



# U.S. ARMY SUSTAINMENT COMMAND

## 401ST ARMY FIELD SUPPORT BATTALION – SOUTHWEST ASIA

### Task Force Blacksmith

The Army Field Support Battalion-Southwest Asia (AFSBn-SWA) headquarters is located at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The 401st AFSBn-SWA synchronizes and integrates AMC assets to focus on OIR/OSS readiness through the Theater Provided Equipment (TPE) oversight and Redistribution Property Accountability Team (RPAT) capabilities operationalizing logistical support to current and future operations and contributing to the reset of Army stocks.

As AMC's "Face to the Field", SWA BN's lines of effort focused on Theater Provided Equipment (TPE) responsible retrograde, COR oversight of 155<sup>th</sup> maintenance contract, maximize material readiness, and Enduring Equipment Set (E2S) deletion. The synchronization and integration of Logistic Advisor Representatives and AMC assets to support OIR/OSS readiness from Camp Buehring, Kuwait and Camp Taji, Iraq remains a battalion core mission.

The SWA BN also provided Brigade Logistic Support Teams (BLST) and Regional Logistics Support Teams (RLST) to ensure units throughout the Combined Joint Operational Area (CJOA) were logistically supported. Additionally, the battalion expanded its reach into Iraq by establishing a Theater Provided Equipment retrograde and redistribution capability; culminating in a static RPAT located at Camp Taji with an additional location in Erbil being planned. E2S Divestiture produced two desired outcomes; reducing the TPE footprint in OIR/OSS and utilizing the excess equipment to fill critical shortages throughout the Army.

The AFSBn-AFG provides the 401st Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB), the Army Sustainment Command (ASC), and the materiel enterprise partners a forward presence and executes the following critical programs and missions in support of RS in Afghanistan:

- Provide oversight of maintenance operations in support of contracts in Iraq
- U.S. and Coalition Forces Support
- Responsible Retrograde

- Consolidation and rightsizing of the Force, Equipment, and Materiel
- Theater Provided Equipment (TPE)
- Logistics Assistance Program (LAP) Logistics
- LAR Support to the CJOA to include Kuwait, Iraq and Syria

Logistics assistance representatives (LAR) from the AMC's Life Cycle Management Commands (LCMC) are an integral part of the AFSBn-SWA team. LARs serve as SMEs and are direct customer support to units and assist in leveraging and synchronizing materiel enterprise capabilities. This integrated team approach is pivotal to the materiel enterprise success.

### History

The SWA Battalion was reflagged during a ceremony at Camp Arifjan with LTC Timothy Maples assuming command and SGM Sean Shea assuming responsibility on 7 Feb, 2018. The original HQs was established in Camp Buehring, Kuwait with five ASC Soldiers from the Det. 20 group mobilized as a combination of Active Duty, Army Reservists and National Guardsmen assumed mission command of both Logistic Support Elements in Kuwait and Iraq, tasked with providing material and maintenance support to maximize mission readiness. Soon, relieving units of excess Theater Provided Equipment (TPE) equipment in Iraq and Syria was added to SWA BNs mission set. In September, the SWA BN headquarters relocated from Camp Buehring to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, to facilitate the transfer of authority of the Theater Provided Equipment from Brigade, as well as the Arifjan RPAT mission from Kuwait Battalion. Theater Provided Equipment (TPE) transitioned 1 Sep 18 from a centralized brigade section with program manager oversight, to an operationalized battalion asset aligned with the SWA BN providing mission command for CENTCOM supported countries outside of Afghanistan. Plans continued to have SWA-BN assume the Arifjan RPAT mission in the near future.