



The PHOENIX PATRIOT

"...From the Ashes..."

3rd. Edition, Volume I

Official Publication of Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V

Oct. 9, 2006



Photo By 1st Lt. Timothy Merritt

First National Afghan Branch Conference Sets Standard

Story by 2nd Lt. Amanda Straub

Last week approximately 70 Afghan and American leaders and experts from around Afghanistan met at the first ever National Field Artillery Conference at Kabul Military Training Center to share ideas and continue improving the Afghan National Army (ANA) Field Artillery Branch.

The conference was modeled after similar U.S. conferences designed to facilitate discussion and standardize field artillery procedures amongst diverse

units. Maj. Geoffrey Liljenwall, conference Officer In Charge (OIC) and field artillery mentor, said it is extremely important to solidify the field artillery branch as an important tool in winning the War on Terrorism in Afghanistan.

"Field artillery is a huge combat multiplier when used effectively," Liljenwall said. "There is a lot of knowledge on the ANA side. They are solid artillerymen."

The culmination event was a live-fire exercise conducted by the 4th Kandak, 2nd Brigade, 201st Corps. 4th Kandak field artillery unit is the oldest in the ANA and

effectively demonstrated flawless field artillery procedures and expert marksmanship. 4th Kandak fired a combination of Russian D-30 122mm Howitzers and mortars.

"We are really spoiled by this group," Capt. Dallen Christensen, American Embedded Trainer for the 4th Kandak, said. "They really know what they're doing."

It is common for units separated by geographic location to develop differing techniques for accomplishing their mission, especially in a war torn land like Afghanistan. The goal of the field artillery conference, and others like

it, is to bring commanders together to share ideas and solve common problems in communication.

"The conference was a complete success," Christensen said. "It was reassuring to hear that other units face the same challenges we do. We shared a lot of tips and tricks."

The field artillery conference was the first national branch conference in Afghanistan designed to help all elements function in concert. A similar conference targeted at improving methods and communication between units in the engineering branch is scheduled for this fall.

INSIDE THIS ISSUE



New Chapel Opens at Phoenix pg. 3



HA Missions Shape Afghanistan pg. 4,5,7



SECFOR Busts Smuggling Ring pg. 6



On Point w/ the CSM

Jungleers,

I'm honored to have the opportunity to address you while I cover down on CSM Conley's duties here on post while he is down range dodging bullets.

I'd like to turn the spotlight on a group of Soldiers that often get overlooked during the discussions of

our Task Force.

Our Task Force is a perfect representation of what made America great, the melting pot of diverse cultures and people that united together. We have the warriors from the NAVY, AIR FORCE, and MARINES. We have NATIONAL GUARD representation from 48 states and 3 territories. We have coalition forces, Army Reserve, and even a few active Army soldiers, but there is another group that has served their country honorably and thought that they were done, our warriors from the IRR.

These great Americans took the hard right over the easy wrong, they got "the letter in the mail," and answered the call. They weren't still in uniform, knowing that deployment was only a matter of time, let alone volunteering for it. They had executed their service to the country and moved out to have a life on the outside.

They are dressed just like the rest of us, except for an odd left sleeve patch that nobody had seen before, so it's hard to pick them out in a crowd. They are executing their duties with pride and professionalism as are the rest of our warriors.

I would like to thank all the IRR soldiers that answered the call, placed your life on hold, packed up your unique skill sets, and joined our melting pot, Task Force Phoenix, to make a difference for the people of Afghanistan.

William Elfering
SGM, USA
Operations Sergeant Major



General Guidance

Warriors,

On 5 October 2006 the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF), took over responsibility for military operations throughout all of Afghanistan. Many of the members of CJTF Phoenix V have asked about the impact this historic event will have on our team and

our mission.

First let me assure you we are in full cooperation with ISAF and have been for some time. Our mission covers all of Afghanistan and we have been working with ISAF in three-fourths of Afghanistan for many months. Second our mission is not under the direct control of ISAF and training and equipping the Afghan National Security Forces will not be an ISAF mission for some time. Third the future success of the Afghan National Security Forces will depend on our ability to synchronize the efforts of the Afghan National Army and Police Forces. This process will be enhanced by ISAF serving as the single Command and Control Headquarters for the entire nation.

Our higher headquarters remains Combined Security Transition Command – Afghanistan and our direction and focus will be constant and unwavering. We will continue to work closely with ISAF and our Coalition Partners as we assist in the process of building a professional Afghan National Army and Police Force.

Our partnership with other nations has expanded to 13 nations and will continue to grow as other countries realize the importance of our mission. ISAF facilitates this process and plays the central role in recruiting personnel from other nations to join the Phoenix team.

You are at the leading edge of one of the most important military missions in the world. Creating a safe, secure and stable environment where terrorism is not tolerated and defending freedom for everyone is a noble and rewarding mission we can all be proud of.

Douglas A. Pritt
Brigadier General,
Commanding

“Men make history, and not the other way around. In periods where there is no leadership, society stands still. Progress occurs when courageous, skillful leaders seize the opportunity to change things for the better.”

Harry S. Truman

Fellow Patriots-

In the past few weeks we have seen a lot of change take place throughout the task force. The recent changes with ISAF, recent changes that expand our mission and the influx of new faces

morph the role and look of the Task Force.

We wipe the sleep from our eyes each morning only to find that nearly everything we knew from the previous day has now changed. Sometimes the changes are minor, sometimes they are large. Moving locations, changing jobs, working with new teams are all forms of change we deal with.

Other forms of change are a bit more subtle, and can only be seen when you take a step back and look at the big picture. Only five years ago, girls in

Afghanistan were not able to attend school. Task Force Phoenix, alongside the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police, has built schools, dug wells initiated medical assistance and economic reform. The task force has trained and mentored a national army where nothing existed five years ago.

We are making a difference here. We are helping Afghanistan rebuild after decades of war. Change in the task force may come quickly, but the more permanent changes come after many years of work.

The Phoenix Patriot is the official publication of Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix V, authorized under the provisions of AR 360-1. The views and opinions expressed in *The Phoenix Patriot* are not necessarily those of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, or the departments of the Army, Air Force, or Navy. *The Phoenix Patriot* is a bi-weekly publication distributed to deployed Soldiers, Airmen, Sailors and Marines all over Afghanistan with a circulation of 3500. *The Phoenix Patriot* is happy to publish photos and articles from the field and we encourage readers to submit original material to the CJTFPHX V Public Affairs Office. All contributions, questions, comments and suggestions should be submitted via e-mail to: amanda.m.straub@afghan.swa.army.mil.

Editor in Chief/ Writer/ Photographer - Second Lieutenant Amanda M. Straub - Content Manager
Writer/ Photographer - First Lieutenant Cathrin Y. Fraker - Public Affairs Officer
Writer/ Photographer - Sergeant First Class Tom Roberts - Public Affairs NCOIC
Writer/ Photographer - Lieutenant Janette M. Arencibia - Marketing Officer

New Chapel Dedicated at Camp Phoenix



The Camp Phoenix Chapel before remodeling.

Story by Lt. Janette Arencibia
Photos by 2nd. Lieut. Amanda Straub

After great anticipation and several weeks of collective effort from various individuals, Camp Phoenix celebrated the newly remodeled chapel in a dedication ceremony on Sept. 26. The remodeling project started in mid-August and was completed at the end of September. Civilian and military individuals at Camp Phoenix worked alongside each other to remodel the chapel. As a result of the expansion, the chapel now has the capacity to hold 70 people. A room added during remodeling provides increased privacy for counseling and confession.

“We now have a multi-purpose building that will better serve all faith groups with honor and distinction,” Lt. Col. Terrance Schrick, Task Force Command Chaplain, said.

There will be other on-going improvements made to the chapel which include new flooring and carpeting. The library is being enhanced with book donations from from the U.S.

Schrick lead the joint faith service following the ribbon cutting by Brig. Gen. Douglas Pritt and Col. David Enyeart celebrating the opening of the chapel’s new

double doors. Chaplain Andrew Werner, Lt. Col James Randolph, Rabbi Bobby Bethea and Father Christopher Benoist also participated in delivering the dedication message. Refreshments and fellowship followed the ribbon cutting and dedication. All are welcomed and encouraged to attend services throughout the week.

Schedule of Services:

Sundays

0900 Protestant Service
1030 Church of Latter Day Saints
1700 Catholic Service

Monday, Wednesday and Friday

0600 Prayer Group

Tuesdays

1900 Woman’s fellowship
“A Purpose Driven Life” Devotional Series (Oct 19)

Wednesday

1900 Bible Study

Friday

1900 Sabbath Service

Saturday

2000 Gospel Service



A surprise gift, a steeple crafted and donated from a chapel patron Robert Smith, completes the new chapel.

Navy ETTs On Deck At Camp Cobra

Story by Darulaman ETT
Lt. Christopher Nettles

DARULAMAN, Afghanistan - A new Embedded Training Team (ETT) recently hit the deck at Camp Cobra near Darulaman. Cmdr. Peter Van Loon will serve as the Officer In Charge of the Navy personnel, and Senior Mentor to the Afghan Garrison

Commander, Col. Mangal Omer Khill. As senior mentor, he will help Khill shape Afghan National Army (ANA) forces into a more disciplined, organized fighting force.

Chief Petty Officer Eric Peterson will serve as the Senior Enlisted Mentor to the Garrison Sergeant Major, Shafeeq. Shafeeq is responsible for enlisted

troops and requires a firm hand and good leadership skills.

ETTs are responsible for mentoring and advising their ANA counterparts. The ETTs work alongside ANA forces attempting to “work themselves out of a job” by helping the ANA develop the skills and resources necessary to run operations in Afghanistan

without coalition involvement. The ETTs at Camp Cobra will train their Afghan counterparts in garrison and command operations to support and direct Soldiers fighting down-range.

Camp Cobra is just outside the Southwest corner of Kabul near the ANA’s Darulaman base. Camp

See Sailors on page 7

School Opening

Story and Photo by 1st. Lt. Cathrin Fraker

On Aug. 28, American and Afghan Soldiers from the 201st Corps and members of the Afghan National Police celebrated the dedication of a new school with villagers of Sang-Kwista. What sets this school apart from other schools is the story behind the dedication of the builder, Salim, head contractor for GeoSurvey Construction Company.

The school’s budget was set firmly at \$85,000 and there was little room for changes. That did not deter the excitement and dedication of Salim and his team who added several extras at no charge and completed the school in just 65 days.

Safety for the children was a big concern. They needed a wall



Maj. Gen. Mangal, Master Sgt. Einwalter and Salim cut the ribbon.

behind the school to protect the children from rocks that fall from the mountainside. Salim and his company added the wall at no charge. They also added a four inch concrete and rebar layer between the rocks and the foundation to stabilize the structure against earthquakes. They built a 12-inch insulated roof filled with earth and straw to cool the classrooms, and added a water tank for the students and teachers to drink from.

Every time Salim wanted to add something extra to the school, Master Sgt. Einwalter, American Non-Commissioned Officer In Charge of the project, would remind Salim that he didn’t have to do the extra work, it was not part of the contract.

Salim’s simple response was always, “This is for the children. For our children. I have to do this.”

When Einwalter first came to the school site a few months ago, the teachers and their students were conducting class outside on the hillside. The school has come a long way from the days of the make-shift classroom on the hill.

Maj. Gen. Mangal, Commander of the 201st Corps, attended the dedication with many of his Soldiers and said, “This is a beautiful school where our children can get a good education. Our country needs more doctors and engineers and this will be where they will get their start.”

Mangal closed his remarks with a promise, “Your Afghan National Army and your Afghan National Police will protect this school and the children. The children are the future of Afghanistan.”

Humanitarian Mis

Well Construction

Story by 2nd. Lt. Amanda Straub

Soldiers from the United States and the Afghan National Army (ANA) officially opened three new wells in the village of Qal-Eh Gulbaz during the peak of summer.

Brig. Gen. Mohammed Amin Wardak, drank from one of the new wells and addressed the people from the village.

“I am commander of Kabul Military Training Center,” Wardak said. “Our Soldiers are very happy with their training and the opportunity to serve their country. A new school is being built in Family Village. There are three new wells in the village here. All of this is made possible with the help of our friends and mentors in the US Army.”

The three wells will serve more than 700 people in a village desperate for water. The country of Afghanistan is frequently plagued by drought, and the current drought is in its eighth year. Qal-Eh Gulbaz

PROJECT #	RCAG	AREA	PROJECT
41BCT012	205	Kandahar	Health Care
41BCT014	1-180	Kabul	Cultural
41BCT017	203	Patkia	Education
41BCT018	1-180	Patkia	Governance
41BCT024	207	Herat	Governance
41BCT036	207	Herat	Governance
41BCT041	TAG	Kabul	Water
41BCT045	141 LTF	Kabul	Governance
41BCT046	141 LTF	Kabul	Water
41BCT049	203	Patkia	Education
41BCT032	207	Herat	Civic Clean
41BCT042	141 LTF	Kabul	Civic Clean
			Projects in

The Commander’s Emergency Relief Program (CERP) makes funds available for commanders at all levels to rebuild Afghanistan. But it takes more than money to make progress in this war-torn land. It takes the hard-work and ingenuity of Afghan and American Soldiers dedicated to improving the quality of life for all Afghans. It often takes the generosity of non-profit or-

Decisions Shape Future

is hit especially hard during periods of drought due to the fact that its existing wells are shallow and the water table drops too low to draw water during summer months.

Qal-Eh Gulbaz is located between Kabul Military Training Center (KMTC) and the village of Pol-E-Charki. This summer the area saw an increase in insurgent activity including an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) on the road in front of the village. The IED was discovered and detonated by coalition forces. American Soldiers hope that the new wells will encourage villagers to report insurgent activity making operations in the area safer.

“The people don’t really have any reason to report insurgent activity,” 1st Sgt. Donald Weber, KMTC Civil Affairs Officer, said. “If someone gives them \$500 to plant an IED, they can feed their family for months. If we show them that we are helping them and making their lives better, maybe they will be more likely to report things to us and try to keep us around.”

TYPE	APPROVED/OBLIGATED
	\$25,000.00
	\$22,500.00
	\$180,000.00
	\$500.00
	\$10,000.00
	\$10,000.00
	\$8,000.00
	\$5,000.00
	\$3,000.00
	\$75,000.00
n up	\$25,700.00
n up	\$11,000.00
Progress Total	\$375,700.00

organizations and civilians from around the world. The work is worth it. To win the Global War on Terror in Afghanistan, the world must create an environment of stability that refuses to tolerate Terrorists. If you have not participated in a humanitarian mission yet, talk to your command to volunteer. It can be a truly memorable experience during your deployment.

Medical Assistance

Story and Photo by 2nd. Lt. Amanda Straub

Afghan National Army (ANA) Soldiers from the 201st corps treated over 200 patients during a medical assistance mission to the village of Pol-E Charki on Aug. 11. The team consisted of Afghan doctors, medics and military police with a strong desire to care for people in the community who cannot afford regular health care. They were assisted by American Soldiers who provided a dentist, medical supplies, and additional security. The ANA medical personnel normally have Fridays off, but they were happy to give their extra time to provide medical assistance to the people of Pol-E Charki.

Col. Ab-Salam Ayobi, 201st Corps Surgeon, also runs a pri-



ANA medics treat an elderly man during a medical assistance mission.

vate clinic in Kabul in the evenings and treated patients using a blend of western medicine and eastern technique. Ayobi, who studied medicine in the United States, used acupuncture to treat a young man with a blood clot in his thumb. Ayobi said that the acupuncture would save the boys thumbnail, and decrease the pain.

Most of the patients were children with ailments such as chronic diarrhea, malnutrition, parasites and skin disorders. A pharmaceutical company, McKesson, from the United States, donated 10 cases of supplies including medicines, soap, shampoo, sunscreen, toothbrushes, toothpaste and floss for preventative healthcare. American Lt. Col. Allen Kylap, has a civilian career with McKesson and asked his company to send the supplies.

“I asked them to send one case,” Kylap said, “and they sent 10. Everything is definitely getting used.”

Kylap says his company has been extremely supportive of his deployment and was very happy to send supplies. Inevitably, some of the packaging on the products his company buys and sells are damaged during shipping. Kylap says slightly damaged pharmaceuticals in the United States are normally thrown out and wasted. Kylap says he wishes more pharmaceutical companies would follow McKesson’s example and donate the products to a worthy cause.

“I tell you what, we’re here for the kids,” Kylap said. “The children of Afghanistan will win this war, not the adults.”

SECFOR Stops Local Smugglers

Story by 1st. Lt. Cathrin Fraker

KABUL, Afghanistan – On Sept. 25, Camp Phoenix Security Forces (SECFOR) raided a nearby compound capturing 18 men suspected of pilfering U.S. connexes in route to Camp Phoenix.

Soldiers from SECFOR received tips that connexes were being opened and contents were stolen prior to their arrival to Camp Phoenix and other Coalition locations. Intel suggested this was happening frequently as Pakistani truck drivers made contact and stopped on the way so smugglers could pilfer the connexes, reseal and send them onto their final destination. The stolen goods are then sold at various locations.

Spc. Richard Newberg, of Roseburg, Ore. and Pfc. Carl Schotthoefer of Grant's Pass, Ore. were working in a guard tower that evening. As soon as they saw the suspected vehicles

moving into a compound they alerted the Base Defense and Operations Center (BDOC).

The BDOC redirected a dismounted patrol to assist in the raid. Sgt. Justin Dorn of Medford, Ore. led the members of his patrol to include some members of the Afghan National Police (ANP) to the compound. Mounted forces from the Ready Reaction Force (RRF) and Quick Reaction Force (QRF) were sent out to cordon the area to prevent the escape of any suspects. The command to move in was given and Alpha Company, 1st Platoon, 4th Squad entered the compound and apprehended the thieves.

Due to the tower guard's ability to maintain visibility of the situation and willingness of several local nationals to help, all the suspects were captured and taken to a local ANP Station for further questioning.

"Relationships built in the commu-

nity were directly responsible for this success mission," 2nd. Lt. Scott Marmam, SECFOR Intelligence Officer, said.

Soldiers of Task Force Phoenix SECFOR have a feeling of accomplishment after eliminating this recurring security threat.

"They felt it was what they were sent here to do and they get great satisfaction from it," Marmam said. "Professionalism and proficiency were the order of the day."



Photo By Spec. Joshua Phillips
SECFOR Soldiers hold suspected thieves for questioning.

ANA Leading The Way In Afghan Legal Reform

Story and Photos by 205th RCAG PAO

Cmdr. Chad Sneec

CAMP SHIR ZAI, Afghanistan – Ten members of the Afghan National Army (ANA) legal staff for 205th Corps received fundamental training on basic law concepts Sept. 24 at Camp Shir Zai.

Maj. Paul Waldron, Command Judge Advocate for the 205th Regional Corps Advisory Group (RCAG), led a focused discussion covering topics like the rule of law, separation of powers among the legislative, executive and judicial branches, fundamental fairness, due process, impartiality, and double jeopardy.



Maj. Paul Waldron, discusses legal concepts with the legal staff of ANA 205th Corps.

"I want this to be a discussion among ourselves," Waldron said. "I want us to talk about issues when they come up."

Waldron began by asking the ANA lawyers and judges what they felt the "rule of law" meant.

One ANA judge responded with conviction that, "Rule of law means that all citizens of Afghanistan are subject to the same law."

Waldron agreed saying, "We need to have faith, confidence and belief in the rule of law."

At times, the discussion became quite animated, as the ANA lawyers wrestled with important concepts. It was very clear from their comments and questions that they are committed to expanding their understanding of the law and to putting that knowledge to use in service to the Afghan people.

Several participants commented that the training was very valuable and useful. So useful, they said, that they didn't realize that more than two hours had passed when the instruction ended.

Waldron said that this initial block of instruction began with the basics; a foundation upon which more difficult legal concepts may be built.

"We have to show the ANA leadership that the law works and how to use it effectively," Waldron said. "It is my firm belief that the 205th RCAG is leading the way in ANA training on legal issues."

Sailors Intrigued By Unique Assignment and Opportunities

Continued from page 3

Cobra may not have all the luxuries that the larger bases enjoy, but it's a very scenic area next to the Queen's castle with mountains on the other side of the camp. The Navy ETTs are enjoying their introductions saying the Afghans have been very friendly and hospitable and do appreciate that the U.S. military is here to make life better for all Afghans.

"I am very grateful to have the new ETT members here," Khill said.

The new ETTs are focused on the primary mission but are also excited to participate in humanitarian missions through the Commanders Emergency Response Program (CERP). Excited about the opportunity to train and assist the locals, the ETTs conveyed to a nearby village and discussed with the elders the possibility of building a well for drinking and irrigating crops. Many opportunities exist alongside the primary mission of mentorship.

There is a lot of work to be done here and the Navy ETTs are at the helm ready to make a positive impact and support the mission of Task Force Phoenix. One step at a time, even small changes will have a big impact in the long run.

Cmdr. Daniel Deighan, Executive Officer mentor, summarized the spirit of the mission saying, "We've been anxious to get started here. It's been three months since we started this journey back at Camp Shelby and we are all more than ready to get the ball rolling. Our goal is to leave an indelible mark on the hearts, minds, and infrastructure of the Afghan people. Now one year boots on ground doesn't seem so long after all!"



Camp Cobra Navy ETTs Left to Right : Chief Petty Officer Eric Peterson, Senior Chief Petty Officer John Flores, Lt. Cmdr. Rusty Bownds, Cmdr. Daniel Deighan, Cmdr. Peter Madrigal, Cmdr. Peter Van Loon, Lt. Christopher Nettles, Lt. Charles Dayball.

Generosity of Interpreter Builds Mosque

**Story and Photos by
207th RCAG PAO
Staff Sgt. Matt Leas**

Ali Hesery has been an interpreter with the U.S. Army in Afghanistan for six months and just signed his second contract. This may sound like an ordinary event, but this young man's desire to help rebuild Afghanistan is truly extraordinary.

On September 14th Col. Robert Elliott, U.S. Forces Commander for the 207th Regional Command Group (RCAG) and Maj. Shawn Gustafson,



Ali Hesery is a vital member of a humanitarian project with many players.

Civil Affairs Officer, led a small team to the village of Zangalan, near Camp Stone, to deliver materials for the villagers to build a mosque. When they arrived however, the villagers asked for six more steel beams so that they could put a flat roof on the mosque as opposed to a rounded one.

Ali then did something most people would never do; he said that he would pay for the extra supplies himself and deliver them in a few days.

"I just want to help," Ali said. "I make enough as an interpreter that I can afford it, so I save a little bit of each pay check to put towards helping Afghanistan. If I can help just a few villages, then Afghanistan is that much better at the end of the day and will be better for my family and friends."

Ali spent a year as an exchange student in Raleigh, North Carolina during his junior year of high school. He said that during his time there he decided that he wanted to attend college in the U.S. and then return to Afghanistan to help rebuild his country.

"I wanted to study Civil Engineer-



Ali Hesery unloads beams he purchased with Col. Robert Elliott.

ing because I think I could do the most good there," Ali said.

On Sept. 19th members from the 207th RCAG returned to Zangalan and delivered the final six beams that Ali himself purchased for \$230. The mosque construction was well under way since the villagers were trying to complete it before Ramadan. Thanks to the good nature and generosity of Ali, they succeeded.

Featured Patriot - Master Sgt. David Blow

Story by Sgt. 1st Class

Tom Roberts

Master Sgt. David Blow is a 22-year veteran of the U.S. Army with 18 years of active duty experience. He hails from Roy, Washington where his wife, who he misses very much on this long deployment, waits for his return. In Washington Blow works as mortgage loan officer belongs to the Veterans of Foreign Wars, and enjoys riding with his local motorcycle club.

Blow is the mentor for the 3rd Kandak, 1st Brigade, 203rd Corps Sergeant Major and works in the operations office. His job is extremely challenging because he has to embrace and deal with two other cultures and military personnel where the Romanian army and U.S. forces are working together to assist the Afghan National Army (ANA.)

“Blow has the drive to make it all work, he mentors at all levels of the

ANA from the bottom to the top and when we have a mission he’s always there all the time,” Blow’s Sergeant Major, Jeff Janke, said.

Blow’s biggest hope is that people back home understand the war here in Afghanistan.

“For the most part people want us here, they want freedom, and we are appreciated,” Blow said. “We can win this conflict if we are supported by the people back home.”

Blow says he appreciates the enthusiasm of ANA Soldiers and the experience of the U.S. mentors on this deployment.

“I enjoy working with the ANA and like-minded ETTs. I am very happy with the present team,” Blow said. “Everyone’s working hard to accomplish our mission.”

Blow is a warrior who is no stranger to combat, he was drafted and served two tours in Vietnam in the Special Forces. He also served a tour in Koso-



U.S. Army Photo

Master Sgt. David Blow works well with Romanian and Afghan Soldiers.

vo and one in Iraq. He volunteered for this deployment because he enjoys this kind of mentoring assignment.

Blow truly is dedicated to the defense of his nation and ensuring a more secure life for both Americans and Afghans. He has dedicated his life to the patriot’s cause; the pursuit of freedom wherever the need might be.

Sound Off - Coffee Shop, Aquatic Center, or Steakhouse?



“I’d prefer a steakhouse because I don’t think an Aquatic Center would be appropriate and it would be a place to breed inappropriate behavior.”

Spc. Alexya Harter
Med Supply
141 LTF
Gresham, OR



“I’d like an Aquatic Center. It would be another way to exercise and besides it would give us a place to cool off. But only if we can ascertain it wasn’t a Taliban detention or torture center.”

Spc. Pat Dean
PMO
Scappoose, OR



“Steakhouse, it would be another place for my Soldiers to have a dining choice from DFAC food. I don’t eat steak but some off my Soldiers say they are not the best prepared steaks at the DFAC.”

Sgt. Eugene Shield
1-180th SECFOR
HHC
Otoka, OK



“You can get a steak in the chow hall and coffee at Green Beans already. It would be great to have a pool in the desert.”

Staff Sgt. Marion McGee
HHC DET2 755th
Air Force



“I think a steakhouse because of thoughts of violations of General Order 1C... Although if a pool could be used for Physical Therapy I might change my mind.”

Lt. Col. Michael Dunn
TF Surgeon
41st BDE
Turner, OR