

'Keeping Tabs'

Issue 23, 7 July 08



27th Brigade Combat Team --- Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix VII

Forward Operating Base Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan

Celebrating July 4th from the Combat Zone



CAMP PHOENIX, KABUL – More than 130 runners participated in a 5 Kilometer run at Camp Phoenix to mark the nation's birthday on July 4th as only its military men and women can do. There were two heats – one began at 6:15 and the other at 7 a.m. Leading the way with his company guidon, was New York State Trooper, 1SG James Meltz from SECFOR Delta. When the run was over a formation was held in Patriot Square. The TF Cdr, COL Brian K. Balfe led 20 members of the team as they re-affirmed their oath of service to emphasize that they had re-enlisted in the Guard while serving in the combat zone. CSM David Piwowarski stood next to them and joined them in the oath. Later in the day, Task force members from New York City, Long Island and the Hudson Valley based at Camp Phoenix, Kandahar and other bases call into a live radio veteran's show on WVOX AM 930 from New Rochelle, NY.





Patriotic display

CAMP PHOENIX, KABUL – In honor of the holiday and in support of the troops KBR employees went all-out with a July 4th display and classic American summer-time fare. Noon and dinner meals featured barbecue chicken, ribs, sausage, hotdogs and hamburgers, and many different salads. Sculpted figures of Uncle Sam, the Statue of Liberty and the Pentagon greeted the troops inside the dining hall. Many took out digital cameras to snap shots that they were sure no one at home would believe. The decorated cakes not only inspired, they tasted even better.



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