



THE GLOBAL LINE



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Thompson accepts command in Kuwait, former DMC chief looks forward to leading

By Charles Sprague
401st AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – The former director of the Distribution Management Center for the Army Sustainment Command, Rock Island, Ill., assumed command of the 401st Army Field Support Brigade in a ceremony Jan. 31, at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Col. Dennis M. Thompson received the brigade's colors from the Army Materiel Command's Commanding General (Forward), Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuiston.



U.S. Army photo by Charles Sprague

Col. Dennis Thompson accepts the guidon and command of the 401st Army Field Support Brigade from Brig. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, Army Materiel Command Commanding General (Forward) in a change of command ceremony at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait Jan. 31.

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Vilseck battalion flies high, fixes 3,800 aviation weapons



U.S. Army photo

The 405th Army Field Support Brigade repaired almost 4,000 weapons like these for the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade.

By Jennifer King
405th AFSB Public Affairs

VILSECK, Germany - The 2nd Battalion, 405th Army Field Support Brigade's TACOM Small Arms Readiness Evaluation Team with Repair recently finished repairing almost 4,000 individual and crew-served weapons for the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade, at Katterbach Kaserne in Germany.

Don Dennis, the TACOM armament logistics assistance representative, spearheaded the ef-

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Always doing our best, for the best

**Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson
Commanding General**



As we move forward in 2007, it is important for us to reflect on the steps we have taken to improve support to our troops in the field.

Our brigades, battalions and repair activities all play a critical role in keeping our Soldiers battle-ready. At Rock Island, ASC's Global Logistics Intelligence Center and the Distribution Management Center have expanded operations to provide field commanders with around-the-clock access to the Army's logistics arsenal. The add-on-armor program, for example, continues to save Soldiers' lives. This month a national news reporter, embedded with an Army unit, walked away from an IED attack on his HMMWV; as his news story showed, the armor saved everyone in the vehicle.

Each day we must remember we are here to support our service members who put their lives on the line. Our task is never ending, so we must always heed the call to duty. Our comrades' dedication must strengthen our resolve to provide the very best equipment, supplies and services to our Soldiers on the battlefield. People we will never meet are counting on us... As long as they are

willing to make sacrifices, can we do any less?

By now, it's clear we're in a long and challenging struggle. Whether in the arid wasteland of the Horn of Africa, the craggy mountains of Afghanistan, or the mean streets of Iraq, our nation and our Army are facing a ruthless and implacable enemy.

All of us have chosen to serve, whether in uniform or as an employee. No one compelled us to do what we do; we serve because we want to. Our service members around the globe rely on us every minute of every day. When you look up at the clock the next time, think of how much what you do matters to people you will never meet. On your way to the parking lot, spare a thought for the Soldier mounting up his or her Humvee.

Some of our comrades are risking all to secure

“Some of our Army comrades are risking all to secure our liberty. We must never forget those who have laid down their lives, nor can we forget those who mourn them.”

*Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson
U.S. Army Sustainment Command*

our liberty. We must never forget those who have laid down their lives, nor can we forget those who mourn them. It is our duty to reach out and offer our support, for we can best show respect for our honored dead by caring for the

loved ones they left behind – and by doing our best to see to it their brothers and sisters in arms have the very best we can provide.

We can never repay the debt owed to those who defend our freedom and the thousands of others immortalized on our nation's roll of honor. But we can take heart from their example and carry on the work of building a safer world in their memory, finishing what they began.

THE GLOBAL LINE

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E-mail address: ROCK-ASC-Global-Line@conus.army.mil. Postal address: The Global Line, ATTN: AMSAS-PA, 1 Rock Island Arsenal, Rock Island, Ill. 61299-6500. Phone: (309) 782-5421, DSN 793-5421. Datafax: (309) 782-5011, DSN 793-5011.

Maj. Gen. Jerome Johnson
Commanding General

Daniel Carlson
Public Affairs Officer

Chuck Fick
Managing Editor

Nikki St. Amant
Editor





U.S. Army photo by Nikki St. Amant

An Army vehicle sits loaded on a flat-bed truck awaiting convoy transport in Bagram, Afghanistan. The vehicle will be shipped to Kuwait for repair. More than \$17 billion allocated by Congress will go to keeping equipment like this in combat-ready condition. Army officials testified to a joint House committee on Jan. 31 that 33,000 pieces of equipment were repaired in 2006 and 47,000 pieces will be reset in 2007.

Army House testimony: reset dollars well-spent

WASHINGTON -- The combination of available money and around-the-clock work is enabling the Army to increase the pace of refurbishment of equipment that's damaged or worn out from service in Iraq and Afghanistan, senior military leaders testified before a joint U.S. House committee on Capitol Hill Jan. 31.

The Army received \$17.1 billion from Congress for fixing war-ravaged military equipment for fiscal 2007 and has obligated \$11.2 billion of those funds, Brig. Gen. Charles Anderson, the Army's director of force development, said to members of the Readiness, Air and Land Forces subcommittees.

Another \$6.5 billion has been obligated for procurement of new equipment, Anderson said, noting that \$4.7 billion more has been made available for operational and maintenance needs.

Anderson thanked Congress for providing the funding. Those refit

and maintenance dollars are very important to the Army in a time of war when trucks, tanks and helicopters are racking up excessive mileage or flight time and otherwise experiencing hard service during combat operations in Afghanistan and Iraq, he said.

"Tanks today are running at five times the program rate; trucks, five to six times their program usage, and they are running, as you well know, with heavy armor; helicopters five to six times their program usage," Anderson said.

However, current refurbishment efforts "will reverse the effects of stress on all our equipment," Anderson said.

About 20,000 pieces of war-ravaged equipment like Bradley Fighting Vehicles, Abrams tanks, artillery pieces and wheeled vehicles were repaired and made ready for continued service in 2005, said Brig. Gen. Robert Radin, who also testified at the hearing. Radin is

the U.S. Army Materiel Command's deputy chief of staff for logistics and operations.

About 33,000 pieces of Army equipment were repaired in 2006, Radin said, adding that about 47,000 pieces of equipment are slated for refurbishment in 2007. "We've seen a steady build (in the pace of equipment refurbishments) over the years," he said.

Stateside maintenance depots are humming with activity, Radin said. An additional 1,300 employees are being hired to accommodate the increased work.

"Reset, in simplest terms, will reverse the effects of stress on all our equipment," Anderson said.

Funding from Congress will be used to reset 24 brigade combat teams involving about 4,000 Soldiers and about 40,000 pieces of equipment returning from duty in Afghanistan and Iraq, he said.

(Army News Service)

HEAT saving lives in Afghanistan



10th Mountain Division Soldiers observe as their comrades take a tumble in the Humvee Egress Awareness Trainer at Bagram Air Base, Afghanistan. The HEAT is a roll-over simulator that trains Soldiers how to survive a Humvee crash. The Army Field Support Battalion-Afghanistan manages the local HEAT facility.

U.S. Army photo by Sonny Quell

Germersheim powers up new mission

By Jennifer King
405th AFSB Public Affairs

SECKENHEIM, Germany—The 405th Army Field Support Brigade dedicated the new Field Logistics Readiness Center-Germersheim in a ceremony Dec. 13 at the Germersheim Army Depot.

The facility, operated by the U.S. Army Communications-Electronics Life Cycle Management Command, is a generator Center of Excellence, and will be generator reset hub in the European theater. The operations are funded by the U.S. Army Materiel Command and C-E LCMC. C-E LCMC also partnered with the U.S. Army Sustainment Command and Letterkenny Army Depot to operate the FLRC-G. ASC will be the lead integrator at the facility.

The operations will represent a dramatic shift in the way generator reset work is performed in Europe. While the generators will continue to be reset to technical manual 10/20 standards of complete refurbishment, the highest of all Army repair standards, a new

direct exchange program with U.S. Army Europe will be implemented. Priority units will now have the opportunity to turn in used generators for reset and immediately be issued field-ready generators from the facility's stock. USAREUR units will no longer have to turn in their generators and then wait for that particular generator to be repaired. All of this work will be provided to the units at no cost to USAREUR.

"This facility will change the way we support USAREUR units," said Col. Bobby Ray Pinkston, commander of the 405th AFSB. "This new operation will significantly reduce the amount of time units wait for their equipment and will greatly enhance the service we provide to Soldiers."

In peace and war, the 405th AFSB performs maintenance, equipment repair and storage missions in Europe. It also integrates and synchronizes acquisition, logistics and technology capabilities for commanders and deploys on order to support joint expeditionary operations.

Italy battalion armors airborne unit

By Jennifer King
405th AFSB Public Affairs

LIVORNO, Italy — The 3rd Battalion, 405th Army Field Support Brigade in Livorno, Italy, recently completed an up-armor mission for the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team.

Over the course of a week, the unit installed armor on 14 vehicles, which the 173rd will use for drivers' training. Battalion personnel also spent time doing armor installation training with the Southern European Task Force Installation Materiel Maintenance Activity workforce.

"The quick completion of this mission is a testament to the talent, dedication and commitment of our Italian workforce here at the 3rd Battalion," said Lt. Col. Harvey Robinson, battalion commander. "I am extremely proud of their efficiency and effectiveness in support of our customers."

"Now that the armor has been installed, these vehicles will be used for training the Soldiers of the 173rd on the safe operation of up-armored HMMWVs," said Curtis Dabney, director of maintenance for the 3rd Battalion. "This training will help keep Soldiers safe



U.S. Army photo by Lewis Courtney

Mirco Daversa, left, Marco Gagni, floor, and Maurizio Barsotti, rear, work to install armor on a 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team vehicle.

as they transition to combat environments and have to drive the armored vehicles.

"This mission is another example of the logistical support we provide in support of SETAF and the war on terror," Dabney concluded.

Up-armorings military vehicles is an extensive process. All suspension components must be removed and replaced with heavy duty sus-

pension to support the increased weight of the add-on armor. After the suspensions are replaced, the actual armor is installed on the exterior of the vehicle.

"The work we do is not easy, but it is worthwhile," said Robinson. "We are proud of what we accomplish every day for the Soldier, and I am proud of my team for doing their jobs so well."



BE AWARE! National Electrical Safety Awareness Month



Have ground fault circuit interrupters installed in your home. They detect leaked current resulting from electrocution and cut off power quick enough to avoid serious injury.

'Afghan First' developing local talents

By Debi Cole-Masayo
AFSB-Afghanistan Public Affairs

BAGRAM, Afghanistan – 10 Afghan nationals graduated Jan. 15, from an AMC-sponsored apprentice program designed to contribute to the future of Afghanistan through education and economic development.

To support the Afghan First Program established by Army Lt. Gen. Karl Eikenberry, commander of the Combined Forces Command-Afghanistan, AMC took the program a step farther by starting the Afghan First Apprenticeship Program.

The apprenticeship program not only hires local Afghans, but trains them in logistics skill. "This program develops skilled workers, allowing Afghans to obtain jobs that add to the development of not only the economic growth but to the relationship between the U.S. and this country," said Lt. Col. Richard B. Dix, commander, Army Field Support Battalion-Afghanistan.



U.S. Army photo by Chuck Sprague

An "Afghan First" apprentice program graduate works on removing the wheel of a vehicle at Bagram Airbase, Afghanistan, Jan. 15.

AMC support of the Afghan First Program allowed contractor AECOM's supervisors to identify hard-working, ambitious individuals with hope for a brighter future. "Communication was a challenge at the beginning but the supervisors work around this through on-site translators and also teach simple English phrases to the apprentice in the program," said Dix. "This program is the center piece of AMC's efforts to improve and develop the industrial base for

Afghanistan by increasing marketable skills. It is through education that AMC and AECOM will make this happen."

The Army Sustainment Command's Army Field Support Battalion-Afghanistan manages the six-month program which trains apprentices in three different arenas: vehicle maintenance, housing and supply. The apprentice is then hired as an AECOM employee, giving workers hope for a better life.

ASC NCO one of AMC's EO advisors of year

By Mary Beth Baustian
ASC Public Affairs

ORLANDO, Fla. — The U.S. Army Sustainment Command's Master Sgt. Latisha Turner was named an Equal Opportunity Advisor of the Year for the Army Materiel Command on Dec. 14 at the Annual Worldwide Equal Opportunity Advisor Training Conference in Orlando, Fla.

The purpose of the award is to recognize those Equal Opportunity Advisors whose exemplary leadership qualities made significant contributions to human relations and equal opportunity programs

within the organization and the Army. Those selected for the award were judged to have been successful in assisting their command in overcoming discrimination and eliminating barriers to equal opportunity, promoting training opportunities that support and contribute to the advancement of understanding and diversity, and fostering a positive relationship between military and civilian communities.

According to Turner, many of her duties as an Equal Opportunity Advisor require frequent travel, to monitor what is referred to as the

"climate" for equal opportunity in the Soldiers' environment. As an Equal Opportunity Advisor, Turner's travels frequently include trips to Southwest Asia in support of the war on terror.

Turner said her frequent travel is one of the most important and enjoyable aspects of her job.

She explained, "These site visits give me the opportunity to see first-hand the mission that's conducted out in the field.

"My visits give me the opportunity to assess the command climate and address concerns arising from equal opportunity issues."

Korean employees earn top honors for '06

By Michael Allen
AFSBn-NEA

YONGSAN, South Korea — The Korean Service Corps annual dinner was held at the Korean Ministry of National Defense compound in Yongsan, South Korea Jan. 26. The annual event was hosted by KSC battalion commander Lt. Col. Robert Paquin. Keynote speaker was Lt. Gen. David Valcourt, Eighth U.S. Army commander.

The KSC has been a close partner of American forces since its inception in 1950. The Soldiers and civilians in the unit provide combat service and combat service support to U.S. Army units throughout Korea. This dinner serves as a way to honor past and present KSC personnel and the vital mission they perform and to showcase the shared commitment to maintaining a strong military capability for the defense of South Korea.

The Army Field Support Battalion-North East Asia at Camp Carroll participated in the dinner for the first time this year. In March 2006, the 36th KSC Company was activated in a ceremony at Camp Carroll. The company is assigned to AFSBn-NEA and is comprised of 100 personnel who directly support the Army Prepositioned Stocks mission in Korea.

The KSC company brings maintenance, supply, administrative and vehicle operator capability to AFSBn-NEA. Working in conjunction with Soldiers, Department of the Army civilians, Korean National civilians and U.S. contractors assigned to the battalion, the Korean Service Corps workers are a vital element of the team.

Mr. Cho, the commander of the 36th Korea Service Corps company, received the award for "KSC Company of the Year" in the cat-



U.S. Army photo

Sun Young and her husband, Michael Allen, second from left, display his Korean Service Corps Coordinator of the Year award at the annual KSC dinner Jan. 26 in Yongsan, South Korea. Allen is the civilian executive assistant at the Army Field Support Battalion - Northeast Asia.

egory of training. Mr. Cho and his executive officer Mr. Chang established a comprehensive training plan and executed the training in an exemplary manner.

Michael Allen, AFSBn-NEA civilian executive assistant, was recognized as the "KSC Coordinator of the Year".

405th AFSB accepts operational control of aviation maintenance battalion

By Jennifer King
405th AFSB Public Affairs

The 405th AFSB recently accepted operational control of the 2nd Battalion, 502nd Aviation Intermediate Maintenance Battalion.

The 2/502nd AVIM Bn. has multiple missions, including: execute backup field and sustainment aviation maintenance for U.S. Army Europe aviation assets and transient aircraft in the Europe; support air and sea port operations to receive, deploy and retrograde aircraft; provide deployment support resources to include materiel handling equipment, hazardous material inspection and/or certification and load plans; and perform repair parts support to theater assets.

"As the 2/502nd continues to provide world class

aviation maintenance and logistics support, transition to the Theater Sustainment Aviation Manager- Europe, and prepare for inactivation, the 405th AFSB becomes the single point of focus for USAREUR's operational aviation assets to plug into to receive the best possible support," said Lt. Col. David Krall, commander of the 2/502nd. "The TASM-E will replace the 2/502nd in August 2007, and will provide more capability and responsiveness by having one aviation maintenance structure with depot forward-type capabilities for the entire theater. TASM-E is the future of above-unit-level maintenance."

The battalion is currently supporting the 82nd Airborne and the 10th Mountain Division rotations through its operations in Rota, Spain.



Commissary scholarship deadline set for Feb. 21

Military families have an opportunity to apply for scholarships for their children at certain commissaries, but they better do it soon — the deadline is Feb. 21.

Scholarships are available to unmarried children under 21 — under 23 if enrolled in school — of military active-duty, Reserve, Guard and retired personnel.

Program officials use the Defense Enrollment Eligibility Reporting System database to determine eligibility. Applicants and sponsors must be enrolled in DEERS and have a current ID card.

Applicants must be planning to attend an accredited college or university full-time in the fall term of 2007, or be enrolled in a program designed to transfer directly into a four-year program, officials said. Along with their application, they must submit an essay on how and why they would change a historical event.

Scholarship applications are available at more than 260 commissaries worldwide.



Santa Claus hands out presents at Chun-gwang orphanage Dec. 16

Korea battalion hosts orphans at Christmas

**A first-hand account by
Victoria Kim, AFSBn-NEA**

The Army Field Support Battalion – NorthEast Asia held a wonderful Christmas party for more than 50 Chun-gwang Orphanage children Dec. 16.

AFSBn-NEA officially began sponsoring the orphanage in October, when Lt. Col. Karl Bopp, the AFSBn-NEA Commander, and the Chun-gwang Orphanage president, Mrs. Chang, Mae Hee signed a cooperative agreement. Since then, the battalion has held several events including: a pizza party at the orphanage with games, Thanksgiving dinners at the homes of employees, and snack donations to the orphanage.

The Christmas party started off with lots of games and fun. The

children had no idea what to expect since this was the first Christmas celebration held for them at a U.S. Army base. After the games and prizes, Chaplin Min provided a Christmas message and blessed the food. The kids hurried eating knowing there was something special waiting for them.

After dinner, the children heard a mini-concert performed by other orphanage children. After the concert was over, Santa arrived with his bag of gifts. The children smiled from ear to ear as they watched him call each name and present an angel tree gift provided by battalion employees. As they each took turns opening their gifts, you could see the feeling of happiness on their faces. They'd never had a Christmas like this before!

Thompson Continued from page 1

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 401st . . . I charge you to continue to perform the high standards you have set in a manner that has truly improved combat readiness," he said. "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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TACOM

effort to bring the SARET-R Team to Katterbach and Illeshiem, Germany. Dennis is part of a 2nd Battalion, 405th Army Field Support Brigade logistics support team assigned to the 12th CAB.

"These guys do great work," said Dennis. "Once they are finished with a weapon, it is certified combat-ready."

TACOM has deployed SARET inspection teams for several years, but picked up the repair mission earlier this year. Team members are largely drawn from the Anniston Army Depot Small Arms Repair Facility in Alabama, but also include personnel from Sierra Army Depot, Calif., and Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.

While observing the inspect and repair operation at Storck Army Airfield in Illeshiem, Lt. Col. Jordan Chroman, commander of 2/405th AFSB noted, "This service is really a combat multiplier and tremendous reset asset for units going into or coming back from the fight. Weapons take a significant beating during a year-long deployment (but) in a few weeks, the SARET-R Team completes the amount of work a unit might struggle to accomplish in months."

Units that need the SARET-R program at their home station should contact TACOM.