



Sky Soldier represents U.S. forces at NATO summit

By Arthur McQueen
USAREUR Public Affairs

HEIDELBERG, Germany—The 26 NATO member nations recently gathered in Riga, Latvia, for a heads of state and government summit. At the beginning of the Nov. 29 formal session, participants honored attending veterans of alliance operations, including one U.S. Army, Europe Soldier.

1st Sgt. Randy Collins, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 503d Infantry (Airborne), 173d Airborne Brigade Combat Team, represented the U.S. military during ceremonies honoring the armed forces of each NATO country for their commitment in the Global War on Terror.

“For decades they have been the guardians of democracy and freedom,” said NATO Secretary General Jaap de Hoop Scheffer, thanking the 26 warriors on behalf of attending heads of state.

Scheffer added that such service “cannot be taken for granted. In Afghanistan, they are putting their lives on the line to bring a better life to the long-suffering people and ensure that terrorism never again finds a sanctuary there.”

The secretary general, noting that 50,000 servicemembers are currently deployed in six alliance-led missions on three continents, asked participants to observe a moment of silence for those who will not return from these and past operations.

“Today, we also remember those who have made the ultimate

sacrifice in defense of our values, who have fallen in the service of our alliance,” he said.

Among the leaders present was President George W. Bush, who spent several minutes talking with Collins, whose service in Helmond Province, Afghanistan, as first sergeant for the 74th Infantry Detachment (Long Range Surveillance) led to his summit participation.

“As a Soldier meeting the commander in chief, I was very proud to be in the Army and to be in uniform,” Collins said. “The first thing he told me when I walked up to shake his hand was that he was honored to be in my presence. I told him that I, too, was honored. We spoke briefly about where I was from, my tours in Iraq and Afghanistan, and my upcoming deployment back to Iraq.”

Collins took advantage of the other participants’ experience to gain more perspective on NATO operations.

“I had a wonderful opportunity to sit down with NATO personnel who are subject-matter experts on Afghanistan in hopes of bettering the way we fight the Taliban in the future,” Collins said. “I gained a tremendous amount of knowledge about NATO and believe that it is a big combat multiplier in Afghanistan.”

Overall, he described serving as a first sergeant in a multinational unit as “incredibly rewarding.”

“One big advantage to operating jointly in a theater like Afghanistan

is assets,” Collins said. “With the Romanians, we had use of their armored personnel carriers, fuel trucks, food and other (essentials) if needed. Also, Special Forces have dedicated assets that normally we would have to request from higher levels; therefore, it was easier to operate as a joint patrol rather than operate independently.”

Additionally, Collins noted, working with the Afghan National Army provided cultural advantages over actions resulting from solely U.S. units.

“Our idea was to always place an ‘Afghan face’ on each of our operations,” he said. “If our unit had to search door-to-door, we would have the ANA do the searching – so as to not offend the local population with our (lack of knowledge) of some customs. It also emboldened the ANA to operate in plain view of their own people, demonstrating that they would be there when needed.”

Collins stressed that his ANA allies and Afghan interpreters were a part of his unit – not an attachment. “We ate together, climbed the same mountains, patrolled and fought the same enemy.”

Brig. Gen. John Adams, deputy U.S. military representative to NATO, called Collins “an ideal representative of U.S. armed forces.”

“It was a privilege to witness the professional manner in which he represented the Army to our allies at all levels, to include the most



1st Sgt. Randy Collins, a Soldier with the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team, on an Operation Enduring Freedom mission during the brigade’s recent deployment to Afghanistan. Collins represented the U.S. armed forces during a NATO summit ceremony Nov. 29 that honored 26 veterans of NATO operations. (Courtesy photo)

senior authorities, at a time when solidarity is crucial to NATO’s success, especially in Afghanistan,” Adams said.

“When President Bush met 1st Sgt. Collins, it was an important meeting for both men, a tangible link between our president and the Soldiers that give their all in service of our nation,” Adams said. “He is a Soldier of whom we can all be

proud.” Scheffer echoed the general’s sentiments as he addressed all 26 representatives. “Thank you for the work you are doing,” the secretary general said, “and for the sacrifices you and your families have made to help ensure our security.”

(Editors’s note: Additional information was provided by NATO public affairs)

Vicenza annual anti-pollution program driving restrictions underway

From Directorate of Emergency Services
Press Release

The Vicenza Anti-Pollution program is currently in effect and may affect Caserma Ederle personnel. If your vehicle is older than January 1998, you must have a ‘Bollino Blu’ sticker posted on the vehicle windshield.

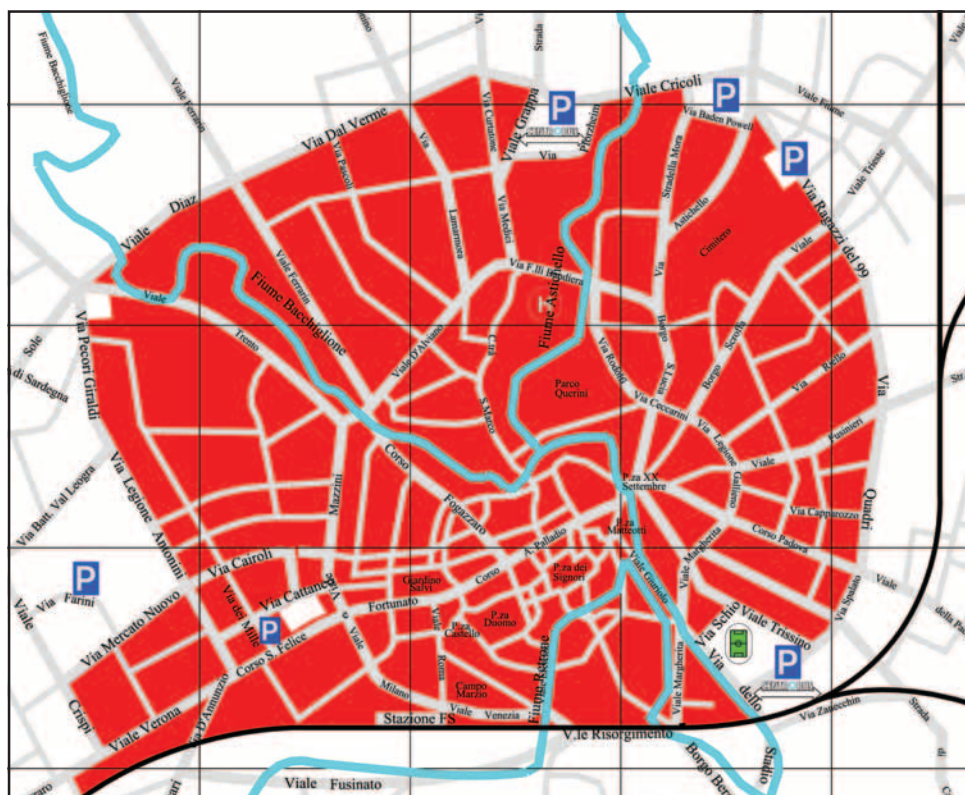
This sticker is free and available at Vehicle Registration. The Bollino is valid for one year from when it is issued. Vehicle Registration keeps track of the date in the vehicle’s

registration folder in their office.

Call Vehicle Registration at 634-7001, or 044-71-7001 for details.

The purpose of the Vicenza Anti-pollution program is to limit vehicle exhaust in historical city areas. The decision to restrict vehicles came from studies that expect a yearly increase of vehicle movement downtown.

The prohibited area is between the Vicenza Train Station, San Bortolo Hospital and the roads around Corso Palladio, Piazza dei Signori and Piazza Matteotti. (See map below)



The dates this program is in effect are: Dec. 11-15, and all weekdays starting Jan. 8-March 30.

During these dates, the following vehicles are not authorized in the prohibited areas:

- Motorcars with diesel engines** (see art. 54. paragraph a of the Italian Road Code) **registered before Jan. 1, 1997.** The prohibition does not apply to vehicles registered before Jan. 1, 1997, provided that the vehicle registration document carries the compliance with the European Directive on environment restriction 94/12/CEE and subsequent;
- Motor vehicles with diesel engines registered before Oct. 1, 1997** (buses, trucks, motor homes, tractors, heavy equipment).
- Vehicles registered before Jan. 1, 1993** not equipped with catalytic converters, unless their vehicle registration document carries the compliance with the European Directive on environmental restrictions 91/441/CEE and subsequent;
- Two-stroke engine motorcycles and motor vehicles** (as listed in art. 52 and 53 of the Italian Road Code) **not equipped with catalytic converters and registered before Jan. 1, 2000** not complying with the European Directive 97/24/CE, section 5.

The above prohibitions will be applied on the following dates:

The following vehicles are authorized in the prohibited areas during this time:

- GPL motorcars registered after Jan. 1, 1997;
- GPL motor vehicles registered after Oct. 1, 1997;

3) Gasoline motorcars and motor vehicles registered after Jan. 1, 1993;

4) Two-stroke engine motorcycles and motor vehicles equipped with catalytic converters and registered after Jan. 1, 2000;

5) Car pooling with at least three occupants;

6) GPL vehicles;

7) Electric vehicles;

8) Stradale Police and other official vehicles;

9) Emergency vehicles, including the ones used by medical personnel on duty; vehicles used by paramedics and hospital/clinic technicians on call;

10) Public buses, community agencies, school buses, tour buses. Taxies and rental vehicles with driver.

15) Vehicles on the way to a mandatory inspection (**proper documents must be in possession of the owner**) taking the shortest way to get to the destination.

16) Vehicles used by hotel and hospitality homes guests located in the prohibited area provided that the itinerary be strictly to and from the facilities and a copy of the booking be displayed on the dashboard;

18) Vehicles with foreign and E.E. license plates;

19) Vintage or historical vehicles, as listed in art. 60 the Italian Road Code (**proper documents must be in possession of the owner**);

20) Vehicles operated by shift workers, when the beginning or ending time of the shift and location are not thoroughly covered by public transportation (**provided with authorization, if without ID**).

Tighten up post

Command Sgt. Maj. Keith Filipp
USAG Vicenza Command Sergeant Major
Special to the Outlook

The intent of this column is to request help from the community to make our post the absolute best it can be. What we look like, is who we are in the eyes of our visitors and Italian hosts.

We are guests on Italian soil, and as guests, we should be mindful of how we treat our surroundings. Working together we can make a difference and help solve some of the challenges facing our community by simply sharing our knowledge and helping others to do the right thing.

Below is one in a series of topics where we can make a difference on this post

Shopping carts

If you use a cart to take items to your vehicle, return it to the post exchange or Shoppette. We find carts left in parking spots, flower beds, and about every location imaginable on this post. Additionally, cars



are often damaged by shopping carts rolling across the parking lot until it is stopped by a car. Be responsible, return the cart.

Thrift Shop

Honor the hours and operation of the Thrift Shop when donating. The back door is not a place for you to dump your junk at midnight. The garrison is constantly picking up behind folks who dump furniture and other items at the rear door. This is totally unacceptable and it destroys our image as a community. Keep your items until there is space in the bins, or when the store is open and can be processed by the volunteers immediately. We need your donations but not wet soggy ruined items that have spent the weekend or night in the rain and cause more work for others.



Above: Even though there is a sign that clearly states not to leave trash here, someone dumped items underneath the stairs by the Thrift Shop. Left: This cart was left sitting in front of these barracks. (Outlook file photos)

Make appointments for Sick Call

U.S. Army Health Clinic Vicenza
Press Release

Beginning Jan. 3, the U.S. Army Health Clinic Vicenza will implement Active Duty sick call by appointment.

The appointment line will open up at 7:30 a.m. for same-day appointments that will start as early as 8 a.m. and run through out the day.

This system has replaced the traditional walk-in sick call system at many

installations with great success and high patient satisfaction as well as command satisfaction. While waiting for their appointment, the Soldier may stay on duty, do PT or go home and shower.

This system increases patient satisfaction by decreasing the wait time for the medical provider and it improves the continuity of care by booking directly with the Soldier's primary care manager.

The appointment line is 634-7484 or, from off post, 0444-71-7484.

Members of Congress visit Caserma Ederle



Congresswoman Loretta Sanchez (D-CA), shared lunch and thoughts about military life with Soldiers during a visit to Caserma Ederle Nov. 30. Sanchez was joined on this trip by Rep. Bill Young (R-FL), and Rep. Kay Granger (R-TX). The representatives met with key leaders in the Caserma Ederle community and were given an update on the SETAF and Brigade missions. (Photo by Barbara Romano, 7th ATC Photo Lab)

Community

Action Council

This forum is to discuss issues affecting the community.

If you have an issue you wish to submit, visit the USAG Vicenza Web site at www.usag.vicenza.army.mil and click on the Community Action Council link.

This link provides you the opportunity to review issues that have been previously submitted and responded to by post agencies.

There is also a form available for you to submit any new issue you would like addressed. If you have questions, call 634-5222 or 0444-71-5222 from off post.

The command encourages you to identify yourself when submitting a CAC issue in order to be able to answer your concern directly. The command also reminds the community that CAC issues submitted containing vulgar, derogatory or inflammatory language will not be addressed.

Childcare is offered during the CAC at \$4 per hour, per child, for children ages 6 weeks old through kindergarten from 8:45-11:15 a.m. Preregistration is required. Children will be cared for in the Child Development Center, bldg 395. Children must be registered with Child and Youth Services Central Registration.

Call 634-7219 or stop by their location in the Davis Family Readiness Center.

NOTE: There is no CAC during December. The next CAC is Jan. 24 in Club Veneto.

Issues: What kind of trips can be arranged for single Soldiers? These Soldiers need and want a different venue. They want to experience events such as visiting the Maserati Factory, snowboarding, etc.

Response from Directorate of DMWR: Outdoor Recreation has continued to focus on these types of trips for single Soldiers.

Upcoming winter trips include inexpensive ski and snowboard trips to great

destinations in Italy and elsewhere.

ITR, however, has in the past focused on family trips but has coordinated with Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers (BOSS) to generate a schedule according to single Soldier interests.

These trips include overnights to Milan, Prague, and Budapest, tours of the Maserati and Ferrari factory, and a New Year's eve trip to Munich.

On a related issue, BOSS and MWR designed a *Single Soldier Strong* campaign that offers single Soldier activities on Friday and Saturday evenings.

These activities include late-night basketball, volleyball, soccer, and dodgeball tournaments, a 48-hour run, opening the Fitness Centers until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday, opening the Bowling Center until 2 a.m. Friday and Saturday, and programming a variety of fun activities inside Club V.

Issue: There is no area to park at the post office and unload packages. If you have many or a heavy, large package to take to the post office, there is usually no parking nearby and you have to make several trips to your car or carry a heavy package from a remote parking area and usually cross a busy street in front of the building.

Also, when you get to the entrance, the door is difficult to open and quite narrow. Anyone with disabilities would not be able to open it.

In addition to these issues, the post office hours are not customer friendly. They are only open from 10 a.m.-4 p.m., which means that working people have to come during lunch hours.

Recommendation: (1) A five-minute unloading zone in front of the post office for taking packages in. (2) Automatic opening sliding doors, such as the CMR has. (3) Extend Post Office hours by one hour throughout the year for patrons to come after work, instead of during lunch hours.

Response from 111th Postal Det.:

Parking: There are currently seven 15-minute parking spaces located outside the APO front entrance. There is also a crosswalk located directly across from our front entrance to ensure a safe path for pedestrian customers.

Front Door: Our facility door was recently inspected by the local Safety Office. The door is considered safe and adequate for the postal facility. APO personnel are always willing to assist customers entering the lobby upon request.

Hours: Unfortunately, our facility cannot be open later in the evening.

We require time during both the mornings and the evenings for mail processing. While our customer service hours are 10 a.m.-4 p.m., our facility operation hours are from 7:30 a.m. until 10 p.m. daily.

However, we are available for appointments outside of our regular hours upon special request. Call the Post Office at 634-7430, or 0444-71-7430 for more information.

Issue: I went to pick up my car from the Ederle Theater parking lot. I left it there overnight after I went to Club V for a party. I knew that I would be leaving my car parked there overnight since I would be drinking, and had made plans to stay at a friend's room on post.

When I went to pick my car up there was a parking ticket for "No Overnight Parking".

There are no signs in that parking lot saying that there is no overnight parking. The only place on post that has such signs is the Chapel parking lot.

So, since I decided not to drive drunk, I receive a ticket. I don't find this to be fair at all. When I went to pick my car up I saw a few other cars with tickets on them for the same reason and another person complaining about the same thing.

Recommendation: I think that the parking area outside of the club should be

an overnight parking area, so that people who drink don't have to worry about moving their car or receive a ticket.

Response from Directorate of Emergency Services: First, I want to commend this young Soldier for having good judgment and not drinking and driving. He sets a fine example.

The issue at hand is a valid one and we fixed it this morning when it first surfaced.

A young military police officer, who works in the MP station, identified this as a problem and brought a recommendation to me.

I do not want to, in any way, set conditions to encourage anyone to drive when they should not be.

If you are in Club V and believe you have had too much to drink, please see the bartender and he or she will issue you a placard for your window.

This placard will tell the MP on patrol that your vehicle is legally parked overnight. Drinking and driving is always the wrong idea.

That said, and with the above exception, **overnight parking is not allowed on Caserma Ederle unless you live in on the Caserma, are on leave, TDY or an overnight ITR trip.**

The last three groups must park in the overnight parking lot behind Finance.

We have published this information no less than three times since February and will continue to publicize this in the future.

P.S. Keep the good ideas coming. You do not have to wait and leverage the CAC. Simply calling MP operations with good ideas will often effect change, our number is 634-8891, or 0444-71-8891 from off post.

There will be no CAC in December. The next CAC is Jan. 24 at 10 a.m. in Club Veneto.

HOLIDAY SAFETY**Tips for a safe, happy holiday**

Command Safety Office
Press Release

The holidays are fast approaching and along with it come the joy of decorating our homes for this festive season.

Below are some tips to help keep you, your family and your home safe before, during and after holiday festivities:

Trees

◆ When purchasing an artificial tree, look for the label "Fire Resistant."

◆ When purchasing a live tree, check for freshness. A fresh tree is green, needles are hard to pull from branches and, when bent between your fingers, needles do not break.

The trunk butt of a fresh tree is sticky with resin, and when tapped on the ground, the tree should not lose many needles.

◆ When setting up a tree at home, place it away from fireplaces, radiators or portable heaters. Place the tree out of the way of traffic and do not block doorways.

◆ Cut a few inches off the trunk of your tree to expose the fresh wood. This allows for better water absorption and helps keep your tree from drying out and becoming a fire hazard.

◆ Be sure to keep the stand filled with water, because heated rooms can dry live trees out rapidly. A six-foot tree will consume about a gallon of water every two days.

Lights

◆ Never use electric lights on a metallic tree. The tree can become charged with electricity from faulty lights, and a person touching a branch could be electrocuted.

◆ Before using lights outdoors, check labels to be sure they have been certified for outdoor use. To hold lights in place,

string them through hooks or insulated staples, not nails or tacks. Never pull or tug lights to remove them.

◆ Check all tree lights—even if you've just purchased them—before hanging them on your tree. Make sure all the bulbs work and that there are no frayed wires, broken sockets or loose connections

◆ Plug all outdoor electric decorations into circuits with ground fault circuit interrupters to avoid potential shocks.

◆ Turn off all lights when you go to bed or leave the house. The lights could short out and start a fire.

Decorations

◆ Use only non-combustible or flame-resistant materials to trim a tree. Choose tinsel or artificial icicles of plastic or nonleaded metals.

◆ Never use lighted candles on a tree or near other evergreens. Always use non-flammable holders, and place candles where they will not be knocked down.

◆ In homes with small children, take special care to avoid decorations that are sharp or breakable, keep trimmings with small removable parts out of the reach of children to avoid the child swallowing or inhaling small pieces, and avoid trimmings that resemble candy or food that may tempt a young child to eat them.

◆ Wear gloves to avoid eye and skin irritation while decorating with spun glass "angel hair." Follow container directions carefully to avoid lung irritation while decorating with artificial snow sprays.

◆ Remove all wrapping papers, bags, paper, ribbons and bows from tree and fireplace areas after gifts are opened. These items can pose suffocation and choking hazards to a small child or can cause a fire if near flame.

**Education Center offers programs to help with higher education goals**

By Chris Pittman
Education Services Officer
USAG Vicenza Education Center

world through the *GoArmyEd.com* portal.

Learning Center

The USAG Vicenza Army Continuing Education System at the Vicenza Education Center provides full services to Soldiers, family members and civilians locally, and at remote sites throughout Italy and Turkey.

The college program is the core of ACES. Under the European Tri-Services Education contract, Soldiers, civilians and family members may pursue college degrees at all levels on-site and via distance education.

The Vicenza on-post college program institutions include:

- ◆ Central Texas College
- ◆ Embry-Riddle Aeronautical University
- ◆ University of Maryland University College - Europe (
- ◆ University of Phoenix

For more details about specific courses offered by a specific institution, contact their field representative.

Headstart to Italian

Headstart to Italian is a program that all Soldiers and civilian employees new to the Vicenza community attend.

The program focuses on the introduction to the Italian language, information about the culture and a basic orientation to Vicenza.

Tuition Assistance

Under AR 621-5, the Army Tuition Assistance program covers 100 percent of the Soldier's tuition up to \$250 per semester hour up to \$4,500 per year.

In order to use the TA program, the Soldier must attend a school that is accredited by the U.S. Department of Education.

The TA program is accessible all over the

The USAG Vicenza Education Center has a Learning Center that provides a computer lab, student lounge and classrooms available to enrich and promote student learning and development.

Counseling

The USAG Vicenza Education Center has counselors available to assist members of the community (local and remote) with academic advising, financial aid and other college related issues.



This Soldier is taking advantage of a computer in the USAG Vicenza Education Center's Learning Center. (Outlook file photo)

For more details about what the Vicenza Education Center offers, call Chris Pittman, Education Services officer, at 634-7856, or 0444-71-7856 from off post, or e-mail: chris.pittman@setaf.army.mil.

Vicenza Health Clinic MEDEVAC system changes

U.S. Army Health Clinic Vicenza
Press Release

Effective Jan. 2, the MEDEVAC bus to Landstuhl Regional Medical Center will depart and return in front of the commissary.

Long-term parking for those utilizing the government bus transportation will be permitted at the commissary, but ONLY through personal request from the patient movement coordinator, at 634-7777, or 0444-71-7777 from off post.

A special parking pass has been created for MEDEVAC patients only.

The bus schedule remains the same: Depart Vicenza on Mondays and Thursdays at 7:15 a.m., return to Vicenza on Tuesdays

and Fridays at approximately 9 p.m.

The MEDEVAC office now offers updated information packets to help during your stay in Germany.

The packet includes base maps and information on billeting facilities, dining, taxi services, and more.

For details, please contact Dakasha Leonard at 634-7777, or 0444-71-7777 from off post. The MEDEVAC office hours are 10 a.m.-4:30 p.m. Monday-Wednesday and Fridays, from 1-4:30 p.m. on Thursdays.

The patient movement coordinator is available however, for emergencies and by appointment outside of the regularly scheduled hours. These hours are subject to change without advanced notification.

The Outlook

Dec. 12, 2006 Vol. 39, Issue 49

SETAF Commander
Maj. Gen. Frank G. Helmick

USAG Vicenza Commander
and Publisher
Col. Virgil S. L. Williams

Editor
Diana Bahr

The Outlook is an unofficial publication authorized and provided by AR 360-1.

All editorial content of *The Outlook* is prepared, edited, provided and approved by the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Public Affairs Office in building 3 on Caserma Ederle in Vicenza, Italy. Telephone

DSN 634-7000, FAX 634-7543, off post at 0444-71-7000, fax 0444-71-7543.

E-mail: editor@setaf.army.mil

The Outlook is published weekly by the USAG Vicenza PAO, Unit 31401, Box 10, APO AE 09630. It is printed by Centro Stampa Editoriale SRL, Grisignano (VI) 0444-414-303.

Editorial publication is an authorized section for members of the U.S. Army overseas. Contents of *The Outlook* are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, Installation Management Agency-Europe, U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza or the U.S. Army Southern European Task Force.

Submissions: Send all submission for publication to editor@setaf.army.mil. Submissions should be made via e-mail and must be received by Wednesday at noon for the following week's publication. The editor reserves the right to edit all submissions for style, brevity and clarity. Circulation is 2,500.

Inclement weather procedures

U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza
Community Information

In the event of inclement weather, upon the approval of Col. Virgil S.L. Williams, USAG Vicenza commander, AFN Vicenza will broadcast no later than 6 a.m. over AFN radio 106FM, and the Command Information Channel, AFN receiver channel 12, for a two-hour delay or closure information for schools and the installation.

Personnel without access to AFN radio or television can contact the Southern European Operations Center (SEOC) at 0444-71-7520/7720 off post, or 634-7520/7720 from DSN lines, for delay or closure information.

All installation units and agencies will be responsible for activating their internal phone rosters to contact and inform their Soldiers and civilian employees.

The DODDS school management will inform their employees and transportation assets.

In the event of early school closure, the DODDS Student Transportation office will inform the USAG Vicenza commander, who will relay the information to the SEOC.

The SEOC will then contact all units and agencies on the installation and inform them of the early closure.

In the event of inclement weather,

parents are advised to allow their children to be transported home through normal means (contracted bus).

If parents must pick up their children, please coordinate with the school office to ensure proper accountability for all students.

In the event a student cannot be dropped off at home (no parent or guardian available) student(s) will be returned to the school bus office and the school bus office will contact the parents or guardians.

Parents can get information on student locations by contacting the School Transportation office at 0444-71-8132 or the SEOC at 0444-71-7520/7720.



Winter is here and Caserma Ederle has an inclement weather plan in place for work and school. (Outlook file photo)

Final week for show Forum delights Soldiers' Theatre audiences

Story and photos
By Laura Kreider
Outlook Staff

'A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum' opened Dec. 1 to a sold-out crowd at Soldiers' Theatre.

More than 20 actors form the cast of this musical comedy, which is considered one of Broadway's most brilliant.

When the show originally opened May 8, 1962, it broke from musical comedy tradition because the stage had only one set and there were no change of costumes.

The original production was directed by George Abbott, choreographed by Jack Cole, and was produced by Harold Prince.

It ran for 964 performances and also won the Tony Award for Best Musical in 1963. It was also the first Broadway production based on music and lyrics by Stephen Sondheim, a composer born in 1930 in New York, who won multiple Tony Awards, Grammy Awards and a Pulitzer Prize.

The book by Burt Shevelove and Larry Gelbart found its inspiration in the comedies of the ancient Roman playwright Plautus, who was born in a small town in the Apennines about 254 B.C., and composed approximately 130 pieces, of which only 21 have survived to these days.

The two authors studied all the Plautus surviving plays and finally wrote their original story 'A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum', a sort of farce where various characters are in constant motion on the stage, face ridiculous circumstances, perform dialogue,

songs and dance throughout the two acts.

"It is set in Rome, so there is Roman culture, but also American vaudeville and on top of that American Musical," said Eric Grosshans, who is enjoying his second experience with Soldiers' Theatre.

He plays the character of Hysterium, the chief slave in the house of the Roman Senator Senex.

"Even though it is set in the past, I think the idea, the relationships in the story are still the same today; we still have the same approach to the comedy," Grosshans added.

The intrigue rotates around Pseudolus, a Roman slave who attempts and would do almost anything to gain his freedom.

His owner's young son Hero promises Pseudolus his freedom if he can arrange a? But to tell you would give away part of the show!

To know what Pseudolus and Hero have on their minds, and how they face all kinds of funny situations, Soldiers' Theatre offers the chance to be a spectator of the following dates and times: Dec. 14, 15, and 16 at 7:30 p.m.

Tickets are \$12 for adults and \$8 for students. Purchase tickets for the Dec. 14 show, and get \$1 off each ticket.

The show is not recommended for young children or babes-in-arms. For information, call Soldiers' Theatre at 634-7281. Soldiers' Theatre Box office hours are Tue-Fri from 11 a.m. to 1 p.m.

The cast of *Forum* features Aaron Talley, Elizabeth Buffington, Chelsea Marcantonio, Sandy Segura, Tess Segura, Marcus



'The Geminae', Evelyn Stanley, left and Lacy Wolff, perform the musical number 'The House of Marcus Lycus' during one of the dress rehearsals at Soldiers' Theatre of the production 'A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum'. Behind 'The Geminae' on the stage are, from left to right, Luigi Dalla Vecchia and Joe Reeder, the Eunuchs, Stephen Backoff, as Marcus Lycus, and behind him, Samantha Price, as Panacea.

Sherman, John Keating, Linda Dahlstrom, John Mendez, Eric Grosshans, Stephen Backoff, Joe Reeder, Luigi Dalla Vecchia, Shiyoni Wijesuriya, Samantha Price, Evelyn Stanley, Lacy Wolff, Carolyn Parse Rizzo, Peggy Schadler, Rosie Malone, Ross Daniels, and Jamie Kever.

They share the stage with the Forum Band formed by Anna Pittaro on piano, Milena Mazzucco on synthesizer, Emma Nicole Pigato on saxophone, Eric Weisel on bass, and Chris Pittman on percussion.

The show is directed by Bonnie Daniels, and technical director and lighting design is by Ross Daniels.

Choreographer was designed by Linda Dahlstrom; vocal directors are Aaron Talley and Anna Pittaro. John Beamish designed the set; Barry Robinson is the sound engineer, and Peggy Schadler and Shiyoni Wijesuriya designed the sets. House Manager is Anne Fantacone.



Shiyoni Wijesuriya, center, performs the role of Tintinnabula, one of the Courtesans in the musical number 'The House of Marcus Lycus'. Around her from left to right: Luigi Dalla Vecchia and Joe Reeder, the Eunuchs, Stephen Backoff, as Marcus Lycus, (behind her) Aaron Talley, as Pseudolus, and John Mendez, as Hero. More than 20 actors form the cast of the Soldiers' Theatre's production 'A Funny Thing Happened On the Way to the Forum'. The final performances for *Forum* are Dec. 14, 15, and 16 at 7:30 p.m., with a special \$1 off ticket prices for the Dec. 14 performance. Tickets are available at Soldiers' Theatre Box office Tuesday-Friday 11 a.m.-1 p.m. or by calling 634-7281.



Senex, performed by John Keating, holds the bust of his wife Domina, while Eric Grosshans plays the role of Hysterium during the dress rehearsal.

Parent 2 Parent workshop focuses on joy of reading

Roughly 40 families gathered at the Vicenza High School gym Saturday for a Parent 2 Parent workshop, where each child was given a copy of *Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot*, written by Margot Theis Raven and donated by Global Credit Union. Parent 2 Parent is a program designed to help families advocate for their children and make informed choices about their futures. Sponsored by the Military Child Education Coalition, Parent 2 Parent works to provide parents with the tools and skills to help their children get the most of out their education. The next Parent 2 Parent workshop is Thursday and features winter recess activities for youth, at 3:30 p.m. in the Vicenza Elementary School library, or call 348-079-5480. (Photo by Diana Bahr USAG Vicenza Public Affairs)



A young girl (left) gets Santa Claus (played by Col. Virgil S.L. Williams, USAG Vicenza commander) to autograph her copy of *Mercedes and the Chocolate Pilot*, while Mrs. Claus (Bess Wills) looks on. The event was part of a Parent 2 Parent workshop held Saturday.

Out & About



By Dorothy Spagnuolo

Vicenza seasonal events

The shopping malls will be open every Sunday during the month of December.

On Dec. 16 the following events are scheduled:

At 4 p.m. a music trio will perform in *Piazza Matteotti*;

At 5 p.m. students from A Pedrollo music conservatory will present classical music from India in the *Sala degli Stucchi* in **Palazzo Trissino**.

At 5 p.m. watch a living nativity processional through the streets of the historical center.

On Dec. 16-17 and Dec. 22-24 Christmas market in the main squares;

On Dec. 17 the following take place:

A Christmas market on *Corso Fogazzaro* downtown

At 4 p.m. hear Merry Christmas Gospel & Spirituals by the Chorus and Orchestra of Vicenza in the Church of San Francesco.

At 4:30 p.m. in the Church of Bertesina 'Bells and Opera' with bell ringing from students from Vicenza's San Marco School; music and opera by Mozart, Bach, Franck and Verdi.

Music concerts

The 'Blu Gospel' will perform Dec. 16 at 8:30 p.m. in the church in the town of **Lonigo**.

Dec. 23 at 8:30 p.m. the same group will perform in St. Joseph Chosen Church of God, located on *Via Vecchia Ferriera* in Vicenza.

Jan. 6, they perform at 4:30 p.m. in the *Palestra* (gym) in the town of **Alonte**;

Dec. 17: Merry Christmas: Gospel & Spirituals sung by the chorus and orchestra of Vicenza in the Church of San Francesco in **Vicenza** at 4 p.m.

Dec. 17: In *Piazza Garibaldi* in the town of **Schio**, listen to Christmas carols by the 'Lions Chorus' at 4 p.m.

Dec. 12: In **Jesolo**, the *Gospel Sister & Daughters of Praise* from California will perform in the Church of *Piazza Milano*.

Dec. 18: The *Harlem Gospel Choir* from New York will perform in the Church in *Piazza Trieste*, entrance to the performance is free.

Classified Ads

Editor's Note: Caserma Ederle community members may place free classified ads (**not personal or personal services ads**) on the MWR Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com/marketplace.

Every Tuesday at noon, *The Outlook* editor goes to the MWR Web site and copies the ads, which appear in *The Outlook* one week later.

The Outlook and Directorate of MWR are not responsible for any errors in the advertisement.

Photos accompanying the advertisement will not appear in *The Outlook*.

Because *The Outlook* has limited amount of space available, editing of the classified ad may take place.

The Outlook does not take classifieds; sellers must place ads at the Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com.

For more information or contact

Dec. 16: In **San Bonifacio**, in the province of Verona, at 4:30 p.m. there will be a parade and performance of the 'New Sambo Big Band' through the historical center of the town. On Dec. 17 at 3 p.m. watch a show of musicians and flag-wavers in medieval costumes in the historical center.

Verona Opera season

It's not too early to purchase tickets for Verona's opera season next year. Held in the famous Arena, tickets are already on sale online.

The season starts June 22 with the opera *Nabucco*, the other operas to be performed throughout the season are *Aida*, *La Bohème*, the *Barber of Seville* and *La Traviata*.

Find tickets at www.ticketoffice.it, however, if you cannot make the show, you may not be able to get a refund.

Exhibitions

In **Verona** at Studio La Citta, 2 Via Dietro Filippini, contemporary art exhibition by Californian Timothy Tompkins. The first time to be shown in Europe the Studio is open Tuesday-Saturday 9 a.m.-1 p.m. and 3:30-7:30 p.m. to be seen until Jan. 20, entrance is free.

Picasso Art exhibit

In **Palazzo Grassi** in **Venice**, the exhibition '*Picasso - la joie de vivre - 1945-1948*' is on display.

More than 200 works of art by the artist can be seen everyday from 10 a.m.-7 p.m. until March 11. Entrance fee is 11 euro.

Christmas markets

Marostica's market, held in *Piazza Castello*, is open 10 a.m.-noon and 4-7 p.m. until Jan. 7.

The Christmas market in **Bolzano**, until Dec. 23, is amid 1,000 lights that light up *Piazza Walther* and its 80 vendors, it's open Monday-Friday 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m.; Saturday-Sunday 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m.

Combine this day trip with a visit to the city's Museum of Archaeology to see 'Oetzi' - The Ice Man' - who, over 5,000 years ago, climbed up to the icy heights of the Schnalstal glacier and died

could be an interesting experience.

He was found by accident in 1991, with his clothes and equipment, mummified and frozen: an archaeological sensation and a unique snapshot of a Copper Age man.

The 'iceman,' Oetzi, named after the Oetztal valley where he was found can be seen in the city of Bolzano's South Tyrol Museum of Archaeology.

The museum is open daily from 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m., closed Mondays. Entrance fees are: Adults, 9 euro, reduced fees for senior citizens 65 and older, and for students up to age 27 is 5.50 euro.

Arco, Trentino Region: to Dec. 23, Fri-Sat and Sun from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., in *Piazzale Segantini*.

Bassano del Grappa, near Vicenza: to Dec. 24, 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., *Piazzotto Montevicchio and Piazza Garibaldi*.

Bressanone, near Bolzano: through Jan. 6, daily 10 a.m.-7:30, Sun 9:30 a.m.-7 p.m., *Piazza Duomo*. Closed Christmas Day and Jan. 1

Brunico, near Bolzano: to Jan. 6, Mon-Fri 2:30-7 p.m. Sat-Sun 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m., closed Dec. 23-24; New Year Day 2:30-7 p.m., *Via Bastioni, Piazza Municipio*.

Caldonazzo, Trentino Region: to Dec. 17 from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., *Magnifica Corte Trapp*, ancient castle area.

Levico, Trentino Region: to Jan. 6, 2007, on weekends from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., and from Dec. 26-Jan. 6, from 2-7 p.m., *Parco degli Asburgo*.

Merano, near Bolzano: to Dec. 30, Mon-Sat 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Sun from 9 a.m.-7:30 p.m., Christmas Eve from 9 a.m.-3 p.m., closed Christmas Day, in downtown *Passeggiata Lungo Passirio*.

Trento, Trentino Region: to Dec. 24, Sun-Thurs 10 a.m.-7:30 p.m. and Fri-Sat 10-8:30 p.m.

Verona, Dec. 16-24, Piazza Bra' and downtown.

Venice, to Dec. 24, daily 10:30 a.m.-7:30 p.m., *Santo Stefano Square*.

Vipiteno, near Bolzano: to Jan. 7, Mon-Fri from 10 a.m.-7 p.m., Sat-Sun 9 a.m.-7 p.m., *Piazza Citta'*. Christmas Eve from 9 a.m.-3 p.m. Closed Christmas Day and Jan. 1.

Now Showing

Caserma Ederle Theater

Dec. 12	CLOSED	
Dec. 13	School for Scoundrels (PG13)	7 p.m.
Dec. 14	Open Season (PG)	4 p.m.
	The Guardian (PG13)	7 p.m.
Dec. 15	Happy Feet (PG)	7 p.m.
	Employee of the Month (PG13)	10 p.m.
Dec. 16	Happy Feet (PG)	4 p.m.
	Employee of the Month (PG13)	7 p.m.
Dec. 17	Happy Feet (PG)	4 p.m.
	Everyone's Hero (G)	7 p.m.
Dec. 18	CLOSED	
Dec. 19	CLOSED	

Camp Darby Theater

Dec. 14	Gridiron Gang (PG13)	6 p.m.
Dec. 15	Deja Vu (PG13)	6 p.m.
Dec. 16	Jackass 2 (R)	6 p.m.
Dec. 17	Je Li's Fearless (PG13)	2 p.m.

Movie Synopsis

DÉJÀ VU - *Denzel Washington, Val Kilmer.* Everyone has experienced the unsettling mystery of déjà vu - that flash of memory when you meet someone new you feel you've know all your life or recognize a place even though you've never been there before. But what if the feelings were actually warnings sent from the past or clues to the future? It is déjà vu that unexpectedly guides ATF agent Doug Carlin through an investigation into a shattering crime.

HAPPY FEET - *Savion Glover, Elijah Wood.* Set deep in Antarctica and into the land of Emperor Penguins, where each needs a heart song to attract a soul mate, a penguin is born who cannot sing. Our hero Mumble, son of Memphis and Norma Jean, is the worst singer in the world - however, as it happens, he is a brilliant tap dancer!

EMPLOYEE OF THE MONTH - *Dane Cook, Jessica Simpson.* For workers at Super Club, the most coveted honor is the "Employee of the Month" award, and having one's photo immortalized on the wall of fame in the staff lounge. Enter Zack Bradley and Vince Downey, two ultra competitive Super Club workers whose ten years of employment have resulted in drastically different career paths. The duo's longtime rivalry comes to a bitter head when Amy—a beautiful new cashier with a reputation of only dating "Employee of the Month" winners—transfers to the store, immediately becoming the object of both Zack and Vince's affection and often comical gamesmanship.

EVERYONE'S HERO - *Whoopi Goldberg, Rob Reiner.* A young boy finds himself at an extraordinary crossroads: He has a chance to be a hero - and make a difference against incredible odds - or he can play it safe. With faith in himself instilled by his family, he teams up with a sassy young girl and some off-the-wall sidekicks and embarks on a sometimes perilous, often funny, cross-country quest. In the process, he restores his family's honor, befriends the world's biggest sports superstar, and reveals the hero within.

Admission: Adults age 12 and over \$4, children \$2.
The Ederle Theatre box office opens one hour prior to show time.

Post office, CMR holiday hours

Army Post Office December hours

Below is the holiday schedule for the Army Post office. Please note that these hours are not the same as the Community Mail Room.

Through Dec. 22, the Army Post office is open Monday-Friday from 10 a.m.-4 p.m. and open **Saturdays from 10 a.m.-4 p.m.**

Stamps may be purchased at the Post Exchange, Shoppette, and the cash cage at the PX for your convenience.

The APO has an express lane during holiday hours for money orders, stamps, express mail, and letter-size correspondence only.

Community Mail Room December hours

As a reminder, when you close your mail box, SPIN the dial to ensure your box locks!

The CMR has found numerous boxes open during their inspections. This leaves you vulnerable to identity theft, theft of your mail, and other mischief.

The December hours of the Community Mail Room are:

Monday-Friday: 10 a.m.-5:30 p.m.
Dec. 23: 3-7 p.m. *These late hours will allow CMR personnel to receive last-minute mail and put notices in mail boxes before closing time.*

Dec. 24 (Sunday): 10 a.m.-2 p.m.
Dec. 25: Closed
Dec. 26-29: Regular hours
Dec. 30, 31 and Jan. 1: Closed

information on an item you see listed here, visit the MWR Web site: www.vicenzamwr.com/marketplace.

Kitten: Siamese kitten for Christmas, no older than a couple months.

Jeep seat covers: Custom made hot pink hawaiian seat covers, \$50.

Microwave: Excellent condition. \$20.

1995 Honda Civic: Good condition, \$3,000 OBO.

Fans: Two, oscillate. \$5 each.

1995 Volvo 480ES: Runs great, 2,200 OBO.

1992 Dieder Lancia: \$500, OBO.

Satellite Dish: For AFN or other tv, \$45.

1995 Honda Civic: Runs great, \$3,000.

Trek 2000 Road Bike: Many extras. \$825.

Telecom Modem: For use with Alice. \$20.

Boys Mongoose bike: Good shape, \$30.

Girls BMX bike: Like new. \$30.

Men's Nike Shox: Worn once, \$25.

Twin size loft bed w/desk: \$100.

Books: Hardbacks: \$7 each. Paperbacks: \$2.

XBOX 360 & PS2 Games: Used, \$30 for all.

Cat sitter needed: Watch my two cats from Dec. 18-Jan 7.

Furniture: Sofa, entertainment center and living-room table \$800.

Master bedroom: wardrobe, corner library, chest drawers and queen bed italian style \$700.

Gazebo: \$50.

Barbecue: \$60.

Furniture: Hallway furniture and sofa. \$270.

Apartment wanted: Temporary housing arrangement (single apartment, furnished) from Jan-March '07.

Happy Holidays to all!

The Outlook Press Release

The Vicenza and Camp Darby communities kicked off the festive season with annual Holiday Tree Lighting ceremonies, Dec. 7 and Dec. 1, respectively.

Vicenza's Directorate of MWR's "Seeing is Believing" event began at 3 p.m. in Club Veneto. Among the activities for the community to enjoy were a Pin the Nose on Rudolph the Red-Nose Reindeer and a craft project where the children made photo ornaments. Children were also treated to holiday stories read by Mrs. Claus during the activities held in the pre-Holiday Tree lighting ceremony at Club Veneto.

Once Santa arrived, children lined up to sit in his lap and tell him that, first of all they had been good all year, and secondly, what they hoped to get for Christmas. They then had the opportunity to sit and have their photo taken with Santa.

At 4:45 p.m. the crowd moved from Club V

to Olson Avenue where a stage was ready for Santa and hot beverages and cookies, donated and served by the USO, were waiting for the crowd.

Santa's appearance was followed by performances from the Vicenza Elementary School choir and VHS Band.

After a brief remarks to the crowd, Col. Virgil S.L. Williams, USAG Vicenza commander, brought up 18-month-old Jonathan Benchoff, to help him throw the switch to light the holiday tree. Completing the event were horse-drawn carriage rides.

Camp Darby's tree lighting ceremony featured a visit from Jolly Saint Nick who took requests from children, while the Livorno Unit School band played sounds of the season. To share the holiday spirit, the Livorno commissary provided hot cocoa and cookies and AAFES gave 10 percent off an item purchased in support of ACS's Angle Tree Program, when they presented the Angel to the cashier.

Left: Mrs. Claus (alias Mary Williams) reads a story to children at Club Veneto during the Seeing is Believing event, MWR's pre-Holiday Tree lighting ceremony.



Above: Children have fun with Frosty the Snowman Snowball Toss activity at the 'Seeing is Believing' event held in Club Veneto Thursday.



Above: USAG Vicenza commander, Col. Virgil S. L. Williams, hits the switch to illuminate the post holiday tree with the help of a little boy during the Holiday Tree Lighting ceremony held Thursday. (USAG Vicenza photos by Laura Kreider, Outlook staff)



The Livorno Unit School Band plays holiday carols for the Camp Darby Community and the President of Pistoia at the annual Community Tree Lighting ceremony Dec. 1. (Photo by Elena Baladelli, 7th ATC Photo Lab Livorno)



Above: A little boy tells Santa what he wants for Christmas while his brother listens attentively. The children visited with Santa at Camp Darby's Annual Tree Lighting Ceremony Dec. 1. (Photo by Elena Baladelli, 7ATC Photo Lab Livorno)