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412th Engineer Command completes mission, 416th En Command assumes duties at Gulf Region Division

By Nicole Dalrymple
Gulf Region Division



First Lt. Justin Green, Col. Paul Legere and Capt. Brandon Crull stand before the flags in preparation for the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment change of command held December 22 at the Gulf Region Division in Baghdad, Iraq (l to r). Soldiers from the 416th Engineer Command are relieving members of the 412th Engineer Command set to redeploy this month. (USACE photo by H. al-Taie)

Baghdad, Iraq – Today at a ceremony in the International Zone, the Headquarters & Headquarters Detachment of the 412th Engineer Command, based in Vicksburg, Miss., relinquished command to the 416th Engineer Command, coming in from Darien, Ill. Both units are major subordinate commands of the United States Army Reserve Command.

First Lt. Justin Green, the outgoing HHD commander, passed the unit guidon to Capt. Brandon Crull, the incoming commander, in an afternoon ceremony overseen by Col. Paul Legere, the Gulf Region Division Chief of Staff.



First Lt. Justin Green reflects on his time as commander of the Gulf Region Division's Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment. Green said that his first deployment to Iraq in 2003 as an Army specialist challenged him to become an officer. Three years later he was commissioned as a quartermaster officer in the United States Army Reserves. He said that not many 1st Lieutenants have the chance to command and he described GRD as one of the most important divisions in the Iraq theater. (USACE photo by H. al-Taie)

Soldiers from the 416th are relieving approximately seventy 412th Army Reserve soldiers, who are supporting the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers Gulf Region Division and its North, Central and South districts. GRD's mission includes rebuilding the critical and long neglected infrastructure of Iraq, establishing the facilities necessary to provide basic services such as electricity, water, health and education.

Maj. Gen. Michael Eyre, commanding general of the Gulf Region Division, and his Command Sgt. Maj. Richard Prater were in attendance, along with members of the GRD team.

The 412th Engineer Command soldiers are due to redeploy shortly and will return to Camp Shelby in Hattiesburg, Miss., for demobilization.

The Gulf Region Division, headquartered in Baghdad, is a joint effort comprised of nearly 600 Civilians, Soldiers, Sailors and Airmen. GRD provides quality and sustainable engineering in support of civil/military construction in Iraq. With more than 4,000 projects valued at \$6.9 billion already complete and another \$2.6 billion for approximately 400 projects underway, GRD and its Iraqi partners are building a strong foundation for Iraq's future.



Having accepted the Headquarters and Headquarters Detachment guidon from Col. Paul Legere, Chief of Staff for the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Gulf Region Division, Capt. Brandon C. Crull (r), incoming commander, hands the guidon to his first sergeant, Sergeant First Class Scott McWilliams (l). (USACE photo by H. al-Taie)

Note: Nicole Dalrymple is a Public Affairs Specialist with the Gulf Region Division, U.S. Army Corps of Engineers, Iraq. For more information, contact the public affairs office at 540-542-1443 or email requests to CEGRD.PAO@usace.army.mil. For more information on the U.S. Army Corps of Engineers in Iraq, visit www.grd.usace.army.mil.