during an official transfer of authority ceremony just the day before.

In addition to introducing himself to Brig. Gen. John T. von Trott, commanding general of MND (N), White also took time to visit with several enlisted soldiers who will be "on point" for America during the rotation, which is expected to last the next six months.

While dining in the Balkan Grille, White emphasized the importance of reserve-component troops as America continues to fight global terrorism.

"The active Army cannot move today without the guard and reserve," said Secretary White. "The Army is truly integrated. I cannot tell the difference between active duty, guard, and reserve soldiers when I meet with them all over the world."

Staff Sgt. Mitchell Ragland, HHC, 28th Inf. Div., battle sergeant, was one of more than a dozen soldiers invited to "break bread" with Secretary White.



by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster

Staff Sgt. Mitchell Ragland, battle sergeant, 28th Inf. Div., listens to Army Secretary Thomas White discuss U.S. commitments in the Balkans with soldiers during lunch at the Balkan Grille.

"It was great. It was something I never expected. He was real down to earth," said Ragland. "Besides, he's the only secretary officer I've ever met."

The troops found out they were chosen to "do lunch" with the Army's top civilian just an hour before the meal. During lunch White took time to personally answer any and all questions from the soldiers.

The Secretary, a retired brigadier general and two-tour Vietnam veteran,

once again underscored Washington's high regard for the guard and reserve in his responses, according to Ragland. The reserve components will be pulled into mainstream military operations worldwide instead of just being tagged for homeland defense and disaster relief operations," said Ragland. "There were a lot of different questions asked and he didn't give us the "political answer" — I have a great respect for that."

After lunch, Secretary White posed for pictures and handed each of the soldiers a coveted commander's coin to formally thank them for their contributions to the nation.

SFOR 12 is the first rotation in seven years comprised nearly entirely of National Guard and Army Reserve citizen-soldiers. The 28th Infantry Division is the third National Guard headquarters element to assume command of MND (N) following the 49th Armored Division (SFOR 7) and the 29th Infantry Division (SFOR 10).



by Sgt. 1st Class Kelly Luster

Spc. Jared Miller, personnel clerk, HHC, 1st Bn., 109th Inf., talks about the deployment with Army Secretary Thomas White and Brig. Gen John T. von Trott.

"The active Army cannot move today without the Guard and Reserve."

*—Thomas E. White
Secretary of the Army*



ODER