



401st Army Field Support Brigade

Forward Deployed

“Trust and Loyalty”



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DET 12 arrives for year-long deployment

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Most of the members of U.S. Army Reserve Detachment 12 arrived at Bagram Airfield September 18 to begin their year-long deployment with the 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

The Reserve Soldiers came from across the country and met at Army Sustainment Command, Rock Island, Ill. in August to begin training. Soldiers assigned to AFSBn-Kandahar flew directly to Kandahar Airfield and arrived a few days earlier than the main group.

The Bagram arrivals began several days of brigade and battalion specific training in addition to RSOI training that included counter improvised device recognition and mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle egress training.

The next several days were devoted to brigade and battalion briefings and finally ‘left seat, right seat rides’ where the departing Soldiers provided on-the-job training as well as showing their replacements around and introducing them to people both inside and external to the 401st with whom they will be working for the next year.

Welcome DET 12!

For more information and photos please visit the 401st Facebook page at <https://www.facebook.com/401stAFSB> and our Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/401stAFSB>



Above top: Members of USAR Detachment 12 arrive at Bagram Airfield September 18 to begin their year-long deployment



Left: Members of USAR Detachment 12 complete mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle egress training September 20.



Above: Col. Michel M. Russell, Sr., 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander meets with new Logistics Task Force Commanders and noncommissioned officers-in-charge September 20. They will be the faces of AMC to the maneuver units on forward operating bases across Afghanistan.

Defense Equal Opportunity Management Institute (DEOMI) Organizational Climate Survey (DEOCS)

The Brigade Commander will be surveying the command **17 Oct 2011 - 6 Nov 2011**. The survey is voluntary and is a confidential, command requested organizational development survey focusing on issues of equal opportunity and organization effectiveness. The EEO Manager will be the facilitator for the survey and will provide passwords to take the survey on-line.

The survey is intended for Military and DA Civilians only. Please encourage all identified personnel to participate.



Task Force Sabre Command Group

“Trust and Loyalty”



Team Sabre...Adaptive, Aggressive, Anticipates!



The 401st is in a repositioning phase that will affect the way we do business today, tomorrow and well into the future. The Soldiers of DET 12 who just arrived for a year-long deployment are critical to our repositioning efforts. They are filling new roles that reflect our priority of effort and evolving mission sets.

Welcome to our new personnel – you have an exciting and challenging tour in front of you. I believe it will be a truly rewarding year. This time next year, you will be able to look back and say, “I truly made a difference. I made it better for the Soldiers in the field and those who will follow me.”

Working together we will accomplish missions that will enable 33,000 troops to return home. We will also align our efforts and resources in the areas that are critical to future success. We will set the standard for surge recovery while providing world-class sustainment to those continuing the fight.

In the next year, you will work hard, but you must also find balance – spiritually, physically and emotionally. Keeping up your fitness routines and maintaining your ties back home will give you a solid foundation to meet the upcoming challenges you will face this year. But above all, always remember to have fun ... because it will drive a positive command climate.

Thank you to the members of DET 11 who recently redeployed. The recovery and mission sets they completed prepared us for success. We will build on their foundation and structure the brigade for future success.

Always remember, we are value added and we are first to make a difference.

Sabres Up...Trust & Loyalty!

Command Sergeant Major’s View



An open letter to the men and women who continue to uphold the written and unwritten oaths of service and marriage.

Everyone knows that being a Soldier is a tough job, especially in today’s uncertain world. Soldiers continue to receive great accolades and write-ups in newspapers, the media, by politicians and other assorted talking heads, about the great job we are doing while serving our country. Lost in this mix and almost forgotten except as an afterthought are the men and women who continue to provide their Soldiers with unwavering support, dedication, hard work, sacrifice and love. I am speaking of course of the toughest job in the - being an Army Spouse. A job that involves being a mother, father, therapist, counselor, and in some cases judge, jurist and financial advisor or banker.

All military personnel swear an oath to uphold and defend the Constitution and a life committed to protect our country, while their spouses take the unwritten oath to live a life committed to frequent moves, lengthy separations and mind numbing anxieties, a commitment that requires a unique blend of patriotism and patience, but most importantly a high degree of tolerance and flexibility.

They cope with unpredictable deployments and struggle to raise their children alone and often on small paychecks usually in a community, that is both tight knit and sometimes sharply judgmental. But in spite of it all, they continue to drive on and help each other in the process. They are not duty bound to help each other. They do it because they want to. Words alone are not sufficient to describe the impact that Army Spouses have in and around our Army. They are a truly special one-of-a-kind being and I do mean one-of-a-kind. I know of no words, awards or medals that could ever express our gratitude and appreciation for their selfless service, and the personal sacrifices that Army Spouses have given to their country. But we also know that Army Spouses don’t do what they do for any personal award or personal recognition, instead they do it because they love and support their Soldiers, by keeping the home fires burning, which in turn enables us to do our jobs. Army Spouses are contributing greatly to the success of our Army as we continue to remain the strength of our nation. So in gratitude, I want to say “Thank You” Spouses for your continued hard work and unwavering support to our Soldiers. Without you the mission becomes that much harder to accomplish.

Trust and Loyalty!

Robots give Soldiers the advantage

By Elise Van Pool
AFSBn-Kandahar 401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan— “Robots save lives. That’s the bottom line,” Said Sgt. 1st Class Alphonso Paulk.

Paulk a non-commissioned officer with Joint Program Office Robotics at the AFSBn—Kandahar, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, helps field the robots that are saving Soldiers’ lives. In their small group of office containers the technicians of JPO-Robotics service, maintain and train users on several different types of robots that are used to investigate improvised explosive devises.

“It’s going to give us the advantage,” said Pfc. Earl Winston, 95th Engineer Company. “It’s going to give us the opportunity to observe.”

Most often the robots are provided to units with route clearance missions like engineer and transportation companies, but that is changing. The Army has begun fielding these to all types of units and providing the equipment before the Soldiers deploy so they can train on the systems before they reach the battle field.

The robots are relatively new to the battle space but are continually being upgraded, said Paulk. He noted that about 80 percent of the technology used to build the robots comes from off-the-shelf commercial products already on the market.

“There is a tremendous upgrade of technology on the battlefield,” said Paulk. “I think it’s the future of our Army.

“These are a tool, an extension of the Soldier,” Paulk said.



Left: Miguel Haro, JPO-Robotics site foreman shows Soldiers how to install the three-stage manipulator arm on a robot. Soldiers receive about 10 hours of training on the system.



Left: Sgt. 1st Class Joshua Moon, performs maintenance on one of the many robot systems fielded from their small shop on the 401st Army Field Support Brigade compound on Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

Dead batteries can be real killers



There are two very good reasons to use the red battery recycling boxes located in both the 401st Army Field Support Brigade and AFSBn-Bagram 401st AFSB compounds and the AC First battery collection point at AFSBn-Kandahar’s phase III yard near the POL collection point: keeping a potential asset out of the hands of insurgents and being

pollution when burned and can release potentially harmful chemicals into the air. Some symptoms of breathing in large amounts of dust or smoke from burning batteries can include:

- Decreased mental ability
- Difficulty sleeping
- Muscle cramps
- Slurred speech
- Weakness in the legs
- Bronchitis
- Headache
- Pneumonia
- Itching skin
- Numbness in fingers or toes
- Spastic walk
- Severe pain in the mouth
- Collapse
- Severe pain in the throat
- Inability to breathe due to the throat swelling shut
- Severe abdominal pain
- Diarrhea
- Vomiting
- Drooling
- Rapid drop in blood pressure

a good steward of the environment.

“Disposing of old or ‘dead’ batteries here is very important because our adversaries are able to string a number of seemingly dead batteries together and create enough of an electrical charge to trigger an IED,” said Edward L. Zimmer, 401st AFSB Safety and Occupational Health Specialist.

Recycling Alkaline, non-Alkaline and Lithium Ion (rechargeable) batteries also helps to prevent air pollution. Batteries cause air pollution when burned can release potentially harmful chemicals

For more information go to <http://www.nlm.nih.gov/medlineplus/ency/article/002805.htm>

Therefore, in the interest of good health for yourself, your co-workers and the brave Soldiers in the field, place your ‘dead’ or unwanted batteries in the recycling boxes.

Zimmer said he collected more than 80 pounds of batteries in less than two months. The batteries were taken to the hazardous materials disposal area for safe disposal.

Scientists bring energy solutions to the desert

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan— How to heat and cool in the desert without attempting to heat and cool the desert itself is a question that has to be answered when planning and building camps and operating bases in Afghanistan. The easy answer is generators and then more generators.

Another answer is offered by Project Manger-Mobile Electric Power (PM-MEP) in the form of the Afghan Microgrid Project, or AMP. Forward engineering support of the project is provided in part by the Research, Development and Engineering Command's Field Assistance in Science and Technology - Center nested in the 401st Army Field Support Brigade. The 401st AFSB, working through its parent,



Left: A one-megawatt microgrid at Camp Sabalu-Harrison consists of four generators [inset] that produce power to be distributed by the Intelligent Micro Grid control unit.



Army Sustainment Command, delivers integrated logistics solutions to operating forces – in this case reliable power generation featuring centralized distribution and efficient use of resources.

When a camp or operating base is first set up, Force Provider packages, Project Manager-Force Sustainment Systems, provide all life support and other structures needed by the unit. Power is generated by tactical quiet generators, or TQGs. As the footprint expands, commercial generators purchased locally or provided by contractors are often added to augment existing point generation capacity. Often this results in more power being produced than is actually needed. Generators run constantly and consume fuel at a constant rate regardless of power demands that may fluctuate during the day. Running generators at a low load results in "wet stacking," which decreases efficiency, increases pollution and reduces the time between maintenance actions and useful life of the equipment.

The RFAST-C team and PM-MEP installed a one-megawatt microgrid at Camp Sabalu-Harrison that can replace up to 20 60-watt TQGs that had been collectively producing more than 1,300 kilowatts of power to meet a demand of less than 400 kilowatts. The microgrid can be configured through distribution networks to provide power to 66 structures, and has the advantage of being able to match power generation with demand as opposed to running stand-alone genera-

centralized distribution instead of point generation."

"The Intelligent Micro Grid provides 100 percent power to the end user," said Joe Barniak, a contractor with PM-MEP, who keeps the microgrid running and collects daily system data. "It delivers what's needed at the time they need it without having to take a generator off-line for maintenance."

The four large generators in the microgrid system are turned on and off automatically by the system as peaks and valleys in power demand occur throughout the day.

Barniak said the microgrid captures fuel usage and fuel efficiency and generates load profiles. The microgrid generators are rotated automatically by the system's computer to balance the number of hours on all engines.

"It's nice to see technology get out of the RDECs [research, engineering and development centers] and put to use," said Michael J. Zalewski, RFAST-C mechanical engineer who focuses on power management.

Force protection and logistics also enter into the picture according to Lt Col. Samuels and Zalewski. Samuels said each set of stand-alone generators that are scattered throughout the camp requires a fuel blivet that must be refilled on a regular basis while in the case of the microgrid fuel is delivered to one central point. This localization of fuel points and reduces the number of sites that fuel trucks must service throughout the camp, many times on a daily basis.

"Logistics issues arise from having to bring fuel forward by convoy or air drops," Zalewski noted. He also said there are other technologies that can be employed by expeditionary units to reduce dependence on fuel-powered generators and thereby reducing the number of fuel resupplies required.

Lt. Col. Samuels said looking at demand issues is another step that can be taken to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs for power generation. Suggestions include using solar shades to reduce the thermal loading on tents, tent insulation to reduce the thermal losses to the outside environment and improved environmental control units that have been developed by PM-MEP.

So, back to the initial question of how not to heat and cool the desert – there are a number of answers, but given the right set of conditions, a microgrid provides reliable power matched to demand loads and peak demand times at a lower cost per kilowatt hour with reduced wear and tear on generators while achieving energy efficiency and improving force protection.



Above top: Joe Barniak, a contractor, programs the Intelligent Micro Grid control at Camp Sabalu-Harrison. The one-megawatt microgrid is replacing 20 60-kilowatt generators and providing power to more than 60 structures at the camp. The computer controlled microgrid provides reliable power matched to demand loads and peak demand times at a lower cost per kilowatt hour with reduced wear and tear on generators while achieving energy efficiency and reduces the number of sites that fuel trucks must service throughout the camp. **Above bottom:** Joe Barniak, a contractor, (left) and Michael J. Zalewski, RFAST-C mechanical engineer, stand in front of a power panel from the one-megawatt microgrid at Camp Sabalu-Harrison. The microgrid is replacing 20 60-kilowatt generators, such as the one Barniak and Zalewski are looking at, and providing power to more than 60 structures at the camp.

Right: Joe Barniak, a contractor, explains how the Intelligent Micro Grid control at Camp Sabalu-Harrison is used to provide reliable power to more than 60 structures at the camp to Guy C. Beougher, Deputy to the USFOR-A Deputy Commanding General – Support, Director of Strategic Programs, on October 3.



Mine rollers blow up but save lives

By J. Elise Van Pool
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—“These are designed to blow up,” said Albert Bacon a field service representative for R4 a contractor supporting Product Manager IED Defeat/Protect Force. “They really work.”

Bacon helps coalition forces in Afghanistan install mine rollers on the front of tactical vehicles. He has traveled across the country providing support to Soldiers and assisting with the installations of the mine rollers. Product Manager IED Defeat/Protect Force is one of the more than 200 separate programs managed by Program Manager Close Combat Systems. While deployed, PM IED Defeat/Protect Force is supported by the 401st Army Field Support Brigade’s Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Directorate. The 401st AFSB and its two battalions are part of Army Sustainment Command that is Army Materiel Command’s operational arm.

“It’s a good piece of equipment,” said Spc. John Rollins, from Trent, Mo., of the 548th Transportation Company. “It does its job.” That job is detonating improvised explosive devices before Soldiers drive over them. The rollers are the latest in the cat-and-mouse game of defeating IEDs.

“I feel safer and I know everyone behind me is safer,” said Pfc. Juan Callepiedrahita, from Columbia, Mo., also in the 548th.

The mine rollers were first fielded by the Army in 2007 to protect soldiers from improvised explosive devices that detonate when vehicles drive over them. Since then there have been several adaptations to the mine rollers that allow soldiers to adjust the equipment as need and without having to leave their vehicle.

The rollers also help prevent expensive damage to vehicles that could leave them vulnerable to additional attack.

At the end of the day it’s about saving Soldiers’ lives said Bacon. “Proper use of the rollers saves lives.”



Above: Albert Bacon, service representative for R4 a contractor supporting Product Manager IED Defeat/Protect Force, stands in front of a mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle with a mine roller attached to it at AFSBn-Kandahar. The mine roller is designed to blow up when it rolls over an improvised explosive device and prevent the MRAP from sustaining damage from the IED.

Radio LAR tunes in with Italian Soliders

By Elise Van Pool
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—“I know that most Europeans speak English, but there doesn’t seem to be a very great quantity that do speak English over there,” Michael McLaughlin said.

McLaughlin, a radio logistics assistance representative with the Logistics Support Element at Shindand Airfield, part of the Army Field Support Battalion—Kandahar, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, assisted the Italian Soldiers stationed there with the radios in the tactical vehicles the Americans provided them.

“It was just initially hard,” said McLaughlin. “But, they are really friendly. They are great to work with.”

McLaughlin helped them install American communications equipment in their new trucks and taught them how to operate it. “A vehicle that can’t communicate is dead-lined,” he said.

“I told them they needed to make a ‘cheat sheet’ of the frequencies they are using or the names of the truck so they can message really quick,” recalled McLaughlin. “First they asked ‘what’s a cheat?’ I did not know how to explain it. I said, ‘Well have you ever played a video game where you are shooting someone and they don’t die? That person was a cheater.’ And they said, ‘oh, okay.’”

The biggest difference between the Italian and American Army was the “technology, the radios that they have are from the ‘80s, maybe even late ‘70s,” said McLaughlin. “But because they have had these radio systems for so long almost all the soldiers are 100 percent proficient on the systems. Everyone knows how they work. Unlike the U.S. Army were we are constantly getting new

equipment and the Soldiers don’t understand the capabilities or how the new systems work.”

Being a LAR means providing support in many different ways. And McLaughlin was able to provide help above and beyond just installing the Italians communications equipment.

“He [an Italian warrant officer] came back to my office for a second because I wanted to give him some information. He saw my big box of cables that I brought and he reached down and he picked up a very common connection that we have. All the American vehicles have it, a six pin connector, and he looks at me and says, ‘I have had these on order for three months.’”

“The reason I brought the cables was to hand them out to people who need them. I said, ‘Well take a couple,’ and he was so happy he ripped his patch off his shoulder and said thank you, thank you so much.”

McLaughlin was also able to experience some Italian culture while working with them. He was invited to have lunch with the unit he was helping.

“There was one or two appetizers, three or four main courses,” recounted McLaughlin, “but what was different about it was they had a spaghetti plate with shrimp right? But, it has the *whole* shrimp! With the legs, the antennae, the eyeballs, and the claw, everything!”

McLaughlin continued, “They had fish that day, the *whole* fish, with the head and tail and everything still connected.”

“I think I’m lucky that I am a radio guy,” McLaughlin said, “because there’s not many positions as a LAR where you can go across coalition forces. You know, generators—the generator guy is not going to go work on the Italian generator. The weapons guy is not going to go work on Italian weapons and so on.”

Force Protection is a team effort

By Summer Barkley
401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRBASE, Afghanistan—While force protection is a daily priority, many of us may not be aware of how many people actually play a role.

The security guards at access control points are some of the most visible force protection measures, but they are only part of the effort. The S-2 security personnel for the brigade and battalions are charged with designing, implementing and overseeing a force protection program that meets the commander's intent and complies with all governing regulations. This effort requires the input and engagement from across the installation.



Above: Military and civilian personnel from the 401st AFSB confer with Military Police during a health and welfare inspection of 401st living spaces September 14.

Partnering with Air Force ESFS

One of the brigade's primary partners is the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, the quick reaction force for Bagram. The 455th has assets in various locations around Bagram including a military working dog kennel in our backyard.

The 455th has worked with the 401st S2 to leverage brigade resources to assist their mission accomplishment. Recently concrete pads were poured for generators according to Gregory S. Kotyk, 401st AFSB, physical security and force protection officer.

Former 401st executive officer, Lt. Col. Mike Al Simino and Sgt. Maj. James Davis, AFSBn-Bagram, 401st AFSB, visited the kennel, nicknamed Camp Cujo, to thank the Airmen for their assistance with the brigade's force protection program.

While visiting Camp Cujo, Simino donned a 'bite suit' and worked with Air Force Tech. Sgt. Thomas P. Henzl, kennel master, Air Force Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Golacinski, handler and Ali, a German Shepherd military working dog during a training session.

During the visit, Henzl mentioned that there is no running water in the kennel and Davis immediately began brainstorming ways to get water into the facility.

One day after Simino and Davis visited Camp Cujo, Col. Michel M. Russell, Sr., 401st AFSB commander went to the AFSBn-BAF Allied Trades area to present certificates of appreciation to several personnel. The certificates recognized the role our welders played in designing and fabricating cages to cover solar panels along the perimeter walls. There had been a number of solar panels removed from the walls and each occurrence required the 455th Quick Reaction Force to respond. The cages are designed to deter the thefts and will save money and resources while reducing QRF work load. Air Force Capt. Matthew Tower, 455th ESFS officer-in-charge, was also present to thank the welders on behalf of his troops.

A knock on the door

A few evenings later a number of people living on the battalion footprint were awakened by loud knocks at the door and shouts of "Military Police, open up," as a health and welfare inspection began and people started filing out of their living spaces so the areas could be searched.

First in was Air Force Tech. Sgt. Christopher LeBlanc and Zorba, a 7-year-old Belgian Malinois, to search for drugs. After the team cleared the rooms, military police began a painstaking search of each living space.

"Units request inspections of their living areas," said Air Force Capt. Laura Hansen, 966th Air Expeditionary Squadron assigned to 1st Cavalry Division Provost Marshal Office. "We look for GO1 [General Order 1] violations, but most people are doing what they're supposed to do."

Unfortunately for one individual, the inspection team found alcohol which means that person could be sent home. Other less serious infractions are usually handled on the spot or referred to the supervisor for action said Command Sgt. Maj. James Davis, AFSBn-BAF, 401st AFSB command sergeant major.

See Force Protection page 7



Above from left: Security guards search a vehicle during a random access measures exercise at brigade headquarters; Greg Kotyk, physical security and force protection officer, and Capt. David A. Drasutis, security officer during a battle drill September 25. Air Force Capt. Matthew Tower, 455th ESFS officer-in-charge, thanks 401st workers September 8 for fabricating cages to deter theft of solar panels from T-walls; workers put bunkers in place near newly completed office spaces behind brigade headquarters.

Force Protection from page 6



Above from left: Air Force Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Golacinski, 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron, and military working dog Ali search a vehicle at brigade headquarters; Air Force Tech. Sgt. Christopher LeBlanc, 455th ESFS, and military working dog Zorba, search a room for drugs during a health and welfare inspection September 14; a knock on the door announces the start of a health and welfare inspection September 14; security guards enforce procedures at an access control point to ensure only authorized personnel are on the 401st Army Field Support Brigade footprint.

In addition to the MPs, Customs personnel and safety specialists were involved in the inspections.

John Gordon, AFSBn-BAF, 401st AFSB safety manager, said the safety personnel check smoke detectors, fire extinguishers and egress issues. Edward L. Zimmer, 401st Safety and Occupational Health specialist, said they also look for electrical issues including overloaded power strips.

New personnel quickly trained

A detachment of Army Reserve Soldiers arrived at Bagram Airfield on September 18 to begin their year-long deployment. Within an hour of arriving, Gregory Kotyk was providing a brief on force protection. He explained the types of attacks we experience and how to react in the event of an attack.

A few evenings later, he oversaw a battle drill that had the newly arrived Soldiers link up with their out-going counterparts in order to familiarize themselves with their duties in the event of an attack.

Concrete walls everywhere

Just about everywhere you look you see a solid line of concrete walls commonly called T-walls. These walls provide protection from rocket-propelled grenades and shrapnel. They also prevent unauthorized persons from seeing mission-critical assets and activities.

"The placement of T-walls is based on risk evaluation, population and safeguarding personnel and critical areas," said Kotyk. "They are critical to saving lives and securing mission-related information."

Concrete bunkers are usually found near T-walls and personnel are supposed to seek shelter in them during or after an attack according to Kotyk. He noted that following the 'big voice' announcement of indirect fire or other attack, personnel are supposed to 'hit the ground' for two minutes and then seek shelter. The 'big



Above: Lt. Col. Mike A. Simino, 401st AFSB executive officer meets Ali, a military working dog September 7 while participating in a training session with Ali and his handler Air Force Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Golacinski, 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron at Camp Cujo near 401st AFSB headquarters. Also shown is Air Force Tech. Sgt. Thomas P. Henzl, (right) 455th ESFS kennel master, The 455th ESFS provides security and quick response for the sector where most of the 401st assets are located at Bagram Airfield. **Above right:** Edward C. Evans, operations officer, hands a radio to Maj. Candace M. Martin, battle captain during a battle drill exercise September 25. **Right:** Lt. Col. Mike A. Simino, Air Force Staff Sgt. Thomas A. Golacinski and Ali at Camp Cujo with other members of the 455th Expeditionary Security Forces Squadron September 7.

voice' also tells you to "don IBA [interceptor body armor and Kevlar helmets]."

Force protection requires the efforts of many people both within and external to the 401st, but ultimately each person is responsible for his or her safety. Help yourself and your teammates by being aware of your surroundings, following the directions given by those charged with maintaining force protection and maintaining good operational and information security.



LOGCAP IV overview—civilian contractors supporting the forces in OEF

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan — When you're deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and you want a hot meal, a hot shower, a clean bed, a new uniform or if you need to put out a fire, who you gonna call? LOGCAP, that's who.

As the U.S. Army evolved into a smaller force with units focused on combat arms, combat support and combat service support during the 1990s, the need to find ways to provide services once provided by Soldiers became apparent. The Logistics Civil Augmentation Program, managed by Army Materiel Command and executed by Army Sustainment Command, AMC's logistics arm, is a way to leverage civilian contractors to support and augment United States and coalition forces in both wartime and humanitarian missions.

Augmentation services are classified as supply operations that may include all nine classes of supplies; field services such as laundry and bath, food service, billeting and information management; and other operations and services such as power generation and distribution, engineering and construction and physical security in the form of perimeter fencing and barrier maintenance.

The current iteration is LOGCAP IV and differs from previous iterations in that it allows for multiple awards instead of a single contractor. In Afghanistan, the two primary contractors are Fluor Corporation and DynCorp International. Fluor operates in the northern and eastern part of the country while DynCorp operates in the west and south.

The performance work statement is the same for both contractors said James E. Allen, LOGCAP deputy program director-Afghanistan. Each contractor is able to provide the same services, but actual services provided depend on customer requirements. Some customers require a wide range of services while others require only a few.

"We're more than 42 support battalions of services," said Allen. "We provide multiple services, many that are transparent to the end user, to virtually every U.S. and coalition service member, civilian and contractor in the CJOA-A every day."

Allen brings more than 40 years experience to his current position.

"I have the opportunity to use my 41 years of hindsight as a Soldier, Department of the Army civilian and contractor to assist the 20-20 forward vision of today's logisticians," he said. "The expeditionary sustainment command can leverage LOGCAP's back-up and reach back to the corporate-industrial base to support to fill almost any shortfall and unencumber uniformed personnel to let them focus on the fight and to win."

Bagram, north and east

Highlights of a LOGCAP Fluor day at Bagram include preparing



Left: A laundry worker folds clothes at the Bagram main. The laundry operates 24-hour a day where workers wash, dry and fold 3,800 bags of laundry every day. Each bag is washed and dried in individual machines similar to those found in self-service laundry facilities.

and serving thousands of meals; 3,800 bags of laundry washed, dried and folded; and a supply support activity, one of if not the largest in the Army according to Allen, that manages more than 11,000 line items going to more than 400 customers. Fluor also operates a solid waste facility that processes nearly 200 cubic meters of recyclable items out of a total of almost 3,000 cubic meters of waste processed each day. They also operate fuel points, wash racks, MWR facilities, and other services that touch military,



Right: George Rabb, Fluor country project manager, and Dr. Deok-Soo Kong, Korean Vocational Training Center director, with an Afghan instructor and student. Fluor plans to hire all the current students when they graduate.

military, civilian and contractor personnel at Bagram every day.

Fluor's central receiving and shipping point at Bagram participated in a Lean Six-Sigma project with 101st Sustainment Brigade on cargo flow resulting in a dramatic reduction in container detention fees.

In addition to providing services, Fluor is providing training and employment to nearly 9,000 Afghan workers, approximately 50 percent of their workforce, under their Afghan First program. They work in jobs ranging from labor to crafts to administration and in supervisory and managerial positions as allowed by operational security parameters.

The company also partners with the Korean Vocational Training Center at Bagram. The KVTC is a Korea International Cooperation Agency program that provides an 800-hour training course in five skill areas to qualified students from the local area.

In its second year, KVTC has 106 students enrolled in automotive, electricity, welding, construction and computer classes. Fluor employees volunteer as English tutors and also provide classes designed to help the students adapt to the business world after graduation. Fluor hired 83 of the 85 graduates from the first KVTC class. The two not hired by Fluor are now instructors at the school.

"KVTC brings accredited training by highly skilled instructors to



Left: The fuel point operated by Fluor near the Bagram airfield provides fuel to fixed and rotary wing aircraft.

the table," said George Rabb, Fluor country project manager. "KVTC gains motivation for their students to attend class and succeed while Fluor benefits by the addition of highly trained Afghans to the local national LOGCAP work force."

"We also have the graduates help train our other Afghan employees," said Nadia Myers, Fluor Afghan First program manager.

The KVTC has also provided advanced training to 186 current Fluor employees.

"With no cost to the client [LOGCAP] or to us, this training partnership is a hard bargain to pass up," said Pete Coogle, Fluor, deputy project manager, operations.

LOGCAP from page 8



Above: William Shaw, warehouse manager for LOGCAP contractor DynCorp International, hands a case of ice to Sgt. Jay B. Bustamante, Headquarters Company 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1-25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team. Shaw was assisted by two Navy volunteers, Lt. Cmdr. Peter Yan and Petty Officer 2nd Class David Jordan as two other DynCorp employees watch.

Photo by James Arnold, DynCorp

Kandahar, south and west

A focus on customer service is evident when entering facilities managed by DynCorp, LOGCAP's contractor headquartered in Kandahar.

The LOGCAP DynCorp area of responsibility covers more than 105,000 square miles and they provide services to more than 100,000 customers at 56 forward operating bases.

The Class I yard sends supplies out to more than 110 units and has approximately \$40 million in rations on hand in regular, refrigerator and freezer containers. Their most popular items are "lickeys and chewies" according to William Shaw, warehouse manager. He defines lickeys and chewies as things like Pop Tarts, snack foods and Gatorade protein shakes, which he says are their second most popular item - ice is the most requested item.

"I love being here," Shaw said. "It's all about taking care of Soldiers."

The billeting office takes care of about 20,000 service members and civilians every day.

"We try to make their stay as comfortable as possible," said Darryl Clarke, billeting manager.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation area is a short distance from a lot of the billeting and offers a fitness center, music rooms, pool

Left: Customers relax in an MWR facility operated by LOGCAP contractor DynCorp. The facility offers pool and ping-pong tables, music rooms, reading rooms, and TVs and more 24-hours a day.



and ping-pong tables, movies, reading rooms, computers and phones 24-hours a day.

DynCorp also operates the Kandahar arrival/departure airfield control group (ADAG) that processes all in- and out-bound passengers as well as a "mountain of iron," according to Jeremy Jacobs, Kandahar ADAG transportation manager.

"If it flies in or out of KAF, it comes through here," he said.

Energy initiatives and cost savings are briefed to the ASC commanding general every week said Allen. He also said U.S. Forces - Afghanistan has established an energy cell. One of the initiatives DynCorp has taken in this area is to install more efficient hand dryers at Forward Operating Base Lagman.

Jim DeLony, DynCorp program manager, estimates these hand dryers may save \$80,000 per year. They have completed a number of power optimization assessments and when potential energy savings measures are identified, they submit the findings to the government for verification, funding and approval to proceed.

Government oversight

The LOGCAP executive director is Tommy L. Marks, a member of the Senior Executive Service, who has the overall executive responsibility for LOGCAP in Afghanistan, Kuwait, Oman, Iraq and Bahrain.

Government oversight in theater is provided by James E. Allen, who as the deputy to Marks is the senior civilian in country.

Col. Mark A. Calabrese, LOGCAP assistant deputy program director, is LOGCAP's senior

see LOGCAP page 13



Above: A customer uses an energy efficient hand dryer. The dryers could save up to \$80,000 at one forward operating base alone.

Photo courtesy of DynCorp

Above top: Master Sgt. Rocky McKenzie, LOGCAP operations non-commissioned officer-in-charge (center), is presented an Army Commendation Medal from Col. Mark A. Calabrese, LOGCAP assistant deputy program director, October 11 while Sgt. Maj. Carl Waddle, looks on. McKenzie was recognized for his work in helping to create a LOGCAP and 101st Sustainment Brigade container management working group that greatly reduced leased container demurrage fees and issues.

Above bottom: TEAM LOGCAP October 13.

Accounting for Army property worth \$17 billion

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Property accountability and good stewardship of taxpayer dollars are things the United States Army takes very seriously.

To assist with good property accountability for the 401st Army Field Support Brigade, two teams from Army Sustainment Command, 401st's higher headquarters, deployed to from Rock Island, Ill. to Afghanistan. The first team focused on bringing property to record and the second team came to work on a number of Financial Liability Investigations of Property Loss, more commonly known as FLIPLs.

The 401st AFSB manages a property book valued at more than \$17.4 billion consisting of thousands of pieces of rolling and more than one million pieces of non-rolling stock, said Chief Warrant Officer 4 Barry G. Rice, theater property book officer. Rolling stock includes the largest mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles and non-rolling stock ranges from handheld items to huge generators.

"Our mission was to regain accountability as a result of the surge," said Allen Sims, ASC accountability division chief.

Accompanying Sims were Robert Michaels who specialized in wholesale policies and procedures; Roslyn Hopkins, specializing in FLIPLs; David Lapaczonok specializing in contract oversight and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Almonte Smith who worked with electronic systems to track and account for property. They were assisted by Jennifer Hollis-Cooper, AFSBn-Bagram, 401st AFSB property book officer, and other personnel from the brigade and battalions.

Sims said his team also engaged the asset visibility sections, brigade and battalion S-4 sections to assist them and provided training in several areas.

"This trip we were able to do more as far as property accountability," said Roslyn Hopkins, FLIPL specialist, who is on her second deployment to the 401st. She estimated the team reduced the amount of financial liability for 'lost' property by about 50 percent.

"We're moving in the right direction with more cross-talk," he said. "It's a team effort to regain accountability."

Sims and his team were on the ground for about 45 days and were soon followed by a special FLIPL team who were charged with resolving nine priority FLIPLs identified by the brigade commander.

"One FLIPL amounting to \$142 million caught the commander's attention and he sent a request to Maj. Gen. Fontaine [Army Sustainment Command commanding general] to request help," Sue Cantu, FLIPL investigating officer team lead, said.

Team FLIPL's investigating officers had nine priority FLIPLs and a deadline of October 1 to resolve them Cantu said. She said the original nine were priorities because of the length of time they have been open, the cost of the items involved and/or the sensitive nature of some of the items.

"Based on meeting the original deadline and the commander's guidance, we've added more FLIPLs," she said.

A FLIPL is generated when a person who signed a hand receipt for Army property, and thereby accepted responsibility to safeguard that item or items, is unable to find the property or produce documentation showing a transfer to another hand receipt holder. An investigating officer is assigned to research the circumstances surrounding the loss of or damage to



Above: Team FLIPL following an awards ceremony for the military members October 8.

Army property. The investigating officer undertakes causative research to first and foremost try to find the missing property. The investigating officer will then determine if the hand receipt holder has any financial liability as a result of negligence. If a finding of financial liability is found, the hand receipt may owe the government money.

Comparing their job to NCIS, cold case files or a scavenger hunt, the team goes to great lengths to find missing equipment. While it may be obvious that it would be hard to lose a 25,000-pound vehicle, it can be difficult to find the right serial number in a fleet of vehicles that numbers in the thousands. They do it by examining lists of battle damaged vehicles and leveraging the institutional knowledge of the logistics assistance representatives and contractors who may have worked on the pieces of equipment. They also scrub lists of equipment 'found on installation.'

Robert L. Kotte recalled looking for a five-ton truck that turned up missing when the AFSBn-Kandahar completed a 100% inventory of its rolling stock.

"We were thrown off by a dash," he said. "The serial number on one document had a dash in it while other documents did not have the dash. I was able to establish accountability." He traced the vehicle back to Red River Army Depot where it had been sent for repair work. "Every time we close one [a FLIPL], it's rewarding, especially if we find the equipment."

"We came in thinking they [FLIPLs] would all be the same," said Lt. Col. Ronnie M. Davis. "We found out that each one is unique."

Maj. Quincy D. Washington had two FLIPLs valued at \$28 million. He said the hand receipt holder left without a proper turnover to the next hand receipt holder. The second hand receipt holder continued to sign paperwork indicating the property was inventoried, but eventually it was discovered that the property was missing.

Namon L. Howell had a similar situation involving generators. He said if the property can't be found here, it's been sent back to the U.S. somewhere and the team follows the paperwork trail wherever it leads.

"Talking to the investigating officer gives people a chance to tell their story," said Charles E. Cahill, investigating officer.

"We make sure it's re-established on the property book and entered into PBUSE [a web-based tracking system]," Davis said. "Once it's there, it's tracked."

Operation Ammunition Clean Sweep cleans up munitions

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Teams of experts from Joint Munitions Command elements across the United States and personnel already in-theater began Operation Ammunition Clean Sweep in early August to inspect explosives safety and ammunition ranging from bullets to bombs.

The operation is a collaboration among many elements including U.S. Forces Afghanistan, Joint Sustainment Command-Afghanistan, Army Materiel Command's Joint Munitions Command, Defense Ammunition Center's U.S. Army Technical Center for Explosives Safety, Army Sustainment Command, Combined Joint Task Force 1, 401st Army Field Support Brigade and 101st Sustainment Brigade with the goal of assessing needs and providing the technical expertise and manpower to ensure safe and serviceable munitions are in the hands of Soldiers and that the munitions are stored as safely as possible until needed by the maneuver units.

"Our goal was to help them [the units] assess what is needed to improve and give them the physical assistance they need," said Capt. Marjorie J. Samples, 101st SBDE munitions management officer-in-charge. "Our way to accomplish that was to synchronize all efforts from every organization and put together the teams that would go out there and provide the physical labor, the technical expertise and the assistance each site needs."

"Operation Ammo Clean Sweep is a CJOA-A [combined joint operations area - Afghanistan] enabler that not only facilitates the Warfighters' freedom to act, but enhances their force protection as well," said Col. Michel M. Russell, 401st AFSB commander.

Operation Ammunition Clean Sweep pulled together experts in explosives safety and Quality Assurance Specialists (Ammunition Surveillance) personnel and 15 Soldiers from the 1138th Transportation Company, Missouri National Guard, 142nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion and put them into seven-person Combat Theater Ammunition Assistance (CTTA) teams to fan out to sites across Regional Command East and Regional Command South sites Samples said. She added that the 142nd Soldiers were not ammunition soldiers but received 30 days of training from the 592nd Ordnance Company, Montana Army Reserve.

"The 15 Soldiers were incredibly motivated and learned as much as they could," Samples said. "They worked closely with the QASAS and the 592nd Ordnance Soldiers to learn what their responsibilities as ammo handlers would be during the mission."

The ammunition inspection portion is producing a secondary benefit according to Kyle Voelcker, Joint Munitions Command Senior Command Representative. A centralized data base that will help to rapidly identify ammunition by location

and facilitate isolating ammunition that has been recalled or restricted is also being developed as a result of the teams' work.

Voelcker said the QASAS are looking at ammunition to inventory it by NSN and lot number, inspect to determine serviceability, determine what is excess to the theater and what is restricted from use. He said the goal is to have only serviceable and suitable ammunition left.

"A percentage of the ammunition inspected has been found to be un-serviceable," he said. "I see that as a good thing. We can find bad ammunition and cull it out for disposal or retrograde."

Explosives safety is the second component of the effort Voelcker said and noted that it is farther along than the ammunition inspection component.

"They are looking outward to determine blast arcs, develop courses of action and issue Certificates of Risk Assessment to commanders," Voelcker added.

The explosive safety teams relay their findings to United States Forces Afghanistan engineers for consideration in laying out forward operating bases and combat outposts said Ronald W. Thornhill, explosives safety specialist, USFOR-A Safety Office.

"We're looking to minimize building critical assets within blast arcs," he added. "Bottom line - we want leadership to know the risks before expending funds for construction."

Samples said the value of the CTTA teams is that "they help [the maneuver units] sort through their un-serviceable ammunition, palletize and prepare them for retrograde; assessing how they can improve their storage space and submitting engineer work requests to have the brigade or division fix the storage sites.

"This effort has highlighted un-serviceable ammunition that was stored for use and also found and corrected improper storage of ammunition and explosives," said Thomas A. Enricco, QASAS, USFOR-A, J-4 Munitions. "All these are examples of unnecessary risk to our Servicemen. The team continues to make positive impacts on this inherently dangerous requirement."

"They're getting great things done in the battle spaces and as of October 13 they've found 130 tons of un-serviceable ammunition," Voelcker said. "We're proud of what they're doing."

The effort has the attention of many people in theater and beyond with results being forwarded to multiple chains of command.

"Maj. Gen. Timothy P. McHale, former USFOR-A Deputy Commanding General-Support, and I have been closely monitoring the progress and positive impact this operation is having throughout the CJOA-A," said Marine Col. Walter T. Anderson, USFOR-A J-4. "The importance of this operation has senior leadership support both here and in the USA."

Editor's note: Ammo Clean Sweep is about 40 percent complete.



Above: Gregory T. Rolan, ammunition logistics assistance representative works with Soldier who are turning in munitions that have been found to be un-serviceable. As of October 13, Operation Ammo Clean Sweep has discovered 130 short tons of un-serviceable munitions.

You can't just hook and tow – science of recovery and the mechanical advantage

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—They came to teach the science of vehicle recovery and instill trust in the mechanical advantage. They accomplished that mission in the heat and the mud and the blowing dust by training 174 Soldiers who qualified for the H8 Recovery Operations Additional Skill Identifier and conducting 19 new operators training courses across Afghanistan in support of the recently fielded M1249 MRAP Recovery Vehicle.

Instructors from the U.S. Army Ordnance School, Track, Metalworking, and Recovery Department at Fort Lee, Va. deployed to Afghanistan for just over six months were supported by the 401st Army Field Support Brigade's Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Directorate while completing their mission. The 401st AFSB is part of Army Sustainment Command's global network and the brigade ALT-D coordinates, synchronizes and integrates acquisition, logistics and technology planning and execution conducted by Program Executive Officers, Program Managers and other acquisition enablers.

"Soldiers come back all the time and tell us how much they learned," said Staff Sgt. Valjean F. Berlack, a Richmond, Va. native and H8 instructor. "They take the fundamentals and capabilities they learned in class and take it outside the wire."

Berlack was watching 11 Soldiers in the final H8 class manually recover a damaged MRAP from a mire pit. They used a compound tackle system, their muscles and the mechanical advantage to extract a more than 25,000-pound vehicle from a six-foot deep mire pit with about two feet of mud and water in it.

"It's fun to share your knowledge on something you're passionate about," said Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan R. Myers, an instructor from Allentown, Penn. "It's great to see the look on their faces [the Soldiers in the course] when they realize their new skills – they know they can move it [the vehicle] out themselves and they gain confidence in their equipment."

Berlack added that the instructors are learning a lot too and having battle damaged vehicles available for training is a "big advantage." He said they will take the lessons they learned in the field back to the classroom – "we'll be assets."

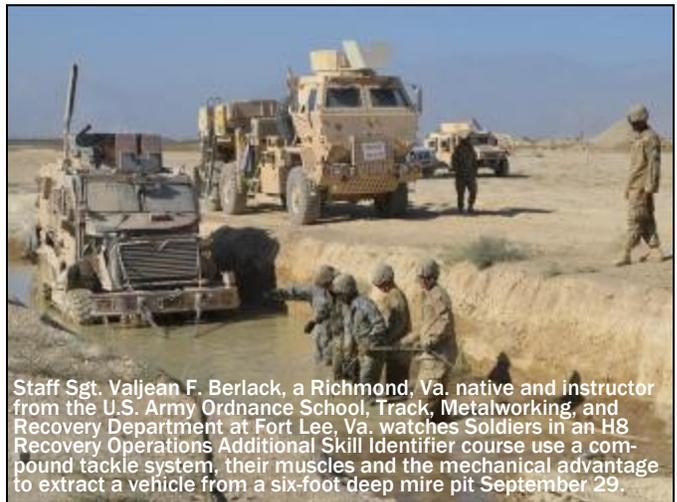
"This is as realistic as training can get," Myers said. "It's a lot more than recovering a broken down vehicle. There are new challenges from IEDs [improvised explosive devices] blowing off front ends and suspensions, and the vehicles are heavier."

"You must compensate for the damage," Myers added. "You can't just hook and tow."

Editor's note: The instructors from the U.S. Army Ordnance School, Track, Metalworking, and Recovery Department at Fort Lee, Va. were scheduled to redeploy October 6, but have been extended for another 60 days.



Above: Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan R. Myers (far right), Allentown, Penn. native and instructor from the U.S. Army Ordnance School, Track, Metalworking, and Recovery Department at Fort Lee, Va. looks on as Soldiers in an H8 Recovery Operations Additional Skill Identifier course use a compound tackle system, their muscles and the mechanical advantage to extract a 25,000-pound vehicle from a six-foot deep mire pit September 29.



Above: Staff Sgt. Valjean F. Berlack, a Richmond, Va. native and instructor from the U.S. Army Ordnance School, Track, Metalworking, and Recovery Department at Fort Lee, Va. watches Soldiers in an H8 Recovery Operations Additional Skill Identifier course use a compound tackle system, their muscles and the mechanical advantage to extract a vehicle from a six-foot deep mire pit September 29.



Above: Sgt. 1st Class Jonathan R. Myers (center not wearing gloves), instructor from the U.S. Army Ordnance School, Track, Metalworking, and Recovery Department at Fort Lee, Va. advises Soldiers who are trying to manually extract a vehicle from a mire pit during an H8 ASI course September 29.

You can't take that home from here

By Summer Barkley
401st ASFB Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—United States Customs inspectors came to the 401st Army Field Support Brigade loaded with guns and knives, lethal playing cards, fighting stars, furs and brass knuckles for a training session for brigade personnel.

During the training conducted by Soldiers from the 45th Military Police Customs unit, brigade personnel got to see firsthand some items that are allowed or prohibited by U.S. Customs regulations. The training was important for brigade Soldiers who will be redeploying soon following their year-long deployment with 401st Army Field Support Brigade, part of Army Sustainment Command's global network.

"The purpose of the training is to inform both service members and civilians of U.S. Customs requirements when returning to the United States and U.S. Installations abroad," said Staff Sgt. Mark A. Slater, 45th MP Customs. "The training discusses prohibited and restricted items, procedures for returning restricted items such as automatic knives and antique firearms and individual customs

Right: Staff Sgt. Joseph P. Cannon, 401st Army Field Support Brigade transportation supervisor, holds a breach loaded Martini Henry rifle that could be imported into the United States. This rifle is one of the few exceptions to the firearms policy and can be imported to the U.S. as long as the proper paperwork has been completed according to Staff Sgt. Mark A. Slater, 45th Military Police Customs, who conducted training for brigade personnel September 6.



procedures and inspections prior to actually flying out of the country."

"The customs training helped prepare me to redeploy without any problems," said Lt. Col. Charles K. Joines, 410st AFBS S-3 officer. "It gave me the information I need to ensure I have no customs violations."

"I would have to say the most common prohibited items that individuals attempt to take back are trademark violation items such as pirated DVDs, purses and watches," Slater said.

While Slater spoke, Spc. Mark B. Grupe, 45th MP Customs, held up various items, some legal and some prohibited, so people could see exactly what is allowed and what is prohibited.

"The training aids were a real value," Joines said. "There was little room for ambiguity."

"The vast majority are more than happy to comply with customs regulations. Most personnel, by the time they get to customs, are so happy to be going home that they more than willing to meet the customs standards," Slater said.

Joines, an Army Reserve Soldier from Daleville, Ala., has been deployed for a year. He will redeploy to his Department of Army civilian job as a logistics management specialist working as a combat developer in the Aviation Logistics Branch, Training and Doctrine Command Program Office Aviation Brigades, U.S. Army Aviation Center of Excellence, Fort Rucker, Ala.

Right: Spc. Mark B. Grupe, 45th Military Police Customs shows an Arctic fox pelt to members of the 401st Army Field Support Brigade September 6. The pelt is not allowed to be imported because it still contains bones and claws from the animal.



LOGCAP from page 9

Afghanistan and is supported by LOGCAP support officers assigned to the three primary regional commands—Col. Gary B. Rangel, RC north, east and central, Col. Paul J. Kerwiek, RC southwest and west, and Col. Gerard Rideaux, RC south-who, in turn, are backed up by LOGCAP support officers working directly with units to assist in articulating needs and requesting requirements. Sergeant Maj. Carl Waddle is the senior enlisted LSO and advisor.

"I work hand-in-hand with my mayor," said Master Sgt. Ava L. Washington, LOGCAP support officer for Forward Operating Base Lindsey. "I push packets for their projects and I get excited when my packets get elevated [proceed through the approval process]."

Contract administration and oversight is performed by Defense Contracting Management Agency and Defense Contract Audit Agency. DCMA representatives work with the contracting officer's technical representatives in the supported units, evaluate contractor performance and issue letters of technical direction when needed. Administrative Contract Officers also work for DCMA and are responsible for issuing change orders to the contractor to start work on approved projects. DCMA personnel are both mili-

both military and Department of Defense and Department of the Army civilians.

The Defense Contract Audit Agency performs contract audits for the Department of Defense and provides accounting and financial advisory services regarding contracts including LOGCAP contracts.

Editor's note: This is the first in a series of LOGCAP articles.



Above: James E. Allen, LOGCAP deputy program director, and Randall V. Hawthorne, assistant operations officer, are two of the three Department of the Army civilians who support LOGCAP operations in Afghanistan. Richard A. Barker, assistant operations officer, was unavailable for the photo.

401st AFSBn-KAF hosts ROC drill for units upgrading tactical vehicles

By Elise Van Pool
AFSBN-Kandahar, 401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The AFSBn-Kandahar, 401st Army Field Support Brigade hosted a rehearsal of concept drill to help maneuver units understand the process for turning in tactical vehicles for upgrade and maintenance.

The 401st AFSBn-KAF is in the process of upgrading tactical vehicles across Southern Afghanistan, making them better able to withstand the explosions and protect Soldiers from improvised explosive devices. The purpose of the drill was to help maneuver units who are turning in their vehicles do so seamlessly by walking them through the process first.

“It [the turn in process] will go more smoothly because they know what they have to do and it’s been communicated from a single source.” said Rodney L. Hardy, Joint Program Office MRAP government site lead at Kandahar.

Hardy who is responsible for managing the upgrade said he thought the drill today will help maneuver units navigate the process better. “They will know who to contact for the right transaction.”

The drill started with a short briefing by Lt. Col. Timothy P. White, Regional Command-South Combined Joint G4 and assistant chief of staff for G4. White who serves as the chief logistics officer for Southern Afghanistan, walked attendees through the various pieces of paperwork they would need in order to turn in their vehicles for upgrade. He then discussed what will happen to the vehicles while being upgraded and the training Soldiers will receive to operate them.

“This is a team effort.” said White. “It’s about getting these [vehicles] into our Soldiers hands.”

Attendees were then able to meet and ask questions of the contractors who will actually be upgrading their vehicles and see the facilities where the upgrade will take place.

“Units will understand the process and it will save a lot of hassle and minimize maneuver guys going back and forth.” said Maj. David Guida, 204th Brigade Support Battalion, in 2nd Brigade, 4th Infantry Division. “It will minimize the loss of combat power for the maneuver commander.”



Above top: Soldiers from several different maneuver units stationed on Kandahar Airfield gather at AFSBN-Kandahar, 401st compound to walk through the process of turning in their tactical vehicles for upgrade. They were briefed on the paperwork necessary and then walked through the areas of the compound where the upgrades will take place.

Above bottom: Lt. Col. Timothy P. White, Regional Command-South Combined Joint G4 and assistant chief of staff for G4 discusses some of the upgrades being installed on many of the tactical vehicles being used in Afghanistan during a rehearsal of concept drill hosted by the 401st Army Field Support Battalion-Kandahar. The ROC drill is designed to help maneuver units who are turning in their vehicles for upgrades navigate the process smoothly.

Around the 401st in photos

Cleaning out the closets and raising money to improve morale were both accomplished August 20 when the AFSBn-Bagram, 401st AFSB had a yard sale. Sometimes people leave things behind when they vacate housing and after diligent efforts to contact the owners of abandoned items, the battalion is left to dispose of clothes and shoes, electronics, linens, and other odds and ends. Realizing that some of the items were new or nearly new, the battalion housing folks decided to hold a yard sale. More than \$1,800 in donations was raised from the yard sale with the money being earmarked to go to the recreation facility at the battalion which is open to all. The money will be used to purchase popcorn and other snacks for patrons. Thanks to all who shopped and made generous donations!



Left: Radio LAR Michael McLaughlin with some Italian Soldiers at Kandahar. See related story on page 5

See more photos from around the 401st on page 18.

WHAT IS SAPR?

SAPR is the acronym for Sexual Assault Prevention & Response Program. Sexual assault is a criminal offense that has no place in the Army. It degrades mission readiness by devastating the Brigade's ability to work effectively as a team. Sexual assault is incompatible with Army values and is punishable under the Uniform Code of Military Justice (UCMJ) and other Federal and local civilian laws.

401st AFSB has a SAPR program that is alive and thriving. The Command SAPR Program reinforces the Army's commitment to eliminate incidents of sexual assault through a comprehensive policy that centers on awareness and prevention, training and education, victim advocacy, response, reporting, and accountability. Below are your points of contact should you become a victim or aware of a sexual assault.

DEPLOYED SEXUAL ASSAULT RESPONSE COORDINATORS (DSARC):



Master Sgt. ANGENETTE GILES
318 481-8348



MS. BRENECIA WATSON
318 481-6640

UNIT VICTIM ADVOCATES (UVA)

401st AFSBn-BAF



MARTIN EDWARDS
312 864-5316



MS. MAUREEN PIERRE-
DE-MARCO
312 864-5296

401st AFSBn-KAF



Sgt. 1st Class JANELL
MARSHALL
318 421-7338



Staff Sgt. TODD STRATON
318 421-7348

Serving together—the Horns

By Elise Van Pool
AFSBn-Kandahar Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Often doing a deployment means being thousands miles away from the people you love. However, for a few individuals this is not so. Jessie Horn a logistics management specialist at the Army Material Command Logistical Support Element at Kandahar Airfield is here with her son Spc. Antonio Horn an information systems operator with Task Force 115 Combat Support Hospital at Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan. The Horns are from Camp Shelby, Miss.

“It’s a good feeling,” says Jessie. “I enjoy seeing him every so often.”

The two have the opportunity to see each other every few months when the younger Horn comes up to Kandahar as part of his duties.

“It’s always nice to have family,” says Antonio. “It’s a good feeling that you are not alone in country.”

By the end of Antonio’s deployment the two will have spent several months in country together.

“It’s a plus to have her here.” continues Antonio. “Whenever I need help she is always there—whenever I have questions about my soldiers.

“She has been supporting us since she put foot on the ground.” Antonio said. “Especially when you need that suck it up kick.”

“I enjoy supporting soldiers, whether it’s my son or all soldiers that’s what I enjoy doing.” responded Jessie.



Above: Spc. Antonio Horn and Jesse Horn at AFSBn-Kandahar, 401st headquarters.

Community Health update by Capt. Jerusha L. Rodriguez



कृपया अपने हाथ धो लो।

Hand washing prevents the spread of disease



Community Health

Bagram Airfield is comprised of an international community. The customs, courtesies and traditions we experience daily are unique and many.

Although personal hygiene routines and practices may be culturally unique, we all must be concerned with infection control. The number one way to prevent the spread of disease is hand washing. This is cross cultural.

The 401st AC First and Comprehensive Health Services (CHS) strive to ensure the health, wellness and safety of all BAF personnel across all cultures.



Mike Lemperle (CHS) & Johnny (AC First)

Community Health updates are on Share point under 401st, S3, Community Health. Currently, information posted is on Bacterial Meningitis. POC CPT Rodriguez 318 481 9449 je-rusha.rodriguez@afghan.swa.army.mil. Special Thanks to Mr. Kattyath Jithesh, AC First & SSG Jay Sachetti, S3, noncommissioned officer for operations.

RFI move improves services to Soldiers

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The Rapid Fielding Initiative storefront for Bagram Airfield relocated to a larger and better equipped facility on the Warrior compound in July and has been serving satisfied customers daily since then.

The storefront and nearby warehouse provide initial issue and theater specific items for Soldiers such as uniforms, cold weather gear, and RFI specific items including eyewear kits, body armor and advanced combat helmets. They also provide initial issue of theater specific items including Operation Enduring Freedom Camouflage Pattern (OCP) uniforms and mountain combat boots.



Above: Master Sgt. Jason S. Manicke, 1st Military Intelligence Battalion, Task Force Condor, is assisted by Ronald James, Rapid Fielding Initiative floor manager, as he completes the check-out process and starts to 'bag up' equipment he drew for Soldiers in

The RFI program falls under Program Executive Officer Soldier and Program Manager Soldier Protection and Individual Equipment and is supported by 401st Army Field Support Brigade for life support and logistics needs. The 401st AFSB is part of Army Sustainment Command's global network that leverages Army Materiel Command's Materiel Enterprise to field, sustain and redistribute property for U.S. and coalition forces.

"This is 'way better' than the old location," said Staff Sgt. Andrea R. Lewis, 1st Military Intelligence Battalion, Task Force Condor. "There's space to accommodate the manpower needed to issue the equipment."

Lewis had just finished pushing her shopping cart from station to station to draw equipment for Soldiers in her unit.

"The stations make it easier to issue equipment," said Joseph Fontenot, Jr., RFI lead. "Not everybody needs the same things."

"It's a centralized, smooth process," said Master Sgt. Jason S. Manicke, 1st MI BN, TF Condor. "I came in and within 20 minutes, its mission complete."

The old facility could only accommodate four or five Soldiers at a time and others had to wait outside, said Fontenot. At the previous facility the staff could issue gear to about 125 Soldiers



Above: Nelson Adorno, Rapid Fielding Initiative OCONUS fielder assists Spc. Justin L. McKimney, 3rd Battalion, Special Troops Brigade (center) August 19 as he signs in at the Bagram RFI storefront to draw his equipment while Sgt. Marvin H. Carey (far left) and

per day while the new facility layout and space allows for issue to up to 300 Soldiers every day Fontenot added. Also, there was very limited storage space which meant some high-demand items and sizes might have to be restocked from storage containers during the day.

"We can bring them [Soldiers] in, sit them down, offer them a cool drink and they can relax [while waiting for gear issue]," said Nelson Adorno, OCONUS fielder. "They don't have to wait in the cold, snow or heat – it's a regular shopping experience."

Sgt. Michael R. Land, Headquarters, Headquarters Company, 3rd Brigade Special Troop Battalion agreed that the new location is more convenient and lets Soldiers go through quicker. He was accompanying a Soldier who was drawing OCP equipment.

"Soldiers don't have to lug so much gear on the planes," said Sgt. Marvin H. Carey, HHC, 3BSBT. "They can get it here in theater."

Fontenot added that there is better property accountability and when the Soldiers come in to draw their own equipment, they sign for it which reduces the workloads for unit supply sergeants.

401st Army Field Support Brigade on the web

Stay up-to-date on the latest happenings in the 401st AFSB and battalions by checking our Facebook and Flickr pages frequently. We're branded as /401stAFSB on both sites.

You can also check Army.mil where we also post news articles.

And, if all else fails, just Google us.



401st Army Field Support Brigade

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Trust and Loyalty

