

Sustaining

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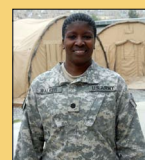
Freedom

August 2010

JSC-A Welcomes the 643rd Regional Support Group



Inside >> SOLDIER SPOTLIGHTS FROM KABUL



Sustaining Freedom August 2010



Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan

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On the Cover: Incoming KAF garrison commander, Col. Chris Gentry (left) and Command Sgt. Maj. Lawrence May (center) unfurl the 643rd RSG guidon during the TOA ceremony here July 26. (Photo by Sgt. James Burroughs)

From The Commander...



Brig. Gen. Reynold N. Hoover
JSC-A
Commanding General

Welcome to August and another milestone in our deployment. We are now within 75 days of leaving Afghanistan to begin the journey back to Camp Shelby and to our family and friends. As I look around Kandahar I see many new faces and have come to realize that we are the “grey beards” on the block. This is especially true now that the 649th Regional Support Group (RSG) has been replaced by the 643rd RSG. As such we have a responsibility to effectively begin to transfer our operational knowledge to those that will take up the charge after we leave.

As I travel around Afghanistan and visit our teammates who are engaged in the tactical logistics fight, I continue to be amazed at the pride, ingenuity and enthusiasm consistently demonstrated by our troopers regardless of their living and working conditions.

Our collective accomplishments are historic and the work everyone has done to build and sustain the force is unprecedented. Each of you should take pride in your accomplishments.

You may recall sometime ago I spoke about the importance of teamwork and of building relationships in order for us to achieve mission success. Recently, the 158th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion partnered with the Afghan National Army and the Afghan National Police and others to deliver supplies and equipment for the expansion of COP Lane. This was the first successful convoy to COP Lane since May and is a tremendous example of partnering between U.S. Forces and Afghan Security Forces.

We have also worked very closely with Joint Force Support (U.K.)

to ensure our logistics and sustainment operations are synchronized. We have exchanged officers in our respective headquarters and U.K. transporters in our Coalition Joint Movement Coordination Center in Kabul. In addition, the 68th CSSB has conducted a number of joint convoys with the U.K. and developed cross training opportunities for

our Soldiers as well as theirs.

“Our collective accomplishments are historic...and the work to sustain the force is unprecedented.”

- Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover

Many of you have met Major Powell, our USMC liaison officer who has been instrumental in coordinating movements and sustainment activities between our headquarters and the U.S. Marines operating in Regional Command (Southwest).

His presence in our headquarters and the work the men and women of the 68th CSSB are doing at Leatherneck, demonstrate more examples of how we are partnering and building relationships to make a difference and lead sustainment in Afghanistan.

But it doesn't stop there. I have been proud to point out to distinguished guests, visitors, and our own Servicemembers the uniqueness of the Joint Sustainment Command. We are a truly a joint command with members of the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines spread throughout our formation down to the team level.

We are also multi-component with personnel serving from the Active Component, Reserves and National Guard. Currently, two of our five CSSBs are National Guard units. I believe it is a great example of one team, one fight, Army Strong!

In closing, please continue to look out for your battle buddy, stay safe and stay vigilant. We are getting too close to the end of our tour and I want to bring everyone home.

CSM Kinder's Corner

By the time many of you read this article, I will be headed home for some much needed R&R. By the time I return, the 135th will have less than two months left in our deployment. The performance of personnel within this command has been nothing short of phenomenal. Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen and Marines have sacrificed much during this deployment, as well as the monumental sacrifice our families have made during our absence.

Recently, we said goodbye to our friends from the 649th RSG. They are headed home for some much needed rest. They conducted themselves well and worked tirelessly to make KAF a safe place for all U.S. Forces. As the Garrison Command, they oversaw the RSOI of thousands, provided housing, infrastructure and services to over 15,000 US service members. Thanks for a job well done.

As a result, we now welcome the 643rd RSG to our team as the new Garrison Command. They have a monumental task and large boots to fill. They are an extremely professional and competent organization and have my complete confidence they will be up to the task ahead.

Additionally, we continue to say goodbye to our fallen comrades from other organizations. If I am here at KAF, as most of you know, I am at every Ramp ceremony. If you have not at-

tended one yet, I charge you to attend. Attending a Ramp ceremony is a life changing event and brings home the ultimate sacrifice our fallen comrades and their families have made. As we send them home for the last time, we owe it to them to show them all the dignity, honor, and respect their sacrifice deserves. Anything less would be a disservice to them and the nation they defended with their last measure.

In the coming days and months, as we prepare for redeployment, we must remember to stay focused on our mission. If we become complacent at this time, our mission will suffer. Safety of our personnel during our daily activities is paramount. Continue to look out for each other's well being. Keep your personnel informed. Already our personnel are asking lots of questions regarding the pending redeployment. Give accurate and concise information. If you don't have an answer, check with HHC.



CSM Clark Kinder
JSC-A
Command Sergeant Major

See CSM page 13



JSC-A Headlines

New 1st TSC commander visits KAF, Joint Sustainment Command



The new commander of 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), Maj. Gen. Kenneth Dowd (left), tours the Kandahar Transshipment Yard (KTY) with Brig. Gen. Reynold N. Hoover (center), commander of the Joint Sustainment Command Afghanistan (JSC-A), and Col. Ed Daly (right), commander of the 43rd Sustainment Brigade, during Maj. Gen. Dowd's visit to Kandahar Airfield July 24, 2010. Dowd assumed command of the 1st TSC in Kuwait on July 15. The KTY was established by the JSC-A in March to improve the movement of supplies throughout Afghanistan.

Sgt. James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

Maj. Gen. Kenneth Dowd (right), new commander of the 1st TSC, visits the Bazaar School at Kandahar Airfield during his visit to KAF July 24. Andy Craigie (center), COMKAF J-1 Services, and Lt. Col. Dan Lonowski (left), JSC-A Public Affairs Officer, brief Dowd on the school, which opened in May 2010. The children of bazaar vendors attend the school every Saturday and are taught each week by NATO forces. The forces who volunteer their time at the school interact with the children by teaching them to read and write, and playing catch and other games with them as well.



Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cashion | Sustaining Freedom



JSC-A Headlines

JSC-A Lends Flood Assistance To Pakistan

■ BY LT. COL. DAN LONOWSKI
JSC-A Chief of Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - The Joint Sustainment Command in Afghanistan has delivered nearly 500,000 meals to Pakistan in response to severe flooding that has left at least 1,600 people dead and millions of others homeless or stranded.

According to Col. Jerry Martin, the Chief of Support Operations for the JSC-A, his organization and its down-trace units organized and prepared for the delivery of 36,412 cases of "Halal" meals (prepared per Muslim dietary customs) to Pakistan.

"The call came in at 10:15 p.m. while I was in another meeting," Martin said. "I knew it was important when I was pulled from that meeting and rushed to another (meeting)."

Martin said he met via vid-

eo teleconference with Maj. Gen. Tim McHale, deputy commander of U.S. Forces in Afghanistan Aug. 6 in order to coordinate aid to the flood victims.

Martin met with McHale and members of the 82nd Sustainment Brigade that evening.

By 2 a.m., Martin, a member of the 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, was discussing a possible humanitarian mission with his Soldiers and the 82nd Humanitarian Assistance team, a subordinate unit of the

JSC-A.

The 135th ESC is a National Guard unit from Birmingham, Ala., and is the headquarters unit of the JSC-A.

"My guys from the night-shift were getting prepared and they were coordinating with the 82nd for missions throughout the night," Martin said. "We made sure the pallets were available, the lift capabilities were in place and the meals were ready to move."

See FLOOD page 16

135th ESC Soldier appointed USFOR-A first sergeant

■ BY SGT. JAMES BURROUGHS
JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer

KABUL - Alabama National Guardsman, Sgt. 1st Class Fredrick L. Norris, a resident of Alexander City, Ala., was appointed as first sergeant of Headquarters and Headquarters Company U.S. Forces-Afghanistan July 1.

This appointment came as a surprise to Norris, who deployed to Afghanistan with the 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command in November. He was assigned as a liaison officer from the 135th to USFOR-A. As an LNO for USFOR-A, he worked in the Joint Operations Center in Kabul.

"A Guardsman never knows who is watching," said Norris. "They should always show leadership, self-confidence and professionalism. This creates opportunities where anything is possible. When they asked

me to be first sergeant, I said 'of course'."

The selection of a first sergeant is made by the unit's commander and command sergeant major. A first sergeant must have a high level of competence, energy, motivation and must be able to communicate effectively.

He also promotes enlisted welfare, morale and health issues. Additionally, he helps the commander maintain discipline and standards of conduct as well as providing guidance on matters of leadership and military justice. A first sergeant's professional conduct and appearance



Norris

USFOR-A.

must be exemplary.

"Some people might be surprised that this opening went to a Guardsman, but they shouldn't," said Command Sgt. Maj. Michael D. Howard of

"This is a joint command with Active Duty Soldiers, Guardsmen and Reservists from all branches of service," Howard said.

"We give all noncommissioned officers the same opportunity to succeed. First Sergeant Norris was the best candidate we considered."

This appointment was also a

surprise to Norris' command. "I didn't expect the call," said 135th ESC Command Sgt. Maj. Clark Kinder.

"Norris does an outstanding job and is fully capable of performing the duties," said Kinder. "If I had an opening he would be one of my first candidates to consider. When Command Sgt. Maj. Howard called I had to look up the regulations that would allow us to assign him to USFOR-A."

"The first sergeant's most important job is taking care of troops," said Norris. "I want the mission to be accomplished and the families to be cared for."

Helping others comes naturally to Norris. Back home in Alabama, he serves as Director of Operations of Laurel Heights Youth and Adult Center.

He works with kids and adults offering afternoon tutorials, GED training and activities for senior citizens.

"This was an opportunity that broadened my horizons," said Norris. "I am ready for whatever comes next."

KAF, JSC-A Welcome the 643rd Regional Support Group

Ohio-based unit assumes garrison control of KAF

■ BY LT. COL. DAN LONOWSKI
JSC-A Chief of Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - A transfer of authority ceremony took place here July 26 between the 649th Regional Support Group and the 643rd Regional Support Group.

The 649th RSG, out of Cedar Rapids, Iowa, is commanded by Col. Thomas Jones. For the last 10 months, the U.S. Army Reserve unit has made vast improvements at Kandahar Airfield while housing tens of thousands of Soldiers, with over 15,000 currently.

"We feel like what we have done is worth it," Jones said. "We are making a difference and we are seeing a difference."

The incoming unit, the 643rd RSG, based in Columbus, Ohio, is commanded by Col. Chris Gentry.

Like the 649th, the new unit will command the garrison and activities at KAF. Gentry spoke of the tasks that lay ahead, crediting the outgoing



MC2 Steven Hoskins | Sustaining Freedom
Soldiers of the 649th Regional Support Group (left) and the 643rd RSG (right) stand in formation during the July 26 Transfer of Authority ceremony at Kandahar Airfield.

unit and its commander with what they have accomplished.

"The 649th has prepared us for success in the weeks and months ahead," Gentry said. "We will continue the good work of our predecessors and maintain the effective and productive relationships established with our NATO partners."

Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover, commander of the Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan, spoke of some of the accomplishments achieved by the

649th.

"You have provided housing for tens of thousands of soldiers," Hoover said as he spoke to members of the 649th. "Col. Jones – to your Soldiers, your presence here is felt and will positively affect the lives of Soldiers who will deploy here in the coming years."

Hoover highlighted a number of the unit's accomplishments. Currently, over 15,000 U.S. service members are housed on KAF. The 649th RSG processed more than 20,000 meal

cards. Hoover also awarded the meritorious service ribbon to Jones.

Hoover expressed confidence with the incoming unit.

"With the transition period over, I have the utmost confidence in your abilities," Hoover said to the 643rd.

He also encouraged the reserve unit to "embrace the challenges."

"As we provide the logistics for 100,000 service members, it is comforting to know that the 643rd will support our needs."



Sgt. James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

Outgoing garrison commander Col. Thomas Jones (center) helps case the 649th RSG guidon during the 649th - 643rd Transfer of Authority ceremony July 26.



Sgt. James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

Incoming garrison commander Col. Chris Gentry speaks to the Soldiers during the TOA ceremony. The 643rd is based out of Columbus, Ohio.

SUSTAINING THE FORCE: JSC-A HOSTS SUICIDE PREVENTION TRAINING

New ASIST model used to teach attendees

■ BY MC2 STEVEN HOSKINS
JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - In an effort to deter the increase in Army suicides, the Joint Sustainment Command Afghanistan (JSC-A) held its first suicide intervention course here July 14-15.

Approximately 25 Soldiers participated in the course, which used Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training (ASIST), a model program developed by a Canadian company, Living Works Education. This program teaches students the skills of intervention to provide guidance to a person showing signs of suicidal intent.

Throughout the course, the class was filled with hands raised and plenty of participation. Each individual had an opportunity to interact by role playing in front of the class demonstrating different scenarios that a person at risk may be going through.

In light of June 2010 having more Army suicides than any other month in history, JSC-A Command Chaplain, Lt. Col. Theron Gunn, said he believes a change in suicide prevention training was needed.

"I am very supportive of things that work," he said. "The program that we were using was not working, because we had an increasing number of suicides over the last few years despite of our best efforts."

Gunn says it took a group effort to get the ASIST program up and running for

this course. Funding had to be approved and instructors had to be properly trained.

Due to a busy schedule, Gunn had to turn to senior Soldiers in the unit to help lead the instruction, in addition to having another chaplain trained to fill any gaps.

Master Sgt. Dennis King and Chief Warrant Officer 3 Evonne Ackerson were the ASIST lead instructors.

"They did a great job," said Gunn. "They are very enthusiastic about the ASIST program and are helping to coordinate classes to get Soldiers trained across Kandahar Airfield."

For personal reasons, Gunn stresses the importance of suicide prevention training.

one aware of this issue and it is providing a model for dealing with an at-risk Soldier."

Fawks says he enrolled in the course to learn more about suicide intervention and to provide clinical insight into the program. He compared the ASIST model to Combat Lifesavers training model, and how it increases battlefield injury survival.

He feels that the ASIST model will have the similar effect on suicides, helping to protect our Soldiers and lower the rate of suicides.

"Suicide prevention is an active process," he said. "Every Soldier should be made aware of this issue and how to approach it. I'm honored to have been involved in the in-



MC2 Steven Hoskins | Sustaining Freedom
Master Sgt. Dennis King, JSC-A Chaplain's assistant, provides a block of instruction to the attendees of the Suicide Prevention course at Kandahar Airfield July 14-15.

"My son committed suicide," he said. "I don't want any parent or loved one to have to go through that experience at all if I can help it. I am for anything that deals with intervention."

The feedback to the course seemed positive.

"It is a great program for setting the cultural tone," said Maj. Ian Fawks, JSC-A command surgeon.

"This program is working to make every-

augural event here in Afghanistan. I hope that it sets a trend for the future."

Sgt. 1st Class Felicia Newsome-Dent, 504th Military Police Battalion, says her main focus for taking the course was to assist others, and to teach and train about suicide intervention.

"I thought the course was very informative," Newsome-Dent said. "I loved the discussions among the class and instructors."

In my own words...Ramp Ceremony at KAF

■ BY PO 2ND CLASS HENRY LUCIEN GAUTHIER III

Special to Sustaining Freedom

I attended a ramp ceremony at KAF, my first.

What I was a part of was no small affair; it was not performed as if it were some monotonous ceremony repeated a hundred times before.

It was solemn, dignified and proper. It was the most important ceremony in which I have ever taken part.

We honored two Marines today. All the Marines from the unit of the fallen stood at attention in the front of the formation as we lined the ramp.

Once we were formed up behind the Marines and stood at parade rest, I heard the following: "SQUAD, HO! CLOSE ORDER, MARCH! WHEEL, RIGHT! MARK, TIME! HAAAAAAL-T!"

It was the British forming up behind us; French, Dutch, Slovaks, and Canadians as well.

The remains were carried by an Honor Guard of fellow Marines. They moved in cadence to bagpipes playing the Marine Corps Hymn as we all saluted. A Navy Chaplain read scripture and Taps sounded. We saluted again

tagonist, the Master Chief (That's right, the savior of the galaxy in the future is a Sailor, a member of the Chief's Mess to boot!), is the LCPO (Leading Chief Petty Officer) of a team of super warriors, who are only sent

that if the stakes are high enough, the end goal noble enough, and the leadership wise enough, that for someone to die in a mission he sent them on is a life spent.

These Marines to whom we paid our respects, spent their lives so that others may live and not know war as they had. I do not feel sad about this. General Patton told us that we should 'thank God that such men lived!'

My eyes watered during the ceremony, especially when I realized it was the Marine Corps Hymn sounding from the bagpipes.

But, it is not because of sorrow, it is out of gratitude; because of the renewing of my resolve from their effort, and all those before them that gave the 'last full measure of devotion' to their Nation and our ideals.

I am proud of them, honored to have served with them, and humbled to be a part of a ceremony that gave tribute to them.



Courtesy Photo

Servicemembers, civilians and comrades-in-arms offer their last respects to a Fallen Warrior during a Ramp Ceremony.

as the Marine Color Guard retired the Colors.

Back in late February I was reading a book from the HALO series, based on the video game. In it, the pro-

on impossible missions.

His inner dialog is of him coming to terms with the difference between 'spending' and 'wasting' a life. He comes to the conclusion

See WORDS page 13

Why I serve

Spc. David Bray is a unit mail clerk and also assists with the Property Book for the 135th ESC at Kandahar Airfield. His hometown is Marietta, Georgia.



Bray

I joined the Army to fight for my country. This is my first deployment and so far I have no complaints.

I work as a unit mail clerk and assist with our property books when needed. Maintaining the property book is very important because there are millions of dollars to manage. Of course, being the "mail man" boosts Soldiers' morale.

I have four children and a fiancée who also serves in the Alabama National Guard.

Before joining the Army, I was headed down the wrong path. Two of my best friends were killed at an early age and they were on the same path as I was. That turned out to be an eye opener for me.

Life is too short. I want to leave this earth being someone special - a father, a husband, a God-fearing man and putting my life on the line for others...a Soldier.





**M
W
R
NIGHT**



4th Battalion, 401st AFSB Changes Leadership

■ BY LT. COL. DAN LONOWSKI
JSC-A Chief of Public Affairs

Lt. Col. Lee G. Lienemann assumed command of the 4th Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade during a ceremony at Kandahar Airfield August 9.

Lienemann took command from Lt. Col. James D. Eidt, Jr., who has commanded the 401st AFSB since last November.

"He (Eidt) stood this unit up and surrounded himself with an excellent team," said Col. Richard O'Conner, the 401st Brigade commander. "Under his dynamic leadership, his team has increased war fighter tactical ability and survivability. He took care of his people."

"I might get the credit," Eidt said

in reference to O'Conner's praise, "but the people in this battalion deserve all the credit. The people on the team did all the work."

Lienemann served as the sustainment chief for an operations group in Fort Leavenworth, Kan. prior to deploying to Afghanistan and assuming this position. Lienemann, who resides in Fayetteville, N.C., said he looked forward to the challenge.

"Lieutenant Colonel Eidt has done an excellent job with the team," Lienemann said. "We need to continue forward. We need to continue the mission."

Eidt, who resides in Daphne, Ala., will remain with the 401st where he will assume the position of chief of support operations.



Sgt. James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

Lt. Col. James D. Eidt, Jr. (center left) relinquishes command to Lt. Col. Lee G. Lienemann (center right) during 4th Battalion, 401st AFSB change of command which took place August 9 at Kandahar Airfield. Eidt had commanded the unit since November 2009.

Chaplain's Message

■ BY CAPT. (CH) ANTHONY
HOLLOWAY

JSC-A Family Life Chaplain

"Home." Now that is a word that gets a Soldier's attention. Whether deployed overseas or stationed somewhere stateside, the average Soldier thinks about home a great deal. I suppose it has always been so. I remember back to Fort Hood, Texas.

One of the medical case workers had in his cubicle a facsimile of an old Latin document. He explained that it recorded part of an "SRP" the Roman Army conducted over 2,000 years ago.

Just like us, a Roman Legion heading for deployment had to be checked medically, financially and legally.

Just like us, they thought of home. Imagine a Roman Soldier comparing the beautiful, temperate land we now call

Italy to the dry wasteland of, say, southern Palestine (which had its share of insurgents too) and you can feel the connection. You can bet they were as ready to get to their homes as we are to get to ours.

But when I hear someone say, "I'm ready to go home" or "I'm ready to get out of here," I often wonder what they mean.

While people often use the two statements interchangeably, their meanings are not necessarily interchangeable. "I'm ready to go home," implies the Soldier misses home and all that goes with it.

He may miss his wife, children, parents, friends, job, church, school, etc. This Soldier cannot wait to get back and be active once again in his former life.

On the other hand, "I'm ready to get out of here," puts

the emphasis on leaving this place behind along with all the things that make it unpleasant: long work hours, threats of rocket attacks, and dining facility food, to name a few.

Home has comfortable beds, comfortable clothes, good food, entertainment, safety, and freedom.

But home can have its share of problems as well. There are often things at home that need attention and can be fixed only with much effort.

I have seen an extreme situation where a person did not want to go home at all. He had spent much of the previous 20 years of his life on deployments, temporary duties and long work hours. All of these things he did to avoid an unhappy home.

When I talked with him, he was at the end of his rope and his rope, so to speak. Af-

ter this deployment he faced retirement. He felt there was nowhere left for him to run. After all those years, he would eventually stand at his own front door where the problems he fled sat waiting.

While most Soldiers do not face such an extreme situation, it is common to look at home with some trepidation.

Perhaps a Soldier must return to a job he hates or to a troubled relationship. Most likely, any problems you left at home are still there.

We each have to consider our own situations. Do you want to go home or do you want to get out of here? How do you plan to deal with those things waiting for you? Like the man facing retirement, we will all stand at our own front doors before we know it and it will be time to deal with the issues waiting there.

Cauley's Corner: Built in Memory of a Fallen Warrior

■ BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE CASHION
JSC-A Public Affairs NCOIC

FOB LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan - Situated in Helmand Province, supporting Regional Command South-west, are the Soldiers of the 68th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion (CSSB).

One of the 68th CSSB's subordinate units, the 811th Ordnance (OD) Company, arrived in Afghanistan late in 2009 and quickly discovered that calling home and surfing the Internet was not as easy as it was at some other locations in Afghanistan.

More specifically, there wasn't a dedicated facility on the FOB that allowed Soldiers to do those things. So they decided to do something about it.

"We wanted to build something by the Soldiers for the Soldiers," said Master Sgt. Joseph Gebron, first sergeant for the 811th OD Company.

As a result, beginning on the first day of 2010 appropriately enough, approximately 11 Soldiers began the arduous process of constructing a Morale, Welfare and Recreation center.

Led by project noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Staff Sgt. Richard Ferguson, and technical experts Staff Sgt. Donald Mott and Spc. Carl Kenyon, the plot for the building was determined, materials were gathered and tools acquired to begin the project.

"It wasn't very hard to build," said Kenyon, who has since been promoted to Sergeant. "The toughest thing was getting all of the materials together. The 811th had some very skilled and hard-working Soldiers

to complete it."

In reality, it wasn't easy to construct a 64x30 building. It had to be built near sources of power, it had to be wired for phone and computer usage, lighting and electrical receptacles had to be included in addition to constructing a 53x11 porch.

Obviously, erecting a building in the heat of the Afghan desert can be extremely challenging.

"It took some long, hot days to make what you see today," said Mott.

After more than four months work, the MWR officially opened May 1 with a ribbon-cutting ceremony.

Where there were hardly any areas on FOB Leatherneck to call home or get on the internet prior to construction, the new building supports 20 computer terminals, ten telephone terminals a game room and a theater.

"I feel proud that I was able to contribute to the morale of those who use the MWR facility," said Mott.

Not only is the MWR open to Soldiers at

FOB Leatherneck but it is also available to Marines, contractors and DoD civilians stationed there as well.

And those who use the facility on a regular basis surely notice the sign above the door which reads, "Cauley's Corner."

The MWR was named in honor of Spc. George Cauley, a member of the 114th Transportation Company, Minnesota National Guard, which was stationed at FOB Leatherneck through May 2010.

Cauley, an outstanding young Soldier and the unit's first guidon bearer, died October 10, 2009, from injuries sustained in an IED attack against his convoy in Helmand Province three days earlier.

Upon completion of "Cauley's Corner," Kenyon summed up the feelings of many.

"I'm proud that the 811th built the first hard-stand MWR center on Leatherneck," said Kenyon.

"I'm glad it gives service members (and civilians) a place to hang out, watch movies or contact friends and loved ones back home."



Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cashion | Sustaining Freedom

Soldiers stationed at FOB Leatherneck relax on the porch of "Cauley's Corner," an MWR facility built by members of the 811th Ordnance Company. Construction began January 1, 2010, and opened with a ribbon-cutting ceremony which took place May 1.



Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cashion | Sustaining Freedom

"Cauley's Corner" is equipped with 20 computer terminals, ten phone hookups, a game room and a theater. The facility is open not only for Soldiers of the 68th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, but also to Marines, DoD civilians and contractors stationed at FOB Leatherneck.

Soldier Spotlight

Master Sgt. Joe E. King is a native of Odenville, Ala., and currently serves as the NCOIC

of the Personnel Accountability Team at the passenger terminal of the Kabul International Airport (KAIA). The team consists of Soldiers assigned from different units that make up the JSC-A and Coalition Forces.

What do you do for the Army? We account for the arrival and departure of personnel during the 24-hour

operation of flights to and from Kabul.

What has your deployment been like?

My tour has been great. I have worked for some good people from different units and countries. I have gotten to see more of the country than I thought I would. I have been to Mazar-e-Sharif, Kabul and KAF.

King

What will you do when you return home? I will see my wife Margie, who has supported me during both of my tours. I will soon be retiring after 40 years of service.

Lt. Col. Marc Neely is a native of Huntsville, Ala., and currently serves as the 135th's Liaison officer to the headquarters of the International Security Assistance Force in Kabul, Afghanistan.

What do you do for the Army? I track the force flow from the strategic point of view. This is a daunting task because of the many organizations and countries which personnel and equipment

pass through.

What has your deployment been like? It has been very dynamic. I have moved through several HQs before ending here with the highest command, HQ ISAF. The professionalism and teamwork of the coalition partners is rewarding and refreshing. I have learned that logistics is not very different no matter

what country you come from.

What will you do when you return home? I am looking forward to seeing my wife and three children - Jackson, Caroline and Kayla.



Neely

■ BY LT. COL. DAN LONOWSKI
JSC-A Chief of Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - As combat operations were drawing down in Vietnam in 1972, the United States continued to keep a military presence in the country. For one Alabama National Guardsman, the war - and his career - were just beginning.

Thirty eight years ago, Sgt. 1st Class David Kelly, then a young Navy Seaman and graduate from Navy Basic Training, was flown to Subic Bay near the Philippines and stationed on a ship. He remained on that ship, the U.S.S. Saratoga, for six months before returning stateside.

Now, after continuing to serve his country for all these years, Kelly is deployed again, this time to Afghanistan with the 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command, a National Guard unit from Birmingham, Ala. The odds of deploying to Vietnam and Afghanistan are nearly mathematically impossible.

Kelly completed his initial enlistment with the Navy and joined the Navy Reserve. He attended Auburn University, receiving a bachelor's degree in Business Administration in 1982. In 1984, Kelly joined the Army National Guard where



From Vietnam... ...to Afghanistan



he earned a full-time position.

As a full-time Guardsman, Kelly became a purchasing agent and remained in



Kelly

the supply arena. He has worked in food service and food purchasing equipment for several years with the Guard. Kelly has

also worked in supply, where he has assisted Soldiers in ordering clothing and field gear.

Even though Kelly hasn't deployed since 1972, the Vietnam veteran said the prospect of deploying again did not deter his willingness to continue to serve.

"My family has always been very supportive," Kelly said, adding that his wife Teresa and two grown children, Christopher and Elizabeth, have never second guessed his decision to continue his career. "My wife and I had talked on a couple occasions about it. I knew sooner or later I would be called to fill a vacancy."

Kelly acknowledged, however, that none of his family members were a part of his last deployment. This experience is new for them. He and Teresa had not yet married, or even met when he deployed to the Philippines.

See KELLY page 15

CSM Continued from page 3

They are working the redeployment plan hard and will be able to answer most questions.

Remember, pedestrians do not have the right of way when crossing roads on KAF. Always walk facing traffic and wear a reflective belt at night or during periods of limited visibility. Headphones are not authorized for wear with any U.S. uniforms or while walking or running on KAF. They also present a significant safety hazard since you may not hear vehicles approaching.

Leave the wildlife alone. Snakes and scorpions are

deadly here in Afghanistan. If you see them, do not approach, call vector control. If you are bitten or stung, seek immediate medical attention.

For additional information on types for snakes, scorpions, and spiders contact the JSC-A Safety Office. They will be glad to provide the information.

As we get closer to the end of our tour, now is not the time to get complacent on force protection. Take immediate action on hearing the Big Voice notification of an attack. Drop to the ground for a minimum of two minutes and then take appropriate cover. Ninety nine percent of those personnel injured did not drop immediately.

We still need to maintain

standards in appearance and discipline.

Every servicemember has the obligation to make on-the-spot corrections. We are a professional force and should always present ourselves in that manner. U.S. military personnel are not authorized to wear civilian clothing in Afghanistan or here on KAF. Male and female haircuts should always be within military standards as well as mustaches for male personnel. If there is a question pertaining to these standards, refer to AR 670-1.

In December 2009 we assumed the monumental task of sustaining and building the force. We have seen the arrival of Force Package 1 and Force

Package 2. In August we will approach the conclusion of the buildup as we close out Force Package 3.

We've moved tens of thousands of personnel and their equipment, expanded bases, and supplied the logistics to sustain them. The task ahead of us was monumental, but everyone was up to the task. What we have accomplished thus far has been historic.

In the next few months we will continue to strive for excellence as we prepare to hand the reins over to the 184th ESC. Our presence here has been felt throughout Afghanistan and will continue to be felt for a long time to come.

You have been and still are "Sustaining Freedom."

WORDS Continued from page 8

After the ceremony I started to think about how the "Fallen Heroes" will continue to be honored once returned to U.S. soil: The escort that the Patriot Guard Riders, Warrior's Watch, and many others will provide as the Fallen Warrior's remains make their way home.

I began to think about how different it was for those who served in Vietnam and Korea. Where in Korea much was readily forgotten and the Vietnam era had a culture of ignorance and hate for all things military.

Today, we servicemen are not treated that way. Because of the efforts of so many, I will not know anything like that nor will the deceased.

Those who came before us and others now defend our hard-earned honor. We defend your freedom, you defend our honor.

This is a bond I now fully understand and for which I am deeply grateful.



DoD's Dr. Ashton Carter visits JSC-A

■ STORY AND PHOTO BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE CASHION
JSC-A Public Affairs NCOIC

Dr. Ashton Carter, the Under Secretary of Defense for Acquisition, Technology and Logistics at The Pentagon, visited the Joint Sustainment Command Afghanistan July 10.

During his fact-finding visit, Dr. Carter received a briefing from the

JSC-A commander, Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover (pictured above), on the current logistical mission in Afghanistan. Dr. Carter also received a tour of the JSC-A's Joint Operations Center and ate lunch with several unit Soldiers in the Luxembourg Dining facility.

Joining Dr. Carter on his visit to Afghanistan was U.S. Marine Lt. Gen. John Paxton, the U.S. Joint Staff Director of Operations.

Soldier Spotlight

Lt. Col. Rachel Clay Walker is a native of Talladega, Ala., and currently serves as the 135th ESC senior liaison officer to the headquarters of U.S. Forces-Afghanistan in Kabul.

What do you do for the Army? I represent the JSC-A and J4 (Supply and Logistics) at USFOR-A.

I provide logistics input to the planning for projects, briefings, meetings and conferences. Everything we do is about supporting the troops in the field and giving

them the supplies they need.

What has your deployment been like? This has been a fast-

paced tour. I can't even guess at the number of meetings I have attended. Everything that the JSC-A does impacts a great number of people.

Has anyone else from your family served? I have a nephew, Dekelvin Garrett, who

was serving with the Air Force at Kandahar when I arrived. I also have two cousins serving in Afghanistan now, Kelvin Smith in the Army and Brad Brock in the Marines.



Walker

Master Sgt. James Beasley is a native of Ozark, Ala., and currently serves as one of the 135th ESC liaison officers to the headquarters of U.S. Forces-Afghanistan in Kabul.

What do you do for the Army?

I work as a liaison officer at Kabul to ensure mutual understanding and a unity of purpose between USFOR-A and JSC-A. An accurate exchange of information is necessary, especially when conducting multinational operations that

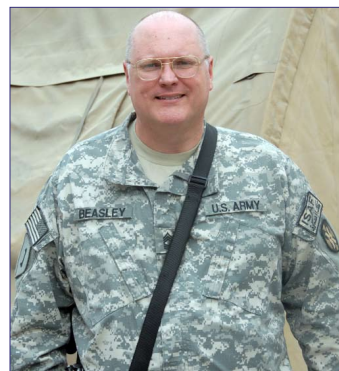
supply the warfighters.

What has your deployment been like? I was surprised to be

sent to Kabul as a liaison officer because I expected to work with the 135th ESC in Kandahar. It has been personally beneficial to work at a higher HQ.

What has been most memorable for you? The counter

insurgency training here at the COIN center in Kabul. I learned about the history of the Afghan culture. The best part was meeting with local nationals.



Beasley



'Bad Ballers' win KAF Softball "Stanley Cup"

■ STORY AND PHOTOS BY MC2 STEVEN HOSKINS
JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - Putting their 135th ESC Father's Day Softball title on the line, the 135th ESC 'Bad

Ballers' captured the Kandahar Airfield Softball "Stanley Cup" July 19, topping the Air Force Flyboys, the Navy Use-to-Bees and the Civilian Mixed Nuts.

The Bad Ballers won a pair of close games, both of which went down to the wire. They

defeated the Civilians 15-14 and then won the championship by downing the Navy 8-7.

Members of the Bad Ballers softball team include Maj. Steve Yarnell, Capt. Jason Mann, Sgt. Dawn Dunbar, Sgt. Edwin Romero, Sgt. 1st. Class Anthony Bright, Spc. Jason Trucks, Lt. Col. David Koon, Capt. James Washington, Sgt. 1st Class Michael Clark, Spc.

Adam Ritch, Spc. Willie Wise, Sgt. Joi Dawson, Staff Sgt. Sam Coleman, Master Sgt. Walter Jones, Maj. Sheldon Hamilton, Sgt. 1st Class Scott Busenlehner, and Sgt. 1st Class Patrick Arthurs.

The Bad Ballers presented the championship trophy to JSC-A Commander Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover in a ceremony which took place August 5 at the JSC-A.



JOINT NETWORK NODE Keeps People Connected

■ STORY AND PHOTO BY SPC. NICHOLAS HURT

82nd SB Public Affairs

FOB DEH DADI, Afghanistan – The Joint Network Node (JNN) platoon has been keeping communications flow smooth for about three months now at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Deh Dadi to ensure that the mission is not interrupted.

The JNN provides all unclassified and secret communications on FOB Deh Dadi.

“Without us, there is no communication on this FOB,” said 1st Lt. Devron Gardner. Gardner is the officer-in-charge of the JNN from the 82nd Special Troops Battalion, Bravo Company.

“We are currently the only line between the 250 users we support and the outlying FOB’s,” he said. “With our support, they are able to run the sustainment mission by tracking vehicles, movements, mail, equipment and troops.”

Everything at FOB Deh Dadi is hard-wired so any time someone new arrives, a new line is run from the worksite to that person’s computer.

Additionally, the JNN recently wrapped up a two-month mission at FOB Orgun - E doing the same thing in support of the 87th Combat Support Sustainment Battalion

(CSSB).

“This seems to be the final stand for JNN until further notice,” said Gardner.

One member of the platoon, Spc. Joe Reagan, is a multi-channel transmission systems maintainer and operator. He has been working with the JNN platoon since March 2006 and



Equipment of the Joint Network Node is up and running to support connectivity at FOB Deh Dadi.

is on his second deployment.

The JNN non-commissioned officer-in-charge (NCOIC), Sgt. 1st Class Deshon Barrow, is responsible for

managing the infrastructure and communications for the area with temporary systems until a permanent system is in place.

“At two convoys a day and on average 30 days in a month, that’s 60 movements a month all being tracked thanks to hard work and dedication,” said Barrow.

Barrow also mentioned that keeping morale high among Soldiers is one of his priorities.

“With this FOB not having a solid dining facility, laundry facility or a gym, you can’t maintain a stranglehold on Soldiers,” Barrow said. “In order to combat the monotony and keep morale up at a certain part of the day, I allow them some freedom,” said Barrow.

He concluded, “the Soldiers have built all they have here so it gives them a sense of greater self worth. It’s gratifying.”

From the desk of the Inspector General

■ BY MAJ. STEVEN YARNELL
JSC-A Inspector General

Hello from the JSC-A Command Inspector General’s office! This month’s topic is a very important part of being a Soldier.

Financial support to dependents that is governed by Army Regulation (AR) 608-99. Soldier’s have the responsibility of financially supporting their dependents.

For National Guard and Reservists who are called to Active Duty in support of the Global War on Terror (GWOT) or any call up that puts a Soldier on Title 10 status, AR 608-99 is the Army Regulation that helps Commanders with this subject.

If a Soldier has a civilian court order that dictates financial support, that court

order is in good standing while deployed. Being deployed does not preclude a Soldier from following civilian court order.

If a Soldier deploys and does not have a civilian court order, AR 608-99 dictates a local Staff Judge Advocate can help determine the amount owed to dependents.

If a commander receives notification of a Soldier within their command who’s not providing financial support to their dependents, the commander has the responsibility to follow up and make a determination through fact gathering.

Part of a commander’s responsibility and authority is to ensure his/her Soldiers are properly taking care of their dependents’ financial issues.

It’s the commander’s responsibility to keep the complainant informed and to reply within fourteen days. Soldiers should be proactive when contacted by their commander to resolve these issues.

Soldiers can be disciplined by their commander if these issues are not resolved. Soldiers must take their financial responsibilities very serious.

Many times a family depends solely on the Soldier for financial assistance as the spouse does not work.

As this topic is not often in the forefront of many commanders’ minds, when it does arise, it should be dealt with swiftly and in a timely manner.

Until next month!!
DROIT ET AVANT!



➤ **KELLY**
Continued from page 3

While in the Navy, Kelly served in personnel services, caring for the records of all Seamen on the ship. Today, it is an area in which Kelly continues to serve.

Kelly is a member of Joint Forces Headquarters in Montgomery, Ala. When the 135th ESC called Kelly up to deploy with the unit, he was placed in a warehouse supply position. However, as the unit reviewed its needs, Kelly was moved to food service specialist.

Kelly said a lot has changed in the military, noting that technology has revolutionized how we do business. He said, however, that Soldiers are still Soldiers. Kelly said loyalty, standards and training are still cornerstones that allow our military to remain the force it is today.

House call: Doc's Advice



■ BY MAJ. IAN FAWKS
JSC-A Command Surgeon

This tour has taken a toll on all of the members of the 135th and the JSC-A. We all have been affected by the heat, the dust, the rockets, the food, the poo pond, the uneven ground and the various other inhospitable conditions here in Southern Afghanistan.

Medical diagnoses that I've seen in my short time here include: ankle sprains, low back injuries, worsening of lung conditions and concussions. Some of you have gone to the doctor and some haven't.

It is important to get any and all injuries documented as Line of Duty injuries so that these issues can be cared for once you return home. By documenting the issue while in country, it makes it easier to clear out processing at Camp

Shelby and it also makes it easier for your state to begin the process of getting the problem corrected.

A Line of Duty is a document (DA 2173) which annotates the injury and the status of the Soldier. Any injury occurred while on Active Duty is covered as long as it is documented.

There is a process of covering injuries that occurred but were not documented. However, the whole process is a lot easier if the paperwork is done here.

The Line of Duty form has a section that is filled out by HHC and also a portion that is filled out by me. Sgt. Mills in HHC is responsible for filling out their portion. There are also other forms that need to be filled out by the Soldier. The two main forms are a HIPPA form (medical privacy form) and a sworn statement of what happened.

The Soldier can elect not to make a statement but it is more helpful to me if they do make a statement. There are also some other forms that are from the state of Alabama that Sgt. Mills can help complete. Once the Line of Duty is initiated at HHC it is then sent to me.

I review the form and the statement. I also review the medical records in TMDS (Theatre Medical Data System). This stores all the notes that are generated at Role 1 or 3.

If a Soldier hasn't seen a provider then I usually bring them in for a visit. Once I verify that an injury occurred or a medical problem was made worse during Active Duty then I can validate and sign the form.

It isn't a long process but it can take time to investigate the situation. The majority of the work has to be completed by the Soldier before the form gets to me for completion.

The bottom line is that if a

Soldier is injured while on Active Duty then the military is responsible for taking care of the situation.

This can occur after being released from Active Duty and the Line of Duty form allows the State to take care of the issue. It is very similar to Workman's Compensation in the civilian world.

It would be advisable to seek medical care for any injury or medical situation that has occurred or worsened while here in Afghanistan. Even if it doesn't lead to a Line of Duty, it is still in your best interest.

Speaking from my experience working for the State Surgeon's office in Missouri, by documenting the events during Active Duty here in Afghanistan it will make the whole process easier once you all return to your home stations.

I'm in my office if you have any questions about this process.

>> FLOOD

Continued from page 4

Martin said because of the nature of the relief efforts, special requirements were needed. The 82nd SB humanitarian relief team typically provides aid to Afghanistan.

As this mission was not in

support of military operations in Afghanistan, the U.S. State Department was involved with the coordination.

The meals were moved to the airfield and prepared for movement. Eighteen flights consisting of C-130s and C-17s from various National Guard states accepted the palletted meals from the 82nd SB.

The aircraft then moved the

emergency meals to Pakistan.

The 82nd SB and the JSC-A are prepared to send other items such as cots and clothing if called upon according to Martin.



Photo Courtesy Bagram Media Support Center

Men from the town of Kalam form a chain to quickly unload a U.S. Army Chinook helicopter that has delivered humanitarian assistance and to pick up victims of the Pakistan flood.

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NIGHTSHIFT

Working on the...



A Lesson in AR 670-1...or a Tribute to Vulcan 3?

ROGER - PROCEED!



Accident reporting: Why is it important?

■ BY CW3 FRANCES KIDD
JSC-A Safety OIC

What is so important about an AGAR (Abbreviated Ground Accident Report, DA 285-AB)? Why does the accident need to be reported? Glad you asked...

The AGAR is designed to enable the Army to identify lessons learned, Army-wide problems, and problematic trends.

There are three questions that the AGAR will help answer: What happened? Why it happened? What do we do about it?

Every accident needs to be reported in order to assist supervisors/leaders in answering those three basic questions.

The primary focus is to identify root causes and

prevent the same type of accidents from recurring.

The form is NOT designed to find fault, embarrass or punish the Soldier(s) involved.

When the JSC-A accidents are briefed to leaders your name will never be used. Even the section in which you work is not revealed.

Most accidents are preventable by eliminating one or more root causes; however, a few accidents—minor and major—may still occur.

To help determine if you experienced an Army accident, go to this link:

<https://safety.army.mil/Portals/accidentreporting/docs/385-40Chart.pdf>

This link will help you determine the classification of

the accident:

<https://safety.army.mil/LinkClick.aspx?fileticket=b-SxVtgVSVw%3d&tabid=470>

For guidance in completing the form go to this link to find DA Pam 385-10:

http://www.army.mil/usapa/epubs/pdf/p385_40.pdf

This reference will guide you line by line.

Remember, first aid comes first! Before you worry about reports and forms, be sure that you get medical attention if you need it. Your health is the first concern.

Report the accident to your immediate supervisor and the safety office. Working together, you and your

first line supervisor should complete the AGAR and forward it to the Safety Office. If you have any questions or have any difficulty completing the AGAR, call or email the JSC-A Safety Office and we will assist you.

Ultimately the information gathered from the AGAR will be used to help leaders with trends, analysis and prevention/mitigation.

The bottom line is to reduce accidents and prevent the same type accidents from happening again by gathering facts and sharing the data among commanders/leaders/supervisors.

Always Remember...
~~SAFETY IS A WAY
OF LIFE~~

KAF Warrant Officer Corps Celebrates 92nd Birthday



■ STORY BY SGT. 1ST CLASS JOE CASHION
JSC-A Public Affairs NCOIC

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - Members of the Kandahar Airfield chapter of the Warrant Officers Association gathered at the Four Seasons Restaurant July 9 to celebrate the 92nd birthday of the time-honored corps.

The featured speaker for the event was JSC-A Commander, Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover. The evening also featured a barbeque meal, desserts and a birthday cake.

According to the U.S. Army Warrant Officer Corps, the military rank of “warrant officer” dates back more than 200 years before Columbus.

The official birthday of the

Army Warrant Officer Corps is July 9, 1918, when Congress established the Army Mine Planter Service as part of the Coast Artillery.

The symbol of the Warrant Officer represents “The Eagle

Rising,” showing wings displayed standing in a bundle of two arrows, all enclosed in a wreath.

The Warrant Officer is defined as a technical expert, combat leader, trainer and

advisor. They also possess high levels of specialization in the particular field where they serve.

Currently, the JSC-A has approximately 17 Warrant Officers serving.



MC2 Steven Hoskins | Sustaining Freedom

Members of the JSC-A Warrant Officer Corps (posing with Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover) include, from left, Warrant Officer 1 Chris Parham, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Frances Kidd, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Phillip Boillat and Chief Warrant Officer 4 Ricky Medley.

JSC-A holds Promotion Ceremony for five Soldiers



Photos by MC2 Steven Hoskins | Sustaining Freedom

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - The Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan held a promotion ceremony for five Soldiers July 19. Those promoted in the above left picture are (from left) Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Mendez, Maj. Pamela Phillips, Maj. Erick Murphy and Lt. Col. Mack Walker. In the picture on the right, being promoted is Chief Warrant Officer 2 Rebecca Scafedi. JSC-A Commander Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover applauds all of the deserving Soldiers!



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