



# POWER LINE



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*Readiness Power Forward*

July, 2012

## 402nd Army Field Support Brigade gets new Commander and Command Sergeant Major

By 402nd AFSB Public Affairs Office



Photo by Johnnie Frazier, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs

**Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command passes the Brigade Colors to Col. John D. Kuenzli incoming Commander of the 402nd AFSB on Jul. 16, 2012**

Redstone Arsenal, AL. CSM Canterbury returns to Hawaii on assignment to the G3, 45 CS Support Group, Schofield HI.

Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, Commanding General of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command was Presiding Officer of the ceremony. "What a great Army day here in Kuwait," declared Maj. Gen. McQuiston as she began her remarks. Accompanying Maj. Gen. McQuiston was Command Sergeant Major James E. Spencer, U.S. Army Sustainment Command. Distinguished guests were Brigadier Gen. Karen LeDoux and Rear Admiral Jonathan Yuen with the U.S. Army Central Command.

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**CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT** - The 402nd Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) conducted a rare combined Change of Command/Change of Responsibility ceremony on 16 July 2012 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Col. John S. Laskodi relinquished command to Col. John D. Kuenzli, who is arriving from the NATO Defense College in Rome, Italy where he completed his Senior Service College requirements. Command Sergeant Major Robert A. Canterbury relinquished responsibility to Command Sergeant Major Nathaniel J. Bartee Sr. arriving from the 15<sup>th</sup> Sustainment Brigade, Fort Bliss, Texas where he served as the Command Sergeant Major. Col Laskodi now moves on to his new assignment as Chief of Staff, US Army Materiel Command at



U.S. Army Photo

**Command Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Canterbury, former CSM of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade passes the Brigade sword to Command Sgt. Maj. Nathaniel J. Bartee Sr. during the Change of Command/Change of Responsibility on Jul. 16, 2012.**

# 402nd Soldiers Awarded the Bronze Star Medal

By 402nd AFSB Public Affairs Office

**CAMP ARIFJAN, KUWAIT** - Four Soldiers of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade were recently awarded the Bronze Star Medal in recognition of their exceptionally meritorious service in support of operation New Dawn (OND) and operation Enduring Freedom (OEF).

Lt. Col. Franz J. Conway, Commander of the Army Field Support Battalion-Southwest Asia (SWA) at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait and former Commander of



U.S. Army photo, LT. Col. Franz Conway

the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade at Balad, Iraq was recognized for his outstanding leadership of U.S. Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and contractors. Lt. Col. Conway provided outstanding leadership during a complex and challenging drawdown of forces from Iraq to Kuwait and on to the U.S.

to close out operation New Dawn and establish sustainment operations to support the U.S. Mission -Iraq and other units in SWA.

Lt. Col. Conway's aggressive battlefield circulation in Iraq was critical to his team's delivery of the highest levels of sustainment maintenance, armoring, and direct support during the closing of Forward Operating Bases (FOBs) in Iraq. Simultaneously he assumed control of Forward Repair Activities and programs under the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology (ASA/ALT) in Kuwait and quickly set the conditions to maintain, modernize, and rapidly retrograde the U.S. Forces-Iraq (USF-I) Stored Theater Provided Equipment-Iraq (STPE-I) fleet.



Photo by Johnnie Frazier, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs

**Maj. Britania K. Ashley presented Bronze Star Medal by Col. John Laskodi, former Commander of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, July 2012.**

Maj. Britania K. Ashley, Support Operations Officer (SPO), 402nd Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB), Joint Base Balad, Iraq and Camp Arifjan, Kuwait in support of operation New Dawn (OND) and operation Enduring Freedom (OEF) was recognized for her exceptionally meritorious service in providing critical supplies and equipment to OEF using Direct Theater Support (DTS). She managed a Brigade Support Operations section that provided oversight of four subordinate Battalions. Maj. Ashley's comprehensive knowledge of the logistics capabilities, coupled with superior leadership and communication skills, made her an invaluable resource for interacting with U.S. Forces-Iraq (USF-I), the 310th Expeditionary Sustainment Command (ESC) and 1st Sustainment Command (Theater).

**See 402nd Soldiers Awarded the Bronze Star Medal, page 4**

# Kuwait Battalion changes Command

By 402nd AFSB Public Affairs Office

**ARIFJAN, KUWAIT** – On 3 July 2012 a Change of Command ceremony was conducted for the 402nd Army Field Support Battalion - Kuwait between LTC Kenneth C. Gill, outgoing 402nd AFSBn-KU Commander and LTC Manuel A. Jimenez, incoming 402nd AFSBn-KU Commander.

COL. John S. Laskodi, then 402nd Army Field Support Brigade Commander executed the change of command and served as the keynote speaker at the event. The ceremony was held at the 402nd AFSBn-KU Lot 58 facility set with static displays of multiple vehicles from the Army Prepositioned Stock-5 vehicles.

The Kuwait Battalion has performed a critical role in supporting the Army’s global repositioning strategy and provided both equipment and maintenance support directly to deploying forces in the Southwest Asia Theater of Operations in support of OIF, OEF and Operation New Dawn.

“I would like to personally thank all those, past and present, whose hard work, dedication, and selfless service contributed to the Battalion’s success during my time as Commander, Army Field Support Battalion - Kuwait,” said LTC Gill, outgoing Kuwait Battalion Commander.

“Your professionalism, dedicated hard work, and unwavering support directly contributed to supporting the War fighter and maintaining our standard of excellence.”

LTC Manuel A. Jimenez was challenged by Col. Laskodi to build on the reputation and success of the Kuwait Battalion and to “raise the bar” in support excellence in the coming year.



Photo by Johnnie Frazier, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs

**Col. John Laskodi, former 402nd Army Field Support Brigade Commander passes the Battalion Colors to Lt. Col. Manuel A. Jimenez, incoming Commander of Kuwait Battalion during Change of Command ceremony, July 2012**

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## 402nd Soldiers Awarded the Bronze Star Medal

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Photo by Johnnie Frazier, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs

**Lt. Col. Steven D. Rios presented the Bronze Star Medal by Col. John Laskodi, former Commander of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade.**

Lt. Col. Steven D. Rios, Assistant Director, Acquisition, Logistics, and Technology Directorate, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade in support of the United States Forces-Iraq (USF-I), U.S. Department of State (DoS), and the Office of Security Cooperation -Iraq (OSC-I) during operation New Dawn and the U.S. Mission-Iraq (USM-I) was recognized for his exemplary accomplishments in this dynamic logistics support role.

Lt. Col. Rios' knowledge, commitment and hard work enabled the USF-I Commander and his staff to rapidly source, assess and conduct transition operations which influenced the successful implementation of the Presidential directive to draw all troops out of Iraq by 31 December 2011. LTC Rios remained in Iraq to lead the final transition of U.S. forces out of theater and flew on numerous support missions in the hostile fire zones in direct support of the 25th Infantry Division, 82nd Airborne Division, and 4th Infantry Division.

Lt. Col. Rios revolutionized the means to achieve real-time theater wide asset visibility and property accountability of Program Manager non-standard equipment and Life Cycle Management Command services by developing and implementing a Materiel Enterprise Transition Common Operating Picture (METCOP) for the U.S. Army Forces, U.S. Central Command and USF-I Commands.

Lt. Col. Rios worked diligently to provide support to DoS and OSC-I during USM-I and built a viable partnership with the government of Iraq.

Lt. Col. Kenneth C. Gill, Commander, Army Field Support Battalion-Kuwait, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait was recognized for his exemplary leadership, tenacious dedication to duty and logistics expertise that ensured the tactical, operational, and strategic missions in Southwest Asia were successful.



U.S. Army Photo, Lt. Col. Kenneth C. Gill

With the ever changing logistics requirements of supporting operation New Dawn (OND), coupled with the responsibility of building and maintaining the Army Prepositioned Equipment Stocks Five (APS-5), Lt. Col. Gill made no excuses; he made missions happen.

Lt. Col. Gill set new standards of excellence by constantly reviewing and improving the retrograde process. He was directly responsible for the accountability of \$5.4 billion worth of Army War Reserve assets, including the APS-5 equipment set consisting of an Armor Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) set with Separate Reportable Units, a Watercraft Equipment Set, an Infantry Brigade Combat Team (IBCT) set, and the Theater Sustainment Stocks as well as Unit Basic Loads for all classes of Supply (less Class VIII). Lt. Col. Gill was responsible for the issue of APS-5 ABCT equipment set by the 1st Brigade Combat Team, 1st Cavalry Division as the 1-1CD transitioned from Iraq to Kuwait at the conclusion of OND.

Lt. Col. Gill demonstrated the ability to embrace every challenge and established a phenomenal reputation as an Army Materiel Command logistics expert within the Southwest Asia Theater of operations.

The actions and contributions of these four Soldiers embody the commitment, dedication and hard work that are the bedrock upon which the peerless reputation of the 402nd AFSB "Power Forward" team is built.

# 402nd AFSB gets new Commander and Command Sergeant Major

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The ceremony was unique because it honored both the changing of the Commander and Command Sergeant Major at the same time. The change of command ceremony reemphasizes the continuity of the command's authority to its Soldiers, while the change of responsibility ceremony represented the strength of the non-commissioned officer support chain. The four 402nd AFSB Battalions, Qatar Battalion, Kuwait Battalion, Southwest Asia Battalion and 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion were represented in the ceremony by the presence of the Commanders, Senior Enlisted Advisors and the Battalion Colors.

Maj. Gen. McQuiston highlighted for the audience the myriad accomplishments of the 402nd AFSB under the exemplary leadership of the Col. Laskodi and CSM Canterbury and the pivotal role their leadership played in the phenomenal record of achievements the brigade compiled in a single year. Accomplishments that included, providing direct support to the forces in operation Iraqi Freedom (OIF) and operation New Dawn (OND) as well as serving as the central command and control team on the ground for the responsible drawdown of forces and equipment from Iraq. She challenged Col. Kuenzli and CSM Bartee to continue moving the "Power Team" forward in the coming year.

The narrator for the ceremony, Major Christensen reminded those in attendance of the history and tradition associated with the Change of Command ceremony and its importance to the unit. Present day ceremonies are conducted to render honors, preserve traditions and foster esprit-de-corps. Major Christensen reminded everyone that the passing of the colors is a military tradition rich with symbolism and heritage dating back to medieval times. Throughout military history, colors have marked the position of the commander on the battlefield and served as a rallying point for Soldiers. In more recent times, the colors represent not only the heritage and history of the unit, but the unity and loyalty of its Soldiers. The colors stand as a silent reminder of past glories and traditions, stand guardian over its present destiny while instilling inspiration for future endeavors. Commanders and Soldiers come and go, but the colors remain the same.

The passing of the brigade colors represents the transfer of authority and responsibility for the brigade from one command team to another. The 402nd AFSB Change of Command ceremony was a continuation of these time honored traditions.

## POWER LINE



**402nd Army Field Support Brigade, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait**

**Commander** Col. John D. Kuenzli

**Command Sgt. Major**

CSM Nathaniel J. Bartee Sr.

**Public Affairs Officer**

Johnnie Frazier

Submissions and suggestions can be forwarded to the editor, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs Officer: [johnnie.frazier@kuwait.swa.army.mil](mailto:johnnie.frazier@kuwait.swa.army.mil).

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