

battle 'rattle'

Which freedom do you feel most impassioned about fighting for?



Sgt. Harley Chadwick
Technician
Co. A, 15th Military Intelligence Bn.
Camp Able Sentry

I believe the freedom of religion is the greatest of all. If I could not worship my way, I wouldn't be the person I am today.

Spc. Andrew Wentworth
Unmanned aerial vehicle operator
Co. A, 15th Military Intelligence Bn.
Camp Able Sentry



The freedom to express yourself because censorship creates narrow-minded people.



Pfc. Peter Van Haastert
Truck driver and radio operator
HHC (Netherlands)
Camp Fox

I want everyone to have a nice home and be peaceful.

Spc. Nathan Patch
Fire direction specialist
HHC, 1-13 Inf. Bn.
Camp Able Sentry



I fight for what America stands for. I like the idea of a person who is nobody, coming from parents who are nobody, knowing nobody — being able to become somebody. No matter color, creed, religion or sex. I fight for that.



Cpl. Jeffrey Bowman
Unmanned aerial vehicle operator
Co. A, 15th Military Intelligence Bn.
Camp Able Sentry

The ability to live free and have choices without being ruled by a government that dictates what you can and can't do. Basically freedom itself.

Pfc. Loyd Barton
Unmanned aerial vehicle operator
Co. A, 15th Military Intelligence Bn.
Camp Able Sentry



Freedom of speech because if you start limiting what we say then you're going to want to limit how we think.

From the newsroom

Americans can show pride by demonstrating tolerance

*By Capt. Dave Domingo
Staff Writer*

As American soldiers deployed to Kosovo, we may be missing out on important July 4 festivities — such as barbecues, picnics and family gatherings — but we are gaining something, too.

Celebrating the Fourth of July in Kosovo, amid a culture that seems to be borrowing many lessons from the United States, gives us a new perspective from which to reflect on the values that have made our country great.

Those values are represented by a symbol found on the uniform of each U.S. soldiers and civilian in Kosovo: the American flag.

The significance of the flag was interpreted by George Washington: "We take the stars from Heaven, the red from our mother country, separating it by white stripes, thus showing that we have separated from her, and the white stripes shall go down to posterity representing Liberty."

But the flag has come to symbolize more than independence and liberty, both to Americans and to the rest of the world. It also symbolizes unity. It is the symbol of 205 million free people who have been welded into a nation by learning to accept differences in one another. There is a name for that value: tolerance.

Not only should we be practicing tolerance for the practices and beliefs of other Americans; while in Kosovo, we also should be demonstrating that kind of tolerance toward all those who live here.

Impartiality is vital to our mission, whether we are dealing with fellow soldiers or the local residents we encounter inside and outside our camps.

We respect the contributions Kosovo's residents have made to their communities and their society. They have helped make the KFOR mission an educational experience, promoting cross-cultural harmony and awareness.

We need to remember that with individual freedom comes an obligation. On this day of national pride, let's share one important educational experience by teaching tolerance with our actions.

Respect yourself and your neighbor, and tolerate the individual freedoms of others.

Domingo is executive officer of the 302nd Mobile Public Affairs Detachment.

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Old Glory



At left, Pvt. John D. Harding Jr., Pvt. Jared D. Caldwell and Spc. Shawn P. Brikett, all of the Quick Reaction Force, 1st Battalion, 33rd Field Artillery Regiment, at Camp Able Sentry, fold the flag at the end of the day.