



Army Sustainment Command

News Release

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402nd AFSB welcomes new leader in rare Iraq change of command

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq--The 402nd Army Field Support Brigade conducted a rare Iraq change of command ceremony at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation East Recreation Center here April 21 as the "Power Team" welcomed its new leader.

Col. Brian R. Haebig relinquished command to Col. Lawrence W. Fuller, who is arriving from the Pentagon where he was the chief, Contingency Operations Division, deputy chief of staff, Army G-4/Logistics. Haebig's next assignment will be chief of logistics for I Corp at Fort Lewis, Wash.

Change of command ceremonies are rare in Iraq because nearly all units arrive and depart as a whole. The 402nd AFSB is one of the few units that call Iraq "home."

The ceremony's presiding officer was Maj. Gen. James E. Rogers, commanding general of the 1st Sustainment Command (Theater) headquartered at Fort Bragg, N.C., and forward deployed to Kuwait. Rogers stood in for Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, commander of Army Sustainment Command, who was unable to attend. ASC, which is the 402nd AFSB's higher headquarters, is located at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill. where Rogers formerly commanded the Joint Munitions Command.

"Brian [Col. Haebig] thrived during his command of the 402nd AFSB at a time when his unit of over 8,000 strong, the Army fully

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engaged in two separate wars, and the nation needed him most,” Rogers said. “Brian provided management oversight of the theater property mission which encompasses the single largest property book in the history of the Army at 18 billion -- not million -- billion dollars. Our nation expects us to be good stewards of their tax dollars and Brian exemplified this throughout his command.”

Haebig, a native of Oshkosh, Wisc., and graduate of University of Wisconsin – Oshkosh, reflected on his command and shared some words of wisdom with his successor.

“The experiences that I’ve had over the last 13 months in Iraq have touched every fiber of my being -- every day -- and they will replay themselves over in my mind every day for the rest of my life,” he said. “Larry, I’d like to tell you it will be easy in the future, but it won’t. When I arrived in Iraq, we planned for a tsunami of equipment. We’ve processed a lot, but there is still a lot coming -- so get ready.”

Rogers praised Fuller’s qualities and highlighted his experience. “Taking command today is Col. Larry Fuller who is not new to the AFSB mission. In fact, Larry commanded the 2nd Battalion of the 401st AFSB at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait,” he said. “I couldn’t think of a better, more qualified officer to come in and lead this organization.”

The incoming commander said he is ready for the challenge.

“Since the notification that I would command this brigade, I’ve anticipated this day,” said Fuller who hails from Jackson, Ala., and is a graduate of Alabama A&M University. “I’m in awe of the size and complexity of the 402nd and so impressed with the professionalism of the team and how you support the Warfighter throughout the theater. I am truly humbled and could not wait to become a part of this team.”

Fuller has served in a variety of command and staff positions including: chief, Supply Division and chief, Equipment Readiness Division, 4th Corps Materiel Management Center, 13th Corps Support Command, Fort Hood, Texas; support operations officer and battalion executive officer, 704th Division Support Battalion, 4th Infantry Division (Mechanized), Fort Hood, Texas; deputy G4 and deputy chief, Support

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Operations Division, assistant chief of staff, G4, Eighth U.S. Army, Korea; commander, Army Field Support Battalion – Kuwait, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait; logistics colonels human resources manager, Colonels Management Office, Senior Leader Development, Rosslyn, Va.; and chief, Contingency Operations Division, deputy chief of staff, Army G-4, The Pentagon.

Fuller earned a master of arts in information systems management from Webster University, a master's in military operational art and science from the Air University, and a master's in national resource strategy from the National Defense University. His military education includes completion of the Ordnance Officer Basic and Advanced Courses, the Support Operations Course, the Air Command and Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (with five oak leaf clusters), Army Commendation Medal (with two oak leaf clusters), Army Achievement Medal (with one oak leaf cluster), National Defense Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, the Global War on Terrorism Medal, and the Parachutist Badge and Army Staff Identification Badge.

The 402nd AFSB-Iraq was constituted on March 26, 2006 at the direction of the Department of the Army. The brigade was officially organized Oct. 16, 2006. While the 402nd AFSB is a new Army Table of Organization and Equipment (TOE) unit, it traces its history through AMC units operating in Iraq since the early days of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

The AMC Logistics Support Element-Iraq (LSE-Iraq) was formed at LSA Anaconda on May 28, 2003. The original mission of LSE-Iraq was to provide command and control of all AMC LSE's in Iraq. However, senior commanders in Iraq rapidly began to turn to LSE-IZ for information on readiness issues, repair parts, Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP), and technology infusion.

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At the same time, AMC Forward Repair Activities began deploying forward to support the forces in Iraq. After Oct. 2003 the mission of LSE-Iraq grew to provide a broad range of AMC services to the Warfighter in Iraq. The increased missions required a more robust staff.

On May 31, 2005 LSE-Iraq was re-designated as the AFSB-Iraq. The brigade headquarters staff and number of subordinate units continued to grow to support the steadily increasing number of AMC activities in Iraq.

Today the 402nd AFSB is a fully deployable field support brigade with the responsibility for command, control and communications regarding all AMC assets deployed in support of OIF forces in Iraq. The brigade has grown immensely from its austere beginnings and is now responsible for more than 8,000 servicemembers, DoD civilians, and contractor personnel.

The 402nd AFSB integrates AMC's forward logistics capabilities to equip, sustain, and protect the Warfighter in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

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