



# TASK FORCE PROVIDER NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 3 | Nov. 2023

## Task Force Provider

Greetings, Families and Soldiers of Task Force Provider,

We'd like to describe the importance of continuous training in our mission to build readiness and contingency response capabilities here in Europe and the deterrence that creates to aggressors in the region. Whether maintaining our fleets, transporting equipment and supplies in support of continuing operations and multinational training, managing the flow of personnel or equipment into and out of theater, providing life support essentials throughout area of operations Victory, or providing services to Soldiers, Families and communities at home and across Europe, the mission of Task Force Provider depends on every individual's knowledge, experience and skills for success.

As we continue to build an ever more agile and efficient sustainment enterprise, we are growing individually and as teams in technical and tactical expertise. By taking every mission as an opportunity to exercise our planning methodology, command and control methods, communications systems, environmental under-



standing, reporting and synchronization of myriad operations, and more, we are receiving invaluable reps that create a strong and nimble sustainment support network that will not only benefit us now, but those that will come after us in the future.

Repetitions of our tactical and technical proficiencies builds teams that are prepared to respond to any situation, complete their mission, and return home safely. Soldiers must expertly coach, mentor, and train – and be coached, mentored and trained – to develop cohesive teams that succeed. Training is vital to taking care of the most valuable resource of our nation's Army: our People.

Whether during physical training, at the firing range to qualify with our assigned weapon, or delivering fuel to units conducting training alongside our allies throughout Europe, a multifaceted approach to training ensures that we maximize our time and resources to accomplish our missions and stay ready for whatever challenge or threat manifests in the future.

With understanding that training is essential,



*U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the support operations of the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, relocate their headquarters to a tactical operations center during a command post exercise at Forward Operating Site Powidz, Poland, Nov. 3, 2023.*



*Capt. Rebekah R. Alcantar, a chemical officer assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, participates in a command post exercise at Forward Operating Site Powidz, Poland, Oct. 30, 2023.*

our Soldiers are most effective and productive when they are in a healthy place that includes proper diet, rest, exercise and recreation. Unit command teams, staffs, and the Prevention Workforce work continuously to balance essential training and operations with providing recuperation time and healthy outlets to get the very best from our Soldiers and Leaders.

I recommend that Families back home also seek balance as they manage work, home, school, extracurriculars, etc., with connecting with their deployed Soldiers and participating in events in their communities. For those of us deployed, we must appreciate the additional responsibilities our Families have shouldered in our absence! We'll continue to provide information on recreational opportunities and resources to support you in our monthly town-halls, as we know that our resilience and strength is our Families.

In closing, I hope that the holidays create opportunities for Families and Soldiers to connect and communicate more often. I'm grateful that technology and our environment provides ways to still share poignant moments with our loved ones, even if it is over video connections on Thanksgiving Day.

*Below: Andrzej Duda, President of the Republic of Poland, speaks to Polish and 3rd Infantry Division Soldiers during a visit near Inowroclaw, Poland, October 11, 2023. "The permanent presence of our Soldiers in Poland demonstrates our commitment as allies to deterring and defending against potential adversaries on NATO's eastern flank," said Col. Jennifer McDonough. "We have thousands of rotating NATO and American forces in Poland today, and each one is working individually as well as collectively to make our bilateral relationship stronger today than it has ever been, strengthening our military alliance."*



Thank you to all our Families and Providers back home for your continuous support as we uphold our nation's commitment to building a powerful defensive and deterrence force to ensure peace and security in Europe.

Heart of the Rock! Rock of the Marne!

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*Above: U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division's Task Force Provider and members of the Polish community participate in a Spooky Run 5K, in Powidz, Poland, on Oct. 28, 2023. The brigade's Headquarters and Headquarters Company Commander, Capt. Brittney Belcher, was the lead organizer at the race. Events such as the Spooky Run provide Task Force Soldiers healthy outlets while deployed away from home and is one focus of the Prevention Workforce Team and unit command teams. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*

## What are we training to be able to do?

We are training and developing our Soldiers, maintaining our equipment, and creating systems in order to provide ready and postured combat-credible forces to V Corps, America's forward-deployed corps headquarters. We do that here in Europe by supporting multinational exercises that enhance cohesion and interoperability with allies and partners. Being ready means mastering the basics and remaining prepared for any contingency. Combined with daily operations to set the theater sustainment enterprise -and incorporating reps of our tactical tasks into these missions- builds a high-level of individual and collective readiness across the Task Force. Upon our return from this deployment, the Provider Brigade will have achieved an even higher state of readiness than when we departed home station.



*Above and Right: Soldiers assigned to Louisiana National Guard's 756th Medical Company Area Support and Task Force Provider assist Polish medics for a mass casualty training exercise on an airfield in Powidz, Poland, on Oct. 26, 2023. Task Force Provider's continuous training and support to multinational exercises allows the task force to rapidly surge combat-ready forces across the theaters to support the alliance. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)*



*Right: Soldiers assigned to the 756th MCAS care for simulated casualties from Task Force Provider during a mass casualty training event on Forward Operating Site Powidz, Poland, on Nov. 9, 2023. During the exercise, Polish emergency medical responders evacuated some of the simulated casualties for the next level of care required. The U.S. military's forward presence in Europe provides a foundation for responding to threats as required and ensuring support to global operations.*



*Left: Task Force Provider conducts a quarterly Sustainment Conference at Forward Operating Site Powidz, Poland, Nov. 14-15, 2023, to support sustainment efforts for future exercise and major events across the V Corps area of operations. The conference was intended to share understanding on processes and procedures required to acquire assistance or support, identify current sustainment deficiencies from an external unit's perspective, and present courses of actions to improved support efforts under 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's scope of influence.*



## Task Force Pyramid

**Greetings Family and Friends of Task Force Pyramid! Over the last month, the Task Force continued to provide support to multiple divisions across Europe, executing missions in Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Romania. Elements from 414th Transportation Company and Charlie Company participated in Operation Combined Resolve 19 at the Joint Multination Readiness Center at Hohenfels Training Area, Germany. Both companies sent teams to support to the 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade and 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team from 3rd ID and 1st Brigade, 101st Airborne Division. The Task Force also executed missions to support the**

**Navy and 4th Security Force Assistance Brigade. Most recently, the Task Force executed its first mission to move tracked vehicles across the theater, demonstrating our commitment to our allies and partners. Soldiers from the 826th Ordnance Company provided munitions support to more than 30 units and executed loadout of over 320 twenty-foot containers, a large majority delivered to customers by the 2113th Transportation Company.**

**We are extremely proud of the work our Soldiers are doing daily. As we approach the Holiday Season, we will conduct several events to build comradery and bring us closer as a Military Family. The Task Force will execute a Turkey Bowl and will host a Christmas Parade to determine which element turns their military vehicle into the best Christmas float.**

**Base of the Pyramid!**



*U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers assigned to the 414th Transportation Company from South Carolina conduct a convey battle drill during a culminating training event in Karliki, Poland, on Nov. 5, 2023. The 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, which leads a multi-compositional force of sustainment units, provides ready and postured, combat-credible forces and forward presence in Europe, enabling rapid response to crisis and a deterrence to adversaries. (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)*



*U.S. Army, Polish military, and community members volunteer at an animal shelter in Zary, Poland, on Nov. 4, 2023. Working at the animal shelter, a valuable service to the community, provides deployed Soldiers with a morale-building event and healthy outlet, particularly for those missing pets back home. Members of the Zagan Garrison Support Element organized the ongoing event three months ago, with participants volunteering every weekend since. (U.S. Army photos by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



## Task Force Empire

To all our Empire Families and friends back home, we want to let you know that we are extremely proud of the great work your Soldiers are doing. Our four Movement Control Teams, as well as the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment (HHD), have been taking care of mission after mission, enabling the movement of materiel, equipment and supplies, throughout Europe. Our Soldiers are operating in 14 different countries, from Finland, down to Bulgaria. Although most of the work they do is all behind the scenes, it has direct strategic implications that allow our country leaders to make sure foreign policy objectives are being met. We also recognize that you are all making big sacrifices to keep things running smoothly so that we don't have to worry and we can focus on our jobs here! We want to thank each and every one of you.

As we approach this holiday season, we encourage everyone to keep in touch with your love ones, find ways to share your day-to-day lives with them, and remember that time flies. We are almost halfway through our deployment. Pretty soon, we'll be preparing for re-deployment and looking forward to seeing you all again back home.



*U.S. Army Reserve Capt. Raul Retamozo, right, and Spc. Shadman Mostafa, both Soldiers assigned to 436th Movement Control Battalion in 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's Task Force Provider, play games with students prior to the dedication event for a trade school addition to the general education school in Wloszakowice, Nov. 10, 2023. The recently refurbished portion of the school was dedicated to Polish military veterans of overseas deployments in a ceremony corresponding with the Polish national independence day, which occurs on Nov. 11, the same date as the Veterans Day in the U.S.*

*U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 258th Movement Control Team and the 956th Movement Control Team, both serving in Europe under the Army Reserve's 436th Movement Control Battalion's Task Force Empire, conduct a transfer of authority ceremony at Forward Operating Site Jasionka, Poland, Oct. 27, 2023. Capt. Christopher McDonald and Sgt. 1st Class Juan D. Smith, command team of the 258th MCT, cased their unit's guidon and Capt. Aaron J. Morley and Sgt. 1st Class Carey L. Tanks Jr., the 956th MCT command team, uncased theirs, symbolically demonstrating the formal transfer of responsibility for the mission from one to another. The 258th MCT, part of the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, returned to Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, and the 956th MCT deployed from Fort Sheridan, Illinois.*





## Task Force Grizzly

Greetings Task Force Grizzly Families,

In the month of November, about halfway through our nine-month rotation, Task Force Grizzly remains committed to its mission to provide essential logistics support throughout Central Europe and the Baltic States. In addition to executing that mission, our Soldiers have experienced new and exciting opportunities around Poland and beyond. With overnight, three-day and four-day passes, Soldiers traveled to numerous cities and towns, including Gdansk, Krakow, and Warsaw in Poland, or world capitals like Berlin, Paris, and Copenhagen. Some took passes to cheer on their favorite NFL team during games in Frankfurt, Germany. Others attended a Spiritual Resiliency trip to Krakow and the nearby Auschwitz Concentration Camp site.

The well-being of our Service Members and their Families dominates our activities, and providing holistic, healthy life choices has remained a top priority. The Headquarters Company for the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade kicked off a

*Col. Jennifer McDonough, commander of Task Force Provider, awards Chief Warrant Officer 2 Lakenya Lowe, assigned to the Reserve's 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, and 1st Lt. Mohamed Jalloh, assigned to the brigade's 414th Signal Company, an Army Commendation Medal for fastest male and female times during the Norwegian Foot March on Powidz, Poland, on Oct. 16, 2023. More than 200 active duty and reserve Soldiers participated in the military endurance test, which includes an 18.6-mile-long route, carrying a rucksack of 24 pounds or more.*



monthly fitness challenge and will host a “Jingle Bell” 5k fun run next month. Likewise, the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation (MWR) program here on Forward Operating Site Powidz has held many fun and fitness events for TF Grizzly Soldiers, such as a live comedy show, weekly karaoke, dance classes, and bingo, with many more events planned for December.

Several junior enlisted Soldiers were selected for promotion in November, and soon they will attend the next course in their Professional Military Education, i.e., the Basic Leader Course. Another handful of Soldiers completed the 75-hour requirement to earn the Military Outstanding Volunteer Service Medal. Service to others is a common theme among TF Grizzly Soldiers, many of whom donated their time and talents to local organizations. These included planting new trees at a community center and participating in a ribbon-cutting and veterans memorial at a school in Wloszczakowice.

For our Families, the Home Station Mission Command in Dothan, Alabama, and the Soldier and Family Readiness Group (SFRG) is planning re-deployment and re-integration activities for our homecoming in March.

Sustain the Fight!



*U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Matthew Clancy, a heavy equipment repairer assigned to 98th Support Maintenance Company, and Michalina Grochowczak, a student leader escort, play games with students prior to the dedication event for a trade school addition to the general education school in Wloszakowice, Nov. 10, 2023. The recently refurbished portion of the school was dedicated to Polish military veterans of overseas deployments in a ceremony corresponding with the Polish national independence day, which occurs on Nov. 11, the same date as the Veteran's Day in the U.S.*



## Task Force Hellraiser

Greetings again from your friendly 3rd DSB Home Station Mission Command Team back at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield.

Our teammates back here have been at it again this month, ensuring the Division and all supported units across both installations were ready to go! All units have been actively involved in the Army's recent push to turn in old or unused equipment in order to increase readiness and prioritize our efforts on emerging technologies and modernization.

We have been improving quality of life for our Soldiers and Families with the recent opening of the Rocky Warrior Restaurant which is located in the middle of Provider Country! Formerly known as the Marne Bistro, the key location of this dining facility supports better access to our Soldiers and Families on Fort Stewart. It offers a variety of dining choices at reasonable prices, and a make your own waffle bar on weekend brunches!

This month, the Regulators won back the battalion's physical fitness trophy and have reclaimed the title of "Fittest Hellraisers." We will see on the 27th when our next competition happens if B Company or one of our other units are able to take the title.

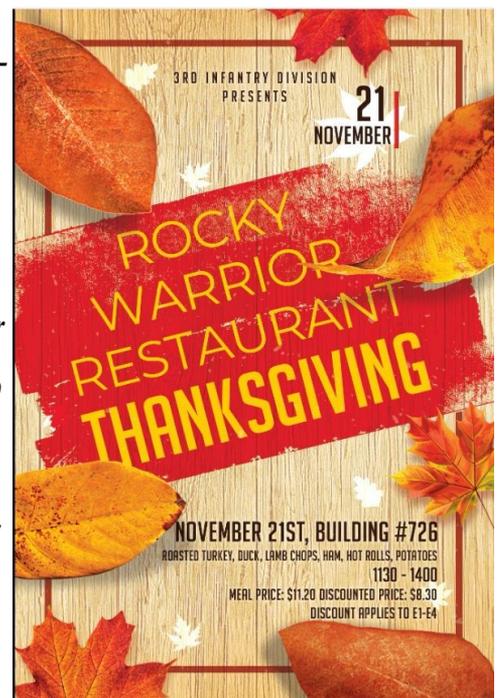
We have also welcomed home part of 287th Field Feeding Company's 1st Platoon, which was attached to our 3rd Combat Aviation Brigade in Europe and our own 258th Movement Control Team, which completed their full rotational deployment to Europe and successfully transitioned the mission to their relief in late October. The 258th MCT is happy to be back and once they complete block leave will be ready to jump right into gunnery training and preparing to relieve 274th Movement Control Team as they prepare to deploy.

We have conducted a lot of training over the past month, including multiple weapons ranges, drivers training, fueling operations, movement of containers, convoy operations, radio and communications training, land navigation, holistic health and fitness, equal opportunity, sexual harassment and assault prevention, resiliency, tactical combat care, combat life saver, combined planning exercises, ruck marches, and casualty assistance training, to name just a few. The team back here continues to ensure we are "Ready To Go!" "To Hell and Back!"



*Spc. Ferguson received notable recognition as the Volunteer of the Month and Quarter at the Grafenwoehr Training Area USO. In addition to these accolades, he has been commended for his remarkable contribution of over 500 volunteer service hours while de-*

*ployed, as acknowledged by USO leadership. SPC Ferguson's volunteer efforts have had a significant positive impact on the morale of not only the Marne Paymasters, but all the units stationed at the Grafenwoehr Training Area. Thanks to SPC Ferguson's dedication, the USO has been able to extend its operating hours, ensuring that Soldiers can enjoy the comforts of home while away. (Courtesy photo)*





*U.S. Army Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's Task Force Provider, currently deployed to Powidz, Poland, attend a dedication event for a trade school addition to the general education school in Wloszakowice, Nov. 10, 2023. The recently refurbished portion of the school was dedicated to Polish military veterans of overseas deployments in a ceremony corresponding with the Polish national independence day, which occurs on Nov. 11, the same date as Veterans Day in the U.S.*



### Chaplain's Corner

If you had never played Chess before and I told you to "Go win a Chess match," you likely wouldn't find much success unless several other actions were taken first. You'd have to understand the purpose of the game, the way the pieces operate, and the rules of the game to even really attempt the venture, and this saying nothing of your opponent or the strategy you'd have to develop to overcome them. Likewise, our Army's mission is to "win our nation's wars," and that involves a bit more intricacy than "fight better than the other guys." One such intricacy is that of the individual Soldier: so much more than a piece of plastic or even a trained weapon, and that's where I come in. My job is to keep the pieces moving.

So, I have a lease on at least a moment of your attention, a golden opportunity to give you some vital advice to make you more effective, some sage wisdom to multiply your contribution to the Army, and what one thing do I pick? Have fun!



*U.S. Army Spc. Maguel Squires, a wheeled vehicle mechanic assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division's Task Force Provider, takes first place in the unit's Spooky Run 5K, in Powidz, Poland, on Oct. 28, 2023.*

Whether you're forward or at home, Soldier or Family, it's clear that the Army as a whole cares that you have fun. We have an entire regulation for MWR, as well as support from USO, Red Cross, trips, events, and other things that have no tactical advantage other than to take care of Soldiers and their Families' need to have fun and that's because fun matters! As organizational psychologist & behavioral scientist Michael Rucker puts it, "Fun improves work and personal relationships... makes us smarter... reduces stress... can balance hormone levels... and make us more energetic & youthful."

It's not enjoyable to be separated from loved ones for such a long time, but while you may not always be able to adjust your circumstances, you permanently retain the freedom to choose how you react to them. If you're at home waiting on a Soldier, there are events going on with you in mind, and many of you have traveled or decided to be with Family that you rarely get to see during this time. If you're a forward-deployed Soldier, you have the opportunities that come with being in a new place with new people and new things you couldn't see in the states and for the most part you have the freedom to go see them! You must act as ever with regard to moral, ethical, and legal guidelines but right now, before it gets too cold and before the holidays really hit us, get out there, enjoy new or unique circumstances. Whether through the MWR, USO, with some friends, Family, or on your own initiative, go see something you haven't seen, spend time with wholesome people, make some good memories, and HAVE FUN!