

New bazaar policies rendered, enforced



Afghan elders from villages all over Kapisa and Parwan Provinces gather for the first time on Bagram Air Base to discuss business and hear about changes made to one of their major sources of income — the Bagram Bazaar.

Story and photo by
Pfc. Christina Carde
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — For the first time in Bagram Air Base history, more than 200 village elders gathered together inside the post gates Saturday, to meet with military officers.

The meeting was called to discuss business and the changes being made to many of the villagers main source of income – the Bagram Bazaar.

Every Friday thousands of troops make their weekly shopping trip to the local bazaar where dozens of Afghan vendors sell everything from Persian rugs to 100-year-old muskets. Due to the size of the attraction, new rules and policies have been implemented to ensure the bazaar remains fair and safe for Afghans and servicemembers alike.

“The problem we’ve been having is that

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Afghan school remembers those killed in accident

Story and photo by
Spc. Steven Marroni
109th Mobile Public Affairs Detachment

POL-E-CHARKI, Afghanistan — Afghan children, waving American flags, lined the entry way of the Pol-e-charki School prior to its opening ceremony.

The ceremony was celebrated May 19 by Afghan education directors and Combined Joint Civil-Military Operations Task Force members.

The school was dedicated to the memory of several Afghan children who were killed in an Afghan National Army mortar training accident.

Approximately 3,000 children from the village attend the elementary and high schools at Pol-e-charki in two shifts.



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Pol-e-charki students sing for their guests at school's opening ceremony.

World News (Compiled from CNN.com)



The gravestone of Civil War officer Rueben Hunter stands in the Boalsburg Cemetery in Boalsburg, Penn.

Birthplace of Memorial Day disputed

BOALSBURG, Penn. — It was a somber show of respect and love that brought three women to the village cemetery in 1864 to lay flowers and ferns on graves of Civil War soldiers.

Residents say that act 139 years ago marked the nation's first Memorial Day observance. But some two dozen communities across the United States — from Columbus, Mississippi, and Macon, Georgia, to Richmond, Virginia, and Carbondale, Ill. — also claim to be the birthplace of Memorial Day.

"It's very competitive," said Sara Amy Leach, the senior historian at the National Cemetery Administration, who helps coordinate Memorial Day events for the federal government.

"I think there was a lot of need to come to conciliation after the Civil War, and things like Memorial Day and ceremonies that gave you occasion to look back and respect lost citizens was a very popular thing to do," Leach said. "It would be very difficult to go back and decide who did what."

The official distinction, signed into law by President Lyndon Johnson in 1966, is held by the village of Waterloo, N.Y.

Second sailor missing from USS Nassau

ABOARD THE USS NASSAU — The crew of the U.S. Navy amphibious assault ship USS Nassau searched Sunday for a missing sailor, a Navy official said. It's the second time a crewman has been reported missing in the past three days.

The sailor, identified as Hospitalman 1st Class Shaun Dale of Newport News, Va, did

not report for a 10 a.m. routine muster, where a head count of the ship's company is taken, said Capt. Terry O'Brien, commander of the Nassau's amphibious readiness group. Dale has been in the Navy for 18 years, O'Brien said.

An exhaustive search of the ship and the water where he could have gone overboard began at about 11:30 a.m. EDT, but has not turned up the sailor.

O'Brien said it was unclear whether the man fell overboard. He said Dale might be hiding, stuck in a crevice and unable to call for help, or in a corner of the ship where he cannot hear the loudspeaker calling for him.

The air search was called off at 8 p.m. EDT, but the search of the Nassau was continuing, O'Brien said.



Algerian volunteers carry a body from a flattened housing complex in the northern Algerian town of Dellys.

New threats for quake survivors

ALGIERS, Algeria — Looting and disease are emerging as the new threats for survivors of Algeria's devastating earthquake as the death toll rose above 2,100 and foreign rescuers began to withdraw.

Fury over the slow response of the government to provide aid and allegations of shoddy construction of buildings that collapsed also spread through the camps set up by survivors.

Authorities were struggling to keep up with the death toll from Wednesday night's quake, which measured 6.7 on the Richter scale. By Sunday evening the Interior Ministry said 2,162 had been killed and another 8,965 injured, The Associated Press reported.

Survivors in the worst affected area

along the country's northern coast banded together to protect what remained against the threat of looters from the suburbs of Algiers, 25 kilometers (15 miles) to the west.

Cruise ship explosion kills four

MIAMI — A boiler aboard the cruise ship S.S. Norway exploded Sunday shortly after the ship docked in Miami, killing four crew members and injuring at least 21 others, police said.

Thirteen crew members were critically injured, and seven to 10 others suffered less-serious injuries, said Miami-Dade Police Director Carlos Alvarez. No passengers were injured in the explosion, which Alvarez said appeared to have been accidental.

The blast sprayed high-pressure steam throughout a compartment deep within the aft end of the ship, Alvarez said.

"All of these were steam-related injuries, which would indicate burns," he said.

The explosion was reported at 6:37 a.m., about half an hour after the ship completed a weeklong cruise of the eastern Caribbean carrying 2,135 passengers and about 1,000 crew members, said the ship's owner, Norwegian Cruise Lines.

Israeli Cabinet OKs peace road map

JERUSALEM — The Israeli Cabinet voted Sunday to accept the U.S.-supported road map to a peace agreement.

This cleared the way for a series of steps that would lead to the creation of a Palestinian state within three years.

The 12-7 vote, with four abstentions, marked the first time an Israeli government has formally accepted the principle of a Palestinian state.

It followed a meeting that ministers in Sharon's conservative government later described as stormy.

The Palestinian Authority accepted the plan last month after it was drafted by the United States, Russia, the European Union and the United Nations, the so-called Middle East Quartet.

Palestinian officials are required to crack down on militant groups that have carried out attacks against Israelis.

Logistic element replaces fuel bag at MES

Story and photo by
Spc. Travis Edwards
1st COSCOM PAO

MASAR-E SHARIF, Afghanistan — Fuel is the lifeline of all military operations. It is carefully stored in large expandable bags free of dirt and water for vehicles, generators and airplanes. When those bags are compromised it becomes mission essential to replace the bag and transfer fuel to a new bag.

At the Joint Logistics Command's Forward Logistic Element, Army petroleum specialists replaced a 10,000-gallon expandable fuel bag, May 21, to avoid what could have become a disastrous leak or spill.

"We identified the fuel bag as a problem from the beginning. The bag was nine months old and had begun popping the occasional leak," said Spc. Derek Johnson, 375th Quartermaster Company, Belton, Missouri. "We anticipated the need for the bag and ordered it accordingly."

"Once we knew the new bag was on its way to us, we drained the bag by issuing only from it and not refilling it," said Johnson.

"We got the last drops of fuel from their old bag," said Army reservist Spc. William



Spc. William Alvarez, 450th Civil Affairs Battalion, Riverdale, Md., waits for Spc. Derek Johnson, 375th Quartermaster Company, Belton, Mo., to fill fuel cans.

Alvarez, 450th Civil Affairs Battalion (Airborne), Riverdale, Md. The civil affairs team in Masar-e Sharif receives fuel from the FLE. "They topped off our gas tanks and sent us on our way. Before we even mounted up the old bag was being removed from the berm guard. These guys are fast and efficient."

The berm guard is used to temporarily hold any fuel spills or leaks if a bag should

burst or tear. They protect the environment from fuel leakage and also provide protection to the bag itself.

"Putting in a new bag can be time consuming unless you plan it out before hand. Work smart, not hard," said Johnson.

"Johnson prepared the berm for the new bag and organized the installation of a new one. We were concerned about the dimensions of the bag but once it arrived we were confident it would fit," said petroleum specialist, Sgt. Robert Vollrath, 375th.

A forklift was used to lift the new bag in the packaging it came in to the center of the berm guard. It was then lowered into the guard.

The bag was then pulled out and situated where it belonged.

"We are all fuelers and know what right looks like," said Johnson.

The new 10,000-gallon expandable fuel bag was installed just under 18 minutes.

"It may have been a theater record," said Vollrath.

The fuel point in Masar-e Sharif serves the Jordanian Army Field Hospital, the Jordanian Special Forces detachment, the local Civil Affairs team, and U.S forces at the hospital.

Bagram holds first Memorial Day race



Servicemembers, including American and coalition forces, begin running Bagram's first 11.2 km Memorial Day race Sunday morning.

Story and photo by
Pvt. 2 Terri Rorke
11th Public Affairs Detachment

BAGRAM, Afghanistan — Nearly 400 servicemembers woke up early to participate in the Memorial Day Run/Walk/March Sunday morning.

The previous night's rainfall created a muddy track with many puddles, but that didn't stop the 269 runners, 66 walkers and 42 roadmarchers in competing on Bagram Air Base's 11.2 km perimeter.

During the race, the American and coalition forces experienced views of the base not commonly seen.

Capt. Patricia Cika, who won the race in the female run category by crossing the finish line at 51 minutes, 16 seconds, said she normally runs the track every day, but Sunday she had a new perspective.

"There was an international spirit out there. It's great. Everyone

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CJCMOTF engineers selected the project about five months ago, and contracted local workers to reconstruct the dilapidated buildings.

Their contractors built walls, a fence, repaired the roof and drilled a well, affixed with a hand pump. They also installed 500 chairs and tables.

“Here in Pol-e-charki, many students are starting their education for the first time,” Maj. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, Office of Military Cooperation of Afghanistan, said during his speech at the ceremony.

School director Matiullah Safi pointed out that the Pol-e-charki area began with government subsidized housing in 1963.

The schools were built around that time, and expanded as the population grew. Internal wars partially destroyed the buildings.

“(This ceremony) is symbolic of a new beginning,” Eikenberry said.

“Children, both boys and girls, are heading to school, and teachers, both men and women, can teach all students,” he added.

Afghan Deputy Minister of Education Professor M. Moeen Marastial also spoke at the ceremony.

“The Americans have not only helped bring peace to Afghanistan, but are working alongside us to build the country and our education system,” Marastial said.

He and CJCMOTF commander Col. Larry Clayton cut the ribbon, officially opening the school.

“Students must not forget the sacrifices of their parents and teachers so you can rid the country of terrorism and create a self-reliant Afghanistan,” Eikenberry said to the students.

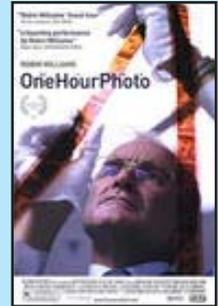
“It is up to you to make your parents’ dream a reality,” he added.

He also thanked several teachers from the school who have been working at night to teach some ANA soldiers how to read.

Bagram Air Base MWR presents

1530Z at the MWR building: “One Hour Photo.” An employee of a one-hour photo lab becomes obsessed with a young suburban family.

Tomorrow’s movie will be “Orange County.”



Local weather

TWO-DAY REGIONAL WEATHER FORECAST:

	Today	Tuesday
Bagram:	Scattered t-storms H: 68F L: 54F	Scattered t-storms H: 82F L: 57F
Kandahar:	Dusty H: 91F L: 68F	Dusty H: 95F L: 70F
Kabul:	Scattered t-storms H: 72F L: 54F	Scattered t-storms H: 81F L: 55F
Uzbekistan:	Partly cloudy H: 90F L: 57F	Isolated showers H: 86F L: 55F

Weather forecast courtesy of the Bagram Combat Weather Team

Freedom Watch falls under the supervision of the Combined Joint Task Force-180, and is published daily, Monday - Saturday.

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- Lt. Gen. Dan McNeill
- CJTF-180 Command Sergeant Major —
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- Public Affairs Officer —
- Col. Rodney Davis
- Public Affairs Sergeant Major —
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Freedom Watch, an Army newspaper



publication, is produced by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan.

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In accordance with AR 360-1, this Army newspaper is an authorized publication for members of the U.S. military overseas.

Contents of Freedom Watch are not necessarily the official view of, or endorsed by, the U.S. government, the Department of Defense or the Department of the Army.

All submissions are subject to editing for size and content by the 11th Public Affairs Detachment, located in Motel 6, CJTF-180, Bagram Air Base.

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British officer, Maj. Martin Lowder takes a minute to cool down after winning first place in the male category for the roadmarch race Sunday. Lowder said he knew he would win.

BAZAAR, from Page 1

the same vendors come to the bazaar every Friday to sell their merchandise,” said Capt. Teri Crossley, civil affairs officer, 403rd Civil Affairs Battalion, Syracuse, N.Y. “This is not fair to servicemembers who have to see the same stuff every week or to other Afghan vendors who have merchandise to sell and are being left out.”

To fix the problem, base operations, civil affairs and the Provost Marshal’s Office decided to alter their policies.

“Each of the 200 villages represented here today will provide one representative to deal with that village’s affairs concerning the bazaar,” said Crossley in her announcement to the congregation of village elders. “Each vendor will be allowed to represent their village at the bazaar once every four weeks, giving everyone a chance to participate.”

In addition to only being allowed to set up shop once a month, each vendor will need more than just a booth and some merchandise to do business.

“Every representative that is chosen will have to go through a screening process and receive a bazaar badge authorized only for that person,” said Crossley. “These badges are the vendor’s official credentials and are not transferable. Any transferring of badges will lead to the immediate confiscation of the badge and that individual will be banned from

the bazaar.”

Aside from keeping things professional and organized, the amended policies favor certain vendors who have not and will not be seen at the bazaar.

“Part of the reason for the bazaar was to help boost the Afghan economy and give Afghans a chance to sell merchandise native to their country,” said Crossley. “A lot of this merchandise consists of hand-crafted items made by the poor and widowed who are trying to make a living.”

“For this reason, in order for vendors to do business at the bazaar, 20 percent of their merchandise must consist of Afghan hand-crafted items,” Crossley added. “The merchandise will be inventoried prior to sale and a list of the hand-crafted items will be made to ensure the items are present before the booth can open.”

Policies concerning vendor rotations and sale of merchandise were not the only things amended. PMO has taken measures to enforce the law more effectively.

“Each vendor will be allowed one booth, vehicle and assistant to accompany them into the bazaar,” said Capt. Paul Felician, Bagram provost marshal. “We will provide the translators and the selected booth for the vendor. All they need do is set up shop.”

“Violence, sale of illegal items such as switchblades, sword-canes, drugs and weapons for which ammunition is still available,

RUN, from Page 3

was cheering everyone on,” said Cika.

Cika said Korean soldiers cheered her on during the race.

Maybe that is what helped Air Force Staff Sgt. Pat Spencer win the male run category by crossing the finish line at approximately 40 minutes. Spencer said he wasn’t even aiming to win the race.

But as for British officer, Maj. Martin Lowder, who won the male march category said all he thought about was winning first place during the race.

“To be honest, I knew I would win. It is a British Army thing. This is my strength,” said Lowder, who finished a course similar to this one in Britain recently. Lowder marched the Bagram perimeter in one hour and seven minutes. Each marcher had to carry at least 35 pounds in their rucksack.

The winner of the female march category was Spc. Marie Fredieu.

The winner of the walk category for males was Spc. Earl Jones and for females, Master Sgt. Sha’ron Westbrook.

The top female and male runners each received a 100-dollar gift certificate for the Post Exchange and each top female and male marcher and walkers received a 50-dollar gift certificate.

are strictly forbidden,” added Felician. “For a first offense a warning will be given and if it happens again, the vendor’s badge will be confiscated.”

According to Crossley and Felician, the reasons for all of these changes are not to make life harder for the vendors, but to make sure everyone is treated fairly.

“We know that rules like these can be difficult to accept and we are more than willing to provide the resources they need to make things easier,” said Crossley. “This way everyone has a chance to make some money including the poor and widows who contribute to the bazaar.”

“Our goal is to make the bazaar a safe place not only for servicemembers but for the vendors as well,” said Felician. “That way everyone can do business in a safe environment without having to worry about violence or intimidation.”

In his speech to the Afghan elders, Col. Kurt McNeilly, Bagram Air Base commander, summed up what the meeting was all about.

“By establishing a chamber of commerce and cooperatives within your villages, you are establishing the foundation on which your economy will grow and prosper,” said McNeilly. “The American and coalition forces are here to help your economy get back on its feet, but it’s up to the Afghan people who need to unite together and turn their war-fighting sense into business sense.”



Coalition Sports Zone

(Compiled from ESPN.com)



Rangers reclaimed the title, their first since 2000.

Rangers' rout beats out Celtic

GLASGOW, Scotland — Rangers won their 50th Scottish title on goal difference on Sunday when they beat Dunfermline 6-1 to pip Glasgow rivals Celtic by just one goal.

Defending champions Celtic, who won 4-0 at Kilmarnock on the final day of the season, suffered their second major disappointment in five days after losing to Porto in the UEFA Cup final.

It was the closest finish in the 113-year history of the championship. The Rangers last won the title in 2000.

"It's a fine line between winning and losing and there was a lot of tension all afternoon but I'm just delighted," said Rangers manager Alex McLeish. Rangers's goal difference was plus 73 to Celtic's 72.

"These players have exceeded my expectations this season and I'm really proud of their efforts," McLeish said.

It is the first time since 1986 that the title has been won on goal difference. If the teams had finished level on goal difference and goals scored, the title would have been decided by a playoff, the first since 1905.

Rangers, who have set the pace in the league for most of the season, are now heading for a domestic treble.

They have already won the League Cup, beating Celtic in the final, and play Dundee in the Scottish Cup final on May 31.

"We will be going for the treble and I will be confident about Rangers winning that trophy...," McLeish added.

On Sunday, Dutchman Michael Mols gave Rangers an early lead before Jason Dair hit a shock equalizer for Dunfermline.

But Rangers were dominant throughout and goals from Claudio Caniggia, Shota Arveladze, Ronald de Boer, Steven Thompson and a last-minute penalty from Mikel Arteta took their league goal count past 100 for the season.

"Getting so much excitement in the last minute of the last game and winning it means so much to me," said Rangers' Italian defender Lorenzo Amoroso. "It's just a fantastic feeling for me, but my dream is to finish my career here."

Celtic were also never in trouble but appeared to be suffering

mentally from their UEFA Cup final exertions in Seville.

Striker Chris Sutton scored twice and Alan Thompson scored and missed a penalty.

"I've got nothing but praise for the players and our fans. It's been a monumental effort from them," said Celtic manager Martin O'Neill.

"Congratulations to Rangers but I'm exceptionally proud of my team for their efforts this season and the way football is going, it might be a long time before you see another Scottish team back in a European final."

"I made a statement earlier this season about our team being astonishingly brilliant in one game but I meant all season. It's good to tell them that today.

"There is no doubt that the crowd are the best supporters going and between them and the players, they've got a club to be proud of."

In the day's other game, Hearts beat Dundee 1-0 to finish third — 34 points behind the Glasgow giants who gathered 97 points in 38 games.

See **SPORTS**, Page 7

2 PANTHER 10 K RESULTS

Race Overall

1. Capt. RaimundasAF
2. Sgt. Spencer AF
3. Maj. Franzak USMC

Males Open (18-29)

1. Sgt. Howard 519th
2. Capt. Hardman 2-505
3. Capt. Mulligan 2-505

Males Elite (30-41)

1. Capt. Callahan 2-505
2. Maj. Conway USMC
3. Spc. Render TF-44

Females Open (18-32)

1. 1st Lt. Laford MP
2. 1st Lt. Eagen MP
3. Capt. Cika TF-Tiger

Males Submasters (42+)

1. Lt. Col. Fischer CJ-5
2. Staff Sgt. Memanns 95th
3. Sgt. Maj. Johnson CJ-6

Females Elite (33+)

1. Sgt. Chapman CJTF-180
2. Maj. Krueger 48th CAF
3. Maj. Montemoryo CJTF-180



SPORTS, from Page 6

Canada withdraws bid to host games

NEW YORK — The United States expects to find out Monday whether it will host the Women's World Cup again, and the front-runner for the event is more than prepared if chosen.

"We're ready to hit the ground running," U.S. Soccer Federation president Bob Contiguglia said Friday.

The United States and Sweden were the only countries to submit complete bids to host the 16-nation tournament, and soccer's governing body is awaiting the votes of the eight members of its emergency committee.

A decision will probably be made Monday, FIFA spokesman Andreas Herren said. The United States hosted the last Women's World Cup, in 1999 when the home team won.

FIFA president Sepp Blatter, chairman of the committee, has called the United States the "front-runner" to take over the quadrennial championship, which had been scheduled in China from Sept. 23-Oct. 11. FIFA's executive committee decided May 3 to move the tournament because of SARS.

The Canadian Soccer Association announced late Thursday that it was withdrawing its bid to host one group of the tournament in Edmonton, Alberta, in the event the rest of the tournament was awarded to the United States. The decision was made after discussions with Jack Warner, a FIFA emergency committee member who also is president of soccer's governing body for North and Central America and the Caribbean (CONCACAF).

CSA president Andy Sharpe said the withdrawal was made "in an effort to provide CONCACAF with a unanimous bid to host the World Cup."

"We are convinced Edmonton would have been an excellent host city, but we must consider importance of showing solidarity within our Confederation," Sharpe said.

The original U.S. bid, according to FIFA, proposed using stadiums in Carson, Calif.; Columbus, Ohio; San Jose, Calif.; and Washington, D.C. It also proposed possibly having the final at the Rose Bowl in Pasadena, Calif., where the Americans won the 1999 championship game in front of a crowd of 90,125.

Contiguglia says the USSF and FIFA are now discussing having the tournament in four-to-seven stadiums.

Real Madrid trails by one point

MADRID, Spain — Real Sociedad reclaimed top spot in the Spanish first division from title rival Real Madrid after a 2-0 victory over 10-man Malaga in a tense encounter at the Rosaleda stadium on Sunday.

The win meant the Basque side re-established its one-point advantage over Real, who had taken over at the top on Saturday after a classy Ronaldo double helped them to a 2-1 win over last season's champion Valencia at the Mestalla.

With just three games left, Sociedad leads the table on 72 points, one ahead of Real and six ahead of Deportivo Coruna which looked to have waved goodbye to its title chances following its 3-0 defeat at Galician rival Celta Vigo on Saturday.

Sociedad lacked its usual fluency and composure as it took on a highly motivated Malaga, knowing that only a win would allow them to return to the top.

It had the better of the possession but was unable to make inroads against the well-organised Malaga defense, who appeared determined to make amends after last week's 5-1 thrashing at Real Madrid.

But Sociedad was given its chance when Malaga was reduced to 10 men with half an hour left when midfielder Sandro was dismissed after he picked up a second booking.

The Basque team made its numerical advantage pay 15 minutes later when midfielder Igor Gabilondo netted with a powerful header after defender Aitor Lopez Rekarte had unpicked the Malaga defense with a tricky run and cross from the right.

Serbian striker Darko Kovacevic made sure of the victory two minutes from time when he latched on to a superb through ball from defender Bjorn Tore Kvarme, dribbled his way past one defender and finished off with a delicate chip over keeper Pedro Contreras to score his 19th goal of the season.

At the other end of the table Alaves and Recreativo Huelva look destined to drop out of the top flight after the two sides suffered comprehensive defeats against Catalan sides Espanyol and Barcelona on Sunday.

"Look on the bright side, this could count as swim qual."



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By Kevin Kilgore

Laugh Support