



JUNGLEER TIMES

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BG Douglas A. Pritt / CSM Brunk W. Conley

March 11, 2006

Brig. Gen. Douglas A. Pritt welcomes CJTF Soldiers

Congratulations and welcome to Combined Joint Task Force (CJTF) Phoenix. You are an important member of a great team about to perform the most important mission of the US and Coalition Forces in Afghanistan. Your individual contributions are critical to our overall success in training the Afghan National Army. How well we perform will determine how soon American Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines can return home to the United States.

Having just returned from Afghanistan I can tell you without hesitation we have the right team to perform this mission. I am confident we will excel and set a new stan-

dard for others to follow. The key leaders in the task force have been specifically selected for their talents and experience. We have matched their skills and personalities to meet the demands of the area and specific needs of the Afghan Army unit they will be training. They are also a great resource for you and will teach, coach and mentor you as you perform your critical role in this task force. Listen to what they offer as they share their wealth of experience with you.

Our primary mission is to train the Afghan National Army (ANA) and get them to a level of performance where they can conduct independent platoon level combat operations. Our implied mission is to be great

ambassadors for the United States and enhance our relationship with the citizens of Afghanistan.

Building relationships with the ANA and citizens of Afghanistan is the foundation of our mission. There are five pillars that are key to our success; Character, Competence, Creativity, Service and Leadership. In the coming weeks I will talk about each of these areas in more detail. For now I ask you to train hard and live the Soldiers Creed, adhering to the Values that have helped make us the greatest army in the history of mankind.

JUNGLEERS!

Douglas A. Pritt
BG, Commanding

Command Sgt. Maj. Brunk W. Conley Speaks on Discipline

Discipline is our #1 Priority

Salaam! What a great first week! The entire Task Force is almost completely assembled, and our march toward validation, and deployment is underway. I have been impressed by the motivation and professionalism of our soldiers and leaders. It has been hectic, but I appreciate everyone's demonstration of last week's topic – "Patience". Don't lose that trait. You'll still need it in the future. But we're on our way.

This week's topic is discipline. This is my number one priority

for the Task Force.

Discipline in my words – doing and demonstrating the proper action and behavior even when no one else is watching.

We all have been taught the right way – the Army way – of doing things. In the absence of oversight it is easy to take short cuts. Short cuts can cause accidents or even death in a combat environment. We must always choose the hard right over the easy wrong. This is accomplished by being personally disciplined. I have confidence in each and every one of you. I know you'll make the correct decision when faced with a

choice. If you don't know the answers ask those around you or your leadership for guidance. Being in a hurry is no excuse for sacrificing military discipline. Team leaders, I am counting on you to be our first line check to maintain individual and unit overall discipline. Together we can achieve excellence in all we do.

"Khoda Hafez"
(Dari for goodbye or best wishes)

CSM Conley

Soldier's Creed

- I. I am an American soldier – a protector of the greatest nation on earth – sworn to uphold the Constitution of the United States.
- II. I will treat others with dignity and respect and expect others to do the same.
- III. I will honor my Country, the Army, my unit and my fellow soldiers by living the Army values.
- IV. No matter what situation I am in, I will never do anything for pleasure, profit, or personal safety which will disgrace my uniform, my unit, or my Country.
- V. Lastly, I am proud of my Country and its flag. I want to look back and say that I am proud to have served my Country as a soldier.

Passports Needed Overseas

Passports will be necessary to visit any country other than the US while on leave or pass. If you have an old passport, you can apply for a renewal passport by mail. Otherwise, you will need to physically visit an authorized passport center.

For new passports you will need an original birth certificate. You can order this online from your respective state, vital statistics office. This can take several weeks, so begin the process in time to get your passport here in Mississippi or while on block leave. If the name on your birth certificate does not match your ID, you will need to present documentation such as a marriage license to justify it.

Passport applications can be found on KCC under SJA/Civil Law, or search online for DS-11 or DS-82. Do not sign the form until you are in the passport office. POC is SPC Bays in the BDE JAG office, DSN 8-4174.



Now Showing: Dolton Hall Theater

Sunday, March 12, 2006

Big Mama's House II, PG-13, 7 p.m.

Tuesday, March 14

Hoodwinked, PG-13, 4 p.m.

Wednesday, March 15

Nanny McPhee, PG-13, 4 p.m.

Friday, March 17

Annapolis, PG-13, 7 p.m.
Underworld & Evolution, R, 9:15 p.m.

Saturday, March 18

Nanny McPhee, PG-13, 4 p.m.
The Matador, R, 6 p.m.

Sunday, March 19

The Matador, R, 6 p.m.

Senior Officers endure Two-day Cohesive Training recently

"Sleep is a crutch," CSM Conley jokingly stated to the assembled crew of 24 TF Phoenix V staff officers, ETT commanders, SECFOR, and the LTF Commander at the 0400 OP Order brief. The group was informed not to pack food, but to include a laundry list of items in their ruck to make the load nice and heavy. Task Force Phoenix "Survivor" had begun.

The leaders deployed into a TAA and prepped for operations with four items out of an MRE, and water. Exercise "Survivor" was a challenging team building exercise consisting of a continual sequence of events which included ruck marches, live fire exercises, link-up operations, negotiations, CAS EVAC, night and day land navigation. Other events included; Black Hawk loading and unloading procedures, with a recon flight around Camp Shelby for the next opera-

tions. The senior officers also repelled a cliff, and endured more ruck marches (the jury is out as to the exact distances of the road march).

The exercise culminated with a convoy exercise led by LTC Yandell, Commander of the SECFOR Battalion against an aggressive OPFOR. The teams of officers even had the opportunity to cook raw food over a hot-bed of coals they created. The meal cooked by the officers was chicken and potatoes, "this was the first time I've been able to work with some of the members of the staff. The exercise brought back memories of what it was like to be a platoon leader and soldier again," said MAJ Mike



MAJ Ed Wingard, J-3, repels for the first time during Cohesive Training exercises... (story next week)

Wegner, Headquarters Company Commander. BG Pritt provided a ENDEX meal for the group to include a peer evaluation exercise, "I had an awesome team," said MAJ Robert Fraser, "after what we went through, I now know I would do just about anything for the 'Scruffy' Lot!"



Sgt. Bradley Tune

Oklahoma Soldier in the Spotlight

Oklahoma City native Sgt. Bradley Tune is serving as a personnel administrative specialist with the 1-180th from Durant, Oklahoma... Sgt. Tune has been in the military for over 10 years and this security mission to Afghanistan will be his second deployment in the last 4 years. "One of the greatest and most

under advertised aspects of the guard is the chance to get out and help your neighbors, and I look forward to participating in our security mission." Sgt. Tune served in Operation Noble Eagle, securing Will Rogers Airport and helped with the tornado relief in 1999. Sgt. Tune volunteered for this deployment

and is excited to be with the 1-180 Infantry, "There are few military units with the pride and tradition of the 45th and the 180th, I am humbled and honored to be part of it."

CJTF Mission Statement

Coalition Joint Task Force PHOENIX executes broad-based training, mentoring, and assistance program in order to enable the Afghanistan National Army (ANA) to field a mission-ready Central Corps.

Latest News Events in Afghanistan

Dangers Up Ahead (*Time, March 13, 2006, Pg. 36*) Violence is surging in Afghanistan at a time when the U.S. military is hoping to draw down its 19,000-member force and turn over responsibility for much of the troubled south to NATO forces. Washington also hopes

the newly trained Afghan army, which has 35,000 troops, will assume a greater role. But in places like Helmand province, where few Afghan or foreign troops are stationed, the main burden of fending off the insurgents has fallen to an Afghan police force that is poorly trained

and often overmatched by the Taliban.

Field Hospital Taking on Littlest Patients in Afghanistan
Local Health Ministry, U.S. Army Work Together On

(Continued on page 3)



Nelson Asks for 21st Century Definition for Guard and Reserves

WASHINGTON, D.C. – Nebraska's Senator Ben Nelson today asked the Commission on the National Guard and Reserves to examine the past and present roles the National Guard and Reserves have played in our national defense strategy and to develop a 21st Century definition for the Guard and Reserves for the future.

"The role of the National Guard has changed over the years, from the local militia that fought at Lexington and Concord to the modern day fighting force that has seen battle in Fallujah and Baghdad," said Nelson, Ranking Member of the Senate Armed Services Personnel Subcommittee. "This Commission must examine the roles of the Guard and Reserves and how the proposed reformation of America's fighting forces will impact their ability to meet operational duties here and abroad."

During one phase of the Iraq War, nearly half of the U.S. combat forces were Army National Guard soldiers. There is high demand domestically for the Guard—90 percent of the troops responding to Hurricane Katrina were National Guard members.

Afghanistan News (cont.)

Tough Pediatric Cases
(*Mideast Stars and Stripes*, March 6, 2006)

An Army field hospital in Afghanistan seems an unlikely place to find seriously ill children. But a new partnership between Forward Operating Base Salerno and the local ministry of health has transformed the tiny tent hospital into something of a pediatric intensive care unit

World in Brief
(*Washington Post*, March 9, 2006, Pg. 15)

Afghan narcotics agents launched a major opium eradication campaign in the heartland of the world's largest producer of illicit drugs, driving tractors through fields of poppies to grind up the plants. Some 1,000 heavily armed police officers and soldiers guarded the drug agents because Taliban insurgents have threatened to defend the poppy farms, but there were no reports of violence. The campaign is part of a

Camp Shelby MWR News...

Camp Shelby MWR proudly honors the 1/34 BCT in their awards and deployment ceremonies with a training event starring Luke Stricklin, and Bobby Rush. The "free" live performance is Tuesday, March 14 at 5 p.m. across from the Camp Shelby Post Exchange. The Steel Magnolias and the 131st Army Jazz Rock Band will also be performing. Lawn chairs will be permitted, however, no outside food, beverages, or coolers will be allowed

News From Oregon

[Portland Acquires Voshon Lenard and Brian Skinner](#)

Portland Trail Blazers General Manager John Nash announced today that the club has acquired **G Voshon Lenard** from the Denver Nuggets and **C Brian Skinner** from the Sacramento Kings.

The Nuggets received **F Ruben Patterson** and **G Charles Smith** in a four-team deal that includes the Trail Blazers sending **G Sergei Monia** to the Kings. In addition to Patterson and Smith, the Nuggets obtained **F Reggie Evans** from Seattle. he Sonics also acquired **G Earl Watson**, **G Bryon Russell** and Denver's second round draft pick in 2008 while sending **F/C Vitaly Potapenko** to Sacramento

U.S. - and British-funded initiative.
Phoenix survivor

Allies at Odds Over Data on Terror
(*Washington Times*, March 8, 2006, Pg. 12)

A dispute between Afghanistan and Pakistan over intelligence in the war on terror worsened, with Kabul saying it has provided "very strong and accurate" information on Taliban and Al Qaeda fugitives in Pakistan, which Islamabad has dismissed as outdated. The war of words reflected increasing bitterness between the two key U.S. allies as militant violence escalates on both sides and Islamabad proposes fencing or mining the rugged frontier.

Afghan Official: We Need Help For 15 More Years
Country's Primitive Infrastructure Slows Reconstruction
(*Mideast Stars and Stripes*, March 7, 2006)

A rash of new American-funded projects has brought new life to Afghanistan's southern Khowst province, but military officials say the larger challenge is getting Afghans to take the lead in rebuilding their own country. American and local officials say it will be years-even decades-before the Afghan government will be able to foot any part of the bill.

Here is a good source of information on Afghanistan for soldiers to look at, and training to take.

<https://call2.army.mil/index.asp>

TF Phoenix BLOG available:

A warm welcome to embedded reporter Scott Kesterson from Portland, Oregon. Kesterson, who will be deploying with us for the entire year, is updating a daily BLOG located at:

http://www.beloblog.com/KGW_Blogs/afghanistan/

... Dari word of the week "Lotfan" (please)

Okalahoma News

House appropriations chairman jumps into speaker's race

TIM TALLEY
Associated Press Writer

OKLAHOMA CITY — Republican state Rep. Chris Benge of Tulsa, chairman of the powerful House Appropriations and Budget Committee, said Friday he is jumping into the crowded race to become the next speaker of the Oklahoma House.

Meanwhile, GOP Rep. Mark Liotta of Tulsa, who had planned to run for the speaker's job, said he is dropping out of the race but will seek the House's No. 2 job of speaker pro tem.