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LYDIA GORDON/Stars and Stripes

Army Spc. Logan Knight, a dog handler with the 131st Military Working Dog Detachment, conducts bite training with military working dog Edzsi on Thursday. The unit in Grafenwoehr trains daily to help safeguard the base in Bavaria.

Trump: US, Iran to hold more talks amid strain

Stars and Stripes

U.S. negotiators will travel to Pakistan for another round of talks with Iran, President Donald Trump said Sunday, continuing diplomacy as tensions in the Strait of Hormuz threaten to unravel a fragile ceasefire.

In a post on Truth Social, Trump said his representatives will be in Islamabad on Monday evening for negotiations, despite Iran firing on ships in the strait a day earlier — a move he said “wasn’t nice” and represented a “Total Violation” of the U.S.-Iran ceasefire.

“We’re offering a very fair and reasonable DEAL, and I hope they take it,” Trump said, warning that if Iran does not agree, the United States would “knock out every single Power Plant and every single Bridge in Iran,” repeating a threat he has made in recent weeks.

“NO MORE MR. NICE GUY!” he added.

It was not immediately clear whether more talks would take place. Iranian state media reported late Sunday that Iran will not participate in more negotiations until the U.S. ends its naval blockade.

The possibility of more talks follows a whirlwind several days that have left both the state of the U.S.-Iran conflict and the timeline for reopening the Strait of Hormuz increasingly unclear.

After Iran unexpectedly an-

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Building bonds and trust

Army handlers and their dogs train daily to keep Germany base safe

By LYDIA GORDON
Stars and Stripes

GRAFENWOEHR, Germany — Some partnerships are built over time, others through shared service. But for a military working dog and its handler, the bond is both.

Sgt. Brianna Plush and her canine companion MWD Edzsi initially struggled to build a rapport when they were paired with each other more than four years ago at Fort Polk, La.

“She was a spitfire,” Plush said of her Belgian Malinois. “I would say last year was really when we started to click together.”

During routine training Thursday, the pair, assigned to the 131st Military Working Dog Detachment in Grafenwoehr, surveyed a motor pool with practiced ease, searching for staged contraband among the vehicles.

Working off-leash, Edzsi deftly moved through the inspection, shifting between focused precision and brief moments of playful energy as Plush guided her.

“Being a dog handler is like dancing,” Plush said, adding that she and Edzsi would sometimes “step on each other’s toes and butt heads.”

“Now, we actually have a flow together,” she said. “So that was really hard but so worth the process.”

Military working dogs at Grafenwoehr are housed in a newly constructed facility on the outskirts of the installation’s main post.

There, the small detachment of soldiers and canines train daily to help safeguard the base in Bavaria.

The unit’s dogs are a mix of German shepherds, Belgian Malinois or crosses between the

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