



401st Army Field Support Brigade

Forward Deployed

“First to Make a Difference”



February 2013 Volume 3, Issue 1

General Via promotes NCOs

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

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Sergeants First Class David D. Gavril, AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, S3 Battle non-commissioned officer in charge, and Jacqueline P. Watkins 401st AFSB S4 non-commissioned officer in charge, were promoted to their current rank by Gen. Dennis L. Via, Army Materiel Command commanding general, Jan. 15 in a promotion ceremony at brigade headquarters.

“Promoting Soldiers is the best thing I get to do,” said Via. “Sergeants First Class are the backbone of the NCO corps.”

The promotion was witnessed by a formation of 401st AFSB personnel who had attended the command overview brief presented by Via by Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st AFSB commander.

General Dennis L. Via, Army Materiel Command commanding general, and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald T. Riling, AMC command sergeant major, flank Sergeants 1st Class David D. Gavril, AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, S3 Battle non-commissioned officer in charge, and Jacqueline P. Watkins 401st AFSB S4 Non-commissioned officer in charge, following a promotion ceremony Jan. 15, in which Via promoted them to their current rank.



Left: General Dennis L. Via, Army Materiel Command commanding general and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald T. Riling, AMC command sergeant major promote Sgts. 1st Class David D. Gavril and Jacqueline P. Watkins to their current rank during a promotion ceremony at 401st Army Field Support Brigade headquarters Jan. 15. Via made his first visit to the 401st since assuming command of AMC in August 2012.



PBOs gather to streamline retrograde process and move excess

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

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Property Book Officers from across the Combined Joint Operations Area-Afghanistan met February 20-21 for a two-day PBO ROC drill sponsored by 1st Theater Sustainment Command and the 401st Army Field Support Brigade to begin setting conditions for retrograde of thousands of pieces of non-mission essential equipment from the CJOA.

The first OEF Theater Property Book Officer ROC drill was designed to set the posture for retrograde operations while increasing equipment visibility in order to assist the Army’s ability to re-supply, reset and accomplish force generation through all levels of command. Milestones include identifying excess equipment; gain disposition instructions for excess; turn-in the nominated equipment; and track the retrograde efforts.

“The two major objectives are to identify excess Class VII and ensure the widest dissemination of business rules,” said Maj. Anthony J. Boniface, supply and services branch chief, 1st Theater Sustainment Command.

“Don’t be afraid to get rid of stuff,” said Brig. Gen. Steven A.

Shapiro, 1st TSC deputy commanding general. “Be careful what you take home.”

Shapiro added that Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services will be increasing mobile sites to reduce the necessity of moving equipment slated for disposition within the theater. It will be prepared for disposition at forward locations.



Left: Brigadier General Steven A. Shapiro, 1st Theater Sustainment Command deputy commanding general, addresses the OEF Theater Property Book Officer

Feb. 21. The PBOs met to set the posture for retrograde operations while increasing equipment visibility in order to assist the Army’s ability to re-supply, reset and force generation through all levels of command.

See PBO page 4

401st Army Field Support Brigade

Col. Mark A. Paget
Commander

Command Sgt. Maj. Charlie G. Chavez
CSM

William H. Rutherford, III
Deputy to the Commander

Summer Barkley
Public Affairs Officer

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Contributions to *Forward Deployed* are welcome. The PAO reserves the right to edit submissions for style, clarity or fit.

First to Make a Difference!



Heroes of the Week

The 401st AFSB recently began recognizing a Hero of the Week—someone who just gives a little extra. Heroes so far are Mark Adkins, Summer Allmon, Maggie Rivers, Charles Kranz, Summer Barkley, Suprena Branch, Staff Sgt. Sylvester Whittington and Lt. Col. Joseph M. Parish.



Task Force Sabre Command Group

"First to Make a Difference"



The looming shadow of sequestration as reported by Stars and Stripes and AFN makes for great conversation in the chow hall; raising the decibel level to an audible buzz of uncertainty. I recognize many in our work force are concerned because of automatic budget cuts and want to take this opportunity to reassure all that Afghanistan is a top priority for the Army Materiel Command. Our efforts to support the Warfighter will continue to be resourced as we provide maintenance support to Brigade Combat teams across Afghanistan and process all the equipment destined for depot level reset in the United States. While there are a number of forward operating bases set to be closed or transferred to the Afghan National Army this year, we have a good common operating picture and will be able to meter the flow of retrograde in a responsible manner. This will enable commanders to review support requirements and right size the contract work force accordingly. We will get the mission done, as we always have, despite these temporary distractions, with pride, professionalism and a touch of class.

I need your help this month to conduct a Command Climate Survey for all Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines and Civilians associated with the Brigade. Please take ten minutes to answer the questions on-line and provide any comments you would like to include. This survey is a great tool and will be used to help me assess how we see ourselves and identify any areas or issues of concern. Your responses will be anonymous, so be bold with thoughtful candor and compelling recommendations.

Every accident is preventable. Although we have been fortunate with zero recordable accidents or injuries in the last ninety days, there are indicators we may be slipping into complacency. Several recent safety inspections highlighted deficiencies that had been previously identified but not acted upon. This is unacceptable, especially when site leads and supervisors rationalize short cuts with production goals or mission requirements. Both government and contract safety specialists make on the spot corrections to prevent accidents. Take heed and act on the directions of our committed safety professionals whose primary objective is to make our Brigade a safer and healthier place.



Team Sabre, we made it through the holiday season and the snowy days. We must now prepare for the spring time and the warmer days. I want to thank everyone for putting safety on the top of your list, minus the slip and falls due to the ice we had a very safe holiday. As we ramp up for the drawdown surge again always remember to keep safety in mind. There will be a lot of equipment moving in and out of our yards and warehouses, so be aware of your surroundings at all times. The focus of effort for the 1st Qtr, CY13 for the 401st Newsletter from your Brigade CSM is Standards and Discipline in America's Army – Our Profession.

THE ARMY PROFESSION – A unique vocation of experts certified in the design, generation, support, and ethical application of land power, serving under civilian authority, entrusted to defend the Constitution and the rights and interests of the American people.

Standards and Discipline

- **Standards** are formal, detailed instructions—describable, measurable, and achievable. Effective leaders explain the standards that apply to their organizations and empower subordinates to enforce them.
- **Discipline** at the individual level is primarily self-discipline, the ability to control one's own behavior. Discipline is a mindset for a unit or an organization to practice sustained, systematic actions to reach and sustain a capability to perform its military function.

Discipline is based on pride in the profession of arms, on meticulous attention to details, and on mutual respect and confidence. Discipline must be a habit so engrained that it is stronger than the excitement of battle or the fear of death. **General George S. Patten Jr.**

Army Professionals are certified by their demonstrated:

Competence: Army professionals' demonstrated ability to successfully perform their duties and to accomplish the Mission with discipline and to standard.

Character: An Army professional's dedication and adherence to the Army Values and the Profession's Ethic as consistently and faithfully demonstrate in decisions and actions.

Commitment: The resolve of Army professionals to contribute Honorable Service to the nation, to perform their duties with discipline and to standards, and to strive to successfully and ethically accomplish the mission despite adversity, obstacles, and challenge.

What are the focus areas for Standards and Discipline?

Emphasize Standards and Discipline (e.g., property and personnel accountability, SOPs, uniform and appearance, drill and ceremony, inspections, command presence during maintenance), and educate/train junior leaders to reinforce the understanding of Army standards and unit and personal discipline, and to recommit to professional excellence that is the hallmark of the Army Profession and its professionals. Discipline is central to the Army's professional identity.

Last but not least, Trust is the bedrock of the relationship between the Army Profession and the American people. To succeed the profession it must sustain and develop trust:

- Between Army professionals (Soldiers and Army Civilians)
- Between Leaders, Soldiers and Civilians
- Between Members, their Families and the Army
- Between the Army and the American people

Bierd and Pharaon promoted

By Summer Barkley
401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Lieutenant Colonel Teresa R. Bierd was promoted to her current rank by Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, during a promotion ceremony held at Logistics Civil Augmentation Program's Bagram headquarters Dec. 26.

Bierd, a Florence, Ala. native, is a member of the Army Reserve currently deployed as a LOGCAP support officer. She is a dietician by military occupational specialty and is a registered dietician in her civilian career. During her promotion ceremony she joked that she's never served as a dietician while on active duty. Her new job will focus on logistics and LOGCAP drawdown.

Major Jean W. Pharaon was promoted to his current rank by Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st AFSB commander, during a promotion ceremony at brigade headquarters Dec. 15. Pharaon's family was able to join the promotion via Skype from Michigan.

Pharaon, a native of Port au Prince, Haiti, has almost 20 years of service. His time is split between the United States Marine Corps and the U.S. Army. He swerved as an active duty Marine and was in the USMC Reserve while going to school. He switched to the North Carolina National Guard while still completing his degree. Upon his



Above left: Lieutenant Colonel Teresa R. Bierd smiles as Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, affixes the lieutenant colonel rank insignia to her uniform during her promotion ceremony held Dec. 26 at Logistics Civil Augmentation Program's Bagram headquarters. Bierd is newly arrived to her job as a LOGCAP support officer at Bagram Airfield. **Above right:** Colonel Mark A. Paget, 401st AFSB commander, affixes the major rank insignia on Maj. Jean W. Pharaon during his promotion ceremony at brigade headquarters Dec. 15. Pharaon's family was able to see his promotion ceremony via Skype from Michigan.

commissioning, he joined the U.S. Army Reserves. He is currently deployed to the 401st AFSB S3 as an operations officer.

Bolden awarded Bronze Star Medal

By Summer Barkley
401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Sergeant First Class Carla M. Bolden was awarded a Bronze Star Medal by Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, during an awards ceremony at 401st headquarters Jan. 8.

Bolden served as the S4 senior noncommissioned officer in charge for one year. In that capacity she was instrumental in increasing the brigade focus on property accountability and in resolving a number of high dollar value Financial Liability Investigation of Property Loss investigations. She assisted in the administrative process for assigning, tracking, reviewing and routing investigations and reports. She also briefed new FLIPL investigative officers and was available to consult and assist as necessary.

She was also awarded the Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the NATO Medal.

Her next duty assignment will be at Fort Leonard Wood, Mo.



Sergeant First Class Carla M. Bolden is awarded a Bronze Star Medal by Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, during an awards ceremony Jan. 8. Bolden served as the S4 senior noncommissioned officer in charge and was instrumental in increasing the brigade focus on property accountability and in resolving a

number of high dollar value Financial Liability Investigation of Property Loss investigations.

PBO from page 1



Underscoring the significance of the conference was the attendance by the Department of the Army G4 Policy Chief, Chief Warrant Officer 5 Reginald Noel. He spent some time discussing how the PBOs can help commanders balance equipment needed for combat missions with the need to retrograde excess equipment.

"I'm going back to replicate this for my battalion and company commanders who will have to do the legwork," said Lt. Col. Yvette O. Rose, Joint Sustainment Command-Afghanistan, 311th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, G4 officer-in-charge. "When we start, we'll find out where the holes are."

"There was a lot of good information back and forth and issues to look at," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Stephen H. Spraberry, 3rd Brigade, 101st Airborne Division, property book officer. "We were able to look at issues and look for solutions to put in place. It should make the drawdown smoother and easier."

"After the conference, RCs [Regional Commands] will have one week to validate excess equipment and provide any reclama [request a reconsideration of a decision or a change in policy] to retain any excess," was stated in the calling message for the conference. "No later than 45 days from the completion of the conference, a FRAGO will be published directing the turn-in and reduction of excess."

CMRE Soldiers receive end of tour medals

By Summer Barkley
401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Soldiers from the 4th Brigade Support Battalion, 27th Brigade Combat Team, a New York Army National Guard unit, deployed with the 401st Army Field Support Brigade across the battle space in Afghanistan were recognized for their work supporting equipment retrograde missions during several awards ceremonies recently.

The first awards ceremony was held Dec. 21 at Bagram Airfield with Lt. Col. Todd W. Burnley, AFSBn-Bagram commander, recognizing the work of the 4/27 Soldiers assigned to AFSBn-Bagram. Bronze Star Medals were awarded to Capt. Randall Baker, Capt. Victoria Depaulis, Capt. Odelle Despot, Capt. Frederick Miles, 1st Lt. Michael Kandora, 1st Lt. Eric Richardson and 1st Sgt. Nathan Hawker.

Army Commendation Medals were awarded to Capt. Matthew Scheuer, 1st Lt. William Lee, 1st Lt. Eric Leon, 1st Lt. Steven Ligouri, Chief Warrant Officer 2 William Grodnick, Staff Sgt. Everett Vanorden, Sgt. Jason Brockway, Sgt. Erick Cruz, Sgt. Christopher Manns, Sgt. Riener Mongerson, Sgt. Sokah Prak, Sgt. Michael Reidy, Sgt. Devon Schwarz, Sgt. Wilson Silvatomala, Sgt. Marlana Watson, Spc. Elvis King, Spc. Amanda Morse, Spc. Byron Murray and Spc. Francis Villegas, as well.

Army Achievement Medals were also awarded to 1st Lt. William Lee, Sgt. Christopher Manns and Sgt. Wilson Silvatomala.

Combat Action Badges were awarded to 1st Lt. Steven Ligouri and Sgt. Christopher Manns.

Lieutenant Colonel Stephen, M. Bousquet, 4th BSN commander was awarded a Bronze Star Medal for his leadership and contributions as the 4/27 commander and 401st deputy support operations director on Dec. 22 by Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st AFSB commander.

The final awards ceremony was held Dec. 25 at AFSBn-KAF



Left: Colonel Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, awards a Bronze Star Medal to Lt. Col. Stephen, M. Bousquet, 4th Brigade Support Battalion, 27th Brigade Combat Team commander and 401st AFSB deputy support operations officer

Dec. 22 in recognition of his achievements during his deployment from Apr. 15 to Dec. 30, 2012. The 4/27 is a New York Army National Guard unit.



Above Left: Lieutenant Colonel Todd W. Burnley, AFSBn-Bagram 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, shakes hands with Sgt. Wilson Silvatomala Dec. 22 after awarding him an Army Commendation medal, an Army Achievement Medal, an Afghanistan Campaign Medal and the NATO Medal. Silvatomala is a member of the 4th Brigade Support Battalion, 27th Brigade Combat Team a New York Army National Guard unit who deployed from Apr. 15 to Dec. 30, 2012 to support the 401st AFSB retrograde missions. **Above Right:** Brigadier General Kristin K. French, Joint Sustainment Command-Afghanistan commander, awards a Bronze Star Medal to Capt. William F. Fitzsimons, AFSBn-Kandahar redistribution and property assistance team, during an awards ceremony held Dec. 22 at battalion headquarters. Fitzsimons is a member of the 4th Brigade Support Battalion, 27th Brigade Combat Team a New York Army National Guard unit who deployed from Apr. 15 to Dec. 30, 2012 to support the 401st AFSB retrograde missions.

where Brig. Gen. Kristin K. French, Joint Sustainment Command-Afghanistan commander, presented Bronze Star Medals to Capt. William F. Fitzsimons, Capt. Nicholas J. Tommaso, Master Sgt. Jamie L. Miller and Sgt. 1st Class Mark E. Simsick.

Army Commendation Medals were awarded to 1st Lt. Michael C. Costello, 2nd Lt. Jeffrey T. Phillips, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Robin A. Steele, Warrant Officer Michael C. Keller, Sgt. Phillip R. Kay, Sgt. William J. Rollins, Sgt. Ronald L. Thomas, Spc. Stephen P Barrant, Spc. Raul A. Garcia and Spc. Todd E. Thomas.

The Army Achievement Medal was awarded to Sgt. Gregory J. Dipel.

Afghanistan Campaign Medals and NATO Medals were presented to Sgt. Nerys Baez-Tejada, Sgt. Lawrence Harris and Private 1st Class Joshua Persichilli.

The Soldiers deployed as part of the CENTCOM Material Recovery Element from Apr. 15 to Dec. 30, 2012 and supported 401st missions related to retrograde of non-mission essential equipment from the theater. Their missions included redistribution property assistance teams, mobile RPATs, ammunition abatement and customs inspection.

Editor's note: Please visit the 401st AFSB Flickr page at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/401stafsb/sets/72157632369784113/> to see more photos from the awards ceremonies.

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. Facebook: <https://www.facebook.com/401stAFSB>. Flickr: <http://www.flickr.com/401stafsb>.

You can also check Army.mil and Army Sustainment Command where we post news articles. Army.mil: Army Sustainment Command: <http://www.aschq.army.mil/home/default.aspx>

And, if all else fails, just Google us.

401st Army Field Support Brigade

LOGCAP personnel receive end of tour awards

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

BAGRAM ARFIELD, Afghanistan—Colonel Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, presented end of tour awards to five redeploying Logistics Civil Augmentation Program Soldiers Jan. 6 at brigade headquarters.

Bronze Star Medals were awarded to Col. Gary W. Rangel, Lt. Col. William Martin, Maj. Edelmiro Escobedo, and Sgt. Maj. Joseph R. Carretero.

An Army Commendation Medal was awarded to CPT Martin Louis.

Afghanistan Campaign Medals and the NATO Medal were presented to all.

The Soldiers deployed to support the LOGCAP mission to support global contingencies by leveraging corporate assets to augment Army current and programmed sustainment force structure.



Left: Col. Gary W. Rangel, Lt. Col. Martin, Maj. Escobedo, Sgt. Maj. Carretero and Capt. Louis received end of tour awards Jan. 6 at 401st Army Field Support Brigade headquarters.

401st Civilians receive Commander's Awards

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

BAGRAM ARFIELD, Afghanistan—Four Department of the Army Civilians were recognized for their contributions while deployed in awards ceremonies held at the brigade.

Commander's Awards for Civilian Service were presented to three who deployed to support Research, Development and Engineering Command's Field Assistance in Science Technology Center on Dec. 25.

Charles E. Kranz is a welder and metal fabricator who deployed from the U.S. Army Research Laboratory at Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Stephen R. McFarlane is a mechanical engineer who deployed from the U.S. Army Armament, Research, Development and Engineering Center, Picatinny Arsenal, N.J.

Steven R Tucker is a senior electrical engineer who deployed from U.S. Army Natick Soldier Systems Command Research, Development and Engineering Center, located at Natick, Mass.

Each deployed to support the Task Force Solider Solutions RFAST-C mission of providing enhanced engineering capabilities in theater and synchronizing forward rapid acquisition efforts.

Peter G. Merkl received the Commander's Award for Civilian Service from Col. Mark A. Paget, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, during an awards ceremony at brigade headquarters Feb. 4.

Paget said he relied on Merkl for advice on a range of issues covering property accountability, contracting, personnel matters and General Order 1 violations.

Merkl volunteered for a six-month deployment as an attorney advisor to the 401st AFSB commander from his home station at Corpus Christi Army Depot.

All recipients were also awarded the Global War on Terrorism Medal and the NATO Medal



Above left: Stephen R. Tucker, Charles E. Kranz and Stephen R. McFarlane were awarded the Commander's Award for Civilian Service Dec. 25. They deployed in support of RDECOM Field Assistance in Science and Technology Center personnel Dec. 25, in recognition of their work in RFAST-C's prototype integration facility located at Bagram Airfield.

Above right: Col. Mark A. Paget presents the Commander's Award for Civilian Service to Peter J. Merkl Feb. 4.



Beautiful sunrise over Bagram Feb. 6 after many days of snow, rain and drizzle.

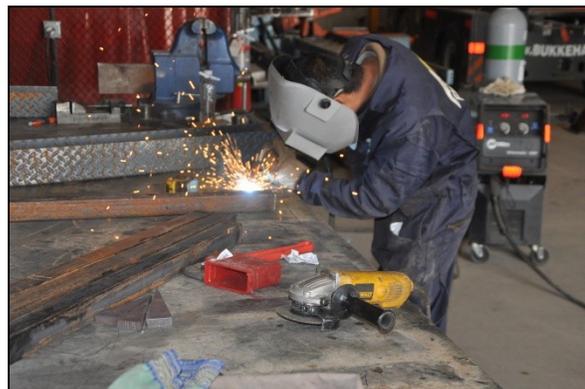
Modern Day Craftsmen, Forerunners of an Older Order

By Sgt. 1st Class Robert A. Baker
AFSBn-Kandahar Support Operations

KANDANAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The members in Allied Trades located in the battalion RFI Yard are comparable to the blacksmiths and craftsmen of days long past. These blacksmiths and craftsman made armored suits, tools of war, and other useful battlefield items for their knights of old—the forerunners of today’s armored forces. Similar tradecraft is still in demand today on the modern battlefield, but in a very different way and not readily observed. These craftsmen manipulate metal by bending, cutting, and welding.

On the surface, each of these processes seems easy to understand, but there is so much more involved than represented by the final product. These craftsmen make precise measurements, perform calculations, and use their creative talents and other factors to deliver their final products.

The Allied Trades craftsmen have not only been handy at crafting parts for units, but have also used their skills set to support AFSBn-KAF in the installation of “Add on Armor” for selected pieces of equipment. Their applied knowledge and skills used during these tasks have proven vital to supporting the mission since platforms used on the battlefield without this armor would make the Warfighter more vulnerable.



The machinists of Allied Trades have a variety of tools and machinery at their disposal to accomplish assigned tasks. For example, one of these tools is the CNC (Computer Numeric Control) Mill, which uses a computer program to cut precision pieces out of flat metal. It would seem to be just a simple key stroke, but there is much more than meets the eye. Yes, the computer does the work, but the computer needs the hand generated measurements. Another tool is the conventional lathe that is used to make various parts out of round stock such as screws and bolts. Normal screws and bolts can be created.

They can’t reproduce anything that requires tempering.

Allied trades also has a hydraulic hose shop to fabric hydraulic hoses on site.

The parts they fabricate and the things they create are essential to mission execution. The skill and time they put into crafting these parts is impressive.

The personnel at Allied Trades put forth maximum effort into getting parts and other requirements fabricated as swiftly as possible. The way the folks wield the metal like the craftsmen from old brings great credit to their trade. A trip to their shop would be worthwhile and would show- case all the amazing manufactured devices and meaningful work they have performed in support of the Warfighter.



Left and above right: Skilled craftsmen in the AFSB-Kandahar Allied Trades shop use all the skills and tools at their disposal to support the Warfighter.

AFSBn-KAF fencing project aids base drainage plan

By Capt. Antoun Gully
AFSBn-Kandahar S7

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The S7 shop completed a HESCO fence project in January that removed an ‘eyesore’ and furthered the base drainage plan.

The project included repairing damaged fencing, removing some HESCO barriers and replacing 15 wooden posts. The fence had been damaged by both vehicles and last year’s rain and flooding. The posts were cracked and beyond repair.

The new fence provides security for equipment and facilities used by several project managers falling under the battalion.



Left: An old HESCO barrier fence was deteriorating and impeding the base drainage plan. **Right:** AFSBn-KAF S7 removed the HESCO barriers, repaired and replaced fencing and wooden posts to provide a secure fenced area for facilities and equipment used by several project managers in the battalion while furthering the base drainage plan..



A few dollars and a lot of ingenuity protect Soldiers and CROWS

By Summer Barkley
401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer
Photos by Robbin Duuck

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Spending a few dollars to realize a huge savings is a good deal especially when Soldiers' lives can be saved at the same time.

One such opportunity occurred when the Common Remotely Operated Weapons Station, or CROWS, sustainers brought a problem to the attention of the engineers and technicians at the Research, Engineering and Development Command's Field Assistance in Science and Technology Center (RFAST-C). The problem was simple: CROWS equipment was being damaged. The RFAST-C team went to work and designed a solution.

"The initial prototype cost approximately \$200 in man-hours, machine time and materials," said Daniel R. McGauley, RFAST-C executive officer. "Once the drawings were completed and approved, the cost per unit is about \$20."

McGauley said the RFAST-C team designed the first prototype in less than two days. About two weeks later, they were asked for a redesign and test of the redesign. They sent the first redesigns to units to test and evaluate and based on their evaluations, RFAST-C was asked to produce about 60 of the redesign which they delivered in two days.

The CROWS system allows Warfighters to engage targets from the inside of an armored vehicle.

"CROWS is a true life saver," he said.

"The value of a forward-deployed PIF staffed with government engineers and technicians to immediately capture soldier-inspired idea's, rapidly engineer a solution, and fabricate a prototype at the speed of war has been recognized by senior Army leadership," said Michael P. Anthony, RFAST-C director.



Left: Daniel R. McGauley, Research, Engineering and Development Command Field Assistance in Science and Technology Center, executive officer, shows a device fabricated for Common Remotely Operated Weapons Station (CROWS) to Gen. Dennis L. Via, U.S. Army Materiel Command commanding general, and the Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant

Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, Logistics, and others Jan 15. Shyu is responsible for developing, acquiring, fielding, and sustaining equipment and services and leveraging technologies and capabilities to meet current and future Army needs. CROWS is one of many systems fielded, sustained and retrograded by programs falling under ASA (ALT).

LOGCAP lends a hand to Konduz Chapel

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

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—When 3rd Squadron, 7th Cavalry Chaplain (Capt.) Michael Voudouris was completing counter improvised explosive training with his squadron commander, Lt. Col. Lance C. Varney, at Konduz, he noticed something rather odd about the training facility. Training was being conducted in a space shared with the Chapel.

Neither man was pleased with the situation and it was determined that the chapel would become a full-time chapel and the training was relocated.

Logistics Civil Augmentation Program performance contractor Fluor was able to assist with several aspects of the project.

"When we arrived here, the chapel needed some work," said Spc. Jose Ayalla, chaplain's assistant. "We painted the interior; and Fluor replaced the soft subfloor and laid down linoleum. All of this and now the pews, it has really made an improvement"

Fluor is completing carpentry projects to replace benches with pews that have a back rest and are sturdy.

"The intent of this project, to make a place for personnel to pray, reflect and worship that is a sacred space fitting for such activities," said Maj. William F. McKernan, LOGCAP support officer for Konduz, Hairatan and Khilaguy.

"It is a sacred place for people to come at all times of the day," said Voudouris. "Before it was only open for classes or worship."

Upper right: Logistics Civil Augmentation Program performance contractor Fluor workers construct pews to replace backless benches in the Forward Operating Base Konduz Chapel. **Lower right:** Personnel at FOB Konduz have a dedicated chapel in which to worship, pray and reflect thanks to LOGCAP performance contractor Fluor completing several projects to upgrade the chapel.



ASA (ALT) chief sees technology at work on the battle field

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

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The Army acquisition executive, senior research and development official and science advisor to the Secretary of the Army, the Honorable Heidi Shyu, visited 401st Army Field Support Brigade to see and hear first-hand how some of the recently fielded technology is supporting Warfighters and their missions.

Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, made a joint visit to the 401st AFSB with Gen. Dennis L. Via, Army Materiel Command commanding general Jan. 15-16. She saw unmanned aerial systems, common remotely operated weapons systems, biometric collection equipment, scanners, and upgrades to mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles. She also had an opportunity to meet and talk to some of the people who field, sustain and retrograde the equipment.

As the ASA (ALT), Shyu serves as the Army Acquisition Executive, the Senior Procurement Executive, the Science Advisor to the Secretary of the Army, and the Army's Senior Research and Development official. She also has principal responsibility for all Department of the Army matters related to logistics.

Programs, personnel and equipment fielded by ASA (ALT) fall under the 401st AFSB in theater.



Top Near Right: The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology meets Soldiers who use equipment fielded by ASA (ALT) on a daily basis Jan. 15. **Top Far Right:** Brad Hart, MRAP Regional Support Activity site lead briefs the Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, and Maj. Gen. Harold J. Greene, deputy for acquisition and systems management, on upgrades being made to certain MRAP vehicles Jan. 15. **Bottom Right:** The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, receives a briefing and demonstration of a Raven Unmanned Aerial System from Robert J. Shilts Jr., AMCOM UAS Logistics Assistance Representative, PM UAS, Jan. 15 while Col. William Cole, ASA (ALT) Forward, Lt. Col. Jacob Crawford, PEO IEW&S representative and Maj. Andy Linz, ASA (ALT) Regional Command East advisor look on.

AMC Command team visits 401st AFSB



Left: Lieutenant Colonel Stanley J. Sliwinski, Jr., (center) AFSBn-Kandahar, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commander, looks on as Capt. Lee W. Berry, AFSBn-KAF S3 briefs the Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, Logistics and Gen. Technology, and Gen. Dennis L.

Via, Army Materiel Command commanding general, on battalion missions Jan. 16 at the theater vehicle maintenance facility which will serve as the KAF RPAT yard when the battalion moves into the facility that is still under construction.

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

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—General Dennis L. Via, U.S. Army Materiel Command commanding general and Command Sgt. Maj. Ronald T. Riling, AMC command sergeant major visited 401st elements at Bagram, Shank and Kandahar Jan. 15-16 during the first AMC command team visit to Afghanistan since Via assumed command in August 2012. The Honorable Heidi Shyu, Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisitions, Logistics, divided her time on the ground between seeing some of the 401st missions and meeting

some of the personnel who field, sustain and retrograde some of the equipment, technologies and capabilities her programs have brought to the Warfighter.

Beginning in Bagram, the team was briefed on redistribution property assistance team processes and procedures for retrograde of rolling and non-rolling stock; upgrades being installed on certain mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles; the Research, Development and Engineering Command Field Assistance in Science and Technology Center and the ammunition supply point. They had an opportunity to meet some of the Soldiers, U.S. Army Civilians and contractors who conduct the 401st missions.

Via also stopped at Defense Logistics Agency Disposition Services to see how equipment slated for disposal is handled.

They next moved to Forward Operating Base Shank to visit the AFSBn-Bagram Logistics Task Force that provides the same types of mission support as their parent battalion provides albeit on a smaller scale at their forward location.

The last stop was at AFSBn-Kandahar where he saw the theater vehicle maintenance facility which will serve as the KAF RPAT yard when the battalion moves into the facility that is still under construction.

Throughout the quick two-day visit, Via took every opportunity to engage the Soldiers, Department of the Army Civilians and contractors who carry out the 401st mission to be AMC's face to the field. Via shook many hands and presented a number of coins to personnel.

See more photos at <http://www.flickr.com/photos/401stafsb/sets/72157632539135289/>

DoD leaders see 401st retrograde operations while sustaining critical systems in theater

By Summer Barkley
401st AFSB Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The Honorable Frank Kendall, Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistics, and Gary J. Motsek, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Support) visited 401st Army Field Support Brigade for the second time in two years, but had a different agenda for the return visit and spent a good part of their time focusing on equipment retrograde.

Kendall and Motsek visited the Persistent Threat Detection System area to see the Army's 'eye in the sky' and learn more about its capabilities and what it brings to the Warfighter.



Above: The Honorable Frank Kendall, Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistics (center left), looks at a Persistent Threat Detection System, while Samuel Zabrdac, product manager Meteorological and Target Identification Capabilities Theater Lead, International Security Assistance Force Joint Command (center right), provides information on the PTDS system Feb. 4.

They were next briefed on Operation Dynamo, a program falling under Project Manager Mobile Electric Power that is providing operational energy solutions at remote locations. Operation Dynamo provides Advanced Medium Power Sources generators to selected units to meet operational needs. Results at one combat outpost show that Operation Dynamo has eliminated the need for four aerial deliveries of fuel each month. Results at a second location show approximately 30 percent less fuel is used each day directly leading to one less

fuel truck needed each month.

They later visited the AFSBn-Bagram Redistribution Property Assistance Team area to see the processes and procedures in place for the retrograde of thousands of pieces on non-mission essential equipment from theater. They also visited a vantage



Left: Pfc. Christine O. Stanley, 247th Quartermaster Company assigned to the CENTCOM Material Recovery Element, shows the Honorable Frank Kendall, Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistics, some of the tools the ammunition abatement team uses to find brass and ammunition in vehicles prior to their being retrograded back the United States.

point to see how AFSBn-BAF stages equipment based on decisions to dispose it, issue to other units or remove it from theater.

They had lunch with brigade and battalion staff and personnel who support programs fielded under the auspices of the Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology and answered several questions from those in attendance.

Kendall said senior leaders are looking at "where we need to be in the future and how do we position ourselves." He said work is being done now to maintain technological superiority and that he sees continuing emphasis on technology on the battlefield.

The Persistent Threat Detection System, or PTDS, is fielded by Program Executive Office Intelligence Electronic Warfare & Sensors, and personnel manning the systems fall under the 401st.

"PTDS is a large aerostat tethered to a mooring platform, which is accompanied by a Ground Control Station," Lt. Col. Michael Parodi, Product Manager Meteorological and Target Identification Capabilities, was quoted as saying in a published article Jul. 2, 2012 on Army.mil. "The system is equipped with both visual and audio surveillance technology ... and acts as a force multiplier for commanders on the ground."

Parodi added that PTDS can be utilized to scan large areas for potential insurgent activity while interacting with various sensors to provide a complete picture of potential threats.

Program Executive Office, program and product manager personnel fall under the 401st AFSB in theater.



Above top: Bob Thoens, Project Manager Mobile Electric Power theater lead, briefs the Honorable Frank Kendall, Undersecretary of Defense for Acquisitions, Technology and Logistics, and Gary J. Motsek, Deputy Assistant Secretary of Defense (Program Support), Feb. 4 on Operation Dynamo that is providing operational energy solutions at remote locations. **Above bottom:** Richard N. Williams, product manager Meteorological and Target Identification Capabilities liaison officer for Regional Command East, holds a tether marking flag used as a visual warning to aircraft of the presence of the PTDS Feb. 4.

Married couples celebrate Valentine's Day while deployed

By Summer Barkley

401st Army Field Support Brigade Public Affairs Officer

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Valentine celebrations came a few days early and in a very unusual and unexpected way for two couples from the 27th Quartermaster Company assigned to AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

Sergeant Major Danette D. Bailey, battalion senior non-commissioned officer arranged flights for two wives to be able to spend a few days with their husbands during their deployments. She and Pfc. Christine O. Stanley flew to Forward Operating Base Fenty Feb. 8 so Stanley could spend some time with her husband Spc. Michael Stanley,

"We were able to have lunch together and visit the different shops," said Christine Stanley. "He showed me around the entire FOB and we stayed up all night talking and laughing together."

Cpl. Latasha R. Leal flew to Forward Operating Base Shank on Feb. 10 so Leal could spend some time with her husband Spc. Daniel Leal, Jr. She was also able to catch up with her friend Spc. Erica Wilcox, also with the 247th QM Co.

"Since Sunday was considered a half-day we were able to play baseball and have a cook out during my visit," Leal said. "My husband took me to an Afghanistan restaurant and we were able to go



Left: Cpl. Latasha R. Leal and her husband Spc. Daniel Leal, Jr. were able to spend a few hours together recently. Both are members of the 247th Quartermaster Company, but stationed at different locations in Afghanistan.

the MWR and watch movies."

Both Cpl. Leal and Pfc. Stanley were very appreciative that Sgt. Maj. Bailey was able to arrange for a break in their routine while getting to spend a few hours with their spouses while forward deployed.

Sergeant 1st Class Nadalen V. Hodges said there are actually three married couples in the same platoon of the 247th QM Co., and the third set of spouses are both at Bagram.

BCS Bowl—the faces tell the tale



The faces told the tale when fans from both Notre Dame and Alabama gathered at the 401st to watch the 2013 BCS Bowl game pitting the Fighting Irish against the Crimson Tide. At the end of the game, Tide fans were jubilant while the Irish were looking forward to next season. When all was said and done, fans from both sides cleaned up the conference room and got back to work supporting the Warfighter.

RRAD HEMETT Tiger Team "Squeaky Clean"

AFSB-Bagram held Operation Clean Sweep from Nov. 19 to Dec. 3, 2012 to find the team who would be the most "squeaky clean" and to motivate and gain team cohesion in taking pride in their areas of responsibility where people work 12 hours every day.

"We hoped to achieve a standard of order and discipline from the concerted efforts of our teams that support our Warfighters," said Sgt. Maj. Danette D. Bailey, AFSBn-BAF senior non-commissioned officer in charge. "We asked them to remove all unusable and un-serviceable items from inside and outside their areas."

The overall winners were the HEMETT Tiger Team from Red River Army Depot who are deployed to sustain and service vehicles in the HEMETT series.

Other areas selected for honorable mention were the AC First Facilities wood shop, the JLG refurbishment shop and the CECOM Electronic Sustainment Support Center.



Above: The HEMETT Tiger Team from Red River Army Depot was declared the winners in the AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade's Operation Clean Sweep Jan. 10. Standing in front of a M983A4 vehicle, Kenneth G. Lynn, Noble E. Yeager, Doyle S. Farrar, Kyle L. Phelps and Willie J. Alexander accept a certificate declaring them "Squeaky Clean" from Maj. Matthew S. Linehan, battalion executive officer and Sgt. Maj. Danette D. Bailey, battalion senior non-commissioned officer.

Christmas around the 401st AFSB



A Very Kevlar Christmas



There Is Some Good in All of US

By Chaplain (CPT) Franklin S. Caldwell
401st Army Field Support Brigade Chaplain



It is easy to pick out people's faults. We subconsciously keep track of all the flaws of all the people in our lives. Whether someone is vain, self-centered, arrogant, petty, bitter, or obnoxious, we can easily slap a label on every person we meet. We see the faults of politicians, celebrities, and criminals, but we also know the flaws of people in our everyday lives, whether our family members, friends or co-workers...we've got them nailed. It's our nature to evaluate the person in front of us, to figure out if we can trust them or if we should be on our guard.

When you are around negative people they will have a negative impact on you. It is important to try and find the good in others. Everyone has good things. The more good you find in others the easier it will be to talk to them and be around them

Even though you are looking for the positive aspects in negative people you need to remain positive in everything you do. Be positive with the people you are around on a daily basis. The more positive you are to people the more motivated you will feel too. The more positive you find in people and the things around you the happier you will be. You will also be more motivated to make it through every day and reach your goals.



Far left: Specialist Sarah Bollat and Chaplain (Maj.) Franklin Caldwell spend much of their time on battle-field circulation to minister to 401st personnel across the theater. **Left:** Chaplain (Maj.) Franklin Caldwell leads a prayer during a ground breaking ceremony for the new AMC chapel Feb. 12.

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Kandahar: 593rd Sustainment Brigade Chaplain

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401st AFSB briefs USFOR-A and 1st TSC leadership on missions

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

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—Major Generals Kenneth R. Dahl, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, deputy commander for support and Kurt J. Stein, 1st Theater Sustainment Command, commanding general, visited the 401st Army Field Support Brigade Dec. 30 to learn more about brigade missions, processes and processes.

The first stop was the Logistics Task Force Bagram redistribution property assistance yard where they discussed property accountability, ammunition abatement procedures and how rolling and non-rolling stock is received, handled and moved according to disposition instructions.

“How do you determine which vehicles with upgrades that should be kept in theater?” Dahl asked Gloria Blake, theater provided equipment project manager.

“It all starts at retail,” Blake responded. She went on to elaborate that when equipment is entered into TPE planner, Army Materiel Command’s life cycle management commands evaluate theater requirements before determining the disposition of each piece of equipment.

He said he is concerned that we are sending equipment from the theater only to see the same types of vehicles and equipment being sent into theater.

They next went to see upgrades to some of the mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicles. This mission is just getting underway and will increase survivability for Soldiers in the vehicles.



Right top: Major General Kurt J. Stein, 1st Theater Sustainment Command commanding general, talks with Pfc. Christine O. Stanley, Spc. Jasmine L. DuPont, and Cpl. Latasha R. Leal at the AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade redistribution property assistance yard Dec. 30. Leal briefed Stein and Maj. Gen. Kenneth R. Dahl, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, deputy commander for support, on their processes and procedures for handling non-rolling stock equipment turned in at the AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade redistribution property assistance team yard.

Right bottom: Brad Hart, site lead, explains upgrades being made to a mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle at 401st Army Field Support Brigade to Maj. Gen. Kenneth R. Dahl, U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, deputy commander for support, Dec. 30.

USAF AMC CG sees scope of 401st AFSB retrograde mission

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



BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan—The commander of the U. S. Air Force Air Mobility Command visited the 401st Army Field Support Brigade Jan. 17 to see for himself the scope of the brigade’s equipment retrograde mission and discuss his command’s role in equipment retrograde.

U.S. Air Force General Paul Selva, commander Air Mobility Command, U.S. Air Force Brig. Gen. Jacqueline Van Ovost, director for mobility forces, Air Force Central Command and U.S. Air Force Chief Master Sgt. Richard Kaiser, U.S. Air Force Air Mobility Command command chief master sergeant, visited the AFSBn-Bagram, 401st AFSB area where vehicles awaiting transportation for retrograde are staged. They were briefed on the retrograde velocity for the battalion and the brigade as well as the overall number of pieces of rolling stock that need to be retrograded from theater.

The Air Mobility Command will be a critical partner to the 401st AFSB in removing non-mission essential equipment from the battle space in the next 18-24 months.

Above: Lieutenant Colonel Todd W. Burnley, AFSBn-Bagram, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, briefs U.S. Air Force General Paul Selva, commander Air Mobility Command, on the battalion and brigade mission to retrograde non-mission essential equipment from the battle space. The Air Mobility Command will be a critical partner to the 401st AFSB in executing the retrograde mission.