

Soldier in Afghanistan enjoys getting news from *The Independent*

Sergeant Douglas Whaley, serving in Kabul, Afghanistan, reads *The Independent* sent to him by Vernorian Sam Potter. Whaley is at Camp Alamo, in a

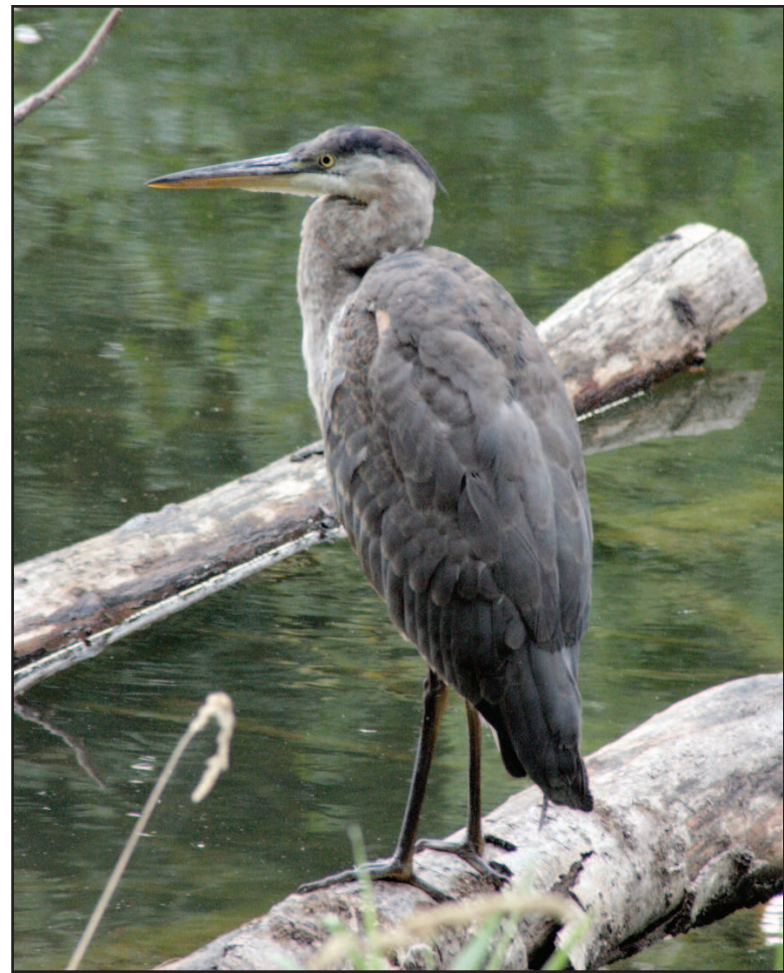
Training Assistance Group that mentors the instructors and operations people at the Kabul Military Training Center, the primary training site for the whole

Afghan Army for basic and advanced training. After training here, the Afghan soldiers go out to fight the Taliban and support their government.

The picture below shows Whaley in the parking area of the compound before leaving on convoy to pick up AK-47s for the next class.



Below, a Great Blue Heron at Vernonia Lake on Monday, September 18. Though Great Blue Heron are seen frequently in this area, this one was not as skittish as they usually are, thus allowing for a closer view than normal.



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