

# SUSTAINER *Minute*

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THE NEWSLETTER OF THE 3RD CORPS SUPPORT COMMAND



Photo by Jayme Loppnow, USAG Darmstadt Public Affairs

77th Maintenance Company Commander Capt. Alex Hunt (left) and 1st Sgt. Vincent Jefferson case the colors for the last time during a ceremony in Babenhausen, August 4.



Photo by Jerry Bryza, Jr., 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs

26th Quartermaster Company Commander Capt. Kristopher K. Pabotoy (right) and 1st Sgt. Kurt R. Smith case their colors during a ceremony on Hutier Kaserne, August 15.

## Two more COSCOM units case colors and head off into the sunset

### 77th Maintenance Company inactivates

By Jayme Loppnow and Khameron Mitchem, USAG Darmstadt Public Affairs

After 85 years of service, the 77th Maintenance Company cased their guidon and had it carted off on the back of a Harley Davidson during an inactivation ceremony at Babenhausen Kaserne, Aug. 4.

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### 26th Quartermaster Company inactivates

By Dennis Johnson, USAG Hanau Public Affairs

Another Hanau unit inactivated; sending its Soldiers off to the far corners of the world. The 26th Quartermaster Company gathered its remaining 56 Soldiers on the sports field of Hutier Kaserne Aug. 15 for the official

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# 27th Transportation Battalion's first autoshow brings out the gear heads

Story and photos by Spc. Andrew Orillion, 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs

Glistening chrome and gleaming paint broke through the gloom of an overcast sky August 12, as the 27th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control) held its first auto show on Wiesbaden Army Airfield. Over 20 cars and four motorcycles were entered for a chance to take home a trophy for best in show and support the 27th Transportation Battalion's Family Readiness Group.

Car enthusiast came from as far away as Darmstadt and Mannheim to show off their wheels and meet fellow gear heads.

"It's always great to be able to show off your wheels," Staff Sgt. Walter Lopez, driver for the United States Army Europe Army Band and Chorus. "Plus the FRG is a great cause."

The types of wheels varied greatly, from Volvo station wagons to tricked out Hondas and pickup trucks to Mustangs; almost every type of car was showcased. Several representatives from a local Ford Mustang club came to the event to show their love for the American-made auto.

It was not just cars that were in attendance, a hand full of



Last minute detailing was the order of the day as the rain came and went and came back again.

motorcycle riders came roaring in to share their love of the open road.

"I just got my bike from the states in July so this is my first chance to show it off," said Chief Warrant Officer 3 Joe Ryan, an RC-12 Guardrail pilot, 1st Military Intelligence Battalion, owner of a 100th Anniversary Harley Davidson Dyna Wide Glide. "I love motorcycles because you have to use your body to steer it. It is almost like you are a part of the bike."

Not all participants were interested in snazzy paint jobs and bass thumping sound systems. From some the beauty of a car was found under the hood.

"For me it is not about the car, it is about the engine," said Staff Sgt. Jesus Cales-Rodriguez, Transformation Noncommissioned Officer In Charge, 1st Armored Division, owner of a 1977 Opel Kadett. "I dropped a Mazda RX-7 engine into this car to turn it into a drag racer. I am hoping to capture the world record for fastest nitro-assisted rotary engine dragster."

Cales-Rodriguez was not the only racing enthusiast at the show. Multiple Corvettes were in attendance, along with a super-powerful Nissan Skyline, and Gene Morrison brought his nitrous-enhanced 1994 Ford Mustang Cobra to the show.

One of the more tricked out rides was brought by Sgt. David Salzberg, Operations NCO, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 1st Armored Division, Division Support Command. His 2001 Toyota Celica had Lamborghini-style doors, a flip-down DVD player, chrome rims, new head and tail lights and a paint job that took three different applications.

"I've been doing the car show thing for about eight years now," Salzberg said. "There was a truck club in the neighborhood I grew up in so I got interested in show cars early in life."

After all the cars, motorcycles and trucks arrived, the judging



The owner of a Nissan Skyline (left) compares notes with the owner of this Honda Accord.



for best in show began. The vehicles were judged on the appearance of the exterior and interior, the correct installation of modifications and the general maintenance level of the car. This was done to create a level playing field in which both stock and “supped up” cars had an equal chance at winning said Capt. David Redman, Signal Officer, 27th Transportation Battalion (MC), and a judge for the event.

The idea to use an auto show as a fund raiser and get together came from Capt. Johnny Bakane, Logistics Officer, 27th Transportation Battalion and his wife.

“My wife and I thought up the idea,” Bakane said. “I had a lot of friends from the auto care shop, plus I grew up working around cars. I also liked the idea because it was different, kind of outside

of the box.”

Like Lopez, Bakane saw the event as a great way for people with similar interests to come together.

“I want people to be aware of who else in the community loves cars as much as they do,” Bakane said. “I hope that tradition continues long after we leave.”

In the car category, the winners were Morrison and Staff Sgt. “Junior” Duckworth, 123rd Main Support Battalion, owner of a 1999 Ford F-150.

In the motorcycle category, top honors went to Monica Cales-Rodriguez, owner of a Suzuki GSXR-1000 and Staff Sgt. John Line, Supply NCOIC, 1st AD Band, owner of a 2004 Yamaha Warrior.



The winners from left to right: Staff Sgt. “Junior” Duckworth, 1999 Ford F-150, 2nd Place Car/Truck category, Monica Cales-Rodriguez, Suzuki GSXR-1000, 1st place Motorcycle category, Staff Sgt. John Line, 2004 Yamaha Warrior, 2nd place Motorcycle category, and Gene Morrison, 1994 Ford Mustang Cobra, 1st Place Car/Truck category

Mustangs from the Mighty Mustang Club came in force. Gene Morrison’s 1994 Mustang Cobra (2nd from left) won 1st place in the Car/Truck category. His modified Mustang Cobra provided plenty of rumors as to whose car was the fastest but the day was more about show.





- 77th cont.

The dramatic exit of the guidon on the motorcycle symbolized its journey to the National Archives in Washington D.C.

The Soldiers who stood on the field represented the history of the unit that dates back to 1921 when the unit was constituted into the Regular Army as the 77th Ordnance Company in San Antonio, Texas. Throughout several inactivations, reactivations, reorganizations and redesignations, the company was reactivated in 1985 where it had operated ever since out of Babenhausen.

Throughout its history the unit participated in campaigns during World War II, Southern France, Tunisia, Naples-Foggia, Anzio, Rome-Arno, Rhineland, Ardennes-Alsace, Central Europe, and two rotations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Prior to the casing of the guidon the company received the Meritorious Unit Commendation for operations while in Iraq.

"It is truly a bittersweet day for the 77th Main-

tenance Company," said Lt. Col. Brad Hixon, 16th Corps Support Group rear commander during the ceremony.

He went on to highlight the unit's most recent accomplishments while deployed to Iraq, which provided support for more than 150 units, completed almost 4,500 maintenance jobs, processed more than 120,000 requests and issued more than 310,000 parts.

"The colors will serve as an enduring

symbol of the 77th Maintenance Company but the Soldiers, they are the stakeholders and they make the units what they are," said Hixon. "Now these Soldiers will see new assignments across the full spectrum of the Army's operational space. They will carry with them always the spirit of the 77th Maintenance Company in their hearts."

Company Commander Alex Hunt echoed the praise of the Soldiers as he addressed the crowd during the ceremony.

"These Soldiers standing in front of you are great, great people who accomplished amazing things under the harshest of circumstances," said Hunt. "They stood by each other, took care of each other, and met the only two goals that really mattered – they never failed a mission, and they all came back alive."

"I am extremely proud, humbled, and honored to have been a part of what this company accomplished during my time in command, and if there ever comes a time when my name is called up again, I'll want to saddle up with the 77th," added Hunt. "Thanks for one hell of a ride."



Photo by Jayme Loppnow, USAG Darmstadt Public Affairs

**1st Sgt. Vincent Jefferson, 77th Maintenance Company, hands the cased colors of the unit to fellow unit Soldiers for the symbolic first step in its journey to the National Archives in Washington, D.C.**

## Talking to the Soldiers

By Jayme Loppnow, USAG Darmstadt Public Affairs

Soldiers in the 77th Maintenance Company gathered at a town hall Aug. 4 in Babenhausen for the opportunity to raise issues ranging from moving to services still remaining at the kaserne.

The meeting was a follow-up to the last town hall meeting held July 19 in Babenhausen and the focus was to let the troops know that they are being taken care of, said Lt. Col. David Astin, U.S. Army Garrison Darmstadt commander.

"Today we are here again because we want to reemphasize to you that we are committed to supporting the Soldiers and family members of the 77th Maintenance Company until the last person has departed," said Astin. "It is important for us to make sure that we have conveyed that message to you."

A panel of garrison directorates and agencies were available to answer questions and to pass along any updates since the last town hall.

"We are committed to taking care of you and your needs," said Col. Martin Pitts, rear commander of the 3rd Corps Support Command and the commander of 7th Corps Support Group. "This is unlike any other time in the Army history here in USAREUR. There is a lot of uncertainty caused by a lot of major things happening at the same time.

Our number one mission is to make sure that everyone understands what's going on."

Issues brought up included orders – all 77th Maintenance Company Soldiers should have received orders or either a request for orders as of yesterday, Aug. 9, inter-theater moves –these are at no-cost to the Soldier, housing, benefits, and special requests at the commissary.

"I will try to get whatever you want to make you happy," said Maria Ferguson, Babenhausen Commissary manager, during the meeting on ordering special requests.

The Soldiers seemed to take advantage of this offer. According to Ferguson, eight Soldiers stopped by the following day to place special order requests.

Pitts announced that while the 77th Soldiers remain on Babenhausen Kaserne they are looking into possibly providing a shuttle bus specifically to the dining facility in Darmstadt. He added that he also asked AAFES to reopen the movie theater for one to two times per week.

"If the answer is no, we will have at least tried," said Pitts. "No promises but we are going to look into it."

The following panelists were in attendance and can be reached at the following phone numbers

with any additional questions: Nola Maloney, Babenhausen Area Support Team manager, 348-3621; Lawrence Harris, 3rd COSCOM rear detachment G1, 337-6103; Ed Philmon, USAG Darmstadt Directorate of Logistics, 348-1540; Lee Machen, USAG Darmstadt housing division chief, 344-7112; Maria Ferguson, Babenhausen Commissary manager, 348-3747; Tom Gross, general manager for Wiesbaden/Hanau exchange, 334-2348; Carralee Wood, USAG Darmstadt School Liaison Officer, 348-6383.



Photo by Maj. Sophie Gainey, 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs

**Col. Martin Pitts addresses Soldiers' concerns during the town hall meeting.**



inactivation ceremony.

The company, which returned from Afghanistan in January, had by that time shrunk from its normal ranks of 117 Soldiers.

"We lost a good wave of people in April and May when we got back from Afghanistan," said 1st Lt. Margaret Epstein, a 26th platoon leader. "After block leave we had a lot of Soldiers PCS. We've been working really hard to get all the Soldiers reassigned.

"The Soldiers you see here are the ones with the most longevity, the latest DEROS date. For the most part they have a longer time left to serve in USAREUR," said Epstein.

The 26th was deployed to Afghanistan from January 2005 to January 2006 as part of Logistics Task Force 191 with the majority of their Soldiers in Bagram but also with teams detailed throughout the country.

Over the year the 26th Quartermaster Company delivered 15 million gallons of fuel and constructed fuel farms at Shindand, Farah, Naray and Jalalabad. The company produced and delivered 4 million gallons of clean water, inspected 2,000 vehicles at entry control points, conducted 15 sling load operations and expedited the shipment of 500 pallets of gear. These tasks were accomplished along with their day-to-day supply tasks of delivering food, ammunition, building supplies and personal-use items for the deployed Soldiers.

The 26th Quartermaster Company was deployed to Afghanistan for a second time without the normal minimum one-year break. They first deployed to Operation Iraqi Freedom I from March 2003 to March 2004 and it was just 10 months before they left for Afghanistan.

"We did everything from POL, (petroleum, oil, lubricants) support to SSA (supply support activity) -- basically supporting the troops throughout our area of operations," said Epstein of their deployment to Afghanistan.

At the ceremony the company commander, Capt. Kristopher Pabotoy, and 1st Sgt. Kurt R. Smith attached a red ribbon to the company's colors before casing it for the last time in Germany. The ribbon was a meritorious unit commendation awarded to the 26th for duty in Iraq from 2003-2004.

"Closing down is challenging because it's new to everybody," said Pabotoy. "It's been a great experience. It's new knowledge for my kitbag."

For Spc. Angela Watkins, a 26th Quartermaster Co. fueler, she knows no other

military family.

"It's sad," said Spc. Angel Watkins, a 26th Quartermaster Co. fueler. "This is the only unit I've been with, so everything I've done, I've done with this company. They gave me a great assignment in Afghanistan, but it was nothing to do with my MOS. It was exciting and gave me something new to do."

Watkins, like many of the remaining 26th Soldiers, will stay in the Hanau area. She will stay on in a position with the 16th Corp Support Group.

"It's sad for me because I think it's the best company in the Army," said Pabotoy. "We have great Soldiers. You give them guidance and then you don't have to worry about anything else."

"Now we have witnessed the furling of the unit colors for the last time under the company's current composition," said Lt. Col. Brad Hixon, 16th Corps Support Command rear detachment commander. "The colors will serve as an enduring symbol of the 26th Quartermaster Company, but the Soldiers are the stakeholders and make units what they are. Now these Soldiers will see new assignments, across the full spectrum of our Army's operational space. They will always carry the spirit of the 26th Quartermaster Company in their hearts."



Photo by Jerry Bryza, Jr., 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs  
**Capt. Kristopher K. Pabotoy hands the cased colors of the 26th Quartermaster Company to Natalie Rau and a fellow member of the Dressage Club from Giessen for the symbolic first step in its journey to the National Archives in Washington, D.C.**

## History of the 26th

The 26th Quartermaster Company has been providing Combat Service Support for over 37 years. Initially constituted as Alpha Company, 14th Supply and Services Battalion in Germany on 02 June 1969, it was reorganized and redesignated as the 26th Quartermaster Company on 26 July 1971. The 26th QM Co. has consistently provided outstanding Combat Service Support to Army units throughout its prestigious history.

The 26th QM Co. was deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom from 15 January 2003 until 15 March 2004. The 26th QM Co. performed in a historic and exceptionally valiant manner while deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. This company exceeded the standard throughout its combat service support mission (CSS) to V Corps non-divisional units and other divisional units in the Corps area. The constant dedication and hard work of the company's soldiers contributed greatly to the success of its missions in support of the war on terrorism.

The company's most recent deployment was from 19 January 2005 until 17 January 2006 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. During their year in Afghanistan the 26th Quartermaster Company delivered over 15 million gallons of fuel and constructed fuel farms at Shindand, Farah, Naray and Jalalabad. The company produced and delivered 4 million gallons of clean water, inspected 2,000 vehicles at entry control points, conducted 15 sling load operations and expedited the shipment of 500 pallets of gear. Quartermaster Soldiers also refueled aircraft including U.S. Air Force cargo and fighter jets, Army helicopters and Russian cargo aircraft. The company also inspected for supply accountability and stock levels for the Combined Joint Task Force 76. These tasks were accomplished along with their day-to-day supply tasks of delivering food, ammunition, building supplies and personal-use items for the deployed Soldiers. The company also maintained a warehouse of humanitarian supplies for distribution to the local Afghan people.



# Commander's Corner

As the 7th Corps Support Group Commander and senior member of the 3rd Corps Support Command (Rear) team, it has been an honor and a privilege to lead you all in the midst of these challenging and turbulent times. We have been very busy over the past 90 days and as we head off into Fiscal Year '07 the pace and transitions will only get more intense. We must stay focused on the priorities and ensure we keep this diverse mission focused on the critical areas.

We are literally within weeks of welcoming home the 3rd COSCOM (Forward) from its year-long deployment in Iraq. First and foremost, are our preparations to receive our returning comrades from down-range. Ensuring a smooth and seamless transition from deployment and into the redeployment integration system is critical to the morale of Soldiers and their families. R Day 0 through R+7 are half days for the returning Soldiers and their Department of Army civilian counterparts. Rear detachments must ensure informational lines of communication are clear. The Rear detachments remain in command until R+45 but

remain accountable for the Welcome Home Celebrations. These are critical events that show the Soldiers and families the respect and thanks of the Army and a grateful nation.

Unit inactivations and redeployments to the continental United States have been executed to standard and we have all learned a great deal in the process. We've said goodbye to the 377th HET as they cased their colors and moved to Fort Bliss, Texas. The 71st Ordnance Company, 77th Maintenance Company, the 26th Quartermaster Company, the 619th MCT and 634th DST complete their inactivations on October 15. The ceremonies for each were appropriate, dignified and professional; a true testament to the leadership in those units. The efficiency and ease of future operations will benefit from this excellent work.

Much has changed in Germany over the last 12 months. The 1st Infantry Division cased its colors on 6 July for its return back to CONUS. Elements of the 173rd Airborne Brigade have arrived in Germany from Italy. We continue to receive the 2nd Cavalry Regiment in Vilseck from Fort Lewis. Transformation is in full swing and plans to transition command and control of many 3rd COSCOM units over to the 21st Theater Support Command are solidifying. This change in structure and the accompanying transition

of many of the 3rd COSCOM units into a modular force structure consumes much of the focus for FY'07.

Those things are important, but the most important next step for 3rd COSCOM is redeployment and reintegration of the Soldiers at home station kasernes and barracks across Germany. These Soldiers have done their duty with honor and their families have carried the tough burden of separation well, and now it's time to celebrate. The reintegration process isn't new, but for many it is a difficult time. Leaders and battle buddies must remain vigilant and watch out for each other as they did while deployed. Rear detachments must be ready to provide assistance and link Soldiers and families with community agencies as needs are identified. Ensure all Soldiers understand that the command and the communities are here to support you. Realize that it's normal to be anxious and ask for help when you need it.

As we all march forward into FY'07 we must remain focused on the future while taking care of the daily issues at hand. We are a family that cares for each other and that caring enables us all to move "Onward with Support"!



**MARTIN B. PITTS**  
**COL, TC**  
**Commanding**



# From the Command Sergeant Major

The long awaited redeployment of the 3rd Corps Support Command is upon us. I would like to personally extend a hand of welcome and a pat on the back to all our brave and hard working Soldiers and leaders. Life in Iraq is difficult but the job is rewarding. I am also proud of the Soldiers that have remained here in central region. You have kept U. S. Army, Europe operational and have set the stage for future operations.

Soldiers take their cues from their leaders and over the next 90 days leadership is just as critical as it was while our Soldiers were deployed to Iraq. The changes in the command structure, movement of Soldiers within communities and the process of reintegration are all stressors that leaders must remain keen and aware of. The Soldiers that were deployed faced stressful challenges and our rear detachment teams have worked hard as well, and now is the time when we must remain vigilant. Watch your Soldiers for stress and changes in attitude and performance. A great deal has changed in our military and much has changed in each Soldier's life. As leaders it is our responsibility to catch our breath while ensuring our Soldiers are safe, getting the help they need and acting in a safe manner in all they do. Pay attention to your team members and step up when needed. Our Soldiers may not want help or think they need help, but regardless, it's our job to provide it. Keep your head in the game this fall and we'll get everyone home safely and reunited with their families and friends. The 3rd COSCOM is one family and one team. Lead your part of it and be a part of it.



**WILLIE C. TENNANT**  
**CSM, USA**  
**Command Sergeant Major**



## Reenlisting keeps the family together

On July 20, Col. Martin Pitts, 7th Corps Support Group Commander, reenlisted several Soldiers. Sgt. Daniel Sanchez (far left) from the 317th Maintenance Company committed to four more years with the Army and was able to choose his next move, Fort Bragg, NC. Sgt. Jason Mercado (2nd from left), 7th CSG HHC, brought his wife Jasmine (2nd from right) and sons Joel and Maurice to the ceremony. His family will be moving to Hawaii as part of his reenlistment. Pitts took the chance to point out that reenlisting is more than a Soldier's commitment, "We don't just reenlist soldiers, we reenlist families. To emphasize the point, Spc. Candies Ramirez (3rd from left), 317th Maint. Co., also had her spouse, Hector (far right), in attendance.

Photo courtesy 7th CSG



# 27th Transportation Battalion's movement control skills move the Stryker Brigade

By Spc. Jennifer Genslinger  
3rd COSCOM Public Affairs

The U.S. Army is moving 2nd Cavalry Regiment "Stryker Brigade" to Europe as a part of the U.S. Army, Europe transformation. The move though not a small task is merely another mission for the 27th Transportation Battalion (Movement Control).

Roland Jordan, 27th Trans. Bn. (MC) traffic manager, says, "I know this looks like a big move to some people outside the transportation world. However, to most of our folks in the branch movement control teams, who in some cases have worked for the U.S. Army for more than 40 years, this is just routine compared to some of the moves they had to deal with over the years."

Jordan is referring to operations in the Balkans, Operation Enduring Freedom, Operation Iraqi Freedom and others where pretty much the whole theater moved at once.

The 27th is involved in many aspects of moving the brigade to Germany from the moment the personnel and equipment hit European soil aboard ships and planes until they all arrive on their new post in Vilseck and Grafenwöhr.

The mission started long before the first train arrived on July 27. William Marczak, 27th's battalion operations officer, is the conduit for information flow in all directions between the different agencies and ensures things run smoothly.

He receives notification from the 21st Theater Support Command, 1st Transportation Movement Control Agency and 39th Transportation Battalion. Marczak then forwards that information to movement control teams and BMCTs for planning and action.

Equipment arrives at the European port and is loaded onto barges for the travel to a railhead. There, it is loaded onto railcars and sent to Vilseck. Johannes Witt, Thomas Merkel and Harald Heil of the 27th's BMCT in Vilseck handle the rail part of the movement.

The German railway authorities are contacted with planned arrival times. The BMCT uses advanced load plans from the port to determine what and how many trucks and material handling equipment pieces (cranes and forklifts) are required to complete the off-loading of the incoming trains. The MHEs and trucks are used to off-load the unit's containers, internal slingable units and trailers. The BMCT also supervises the download of equipment including the Strykers.

Even though the last train arrived August 12, the move of the Stryker Brigade

is still an on-going mission as Soldiers and their families are still arriving. The incoming personnel are taken care of by the 27th's BMCT in Katterbach from the time they land on the ground at the Nürnberg Airport.

Flight plans are gathered from the 21st TSC and 1st TMCA and subsequently sent to the BMCT. Hans-Dieter Korbacher, Stefanie Ramsey and Jürgen Huber of the 27th's BMCT in Katterbach order buses, coordinate times with the Nürnberg Airport, 21st TSC and the 1st TMCA, and ensure the families' move is quick and painless.

Jordan says the reason the 27th does all this is simple, "The new Stryker Brigade falls into the footprint of 27th and therefore we are responsible to provide service and assistance to them as we would to any other unit within our area of responsibility. The Stryker Brigade could not move themselves since this is a movement element responsibility and that is



Photo by Dave Melancon, USAREUR PAO

**A 2nd Stryker Cavalry Regiment Soldier guides a newly arrived Stryker combat vehicle off a railroad flatcar at the U.S. Army Garrison, Vilseck railhead in Germany July 28. About 300 Strykers and about 1,700 other vehicles and containers were offloaded from the U.S.N.S. Mendonca and her sister ship, the U.S.N.S. Cape Decision, last week in the German port city of Bremerhaven. The vehicles traveled under their own power to the regiment's motor pools, marking the official end of sea and land journey from Fort Lewis, Wash.**



not the mission they have.” Jordan went on to say, “We don’t fire their guns and they don’t drive our trucks.”

Although this is just another routine move for the 27th’s BMCTs at Katterbach and Vilseck, they work long hours and have few free weekends. Jordan says, “Most of the time the work of the MCTs and BMCTs will go by unrecognized. Units take it for granted that their equipment is in place when they need it, not realizing how much time, effort and manpower has been involved in successfully doing that.”



Photo by Dave Melancon, USAREUR PAO

**A Stryker combat vehicle is led off the U.S.N.S. Mendonca at the port of Bremerhaven, Germany, July 24. About 300 Strykers, the first assigned to the European theater, unloaded from the Mendonca and her sister ship, the U.S.N.S. Cape Decision. Once offloaded and accounted for, the vehicles will be transported by rail to the U.S. Army Garrison Vilseck, the final stage of their 10,000-mile sea journey from Fort Lewis, Wash.**

## 27th Transportation Battalion Soldiers enjoy a welcome home celebration



Families and Soldiers of the 635th Movement Control Team, along with 1st Military Intelligence Battalion, B-1-214th Aviation Company, and 159th Medical Company (Air Ambulance) enjoyed a welcome home celebration July 20 at Wiesbaden Army Airfield, including free food and games, such as sumo wrestling.

Photo by Kelly Deichert, USAG Wiesbaden Public Affairs



# 19TH SUPPORT CENTER'S COMBAT SPOUSES, HOOOOOAH!!!

The 19th Support Center took measures to ensure its spouses were up to the tasks... warrior tasks. During the months of July and August, four separate tasks were given to the spouses: a unit/Army knowledge test, weapons qualification, individual readiness tasks test, and a physical fitness test. Spouses that complete all four tasks were awarded a Spouse Combat Badge. Although many participated, only 12 completed the training.



▲ Tracy Petersen dons a gas mask and mission oriented protective posture gear.

Photo by Maj. Sophie Gainey, 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs



◀ Heather Pache (left) and Eunice Murphy (right) qualify on M-16s at a simulated range.

Photo by Jerry Bryza, Jr., 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs





▲ “Dirty Bakers Dozen” is the nickname earned by the group of 12 spouses that completed all four warrior tasks on the way to earning the Spouse Combat Badge.

Photo courtesy 19th SC

► Sonja Stanton performs a perfect push-up during the physical fitness test.

Photo by Maj. Sophie Gainey, 3rd COSCOM Public Affairs





# Sustainer Special Edition set to premier

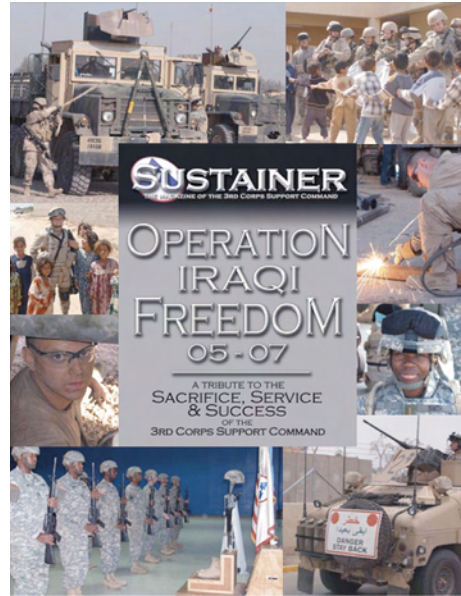
When faced with the mission of reflecting a year's worth of 3rd Corps Support Command accomplishments in the mere 44 pages of this special edition Sustainer, I initially thought it was an impossible task. With more than 20,000 Soldiers spread throughout Iraq and Kuwait, working an average of 12 hours a day, seven days a week, the COSCOM's downrange accomplishments wouldn't fit in a 44,000 page publication.

For every unit, there's more than a 1,000 stories of mission success, camaraderie and dedication. For every Soldier, there's a message of selfless service, commitment and loyalty, generating more than 20,000 more stories. Add 20,000 additional features about the families and friends who have supported their deployed Soldiers from afar. Throw in a few more thousand stories of Soldiers going above and beyond what was required of them, for the sake of the mission and their fellow COSCOM Soldiers. To top it all off, it would take a countless number of stories to express the vital role the support Soldier continues to play in the war on terrorism.

With these incredible numbers before

me, I realized it would take me a lifetime to even begin to do justice to our Soldiers' accomplishments. My realization didn't make the 44 blank pages disappear, and my nagging desire to recognize my fellow COSCOM warriors' contributions forced me to search for a way to complete this massive mission.

I decided to take a lesson from all of



you and erase the word impossible from my vocabulary. I thought about those of you who deployed with COSCOM and other units during the initial Operation Iraqi Freedom, only to faithfully return for this deployment. I thought about the Soldiers and units who adjusted fire, taking on completely foreign missions for the sake of our overall success. I thought about our COSCOM Soldiers who made the ultimate sacrifice during this deployment, giving their lives for our country.

In moments like these, I am thankful to have a job that allows me to learn about what you all do, because from you I gain motivation. The pages that follow are a tribute to the sacrifice, service and success of the 3rd Corps Support Command. If nothing else, I hope this special edition helps you realize that you have been a part of something huge, and your service will forever be felt by the people of Iraq, and appreciated by your fellow Americans.

Sgt. Mary E. Ferguson  
Sustainer Magazine Editor/Layout & Design



Photo courtesy 51st Transportation Company

Col. Martin Pitts, 7th CSG Commander (center), speaks to Sgt. James Taylor after presenting him the Purple Heart Medal, Aug. 2. Taylor is with the 51st Transportation Company with which he served in Operation Iraqi Freedom. During his last tour, Taylor was wounded in an Improvised Explosive Device attack, Sept. 22, 2005. Spc. Kevin M. Jones, also from the 51st, did not survive the attack.

3rd COSCOM Commanding General  
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3rd COSCOM CSM  
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**SUSTAINER**  
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