

NT ISSUE

[PORTFOLIO]

COMBAT₁ CAMERA

**THE JOURNAL OF THE
AIR FORCE C4 COMMUNITY**

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1ST present s COMBAT CAMERA

AERIAL PHOTOGRAPHY ▣



4

HUMANITARIAN RELIEF ▣



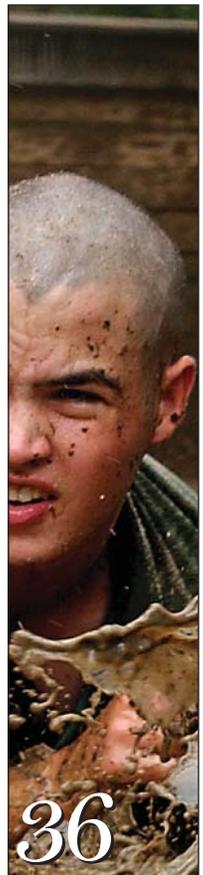
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PORTRAITS ▣

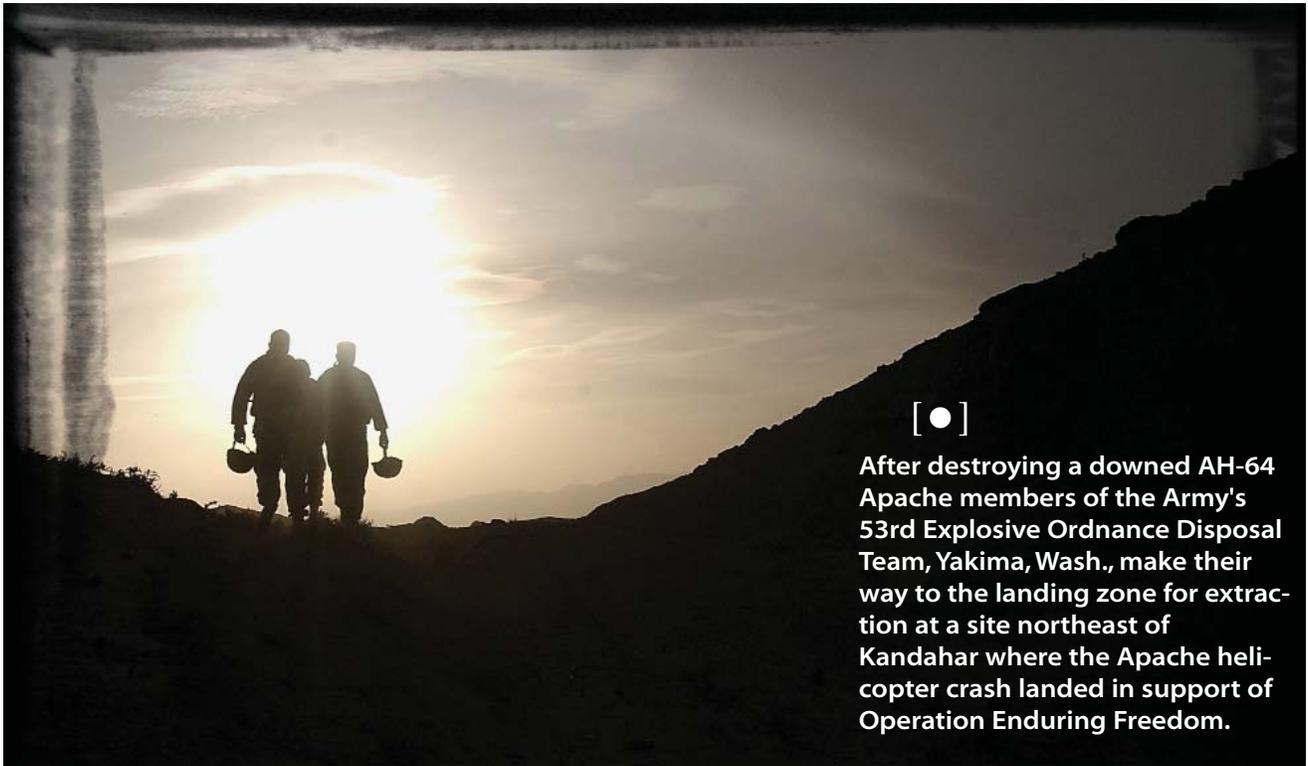


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OPERATIONS & TRAINING ▣



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[●]

After destroying a downed AH-64 Apache members of the Army's 53rd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Team, Yakima, Wash., make their way to the landing zone for extraction at a site northeast of Kandahar where the Apache helicopter crash landed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock

Journal

Even after spending 14 years enlisted time in the Telephone Systems career field before becoming an officer, I had no idea there was a squadron out there like the 1st Combat Camera Squadron, a unit with more than 100 video and still photo personnel assigned to it. Members of the squadron are visible in almost every aspect of the Air Force mission. They're responsible for providing accurate visual imagery of the Air Force and other branches of the service in action anywhere in the world. Imagery they shoot may be used as a classroom training aid for students prior to hands-on training. Other times, cameras may be employed to pin-point the cause of recurring damage to parachutes during certain types of personnel jumps. During any real-world contingency, 1st CTCS is in-place to provide senior leaders with a realistic visual record that can compliment situation reports being provided by the troops in the field. From Afghanistan to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, 1st CTCS is there to document the Air Force in action. You'll find the 1st CTCS at Cobra Gold in Thailand as well as downtown Baghdad, Iraq. The Air Force is constantly doing unbelievable things in all parts of the world and a comm officer's best chance to see them from a bird's-eye view is to be a part of 1st CTCS. The outstanding video, still photo and graphics imagery will serve as a historical record of the Air Force in action for future generations curious about events that occurred during our tenure as Combat Cameramen.

2nd Lt. Brian Pressler
1st Combat Camera

Pictures at the SPEED of

A B-1B bomber from the 28th Air Expeditionary Wing stays at the threshold of breaking the sound barrier causing an air pocket to form around the aircraft during Operation Enduring Freedom.
Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo



Sound

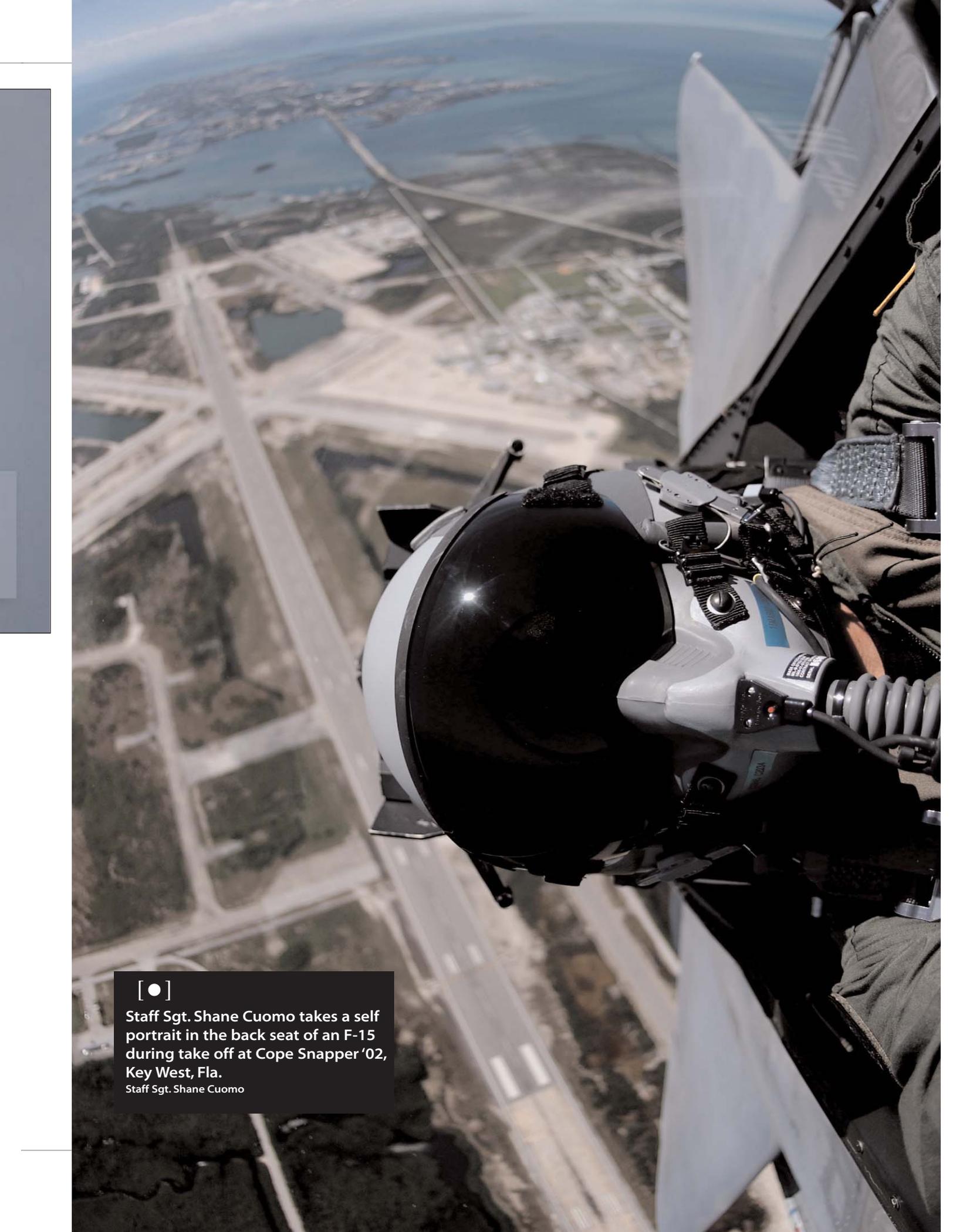
Journal

After the mission brief, we geared up with anti g-suits, harnesses and helmets. As we stepped to the F-16D Falcon, it reminded me why I became an aerial photographer. I have asked myself numerous times, “Where else in the world could a 19-year old Airman 1st Class fly in the backseat of an advanced jet-fighter and record images on a daily basis?”

There’s nothing else in the Air Force I would want to do. From my travels to Antarctica delivering personnel and supplies for the National Science Foundation, to screeching off in a max climb in the backseat of an F-15E Strike Eagle or documenting a night mission on a MH-53M Pave Low IV helicopter inserting a Special Forces unit into Iraq with the lingering smell of burnt gun powder from a .50 caliber machine gun, I realize again and again that “I have the best job in the Air Force.”

Every time I hear the rotors starting to turn or the turbines kicking on, I feel almost as I did stepping into an aircraft for the first time. Flying is a privilege earned and kept by a select few of fully trained Air Force photographers. We do what others can only imagine.

Staff Sgt. Jerry Morrison
1st Combat Camera



[●]

Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo takes a self portrait in the back seat of an F-15 during take off at Cope Snapper '02, Key West, Fla.

Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo



[●]

An F-15 crosses into the blue during Cope Snapper Exercise '02 in Key West, Fla.

Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock



Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen



Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen



Staff Sgt. Ricky Bloom

▲ A C-17 Globemaster III parts the skies over western South Carolina during a training mission.

◀ F-15s from the 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana ANG, fly over the East Coast during Cope Snapper Exercise '02.

◀◀ F-16s from Cannon AFB, N.M., fly during Northern Edge '02. More than 70 aircraft simultaneously flew missions during the Alaskan-based exercise.

[●]

An F-16 receives fuel in the skies above Thailand during Cope Tiger Exercise '03. This two-week exercise hones the air-to-air and air-to-ground skills of pilots from Thailand, Singapore and the United States.

Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo





▲ Pararescuemen from Moody AFB, Ga., and Nellis AFB, Nev., perform a High Altitude Low Opening free fall from 13,000 feet out of a C-130 at an undisclosed location in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

▶ Staff Sgt. Erik Lawther from Charleston AFB, S.C., prepares the paratrooper door for members of the 82nd Airborne during night operations over Luzon Airfield, N.C., during an exercise.





Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo



Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock

A crew chief from the 159th Fighter Wing, Louisiana ANG, preflights an F-15 for Exercise Cope Snapper '02, held in Key West, Fla.



An F-16 flies over Alaska during Northern Edge '02.

Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen





[●]

Tech. Sgt. Selwyn McConney awaits an HH-60 helicopter while Tech. Sgt. Darrin Shore instructs and monitors mock survivors during an urban operations training exercise in Baghdad.

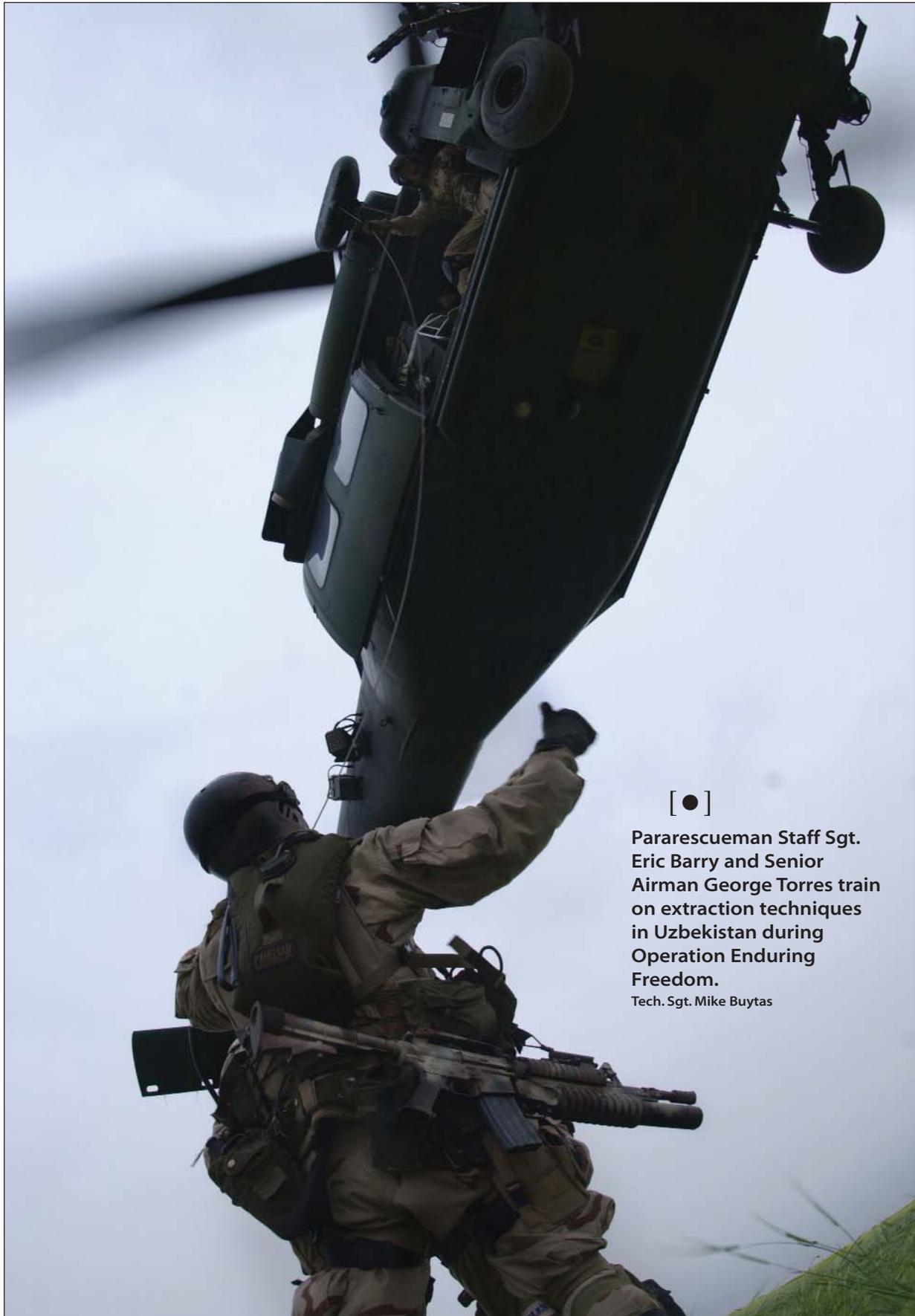
Master Sgt. James Brown



[●]

A B-2 Spirit refuels over the northern Alaskan mountain range as one of the missions for Northern Edge '02, a joint training exercise between the U.S. Army, Coast Guard and Air Force.
Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen





[●]

Pararescueman Staff Sgt. Eric Barry and Senior Airman George Torres train on extraction techniques in Uzbekistan during Operation Enduring Freedom.

Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas





Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo

Pararescuemen from the 304th Rescue Squadron are hoisted to an HH-60 Pavehawk at Talill AFB, Iraq, during Operation Iraqi Freedom.



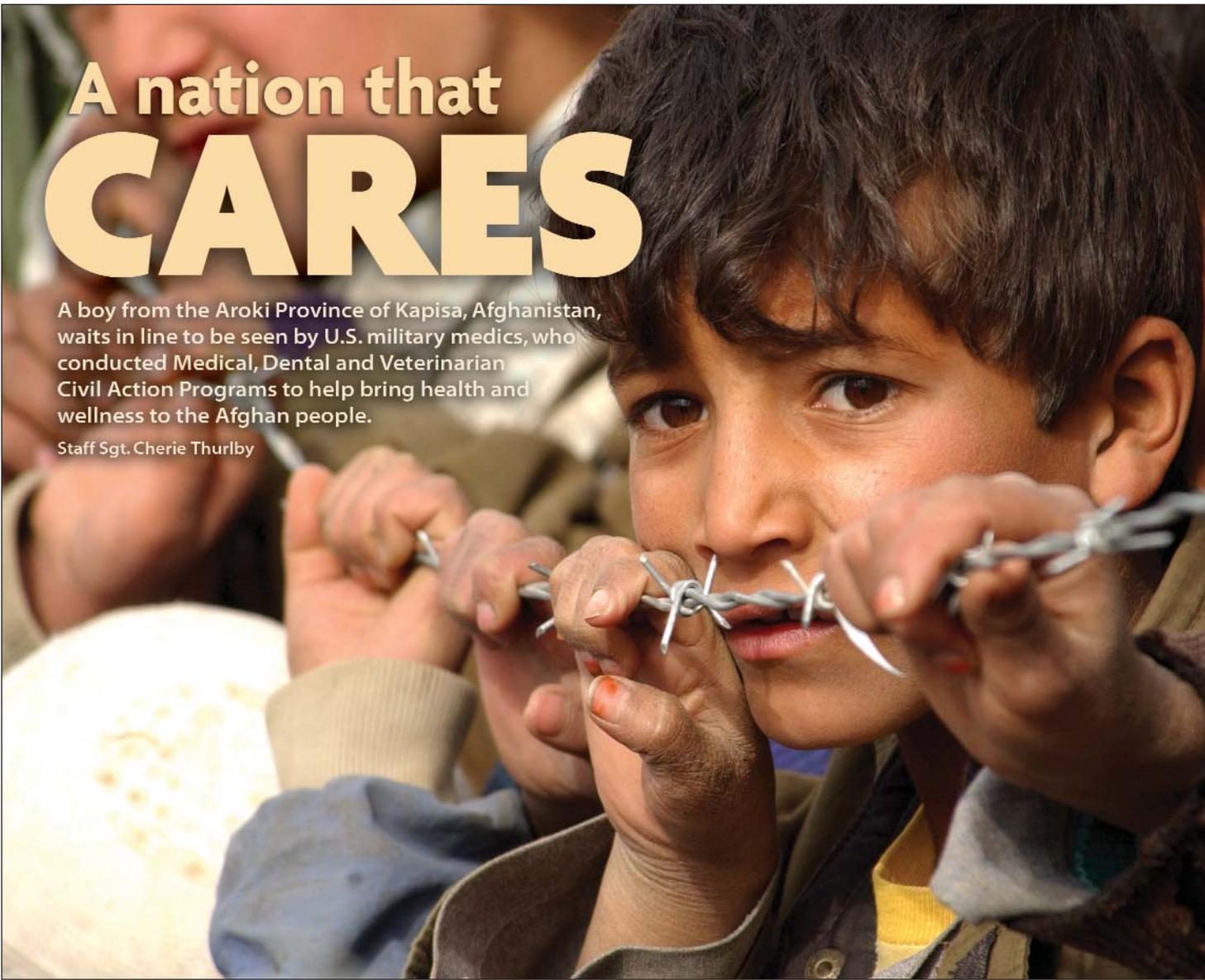
Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

An MH-53 helicopter flies over Masirah, Oman, while conducting a site survey during OEF.

A nation that **CARES**

A boy from the Aroki Province of Kapisa, Afghanistan, waits in line to be seen by U.S. military medics, who conducted Medical, Dental and Veterinarian Civil Action Programs to help bring health and wellness to the Afghan people.

Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

Afghans unload supplies from the Red Cross.

► Army Staff Sgt. Greg Shanahan, a civil affairs specialist, speaks with an Iraqi citizen.





Staff Sgt. Quinton Burris



Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby

A man kisses the Iraqi flag as a sign of respect before he presents his gift to Army Col. Tim Regan for helping restore the power plants in Baghdad, Iraq.

Journal

During Operations Enduring Freedom and Iraqi Freedom, I was fortunate enough to photograph several humanitarian events including a Medical Civil Action Program in Afghanistan and a school rebuilding and opening in Baghdad, Iraq. These were by far the most gratifying experiences of my six-month deployment. As photojournalists for Combat Camera, we often find ourselves photographing the struggles and the destruction that are naturally involved in a war or military operation. But, during these humanitarian events, I was able to photograph something that felt extremely positive. I was giving back to these people who have very little and have witnessed war right in their backyards. Of course there were times when I felt intrusive with my camera; however, I found that if I would put my camera down and smile, most of the time they would smile back. It was important to me that they saw me as a person with feelings who wasn't interested in exploiting them. Overall, I felt extremely honored to be part of these humanitarian events.

Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby
1st Combat Camera





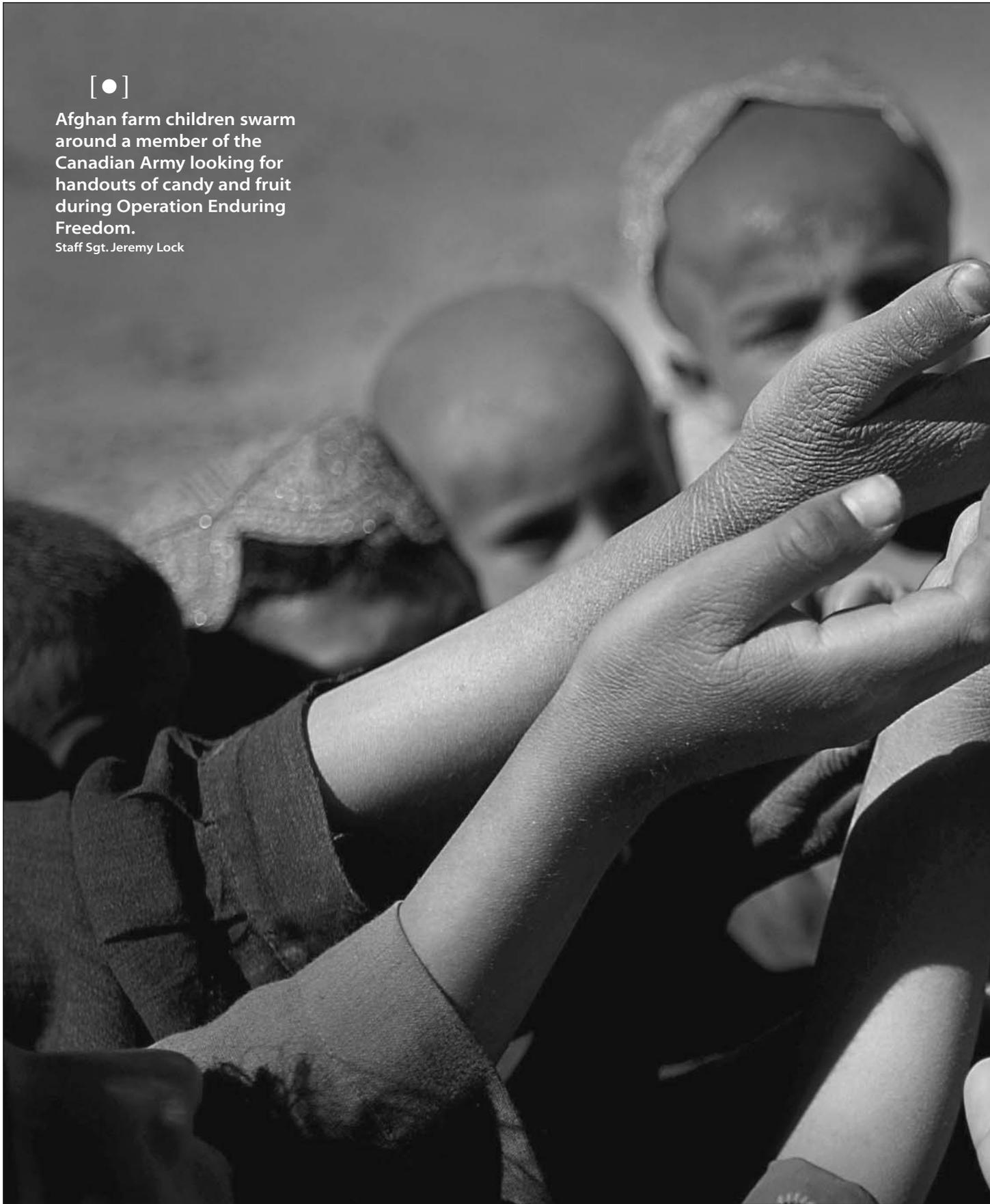
[●]

Young Afghani girls carrying infants plead with an Army medic to let them into the women's medical tent during a Medical Civil Action Program held in the Province of Kapisa.

Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby



Afghan farm children swarm around a member of the Canadian Army looking for handouts of candy and fruit during Operation Enduring Freedom.
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock







Staff Sgt. Quinton Burris

A young Iraqi boy salutes members of the 486th Civil Affairs Company as they deliver water to his village during Operation Enduring Freedom.

▶ A young girl looks toward an Army regiment while they provide security in a controlled area during Operation Scorpion Sting.



Master Sgt. James Bowman



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

School children are provided a full course meal, along with school supplies and funding, from the U.S., Thai and Singapore military during Cope Thunder 2003.



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

An Afghani child shows a leaflet warning her not to pick up unexploded ordnances.

A boy who's staying with his family in a detainee camp during Operation Enduring Freedom.
Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo



Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby

An Afghan child clings to his mother while waiting to be seen by U.S. military medics during a Medical Civil Action Program held in the village of Aroki Province of Kapisa.

Afghani children from the village of Aroki Province of Kapisa, Afghanistan, wait to be seen by U.S. military medics. Soldiers from the 48th Combat Support Hospital, along side airmen from the 455th Air Expeditionary Wing and the 924th Korean Medical hospital, conducted a Medical Civil Action Program to help the Afghan people.



Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby



The faces of **War & PEACE**

[●] These young Afghan girls wait their turn to be seen during a Medical Civil Assistance Program held at the village of Deh Baha Ali.

Tech. Sgt. Stephen Faulisi

Journal



Staff Sgt. Cherie Thurlby

A child from the village of Grand Douda, Africa, near a U.S. military camp.

Portraits are arguably photos that have the most impact on the viewer. Whether it's a somber African child, a celebrating athlete, or a scared Afghan girl, portraits give the viewer a sense of what the subject is feeling or going through. The subject's eyes convey happiness, sadness, or fear the way words can't.

I always look for portraits while photographing stories. They personalize the story and help the viewer instantly connect to the subject. If you look at a portrait and feel something, then the portrait is a success.

Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas
1st Combat Camera Photojournalist



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo and Tech. Sgt. Andy Dunaway

Photo illustrations such as this one of a Fort Meade, Md., firefighter set the tone for a story.



Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas

▲ A paratrooper with the Indian Army waits to board a U.S. Air Force C-130 during Exercise Cope India in 2002.

▶ A Spanish soldier on an Egyptian firing range just outside of Mubarak Military City in Egypt.



Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

Hundreds of soldiers stationed in the area of Tuzla, Bosnia, come together to watch a USO Christmas show.



Staff Sgt. Sarayuth Pinthong

Nigerian Honor Guard prepares for an inspection before the opening ceremony of Operation Focus Relief, an initiative to provide military equipment and training to seven west African Battalions to prepare them for peace enforcement operations in Sierra Leone.



Staff Sgt. Stacy Pearsall

▲ Staff Sgt. Jeff Wolfe of the 1st Combat Camera Squadron, Charleston AFB, S.C., gets a hair cut at Furte Lautaro, Santiago, Chile, during an exercise.

◀ A Thai Marine from the 1st Security Battalion, Royal Thai Marines, Samesan Marine Base, Thailand, keeps a watchful eye while flying an air assault training mission during Cobra Gold '02.



Staff Sgt. Jerry Morrison



Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock

A pararescueman prepares to tuck away an American flag he'll jump with before boarding a C-130 for a jump from 800 feet high.



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

Senior Airman Valerie Arriaga, McConnell AFB, Kan., waits in her chem gear during "black conditions" at an exercise in Volk Field, Wisc.



A C-17 loadmaster hangs the flag minutes before takeoff on a humanitarian mission.



U.S. Army soldiers board a C-130 aircraft at an undisclosed location after serving their time in OEF.

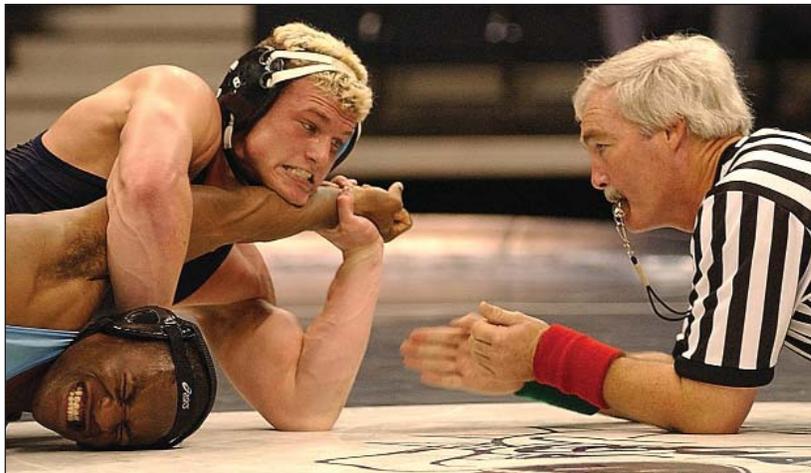
Staff Sgt. Quinton Burris



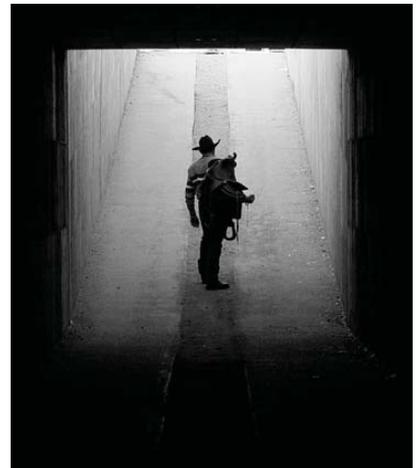
Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock



Zandile Blay from Gambia, West Africa, poses for a portrait taken for a project at Syracuse University.



Staff. Sgt. Jeremy Lock



Tech. Sgt. Scott Reed



Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas



Staff Sgt. Larry Simmons

Jennifer Capriati returns a shot during her semifinal victory at the Family Circle Cup held at Daniel Island, S. C., in 2001.



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

L to R: Citadel wrestlers; Military volunteer at Cheyenne Frontier Days; Clown show at Yokota AB, Japan; and "Friday Night Fights" at a U.S. camp in Uzbekistan.



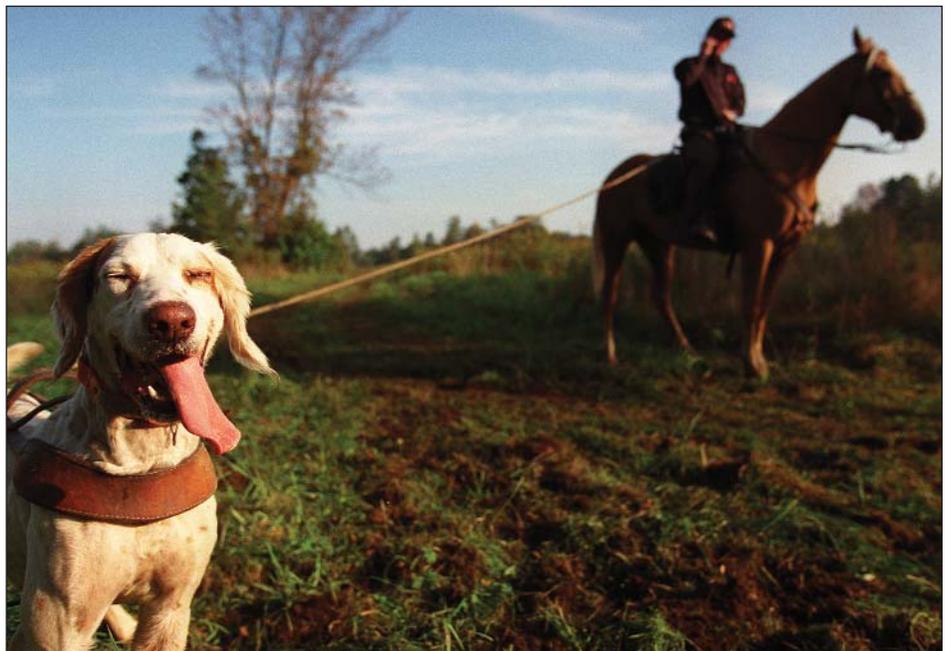
Staff Sgt. Sarayuth Pinthong

A woman from Charleston, S.C., shares her prayer at a Baptist church.



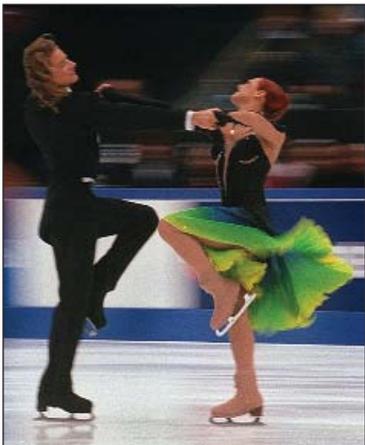
Staff Sgt. Jennie Ivey

Bella, a child without sight, still sees her world.



Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen

A pheasant hunting dog gets a rare breather when his owner takes a call on his cell phone.



French skaters Marina Anissina and Gwendel Peizerat rehearse their routine on the opening day of Skate Canada 2000 International.



Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock

A premature baby born in Medical University Hospital in South Carolina receives tender care.



[●]
Trainees high crawl through an obstacle at the end of the Fit-To-Win course at Army Basic Combat Training at Fort Jackson, S.C.
Staff Sgt. Larry Simmons

OPERATIONS & TRA

Lt. J.T. Goodman of the Camp Lejeune, N. C., Coast Guard, demonstrates terrorist swim tactics and how to counter them to Marine observers at Charleston Harbor, S.C., during Harbor Shield '02.

Staff Sgt. Stacy Pearsall





Tech. Sgt. Efrain Gonzalez

Airmen take a break after a long day of setting up tents.

Journal

The great thing about shooting operations and training is that most of the day-to-day activities are very repetitious. They do the same thing day in and day out because that is what they are trained to do or that is what the mission calls for. So, you can always go back and try new things such as laying down on the parking ramp while photographing pilots talking to maintenance crews using a telephoto lens instead of kneeling using a normal lens. Or, you can get up close and personal with a wide angle lens to photograph a guy digging a ditch instead of staying back away.

Whatever the situation, I try to think back on photos I have seen or even shots in a movie that I like and try to recreate that angle or mood. A lot of people think that photographing military equipment, hardware or people can be sterile and boring, which is not the case. I just approach photographing the military with ideas that I have seen or come up with and apply them to the situation. If it doesn't work the way I want, I can always go back to reshoot it or apply what I have learned to another situation.

Staff Sgt. Shane Cuomo

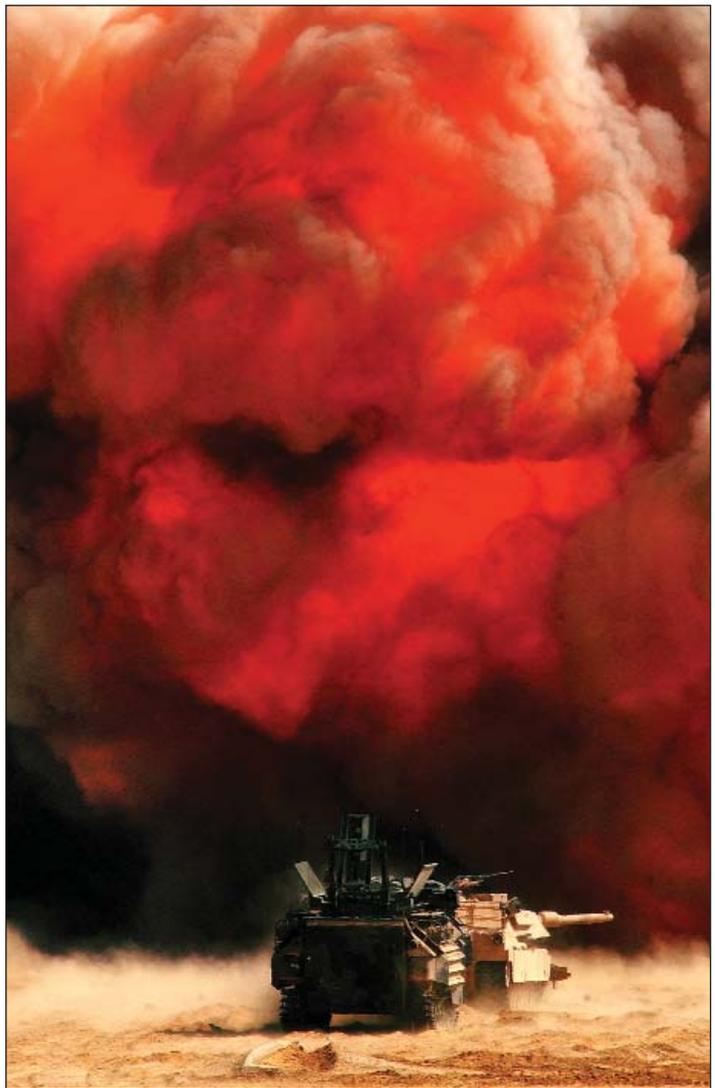
1st Combat Camera

Photojournalist





Tech. Sgt. Mike Buytas



Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen

A U.S. Marine Corps armored vehicle launches a Mine Clearing Land Charge to demonstrate how to clear the ground of land mines on an Egyptian firing range just outside of Mubarak Military City in Egypt. This was for the exercise Bright Star, a multinational exercise involving more than 74,000 troops from 44 countries. It enhances regional stability and military cooperation among the U.S., key allies, and regional partners.

◀ Afghan National Army recruits run an obstacle course with full, five-gallon water jugs at a military academy near Kabul, Afghanistan, in May 2002. The drill was part of the first squad level competition conducted by U.S. Special Forces members to aide, assist, and train the recruits until the Afghan military can take over.



▲ An army recruit falls out during a basic training obstacle course at Fort Jackson, S.C.

▶ Soldiers from the 10th Mountain Division, Fort Drum, N.Y. process through Asian customs. Army and Air Force members from all over the country were forward deployed to locations in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo





Staff Sgt. Larry Simmons



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

Marine Cpl. Stan Llaban orders his company up a hill while performing a helicopter raid in Hijudai, Japan, for Keen Sword/Forest Light '03.



Staff Sgt. Jerry Morrison

Basic training recruits at Parris Island low crawl carrying a fallen Marine during the "crucible" phase of training.





Staff Sgt. Wayne Clark

Staff Sgt. Ali Connie, a security police augmentee from the 8th Fighter Wing, watches a "mock" prisoner from during an Enemy Prisoner of War exercise at Kunsan AB, Korea, during Foal Eagle '02.



Staff Sgt. Stacy Pearsall

United States and Chilean soldiers train Peruvian armed forces members how to control civilian militia holding hostages at Fuerte Lautaro, Santiago, during exercise Cabanas 2002 Chile. It's a multi-national combined readiness training exercise centered around peacekeeping operational tasks.



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo

Staff Sgt. Cory Bosworth, 3rd Communications Squadron, Elmendorf AFB, Alaska, performs a communications check during Cope Tiger '03. Cope Tiger is an annual joint/combined air-to-air, air-to-ground, and large force employment training exercise designed to maintain regional peace and security in the Asian Pacific region.

► The Phoenix Readiness exercise at Fort Dix, N.J., teaches students how to tactically defend themselves in several situations. Before sending students into battle, the cadres provide simulation of a fire fight at night. Armed with an M-60 mounted on a Humvee, the cadres light up the sky.

▼ Egyptian troops deploy from a U.S. Navy hovercraft onto El Omayed beach, Egypt, during Bright Star 01/02.



Staff Sgt. Cecilio Ricardo



Staff Sgt. Myles Cullen



[●]

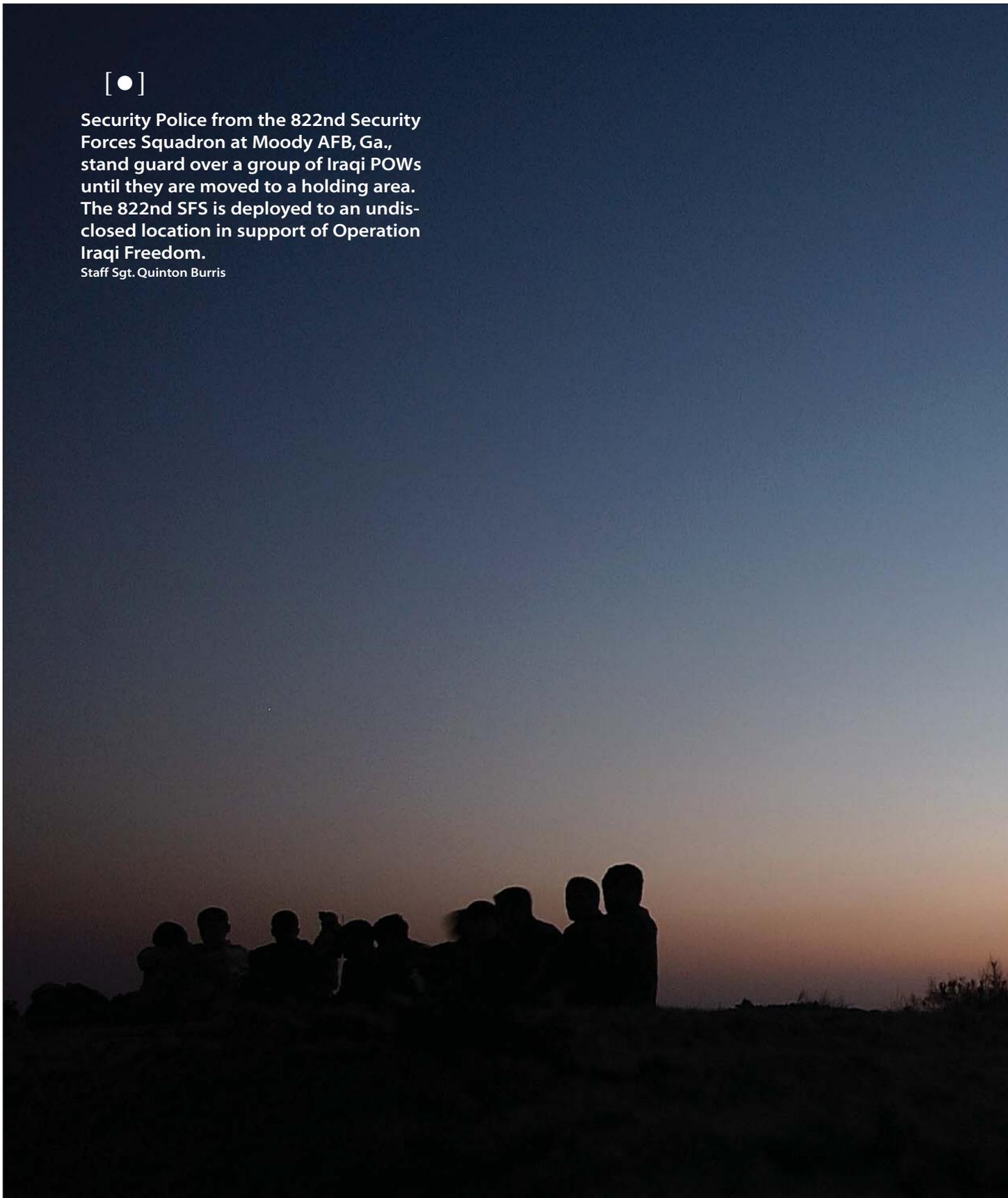
A rappelling exercise at
Baghdad International
Airport, Iraq.

Master Sgt. James Bowman



Security Police from the 822nd Security Forces Squadron at Moody AFB, Ga., stand guard over a group of Iraqi POWs until they are moved to a holding area. The 822nd SFS is deployed to an undisclosed location in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Staff Sgt. Quinton Burris







GOVERNMENT

Photo illustration by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Lock / 1st CTCS