



TASK FORCE PROVIDER NEWSLETTER



Issue No. 7 | March 2024

Task Force Provider

Greetings, Families and Soldiers of Task Force Provider,

The excitement of redeployment is filling the air here: Soldiers are packing containers, filling out forms, preparing equipment for wash and shipment to port. There's some rearranging of quarters as new faces arrive on our Forward Operating Sites. Our relief, the 1st Cavalry Division Sustainment Brigade, "Wagonmasters," are now arriving.

As we prepare to redeploy, I want to talk about how we will bring our Provider team back together. Most of our brigade deployed throughout the European Command area of operations over the last year, and those that deployed played a crucial role in supporting multinational training and operations that deter aggression



in Europe, ensuring a continued security here that preserves our national interests in a great number of ways. However, let it not be underestimated how important has been the roles of our Soldiers that remained to support the division, the modernization and training of the 1st Armored Brigade Combat Team, and all the tenant units back at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. These forces supported the hammer of America's contin-



Above: Col. Jennifer McDonough and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Campbell, the Task Force Provider command team, pose with Capt. Branden Wayne, a logistics officer assigned to the 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, as he received the Army Commendation Medal for his role in exercise Long March, on Karliki, Poland, on March 5. Wayne organized the event and marched alongside more than 30 Soldiers assigned to the 3rd ID and U.S. Army Garrison Poland as they recreated the World War II forced march of prisoners of war from Zagan, Poland, to Spremberg, Germany. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)



Above/Below: Chief Warrant Officer 3 Ameen Hudson, a supply systems technician, Sgt. 1st Class Tekawita Tauai, a warehouse manager, both assigned to the brigade's support operations, and Richard Wheeler, a supply supervisor, give Col. Jennifer McDonough and Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffery Campbell a tour of the new supply support activity building in Lielvārde Air Base, Latvia, on Feb. 29. The new supply support activity building will provide uninterrupted logistical support to maintain fighting readiness within the Baltic region. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)



agency corps, the XVIII Airborne Corps, a force that must remain ready to deploy on short notice to support contingencies around the world. The readiness of that capability is every bit as critical to our society's shared security and prosperity as everything our Providers are doing around the world, be it with the 135th Quartermaster Company in U.S. Southern Command, or with us here in Europe.

We would like to urge our Soldiers and Families to practice what we like to call, "expectation management," as we begin coming home. Everyone imagines all the things they will do, all of things they're eager to begin again, upon their return home after nine months away. We advise caution, go slow, and remember that transitions take patience, time and effort to happen smoothly. Don't try to catch up on nine months of missed activities and experiences on the first weekend back! It's not the ideal time to make radical changes—our households have adapted to function without us, and we must take measured steps to incorporate ourselves back into the routines. It will take time to establish a new normal and every person's pace is different.

So when you stand on Cottrell Field to greet your loved ones, or to return to them, know that as citizens of our great country, we are grateful for your service and sacrifices. We ask all leaders to be vigilant to new challenges that may arise. Exercise patience for all as we transition back to our homes.

After our welcome home ceremony, Soldiers will have some time to be with their loved ones and settle back into their homes. By flights, every Soldier will accomplish a series of mandatory reintegration tasks. This five-day reintegration program organized by the HSMC will operate in the most efficient manner possible for all individuals, prevent potential negative post-deployment effects, and return our unit to the highest state of readiness possible.

As part of the return, HSMC Soldiers will provide daily safety briefs, assistance with on-post vehicle registration and renewal, personally-owned vehicle inspections, preparation of Soldiers' leave, closing of travel vouchers, entitlements adjustments and other reintegration tasks prior to everyone departing on opportunity leave.

One note on safety before closing: it is very important to get the vehicle check tasks right. Soldiers must understand that they are required to successfully complete a motorcycle refresher course prior to riding their motorcycles. We've accomplished so much and are now returning from this rotation at the highest state of readiness for our nation. We can't allow any member of our team to suffer injury -or worse- now that we're coming home and moving into some well-earned rest and relaxation. Thank you for all you do, and we are looking forward to witnessing the reunifications soon!

Heart of the Rock! Rock of the Marne!



Above/Below: National Guard Sgt. Justin Locke and Spc. Veronika Hughbanks, both motor transport operators assigned to 2113th Transportation Company from Paducah, Kentucky, and deployed to Świątoszów, conduct the first transaction at the opening of an Army Air Force Exchange Store at the unit's Forward Operating Site in Poland, Feb. 26. Task Force Provider, as part of a rotation of forces in Europe, is working to set the V Corps area of operations for sustainment and improve quality of life facilities for Soldiers stationed there.





Task Force Pyramid

Greetings Families, friends, and loved ones of Task Force Pyramid! In last month, the Task Force was extremely busy conducting equipment preparation for re-deployment and preparing for unit transitions, all while providing enduring multi-class support to a myriad of units supporting several named exercises.

Charlie Company, “Crushers,” with support from 414th Transportation Company, “Rough Riders”, the headquarters company, and 2113th Transportation Company, “Outlaws” completed gunnery and convoy live fire operations. The Crushers took home the coveted “Top Gun” award for the highest qualification score across the entire brigade and were awarded “Top Convoy” for the best convoy during live fire operations.

The entirety of equipment and personnel for 541st Transportation Company, “Fuel Dawgs,” and 8th Ordnance Company, “Death Dealers,” arrived to Karliki and Swietoszow to begin their reliefs in place with 414th TC and 826th Ordnance Company, respectively. Both units completed their relief in place operations



U.S. Army Sgt. Teavon Drummond, a motor transport operator assigned to C Company, 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade, guides a Bradley Fighting Vehicle onto the M1302 trailer, part of the enhanced heavy equipment transporter system, in Trzebień, Poland, Feb. 21, 2024. The Soldiers are running continuous transportation missions supporting the 2nd Armored Brigade Combat Team, 3rd Infantry Division, during Exercise Allied Spirit. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Deven McDonald)

and completed their Transfers of Authority. The 414th TC officially relinquished responsibility of their mission to 541st TC on March 5 and 826th OD followed suit with 8th OD on March 9. Both 414th TC and 826th OD returned to Fort Cavazos, Texas, for demobilization, bringing them one step closer to returning to their Families and loved ones.

All this occurred while the Task Force provided support to three named exercises: Austere Challenge, Dragon 24, and Allied Spirit. The 414th TC provided refuel on the move capabilities to 1st Combat Aviation Brigade on its



Soldiers assigned to the 8th Ordnance Company hold a transfer of authority ceremony on Forward Operating Site Świątoszów, Poland, March 9. The outgoing 826th Ordnance Company and the incoming 8th Ordnance Company were both deployed to Europe to serve alongside NATO allies and regional security partners to provide combat-credible forces to V Corps, America's forward-deployed corps in Europe. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)



Capt. Thomas Davis and 1st Sgt. Robert Lamb, the command team of the outgoing 414th Transportation Company, case the company guidon during a transfer of authority on Karliki, Poland, March 5. The outgoing 414th Transportation Company and the incoming 541st Transportation Company were both deployed to Europe to serve as part of a multi-compositional array of units within 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)

movement to Germany and enduring fuel support internal to our organic convoys. Charlie Company and 2113th TC provided distribution in Poland, Lithuania, Latvia, and Estonia of ammunition, vehicles, containers, and maintenance parts. Collectively, Task Force Pyramid has steadily ran more missions than other Task Forces in the Brigade combined!

After more than four months of hard work, 2113th TC at Swietoszow opened its on-site Army and Air Force Exchange Service store. The long-awaited grand opening now gives Soldiers the opportunity to purchase basic needs items, snacks, and drinks, offering an extreme boost of morale for all units on the base. The Battalion Chaplain facilitated our last Morale, Welfare, and Recreational event of the rotation. Forty-five Soldiers from across the Task Force spent three days and two nights in Prague immersing themselves in the local culture.

Twenty-five members from the battalion staff and companies attended a staff ride in Chateau Thierry. The staff ride took the Soldiers to the very location where the 3rd Infantry Division earned its motto “Rock of the Marne” during World War I. The headquarters and Charlie Company will send their first Soldiers back to Fort Stewart, Georgia, next week and will receive the first Soldiers from 553rd Division Sustainment Support Battalion a couple days later to begin the relief in place with 87th DSSB.

Base of the Pyramid!



Above: Logisticians from 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion transported M1074 joint assault bridge systems from Camp Herkus in Lithuania to planned wet gap crossing sites near Sędzowo, Poland, during Exercise Dragon 24. The logisticians transported the equipment in support of a wet gap crossing event for the Polish-led, multinational exercise to demonstrate the readiness of allied forces to respond to and defend against threats to the country's borders. During the exercise, these logisticians and Polish and U.S. military engineers enabled freedom of movement for the multinational armored force marching more than 300 km along two corridors, demonstrating combat power for deterrence against adversarial aggression. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Jason Hull)



Task Force Empire

Empire has had a busy month! In the last month, the unit has processed 242 movements in AO Victory which is broken down by 125 commercial line hauls, 55 Army trucks, 52 buses, and ten air movements. The military vehicle movements were for redeployments, with transfer points that were coordinated in coordination with the 39th Movement Control Battalion, Allied Spirit Exercise, and Dragon 24 Exercise. The commercial line haul moves that were processed were in support of V Corps enablers deploying and re-deploying from the Port of Koper in Slovenia, for Dynamic Front 24, Allied Spirit, and Dragon 24. The bus movements were for exercises, deployments and re-deployments, and support to regional security partners. In the last month, we welcomed the 949th MCT into the TF Empire organization and said farewell to 329th MCT, as they headed back to home station. Next month, we will be saying farewell to the 606th MCT and welcoming the 632nd MCT and Headquarters Detachment, 53rd MCB to replace the 436th Headquarters Detachment.

Our units have been working hard and helping to keep Europe ready to defend and deter aggression on the NATO eastern flank. Some of the accomplishments that our unit have made over the last month included the 620th MCT processing 87 commercial transportation requests, valued at approximately \$2,331,000; 31 convoy march credits and diplomatic clearance packets, completed 45 customs 302 forms and cleared 470 line items of general supplies (CL II) and repair parts (CL IX) through customs in support of unit operations and to increase readiness. The Bellwethers also supported five air missions in and out of both Powidz and Poznań for 577 deploying/redeploying personnel.

The 606th MCT executed a successful mission at the railhead in Tapa, Estonia, to support multiple units' redeployments. Our team operated in freezing rain and snow to ensure the seamless transportation of 68 pieces. We also coordinated recovery assets with Lithuanian National Military Command Center to support 9th Brigade Engineer Battalion's joint assault bridges transportation to Poland. We have also been hard at work coordinating the opening of the Baltics SSA, producing airway bills to clear the new parts being shipped here. Sgt. Gilbert, Sgt. Cruz and Sgt. Gordon collaborated with the SSA chief to develop an efficient and effective system to achieve customs clearance for 100% of the parts being shipped to the Baltics and received coins from the brigade commander for their efforts.

The 949th MCT is has been giving support by way of processing Transportation Movements Requests (TMR). The 949th MCT also provides continued support through customs clearance missions and rail and aerial port of debarkation operations, ensuring personnel and equipment get processed in and out of theater. Our [Arrival/Departure Airfield Control Group] teams are currently working with the customs officers at Mihail Kogălniceanu Air Base and will re-deploy 234 Soldiers through customs. Our line-haul team has cleared 568 pieces of equipment through 82 European customs form 302. Since our transfer of authority, 1347 pieces were cleared using 132 the Form 302s. Operations are busy ramping up for Operation Defender Europe '24 exercises that will be conducted in the next few months: Swift Response, Immediate Response and Saber Strike.

The 956th MCT has witnessed a significant increase in movements throughout the MCT East AOR as they move closer to the start of



Soldiers with the 436th Movement Control Battalion assemble for a formation in Provider Park on FOS Powidz, Poland, Feb. 2. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)

the Defender '24 Exercises. Our CCO team at Jasionka has processed 58 customs 302 forms for individual shipments, involving movement of Bradley fighting vehicles, aircraft parts, radios, Stryker components, and maintenance equipment.

Additionally, the Movement Request Processing team at Bemowo Piskie Training Area has been at work processing a significant surge in movements. They have been responsible for processing 37 different movement requests over the past two weeks (including 23 bus movements, two [common-user land transportation movements], ten Commercial Line Hauls, and two material handling equipment movements). Their hard work enabled the movement of 661 Soldiers, 99 containers, 35 pieces of rolling stock, ten non-rolling stock, and 30 pallets. We look forward to a continued increase in the pace of operations, as well as to providing support for “rest overnight” site locations during the exercise.



Task Force Grizzly/Task Force Cavalier -OFFICIAL RELEASE-

U.S. Army Reserve Soldiers deployed to Poland and assigned to the 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion cased their colors on March 11 and transferred responsibility for their logistics, maintenance, and supply missions to the Virginia National Guard's 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion during a ceremony at Forward Operating Site Powidz.

“As the only rotational sustainment force assigned to V Corps, we contribute to our nation’s steadfast presence here, reinforcing long-standing commitments on NATO’s Eastern flank for collective defense and regional security,” said Col. Jennifer McDonough, commander of the 3rd DSB, speaking to the two units assembled in the post chapel for the ceremony. “We are grateful for your service and sacrifices.”

Known as Task Force Grizzly and led by Lt. Col. Jeoffrey Hall & Command Sgt. Maj. Clint Halstead, the 787th CSSB colors now return to Dothan, Alabama. While deployed and headquartered at FOS Powidz, the battalion provided command and control of more than 600 Soldiers at six



Soldiers assigned to the 787th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion and 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, both serving in Europe under 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's Task Force Provider, hold a transfer of authority ceremony in Powidz, Poland, March 11. The 787th CSSB is based in Dothan, Alabama and the 529th CSSB deployed from Virginia Beach, Virginia. Lt. Col. Jeoffrey Hall and Command Sgt. Maj. Clint Halstead, the command team of 787th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion, cased their unit colors while Lt. Col. Carlos Maldonado and Command Sgt. Maj. David Elliott, the command team of the 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion uncased their unit colors during the ceremony, symbolizing their relinquishment or assumption of the mission in Europe. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)

different forward operating sites throughout the Central European and Baltic nations. The battalion managed hundreds of sustainment convoys and missions, traveling hundreds of thousands of kilometers, transporting hundreds of millions of dollars' worth of equipment and parts, and delivering millions of gallons of fuel. The unit employed a new Army concept of surge maintenance support to brigade combat teams, enhancing the readiness of units poised to respond to contingencies in the region. The Soldiers managed multiple supply support activity points and collected logistics intelligence to inform future support missions.

"The mission set before you is fluid and complex," Hall said, offering advice to the incoming unit's Soldiers. "Stay flexible and stay focused. Never lose sight of that Soldier in the field that's awaiting that part, that piece of equipment, that fuel, food, or water. May your time here be as professionally rewarding and personally fulfilling as it was for us."

After the outgoing unit cased their colors, Lt. Col. Carlos Maldonado and Command Sgt. Maj. David Elliott, the command team of the 529th CSSB, uncased theirs, symbolizing the unit's arrival and assumption of the sustainment mission. Dubbed Task Force Cavalier, the unit marked their federal active-duty mobilization, bid farewell to their friends and families, and cased their colors in a ceremony at their home station in Virginia Beach on Jan. 28. The Soldiers then traveled to Fort Cavazos, Texas, for a collective training exercise to validate the unit's readiness for their deployed mission, concluding training on Feb. 16.

The 529th also demonstrated readiness for their inherited mission in the Army's premier crucible training experience at the Joint Readiness Training Center in Louisiana, last summer. The battalion managed a division support area for the Hawaii National Guard's 29th Infantry Brigade Combat Team, where they provided command and control of more than 400 National Guard Soldiers of units from five states and delivered all classes of supplies. This is the fourth federal active-duty deployment for the 529th CSSB since being federally recognized in 2009, with previous deployments to Afghanistan, Iraq and Kuwait.

"We are proud to continue sustaining operations [here]," said Maldonado. "To the Soldiers of Task Force Cavalier, our time is now. The opportunity is here. I have full confidence that you will continue to perform at the highest level. I am always proud and humbled to have the opportunity to stand here as 'Cavalier 6.'"



(Above) Soldiers assigned to the Army Reserve's 325th Transportation Company hold a transfer of authority ceremony on Forward Operating Site Świątoszów, Poland, March 9. The outgoing 325th Trans. Co. and the incoming 656th Trans. Co. deployed to Europe to work alongside NATO allies and regional security partners to provide combat-credible forces to V Corps, America's forward-deployed corps in Europe. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)



Capt. Craig Durham and Master Sgt. Felix Padilla, the command team of outgoing Alpha Company, 129th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, case their unit guidon (above) while Capt. Jaqueline Bailey and 1st Sgt. Bradon Fuller, the command team of incoming Alpha Company, 553rd Division Sustainment Support Battalion, uncased theirs (below) during a transfer of authority ceremony in Powidz, Poland Feb. 23. (U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Demytsean Lewis)





Task Force Hellraiser

Friends and Family, greetings from your Task Force Hellraiser team, the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade Home Station Mission Command here at Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield. We are as excited as you all are about the March edition of the newsletter because the Provider team will start their redeployment operations back to Fort Stewart beginning this month. We look forward to receiving your loved ones and getting them through reintegration training so they can spend time with you all.

The HSMC team was happy to welcome back 24th Ordnance Company after their nine-month rotation in Germany as well as elements from the 24th Financial Management Support Unit that supported the European Theater of Opera-

tions. They are all currently enjoying well deserved leave with their friends and family.

As we are receiving personnel from their deployments, 274th Movement Control Team (MCT) has been training hard in preparation for their deployment. The 274th MCT conducted their combat protection platform gunnery tables III-VI here in the Fort Stewart, Georgia, training area. Their hard work and training leading up to the event allowed all of their gun crews (consisting of a driver, gunner, and truck commander) to qualify in preparation for their EUCOM deployment. Their containers and equipment are being prepared for movement to the port to depart for Europe.

The HSMC team said farewell to over 20 personnel from 135th Quartermaster, the bulk petroleum company in 87th Division Sustainment Support Battalion, as they head to Honduras to support rotations in the South American theater of operations.



Soldiers assigned to 287th Quartermaster Company, 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, get afternoon chow from the kitchen served by culinary specialists during a tactical training event at Fort Stewart, Georgia, Feb. 27. Soldiers were provided a healthy meal that consisted of energy boosting nutrients required for a day of tough realistic combat training. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elisha Hall)



Soldiers assigned to 287th Quartermaster Company, 3rd Infantry Division Sustainment Brigade, man a lookout tower in preparation for a weapons training event during a tactical training event at Fort Stewart, Georgia, Feb. 27. The company conducted several live-fire events to include a night live-fire range. (U.S. Army photo by Pfc. Elisha Hall)

In order to keep our Soldiers- “Ready to Go!”- TF Hellraiser qualified ten M240B machine gun crews, ten on the M320 grenade launcher, 17 on the M17 pistol, more than 40 on Tactical Combat Casualty Care or Combat Lifesaver medical training, and 21 on drivers training.

We have continued to support the Division with support from 90th Human Resources Company and 258th Movement Control Team with equipment and personnel moves out of Fort Stewart and Hunter Army Airfield; with the 716th Maintenance Surge Team supporting the division’s 1st Armor Brigade Combat Team as they prepare for a National Training Center rotation; with the 287th Field Feeding Company supporting 5th Special Forces Group with culinary experts during their rotation to the Joint Readiness Training Center; and 87th DSSB with additional maintenance, movement, and fuel support across the installations. All of the HSMC Soldiers remain focused on keeping the division well sustained and prepared for those that are currently deployed to return home.

“Ready To Go!” “To Hell and Back!”



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The 2024 ARMY Emergency Relief Campaign has kicked off and ends June 14!

As the Army’s only nonprofit financial assistance organization, AER provides the most direct path to supporting Soldiers and Army Families. Based 100 percent on the generous donations from Soldiers and American citizens, AER has provided \$2 billion in assistance to nearly 4 million members of the Army team since 1942, including \$1 billion since 9/11.

You can make a one time or recurring donation! Be sure to select FORT STEWART and the 3RD INFANTRY DIVISION

SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE and donate quick and easily online here:

<https://aerprod.powerappsportals.us/>



Above: Master Sgt. Marquarious Moore and Master Sgt. Shameka Harris Soldiers sing as part of a Black History Month Observance on Powidz, Poland, Feb. 22. Army diversity is about knowing who our people are, understanding the value individuals bring, and optimizing what they offer to build high-performing and cohesive teams. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)



Above: Soldiers assigned to Task Force Provider pose while cutting the cake during the Black History Month celebration on Powidz, Poland, Feb. 17. During this event, Soldiers enjoyed food from different cultures, hand paintings, and played trivia. The Army is proud to highlight its long-standing commitment to being a diverse, equal, and inclusive organization where all have an opportunity to be all they can be. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Demetrysean Lewis)



Above: U.S. Army Soldiers currently deployed to Powidz, Poland, and assigned to the 3rd Division Sustainment Brigade's organic companies, the 436th Movement Control Battalion, and the 526th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion pose for a photo while attending a St. Patrick's Day community event at a local school in Powidz on March 19. The Soldiers received a presentation from the students and made soap with them. Throughout the visit, the Soldiers exchanged stories of why they joined the military and what life in the military is like. The students practiced English language skills while hosting the U.S. Soldiers. The Soldiers are deployed as part of a rotation of forces to Poland to support multinational training and operations, enhance interoperability and contingency response capabilities with allies and partners, and deter adversaries in the European theater. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Elsi Delgado)



Chaplain's Corner

I am proud to be a (relatively new) Dogface Soldier! My name is Dan Braswell, and I am your new Brigade Chaplain. I signed into Fort Stewart in early January and have been in Poland with your Soldiers over the past couple of months. It has been my pleasure to meet the Providers and witness the great work they do in supporting this most important mission. I know many of you are excited and anticipate the redeployment. I look forward to coming back to my new home as well. As I see everyone working towards redeployment, I can't help but think about the concept of "finishing well." May the Providers finish well, be safe, and experience an awesome time of redeployment and reintegration. My teammate, Staff Sgt. Scahill, and I look forward to being back home, and please reach out to us if we can support or serve you or your family in any way.

Blessings,

Chaplain (Maj.) Dan Braswell

Provider Shepherd

