

Sustainer Magazine



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First Team

Sustaining The Line

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SUSTAINING THE LINE!





FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL



“Let’s Get Expeditionary!”

The theme for this issue of the Sustainer Magazine is “Moving Forward.” We are maintaining momentum as we move towards accomplishing our Phase IV retrograde goals while supporting the train, advise and assist mission. Afghanistan is in a crucial period, as they are recounting ballots from the run-off election. The next President is expected to be announced in early September.

Today, the Afghanistan National Security Forces are the lead security and defense in Afghanistan and the Afghan National Army has arguably become the most respected national institution in the country. You have all played a significant role in this historic transition as we move towards ending combat operations by the end of the year. What you do every day is making a difference in helping sustain the significant progress that has been made in training and equipping the Afghan National Security Forces.

In John Wooden’s ‘Pyramid of Success’ he describes competitive greatness as, “A real love for the hard battle, knowing it offers the opportunity to be your best when your best is required.” As we complete Operation Enduring Freedom and get set for Resolute Support we need to reach for and achieve that competitive greatness.

As our OPTEMPO picks up rapidly in the coming months we ALL must remember that Safety is paramount in everything we do. Ensure risk management is an integral part of mission sets and daily routine events. Leaders must be engaged and promote Army and unit safety management programs and standards. We have much to accomplish over a short period of time as we transition to Resolute Support.....but stay true to our watchwords, “Be quick but don’t hurry”.

As we bring an end to the Nation’s longest war, CSM Bell and I just want to say thank you and that we are grateful for your sacrifices and for what you do each and every day.

“Keep Leading!”

-S6

Sustain the Line!

First Team!

Army Strong!



FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR



“Let’s Get Expeditionary!”

Greetings Sustainers, families, friends, Soldiers, Sailors, Marines and Airman of the 3D ESC/1st TSC(FWD) and welcome to the second issue of our Sustainer Magazine.

Our teams in Afghanistan and Kuwait are maintaining a high level of professionalism as they work day in and day out to ensure our command is successful, and the results are absolutely amazing.

Brig. Gen. Walker and I have been fortunate enough to continue to visit you during our battlefield circulation and see the great work you have accomplished; we are also recognizing the contribution of our Soldiers through the “Sustainer of the Week” award presentation.

Through consistent hard work and dedication we are achieving great results toward our retrograde mission. While it is important being successful, it is just as important that you take a moment to remember we value your dedication and selfless service to our Nation. It is you and your families who consistently “Sustain the line” and remain resilient throughout it all. Teammates we need you and can only maintain positive momentum through your efforts and commitment to excellence. You must maintain vigilance and a keen sense of awareness throughout the remainder of the deployment. Teammates continue to take care of each other and continue to stay in contact with your friends and family back home.

The OPTEMPO we have been operating under has been fast paced, and as the months progress it will only pick up in pace. As the OPTEMPO continues to increase, I ask that each of you be quick but don’t hurry and our watch words for success is to always maintain standards and discipline. The Army is built upon standards and it is imperative that we as leaders set the example for others to follow. Make no mistake, we are a team of teams and everyone plays a vital role in our success.

The work that each and every one of you contributes is substantial. Looking at the big picture, the impact that you have had in the lives of the people all around the world has been tremendous. It is because of you, the men and women who wear the uniform with “Old Glory” on the right Shoulder that makes this all possible.

Continue the great work and SUSTAIN The LINE!

SHARP

*Sgt. 1st Class Tonya Karm
SHARP coordinator, 3d ESC*

During our time here in country, the 3d ESC actively continue our efforts to ensure that we are a team that is SHARP incident free, the SHARP teams in the 3d ESC have been aggressively engaged in training.

We are focused on Prevention and Intervention. Recently, the 419th CSSB, one of our units in the 10th SB, gave a very informative class on Self Defense. Even though SHARP wasn't the specific topic, the class was focused around prevention and what the SHARP team liked to call "Individual Intervention", meaning that the power to protect oneself or stop a possible attack, could help deter future incidents from occurring.

The Soldiers that attended the training were motivated and thrilled to see training that was so interactive and useful. The instructors, SFC Serrano, 419th CSSB Victim Advocate and SGT Kreger were

very knowledgeable on the topic and gave some great demonstrations on techniques of self-defense. Soldiers were given the opportunity to test their skills on each other, switching partners between moves to grasp what it would be like to defend against people of different sizes.

The Ministry Teams also conducted SHARP training, focusing on the First Responder. Chaplains and their Chaplain Assistants play a very important role in victim care and are consistently trained on how to maintain care and confidentiality when SHARP incidents occur.

As always, the 3d ESC remains dedicated to keeping an environment free of sexual harassment and sexual assault. The Command Team promotes dignity and trust throughout the units and supports the SHARP Team training.



Chaplain

*Lt. Col. Thomas Cox
Chaplain, 3d ESC*

The USS Thresher, a nuclear submarine sailed on a test run in 1963. The Thresher had heavy steel bulkheads and heavy steel armor, so it could dive deep and withstand the pressure of the ocean. Unfortunately, while conducting its deep-diving exercises, the Thresher's nuclear engine quit, and it could not get back to the surface. It sank deeper and deeper into the ocean. The pressure became immense. The heavy steel bulkheads buckled; the Thresher was crushed with 133 people inside.

The Navy searched for the Thresher with a research craft that was much stronger than submarines. It was shaped like a steel ball and was lowered into the ocean on a cable. They finally located the Thresher at a depth of 8,400 feet: one and a half miles down. It was crushed like an egg shell. That was not a surprise, for the pressure at that depth is tremendous—3,600 pounds per square inch.

What was surprising to the searchers was that they saw fish at that great depth. And these fish did not have

inches of steel to protect them. They appeared to have normal skin, a fraction of an inch thick. How can these fish survive under all that pressure? How come they are not crushed by the weight of the water? They have a secret. They have the same pressure inside themselves that exists at the deep depths of the ocean. God created those unique fish to survive under great pressure.

Psalms 46:1 tells us God is our refuge and strength, an ever-present help in trouble.

We will be able to overcome all of life's adversities and tragedies because God will sustain us with His Spirit in our hearts.

I'm Chaplain Tom Cox and Remember Be encouraged, God is in control.

Safety

Mr. Percy Black
Safety Officer, 3d ESC

HEAT ILLNESS CAN BE DEADLY. Every year, thousands of people become sick from exposure to heat, and some even die. These illnesses and deaths are preventable.

- Who is affected?
- What is heat illness?
- How can heat illness be prevented?

Who is affected? Service Member and Civilians exposed to hot and humid conditions are at risk of heat illness, especially those doing heavy work tasks or using bulky protective clothing and equipment. Some people might be at greater risk than others if they have not built up a tolerance to hot conditions.

What is heat illness? The body normally cools itself by sweating. During hot weather, especially with high humidity, sweating isn't enough. Body temperature can rise to dangerous levels if precautions are not taken. Heat illnesses range from heat rash and heat cramps to heat exhaustion and heat stroke. Heat stroke can result in death and requires immediate medical attention.

How can heat illness be prevented? Remember three simple words: water, rest, shade. Drinking water often, taking breaks, and limiting time in the heat can help prevent heat illness. Use the work/rest and water consumption table. People should include these prevention steps when working outside. Gradually build up to heavy work in hot conditions. This helps you build tolerance to the heat – or become acclimated.

Leaders should take steps that help subordinates become acclimated, especially people who are new to working outdoors in the heat. Gradually increase workloads and allow more frequent breaks during the first week of work. Also, it's important to know and look out for the symptoms of heat illness in yourself and others during hot weather. Plan for an emergency (Risk Management, DD Form 2977) and know what to do — acting quickly can save lives!



ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG



Work/Rest and Water Consumption Table

Applies to average sized, heat-acclimated Soldier wearing ACU, hot weather. (See TB MED 507 for further guidance.)

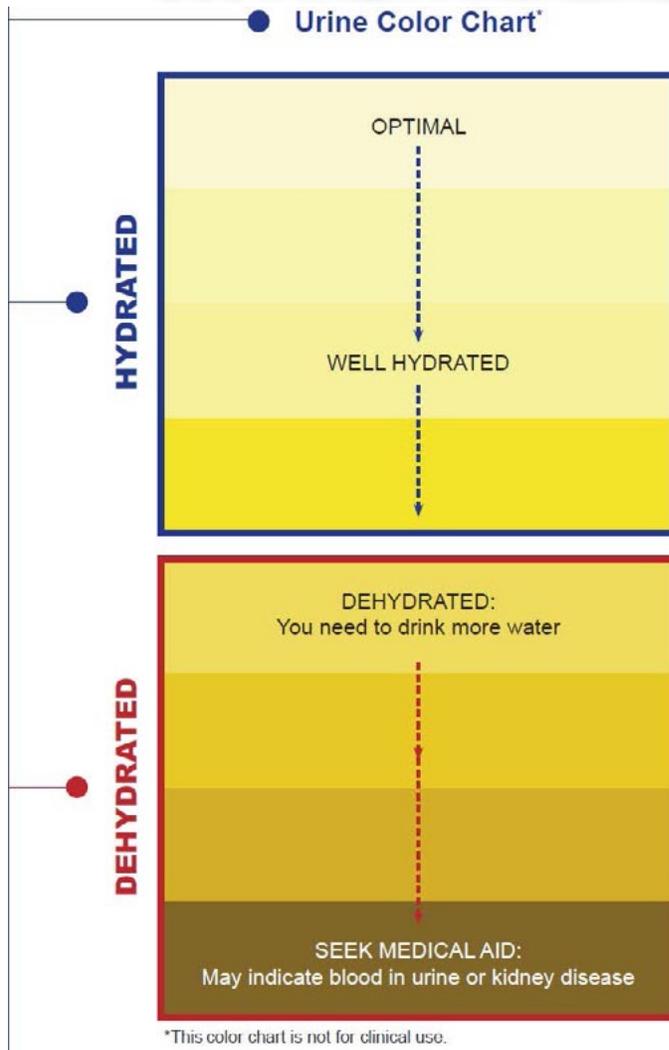
Easy Work	Moderate Work	Hard Work
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Weapon Maintenance • Walking Hard Surface at 2.5 mph, < 30 lb Load • Marksmanship Training • Drill and Ceremony • Manual of Arms 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking Loose Sand at 2.5 mph, No Load • Walking Hard Surface at 3.5 mph, < 40 lb Load • Callisthenics • Patrolling • Individual Movement Techniques, i.e., Low Crawl or High Crawl • Defensive Position Construction 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Walking Hard Surface at 3.5 mph, ≥ 40 lb Load • Walking Loose Sand at 2.5 mph with Load • Field Assaults

Heat Category	WBGT Index, F°	Easy Work		Moderate Work		Hard Work	
		Work/Rest (min)	Water Intake (qt/hr)	Work/Rest (min)	Water Intake (qt/hr)	Work/Rest (min)	Water Intake (qt/hr)
1	78° - 81.9°	NL	½	NL	¾	40/20 min	¾
2 (green)	82° - 84.9°	NL	½	50/10 min	¾	30/30 min	1
3 (yellow)	85° - 87.9°	NL	¾	40/20 min	¾	30/30 min	1
4 (red)	88° - 89.9°	NL	¾	30/30 min	¾	20/40 min	1
5 (black)	> 90°	50/10 min	1	20/40 min	1	10/50 min	1

- The work/rest times and fluid replacement volumes will sustain performance and hydration for at least 4 hrs of work in the specified heat category. Fluid needs can vary based on individual differences (± ¼ qt/hr) and exposure to full sun or full shade (± ¼ qt/hr).
- NL = no limit to work time per hr.
- Rest = minimal physical activity (sitting or standing) accomplished in shade if possible.
- CAUTION: Hourly fluid intake should not exceed 1½ qts. Daily fluid intake should not exceed 12 qts.
- If wearing body armor, add 5°F to WBGT index in humid climates.
- If doing Easy Work and wearing NBC (MOPP 4) clothing, add 10°F to WBGT index.
- If doing Moderate or Hard Work and wearing NBC (MOPP 4) clothing, add 20°F to WBGT index.



For additional copies, contact: U.S. Army Public Health Command Health Information Operations Division at (800) 222-9698 or USAPHC - Health Information Operations@apg.amedd.army.mil



Surgeon

*Sgt. 1st Class Mi Pak
Surgeon, 3d ESC*

In mid-July 2014, Public Health surveillance studies detected an increase in gastrointestinal (GI) illnesses (diarrhea, nausea) among US personnel throughout Afghanistan. The GI illnesses are considered mild, self-limiting and lasting on average of three days. The majority of all cases have been easily treated with over-the-counter medications and emphasis on individual hydration. Recently, GI infections have increasingly affected some of our unit members resulting in a growing concern with diarrheal-related illnesses that may be contributed from food and water sources.

To alleviate those concerns, 1st TSC (FWD) Surgeon team has worked with the 172nd Preventive Medicine Team in Bagram to request courtesy inspections and publish information addressing those issues. A Preventive Medicine sponsored analysis of diarrheal-related cases throughout Bagram Airfield was completed which showed 52 cases over a two-week period and an epidemic curve was generated from the patients presenting at Craig Joint Theater Hospital.

All evidence at this time indicates the source as being a viral pathogen (i.e. viral gastroenteritis) and not coming from any food or water source. Furthermore, the dining facilities which are used by 1st TSC (FWD) ESC personnel are inspected routinely by Preventive Medicine Teams and Veterinary Teams and have had no abnormal findings. Additionally, no illnesses have been correlated to bottled water use despite the recent recall of Kinley bottled water and water testing.

In regard to viral gastroenteritis, person-to-person transmission via a fecal-oral route is the primary mode. Through medical and safety channels, leadership at all levels have stressed the importance of proper hygiene to prevent viral Gastrointestinal (GI) symptoms. We have also emphasized the importance of sanitizing commonly shared items such as keyboards, phones, etc. to further prevent person-to-person contact.

Efforts such as improved hygiene and environmental sanitation will help reduce the spread of infection. Please ensure Soldiers at all levels take an active role in ensuring proper personal hygiene and sanitation is taking



Moving Forward...



Soldiers with the 877th Engineer Battalion, part of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) team, assist in loading tents for the Ministry of Interior Highway Brigade July 23 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. The 3d ESC transferred the tents to the MOI Brigade through the Foreign Excess Personal Property program and will allow the Afghan Police unit to conduct maintenance with shelter.

The Foreign Excess Personal Property (FEPP) program is a process used by the U.S. government to transfer unneeded property permanently to a foreign government, in this case, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.

Items which fall under the FEPP inventory are often accumulated during base closures and base realignments, where excess property is found and inventoried. This process is helpful in saving tax payer money, in addition to being able to offer assistance to foreign forces.

During a visit to the Ministry of Interior (MoI) Highway Brigade in July, a need for maintenance tents for the brigade was identified. The MoI Brigade, an Afghan National Police unit in Kabul, Afghanistan, had an open motor pool with no cover or sheltered space to conduct maintenance on their vehicles. During the summer months, where temperatures can exceed 100 degrees, conducting maintenance without any kind of shelter can prove arduous.

Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), discovered a need for tents and challenged his staff to find them for the MoI Highway Brigade. The G4 property book officer, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Jene Dasal, began searching for any units that had extra maintenance tents.

Within a few days Dasal found two units that had extra tents, the 45th Central Command (CENTCOM) Materiel Recovery Element and the 10th Sustainment Brigade. Dasal worked with the FEPP manager at U.S. Forces-Afghanistan to get the excess tents through the FEPP process so they could be transferred.

This process included a legal review and ultimately Walker's approval in order to transfer the tents to the Afghan Brigade.

After the approval, Dasal coordinated for the tents to be transferred to the MoI Highway Brigade and signed them under a "as is, where is" clause.

"As is, where is" ultimately means that the tents were not to be shipped at an additional cost to the U.S. government. Dasal also coordinated for the receiving

unit to come from Kabul to Bagram where they received the property.

Due to this great effort by the 3d ESC Soldiers and its subordinate units, the MoI Highway Brigade has protection from the elements while they prepare their units equipment to get back out the road.



Soldiers with the 877th Engineer Battalion, part of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) team, assist in loading tents for the Ministry of Interior Highway Brigade July 23 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.

Eyes in the Sky



Sergeant 1st Class Lee Priest (right), the Materiel Readiness Branch non-commissioned officer in charge and aviation maintenance manager for the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), talks with Spc. Nathan Kennedy (center), an unmanned aerial vehicle systems repairer with Task Force Gray Eagle, and Spc. Rocco Scinto (left), a UAV operator with Task Force Gray Eagle July 2 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.

*Staff Sgt. Justin Silvers
3d ESC*

The Unmanned Aerial Vehicle, or drone, is considered to be one of the most technically advanced assets the Army has at its disposal and has been used to support combat, security and stability operations throughout Afghanistan. From 2001 to 2008 alone the amount of UAVs in the military increased 25-fold, putting the total UAV assets at more than 5,000. With such a large increase in the use of UAVs, the importance of Sgt. 1st Class Lee Priest's job cannot be overemphasized.

Priest, the Materiel Readiness Branch non-commissioned officer in charge and aviation main-

tenance manager for the 3d ESC, is responsible for monitoring the status of all UAV assets across the theater (Afghanistan).

"My job is to report ground and aviation fleet readiness by collecting data through reports from our down trace units," said Priest. "We check for systemic trends in unscheduled maintenance, as well as ensuring all units comply with ground safety and aviation safety messages."

Priest said UAVs perform an important duty in Afghanistan, even as U.S. forces begin to transition out of the country.

"With the drawdown of troops in Afghanistan it's imperative to maintain a level of force protection and UAVs are instrumental in that

aspect," said Priest. "They provide overhead cover for our forces to be able to focus on retrograding equipment. With the number of boots on ground decreasing, having that sense of security helps us focus on our task at hand and ensures we are able to sustain the line."

When faults do arise on the UAVs, the Army has a specific MOS that deals with repairs of the UAV in addition to regularly scheduled maintenance.

Spc. Nathan Kennedy, a UAV systems repairer with Task Force Gray Eagle, has worked on many [UAVs] since being in theater.

Kennedy said since he's been in theater he has enjoyed working with

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Eyes in Sky, From Previous

the UAVs and says the job he does is gratifying.

“Making sure that these aircraft get up in the air to possibly save the lives of fellow Soldiers carries a high sense of pride for me,” said Kennedy.

While Kennedy is glad he picked his job, he said the UAVs schematics can be difficult for some individuals to grasp.

“Mechanically, the UAV is not very difficult to work with,” said Kennedy. “However, the schematics and theory of operation can be quite difficult to understand.”

Priest said with the help of UAV maintainers, operators and the advancing technology, he believes the military will continue to advance the use of UAV’s in the future.

“As technology increases and we look to draw down troops the UAV, in my opinion, will be a vital option to the military,” said Priest. “It has long range capability, unmatched surveillance, it can be outfitted with various armaments and most importantly it’s unmanned.”

Sergeant 1st Class Lee Priest (right), the Materiel Readiness Branch non-commissioned officer in charge and aviation maintenance manager for the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), talks with Spc. Rocco Scinto, a unmanned aerial vehicle operator with Task Force Gray Eagle July 2 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.



Run to Home Base 10K

*1st Lt. Amy Briggs
17th CSSB Public Affairs*

Soldiers from the 17th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion Headquarters participated in the Run to Home Base 10K here July 18. Among them was 1st Lt. Justina Sisler, the Battalion S-4 Officer in Charge, who took second place in the female category.

Sisler said she first ran competitively during her high school years as part of the cross-country and track teams. It's an activity she has been competing in for the last 10 years. In March 2009, she ran the Bataan Death March Memorial Marathon in the military light division and finished third place in the female category, completing the 26.2 mile race in just five hours.

In October 2013, Sisler was the first female to cross the finish line at 67 minutes in the U.S. Army Alaska (USARAK) 10-Miler at Joint Base Elmendorf-Richardson, Alaska. She was then chosen to be a member of the USARAK Army 10-Miler team that competed in Washington, D.C. Sisler stated she was two minutes shy of meeting the time requirement for the official All Army Women's Cross Country Team. Her goal this year, she said, is to compete in the Bagram Airfield Shadow Run for the Army 10-Miler and run it in less than 65 minutes so she can qualify for the All Army Women's Cross Country Team.

"My favorite race that I've ran so far is the Spartan Race," said Sisler. "It was a 10-mile course full of challenging obstacles."

Sisler enjoyed the added challenge climbing up walls of mud and jumping over fire pits to the normal cadence of a race. Instead of solely focusing on her breathing and stride, she said she used creativity and critical thinking to traverse the various obstacles, which heightened the excitement of the competition.

After the Run to Home Base 10K, Sisler's motivation for running has been intensified. "Don't hold back and know where the finish line is," said Sisler. "Or someone can beat you in the last 200 meters."

Sisler was referencing another female runner who beat her in the last few seconds of the Run to Home Base 10K. She said she is now, more than ever, determined to participate in every race at Bagram Airfield in order to improve her time and take on her competitors again.



1st Lt. Justina Sisler, the Battalion S-4 Officer in Charge, runs during the Run to Home Base 10k on Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. Briggs finished the race in second place.

Religious Support Team



Spc. Justin Richburgh, the 548th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion chaplain assistant, Augusta, Ga., native, Right, Capt. Chaplain James Brown, the 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion chaplain, a Phoenix, native, Left, and Capt. Chaplain Sean Kitchens, the 548th CSSB chaplain, a Dallas, native, Center, observe a demonstration of the proper procedures of loading a casualty secured to a litter at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, July 10. The purpose of the CET training was a way to familiarize them with the capabilities of the mine resistant ambush protected vehicles as well as their roles on a convoy mission.

*Sgt. Michael Selvage
10th Sustainment Brigade*

Chaplains and chaplain assistants assigned to the 10th Sustainment Brigade, conducted their religious support team training with the brigade's unit ministry team July 10 in Bagram.

The training consisted of three focus areas; first responders to a victim of sexual harassment or assault, religious support and convoy escort team training.

First responders to a victim of sexual harassment or assault is a class that was mandated by Maj. Gen. Donald L. Rutherford, chief of chaplains of the U.S. Army, to be completed no later than Oct. 1, 2014.

The class, which was conducted by Maj. James Pennington, the 10th SBDE chaplain, provided chaplains and chaplain assistants with in-depth training on how they should respond to a sexual assault crime. The training emphasized that the RST should encourage a victim to report the crime and seek further assistance from the sexual assault response coordinator or the victim advocate.

They received training to better understand the difference between restricted and unrestricted reporting to provide better guidance as to where the victims should go.

"Comprehensive tools are furnished during the training so that victims can receive the best counseling possible from chaplains and chaplain assistants," said Staff Sgt. Jamie Proudfoot, the 10th SBDEs senior chaplain assistant. "Confidentiality was another key subject that reminds RST members that legally [they] cannot tell anyone what the victims talked about."

After the RST's completed the first class, they moved on to the religious support and the operations process, which gave them better insight on how the Army conducts business.

"Most battalion RSTs have a chaplain and chaplain assistant that are brand new to the Army and do not understand what an operations order does or how it relates to their mission," said Proudfoot. "This class also allowed RST members to understand that their role is a sustainment role. It provided them with the eight sustainment principles

and advised them that they should act instead of reacting to ever changing religious support requirements.”

After the class, they were released for lunch and were informed to meet back up for their final portion of their training.

The purpose of the CET training was to familiarize them with the capabilities of the mine resistant ambush protected vehicles as well as their roles on a convoy mission, which was provided by Spc. Pollanna Tanuvasa, the 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion chaplain assistant.

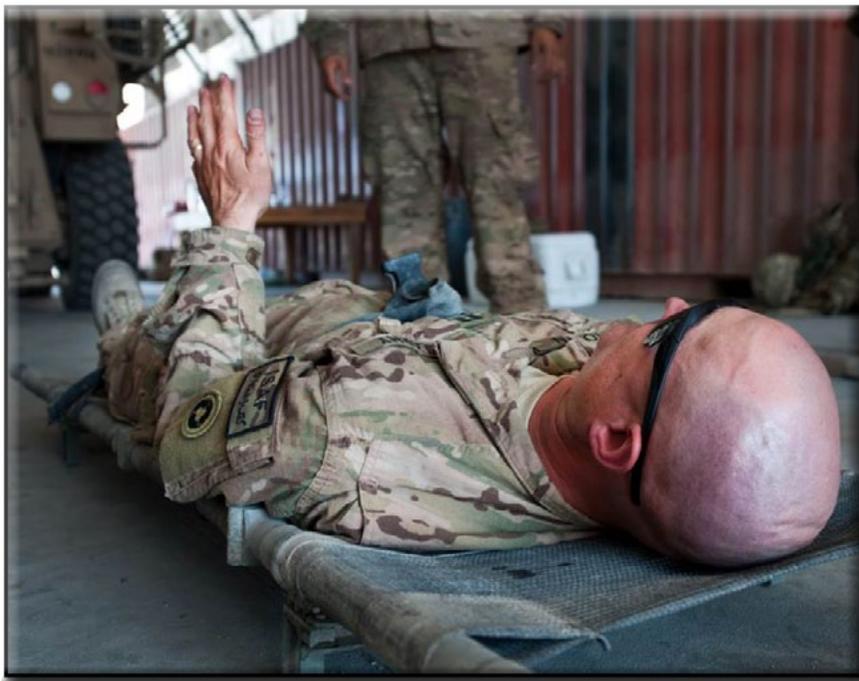
“Typically, RSTs show up to a convoy brief [and] jump in the back of a vehicle in which they have no idea of its capabilities,” said Proudfoot.

They were trained on the components and capabilities of the MRAP, casualty evacuation procedures, reporting processes as well as radio etiquette.

Some of the Soldiers were learning something new every step of the way, while others already had a pretty good grasp of the training.

The RSTs learned how to properly secure a casualty to a litter and what it takes to load a litter in the back of an MRAP while in full personal protective equipment.

Once the training was completed, they received real-world scenarios that reinforced the training and what they have learned in the past.



Capt. Chaplain James Brown, the 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion chaplain, a Phoenix, Ariz., native, proves to the religious support teams that he is secured to the litter during the convoy escort team training portion of the RST training at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan July 10. The RSTs learned how to properly secure a casualty to a litter and what it takes to load a litter in the back of a mine resistant ambush protected vehicle while in full personal protective equipment.

Pennington said their goal was to focus on the chaplain assistants as much as the chaplains, which he felt they were successful.

“It was a challenge,” he said. “We tried to be creative and keep the RSTs out of the classroom as much as possible and to drum up the competition among the RSTs.”



Capt. Chaplain Jueun Kim, the 10th Special Troops Battalion chaplain, a Los Angeles, native, provides comfort to a simulated casualty while Spc. Justin Richburgh, the 548th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion chaplain assistant, Augusta, Ga., native, practices the nine-line medical evacuation procedures at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, July 10. The purpose of the convoy escort team training was a way to familiarize them with the capabilities of the mine resistant ambush protected vehicles as well as their roles on a convoy mission.

AWARD CEREMONY



CW2 Craig Campbell, a network management technician with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) receives an end of tour award for his achievements while serving with the 3d ESC at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

PICKED TO PREACH



*Staff Sgt. Justin Silvers
3d ESC*

In the late morning, music filled the 401st Army Materiel Command chapel causing people to sway to the beat. A short prayer was said before Staff Sgt. Terriance Hamilton stepped up to the podium.

Hamilton, the property noncommissioned officer in charge for the American Contract Air Transport Cell with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), provided the sermon for the worship service. Hamilton's energy was visible as he began with a song, his voice echoing across the chapel, before beginning his sermon.

Hamilton's topic for the worship service was "the word". Hamilton began his sermon with a verse from the bible: In the beginning there was the word, and the word was with God, and the word was God.

During his sermon, Hamilton told a story of him growing up and how people would make promises based on their word alone.

"There was a time when you gave someone your word and you were good, or your word meant something," said Hamilton. "Now, (in these days) your word is not enough."

Hamilton said that although people's word or promise may not be enough today, people could still count on the word of God.

"The word is the definite answer to every question," said Hamilton. "All you need is the word."

Sgt. 1st Class Ina Mccoy, the senior mortuary affairs noncommissioned officer with the 3d ESC, said she enjoyed Hamilton's sermon and said she would like to see him preach again.

"Staff Sgt. Hamilton's service was relatable and didn't go too far over your head," said Mccoy. "He was able to tie



Staff Sgt. Terriance Hamilton, the property noncommissioned officer in charge for the American Contract Air Transport Cell with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), provided the sermon for the 401st Army Materiel Command chapel June 29 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. Hamilton began with a song before starting his sermon.

in his personal experiences in with scripture."

Master Sgt. Lashay White, the Equal Opportunity noncommissioned officer in charge of the 3d ESC, enjoyed Hamilton's sermon as well.

"Staff Sgt. Hamilton is such an anointed man, and to listen to his testimony through his teachings is always uplifting," said White. "I would love to hear him again, he is an awesome speaker."

Hamilton said he was asked to preach by Reverend Earl Lee of the 401st AFSB, and that it was his second time preaching a sermon for Lee.

"I was really overwhelmed when Rev. Lee asked me to preach," said Hamilton. "But I felt honored to preach, it was like God was saying I have been watching you study your bible since you've been in Afghanistan."

While Hamilton said he was nervous

when he first started to preach, he said the feeling quickly passed.

"I was very nervous when I started to preach because I saw the church was full of people," said Hamilton. "But God smiled on me and made me relax...it was a surreal feeling."



Staff Sgt. Terriance Hamilton, the property noncommissioned officer in charge for the American Contract Air Transport Cell with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), provided the sermon for the 401st Army Materiel Command chapel June 29 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. Hamilton began with a song before starting his sermon.

TMDE Support



Cpl. Yilian Lu, a test, measurement, and diagnostic equipment shop foreman assigned to the 514th Support Maintenance Company, troubleshoots and repairs an EEDM503B multimeter.



SpC. Diego Aguilera is responsible for providing test, measurement and diagnostic equipment calibration and repair support for the Baghdad area of Iraq. He is a member of the 503rd Maintenance Company, 553rd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 1st Sustainment Brigade. "If it is used to shoot, move and communicate; the TMDE plays some sort of a role in its maintenance," says Aguilera, a Santiago, Chile native.

The 514th Support Maintenance Company provides quality maintenance support to various units throughout Afghanistan. The Test, Measurement, and Diagnostic Equipment shop is critical to their mission success. The shop aids in the support of general and special purpose TMDE and ensures all calibrations meet Department of the Army standards. The accuracy is reported to the National Institute and Technology in Colorado.

Sustainers exercise fuel logistics

*Sergeant 1st Class Gary Cooper
3d ESC*

The 959th Quartermaster Detachment traveled from Fort Knox to participate in a Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise, or QLLEX, at Fort A. P. Hill, Va., from June 4-20, where it provided petroleum laboratory support.

The 959th QM Det. sent two teams of five personnel to participate in the QLLEX, where they were attached to the 475th Quartermaster Petroleum Group, and provided petroleum laboratory testing support to bulk fuel sites on Fort A.P. Hill.

Chief Warrant Officer 2 Joanie Cassidy, Petroleum Systems Technician, described the QLLEX.

“It’s an annual training exercise that brings all aspects of petroleum operations together to accomplish an overall real world mission.”

In addition to Fort A. P. Hill, the QLLEX also encompassed training at Fort Pickett, Va., and at Langley Air Force Base, Va.

Cassidy continued on to emphasize the importance of teamwork between units.

“It was critical that units responsible for petroleum storage, transportation, and testing supported each other to complete the mission.”

“We got to test fuel samples, conduct correlation testing, and evaluate equipment readiness,” said 1st Lt. Mario Jones, commander of the Knox detachment. “We were also exposed to how the Air Force and National Guard units test fuel.

“For example, there is a fuel sample test where Soldiers have to shake a bottle filled with a mix of petroleum and water for five minutes, while the Air Force has a machine that shakes the bottle for them,” explained Jones. “It really opened my eyes to the training value we would gain from attending future QLLEX exercises.”

“The training gave us the opportunity to test our ability to deploy and do our jobs in a joint environment,” said Cassidy-Fort Pickett, Va., and at Langley Air Force Base, Va.



Surveillance NCO, Sgt. Michael Roach, Records Laboratory Testing results inside Petroleum Quality Analysis System Equipment at Fort Pickett, Va, June 13. The 959th QM Det. visited Fort Pickett as part of a Quartermaster Liquid Logistics Exercise.

Retrosort Yard Aids in Retrograde



A forklift operator transports materials ready to be shipped to the Defense Logistics Agency to a military container near by at the Kandahar Retro sort Yard on Kandahar Airfield July 22. The yard is the heart of operations for the retrograde mission in Afghanistan. Military materials are transported from all bases to be identified and processed. They are then shipped from the yard to the U.S. or other international bases to be reused in an efficient manner.

*Spc. Erin Sherwood
45th CMRE*

The Retro Sort Yard on Kandahar Airfield is full of the hustle and bustle of different sights and activities. Soldiers and their civilian counterparts lift storage containers with cranes and forklifts, tractor trailers transport recent arrivals of equipment and supplies in and out of the yard, bins loaded to the brim are sorted to track an items origin, its destination or disposition, and where it belongs during its stay at the yard.

The web of moving parts at the Retro Sort Yard reveals a larger process going on across Afghanistan. The Kandahar yard is the centralized location for the majority of equipment and items from across several regional commands in the southern, central and south-western military footprint in Afghanistan. Its main purpose is to recycle, reissue, or return military equipment to a more appropriate location or mission set, or dispose of it in the most cost effective manner possible, potentially saving the American taxpayer millions of dollars.

For Soldiers on Kandahar Airfield, the Retro Sort Yard is the equivalent to buried treasure. Many hard to find items needed during the day-to-day mission while on deployment can be found there; items such as microwaves, televisions, or even an extra chair for the office.

Units in need of vehicle parts or communications equipment can request and procure lightly used items so new items do not have to be purchased through the Army Supply System.

“Maybe there were some parts you fell in on in theater and you don’t need them currently,” said 1st Lt. Petar Mostarac of the 133rd Quartermaster Company, 45th Sustainment Brigade CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, Officer in Charge of the Retro Sort Yard. “You can turn those in for other units to use and request other items you might need.”

The most important function of the Retro Sort Yard is the return of military equipment back to the U.S. as the military prepares to transition Afghanistan. The Retro Sort Yard has saved the Army

more than \$850 million since its creation in December 2011. According to Mostarac, more than \$75 million was saved in the past three months.

“The whole process is a lot of cost efficiency and analysis,” said Mostarac. “A 10-year-old keyboard for example; it’s dusty, it’s old, and we’re not going to



Spc. Chance Madera of the 133rd Quartermaster Company, 45th Sustainment Brigade CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, sorts electrical wires into a bin at the Retro Sort Yard on Kandahar Airfield July 22. The yard is the heart of operations for the retrograde mission in Afghanistan. Military materials are transported from all bases to be identified and processed. They are then shipped from the yard to the U.S. or other international bases to be reused in an efficient manner.

send it back to the United States. But a vehicle part that's brand new in the box that we can use to service other vehicles back home, that's worth shipping back."

The journey of an item through the Retro Sort Yard typically begins when it is packed into a T.E.U., or 20 ft. by 20 ft. equivalent storage container, by a unit, said Mostarac. The container is then transported to the yard by vehicle.

When the container arrives, Soldiers do a quick estimate of the materials in it and separate what items will be sent to the Defense Logistics Agency or trash if the item is unusable. The DLA is the Department of Defense's largest logistics combat support agency, and provides worldwide logistics support in both peacetime and wartime to the military services as well as several civilian agencies and foreign countries.

Items that can be processed through DLA are immediately separated into different categories based on their condition and supply classification. The categories include consumables; items such as printer ink or computer monitors; ammunition, hazardous materials, vehicles and vehicle equipment, construction materials, and maintenance parts. Medical supplies are processed separately at another yard nearby.

Soldiers sort each item and check for its national stock number so it can be processed through the Standard Army Retail Supply System. Some parts are difficult to identify so research is done to ensure the part is correctly identified and categorized.

"This is probably the most important part of the process," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Lashana Taylor, a Senior Supply Systems Technician assigned to the

133rd QM Co. "Even if we can't identify or process a part through DLA, we have (a) record of the part in the supply system. We can send the part to other military agencies that process it and that monetary value is returned to us."

After items are sorted, identified, and containerized DLA ships them to their final destination, said Taylor. There are many locations they can be sent, depending on the needs of the Army. Popular destinations include Germany, Kuwait, and the U.S.

Soldiers pack and load the containers appropriately and inspect them to make sure they are clean and ready for customs agents to inspect and approve for shipment to its destination.

"The main thing is communicating with your peers," said Spc. Jason Bayne, a handler and processor at the yard. Bayne is assigned to the 133rd QM Co. "We all do the same job, but we are in different areas and we have to communicate so we are not processing parts differently."

Bayne, who is on his first deployment, emphasizes the importance of the mission as he points out the different containers of equipment the yard staff use for sorting.

"It's cool to be part of a much bigger process like this," he said. "Our mission is historical and I feel like I'm making a difference for the Army as a whole."

The focus on "responsible retrograde" is only becoming more defined as deconstruction efforts continue on bases around Afghanistan. Soldiers of the Retro Sort Yard have a lot of busy days ahead of them, but their efforts are making a huge impact in efficiency operations for the Army.



Soldiers of the 133rd Quartermaster Company, 45th Sustainment Brigade CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element, sort through medical equipment at the Medical Retro Sort Yard on Kandahar Airfield July 22. The yard is the heart of operations for the retrograde mission in Afghanistan. Military materials are transported from all bases to be identified and processed. They are then shipped from the yard to the U.S. or other international bases to be reused in an efficient manner.

Bragging rights



Sgt. Philip Soulek, driver, and Sgt. Nicholas Steinmetz, both Soldiers assigned to the 1742nd Transportation Company at Kandahar Air Field, Afghanistan, navigate the palletized load system event June 11 as part of a truck rodeo. Soulek maneuvered between cones and stopped on the line at the end flawlessly.

*Sgt. Lauren Amey
142nd CSSB UPAR*

The 142nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion hosted their first truck rodeo June 11-14 here to allow Soldiers the opportunity to showcase their expertise in skills that are vital to the unit's mission in healthy competition with other similar experts.

The tasks that were evaluated are critical skills that drivers must be able to perform in order to be subject matter experts in their field.

What made this rodeo differ from others were the various platforms that Soldiers were tested on. Participants were tasked to operate five different vehicles; heavy equipment transporter, line-haul tractor truck, palletized load system and two variants of the mine-resistant ambush protected vehicle.

Day one began with Sgt. 1st Class Royal Hepburn, 498th Transportation Company assistant truck master, giving a safety brief and going over the standards of the events and scoring criteria.

"The Soldiers were very enthusiastic to begin the competition," said Hep-

burn. "We really got to see the best of the best out here."

The 26 teams composed of two Soldiers each competed for first place in the PLS event by backing up the vehicle through a lane 12 feet wide and 100 meters long. A team from the 1742nd TC came out on top in this event.

"Although I did not compete in all the events, it was cool to see one of my recently promoted battle buddies take charge and win the PLS event," said Sgt. Reed Ludwig, assistant convoy commander assigned to the 1742nd TC, a native of Chamberlain, South Dakota. "We are both coming up in the ranks and we keep the competitive spirit among us alive."

One task during the MRAP recovery vehicle event showcased the Soldiers' boom-operating skills. The teams were required to position a five-gallon water can between two rows of water bottles, solely with hand and arm signals from their ground guide.

"[Ludwig] knows that truck up and down so I trusted everything he told me to do was right," said Spc.

Damian Anderson, a driver assigned to the 1742nd Transportation Company, native of Fargo, North Dakota. "It was Sgt. Ludwig's knowledge and guidance that made a difference. We just worked amazingly together."

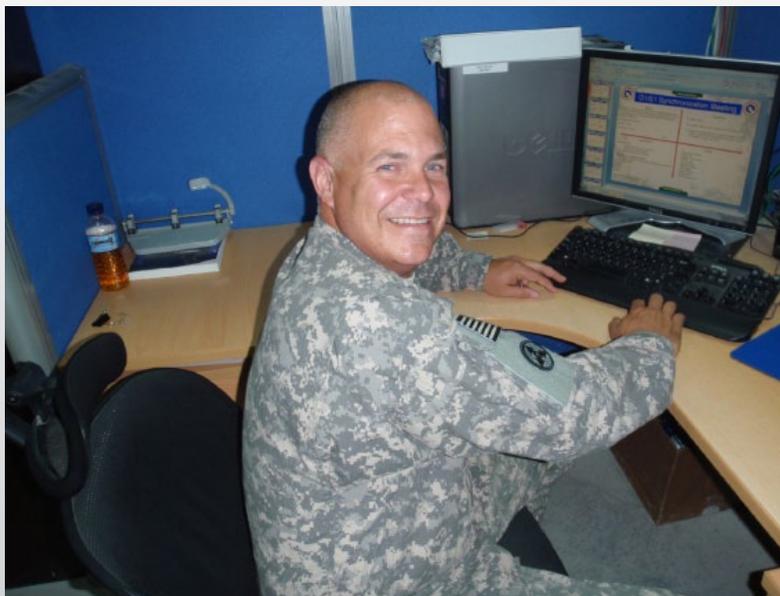
The serpentine was also no easy task when you add on the trailer for an overall length of approximately 68 feet and a width of 12 feet. The Soldiers faced the challenge of driving between cones placed 20 meters apart for a distance of 240 meters.

By the end of the fourth day, the scores from each event were totaled making the 1176th Transportation Company the overall winners of the truck rodeo.

Lt. Col Edward Ivey, 142nd Combat Sustainment Support Battalion commander, presented the 1176th TC company commander, Capt. Daniel Isley, with the first place award.

"I am so proud of the Soldiers for bringing first place back home," said Isley. "This was an excellent way to build esprit de corps among the units under 142nd CSSB."

G1 in Action



Soldiers with the G1 section out of Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, work hard daily to keep Soldiers' records up to date, ensure awards are complete, and keep track of 1st TSC Soldiers location throughout Kuwait.



Construction Management Team

As Afghanistan transitions to post-Operation Enduring Freedom, a joint team of nine Army Engineers and nine Air Force Prime BEEF (Base Engineer Emergency Force) members played a unique role in the process. The Construction Management Team (CMT), based at Kandahar Airfield in southern Afghanistan and with a forward element at Bagram Airfield in northern Afghanistan, provided cradle to grave program and construction management for theater-level troop activity within the Combined Joint Operational Area (CJOA). By providing planning and management of downsizing efforts for strategic and tactical bases, the CMT has prepared the infrastructure footprint for successful transfer to Afghan National Army (ANA) forces.

As a part of the overall CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element (CMRE), the CMT managed two battalions of military Engineers right-sizing installations all over the country. One of the biggest challenges for the CMT was the lack of published work rates. First, the team needed to create planning factor work rates in order to program the work and not waste valuable Engineer resources. This challenge was overcome by averaging the real world performance of three prior rotations worth of Army Engineers – active duty, guard, and reserve.

With solid work rates in hand, the team needed to work closely with operational environment owners and regional command engineers and planners to define a scope of work, final footprint, all while

ensuring that key deadlines were met and the many different missions supported could continue. Juggling all these requirements while keeping Engineers fully occupied was a challenge but it was key to the overall effort and ensuring that the right-sizing mission was completed on time without bringing in unnecessary forces.

A key factor to the success of the CMT was its joint composition. The Army and Air Force members were able to collaborate, each service providing its unique knowledge and distinct perspective of their service. For example, the Air Force members could easily work in and around airfields and provide Geographic Information Systems and contract construction management expertise and experience, while the Army members provided expertise and experience on Army work methods and equipment sets. Additionally, the teams rotated at different times, ensuring continuity by keeping experienced personnel on the ground.

The efforts of the CMT and the executing Engineer Battalions wouldn't have been possible without the successful transition process of the Afghan Security Forces and the return of control of territory and sovereignty to the Afghan people. We are proud to be a part of this historical mission as we transition to a new chapter in our relationship with Afghanistan. While this was not a traditional Prime BEEF mission, it was certainly a vital, challenging, and rewarding one.



Army and Air force members; part of the Construction Management Team, take a photo together June 1 in Afghanistan

401st Demonstrates Stewardship



Capt. Michael Andersen and Capt. Joy Harry transport a heavy duty military tow bar found at the 307 yard, July 20, to the 401st Army Field Support Brigade's facility to process non-rolling stock at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan. Andersen and Harry are both Army logistics operations officers with the Acquisition, Logistics & Technology.

*Sharonda Pearson
401st AFSB Public Affairs*

What began two months ago as a mission to clean up a junk yard turned into a commitment to stewardship of government property and money for two Army logistics operations officers assigned to the 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

"The open storage yard, known as the 307 Yard, was initially designed for temporary storage of equipment before it was either fielded to the force or retrograded out of theater," said Army Capt. Michael Andersen, a logistics operations officer with the Acquisition, Logistics & Technology – Directorate, ALT-D, who is assigned to the 401st AFSB.

"Units could stage large amounts of equipment in one location without impacting their mission area. However, over time, units and contractors found it was a place to unload unwanted or unaccounted for equipment without having to go through the proper channels for processing. As a result, the 307 Yard became an equipment junk yard; it was a dirt farm with very little value," Andersen said.

Andersen and Capt. Joy Harry, another Army logistics operations officer in the ALT-D, quickly rolled up their sleeves and began conducting a full inventory of the forgotten equipment—what most deemed as junk—in their new area of responsibility. Within three weeks the duo identified more than \$300,000 of government property that could be processed through the retro sort yard or otherwise properly disposed of through the Defense Logistics Agency-Disposition Services, or DLA-DS.

"In today's operating environment we are charged with a great challenge to account for millions of dollars of equipment," Harry said. "With tightening budgets and the high operating tempo that we are experiencing, it is the responsibility for every individual within every organization to maintain records and identify the gain and loss of government property regardless of how it is acquired. If we continue to utilize the Army Property Accountability system and reutilization programs, we are sure to save the Army money and save taxpayers' dollars."

Andersen says that some of the equipment has even found im-

mediate use with the installation units.

"We discovered a Duke Antenna valued at just over \$45,000. The Crew System Program was able to take the equipment right back into their working inventory."

Andersen added that while the process was often tedious, the outcome was well worth it; with an estimated \$500,000 worth of supplies and equipment projected to be put back into the Army Supply System by the end of this August.

"Identifying some of this equipment wasn't easy. Not everything out here has a clear National Stock Number, NSN, or serial number. In fact, most of the stuff out here requires a good deal of research" said Andersen. "Whether it was old tires or spools of brand new fiber optic cable the ALT-D took ownership and made it a priority to be good stewards of the government's property and money. I'm proud to be a part of any mission that efficiently manages our Nation's resources and helps our Army maintain readiness and remain the most decisive land force in the world."

Around Afghanistan



Around Afghanistan



Around Kuwait



Around Ft. Knox



Sustaining the Line !



First Team !