

# Commentary

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## Troop Talk



I received the following questions and statements from visits with Soldiers around post last week.

**What is the post shuttle and bus schedule? More Soldiers would use this service if the routes, times, and pick-up points were more widely published.**

The shuttle scheduled is included below and *The Monitor* will publish it on a regular basis.

**What is the date of completion for the new Logan Heights Housing Area GMH is building?**

Homes in the Logan Heights Housing area are being renovated as quarters become vacant. All renovations should be complete by 2011.

**Are there any plans to add a larger movie theater?**

Not at the present time. Stayton Theater can

accommodate 1,000 people. One option, if necessary, is to add additional showings.

**Will there be a woodcraft shop on Fort Bliss as the Soldier population increases?**

Arts and crafts programs are currently unfunded, and are not likely to be funded in the future, based on Common Levels of Service guidance. However, there is a local club that welcomes military members. Contact Woodcrafters of El Paso for more information at 562-3419 or 598-4050.

**The Auto Craft Shop is currently closed on the weekends, which is the only time most Soldiers have to work on their cars. Can the shop be open Saturday and Sunday?**

Currently, the Auto Craft Shop is open noon to 7 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 8 a.m. to 4 p.m. Saturday, and is closed Sunday, Monday and Tuesday. There is ongoing recruitment for additional staff, and as soon as they are onboard the operating hours will

change to: 1 to 9 p.m. Wednesday, Thursday and Friday, 9 a.m. to 5 p.m. Saturday, and noon to 5 p.m. Sunday. The facility is open on training holidays and closed on federal holidays.

Kudos to Better Opportunities for Single Soldiers and Army Community Services for all they do to help Soldiers!

Kudos also to the Provost Marshal for opening Chaffee Gate to all traffic now instead of just to commercial traffic. This change has significantly improved the traffic flow at the Stout Gym Gate, particularly during PT hours.

Brig. Gen. Robert P. Lennox  
Fort Bliss Commanding General

## Shuttle Schedule

Biggs to WBAMC	Depart				Shuttle 1
Biggs Mayor's Cell	6 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:10 p.m.	4:50 p.m.
Housing Area 10000	6:15 a.m.	9:05 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	2:25 p.m.	5:05 p.m.
Housing Area 11000	6:20 a.m.	9:10 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	2:30 p.m.	5:10 p.m.
PX	6:30 a.m.	9:25 a.m.	12:05 p.m.	2:45 p.m.	5:25 p.m.
Housing Area Van Horn	6:45 a.m.	9:35 a.m.	12:15 p.m.	2:55 p.m.	5:35 p.m.
TMC	6:50 a.m.	9:40 a.m.	12:20 p.m.	3 p.m.	5:40 p.m.
Aquatic Center	6:55 a.m.	9:45 a.m.	12:25 p.m.	3:05 p.m.	5:45 p.m.
Bldg. 503	7 a.m.	9:50 a.m.	12:30 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	5:50 p.m.
Fort Bliss YMCA	7:15 a.m.	10:05 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	3:25 p.m.	6:05 p.m.
WBAMC	7:20 a.m.	10:10 a.m.	12:50 p.m.	3:30 p.m.	6:10 p.m.
Fort Bliss YMCA	7:25 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	12:55 p.m.	3:35 p.m.	6:15 p.m.

WBAMC to Biggs	Depart				Shuttle 1
Fort Bliss YMCA	7:25 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	12:55 p.m.	3:35 p.m.	6:15 p.m.
WBAMC	7:30 a.m.	10:20 a.m.	1 p.m.	3:40 p.m.	6:20 p.m.
Fort Bliss YMCA	7:35 a.m.	10:25 a.m.	1:05 p.m.	3:45 p.m.	6:25 p.m.
Bldg. 503	7:50 a.m.	10:40 a.m.	1:20 p.m.	4 p.m.	6:40 p.m.
Aquatic Center	7:55 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	1:25 p.m.	4:05 p.m.	6:45 p.m.
TMC	8 a.m.	10:50 a.m.	1:30 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	6:50 p.m.
Housing Area Van Horn	8:05 a.m.	10:55 a.m.	1:35 p.m.	4:15 p.m.	6:55 p.m.
PX	8:15 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	1:45 p.m.	4:25 p.m.	7:05 p.m.
Housing Area 11000	8:30 a.m.	11:20 a.m.	2 p.m.	4:40 p.m.	7:20 p.m.
Housing Area 10000	8:35 a.m.	11:25 a.m.	2:05 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	7:25 p.m.
Biggs Mayor's Cell	8:50 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:10 p.m.	4:50 p.m.	7:30 p.m.

WBAMC to Biggs	Depart				Shuttle 2
Fort Bliss YMCA	6 a.m.	8:50 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	2:30 p.m.	5:20 p.m.
WBAMC	6:05 a.m.	8:55 a.m.	11:45 a.m.	2:35 p.m.	5:25 p.m.
Fort Bliss YMCA	6:10 a.m.	9 a.m.	11:50 a.m.	2:40 p.m.	5:30 p.m.
Bldg. 503	6:25 a.m.	9:15 a.m.	12:05 p.m.	2:55 p.m.	5:45 p.m.
Aquatic Center	6:30 a.m.	9:20 a.m.	12:10 p.m.	3 p.m.	5:50 p.m.
TMC	6:35 a.m.	9:25 a.m.	12:15 p.m.	3:05 p.m.	5:55 p.m.
Housing Area Van Horn	6:40 a.m.	9:30 a.m.	12:20 p.m.	3:10 p.m.	6 p.m.
PX	6:50 a.m.	9:40 a.m.	12:30 p.m.	3:20 p.m.	6:10 p.m.
Housing Area 11000	7:05 a.m.	9:55 a.m.	12:45 p.m.	3:35 p.m.	6:25 p.m.
Housing Area 10000	7:10 a.m.	10 a.m.	12:50 p.m.	3:40 p.m.	6:30 p.m.
Biggs Mayor's Cell	7:25 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	1:05 p.m.	3:55 p.m.	6:45 p.m.

Biggs to WBAMC	Depart				Shuttle 2
Biggs Mayor's Cell	7:25 a.m.	10:15 a.m.	1:05 p.m.	3:55 p.m.	6:45 p.m.
Housing Area 10000	7:40 a.m.	10:30 a.m.	1:20 p.m.	4:10 p.m.	7 p.m.
Housing Area 11000	7:45 a.m.	10:35 a.m.	1:25 p.m.	4:15 p.m.	7:05 p.m.
PX	7:55 a.m.	10:45 a.m.	1:35 p.m.	4:25 p.m.	7:15 p.m.
Housing Area Van Horn	8:10 a.m.	11 a.m.	1:50 p.m.	4:40 p.m.	7:30 p.m.
TMC	8:15 a.m.	11:05 a.m.	1:55 p.m.	4:45 p.m.	
Aquatic Center	8:20 a.m.	11:10 a.m.	2 p.m.	4:50 p.m.	
Bldg. 503	8:25 a.m.	11:15 a.m.	2:05 p.m.	4:55 p.m.	
Fort Bliss YMCA	8:40 a.m.	11:30 a.m.	2:20 p.m.	5:10 p.m.	
WBAMC	8:45 a.m.	11:35 a.m.	2:25 p.m.	5:15 p.m.	
Fort Bliss YMCA	8:50 a.m.	11:40 a.m.	2:30 p.m.	5:20 p.m.	

## Freedom

# An idea that burns brightly, revisited

SGT. 1ST CLASS BRIAN SIPP

4th BCT, 1st Cav. Div.

*Author's Note: This commentary was originally written by me July 4, 2003 as I sat with the 3rd Infantry Division in Baghdad. Now, two-and-a-half years later, after three elections, the capture of Saddam Hussein, and the pending establishment of a legitimate government, voted for by the Iraqi people, I offer further insight. The new portions appear in italics.*

The word "freedom" is tossed around so often in the news and media that I fear its true meaning has become blurred. I have also become convinced that the Iraqi people do not yet understand the implications of the gift we have chosen to bestow upon them.

Freedom is not a tangible good that can be bought or sold. It is an all-encompassing state of mind which reveals itself in one's thoughts and actions. It is a belief that holds death as preferable to subjugation.

*The Iraqi people are fighting, and in many cases dying, for their own right to self-determination. I believe they have sampled what freedom entails, and found that they like it. I now think they do understand the price that is being paid and have judged the outcome to be worth it and the price for failure unacceptable.*

The American mind is firmly entrenched with the ideals of life, liberty, and the pursuit of happiness as absolute necessities. America is synonymous with the concept of individual rights and freedoms. It is an integral part of our culture and defines who we are. No explanations are necessary and, without exception, no apologies ... ever. We earned every bit of it, many times over, through blood, sweat, and toil.

Let me take a step back and focus on the word "earned." We earned our freedom. No one gave it to us; we took it. We suffered immensely against incredible odds for, what was at the time, only a concept. We went to war against Britain, the premier world power of the time, for what we believed to be right. We swallowed our pride and asked the French (yes, the French) for help. We were ill-equipped, not

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*The Monitor* is an unofficial publication authorized by AR360-1 and printed each Thursday in the interest of the Fort Bliss and El Paso, Texas communities.

*The Monitor* is published by the Commanding General of Fort Bliss through The Laven Group, LLC, 1420 Geronimo, Bldg. E, El Paso, Tx. 79925 (915) 772-0934, fax: 772-1594 [sflav@whc.net](mailto:sflav@whc.net), [www.lavenpublishing.com](http://www.lavenpublishing.com).

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*The Monitor* has a circulation of 18,000 copies. Editorial content is prepared, edited and provided by the Public Affairs Office of Fort Bliss, Bldg. 15, (915) 568-4088.

Items submitted for publication in *The Monitor* should be sent to *The Monitor*, Fort Bliss, Texas 79916, by noon on Friday before issue. All submissions become Army property and should be typed, double-spaced with the author's name, signature, and mailing address. Photos should have information attached describing photo and have photographer's full name. The editor reserves the right to reject or edit all submissions or advertising that do not conform to *The Monitor's* journalistic standards. All photos are U.S. Army unless otherwise designated.

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