



OUTPOST

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Volume 2, Issue 1

Readiness Power, Forward

January/February 2011

402nd AFSB sends RPG launcher to museum

Rock Island Arsenal to receive Iraq war memento

402nd AFSB Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – A unique historical artifact is on its way to join the Army's premier small arms collection thanks to a chance encounter, and the determination of one man.

The item, a Russian-made, Iraqi-used, rocket propelled grenade launcher, is headed to the museum at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. The museum plans to host a ceremony at which the Army Sustainment Command will present the weapon on behalf of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, headquartered at Joint Base Balad, Iraq.

It all started when Wilfredo Villalba, a supply specialist with the 402nd AFSB, ran into an old friend from Airborne School at a dining facility here in Feb. 2009. The two had attended jump school together as young junior enlisted Soldiers in 1997, and had been in touch only occasionally over the years. Running into one another in Iraq came as a complete surprise to both of them. After catching up on things, Wil's friend, Agustin Quinones, who is now a captain at Fort Hood, Texas, explained that he had been presented with a rocket propelled grenade launcher from an Iraqi Army officer as a gift. Unfortunately, however, his unit was preparing to leave Iraq.

Recognizing the historical



Galen Putnam

Wilfredo Villalba, poses with the Iraqi RPG launcher being donated to the museum at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.

value of the item, Wil took possession of the weapon hoping it could, somehow, be put on exhibit somewhere back home as a remembrance of those who have served in Iraq.

"He [Quinones] did not have the time to submit all of the documents to request permission to ship the RPG home, so that is why I stepped forward to continue the mission," said Villalba, who served in Iraq with the 402nd AFSB for six years. "It is very important to me that this RPG launcher goes somewhere where it can be appreciated and can represent the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, and all of the service members and civilians who have served in Iraq. It will remind people about the dedication and sacrifice of all of the people who have stepped

forward to serve their country in Iraq."

Wil, who hails from a small town in Puerto Rico, wanted to donate the launcher to his adopted hometown of Bethlehem, Pa., so he contacted Galen Putnam, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs officer, for assistance. Initial contacts with the city appeared positive, but things gradually fizzled out. After hitting that roadblock, Putnam, who is deployed from the ASC Public Affairs Office, suggested they try the museum at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. Besides complimenting the museum's expansive small-arms collection, the Arsenal is also home to Army Sustainment Command, the 402nd AFSB's parent command.

"I am familiar with the Rock Island Arsenal Museum's collection, so I thought this would be a good fit," Putnam said. "In addition, it is appropriate to have an item representing the 402nd AFSB at the Rock Island Arsenal Museum since our higher headquarters, the Army Sustainment Command, is also located at the Arsenal."

Rick Murphy, 402nd AFSB legal advisor who also deployed from ASC, stepped-in to assist with negotiating the extensive paperwork trail. After getting things started, Murphy handed things off to his replacement,

See Launcher on Page 7

Power 6 Perspective

Fuller: 2011 is 'Year of the 402nd AFSB'

First of all, I would like to thank everyone in the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade family for their dedication and hard work over the past year. 2010 was a momentous year for the 402nd AFSB and we achieved many significant accomplishments.

You moved mountains of equipment out of theater in support of the Responsible Drawdown of Forces and are still going strong. That's important, because we still have a lot of "heavy lifting" in front of us. In case you haven't noticed, I've begun referring to 2011 as the "Year of the 402nd AFSB." Why, you ask? Because 2011 is going to be an even more historic year for us. Not only will we continue to support the drawdown while helping to position the Department of State for success as



Col. Lawrence W. Fuller

they take over the support mission in Iraq, but we ourselves will be drawing down.

2011 marks the move of the 402nd AFSB from Iraq to Kuwait and eventual casing of some unit colors. This year is the 402nd AFSB's "last hurrah" in Iraq and I intend to go out with a bang.

Here are our resolutions for the "Year of the 402nd AFSB."

Commitment to Mission:

2010 was a big year for us, but 2011 looks to be an even greater challenge. I resolve that we continue to remain focused on the job ahead. It is also important that we be *flexible* in the upcoming year. 2011 will not be "business as usual." There are a lot of changes looming on the horizon, but I know we can handle anything that is thrown in our direction.

Commitment to Each

Other: You have heard me say it before, and you will hear me say it again: We, the members of the 402nd AFSB, are a family. We are all far away from home. We are all far away from

this together. I resolve that we maintain our commitment to one another: to maintain a positive attitude, to lend a helping hand when needed and, most importantly, look out for the well being of one another.

Commitment to Self:

In such a high-speed environment, it is easy to get wrapped up in things and forget to take care of oneself. In the new year I resolve that we pay particular attention to our personal wellbeing. Exercise, eat right, stay in touch with loved ones, take a moment now and then to decompress. You are the Brigade's most valuable asset. Never forget that.

Commitment to Safety:

For a brigade our size, we have maintained an impressive safety record. I resolve that we continue to be vigilant in regards to safety and that we strive for a stellar safety record in 2011.

Again, I would like to thank everyone for their outstanding efforts in 2010 and encourage you to continue your exceptional performance as we make 2011 the "Year of the 402nd AFSB."

Power 6 Out!

LAWRENCE W. FULLER
COL, LG
Commanding

402nd AFSB

OUTPOST

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Galen Putnam

Submissions and suggestions can be forwarded to the editor, 402nd AFSB Public Affairs Officer:
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Chaplain's Corner

Work, yes work, is a gift from God

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Howard Lucas
402nd Army Field Support Brigade

"That each of them (laborers) may eat and drink, and find satisfaction in all their toil — this is the gift of God." (Ecclesiastes 3:13, NIV)

It would appear that Solomon may have lost the divine perspective when he wrote this, but a closer look will reveal something that is precious for all of us: Our work is a gift from God. In our time of high unemployment, many may consider this as self-evident; they would agree that it is a good thing to have a job. But Solomon's meaning here is deeper than that. He is saying that our labor, and its products, are a gift from the hand of God.

It is easy to get lost in the daily grind, the tedium of repeated small tasks that may have no obvious impact. The adventure of our careers may have evaporated long ago. But



Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Howard Lucas

we are all part of something huge. There is a divine design to life, and God has chosen to incorporate our "toil," as Solomon puts it, into His plan. When you add up all the little things that we do, they turn into something

very big. The term "synergy" comes to mind here, because add up to more than the sum of the parts. That is because of this hidden dimension — we are partnering with God, even when we don't realize it. And when we don't have the energy or the wisdom to make things work, He does.

"But," one may ask, "where are the results? If this is true, why don't things always look positive?" The answer is found earlier in Solomon's musings. In Ecclesiastes 3:11 we read that God makes all things beautiful *in His time* (emphasis added). We may not see the beauty now, but we have the promise of God that he will use our labor to produce good. When we are equipped with that promise, we can truly find satisfaction in our toil.

May God grant each of you a glimpse into what He is doing through your hard work every day.

402nd AFSB Donation Program

The 402nd AFSB is collecting clothing and household items at Joint Base Balad, to be provided to Iraqi's in need. Please drop off new/lightly used items such as clothing, toys, footwear, plastic drawers, bedding, 220v electrical items, etc., in a plastic bag or box. Please ensure items are tasteful and appropriate for distribution outside the wire!

For information on drop-off locations, contact the following POCs:

Brigade HQ — Gayland Putnam: gayland.putnam@mmcs.army.mil

1st Bn., 402nd AFSB — SGM Donald: paul.s.donald@mmcs.army.mil

2nd Bn., 402nd AFSB — SGM Legier: tyrone.legier@mmcs.army.mil

O'Connor hands AMC-SWA reins to Cross

By Pfc. Daniel Rangel
Third Army/ARCENT Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – One of the most innovative and pioneering leaders in military logistics, Brig. Gen. John O'Connor, Third Army director of logistics and commander, Army Materiel Command – Southwest Asia, was succeeded by Brig. Gen. Jesse R. Cross, former commanding general for the U.S. Army Quartermaster Center and School, Fort Lee, Va., at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait Dec. 20.

“General O'Connor carried a huge load for Third Army,” said Lt. Gen. William G. Webster, Third Army commanding general. “He was an integral part of Operation Nickel II, one of the most complicated set of maneuvers and deployments in military history.”

As Third Army's director of logistics and commander, AMC-SWA, O'Connor and his logistics team played a leading role in moving millions of pieces of equipment from Iraq to Afghanistan or back to the United States.

They exceeded the Aug. 31 deadline to increase Forces in Afghanistan by 30,000 Troops and 5,000 mine-resistant vehicles; simultaneously, he led the Responsible Drawdown of Iraq by redeploying 90,000 troops and 70,000 pieces of rolling-stock equipment.

“He has performed his duties superbly by showing managerial skills and foresight we've come to expect from our senior leaders,” Webster said.

O'Connor's successor is Cross, who comes to Third Army with more than 30 years of military experience including serving as a supply-



Photos by Galen Putnam

Brig. Gen. John O'Connor, Third Army director of logistics and commander, Army Materiel Command – Southwest Asia, speaks during the Hawker Battery Facility dedication ceremony at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, last Nov. 6.

management officer during Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm. O'Connor plans to serve as the Department of the Army Operations and Logistics Readiness director in Washington.



Brig. Gen. John O'Connor addresses the 402nd AFSB Staff during a visit to Joint Base Balad.



(From left) Brig. Gen. Jesse R. Cross, Col. Lawrence W. Fuller, commander, 402nd AFSB, and Brig. Gen. John O'Connor gather for a photo at Joint Base Balad.

402nd AFSB wins Joint Base Balad soccer championship

402nd AFSB Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq – The 402nd Army Field Support Brigade capped-off a perfect 12-0 season by defeating the 289th Quartermaster Company “Mighty Sabers” in a nail-biting shoot-out championship game to claim the Joint Base Balad 5 vs. 5 Soccer Championship here Feb. 19.

In the championship game, the Mighty Sabers took an early lead with Gary Green from the 402nd AFSB equalizing just before halftime. The 402nd AFSB went ahead 2-1 early in the second half, but faced constant pressure from the 289th. In a frenzied attack, the Mighty Sabers tied the score 2-2 with only 45 seconds remaining in regulation.

The tie led to a shoot-out which was knotted 3-3 after the first round of five shooters. In the second round of three shooters, the 402nd AFSB prevailed 3-1 to take the base championship.



Karen Ware, member of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade 5 vs. 5 soccer team, hones her skills.

The 402nd AFSB, an unlikely assemblage of beginners, intermediate and experienced players, could have been nicknamed the “Old Timers” as the team’s average was significantly higher than that of the other teams in the league. The 402nd AFSB is primarily comprised of contractors, civilians, officers, and non-commissioned

officers, with very few junior enlisted service members.

“We had a pretty diverse group of players ranging from absolute, first-time beginners, to highly skilled, experienced players,” said coach/goalkeeper Galen Putnam. “The way we came together as a team says a lot about the positive attitude everyone exhibited throughout the season. Winning the championship is nice, of course, but what I’m most proud of is how we played together as a team – beginners and more experienced players working together side-by-side.”

Gary Green, who scored the crucial goal that kept the 402nd AFSB alive in the championship match, is one of those beginners.

“I’ve never played soccer before. I watched the World Cup on TV and thought it looked like fun, but it is a lot harder than it looks – especially on old knees,” he said. “I’m glad I gave it a try, but this is it for me. I’m going to go out on top.”

Iraqi Kids Day

Fatima, age 6, from a small village near Joint Base Balad. Iraq, demonstrates her writing and drawing skills to Carlesa Williams (left) and Beryl Wilson from the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, during “Iraqi Kids Day” at the H-6 MWR Recreation Center on JBB Jan. 26. The monthly event brings Iraqi children together with Americans on base to foster goodwill and build positive relations.



Galen Putnam



Courtesy photo

Staff Sgt. Bennie Bush, 1st Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade.

Personality Spotlight: Staff Sgt. Bennie Bush

Age: 30

Hometown: Quitman, Mississippi

Duty Position: Quality Assurance Inspector

Duty Section: Maintenance Section

Unit: 1st Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade

Duty Station: Camp As Sayliyah-Doha, Qatar

How long have you been in this position? Two Months

How long have you been in the U.S. Army? Twelve years

Tell us about your job: I'm a light wheel vehicle mechanic. I perform maintenance and services on all our military equipment to ensure that it is maintained to 10/20 standards.

What is the best part of your job? Being able to fix anything that broken and finding out how the equipment operates.

Why do you like working here? It's very relaxing and there is not a lot of stress here.

If you could be the commander for a day, what would you do to improve your organization? Re-organize the unit work schedule.

What do you do to make a difference for the Warfighter?

Ensure that when they are on the battlefield they have the best equipment in the world so that they can accomplish any mission.

Most people don't know (what) about me: That I like to compete in fighting competitions.

What do you like to do in your spare time? I enjoy fishing, hunting and being outdoors with my family.

What is your personal philosophy? What doesn't kill me makes me stronger!

Personality Spotlight: Romeo Montez

Age: 27

Hometown: Wichita Falls, Texas

Duty Position: Operations Specialist

Duty Section: Support Operations, 2nd Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade

Duty Station: Joint Base Balad

Home Station, Organization and Duty Position: Fort Hood, Texas, 407th AFSB, logistics management specialist

How long have you been in this position? Three and-a-half years

How long have you been working for the U.S. Army? Four and-a-half years

Have you had other jobs with the military (active or civilian)? I have never had any other job with the military. After graduating from Albany State University, Albany, Ga., I joined the Army Materiel Command Fellows Program. The Fellows program is how I got my start in government service.

Tell us about your job and what you do: I currently serve as the United States Equipment Transfer to Iraq (USETTI) action officer for the 2nd Bn., 402nd AFSB. I have the responsibility of ensuring our USETTI team located at Taji, Iraq, executes successful transfers of quality equipment to the Government of Iraq through the Iraqi



Romeo Montez

Training and Advisory Mission. I monitor equipment, maintenance and transfer data, ensure team has the tools necessary to accomplish the mission, consolidate and analyze reports for higher level review, and most importantly, support the 402nd AFSB and the USETTI team at Taji in executing a highly visible, sometimes trying and challenging mission.

Why do you like working here? I like working here because there is a sense of fulfillment. I'm blessed to be in the position I'm in, and being able to experience Iraq is satisfying. Also, I get to work with wonderful people and serve under great leadership.

What is the best part of your job?

The best part of my job is being able to make a positive difference. I don't want to be the cause of something failing if I can help it.

If you could be the commander for a day, what would you do to improve your organization? I

would just create a relaxed atmosphere and promote communication. I believe that if individuals are not always tense they will be more effective in how they deal with others as well as executing their daily duties.

What do you do to make a difference for the Warfighter? I give of myself and execute my duties to the best of my abilities, which can positively impact the Warfighter in their daily operations. The Warfighter is giving their best fighting for our freedom; therefore, I feel myself and others should do the best we can in all things big or small.

Most people don't know (what) about me: Most people don't know that I'm the fourth Romeo Montez

What do you like to do in your spare time? Relax, watch sports, golf, work out and wash my car.

What is your personal philosophy? Work hard, be cool, and treat others with respect.

What is your favorite quote/slogan/saying? "It's all good."

LAUNCHER — From Page 1

Lou Aldini, yet another 402nd AFSB member from ASC, who doggedly fought his way through the bureaucratic maze.

"It took seven months, but it's finally on its way," he said. "Wil really deserves credit for making this happen. He was bound and determined to get this weapon to a collection where it can be enjoyed by others and represent the 402nd AFSB and those who have served in Iraq."

Villalba was elated when notified by e-mail that the artifact is on its way to the RIA Museum.

"OMG – I will be very happy to fly there to be part of that ceremony. It is very important to me," he responded.

The U.S. Army Garrison – Rock Island Arsenal Public Affairs Office will announce details regarding the presentation ceremony at a later date.

You can visit the Rock Island Arsenal Museum, at: <http://riamwr.com/museum.htm>

402nd Army Field Support Brigade, Joint Base Balad, Iraq

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Commander

W. Arnold Pindle
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Where can I find those photos?



Photos are posted to the Mini 5 shared drive. To locate the photos, open the shared drive and look for the folder named "402nd Photos." It is at the *bottom* of the folders list because it is a link!

If you do not have access to the Mini 5 shared drive, direct photo requests to Galen Putnam, **OUTPOST** editor.



FROM THE FIELD

402ND ARMY FIELD SUPPORT BRIGADE, IRAQ



Volume 2 Issue 1

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2/401ST PARTICIPATES IN POP TEST

By Edward "Ned" Bryan
2nd Bn., 401st AFSB

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — The Logistics Innovation Agency, an organization under the Department of the Army's Deputy Chief of Staff G4, has begun a Proof of Principle test to evaluate one of the newest Next Generation Wireless Communication technology applications. The LIA team conducted a site survey in December 2010, to finalize the evaluation parameters and set the objectives for the test that will last through June. LIA will deploy 200 Mount at Target Global Positioning System devices to Kuwait along with the automation systems required to monitor the MAT GPS tags. The MAT GPS tags will be integrated into the retrograde processes and installed by the current contractors working the FIRST contract. The LIA team will then track the flow of retrograde assets through all of the processes leading up to loading the assets onto CONUS bound Retrograde Vessels at the Sea Port of Debarkation. At that point the MAT GPS tags will be removed and reused.

The 2nd Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade's retrograde operations provided the ideal setting for the evaluation for several reasons. The first reason is that there is a steady flow of retrograde assets arriving at the Class VII Receiving Yard daily. There are also current tracking systems in place to use as a comparison, the complexity and number of physicals movement required to



Katie Smith

An MAT GPS tag shown attached to a new MATV bumper.

complete the retrograde process, and the harshness of the desert environment coupled with the was rack requirements will provide a very real test to the devices and the technology.

These MAT GPS tags are the far superior to the current Radio Frequency Identification technology that is currently in use today. RFID tags are considered "passive" meaning they must pass by a reading devise, commonly called an interrogator, which powers the RFID tag long enough to transfer the data on the tag to the interrogator that then sends the data to a server. NGWC incorporates GPS technology into the tags along with the ability to "piggy back" off of other MAT GPS tags to provide near-real-time asset visibility to within 20 feet without the need of manually scanning or passing through a reading devise. These tags have been tested at

stateside port operations and this will be the first military test in SWA.

The MAT GPS tags have embedded technologies that enable them to form fully encrypted ad-hoc self-forming and self healing mesh networks. What that means is the tags have the ability to talk to one another and as long as they are within a certain range of each other or a Fixed Mesh Gateway the network is viable. Using GPS technology further enables the customer to define geocentric boundaries with or without physical boundaries in place, like fences or barriers. What this enables is the ability to locate an asset in the footprint and associate that location with a purpose and be able to tell where the asset is in the process. The MAT GPS tags can also be placed in a "silent" mode that will only allow communication capabilities when the right coded signal is transmitted to the device. This provides for the MAT GPS tags to be used during convoy operations and not give away the convoys location.

The LIA team will be monitoring the MAT GPS tags for six months to determine if it feasible to pursue implementing the use of this type of NGWC into the tracking and asset visibility operations in support of logistical operations around the world. Conducting the Mesh Net PoP test in the 2/401st AFSB's footprint with actual retrograde assets will provide a truly realistic assessment of this new technology in action.

FROM THE FIELD is a special supplement to the 402nd AFSB **OUTPOST**. It is written by the servicemembers, DoD civilians and contractors who comprise the Army's largest brigade.

2/402ND AFSB: ON TARGET, ON TASK

By Sgt. Maj. Tyrone P. Legier
2nd. Bn., 402nd AFSB

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — With the holiday season behind us and the end of 2010, 2nd Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, is posturing for the new year and the exit out of Iraq. We recently hosted the War Game Conference for the Brigade as COL Fuller and his team plan the internal draw-down and transition out of theater. Though we face many challenges, we continue to keep a positive attitude and remain mission focused. One major concern within the Command Team is the care of our team members. Mission success cannot be achieved without healthy team members. The battalion commander and I are focused on the continued development and maintenance of a healthy and professional work environment. Promoting viable venues for physical, mental, spiritual and emotional health are paramount. The continued treatment of all team members with dignity and respect is also key in the over-all health and moral of everyone on the team.

During the first quarter of Fiscal Year 2011 we assisted with the closure of the first Forward Operating Base in Iraq, the turn-in of non-tactical vehicles at our RPAT yards in support of the USF-I NTV Drawdown Plan. Our most recent achievement was the movement of the long awaited USETI equipment that was transferred to the Iraqi Army. We will continue to conduct exercises such as the Communications Exercise with our mobile RPATs to ensure that our mobile teams are well trained and equipped. We will schedule Mission Briefs and Rock Drills with our customers, to ensure that we are synced as we transition out of Iraq.

As we move into the coming months, we will continue to have training sessions for our military and civilian team members such as Combat Life Saver, Container Inspections,



Photos by Sgt. Maj. Tyrone P. Legier

Soldiers from the 276th Ordnance Company participate in a Combat Life Saver Class on Joint Base Balad.



Justin Jackson and Daniel Jones look on along with Soldiers from the 276th Ordnance Company during a CSC Container Inspection Class conducted by MST2 Mitchell of the US Coast Guard.

Automatic Electrical Defibrillator Training, Resiliency Training, Ethics Training and monthly Safety Training. We will hone our old skills, while developing ways to work more

effectively and efficiently. As our tours come to an end, we will continue to train our replacements, as they move forward to support the transition until mission's end.

1/401ST AFSB PREPS EXPANDABLE VANS

By Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth McIntyre
1st Bn., 401st AFSB

CAMP AS SALIYAH, Qatar — 1st Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade personnel are currently inspecting and deprocessing the M1078A1 Expandable Van for storage in warehouses for COSSIS.

This process is a combined effort by Soldiers of the the 1/401st AFSB and ITT Systems Inc. personnel here.

Vehicles are inspected to 10/20 standards in accordance with Army technical manuals and manufacture deprocess sheets. The vans are hooked to external generators for electrical power to test air conditioners, heaters, internal lights and wall sockets for serviceability. Army QA's and ITT QC's check all vehicles for Safety of Use Messages and Maintenance Advisory Messages prior to being accepted by the customer for preservation and storage in warehouses.

The Family of Medium Tactical Vehicles provides the U.S. Army's backbone for tactical unit mobility and logistics support throughout the battlefield. These vehicles are considered the most sophisticated off-road, multi-purpose military tactical vehicles in use, and are capable of operating worldwide on primary and secondary roads, as well as on trails and cross-country in the worst of extreme weather.

The M1087A1 Expandable Van is envisioned to be a mobile office used in a field environment; the sides pull out from the main body to form the office complex. It is equipped with 110 VAC to operate communication equipment, computers and air conditioning systems. A 24 VDC electrical system is provided to operate the electrical components (radios and blackout lights) until the office complex can be set up. The new M1087A1 trucks have more powerful diesel engines, seven-speed automatic transmissions, improved brakes, added corrosion



Courtesy photo

An M1087A1 Expandable Van at Camp As Saliyah, Qatar.

protection, computerized engine diagnostics and heavy-duty drive-line engine transmission differential connections. The trucks also have more durable seating material and cargo tarps, sturdier door hinges and reinforced footholds to make it easier to enter the cargo section.

Deprocessing on the M087A1's is conducted by civilian contractors from ITT Systems Inc. Deprocessing ensures that systems are complete and ready to go. The fielding processes will ensure that those items requiring deprocessing are inspected and made fully operational before handoff to gaining units. Some items will need to be calibrated by the supporting TMDE support group, while others will need

ITT material personnel to prepare them for handoff. ITT personnel provide and negotiate for all personnel, skills facilities, equipment, tools, and materiel needed for deprocessing.

Logistics changes are helping the Army prepare for the challenges and missions of the 21st century. Many of these changes will apply directly to the total package. Improved equipment, communications, automation, and transportation will continue to keep the Army the best equipped and supported force in the world. With the deprocessing of the new M1087A1 Expandable Van, the 1/401st AFSB at Camp as Sayliyah will continue to ensure the Army will be provided with the latest and greatest equipment.

402ND AFSB SAFETY

DSN: 312-987-5130, extension 6508

APS-5: READINESS THE KEY IN SWA

By Edward "Ned" Bryan
2nd Bn., 401st AFSB

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait — The 2nd Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade, welcomes the new Mine Resistant Ambush Protected family of vehicles into the Army's War Reserve Program.

The Army's newest combat vehicles haven't proven themselves in combat in both Iraq and Afghanistan and are now being added to the Army Prepositioned Stock 5 (APS 5) currently maintained in Southwest Asia (SWA). Although the final composition of MRAPs in the APS-5 set is still being decided, ultimately we know there will be multiple MRAP variants with multiple configurations as a part of the set. Additions to APS sets are not uncommon; in fact, you will find that many, if not most, of the assets in APS-5 are the latest models with the most current configurations. A common misconception of War Reserve assets is that they are older models, sitting in long-term storage sites, with very little changes made over extended periods of time; however, nothing could be further from the truth.

APS-5 is a perfect example of just how active and progressive these sets can be, but first it is important to understand what constitutes a set. Not all sets are the same; there are currently four active sets: APS-2 in Europe, APS-4 in Korea and Japan, APS-3 is afloat (when active), and APS-5 in SWA. APS-5 is comprised of thousands of pieces of rolling stock and even more pieces of non-rolling stock. It is racked similarly to organizational equipment, meaning that the Equipment On Hand percentages and Operational Readiness rates are watched very closely at both the theater and Department of the Army levels. In addition to routine maintenance and service requirements, the APS-5 has been issued twice, and reconstituted twice in the last eight years. It currently holds the latest battle tanks in the Army inventory, the M1A2SEPV2, the M109A6



Ned Bryan

"Bird Cage" armor on a Bradley Fighting vehicle, part of the APS-5 set.

Paladins; the latest variants of the Bradley Fighting Vehicles with Heat Abatement Kit installed, providing much appreciated air conditioning capabilities; and the newest M88A2 Hercules Recovery Vehicle. The set also contains most of the common light, medium, and heavy tactical wheeled vehicles in operation, to include the most recent Long-Term Armored Strategy model FMTVs replacing the older Low Signature Armored Cab models. In addition to having the latest equipment models, the 2/401st AFSB is responsible for ensuring that all APS-5 vehicles are equipped with the most up-to-date armor packages in case they are needed in either theater of operation. Another APS-5 function performed by the 2/401st AFSB that is less well known is that we swap out armor packages as older vehicles are rotated out of Theater and new production or organizational equipment is deployed into Theater. The Battalion is responsible for removing Add on Armor packages from redeploying assets and re-installing them on deploying assets. A few examples of this mission are the Tank Urban Survivability Kits and the Bradley Urban Survivability Kits, as well as the "bird cage" armor for the M113 family of tracks.

In order to ensure APS-5 assets

are always in a ready-to-issue state, the battalion is always training or being trained on how to operate, maintain, and repair every piece of equipment assigned to the set. MRAPs are no exception to that rule. The battalion is currently undergoing Field Level Maintenance New Equipment Training and Operator New Equipment Training provided by the Joint Program Office NET training team that normally operates out of Camp Buehring, Kuwait. The team is on site to train battalion personnel on the MAXXPRO, CAIMAN, RG33, and the newest MRAP variant the MRAP All Terrain Vehicle (M-ATV). Additional training is also available through the MRAP University located at Red River Army Depot, Texas.

The APS-5 is anything but static and continues to adapt as new variants, armor packages, and enablers are introduced and proven worthy by the Warfighter to be included in the Army War Reserves. Maintaining the APS-5 set is one of the 2/401st AFSB's three core missions, along with Direct Theater Support and Theater Retrograde Support. The 2/401st AFSB is truly "Mission Focused ... Support Driven!"

2/402 AFSB READY FOR NEW CHALLENGES

By J. L. Shears
2nd Bn., 402nd AFSB

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — 2010's very successful Responsible Drawdown of Forces is being followed in 2011 by transition In Iraq. The challenges may best be summed up by the phrase *managing the paradox*. A paradox defined in Webster's as *a tenet or theory contrary to perceived opinion*. The opinion is that operations in Iraq have drawn to a close and therefore the 2nd Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, requires fewer resources. The facts prove the exact opposite; there will be 300-300 percent increase in pieces of property needing retrograde, reset and redistribution.

RDoF saw the 2/402nd AFSB retrograde of more than 10,000 pieces of rolling stock and 107,000 pieces of other Class VII property, much of it destined to support the fight in Afghanistan or for reset at various locations in CONUS. The mission in 2011 is shaping up to handle significantly larger amounts of retrograde materiel with more than twice as many pieces of rolling stock and non rolling stock valued at over \$7 billion currently accounted for on the Theater Property Book. Added to this Theater Provided Equipment are vast amounts of Contractor Managed Government Owned property which has accumulated since 2003. RPATs and MRPATs have been locating and processing an increasing number of Found On Installation items that are surfacing as units drawdown their footprints.

During the first sixty days of FY 2011 more than 1,243 pieces of FOI valued at \$24.5 million were located and brought to record with much more to follow as portions of nearly ninety bases are prepared for return.

Accounting for and retrograding this equipment safely in a fluid operational environment while USF-I's mission critical services and life support decreases is 2/402's challenge. The



Sgt. Maj. Tyrone P. Legier

Contractors lift an inoperative M1 onto a flatbed at the Marez RPAT.

country-wide drawdown of forces results in increased competition for finite intra-theater air transportation required for MRPATs to reach FOB's. The increased operations tempo for RPAT's and MRPAT's will require leaders to intensely enforce safety and force protection measures during all phases of the troop leading procedure and closely manage their Warriors making sure Soldiers, Airmen and Civilians stay healthy physically, mentally, emotionally, and spiritually. Twenty four operations will result in increased requirements for light sets, generators and MHE while the units or contractors that provide and maintain these systems drawdown themselves.

Our U.S. Air Force Joint Expeditionary Tasker Airmen will carry a heavy load during transition In Iraq at the battalion's eight RPAT's throughout the country. A new Air Force rotation arrived in Feb. 2011. The rotation is a 6-month tour ending in Aug. 2011. Our previous JET Airmen did a fantastic job during their tour conducting the redistribution and retrograde of more than 4,000 pieces of rolling stock and 16,000 pieces of non rolling stock as well as facilitating the issue of more

than 75,000 XSAPI plates. Before departing, the Airmen will focused their efforts on preparing their replacements, making sure they received thorough training and a solid handoff. RPAT specific training includes licensing on all types of MHE and vehicles, customs inspections, HAZMAT, Army accountability procedures, container inspection, composite risk management and familiarization with the RPAT SOP and inspection checklists.

The 2nd Battalion is also preparing for transition In Iraq by taking steps now to improve its 12 Mobile RPAT's with expanded expeditionary capabilities. The battalion conducted a communications exercise in December, 2010 with the support of the brigade S6 and USF-I J4 Logistics Automation. The results provide mobile teams with improved ability to complete PBUSE, AWRDS and TC-AIMS processes resulting in the production of DA 3161's, DD 1348's and Movement Requests as well as providing the team NCOIC with the ability to send and receive reports. In addition, 11 Soldiers from the 276th Ordnance Company attended Combat Life Saver training provided by Joint Base Balad's resident medical unit in December.

2/401st AFSB RETROGRADE OPERATIONS

Story and photo by Ned Bryan
DCO, 2/401st AFSB

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait - The 2nd Battalion, 401st AFSB is one of the very few organizations in the force structure to perform full spectrum logistical operations at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels; the myriad of missions performed by this single Battalion in Kuwait can be difficult to grasp. In addition to its three primary missions (Army Propositioned Stock, Presidential Directives in support of the Responsible Drawdown of Iraq and Operation New Dawn, and direct Theater support for Operation Enduring Freedom) the Battalion also supports multiple secondary missions. These secondary missions range from Foreign Military Sales to issuing equipment directly to organizational units stationed in Kuwait. The Battalion continues to perform as one of the premiere logistical operations in today's military. The Battalion processed nearly 160,000 pieces of equipment this past fiscal year; more than 35,000 pieces of Rolling Stock, more than 80,000 pieces of non-rolling stock, and almost 45,000 pieces of non-standard equipment. The maintenance operation completed over 15,000 work orders compiling more than 1.24 million man-hours of labor.

How the Battalion handles retrograde is unique in that before equipment is processed for transport to CONUS several other factors must be considered at the strategic, operational, and tactical levels. One of the first physical processes that take place at the Battalion level is a determination of whether or not the asset meets a pre-established in-theater requirement. These requirements are established by CENTCOM, ARCENT, 1st TSC, and the Department of the Army. The battalion's role is to assess if the asset meets the criteria for any of the requirements established and then source that asset into that requirement or continue to process the asset



Members of the 2/401st Army Field Support Brigade guide a retrograde asset onto a waiting HET for movement to the Kuwait Naval Base wash rack.

for retrograde back to CONUS. In the last 12 months the Battalion received more than 24,000 pieces of rolling stock out of Iraq. Of that total, more than 15,000 were processed for retrograde to CONUS. Nearly 3,000 of that total were disposed of through DRMO based on the condition code of the equipment and the disposition instructions from the Life Cycle Management Command (LCMC) Item managers. The remaining 6,000 pieces were retained or harvested to support in theater requirements. Harvested retrograde from the OIF drawdown sourced War Reserve Stocks, OEF ONS requirements, Heavy Advise and Assist BDE (OND requirement), Theater Sustainment Stocks, and the CENTCOM Theater Reserve.

Retrograde in and of itself is a single process but because of the battalion's unique relationship with the Warfighter, coupled with its location and logistical capabilities, facilitates full spectrum support opportunities. Receiving assets coming out of OIF/OND provides tactical level support to

those assets for in-theater requirements supports both operational and strategic requirements. The most important strategic level contribution the battalion provides is to feed the ARFORGEN RESET process. We accomplish this by retrograding roughly 15,000 pieces of rolling stock and nearly 80,000 pieces of non-rolling stock back to the depots. These depots can then recondition these items and make them available to re-equipping the force structure.

Once it is determined that an asset is not required to support any in-theater requirement and has not received disposition to DRMO, the item will begin the process of being retrograded to CONUS. Processing retrograde assets is a complex mission involving multiple synchronized operations that include: 1) receiving the convoys coming out of Iraq; 2) offloading the assets; 3) accounting for the assets; 4) harvesting assets for theater requirements; 5) de-installing C4I enablers; 6) washing assets for agricultural customs clearing; 7) transporting the assets through all of these processes to include getting them to the port and eventually onto the ships that will return the assets to CONUS; 8) producing all of the required supply and transportation documentation including military shipping labels and Radio Frequency Identification tags.

During the peak of the Phase IV of the Responsible Drawdown, the battalion averaged more than 2,150 pieces of rolling stock and 80 containers of non-rolling stock. The total number of non-rolling stock assets retrograded is more than 80,000 plus an additional 13,000 pieces of non-standard equipment shipped back to CONUS.

The retrograde mission is just one example of how the battalion satisfies requirements across the strategic, operational, and tactical levels supporting both CONUS and theater requirements.

IED-DEFEAT SUPPORTS THE WARFIGHTER

Story and photos by Lorenzo Evans
1st Bn., 402nd AFSB

VICTORY BASE COMPLEX, Iraq — In Operation New Dawn, PM IED-Defeat (R-4) here manages and maintains a variety of IED counter-IED systems including the Self Protection Adaptive Roller Kit, RHINO Armored Vehicle, Cyclone Blower, Ground Torch, Bloodhound, Schonstedt, Sherlock, Calilgo, Wolf Claw & Chain, Terrapin and Lapeer systems. R4 works shoulder to shoulder with the warfighter to provide total package fielding, new equipment training and counter-IED technology critical to the safety of those who protect and serve. R4 gets the job done whenever and wherever called — both in the United States and in theater. At R4 nothing is more important than the mission and soldier and first responder survivability.

PM IED-Defeat (R-4) VBC continues to work supporting the warfighters in the midst of Operation New Dawn and the Responsible Drawdown. The Victory Base Complex R4 team's primary mission is IED-Defeat sustainment for USD-C which covers a large area and variety of equipment. The most visible



Spc. Johnny Wade C Co., 2-1 BSTB, and George Garcia, R4 installer, hook-up a Rhino battery cable on a Husky.



Pfc. Michael Nuells, 43rd Combat Engineer Company, and Donald Jones R4 deputy site lead, review PMCS requirements for the Spark Roller.

devices are the Rhino and the rollers which can be seen on most military vehicles going outside the wire.

Soldiers said they feel safer thanks to the support provided by the PM IED-Defeat (R-4) team at VBC.

"The rollers are a good tool to have leading a convoy," said Pfc. Michael Nuells with the 43rd Combat Engineer Company at COS Kalsu. "We feel safer with the rollers out front to take on any IEDs instead to the main vehicle or the Husky. Insurgents are getting smarter in their use and emplacement of IEDs and the Hutchinson Panel is great deterrent and tool in our effort to defeat IEDs. This is my first deployment, and I am glad that we have the IED equipment to help make the roads safer for the Solider."

Others agreed.

"The Civilians and Contractors supporting IED-Defeat have been some of the most professional I've encounter in theater in providing quick turn around and fast service to the Warfighters," said Sgt. Christopher Barr, a

Transporter with the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment at COS Kalsu. "They always have and smile on their face and are willing to help in any way they can. The VBC team doesn't take shortcuts in service and will do that little extra to take care of the soldiers."

As we draw closer to the Army's final withdrawal for Iraq, R4 continues to push material out of Theater as quickly as they can once they receive disposition for USF-I or PM direct. Before equipment leave can leave theater it must be washed, clean, staged and inspected. R4 anticipates that their retrograde operations will increase in the coming months as units prepare to depart theater. They are currently working with J4 to receive disposition on equipment early the withdrawal cycle in their effort to support Responsible Drawdown from Iraq.

Whether it is repairing Rollers and Rhinos or preparing equipment for retrograde, R-4 VBC is willing and ready to support the Warfighter whenever and however they can.

COS KALSU ATHP CLOSURE A SUCCESS

By Maj. Stacy Tomic
3rd ACR BLST

COS KALSU, Iraq — Drawing down operations in Iraq is no easy task. The process entails the detailed planning and execution of the movement, transfer and consolidation of equipment and supplies within the operational environment. Perhaps the most difficult class of supply to transfer and consolidate is ammunition. In Oct. 2010, the 3rd Armored Cavalry Regiment received a directive to close the Ammunition Transfer and Holding Point here no later than Dec. 31, 2010. With the outstanding expertise, dedication and support of Joint Munitions Command personnel, the 3d ACR accomplished the complicated task.

In early October 2010, the ATHP held 142 containers of various types of ammunition, including 12 containers of Iraqi ammunition and six containers of amnesty ammunition. The 3rd ACR started the planning and coordination process by holding a meeting with Warrant Officer Jamale Morrow, 3rd ACR Ammunition Officer; Ed Bell, JMC logistics assistance representative/quality assurance specialist ammunition surveillance; and 224th Sustainment Brigade personnel to discuss the transfer of ammunition assets from COS Kalsu to Contingency Operating Base Adder. The group identified key tasks to support the closure timeline as well as specific requirements to complete the mission, including personnel, material handling equipment and packaging supplies.

The closure process started slowly as the required personnel, MHE and packaging material did not arrive as requested. Ed Bell and the 3rd ACR ammunition team continued to work hard to accomplish the mission, even with limited assets. The team began by consolidating “like” ammunition in containers. The standards for storing ammunition and shipping ammunition are different, so the team



Courtesy photo

LAR/QASAS Ed Bell and Soldiers from the 224th Sustainment Brigade pack an ammunition container at the COS Kalsu Ammunition Transfer and Holding Point.

had to ensure that ammunition was separated appropriately to ship to COB Adder. The 3rd ACR shipped the first three containers to COB Adder in the first week of November and 16 containers the following week.

Five containers of pallets, plywood, banding material and other packaging material finally arrived at COS Kalsu during the third week of November, but a shortage of MHE and personnel continued to hinder operations. While the 3rd ACR was in the process of closing the ATHP, the ammunition team was still responsible for collecting amnesty ammunition and shipping ammunition basic loads to supporting COSs. MC dispatched two additional LARs/QASAs (Marty Gauer and Richard Chandler) to Kalsu during the last week of November to provide some much needed support. They provided absolutely outstanding technical expertise to ensure that ammunition was properly inspected, documented and packed for shipment to COB Adder.

In December 2010, the pace and closure progress improved dramatically as three Soldiers from the 224th Sustainment Brigade, located at COB Adder, arrived at Kalsu to assist in operations. The ATHP also received

additional MHE to assist with operations. The ammunition team worked with the Explosive Ordnance Disposal team to dispose of the containers of amnesty and unserviceable ammunition and explosives. The ammunition team also froze customer ammunition accounts at Kalsu and had them transferred to the Ammunition Supply Point at COB Adder. All ammunition requests now go through the COB Adder ASP to fulfill customer requirements within the 3rd ACR footprint. The final ammunition containers departed COS Kalsu for COB Adder prior to the end of December. The Kalsu ATHP was then officially closed and converted into a basic load ammunition holding area Dec. 31, 2010.

In less than three months, the 3rd ACR, with great assistance from JMC and the 224th SB, was able to process 142 containers of ammunition with more than 30 percent of the containers having to be repacked to meet “safe to ship” status. Despite constant shortages of personnel and equipment, the ammunition team worked hard to accomplish the mission. The outstanding technical expertise and guidance of the JMC LARs/QASAs ensured that the unit stayed on track to successfully close the Kalsu ATHP on time.

QUASIS: AMMO SAFETY IS THE NAME OF THE GAME

By Maj. Brian M. Knieriem
3/4 Infantry Division BLST chief

COB ADDER, Iraq - The Quality Assurance Specialist Ammunition Surveillance are the eyes and ears of the commander for ammunition safety and management. In order to help leverage this expertise and capability to the Warfighter, the three QASAS personnel at COB Adder are integrated within the 3/4 Brigade Logistic Support Team. This is Army Materiel Command's single face to the field for all AMC acquisition, logistical, and technology matters. The QASAS personnel at COB Adder provide the Soldiers of the 8th Ordnance Company daily technical assistance and training in support for the Ammunition Supply Point mission for United States Division – South, Iraq. The QASAS mission is to supply the American Warfighter with quality ammunition at the right place, on time, every time.

Ammunition surveillance can be broken down into three categories or functions. These roles are critical in maintaining the Army's ammunition readiness. The first is the quality assurance and logistical functions related to inspection, testing and classification. Today, one of the key missions of all QASAS personnel in Iraq and



The cans containing these munitions were sealed when first discovered. QASAS went out to apply what was thought to be missing supports and this is what was found.



Photos by Patrick Barry

A shipment received recently at the COB Adder Ammunition Supply Point.

Afghanistan is identifying and properly disposing of legacy ammunition. There is still a lot of legacy ammunition out there. Through initiatives like "Operation Clean Sweep," an operation many commanders use to account for and identify Army property that may have been unknowingly stored in containers that have been transferred from unit to unit through the eight years of war, we are discovering these legacy munitions. This leads into the next function of ammunition surveillance, ammunition safety during handling, storage, transportation, maintenance, use, and disposal. As shown in the accompanying photo, one can clearly see that improper blocking and bracing can lead to a potentially catastrophic situation. The picture shows what QASAS personnel encounter on a weekly basis when shipments arrive to their respective ammunition holding areas.

The final category of these core functions is inspecting and determining the reliability of the Army's ammunition stockpiles through inspecting

and monitoring ammunition/explosives operations for compliance with regulatory explosives safety requirements and protecting the public and the war-fighter assets from unnecessary exposures to explosives hazards. These functions are critical in maintaining the Army's ammunition readiness. The other photo shows an example of why non factory sealed containers need to be opened and inspected. Many units throughout the Army have numerous seal presses so the seal alone can't always be trusted.

With safety being paramount, the second greatest service that QASAS offers is the ability to conduct tests and studies to assess serviceability or deterioration of munitions. Instead of shipping ammunition back to a depot, where it could take months and sometimes years to return certain munitions back into the Army's inventory, a QASAS can often determine serviceability on the spot and put ammunition directly back into the Army's inventory for immediate use, saving mission critical time and money.

1 / 402ND AFSB HOSTS COMBAT LIFESAVER COURSE

By Joyce Toney
1st Bn., 402nd AFSB

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — The 1st Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, hosted two sessions Combat Lifesaver Courses recently.

In all, 52 personnel received the critical training that will allow them to serve as combat lifesavers should the tactical situation necessitate their skills.

The Combat Lifesaver Course is a preparation course that bridges the gap between basic first aid training and combat medic training. A CLS is a nonmedical Soldier/Civilian who provides lifesaving measures before professional medical attention can be administered. The CLS

training. Trainees are expected to pass both a 40 question written test, as well as a practical evaluation. After successful completion of the course, the trainees will receive a certificate of completion, which is good for one year. Combat lifesavers must be recertified every 12 months at unit level.

The CLS class prepares trainees to provide immediate, far-forward medical care that is essential on a widely dispersed and fluid battlefield to prevent personnel from dying of wounds. Medical personnel may not be able to reach and apply lifesaving measures to all wounded individuals in a timely manner. A properly trained CLS is capable of stabilizing many types of casualties and can slow the deterioration of a wounded individual's condition until medical personnel arrive.



Students assess a "casualty" during the Combat Life Saver course hosted by the 1st Bn., 402nd AFSB.

DEBBIE'S FITNESS CORNER

REMEMBER THAT NEW YEAR'S RESOLUTION???

By Debbie Davis
Brigade — South

Did you make a New Year's resolution (and do you still remember it)?

I did, my hometown, Davenport, Iowa, sponsors an annual 7-mile race called the "Bix 7," named in honor of jazz musician, Bix Beiderbecke. (Check it out on the Internet.) I started running "The Bix" in 1979, through four pregnancies, up until my deployments starting in 2004.

My resolution is to train and finish in the top five for my age group.

Inshallah!

My intent for this monthly article is to help motivate you to start a fitness program.

It's never too late. During deployments I'm much more disciplined. Following is a list of tips to help with your motivation:

- Take a before and after photos
- Keep a workout journal
- Work out with a friend
- Take care of your body
- Eat balanced meals
- Drink plenty of water
- Exercise (of course!)
- Get enough sleep (it does the body good)

If you would like me to discuss a specific health topic, let me know. I'm also looking for your success stories on what regime works for you. Share your favorite exercise, energy meal or words of encouragement.



TO BURN THIS OFF:

TREAT

	DO THE STAIR STEP MACHINE	OR THE STATIONARY BIKE (Mod Pace)	OR TAKE A BRISK WALK (3.5 mph)
Pizza w/cheese (1 slice)	15 minutes	20 minutes	36 minutes
Onion Rings (9)	30 minutes	38 minutes	71 minutes
Potato Chips (1 oz.)	17 minutes	21 minutes	39 minutes
Chocolate Shake	29 minutes	37 minutes	68 minutes
White wine (3.5 oz.)	8 minutes	10 minutes	18 minutes
Beer (12 oz.)	16 minutes	20 minutes	38 minutes
Chocolate cake(1 slice)	26 minutes	33 minutes	60 minutes
Apple pie (1 slice)	45 minutes	57 minutes	96 minutes
Blueberry Muffin	21 minutes	27 minutes	51 minutes
Snickers Bar	30 minutes	38 minutes	70 minutes
Eskimo Pie	18 minutes	23 minutes	43 minutes
Glazed Doughnut	33 minutes	42 minutes	78 minutes



4/3 AAB BLST KEEPS THINGS MOVING

By Lt. Col. Earline Nelson
4/3 AAB BLST

AL ASSAD AIR BASE, Iraq — Members of 4th Advise and Assist Brigade, 3rd Infantry Division, Brigade Logistics Support Team at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, include Michael Alexander, logistics assistant representative; Marty Gauer, LAR; Lt. Col. Earline Nelson, BLST Chief; Beryl Wilson, logistics management specialist; Terry Force, logistics management specialist, and Marlin Rodriquez, TACOM Automotive LAR.

The 4/3 AAB BLST provides logistical support to units, contractors, civilians and travelers within the Al Asad footprint. Al Asad Air Base is the second largest U.S. military air base in Iraq and is located in the Sunni western province of Al Anbar. Al Asad was formerly an Iraqi Air Force Base, then known as Qadisiyah Air Base. In Arabic, Al Asad means the "The Lion." Prior to the American invasion, it housed three units of the Iraqi Air Force which flew MiG-25s and MiG-21s. AAAB is home to elements from across the Army Materiel Command, Army Sustainment Command, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, the Communications and Electronics Command Drawdown Team; 2nd Battalion, 402nd AFSB Theater Provided Equipment (TPE) Team Six, 1st Battalion, 402nd AFSB Forward Repair Activities, Redistribution Property Accountability Team, and the Logistics Civil Augmentation Program III.

The support provided greatly contributes to the mission of the units and base security with 43 AMC representatives at Al Asad. Some of the programs supported include: Back Scatter, BCS3, Biometrics, Rapiscan, Crew / Warlock, Elevated Sensors and PM IED Defeat.

Soldiers from the 703rd Brigade Support Battalion, received training on the Tactical Water Purification System conducted by TACOM LAR Roger Wilson, 402nd AFSB, Joint Base Balad. The unit was fielded the TWPS and



Courtesy photo

The 4/3 AAB BLST Team at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq.

received New Equipment Training in the months prior to deployment but had not the opportunity to conduct sustainment training since their NET.

"[The] TWPS training was extremely beneficial to our Soldiers for the upcoming mission and it served as sustainment training, as well," said Maj. Byron Coleman, 703rd BSB support operations officer. "Water purification is a skill that's perishable because there hasn't been a mission requirement for it. Therefore the training Mr. Wilson provided enabled the Soldiers to validate equipment set-up and operations. As a result, Soldiers will be able to conduct this mission with very few problems."

RPAT, ATHP, and TPE yards are essential logistics providers on the Al Asad footprint. They make a big difference in a unit being able to build combat power, manage property accountability and process out quickly to complete their mission.

When in need of LOGCAP support,

the LOGCAP team is available and ready. If the BLST had to develop a motto it would probably be "4/3 BLST, no logistics issues or questions are left unanswered." Recently requests for assistance from both 4/3 AAB and the LOGCAP III ACO were received. The 4/3 BLST responded immediately by identifying subject matter experts on the ground at Al Asad and Ramadi, an RT 240 RTCH field support representative in support of the brigade and two Grove Crane FSR's to evaluate an RT 875 that belonged to LOGCAP.

Summary, in the past couple of months, the AMC team has helped the 4/3 AAB reduce both their non-mission capable equipment count by 79 percent and their excess TPE by more than 1,100 pieces. Through integrated logistics, the BLST enhanced the unit's mission and paved the path for Reset and Redeployment planning. The Camp Bearclaw 4/3 AAB BLST at Al Asad Air Base is truly AMC's Single Face to the Field.