



# Sustaining Freedom October 2010



## Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan

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**On the Cover:** Covers of the Sustaining Freedom magazine are displayed from the assumption of the mission in December 2009 through completion of the tour this month. The 184th ESC will assume the sustainment mission beginning October 17.



# From The Commander...



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

Who would have thought that October would ever get here? We are now within days of our Transfer of Authority, our advance party to Camp Shelby is on their way and our replacements now outnumber us. Over the months I have written about the enormity of our mission, our accomplishments, our legacy and our return home.

Just to name a few, the numbers of miles driven, meals served, passengers moved, gallons of fuel issued are impressive and are evidence of the history the Joint Sustainment Command – Afghanistan

(JSC-A) has made leading sustainment.

Make no mistake; it has been a team effort. We are indebted to the 82nd Sustainment Brigade and their downtrace units who arrived with us in December of last year. The 43rd Sustainment Brigade and their subordinate units hit the ground in early March and quickly made their mark in the South and West. But the teamwork did not stop there, as the 401st Army Field Support Brigade and the 419th Movement Control Battalion became key enablers to the JSC-A, helping us make sure the theater was set and cargo was moved to support the commanders in the field. To all our units in the formation, thank you.

Behind the scenes, and behind the round-the-clock operations, there were other quiet accomplishments that also helped to mark our deployment. Seven children were born to members of the Command as Capt. Thompson, Capt. Prigel, Capt. Moore, Capt. Washington, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Abrams, Staff Sgt. Dakins, and Spc. Trucks all became proud parents of newborns.

Not to be outdone, and while they do not look old enough, Chief Warrant Officer 2 Estes, Lt. Col. Medley, Spc. Green, Master Sgt. Nolan, Sgt. 1st Class Moore and Master Sgt. Womack all became grandparents. I know they are going to be very excited to see their new babies and grandbabies.

There were other personal achievements as well. Staff Sgt. Pennington, for example, obtained her Bachelor of Arts degree. Col. Butters finished two years of course work and graduated from the U.S. Army War College obtaining a Master's Degree. Maj. Chris Butler completed the Intermediate Level Education (ILE) course to complete his military education requirement. Oftentimes after work hours you could find these Soldiers working on their coursework. Congratulations for a job well done.

But, academics did not occupy all our spare time. After fierce competition, Staff Sgt. McCormack out push-up'ed Lt. Col. Lonowski - but both did more than 25,000 push-ups each between March and October. No small feat.

And what about our runners? Eleven of us, myself included, ran our first half marathon under very unforgiving conditions (including the threat of rocket attack). Those runners included: Maj. Yarnell, Capt. Payne, Master Sgt. Davis, Staff Sgt. Garrett, Staff Sgt. Lilly, Spc. Ritch, Sergeant Maj. Pelt, Col. Martin, and Col. Butters.

These personal achievements are just as important as what this Command has accomplished since December of last year. They represent the personal and human side of life, they represent our own drive and desire to succeed and they represent the good that can come out of an otherwise difficult and challenging combat deployment.

**See CG page 17**

## CSM Kinder's Corner

As most are acutely aware, this will be my last article prior to the 135th Sustainment Command heading home to the land of the "Big PX." There is no doubt that this has been a long, hard ride filled with stress and hardship. Every organization within the Command, not just the headquarters, has borne the hardship with pride, professionalism and accomplishment, ever striving for excellence.

We have much to be proud of. We were able to sustain a force of more than 65,000 while simultaneously surging another 30,000 personnel and their equipment into theater. At over 9,700 strong, our personnel are in all of the six Regional Commands within Afghanistan, as well as Qatar, Kuwait and Kyrgyzstan.

We have increased throughput through the GLOCs and ALOCs as well as increased visibility of all movements. Visibility, accountability and material readiness have improved remarkably. The impact of this command is marked in the billions of dollars handled in contracts, financial transactions and purchases, equipment, material, fuel and rations.

The magnitude of these accomplishments is truly remarkable. The Joint Sustainment Command – Afghanistan has definitely made a significant impact in the history of warfare.

This tour has been an exceptional opportunity not only to operate in a truly joint environment with other U.S. Forces, but to

also work in a combined environment with our NATO and partner nations. As for myself, I have made many friends across Afghanistan, both U.S. and coalition, and will never forget the experiences and opportunity this deployment has given me.

As we pass the torch to the 184th ESC and welcome the new CSM, Command Sgt. Maj. Jeffrey Riggs, I am confident you will support him in the outstanding manner in which you have supported me.

The 184th Sustainment Command is an exceptional organization comprised of exceptional personnel. I am confident they will set the bar even higher in the sustainment arena. My best wishes for greater success go with them as they accept the mantle of leadership of this phenomenal organization.

Finally, I'd like to take a moment to remember our Fallen Warriors. They have made the ultimate sacrifice for our nation in defense of freedom.



**CSM Clark Kinder**  
**JSC-A**  
**Command Sergeant Major**

**See CSM page 16**



# JSC-A Headlines



**JSC-A Commander Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover (left) and British Lt. Cmdr. Phil Rosindale (right)**

## British Sailor presented with US Medal

■ STORY AND PHOTO BY SGT JAMES BURROUGHS

*JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer*

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - British Lt. Cmdr. Phil Rosindale received the Army Commendation Medal from the Joint Sustainment Command – Afghanistan in a ceremony here September 15 for exceptional duty as a liaison officer between U.S. and British sustainment forces.

Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover, the commander of the JSC-A, made the presentation to Rosindale at the JSC-A headquarters.

The citation credits Rosindale, a British Navy Reservist, with being an integral participant in

establishing the joint operations between multiple coalition forces that greatly improved supply operations in Afghanistan.

It wasn't easy to present Rosindale with the award, as the JSC-A had to work through the U.S. Embassies in Kabul and London to secure special permission from the British Navy to receive an Army award.

Rosindale was mobilized again in September 2009 to assist the JSC-A as liaison officer.

His future plans include returning home to his reserve unit in Plymouth, England. He also plans to seek a Regional or National Reserve Appointment or promotion.

## JSC-A Soldiers, Airmen Earn Awards

■ STORY AND PHOTO BY SGT JAMES BURROUGHS

*JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer*

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - Four JSC-A Soldiers and Airmen received awards for the service during their mission in Afghanistan during a ceremony here September 27.

Receiving awards in the photo (right) from left to right were Air Force Staff Sgt. Alfredo Burroughs and Army Sgt. 1st Class John Burdette, who received the Joint Service Commendation Medal and NATO-ISAF Medal.

Army Capt. Damon Reed (second from right) earned the Joint Service Commendation Medal and Air Force Capt. Michael Roberts (far right) earned the Defense Meritorious Service Medal.



**Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover, commander of the JSC-A, congratulates those who earned awards during their tour in Afghanistan in a ceremony September 27 at the JSC-A headquarters.**





# JSC-A Headlines

## Joint Sustainment Command – Afghanistan hosts US Naturalization Ceremony

■ BY SGT 1ST CLASS JOE CASHION

*JSC-A Public Affairs NCOIC*

**KANDAHAR AIRFIELD**  
- Becoming a United States citizen is a dream for many and for approximately 90 Servicemembers serving on the battlefields of Afghanistan, that dream was realized in a Naturalization ceremony here October 1.

The service was coordinated and hosted by the Joint Sustainment Command – Afghanistan in conjunction with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services (USCIS) office.

The JSC-A commander, Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover, set the tone for the event.

“It’s a great day here in Kandahar and it’s especially a great day to become an American,” Hoover said.

The ceremony was the first U.S. naturalization service to take place at KAF and according to Steve Bucher of the USCIS, it was a huge success.

“This is very exciting,” said Bucher. “We have done several in Afghanistan but this is our first ceremony here. It is very important to get the word out to commanders that there is a way to get Servicemembers naturalized through the military.”

“During the rehearsals, you could see where those becoming citizens were getting more and more excited (about becoming



SGT James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

**Some of the approximately 90 Servicemembers take the Oath of Allegiance during the naturalization service held here October 1. The JSC-A worked with the United States Citizenship and Immigration Services office to bring the servicemembers together from the battlefields of Afghanistan in order to become U.S. citizens.**

citizens),” added Bucher.

Servicemembers from 37 countries were represented, forming a diverse and unique group. The event’s keynote speaker, Maj. Gen. Timothy McHale, noted that in his remarks

“Diversity is our strength and yours will strengthen this country,” said McHale, the Deputy Commander for Support, U.S. Forces Afghanistan.

“Savor the moment,” continued McHale. “Congratulate each other. You have already proven your passion to this country.”

The daunting logistical task of naturalizing nearly 90 new U.S. citizens was not easy to accomplish, according to

Bucher.

“These ceremonies dwarf wedding planning,” Bucher said. “The amount of logistics involved is enormous. We are pulling these individuals from their units and their missions. Also, traveling here is not ideal so getting a person from ‘point A’ to ‘point B’ can take several days.

“It takes a lot of paperwork, interviews and phone calls back to the United States,” Bucher concluded.

Among the group naturalized included nine Servicemembers under the JSC-A. Pfc. Vince Brackett, currently assigned to the 82nd Sustainment Brigade as a Finance technician and

originally born in Jamaica, summed up the feelings of many.

“I am honored and humbled to say the least,” he said. “I have been dying to become a U.S. citizen.”

The USCIS has naturalized 295 servicemembers in Afghanistan this year, the most since the overseas naturalization program began in 2004.

For his part, McHale gave the newest citizens of the U.S. some words to remember.

“With hard work, you can make your dreams come true,” McHale said. “You will be an inspiration to others who follow.”

# 184th Arrives at KAF, ready to assume logistics mission



SGT James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

**Soldiers of the 184th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) arrived at Kandahar Airfield during the first full week of October to assume the headquarters element of the Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan. The Mississippi National Guard unit will oversee nearly 17,000 personnel conducting sustainment operations throughout the CJOA-A.**

■ BY SGT KENNY HATTEN  
*JSC-A Public Affairs NCO*

## KANDAHAR AIRFIELD -

The Mississippi Army National Guard's 184th Expeditionary Sustainment Command arrived at Kandahar Airfield Oct. 4.

The unit conducted pre-mobilization training at Camp Shelby Joint Forces Training Center from June until August, and then mobilized at Fort Hood, Texas, on August 3, where they took part in a culminating training event, which prepared them for service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

"Our Soldiers are well-trained and ready to provide logistical support to Coalition and Afghan forces in counter-insurgency efforts, so that the Afghan people can live in a safe and secure environment. We look forward to building relationships with our Afghan and Coalition partners to accomplish this mission," said Brig. Gen. Philip R. Fisher, 184th ESC commander.

"It's going to be a good mission by ensuring the warfighters receive the supplies they need to continue the fight against

the insurgency" said Sgt. 1st Class Kevin G. Burr, 184th ESC Operations Sergeant. "I'm looking forward to doing my job."

"We're excited to pass on the baton of expeditionary sustainment in Afghanistan to our neighbors from Mississippi," said 135th ESC Commander Brig. Gen. Reynold N. Hoover.

"We know that they are prepared and experienced, and will continue to exceed standards and surpass expectations as they conduct their sustainment mission here."

Shortly after arrival, the 184th ESC began transition operations with the current unit in place from the Alabama National Guard's 135th ESC.

The 184th will assume responsibility for Joint Sustainment Command-Afghanistan after the Alabama unit returns home in late October.

The 184th ESC and its subordinate units will provide logistical support for the entire Afghanistan theater of operations.



# JSC-A CHARITY RUN PAYS DIVIDENDS FOR AFGHAN SCHOOLCHILDREN

■ STORY AND PHOTOS BY SGT  
JAMES BURROUGS  
*JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer*

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD - Three schools near Kandahar City received a helping hand from U.S. and NATO Soldiers Sep. 25 when they were presented with money raised by an Alabama National Guard unit to buy much needed school supplies.

Brig. Gen. Reynold N. Hoover, commander of the 135th Expeditionary Sustainment Command from Birmingham, Ala., joined with Air Commodore Gordon Moulds, NATO commander of Kandahar Airfield to present \$7,845 that will be distributed by NATO agencies to help over 1200 Afghan students.

"The funds will be used to purchase books, notebooks and

pencils," said Moulds. "These are the supplies that the teachers have asked for. They have difficulty getting these supplies through normal channels. I want to thank the 135th ESC for a lot of effort."

The funds were raised from the Beat the General 5K charity race held on Labor Day at the airfield.

"In my mind, children are the future leaders of Afghanistan," said Hoover. "A small donation now goes a long way toward touching the lives and education of this country's future."

The proceeds from the \$10 entry fee and private donations will be distributed through NATO organizations to local schools around Kandahar City.

"This was an incredible effort," said Moulds. "These races usually raise \$1000 to \$1500 for charity."



(Above) Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover signs the symbolic check in the amount of \$7,845 going to the local Afghan schools. (Below left) Brig. Gen. Hoover and the KAF NATO commander, Air Commodore Gordon Moulds, hold the check with the Afghan children of the Bazaar school.

"This operation is a team effort. Being there with the last man is symbolic of a team spirit," added Hoover.

"Giving these funds is a demonstration of the teamwork that is going into building a peaceful Afghanistan for these children."







# The Tour



Pictures by Sgt. James Burroughs, MC2 Steven Hoskins, Sgt. Jason Adolphson, Master Sgt. Walter Farrow, CW3 Michael Fliegal, Lt. Col. Dan Lonowski

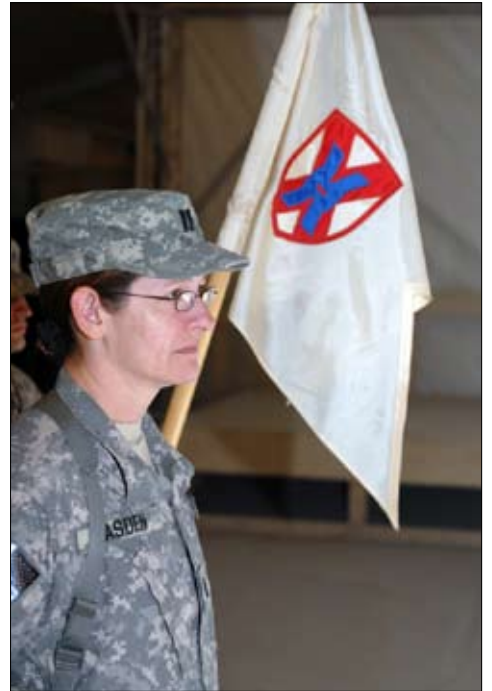
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# Roughriders visit Kandahar Water Facility

■ STORY AND PHOTOS BY SPC WILLIAM VAUGHN

*43rd SB Public Affairs Office*

KANDAHAR, Afghanistan - A select group of Soldiers from the 43rd Sustainment Brigade conducted a survey mission of The Kandahar Central Authority for Water Sanitation and Sewage facility in Kandahar, Afghanistan, September 9.

This mission, led by Capt. Lisa M. Chabot, Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 43rd SB, was part of the Kandahar City Water Plant Project.

Chabot's objectives were to get a clear picture of the Afghans' level of expertise and technical knowledge of their water system, to determine the type of generator they're using and the tools and supplies needed for maintenance.

"The equipment is a little more advanced compared to what they are used to," said Staff Sgt. Matthew C. Perry, the senior mechanic on the mission.



**Capt. Lisa M. Chabot, Commander, Headquarters and Headquarters Company (far left), Staff Sgt. Matthew C. Perry, Battalion Motor Sergeant (center), Spc. Jerry L. Lackey, Water Purification Specialist (background), and an Afghan national (right) inspect equipment at the Kandahar Water Plant. The water plant mission was part of The Commander's Emergency Response Program, a U.S. system of empowering commanders to deliver timely and effective aid to the local Afghan population.**

"They need a little help adjusting to an American piece of equipment, whereas they are used to having Japanese, Iranian, or German equipment."

Based on the team's findings, the structures housing the water system could present safety and maintenance concerns.

According to Chabot, the future goals of the project are to translate technical equipment manuals to Pashto or Dari, and to offer a class on the basics of power generation to students and employees.

The goal is for students to enroll as part of an internship program, which will equip the next generation of Afghans with the educational tools to become experts in a high-demand occupation.

This will give them financial stability, allow them to provide for their families, and contribute to the growth of Afghanistan's economy and infrastructure.

The Commander's Emergency Response Program (CERP) funds the water plant project. This program enables commanders to respond to urgent aid and reconstruction requirements. According to Chabot, CERP's goal is to allow the Afghanistan people to become self-sufficient.

"In teaching them how to work on their own equipment, we will provide them with the knowledge to be successful," said Chabot.

"This will be passed on to future generations and over time, decrease their reliance on foreign aid and less-than-desirable avenues of assistance."

The visit to the water plant was just the first step in the CERP process. Chabot and the Rough Rider Soldiers will conduct training and mentoring during future visits.



**Staff Sgt. Matthew C. Perry, Battalion Motor Sergeant (left), and Spc. Samuel Z. Weintraub, Power Generation Repairer (right), both 43rd Sustainment Brigade mechanics, work with an Afghan national on a pump at the Kandahar Water Plant.**

# 632nd MCT critical to KTY success

■ STORY AND PHOTO BY MC2  
STEVEN HOSKINU  
JSC-A Public Affairs Staff Writer

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD – Constant oversight and teamwork are the key elements which make the 632nd Movement Control team (MCT) successful at maintaining day-to-day operations of the Kandahar Transshipment Yard (KTY).

The 632nd MCT is the first unit tasked with overseeing daily operations at the KTY since it opened in March, processing more than 80 trucks per day, averaging about 2,500 trucks a month.

Before the Kandahar Transshipment Yard (KTY) was

established, the Afghanistan National Army (ANA) were the overseers of host national truckers delivering goods to Kandahar Airfield and throughout Afghanistan.

Prior to the 632nd assuming oversight of the shipment of goods, there were many



**Sgt. Timothy Mahan of the 632nd MCT checks paperwork of a truck entering the KTY.**

problems with disorganization and corruption, according to Sgt. Timothy Mahan NCOIC 632nd MCT.

"It caused a lot of backup," said Mahan. "So the KTY yard was established. Now trucks

have a fair chance get onto Kandahar Airfield."

The unit's job is to stage trucks and provide security for trucks coming in to wait before entering Kandahar Airfield.

A few things have to happen before a truck is permitted to enter KTY to be staged. The trucks are searched and then the paperwork is checked to ensure everything is in order.

"We stage trucks by order of importance," said Mahan. "The KTY is a call forwarding yard, meaning they only call certain trucks at certain times. We have a 24-hour turn around for trucks staging and that plays a major role in timely delivery of goods especially with the high rate of trucks entering

in."

"The KTY impacts three different region commands; South, Southwest and West," said Capt. Christopher Isbell, 632nd MCT commander. "What we do here affects how and when customers in those regions get their goods."

"At KTY yard, we started out with a three-week turn around for truck process; now we are at 24 hours," Isbell added.

Gravel has been laid across the entire yard cutting down on dust making it healthier to breathe.

Also, new tracking systems are in place helping to track trucks from check in at KTY to their final designation and all stops in between."

Isbell praised those who have worked hard to make the KTY an effective staging area.

"The Soldiers have really stepped up and made this thing work," Isbell concluded. "Without them, this whole process would not work as well as it has."

## Soldier Spotlight

Staff Sgt. Shane Lilly is a native of Birmingham, Ala., and currently serves in the Headquarters Supply section of the 135th ESC at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

**What do you do for the Army?** My job is to make sure all unit personnel have the tools they need to accomplish their job.

In addition, we keep a stockage of supplies for contingency purposes.

Our main focus is to service the customer in every aspect

concerning logistics.

**What has your deployment been like?** I am surprised with the dedication and



**Lilly**

continued efforts of our service members.

Their sacrifices are immeasurable. I am truly proud to be a member of the United States Army.

**What is your family situation and has anyone else in your family served?** I have a son who is four years old.

I don't have any close relatives who have served.

Spc. Jennifer Clark is a native of Birmingham, Ala., and currently serves in Support Operations with the 135th ESC at Kandahar Airfield, Afghanistan.

**What do you do for the Army?**

I issue call signs for all sustainment flights made by contractors in Afghanistan. This is important because the airfields have to plan their schedules carefully.

**What has your deploy-**

**ment been like?**

It has been better than I expected and has been a tremendous learning experience for me. I have had the

opportunity to work with people from different cultures. I have learned a lot more about human nature than I knew before.

**What is your family situation?** My grandfather was in the Navy.

**Is there anything**

**unique about your story?** I joined the Army to serve my country. I thank the Lord everyday for the opportunity to earn my freedom. I am grateful to be an American and it is an honor serving my country.



**Clark**



## Why I Serve

***1st Lt. James Lemley is a Finance Officer working as a Budget Officer here in Afghanistan. His hometown is Hartselle, Ala.***



Lemley

I review all Joint Sustainment Command Afghanistan (JSC-A) subordinate units Joint Acquisition Review Board (JARB) packets to ensure they are validated at the JARB at United States Forces Afghanistan South USFOR-A(S).

I also validate Transportation Movement Requests (TMRs). These movements help units all over Afghanistan receive fuel, water and food when needed for current and future operations.

My deployment has been an experience I will never forget.

I see all the good things the 135th ESC has done by providing logistics to all of Afghanistan. I am proud to be a member of the 135th ESC.

I joined the Army to serve my country and get a college education. I have four children that depend on me to support them.

My mother and my children are proud of me and I motivate them to work harder to set and complete their goals.

My kids are what drive me to work hard as a member of the Alabama Army National Guard.



■ STORY AND PHOTOS BY CW2 JUDITH TREADWAY

643rd Regional Support Group  
Public Affairs Office

What makes military working dogs unique from other dogs? The answers are discipline and training.

Take Llewellyn, a six-year-old male Dutch Shepherd and part of USFOR-A's K-9 unit stationed here on Kandahar Airfield. Llewellyn was bred as part of the DOD Military Working Dog Puppy Program.

All Puppy Program dogs have a double letter designation at the start of their name to identify them as the specialist animals. The Puppy Program was designed to provide the military with dogs to be used specifically for patrol and explosive detection.

Because the criteria for military working dogs are very stringent, few dogs actually make it through the program. Puppies that demonstrate potential as working dogs are then enrolled in an intense training program at Lackland Air Force Base in Texas.

Llewellyn's handler is Sgt. Brian Maxwell, a dog handler now for two years. Although Maxwell and Llewellyn reside on KAF, explosive detection missions require them to work off the airfield for 2-3 weeks at a time, with a 5-10 day rest period once they return.

According to Maxwell, working dogs require recovery from these missions and can struggle with PTSD symptoms, just as humans do.

"The bond between the military working dog and the handler is very special," said Maxwell.

"We live and work together 24 hours a day, to include all

the normal dog tasks, such as bathing, cleaning, feeding, barking and playtime. We take care of each other."

Llewellyn's training in the Puppy Program now helps support the warfighter on the battlefield and ultimately save lives.

If you are interested in helping these working dogs, there is

always a need for toys and treats for the 10 dogs currently stationed on KAF.

"These dogs need heavy duty toys and dog treats as they can chew through both in a matter of minutes," Maxwell said.

Donations can be sent to the unit address at "USPMO/K9, APO AE 09355."



**Sgt. Brian Maxwell works with his dog, Llewellyn, at Kandahar Airfield. Llewellyn is one of 10 military working dogs here.**

# WHAT'S GOING ON AT SHINDAND AIR BASE



■ STORY AND PHOTO BY 1ST LT BRIAN WEBB

529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion

The 529th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion has been working diligently with U.S. Air Force engineer and construction units to build the new Tactical Operations Center (TOC), life support area, Morale, Welfare and Recreation (MWR) tents and assorted work yards.

To help with this immense task, the 529th hired local Afghan carpenters to help

They assisted with building floors and other structures and at the same time provided a unique opportunity for the Soldiers to interact with the locals.

Many Soldiers picked up useful phrases like “Tashakor,”



**Sgt. Tattou Francis of the 183rd Maintenance Company helps build a doorway to the new Tactical Operations Center at Shindand Air Base. The 529th CSSB is currently completing the move to the east side of the Air Base.**

which means “thank you” and were impressed by the Afghan’s willingness to help.

“These guys are great; they always amaze us with how much they get accomplished each day,” said Sgt. 1st Class Christopher Perdieu.

The battalion was given nearly 1.5 square kilometers to build the “Eastside,” which will eventually become the U.S. side of the

base on Shindand, and space is going quickly. First Sgt. Gary Calhoun from Headquarters and Headquarters Company has been monitoring progress closely.

“In about one and a half days we moved 215 containers and completely relocated our CRSP yard,” he said.

Maj. Geoffrey O’Neill, also from HHC, has been given the title of “Mayor” for the East side.

The mayor’s area will have multiple MWR tents to include a chapel, a finance office, gyms, basketball court, volleyball set, game room, theater and a Post Exchange shop.

“We’ll have 4,000 pounds of gym weights,” O’Neill explained.

The unit has spent the last two months with limited MWR facilities everyone is looking forward to some places to unwind during downtime.

➤ **CSM**  
Continued from page 3

This cannot be taken lightly or with a passing thought. They did not hesitate to place their life on the altar of freedom for our nation or the people of Afghanistan.

Though their loss always brings sorrow to my heart, it has been my honor, in some small measure, to send these young men and women home with all the dignity, honor and respect their sacrifice deserves.

They and their families will always remain in my prayers. My life is forever changed because of their sacrifice.

“Sustaining Freedom”



Sgt. 1st Class Joe Cashion | Sustaining Freedom

**CRAFTSMAN AT WORK - Sgt. 1st Class Steven Wolcott took about one month to build this dragon, of which he invested nearly \$200. Wolcott, a native of Albertville, Ala., builds dragons as a hobby and also built a large, wooden easy chair during this tour.**



Congratulations to all of you and the many more who became engaged, achieved personal health and fitness goals, bought new homes, got married, read the complete Bible and more. Well done.

In closing, I want to thank you for your service and sacrifices as well as your personal support of me and our senior leadership within the Command.

You are the reason we have reached mission complete. I am proud to have been your Commander and look forward to bringing all of you back home safely in a few days.



SSG Troy Wyatt, 643rd RSG | Sustaining Freedom

**Soldiers of the 135th ESC paint safety lines and place safety markers for pedestrian traffic on All-American boulevard across from the Boardwalk during the nights of October 6-8. The markers will make it easier to see walkers and improve safety conditions at KAF.**



SGT James Burroughs | Sustaining Freedom

**KANDAHAR AIFIELD - JSC-A Commander, Brig. Gen. Reynold Hoover (left), gives the Oath of Office to Chief Warrant Officer 2 Chris Lewis (center) and Chief Warrant Officer 2 Chris Parham (right) during their promotion ceremony here September 20. Lewis is a native of Alabaster, Ala., while Parham is from Rainsville, Ala.**





***Our Job in Afghanistan is complete...***



Picture Courtesy Lt. Col. Tonya Rogers



**Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan**  
**December 2009 - October 2010**  
**Kandahar Airfield**



**Freedom**

**Sustained!**