



March 2012

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Commander's Corner



Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians, program management teams, contract personnel, Family and friends of AFSBn-Kandahar, thank you for your continued support here and at home as we continue to execute our critical mission in support of combat operations here in Afghanistan. Your efforts enabled our supported brigades to continue to press the fight throughout the winter and to provide no

respite for the Taliban.

We have made terrific progress in the retrograde of equipment out of Afghanistan, but even more work remains. We must continue to press on and remove the remaining amounts of equipment in our yards in preparation for future operations. This is not an easy task, but together we can make this happen. As we continue our daily efforts to support our units, I continue to receive great feedback on the quality and professionalism exhibited by our workforce. Our reputation across our supported regional commands has never been better and this is a testament to each of your efforts. Thank you and keep up the great work.

Spring has sprung and I hope that everyone at home made it through the winter with no problems. The temperatures are on the rise here and with that I

would ask everyone to begin to prepare for the heat of the summer that is quickly approaching. Look out for you coworkers and ensure that each of you are adequately hydrated and taking the appropriate actions to minimize exposure to the sun.

To our great family members and friends back home, your sacrifices do not go unappreciated and I thank each of you for your support throughout this deployment. We could not do what we are required to do every day without the love and support each of you provide. Have a great month.

Stay Safe and Stay Focused!

Trust and Loyalty!

On Point!

-Excellence 6

Around the Footprint...



Sergeant Major's Desk



As we move into the busier months ahead, I would like for all of us to keep in mind that we are a team.

As a team, the success of the AFSBn-Kandahar mission depends on all of us working towards our common goals and the commander's priorities. By working as a team and supporting one

another there is nothing that the AFSBn-KAF cannot accomplish. As the battalion command sergeant major, I am counting on each and every one of you to contribute to the overall success of the AFSBn-KAF and 401st AFSB mission.

The battalion leadership has the utmost confidence and trust in all of you to perform and excel in the tasks associated with your position. We need to stay determined and inspired to fulfill the requirements set forth, so that when the mission is complete, we can look back and say, "Thank you team, because without you we would have not have been able to attain the results."

So that we all understand, the AFSBn-KAF team is made up of military members, DA Civilians and contractors. This is the team and we are committed to excellence and mission accomplishment.

Professionalism and respect are two attributes that we must maintain in our daily lives. Treat your fellow co-worker as you would want to be treated. I would like to leave you with a quote:

"There is a difference between interest and commitment. When you are interested in doing something, you do it when it's convenient. When you are committed to something, you accept no excuses; only results."

Hence: Get and stay committed and do not accept excuses, only results.

"ON POINT"

-CSM White, Excellence 7

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The Executive Officer's Pen guest writer Joyce Toney



"We can do it." We can continue to execute our mission to direct and manage field and sustainment level logistical support and operations for both U.S. and Coalition Forces in Regional Command South, South West and West areas of operation. We serve as the single-entry point for integration and synchronization for acquisition, logistics, and technology between the tactical level and the Materiel Enterprise while simultaneously enhancing unit readiness and improving combat capability in accordance with ARCENT, USFOR-A, and JSC-A priorities.

"We can do it." We can inventory, receive, pack, wrap and ship the equipment that is in the shoot for us to retrograde for the numerous units that will bring their equipment to AFSBn-KAF. We can execute the processes that we have established for this monumental task. We can anticipate and adapt to the fluid mission that we have embraced. We can do it. All the AFSBn-KAF Soldiers, Depart-

ment of the Army Civilians, contractors, program management organizations, forward support representatives and all elements that comprise the entire footprint that supports Operation Enduring Freedom. Our Nation, commanders and history has destined us to accomplish this monumental task.

"We can do it." What we do in the next few weeks is critical to the success of what we must and can do in the months ahead. We must transition our thought processes, as well as our methodologies, to ensure that we meet and overcome the various challenges that we will face in accomplishing our retrograde and sustainment mission. We must be resolute that failure is not an option and our only option is to successfully complete our mission. We must foster and cultivate a culture of strategic communicating, solution oriented thinking, accurate reporting and high performance team building. We must accept nothing short of success, capital-

ize on every opportunity and embrace difficulties. This is not easy. However, we can do it. Our Nation, our Families and history awaits our success.

"We can do it." History will tell our story. Therefore, let's look for ways to change our paradigm and take advantage of every opportunity to move equipment through the retrograde pipeline and redefine the impossible. Let's develop ways to get equipment processed in record time. We can do it! Let's do the right thing at the right time, the first time, to get the right results. We can do it! Let's create a cohesive high performance team that fosters a caring and nourishing environment.

Let's decrease excess in our yards, account for every piece of equipment and support every unit relentlessly, until every unit is redeployed and every piece of equipment is retrograded or disposed of. Let's process documents as if they were ablaze and the fire must be put out. We can do it! Let's execute with a tenacious purpose, following our leaders and leading our teams as super-support force multipliers. History has given us this task. Therefore, we must be resolute that failure is not an option and our only option is to successfully complete our mission. We must all have one voice that resounds:

"We can do it!"

Editor's note: Joyce Toney is an operation's officer with the AFSBn-KAF SPO.



**"We can do
it!"**



"On Point"



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Sabre Award: Staff Sgt. Bice by J. Elise Van Pool



The 401st Army Field Support Brigade named Staff Sgt. John R. Bice "The Sabre Non-commissioned Officer of the Quarter" for the first quarter of fiscal year 2012.

Bice serves as the NCO in charge of the Army Field Support Battalion-Kandahar's engineering section, which is part of the 401st AFSB. He was recognized for his ability to inspect major projects, identifying potential issues and com-

municating those problems to subject matter experts. He was also recognized for his work in generating the battalion's master plan, an effort that saved money for the taxpayers.

"Staff Sgt. Bice was able to hit the ground running," said Dr. Onwuatiegwu Echezona, the chief engineer for AFSB-Kandahar. "He is a great asset to the battalion."

At a surprise ceremony, Bice was presented with an Army Commendation Medal in recognition of being named NCO of the quarter.

"I was very surprised," said Bice. "It was a great honor to be recognized by my section lead and my command."

Bice also serves as the contracting officer representative for 34 construction projects around his battalion's foot print. "A lot of hard work went into all the projects I was doing," said Bice. "It was good to be recognized for it—for our section and our battalion."

"Staff Sgt. Bice works so hard," said Echezona. "His dedication to the mission is unmatched and his work and thoroughness has enabled the battalion to support the war fighter better and save the taxpayers money."

Bice has been in the Army ten years serving as a horizontal construction engineer. He is from Fort Wayne, Ind.

Sabre Award?

What: The Sabre Award is presented monthly, quarterly, and yearly to recognize outstanding achievements throughout the year by Sabre's of the Materiel Enterprise.

Who: All US Soldiers and Civilian federal employees are eligible for nomination for the award. Team nominations must be submitted under one person identified as the team leader. Team members may be listed within the essay portion of the nomination.



When: By the 5th of every month.

How: Nominations should demonstrate how the nominated employee went above and beyond the normal day-to-day performance requirement in the following area: logistics and technical support, cost savings/cost avoidance, property accountability, documented superior support or recognition by supported units or exemplifying the Army values.



Upon receipt of the nominations the Brigade S1 will distribute the nomination packets to the selection committee. The selection committee will have three days to review the nominations and select their candidate. The winner of the award will be announced during the first Command and Staff after the selection has been made.



For more information and nomination forms contact the battalion S1 office at 421-7374 or at steven.a.brittain@afghan.swa.army.mil



SPO receives special delivery by J. Elise Van Pool



The Army Field Support Battalion- Kandahar Support Operations Cell received special care packages from Jason's Box, a non-profit organization in Rock Island, Ill., that sends care packages to deployed U.S. forces.

The SPO cell coordinates maintenance and sustain-

ment support for units in the southern and western parts of Afghanistan. They work around the clock to help U.S. and coalition forces maintain their equipment.

"This support means so much," Lt. Col. Nathan Acree, SPO officer in charge said. "Having a little

taste of home really boosts morale here. It's very nice to know that people back home are thinking of you and are supporting you."

Jason's Box was founded by Teri L. Johnson in honor of her son Jason, who was killed in Iraq. At Jason's Box, volunteers make customized care packages for troops serving overseas.

They also help service members access emotional/behavioral health resources in their community. For more information visit jasonsbox.com.



Command Vision

An accomplished, agile and adaptive organization comprised of skilled and disciplined Soldiers, DA Civilians and contractors who will succeed in any type of mission for our Nation.

A diversified formation that values discipline, initiative and integrity, and respects each team member as someone who volunteered to serve a cause greater than oneself.

A disciplined, combat-experienced organization which all others aspire.

Man in the K-Span: What was your first job?



"I was a baker's apprentice at Publix."

~Ashley Whetstone
Mantech logistics analyst.

"USS Constellation plane captain. We were responsible for prepping the aircraft before they go on a mission."

~Petty Officer 1st Class
Edward Yoshikawa
U.S. Navy Customs



"Washing dishes was my very first job back in high school."

~Don Mayes
Mantech
Retrofit technician

"A waitress while I was in school."

~Anita Zahn
Honeywell Process coordinator inspector

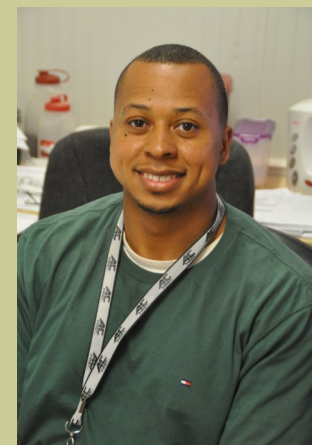


"Pizza Hut. I was a dish boy."

~Cary Thomas
Wholesale responsible officer

"When I was 17, I worked in McDonalds for three months."

~David Lewis
AC First movement control coordinator



ON POINT !

We would also like to welcome the following individuals to the battalion:

Barahona, Elizabeth
Davis, Miranda
Castro, Trini
Noel, Richard
Arline, Frederick
Alexander, Jasen
Williams, John
Quinn, Sabrina
Robertson, Dominic
Tavares, Richard
Vanderwerken, Curtis
Williams, Jon
Parker, Roman
Edwards, Norman
Yoshikawa, Edward
Ziegler, Allan
Matuza, John
Burdette, Dee
Moore, Aviance
Rone, Michael
Holden, John
Brown, Shirley
Jones, Clifford



French, Tracy
McGlinsey, Sean
Sutton, Roderick
Wolcott, Douglas
Torres, Luis
Aiello, Andrew
Solomon, Charles

Roberts, Sheldon
Sweazy, Joshua
Smith, Tom
Ellis, Warren

Last Words by the Editor by J. Elise Van Pool



I have been to several Purple Heart ceremonies. But there is one I will never forget. I will never forget the way this private looked up at that general like he was superman. The unvarnished admiration in that young man's eyes is something I will never forget. This young private was totally taken aback that a general officer would come to recognize something that he had done.

Recognition is a powerful thing. We all need it. We all want to know that what we do means something and that our efforts are appreciated. This is especially true here, where we all work so hard.

Recognizing each other's hard work is also an important part of forming a cohesive team. People will only labor in anonymity for so long before they feel unappreciated and stop devoting their fullest measure. Team work is an essential part of our success. It only stands to reason that a successful team would have successful individuals, deserving of recognition. Therefore, it is important as we go forward and the mission only gets harder that we make sure our team members are getting the recognition they deserve.

There are many forms this recognition can take: from a formal award, to an article by the PAO, to a simple thank you. But it's important we all take time to recognize each other and to let the people we work with know that what they do is important and contributes to achieving the mission.

For more information on recommending someone for a formal award, please contact the battalion SI. If you have someone in your shop doing a good job and would like to share it with the rest of the battalion please contact me at the email address below.

elise.vanpool@us.army.mil



Just for fun...



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