



# TASK FORCE PROVIDER NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 4 | Dec. 2023

## Task Force Provider

**Greetings, Families and Soldiers of Task Force Provider,**

Being far from our Families during the holiday season can be very difficult for many, so we want to start by emphasizing how proud we are of these Dogface Soldiers that have joined this alliance of nations working together to ensure peace in Europe. We're grateful for these American Soldiers that have volunteered to uphold our nation's longstanding commitment to European security and prosperity, just as those before us have done. We are resolved to build a seamless interoperability with our allied military partners as well as our community neighbors here in Poland.

We want you to know that your Soldiers are making very positive impacts in communities here during this season of joy, peace, and goodwill to everyone. Providers are volunteering in local communities, visiting schools and Christmas markets, participating in holiday crafts events and attending services, and much, much more.

We firmly believe that having the support of our local communities and caring neighbors helps ensure strong and ready Soldiers that are prepared for anything. It also serves to provide healthy experiences for us away from home and we encourage everyone to participate in the many events available to Soldiers at all Forward Operating Sites in Area of Operations Victory.

There have been some big events for Soldiers stationed at and around Powidz! We were proud to represent the 3rd Infantry Division during the national broadcast of the Army/Navy game and we just hosted the USO Holiday Tour which included a great show and meetings with the five different celebrity talents participating. We had busloads of Provider Soldiers arrive from across our AO to participate! We now look forward to another



*Soldiers deployed to Powidz, Poland, meet with Navy Adm. Christopher Grady, the 12th*

*Vice Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, and the talents of the United Services Organizations Holiday Tour on Dec. 12. The tour was hosted by Grady, thanking the men and women in uniform and their Families for what they do for the nation. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



*Right: Sgt. Dachristopher L. Runoalds-Gray, a support operations noncommissioned officer assigned to Task Force Provider, takes first place in a ruck march race during Noncommissioned Officer and Soldier of the Month and Quarter Competitions at Forward Operating Site Powidz, Poland, Dec. 1.*

*Runoalds-Gray won the NCO of the Quarter competition. The 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, an Army Reserve unit from Dothan, Alabama, hosted the competition and included physical fitness, fundamental tactical skills, military knowledge and interpersonal communications testing to determine the unit's top Soldier and NCO of the month, and pitted against previous winners to determine the top contenders of the overall quarter.*





**Armed Forces Entertainment event on Dec. 30, featuring a concert by Drowning Pool.**

**As mentioned before, this rotation to Europe has afforded a wealth of experiences and opportunities for our Soldiers. I must mention however, that opportunities for time off and away present more chances for our most valuable assets –our People– to experience something much more unfortunate.**

**Sadly, private motor vehicle mishaps result in more Soldier fatalities than any other type of mishap, not just during the holidays, but year round. Speed, failure to wear seat belts and alcohol use are the greatest contributing factors in holiday fatalities. Leaders at all levels must engage their Soldiers and talk about the decisions they make and why they make them, both on and off duty. Engaged and effective leaders, even while away from their subordinates, can influence behaviors.**

**Families traveling and the added holiday-related activities back at home also create increased risk of potential mishaps. Good communication and risk reduction practices can protect the people we treasure and that we can't wait to return home to!**

**Be proud of your Soldiers, as they are doing remarkable things to set and shape the operational environment here, deter aggression, and establish conditions to execute agile and highly capable sustainment under any contingency situation. The world is safer for the work and achievements your Dogface Soldiers provide.**

**We wish you and all our Provider Families a safe and happy holidays, a safe and enjoyable New Year, and we thank you for your continued sacrifice and service to our nation!**

**Heart of the Rock!**



*Above and Below: Provider Soldiers deployed to Poland celebrate the Thanksgiving holiday with a Headquarters and Headquarters Company- hosted Turkey Bowl flag football tournament on Powidz, Nov. 25. This tournament consisted of 16 teams and a single-game elimination. The event provided a great outlet for our Soldiers and to build morale while deployed away from home. The winners of this year's Turkey Bowl are the Soldiers from the 98th Support Maintenance Company, defeating all other teams to make it to the mountain top. (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)*



*Below: Task Force Provider; A Company, 129th Division Sustainment Support Battalion; and Task Force Saber, 1st Combat Aviation Brigade, work together on a sling load training event, Nov. 30, at Powidz, Poland. Task Force Provider's continuous training and support to multinational exercises allows the task force to rapidly surge combat-ready forces and equipment across the theater to support NATO allies. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*







## Season's greetings from Task Force Pyramid!

Winter arrived here in Europe and our Soldiers have maintained their stride. We are gaining valuable experience safely operating our equipment in extreme weather conditions while maintaining support in Germany, Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, Estonia, and Romania. In the last month, our Soldiers provided support to units across four divisions and our allied partners. Our Soldiers remain at the forefront at executing logistics operations across the entirety of AO Victory in support of our rotational deployment.

The command team wishes all our Families and friends back home at Fort Stewart, in Kentucky, South Carolina, Wisconsin, and many other locations, a safe and happy holiday season. While we unfortunately will not be able to spend time with our loved ones back home, this means the bonds we share as a Military Family will only grow stronger. The Task Force has several amazing events planned to get in the holiday spirit. The 2113th Transportation Company and 826th Ordnance Company will visit multiple schools in the local community to allow students to get an up close and personal experience with

their equipment and hand out some toys and candy. The Soldiers from Headquarters Company, Charlie Company, and 414th Transportation Company at Karliki are gathering hygiene products for donation to a local school as they requested in lieu of toys.

Nearly 90 Soldiers from across the task force attended a United Services Organization Holiday Tour which featured celebrity visits from Brett Young, Dule Hill, Penn & Teller, Vince Wilfork, and Justin Flom in Powidz. This event greatly improved morale across the formation and we look forward to more events in the coming months. Happy Holidays!

## Pyramid 6



*Above and Below: Soldiers from across the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division's Task Force Provider received holiday meals at dining facilities in Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield, Georgia, or at Forward Operating Sites Karliki and Powidz, Poland, during Thanksgiving week. The Sustainment Soldiers stationed throughout Poland converged at either FOS Karliki or FOS Powidz, where senior leaders served the holiday meal to honor their deployed Soldiers whose voluntary service is a credit to all Americans and who share a common commitment to the defense of, and love for, the United States. (U.S. Army photos by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



*Above: U.S. Army and Reserve Soldiers assigned to the 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion participate in the Marne Birthday Fitness Challenge on Forward Operating Site Karliki, Poland, Nov. 21. The physical fitness event include a 1,917 meter run, followed by 23 minutes of sets of 21 air squats, 11 burpees, and 17 pushups or kettlebell swings. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*







## Task Force Empire

Task Force Empire continues to lead the way in facilitating movement control operations in AO Victory. We promoted six specialists to sergeant and one lieutenant to captain. We continue to focus on the basics and keep our equipment ready with classes on Preventive Maintenance Checks and Services and employing and troubleshooting communications equipment. Our unit ministry team distributed Christmas stockings and continues to hold church services and we supported an outreach event at a local Polish school's holiday party this week.

Our Headquarters Detachment, the 956th Movement Control Team, 329th MCT, 606th MCT, and 620 MCT continue to enable unit, equipment, and personnel movements throughout our respective Areas Of Responsibility, processing march credits and diplomatic clearance packets in support of international Transportation Movement Requests, Centralized Cargo Operations, coordinating reception of Army prepositioned stock, and processing redeployment flights for thousands of redeploying personnel and their equipment. We continue to build relationships with our multinational partners throughout Europe.

We want to wish everyone back home a safe and happy holidays! Connect with your Soldiers as frequently as you can and be proud that they are here providing world-class sustainment support to an important mission!



*Above: Pfc. Jashonique Greenaway, a paralegal specialist, and others assigned to the 436th Movement Control Battalion, currently deployed to Powidz, Poland, decorate cookies during a community holiday event at a local school in Witkowo, on Dec. 11. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



*Above: Soldiers assigned to Task Force Provider train to master their crew served weapons at Powidz, Poland, Nov. 29- Dec. 1. Readiness requires a multifaceted training approach through well-rehearsed sets and reps: Soldiers must expertly coach, mentor, and train and be coached, mentored and trained, to develop cohesive, lethal teams.*



**Dear Task Force Grizzly Families,**

As we usher in the holiday season and approach the last third of our nine-month rotation, the 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion command team takes great pride in sharing the exceptional contributions and experiences of Task Force Grizzly Soldiers in the month of December.

We continue to provide crucial logistics support across Central Europe and the Baltic States. Despite a continuously high operational tempo, our Soldiers have been able to take advantage of passes to explore the magic of holiday-bedecked cities, creating lasting memories in places like Gdansk, Krakow, and Warsaw in Poland, or further afield in European capital cities like Berlin, Paris, and Copenhagen. Whether attending seasonal events or engaging in cultural experiences, our Soldiers have exemplified the spirit of adventure and camaraderie.

The physical, mental, and spiritual well-being of our service members and their Families remains paramount. The fitness challenge initiated by the Headquarters Company for the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade is in full swing, with Soldiers logging hundreds of hours of aerobic or strength-conditioning activities. Similarly, the Morale, Welfare, and Recreation program on FOS Powidz continues to host a variety of fun and engaging events, fostering a sense of community and well-deserved relaxation during this festive season. Hundreds turned out for the 124th annual Army/Navy football game. Hundreds more turned out for the USO Holidays Tour event featuring country music singer/songwriter Brett Young, actor Dule Hill, magicians and entertainers Penn & Teller, NFL Super Bowl champion and Pro-Bowler Vince Wilfork, and magician and spray paint artist Justin Flom.

In the spirit of professional growth and personal development, more than two dozen Task Force

Grizzly Soldiers were selected for promotion in December. Each progression marks a significant milestone in a Soldier's military career, not to mention a little more pay and prestige. With monthly promotion boards scheduled for January and February, there are more opportunities for advancement from specialist to sergeant, or from sergeant to staff sergeant.

As we celebrate this joyous season, we extend heartfelt holiday greetings and thanks to all the Families of Task Force Grizzly. We understand these times apart from loved ones can be challenging. Your steadfast support and resilience are vital sources of strength for our Soldiers and allow us to focus on the mission at hand. Like you, we eagerly await reconnecting with our Family members very soon.

Wishing you all a warm and joyful holiday season. May the spirit of unity fill your homes with happiness.

**Sustain the Fight!**

*Soldiers assigned to the 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, Task Force Provider deployed to Poland, train to master their individual and crew served weapons at Forward Operating Sites Powidz and Karliki, Poland, Nov. 29- Dec. 1.*







## Task Force Hellraiser

**Happy Holidays to all from Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield!**

**We hope your past month has been as productive as ours! In support of the Army's Rapid Removal of Excess Equipment, we were able to turn in all our excess equipment on time, meaning our Soldiers back here can more effectively focus their maintenance, services, and time, ensuring readiness of our home station equipment.**

**Our team back here has been very busy serving holiday meals, supporting several units in the field for moral boosts with good chow, planning the transition of responsibilities for installation flight and rail support, building cohesive teams through training on resolving conflict, dealing with difficult people, stress management, and communication tips for a happier workplace. As everyone gets ready to have Family travel or are partaking in hol-**

**iday celebrations, please keep a few things in mind:**

**Update ADPASS: If you or your Family is traveling outside of your local area, please ensure you update your Army Disaster Personnel Accountability and Assessment System location on your mobile app or at <https://adpaas.army.mil/>. Especially considering blizzards and other things that can mess up your holiday travel, this site will help to alert you if there is an issue in your area and ensure we know if you may be affected by an emergency.**

**Have health insurance cards and numbers: You will also want to ensure you have the appointment line or Tricare emergency numbers to ensure you can coordinate medical care within your benefits plan. Check <https://tricare.mil/> for numbers and other helpful information.**

**Prepare yourself, your vehicle, and your home for travel. Plan for the worst: freezing temperatures and walking if the car breaks down. The gift of frostbite or hypothermia is not fun! Ensure your landlord is tracking any trips and have that trusted neighbor ready to help if something goes wrong. If you need help, you can always reach out to our Brigade Staff Duty that is available 24/7 and**



*Above: Soldiers assigned to 258th Movement Control Team qualify with the M-249 Light Machine Gun at Fort Stewart. The #M249 is designed as the fire team's automatic weapon providing suppressive fire at extended ranges, allowing fire and movement to contact and engage an enemy. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Rebeca Soria)*



*Above: Soldiers assigned to the 274th Movement Control Team prepare to enter a gas chamber at Fort Stewart, Georgia, Dec. 1. Hands-on training allows Soldiers to apply chemical, biological, radiological, or nuclear incident-response practices in a realistic environment. (U.S. Army photo by Pvt. Santiago Lepper)*

they will ensure you are advised of any resources that we can provide to help: 912-435-2151.

The colorful lights are beautiful, but be careful with the excess electricity and candles. The National Fire Protection Association reports on average candles cause 46% of fires annually in December, so please celebrate safely! Remember also that small batteries and toy pieces can be choking hazards, so watch out for the little ones and pets.

The holidays can be a difficult time for many people. If you or someone you know is struggling, we are here to assist. Visit <https://>

[home.army.mil/stewart/contact/crisis-resources](https://home.army.mil/stewart/contact/crisis-resources) to access a helpful list of installation and community crisis resources.

**We will continue to be Ready to Go, to Hell and Back!**



*Above: Soldiers with the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade Home Station Mission Command receive trophies for their team after winning a Turkey Bowl at Fort Stewart, Georgia, Nov. 20. The winning team also received coupons they could redeem for a free round of bowling at Marne Lanes as part of their prize. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc Elisha Hall)*



*Above: Soldiers assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade Home Station Mission Command conduct a physical training competition on Fort Stewart, Georgia. The event helped Soldiers gauge their physical readiness by challenging themselves through competition. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elisha Hall)*



#### January 2024

01-02: XVIII Corps Training Holiday  
05: Marne Foundational Day  
06: [Long Range Shoot](#)  
09: 3DSB HSMC Chaplain "Ladies First" Lunch  
12-15: XVIII Corps Training Holiday (MLK Jr. Holiday)  
17: 3DSB HSMC Chaplain "M.E.N." Lunch  
24: 3DSB SFRG Mtg  
26: 3DSB HSMC Chaplain "Power Hour" Lunch  
26: DIV Retirement Ceremony  
31: 25: 3DSB HSMC Chaplain "Green Table Talk" Lunch

**Volunteers Needed!**

More info at <https://stewarthunter.armymwr.com/>

## How do I keep tabs on Task Force Provider?

Follow us on Facebook:



<https://www.facebook.com/3rdIDSB/>

On Twitter:



<https://twitter.com/3rdIDSB>

On Instagram:



[3rd\\_sustainment\\_brigade](#)

On the Defense Visual Information Distribution Service:

<https://www.dvidshub.net/unit/3SB>



Download the U.S. Army's Digital Garrison App!



**U.S. ARMY**





*Left and Right: Soldiers assigned to Task Force Provider visit a school holiday party at the Powidz primary school on Dec. 12. The 3rd DSB Soldiers learned about local holiday customs, played games, made decorations for the school tree, and enjoyed traditional holiday treats with the school children.*



*Below: Chaplain (Capt.) Christopher Salvant, assigned to 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, part of 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's Task Force Provider, shops at a Christmas market in Powidz, Poland, Dec. 6.*



*Above: Spc. Daisy Vazquez and Spc. Aixha Lanares, both with Task Force Provider, pose for a photo in Santa's sleigh during a visit to a Christmas market in Powidz, Poland, Dec. 6.*

*Below: Polish community members bake cookies with U.S. Army Soldiers during a holiday community event at Powidz, Poland, Dec. 8th. The holiday cookie-making event provided Soldiers with a morale-building event as a healthy outlet while deployed away from home. (Photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)*



## Chaplain's Corner

Society is a funny thing. Not even a specific culture or ideology, but the general concept. You are your own person, reading these words with your own thoughts and feelings and opinions, but you are inextricably influenced by the opinions of other people. It makes sense; we can't learn anything or know anything about the world without interacting with it, so it's important that we come together in community and serve one another. That's how we survive this world, individually and communally.

It's frustrating, then, that you can get a lot of negative thoughts and data from outside yourself, too. For instance, as we move into the holiday season, we're more inclined to think of how much we miss our Family than ever. It's not like we've suddenly been separated "so much longer," or

our lives suddenly universally got "so much harder." In fact, most of us in Task Force Provider are now on the "downhill slope!" Less in front than behind, and less now than ever before keeping you from your loved ones.

You can't and shouldn't pretend that you don't feel strongly about time away from loved ones, but you are loved, and sooner than you realize you will either be returning or be returned to. Please don't let your societal obligation to be "holly and jolly" get in the way of the fact that you miss your Family, but neither should you deny yourself simple joys because things "just aren't the same."

For a few months yet, things aren't and won't be the same, but there is still fun to be had in the great and loving Provider community. It's OK to enjoy yourself in a safe and reasonable way, even if it looks a little different this year. Back home or Forward, there's too many events to list here! See your local UMT/USO/MWR/Red Cross representative to learn of the opportunities available to you!