



## *Camp Arifjan, Kuwait*

# News Release

## **401<sup>st</sup> Army Field Support Brigade, South West Asia**

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**Date: February 2, 2007**

**For Immediate Release**

**CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait** – The former Director of the Distribution Management Center for the Army Sustainment Command, Rock Island, Illinois, assumed command of the 401st Army Field Support Brigade in a traditional military ceremony Jan. 31.

Col. Dennis M. Thompson, Rock Island, Ill., received the Brigade's Colors from the Army Materiel Command's Commanding General (Forward), Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuiston.

Soldiers, civilians, contractors and battalion commanders representing the brigade's three battalions from Qatar, Kuwait and Afghanistan attended the morning ceremony.

Thompson stood up the first strategic level distribution management center five months ago at Rock Island, Ill.

"It was during my time at Rock Island that I first really learned and fully began to understand the changing nature of how we support our forces and the critical role that the AFSBs throughout the world have with this mission, especially, with the move to modularization," Thompson said.

The new commander told the audience that with the new modularization, the traditional sustainment package that one has expected to see has virtually disappeared. What has emerged in its place in part, are the new brigade logistic support teams, logistic support elements, Army field support battalions and the seven Army Field Support Brigades. Thompson said, day by day, they become more critical to tactical formations on the battlefield and also to operational commanders and to the strategic efforts of the nation.

"To the men and women of the 401<sup>st</sup> . . . I charge you to continue to perform the high standards you have set in a manner that has truly improved combat readiness. Every day we must give our supportive units our best. We owe it to them and to ourselves. As your commander, I pledge that you will get nothing less from me. Congratulations on all you have accomplished."

"I look forward to leading you and supporting our Warfighters and in representing AMC and the Army Sustainment Command. Our mission in the months ahead only promises to be more demanding. Be proud of what you do. Together we will not fail in supporting the Soldier and being first to make a difference," said Thompson.

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## U.S. Army photo by Chuck Sprague

**Jpg# 4518a**-Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuiston (R), hands the 401<sup>st</sup> Army Field Support Brigade Colors to Col. Dennis Thompson as Command Sgt. Maj. Anthony Boles stands center at attention, during the Assumption of Command Ceremony Jan. 31 at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. TASK FORCE AVCRAD provided the Color Guard.