



The Muleskinner Report

Mo Agri-Business Development Team IV

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SEPTEMBER 24, 2010

DRIVING THE TEAM

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Commander's Corner

How the ADT will address corruption

In a Sept. 10, 2010 speech, President Barack Obama said that the United States is going to encourage "an Afghan government that can deliver services for its people."

But while helping President Karzai establish a widely accepted and legitimate government, Obama said he would pressure the Afghan President to address corruption.

Obama commented that he frequently tells Karzai, "The only way that you are going to have a stable government over the long term is if the Afghan people feel that you're looking out for them, and that means making sure that the tradition of corruption in the government is reduced."

On that same day, *The Washington Post* ran an article that stated, "After nearly nine years of nation-building in Afghanistan, experts said, the U.S. Government faces mounting evidence that it has helped to assemble one of the most corrupt governments in the world."

The article goes on to say that "There is no authoritative estimate of the toll that corruption has taken on the Afghan economy," and that "U.S. officials acknowledge that they are still struggling to plug large leaks. An estimated \$1 billion a year, for example, is leaving the country in bags of cash carried out of Kabul airport. Authorities suspect that much of the outflow is diverted foreign aid."

Having only been on the ground in Afghanistan for a little over a month now, the members of ADT IV have not yet seen the corruption first hand.

However, we have seen signs of it such as large mansions being built in the middle of Jalalabad slums where an average worker, if he is lucky enough to even have a job, makes only about three dollars per day.

And while there have been exceptions, I have personally found that the mere mention of the subject of corruption to a government official tends to

bring an otherwise friendly conversation to screeching halt. It seems that many have either seen rampant corruption and are afraid to talk about it, or that they have partaken in the corruption themselves.

Corruption has a destabilizing effect on the country as a whole and undermines the efforts of Coalition Forces to counter the insurgency here in Afghanistan.

Former International Security Assistance Force commander General Stanley McChrystal said in a Nov. 2009 memorandum, "The Afghan people will decide who wins this fight, and we, the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and ISAF, are in a struggle for their support."

Obviously, if the average Afghan continues to see corrupt officials grow rich while the government itself fails to provide basic services for its people, any efforts on the part of Coalition Forces to help legiti-

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How the ADT will address corruption

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mize the government will be fruitless.

So what can the U.S. Government and military do to address corruption in Afghanistan? For starters, we can develop and emplace transparent, auditable, and controlled processes to help ensure that every dollar we spend gets to its intended recipient.

Second, we can let Afghan officials at all levels know that we are watching them and that we are going to work with their superiors to hold them accountable. Third, we can train and possibly even inspire these officials to be better leaders and managers.

As the Nangarhar ADT, we work closely with officials at the lowest level of government; namely the Agriculture Extension Agents who interact directly with local farmers. So it is at this level that we can best address the corruption problem.

On Sept. 15, we conducted an all-day training session with the AEAs on how to manage small, agriculture-related projects and as part of this training, introduced them to the concepts of transparency, management controls, and auditable systems.

Our next step is to provide them the opportunity to manage some small projects and to closely monitor them to ensure they can apply these principles.

To get a better idea how these concepts will translate into practice, let's take a detailed look at the mechanics of the process we will require the AEAs to follow.

Suppose an AEA has determined that by extending an irrigation ditch in a small village by 200 meters, he can improve the water supply in that village for 15 farmers. He then goes through a project approval process which requires him to get signatures from the village elders, the ADT, the district sub-governor, and the director of agriculture, irrigation, and livestock.

This requirement to get approval from multiple parties is considered a "management control." It helps ensure that all the stakeholders are aware of the project and that the project is not intended to be self-serving for its originator.

Once he has obtained approval, the AEA works with the ADT to solicit bids and select an Afghan contractor to perform the technical and administrative tasks associated with the project. When the selection process is complete, the newly hired contractor goes to the village and through an interview process, hires



1st Lt. Jeremy Berendzen inspects an Agriculture Extension Center currently under construction in Acheen district to ensure it meets the specifications outlined in the Statement of Work. QA/QC inspections help ensure that a contractor does not "cut corners," or he risks not being paid, or even having the entire project cancelled.

local personnel to perform the work. In addition to skilled and unskilled laborers, the contractor may also hire one or more supervisors depending on the size and complexity of the project.

In conjunction with the ADT and contractor, the AEA next develops a pamphlet that briefly describes all aspects of the project so the villagers and workers know what to expect once the work starts. When this has been completed, he calls a meeting with the people of the village, passes out the pamphlet, and along with the ADT and contractor, explains in detail the purpose and scope of the project, its total cost, who will work on it, when, how, and how much they will be paid, when it is expected to be completed, and how all of the individual costs add up to the total cost.

This is an example of "transparency" in that it allows all stakeholders to see and monitor the inner-workings of the process. The AEA also explains to the villagers that the ADT's phone number is listed on the pamphlet and that they can call at any time if they see that the process described is not being followed.

Once work begins, the contractor handles many of the technical and administrative functions ranging from preparation of engineering drawings to tracking of days and hours worked by each employee.

During the course of the project, the ADT conducts independent quality assurance inspections and makes periodic payments to the contractor. As the administrator for the project, the contractor also serves as the pay

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How the ADT will address corruption

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agent and disburses cash to the workers on a pre-determined pay-day.

The AEA's role in the disbursement process is to oversee this activity and make sure that the contractor keeps accurate records. These records then provide an "audit trail" which allows the AEA and ADT to ensure that none of the funds associated with the project were embezzled along the way.

When work on the project has been completed, the AEA and ADT generate another pamphlet for the village that summarizes what actually happened in terms of the outcome of the project and all associated cash disbursements.

Again, the AEA and members of the ADT meet with the villagers to distribute the pamphlet and review it with them in detail. This last step closes the "transparency loop" in the sense that the villagers knew what was supposed to happen before the project started, and here they are told what actually happened now that it is complete. This further reinforces their faith and confidence that the project was conducted in an uncorrupt manner.

Although time consuming and labor intensive for the ADT, we believe that forcing AEAs to manage projects in this manner will accomplish a number of important goals.

First and foremost, it will begin to give the Af-

ghan people a sense that their government, at least at the AEA level, is not stealing from them and on the contrary, is working hard to fight corruption.

Second, it will teach both the villagers and the AEAs what transparent, accountable government looks like; our hope is that at some point down the road, maybe the Afghan people will begin to demand this kind of transparency and accountability in other areas.

Finally, it will demonstrate for the AEAs the concept of selfless service and will hopefully make them better leaders.

Winston Churchill once said, "You can always count on the Americans to do the right thing – after they've tried everything else."

Our experience in Afghanistan has proven Mr. Churchill right once again. During the last nine years we've tried doing the things that were easy for us like throwing money at Afghanistan and assuming most of it would trickle down to the people. We've tried to find the one crop or one industry or one technology that would take hold and spark growth and development here.

We've tried setting up a democratic process. We've tried killing insurgents. But none of these things have had the desired effects and to some extent, many of our efforts have set the country back even further.

Now it's time to roll up our sleeves and do the hard work. Success here will come, not from spending money and digging wells, but from instituting robust, transparent, and auditable processes.

To achieve this, we must take the time to understand how Afghans think. We must train government officials about leadership, management, and stewardship. We must look over the shoulders of these officials every step of the way and hold them accountable. We must fight the corruption problem at all levels of government all the time. We must show the Afghans what "right" looks like.

If we do these things, we can leave this country with our heads held high, knowing that we have set them up for success. If we don't do these things, all of our money and all of our brick and mortar projects will not save the Afghan government from itself.



Mr. M. Hussein Safi, Nangarhar DAIL, presents a certificate of training to agriculture extension agents, after completion of Project Management Training conducted at FOB Finley-Shields. The training was prepared by the ADT but Mr. Safi went through rehearsals with the unit prior to the training and then participated as an instructor in the classes, explaining the concepts to his extension agents. (Photo by Capt. Marie Orlando)

Campaign Planning for Stability Operations:

Applying design to ill-structured problems during agricultural reconstruction

By Lt. Col. North Charles

On Aug. 27, ADT IV issued our campaign plan. This plan articulates the commander's vision for how we will accomplish our mission here in Nangarhar Province. This article briefly explains how ADT IV leaders developed and produced the campaign plan.

The Army's current operational framework for full spectrum operations contains four elements: offense, defense, stability operations and civil support operations. Conducting agriculture reconstruction is a component or a subset of a stability operation.

Field Manual 5-0, "The Operations Process," provides guidelines for planning Army operations, including stability operations. The March 2010 edition of FM 5-0 introduces the two key concepts that are especially important for planning during stability operations. First, ill-defined problems are "complex, nonlinear, and dynamic... involving multiple military (joint and multinational) and civilian organizations over extended periods."

Second, design is a "methodology for applying critical and creative thinking to understand, visualize, and describe complex, ill-structured problems and develop approaches to solve them." ADT IV employed the concepts of ill-defined problems and design to produce our campaign plan.

Five significant challenges combine to make agriculture reconstruction during stability operations an ill-defined problem.

First, no Army, joint or interagency doctrine exists to guide units conducting agriculture reconstruction.

Second, currently nine National Guard ADTs operate in Afghanistan and each team faces a unique operational environment in their area of operations. No one-size-fits-all approach has emerged.

Third, a wide variety of governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies conduct parallel agriculture reconstruction efforts to varying degrees or with different emphases.

Fourth, agriculture reconstruction is a pro-

tracted operation requiring long-term solutions.

Finally, the academic and government institutional body of knowledge does not offer a consensus or fixed solution set for agriculture reconstruction. These factors combine to create a seemingly intractable problem set, a classic ill-defined problem.

Design, as defined in FM 5-0 and exercised by ADT IV, centers on three components: the ability to view an ill-defined problem from many angles, an understanding of the current situation and access to subject matter experts. ADT IV tackled the challenging problem of agriculture reconstruction in Nangarhar using each of these components.

Previous Missouri National Guard ADTs, local USDA and USAID staff on FOB Finley-Shields, USAID implementing partners, and our higher headquarters all provided perspective on the problem. ADT IV gained situational knowledge through meetings with the Nangarhar DAIL, Agriculture Extension Agents, village

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"Five significant challenges combine to make agriculture reconstruction during stability operations an ill-defined problem."

Campaign Planning for Stability Operations

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elders, Nangarhar University faculty, and farmers throughout the province.

In addition to academic and institutional knowledge, subject matter expert advice came from our Missouri “strategic partners” (University of Missouri, Lincoln University, Missouri Department of Agriculture, Missouri Farm Bureau, and Association of Missouri Electric Cooperatives to name a few).

Two additional key subject matter expert resources included: Roland Bunch’s “Two Ears of Corn” and the Naval Postgraduate School’s Center for Stabilization and Reconstruction Studies’ workshop “Agriculture: Promoting Livelihoods in Conflict-Affected Environments.”

The results of shaping the ill-defined problem and applying the principles of design narrowed what had initially appeared to be seemingly endless options. ADT IV considered and eventually rejected concepts ranging from emphasizing high-value market crops (saffron or soybeans, for example); to encouraging co-ops; to revitalizing the large, state-run, Soviet-era farms; to building extensive brick-and-mortar construction.

As a result of our anal-

ysis, it became clear that increasing the legitimacy of the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan and building the capacity of GIROA were the keys to success. As articulated in previous Muleskinner articles, Col. Fortune, with input from the rest of the team, envisioned and defined the end state. ADT IV also developed and tested a number of assumptions to ensure our framework rested on a solid foundation.

Following this analysis, four requirements emerged as our focus: increase the capacity of the province’s AEAs, increase agricultural capacity in the province (with an emphasis on employing military-aged males in the process), increase the capacity of the DAIL and increase agricultural education opportunities. These emerged as ADT IV’s four Lines Of Operation: Agriculture Extension, Agriculture Economics, Agriculture Administration, and Agriculture Education.

Before assigning tasks to the team, ADT IV considered the capabilities of other coalition forces, governmental agencies and non-governmental agencies operating throughout the province. Col. Fortune also determined how ADT IV would incorporate anti-corruption and public information efforts. Only then did ADT IV array the

team’s available resources against these lines of operation to establish our priorities of effort.

Finally, the campaign plan includes an operational timeline requiring formal assessment checkpoints to ensure the team’s efforts are having the intended effect. Formal assessments are especially important during stability operations when units are conducting non-standard missions to achieve effects against ill-defined problems. The end result was a campaign plan that details all this analysis and turns these concepts into executable tasks.

Planning non-standard missions – for example, agriculture redevelopment during stability operations – presents a number of significant challenges for commanders and their staffs. The Army’s existing planning doctrine is more than adequate, but it requires extensive preparation, tough analysis, creative thinking, and follow-through.

“These emerged as ADT IV’s four lines of operation: Agriculture Extension, Agriculture Economics, Agriculture Administration, and Agriculture Education.”

Agriculture Extension Agent Project Management Training conducted on Sep. 15, contributes to all four lines of operation. Below, Dir. Safi and Col. Fortune jointly field questions from the attendees.



Steps toward self governance

By Sgt. 1st Class Earl Eisenbacher

One of the challenges faced by the United States in its counter-insurgency campaign in Afghanistan is the creation of a stable functioning governance system that responds to the needs and desires of ordinary Afghans. Many programs and processes have been initiated by Coalition Forces in Afghanistan to address this pressing need.

One of those programs, the Provincial Development Council, seeks to create a process where Afghans can identify projects and issues they wish to be addressed by the provincial government and where the provincial government can utilize a formal systematic method of evaluating and prioritizing those issues and projects. The topics raised through the PDC process include agriculture-related projects which directly impact the mission of ADT IV.

The PDC process

was initiated a little over a year ago through the joint efforts of USAID and the Provincial Reconstruction Team.

The PDC is a formally structured process with identified members who review, recommend and act upon the issues and problems brought before it.

There are four supporting, lower-level organizations which push up issues and projects to the PDC. In addition, the process allows some projects, identified at the PDC level, to be pushed down to the lower levels for resolution.

The PDC and its supporting organizations meet once a month in order to ensure they remain responsive to the needs and desires of the people at large.

The process starts at the village level where approximately ten villages are clustered to form a Community Development Council. Members of the CDC are selected by the people who live within that cluster of villages.

After an issue or

project is identified by the CDC it is forwarded to the District Development Authority. Each CDC chooses a representative to the DDA. The DDA prepares those requests for presentation, evaluation and preparation by the appropriate Technical Working Group.

Not every district throughout Afghanistan has a functional DDA. Nangarhar province is unique in the scope and effectiveness of the DDA program in that it provides this functionality in all twenty-two of its districts.

In conjunction with the DDA, USAID has sponsored the Afghanistan Social Outreach Program. ASOP is a recent addition to Afghan governance development, beginning its operations a little over three months ago.

ASOP works at the district level in conjunction with the DDA. While the DDA focuses on development within the

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“With the advent of the O&M budgeting process, Afghan government officials will rapidly move into the “run phase” of responsive governance by being directly responsible for financing and maintaining PDC approved projects.”

Steps toward self governance

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district, ASOP focuses on governance and security issues. ASOP members are elected by the residents of the district. ASOP has 45 members and at least five are required to be women.

Nangarhar Province has seven TWGs. Those seven TWGs include Agriculture and Rural Development, Health and Nutrition, Infrastructure and Natural Resources and Education. The Nangarhar Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine have their own TWG which does not include a CDC or DDA component. Each TWG is chaired by its respective line director. If a TWG covers the area of two or more directorates, the chair is either reached by consensus of the line directors or rotates among them.

As an example, the Agriculture and Rural Development TWG in which ADT IV participates, includes the Director of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock, the Nangarhar Valley Development Authority and the Director of Rural Development. The TWG is officially co-chaired by all three line directors of these agencies but in practice, Mr. Mohammed Hussein Safi, the DAIL, generally chairs TWG meetings.

ADT's first involvement with the process begins with the TWG. ADT members attend the TWG to observe the proceedings and begin to assess which projects they will consider funding. However,

military Civil Affairs units will occasionally push down ideas originating from the TWG to the DDA.

Projects evaluated at the TWG may originate with the DDA or the respective line directors for that area of government. The TWG not only considers and approves development projects but also discusses and makes decisions on urgent issues within their purview.

Projects that are approved by the TWG are forwarded to the PDC for final resolution. The PDC is chaired by either the provincial governor or deputy governor. PDC meetings are attended by all the TWG chairmen or their designees. The PDC meets monthly at the governor's palace to discuss projects, proposals and issues affecting the entire province. The members also vote to approve or disapprove specific projects and proposals.

If a project or proposal is approved by the PDC it is eligible for funding and implementation. As a practical matter, most project funding is currently accomplished by donor organizations such as USAID, USDA, DoD or non-governmental organizations.

In order to facilitate moving the Afghan government away from reliance on donor organizations, the central government has instituted a new Operations and Maintenance Budget process. Under this process each provincial line director receives a rolling \$100,000 budget for each quarter

of the fiscal year. Each individual line director will be responsible for allocating that rolling budget to prioritize and fund proposed projects and proposals and to maintain existing infrastructure.

The Afghan government has learned the bureaucratic PDC process well. Within a little over a year, they have moved from the "crawl" to the "walk" phase of responsive governance. With the advent of the O&M budgeting process, Afghan government officials will rapidly move into the "run" phase of responsive governance by being directly responsible for financing and maintaining PDC approved projects.

George Roemer, the USAID field program officer at Forward Operating Base Finely-Shields, said, "It is very rewarding to see Afghans discover they can govern themselves through the PDC process."



Engineer Safi leads a discussion with members of the Sheshembah Agriculture Research Station Technical Working Group concerning flood damage throughout Nangarhar Province. (Photo by Lt. Col. North Charles)

NANGARHAR U

By Capt. John Paluczak

Nangarhar University is the second largest and second oldest university in Afghanistan, and plays an important part in educating the country's future leaders.

With a campus and faculty devastated by thirty years of warfare and lack of effective governance, ADT IV has initiated plans to help rebuild the intellectual foundation for the School of Agriculture and the School of Veterinary Medicine.

ADT IV has established relationships with Nangarhar University's Dean of Agriculture, Dr. Mohammad Asif Bawary, and Dean of Veterinary Medicine, Dr. Sayed Rafiullah Halim. As Nangarhar University rebuilds, ADT IV will assist Dr. Halim and Dr. Bawary in facilitating the expansion of knowledge by establishing personal relationships and professional contact with selected faculty at Lincoln University and the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Nangarhar University was originally established in 1962 as a college of medicine. In 1978, the university expanded its

curriculum to offer degree programs in engineering, agriculture, and education. The university expanded again in 1994 to include schools in literature, economics, political science, and veterinary medicine.

Nangarhar University sits on about 400 acres of land just outside of Jalalabad, the capital of Nangarhar. 5,900 students, including 200 female students, currently attend Nangarhar University. Approximately 1000 students graduate from the university every year. Students at the University can elect to pursue degrees in agriculture, engineering, medicine, theology, economics, political science, and veterinary medicine.

Nangarhar University plays a pivotal role in educating the future leaders of not just Nangarhar Province, but all of Afghanistan. As Afghanistan's future doctors, veterinarians, agriculture extension agents, government officials and other professionals, these leaders face the daunting challenge of rebuilding their nation.

According to Dr. Gary Hart of the United States



Department of Agriculture, Nangarhar University's biggest problem is getting the students practical experience because there are no laboratories at the university and almost no opportunities for "hands on" work. Another major issue is getting the people, once they finish their education, to stay in Afghanistan.

With no labs at Nangarhar University, the ADT is working to establish internship and externship programs that will provide the students practical, real world experience. These experiences will provide a good substitute for the practical hands-on learning a laboratory program normally provides at universities like those in the United States.

As Afghanistan continues to stabilize and offer greater opportunities to its people, we believe that more graduates will remain in the country to develop the programs and businesses that will lead Afghanistan back to peace

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"Nangarhar University plays a pivotal role in educating future leaders of not just Nangarhar Province, but all of Afghanistan."

NANGARHAR U

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and prosperity.

Two Lincoln University professors, Dr. Todd Higgins, an expert in agronomy, and Dr. Frieda Eivazi, an expert in soil science, chemistry, and fertility, have agreed to provide Nangarhar University with research data and other information on plant life and soil health. Lincoln University's historical role in providing agriculture extension services to small scale farmers will be instrumental in helping Nangarhar University's Faculty of Agriculture begin to support agriculture extension here in Nangarhar.

At the University of Missouri-Columbia, Dr. Craig Roberts, a specialist in forage crop management with the College of Agriculture, Food and Natural Resources, and Dr. Craig Payne, a veterinarian specializing in beef cattle production from the College of Veterinary Medicine, have agreed to provide information products regarding animal feed and animal health. Dr. Roberts' and Dr. Payne's expertise will assist both Nangarhar University's Faculty of Agriculture and Faculty of Veterinary Medicine improve animal health and productivity for both subsistence farmers and the few commercial animal production facilities in Nangarhar.

The goal of establishing relationships between these

institutions of higher education is to encourage the sharing of research information and best practices. Afghanistan may not be ready for the cutting edge agriculture technology utilized in the United States. However, the ability to share intellectual information, including current agriculture research results from around the world, is the next step forward toward reestablishing Nangarhar University as a leading educational institution in southwest Asia.

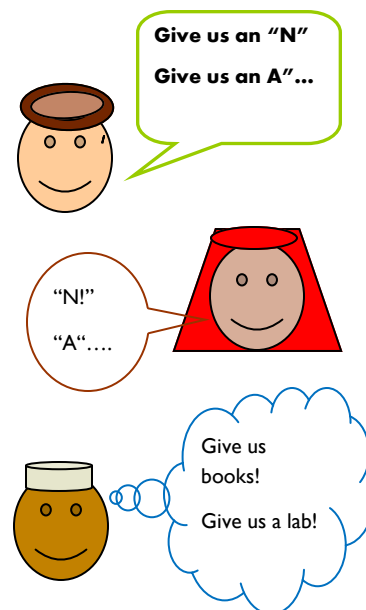
In addition to linking the Nangarhar University faculty with Missouri's land grant institutions, ADT IV plans to encourage the development of a symbiotic relationship between the University and the Nangarhar Director of Agriculture, Irrigation and Livestock (DAIL). We believe that this relationship will allow Nangarhar University students to obtain hands-on experience while, at the same time, providing free labor to the DAIL and promulgating the latest agriculture technologies out to the field.

In addition, we hope to see the development of a continuing education program for the DAIL's Agriculture Extension Agents which would provide them training on the latest agricultural technologies such as row cropping, irrigation techniques, pasture management, animal husbandry and other agriculture subjects directly affecting Afghan farmers.

Nangarhar University faces

some significant problems that must be overcome before it can take full advantage of the ADT initiatives. For instance, the University does not have enough computers to service the entire faculty and this limits access to email. This problem is exacerbated by rotating power outages which have no set schedule. Although several Nangarhar University professors speak some English, the language barrier also poses some challenges.

As ADT IV assists Nangarhar University in resolving some of these issues, we believe the University will become one of the shining stars of Nangarhar and Afghanistan. As it develops into a healthy and fully functional learning institution, the University will be instrumental in leading this nation into a long-term future of prosperity and peace, making the world a better and safer place.





The Muleskinner Team

Mo Agri-business Development Team IV

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- Thanks to the sponsors of our unit that have sent care packages to the unit members and to the children of Afghanistan.
- USO
- Maloney Family
- Cronk Family
- Jim and Katie Roberson
- Dennis O'Leary Local 136 Fenton
- Rick and Mary Rutledge
- James Tinder

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Commander's Comments

Our first full month in Afghanistan has come and gone and I think we are starting to make some headway in empowering the Afghan government's Agriculture Extension Agents (AEAs) and in addressing the corruption problem here, at least in our little sphere of influence.

We are also helping Nangarhar's Director of Agriculture, Irrigation, and Livestock develop an Operations and Maintenance budget which will allow him to sustain his agriculture-related assets once the Missouri ADT mission is complete.

The threat situation here in Nangarhar seems to be slightly worse now than it has been during the past couple of years. However, the team's SECFOR platoon has done an outstanding job planning and conducting missions, and ADT IV has not been attacked and has not had to fire even a single shot in self defense.

I believe that one of the keys to our success has been outstanding judgment and decision making on the part of our senior NCOs.

We have taken the long way around on several of our missions, but it has kept us out of harm's way.



Sgt. 1st Class Dana Squires, Personnel Sergeant, unloads packages to deliver to members of ADT IV.

While we haven't been attacked, we have had unruly teenage boys throw rocks at our convoy on a couple of occasions. Many of these kids give us what appears to be a friendly "thumbs up" as we drive by, but they throw rocks at the last vehicle once it has passed.

This makes me think that they are not necessarily being hostile, but rather, that rock throwing is an Afghan national sport of sorts.

In one particular village, there was an older man yelling at some kids for

pelting us with rocks, but when they still wouldn't stop, he motioned to our turret gunner to *go ahead and shoot them!*

Whatever the case, we are working with government officials in the districts to spread the word that we are there to help, and that throwing rocks at us is not in their best interests.

On behalf of the entire ADT IV team, I want to thank the families back home for their support of our Airmen and Soldiers since our arrival here at Forward Operating Base Finley-Shields.

Thanks to your emails, letters, and care packages, unit morale is high and I see a lot of happy troopers.

I know they would all rather be enjoying your company back home, but they realize that we have an important mission to accomplish here in Nangarhar Province.

Knowing they have your love and support allows them to focus on that mission. Please keep up the great work!

Senior's Space

ADT holds boards

By Senior Master Sgt. Jerry Blankenship

In early September, Missouri ADT IV conducted a board to select its first Soldier/Airman and NCO of the month for the month of August.

For some of the Soldiers and Airmen nominated, this was their first time being interviewed by a group of senior enlisted personnel. Even though they knew all the board members, some were still a little bit nervous going into the interview. Despite the butterflies, they all did a great job.

We believe this was a good experience for these Airmen and Soldiers as it should serve to make them more comfortable next time they have to go before a board to compete for an award or position.

Prior to conducting its first board, ADT IV developed a formal process for selecting the

Soldier/Airmen and NCO of the month. To be considered, the section leader had to first submit a nomination packet to the awards board.

The board, which consists of three senior enlisted personnel, then reviewed all the packets and picked the top three candidates in each category.

The board subsequently interviewed these candidates individually and asked them six questions ranging from their definition of leadership to what one thing they would change about the ADT mission if they could.

The candidates were then scored on their responses, appearance, communication skills, and professionalism.

While this process will be repeated each month, similar boards will also be conducted to select Soldier/Airman and NCO of the quarter and of the entire tour.



As the winner of the monthly award, the Soldier/Airman and NCO receive a Certificate of Achievement, a command coin, and bragging rights.

They also get a steak dinner at the DFAC on the following Friday and a round trip ticket home for 15 days.

Fortunately all Soldiers and Airmen get these latter two benefits regardless of whether they were selected or not.

The winners for the month of August were:

SOLDIER OF THE MONTH:

SPC ROBERT TERRY

NCO OF THE MONTH:
SGT ERIC FIZER

The distinctive accomplishments of all six Soldiers and Airmen nominated reflects great credit upon themselves and the United States Military.

AUGUST BOARD

NCO OF THE MONTH:
SGT. FIZER

SOLDIER OF THE MONTH:
SPC. TERRY

Learning to trust

SECFOR MEMBER

Think back to the first day on your first job—everything seemed foreign to you. There were unfamiliar people, all speaking about things you did not understand. You were out of your comfort zone but eventually, you adapted to your new surroundings and co-workers.

Working with the Afghan Local Nationals is somewhat like that first day on the job. To compound the difficulty, these people speak little, if any, English and you quickly find out that your three days of Pashto language training doesn't get you very far. If you paid close attention in class, you might be able to say hello and tell them your name in broken Pashto, but that's about it.

Many of the locals carry the infamous Kalashnikov automatic rifle, 1947 model (the Soviet-Made 7.62mm assault rifle, AK-47) and at least for a little while, most of us found this a little disconcerting.

I had the pleasure of working with several LN's that assist in guarding the FOB from the perimeter towers around our Forward Operating Base. U.S. forces use the catchy acronym "ASG" (Afghan Security Guard) to describe these individuals. The ASGs are non-military and work for far

less money than Soldiers in the Afghan National Army.

They take great pride in ownership of their AK's and each one I have met made certain that I understood they purchased them with their own funds and they are not property of the Army. I might add that they pay, on average, seven hundred dollars more for these weapons than you would in the U.S.; they do however, strive to buy the higher quality Soviet made versions. One cannot help but see the irony of them utilizing Soviet weapons.

It is entertaining to see what intrigues our counterparts. For instance, one of the ASGs I worked with quizzed me on my weapons systems, asking me how far my rifle would accurately shoot; I explained it was good for a point target at 500 meters. He then asked how far I thought his would shoot and I told him 400 meters, but that would be stretching its accuracy. He agreed.

He then insisted that I demonstrate my flashlight and show him how it worked. It was an enlightening experience working with this fine fellow.

One morning at two a.m. another Afghan brought my comrade a tea kettle and a bowl of rice and meat, along with a large piece of bread. He graciously offered some of his food to me. I declined

as I knew we were in the middle of Ramadan and he had fasted all day; one of the things I've learned since I've been here is that Afghans can only eat at night during this holy month. It was a kind gesture and he did not seem insulted by my declination.

It's only natural that initially, a U.S. Soldier or Airman might question where this individual's loyalty really lies. Just how dedicated is this person to defending this property full of Americans? But what I have come to realize is that these people work here on the FOB alongside U.S. forces at great risk to their families and themselves. If an offensive operation is directed against our FOB, they will be standing tall, right next to me, doing whatever is necessary to thwart the attack.

I have been told of many accounts where the Afghan people will go the distance and display high levels of loyalty towards those they consider their friends.

In this country the enemy wears no distinctive clothing or uniform, so you cannot pick him or her out of a crowd, and they often play one side against the other as a matter of survival. So while I may have been a little bit uncomfortable working with the ASGs at first, I am learning to trust them more with each passing day.



Spec. John Brody in the tower on guard duty with an ASG.

(Photo by 1st Lt. Miciah Pyatt)

"If an offensive operation is directed against our FOB they will be standing tall right next to me, doing whatever is necessary to thwart the attack."

Ramadan and Iftars

By Sgt. Guadalupe Rios

The holy Islamic month of Ramadan began just two days after our team arrived here in Afghanistan.

For Muslims around the world, Ramadan is the month of renewing their commitment and relationship with God. Muslims believe that God revealed the first verses of the Quran to the Islamic prophet Muhammad during Ramadan.

As a result, it is viewed as the spring season for goodness and virtue when righteousness blossoms throughout Muslim communities.

Ramadan is celebrated during the ninth month of the Islamic calendar. Unlike that of the Western world, the Islamic calendar is based upon the lunar cycle rather than the solar cycle. As a result, the Islamic year is ten to twelve days shorter than that of the West and the beginning of Ramadan therefore migrates throughout the seasons as the years pass.

Ramadan is celebrated by fasting. The daily fast begins at 4:00 a.m. and lasts until 7:00 p.m., for thirty days. During the

day, Muslims are not allowed to drink, eat or inject anything into their bodies. The fasting is intended to teach Muslims patience, humility, and spirituality.

During this time, Muslims pray more than usual, asking forgiveness for past sins, for guidance, and for help in refraining from everyday temptations. Muslims seek to purify themselves through self-restraint and *zakat* or charity which is good deeds toward those who are less fortunate. Fasting is also intended to redirect the heart away from worldly activities by cleansing the inner soul and freeing it from harm.

Fasting in Ramadan is obligatory for those who are capable. Nursing mothers, travelers, the elderly, and the chronically and mentally ill are exempt from fasting, although the first two groups must practice *fedy*a or penance instead.

Fedy consists of paying double in charity to the poor. Any days missed are made up at a later date. As long as they are healthy, Muslims usually start observing Ramadan when they reach puberty. However, young children are usually eager to complete as many fasting days as they can to practice for later life.

Every evening at sundown, families break Ramadan by hosting a dinner called *Iftar*. The ritual starts by eating one date, followed

by prayer, and a big family dinner that traditionally consists of rice,

lamb, seasonal fruits, cheese and *chai* tea. After the dinner, Muslims go to the Mosque and offer prayers of thanks for the meals they have been provided and for their family.

Overall, Ramadan is a



time to give and reflect on one's life by looking inward and sharing

individual wealth with those less fortunate. It's a time to make peace with friends and neighbors, a time to spend with families and loved ones, to let the body heal, and most importantly, pray and worship God. Praying is one of the most important aspects of Ramadan because it is believed that God is one who is incomparable, and the purpose of life is to worship Him.



“ Overall, Ramadan is a time to give and reflect on one’s life by looking inward and sharing individual wealth with those less fortunate. It’s a time to make peace with friends and neighbors, a time to spend with families and loved ones, to let the body heal, and most importantly, pray and worship God.”

Days of our lives: SECFOR

By 1st Lt. Miciah Pyatt

A day in the life of a Soldier or Airman assigned to the Security Force Platoon is a busy one since SECFOR is considered the backbone of the ADT. Without a strong SECFOR, the Agricultural specialists cannot complete their mission.

The ADT IV's SECFOR platoon is doing an outstanding job in everything from manning guard towers, to conducting mission preparation, to executing missions, to maintaining assigned equipment, to attending and conducting ongoing training.

ADT is responsible for manning three guard towers on FOB Finley-Shields as part of our contribution to base defense. The majority of those manning the towers are from the SECFOR platoon. All sergeants and specialists are assigned a rotation and periodically man one of the guard towers.

Manning consists of either a four or eight hour shift. Up in the towers, Soldiers and Airmen use night vision goggles and thermal imaging optics to scan their sectors and look for anything out of the ordinary.

A local Afghan Security Guard augments ADT IV troops in the towers. Some of the ASG speak pretty good English while others only know a few words. If they can communicate with ADT Soldiers, some of the Afghan guards talk for hours about their religion and life in Afghanistan which helps to pass the time. Although the ADT Soldiers and



Airmen would probably rather be hanging out with one of their buddies, most of them have enjoyed getting to know their ASG counterparts and now have a better appreciation for the Afghan culture.

In addition to the guards themselves, all staff sergeants and sergeants first class serve as "Sergeant of the Guard" on a rotational basis. This means that for a week at a time they are in charge of all the guard towers on FOB Finley-Shields, responsible for ensuring

that the towers are manned at the proper time, conducting radio checks to ensure reliable communications and handling any issues that may arise.

For those not on the towers there are missions to conduct; but before anyone can leave the FOB, a lot of preparation must take place. First, everyone going out must attend a mission briefing the night prior to ensure all participants understand where we are going and why, and who are the truck commanders, gunners, drivers and passengers for each vehicle.

After the briefing, the SECFOR personnel immediately start to prepare for the next day's mission. They ensure all of the vehicles have the right radios and they conduct communications checks to verify that all equipment is functioning properly. The gunners also draw the crew-served weapons and stage them for mounting in the MRAP gunner's turrets the next morning. At the same time, drivers and truck commanders work together to enter the route of travel into the MRAP's on-board navigation system known as the Blue Force Tracker. This is a time-consuming

(Continued on page 20)

"Although the Soldiers and Airmen would probably rather be hanging out with one of their buddies, most of them have enjoyed getting to know their ASG counterparts and now have a better appreciation of Afghan culture."

Weber mixes it up- Air and Army

By Capt. Marie Orlando

"I think this deployment is going to be good for a lot of people because they are doing different things other than their MOS/AFSC."



The phrase "been there, done that" was coined for the likes of senior noncommissioned officer in charge of the Security Force Platoon, Air Force Master Sgt. Robert (Bob) C. Weber.

Weber is assigned to the 131st Bomb Wing at Whiteman Air Force Base, Knob Noster. But he has also served in the Marine Corps and the Army Reserve. He has a total of 32 years of military service with the last 23 years served in the Missouri Air National

Guard. It is not known if he has any plans on joining the Navy before he retires, but he seems pretty happy with the Air Guard for now.

For the past 19 years Weber has worked as an aircraft maintenance supervisor for the Missouri National Guard.

Weber said he has been deployed seven times just with the Air Guard. "I deployed on Aircraft Carriers as a Marine. I have been on a Mediterranean Cruise, West Pacific Cruise, sent to Turkey three times, Saudi Arabia, Israel, Iceland, Iraq, Denmark, Spain, and Guam. For most of these, I worked in aircraft maintenance working on F-4 Phantoms, F-15 Eagles, and the B-2 Stealth Bomber."

This deployment is something new for him. "I think this deployment is going to be good for a lot of people because they are doing different things other than their MOS/AFSC [military occupational specialty/ Air Force specialty

code]. We are not deployed with our respective units so this is a new venture for everyone. I think we will be able to learn a lot, and to make new friends."

The SECFOR platoon, made up mostly of Army personnel, is new territory for Weber, but his objectives are reflective of an experienced NCOIC.

He said, "My goal is take on and complete all the missions that are given to us, to make sure everyone stays safe, and to help the younger Soldiers and Airmen in any way that I can. My personal goals are to finish a couple of classes needed for my CCAF [Community College for the Air Force], and to get in better shape."

He calls Kansas City home, where he lives with his spouse of nearly 24 years, Thomasine. They have a son, Zachary that Weber says he hopes to see graduate from the police academy and celebrate his 21st birthday in April when he goes home on R&R.

Zooming in on Matthes



Spec. David M. Matthes is assigned to the SECFOR platoon. He has been in the Missouri National Guard for five years with the 1035th Maintenance Company, Jefferson Barracks, St. Louis where he serves as a light wheeled vehicle mechanic.

He said this is his first overseas deployment but he has performed duty during a couple different state emergencies. For instance, he was in Clarksville during the floods of 2008 and he was all over the state during a large ice storm in January of 2009.

Matthes may seem quiet at first, but just get him talking about cars, or anything with an engine, and he gets pretty fired up. In his spare time, he likes to work on cars and commented that his favorite car he has owned was a '71 Chevelle.

"There's not a lot to do around here," he said about the deployment, so he intends to look for a job while he has the time.

Matthes has worked for Florida Pool and Spa in St. Louis for the past four years as a pool and spa technician. The experience has taken him to some of the swankest pools in the St. Louis area, including one home in Wildwood which he reports has a slide about 100 feet long down a steep hill that passes under fountains before landing in the pool. "But the work is seasonal," he points out.

He attends Vatterott College and is working on his certification for the Combination Welding Program. He said his National Guard duties during the ice storm interfered with some of his final examinations but he intends to complete the program when he returns from his current deployment.

His enlistment is up in 2011 and he would like to explore some new opportunities within the Guard, including an air crew chief position which would combine his love of engines with flying. One of his dreams is

to fly, and he has looked into getting his private pilot's license. He said he is a regular in the recruiting office, helping out when he can, so he knows that aviation slots are hard to come by.

Matthes said he likes to duck hunt, but he hasn't gone in a couple of years. He said he mostly likes to go in Illinois where a family friend has land.

He is native to the St. Louis area, attended high school at Riverview Gardens Sr. High, and grew up in Bellefontaine Neighbors, St. Louis. His mother, Tina, still lives there and his dad, Daniel, lives in Ste. Genevieve.

When he goes home for his mid-tour leave he says his only plans are to stay out of trouble. After hearing a few of his stories about his time driving some of the hottest cars on the market as a valet for an annual event in St. Louis, it seems his plan is indeed a pragmatic one. After all, they say it's the quiet ones you have to watch out for ...

Mosier, gone fishing



Sgt. Mosier prepares for a SECFOR mission.

A bridge crew member with a multi-role bridge company might find himself feeling like a fish out of water in Afghanistan, where the SECFOR platoon may occasionally cross a bridge over a large body of water, but certainly doesn't build them.

But Sgt. Elijah L. Mosier is adaptable to both environments. He is a member of the 1438th

Engineer Company (MRBC) and has served in the Missouri National Guard for six years.

Mosier also served in the Army Reserve and has a total of 14 years in the military.

He may be comfortable over fast, open water, but Mosier, a member of the security force platoon, can work on dry land as well.

In Iraq, he deployed with the 1438th Engineers as a bridge crew-

member, but they ultimately took on more of a security role while there, covering down on site security and performing convoy security.

Mosier has worked at the Chillicothe Correction Center as a corrections officer the past two years.

He says he enjoys golfing, fishing and hunting and looks forward to spending time with his family during his R&R.

"Every day that I work with Staff Sgt. Beydler, she teaches me something I never knew before."

Beydler Promoted



Sergeant Jodie Beydler of Liberty was promoted to Staff Sergeant by Col. Michael Fortune, on Sep. 15th.

Beydler is the Local Area Network manager for the ADT and plans to serve as an information systems analyst with the Joint Force Headquarters in Jefferson City when she returns.

Beydler served four years on active duty with the Army and has been in the Army National Guard

three years.

Sgt. Nelson Bunch works with Beydler in the communications section for ADT IV.

He says, "Every day that I work with Staff Sgt. Beydler, she teaches me something I never knew before. Staff Sgt. Beydler is a highly intelligent, dedicated NCO, and her promotion is well deserved."

In her civilian job, she recently started working as a mail processing equipment mechanic with the U.S. Postal Service, where she has worked for a total of four years.

Beydler says that

being away from home is definitely hard, but working with Sgt. Bunch has made each day a little easier.

"Working alongside Sgt. Bunch makes each day here a rewarding experience."

She says she looks forward to having Thanksgiving dinner with her family, eating vegetarian turkey – or Tofurky as they call it, – and celebrating Christmas early on her mid-tour break.

She is also looking forward to a family vacation in California when her tour in Afghanistan is over.



Staff Sgt. Jodie Beydler is the unit's newest E-6.

Artilleryman, medic and teacher



By Capt. Marie Orlando

In the National Guard each person has a unique skill set that is a combination of military and civilian training and experience. This characteristic of the Soldiers and Airmen serving in the Guard is the reason units like the ADT can be so adaptive and responsive to today's operational environment.

Spec. Thomas Lohmann is a prime example of a National Guard member that brings more to the fight than expected.

During post-

mobilization training at Camp Atterbury, he made it all the way to the finals of the unit ping pong tournament, which duly impressed the commander, who played him there.

However, he brings more to the game than just ping-pong.

Lohmann is a medic with the ADT and with his unit back home, the 205th Area Support Medical Company, in Kansas City.

Like others, he has tried the National Guard more than once.

He originally joined the 128th Field Artillery in Boonville as an artilleryman. After finishing his enlistment, he left the service but returned in 2007 as a medic, thinking it would provide him some good experience if he decided to go to nursing school.

Overall, he has served about 14 years in the military.

On the civilian side, Lohmann is a special education teacher with the St. Louis Public Schools, Nottingham Community Access Job Training High School. The school is a composite of special education students from all over the district and its mission is to teach

students basic job skills.

Lohmann says the school has contracts with companies such as AT&T, Washington University, and Goodwill Industries, to hire students upon graduation. Unlike most high schools, some of the students remain until age 21 when necessary. He says he enjoys the work he does with the students.

Lohmann earned his undergraduate degree in Psychology from Southeast Missouri State University, Cape Girardeau, and received his master's in Education from the University of Missouri-Columbia.

Lohmann lives in O'Fallon and attended McCluer North High School in St. Louis.

"I volunteered for this deployment, but I hope time passes quickly. My goals are to get in shape, work on a promotion, and gain new experiences," he says.

Lohmann likes sports, bike riding, and barbequing recreationally.

He said when he goes home for mid-tour leave in November he plans on attending the MU-KU football game in Kansas City.

Twins rejoined at Bagram

“Congratulations on your promotion, sir”, a Soldier said as he approached an open truck window and greeted a face he recognized.

The officer in the truck had been hearing a lot of that since his arrival at Bagram Air Field about 48 hours prior. He had made the trip to Bagram from Forward Operating Base Finley-Shields to see his twin brother.

“Thanks”, said Capt. John Paluczak, an agriculture specialist for the Missouri National Guard Agri-Business Development Team IV, as he took the remark in stride. The Soldier then enthusiastically proceeded to embark on a conversation about his unit’s upcoming re-deployment back to the United States.

“Well, that would be good, if I was actually going home,” said Paluczak, in response to a comment about the anticipated return. The Soldier stumbled but kept on going. He seemed a bit confused as he tried to work out a reason why one of them wouldn’t be leaving the country, which they were all eager to do. At this point, Paluczak decided to cut the guy a little bit of slack, and told him, “I think you are talking about my twin brother,

1st Lt. Paluczak,” as he chuckled.

“I would have kept going but we had someplace to be,” he said to the driver, Capt. Charlie Ledgerwood, the headquarters and headquarters company commander, 203rd Engineer Battalion, and to the passenger in the truck with him who were both playing along with the charade.

He said, “We aren’t identical, but you wouldn’t be able to tell the difference.”

His brother, 1st Lt. Michael Paluczak of the Missouri National Guard 203rd Engineer Battalion headquartered in Joplin, was expected to travel through Bagram Air Field from FOB Sharana with the Missouri National Guard 203rd Engineer Battalion as part of his redeployment home.

However, 1st Lt. Paluczak was still at FOB Sharana when Capt. Paluczak arrived at Bagram Air Field. While Capt. Paluczak waited, everyone he met that knew his brother assumed he was Michael. He and Ledgerwood, who is a teacher for the Jefferson City school district as a civilian, had fun with the mistaken identity that inevitably occurred.

“It was a lot of fun playing with people. I

was waiting at the ALOC [the Administrative and Logistical Operations Center] and I’ve known Capt. Ledgerwood forever. So we just played along with it. I don’t know how many times I was congratulated on my promotion.”

When 1st Lt. Paluczak finally arrived at Bagram a little after midnight, it was nearly time for John to leave; he was scheduled to fly out the same morning. So the twins stayed up until 3:30 a.m. talking about their experiences and catching up, knowing that it would be another six months before they would see each other again.

As it turned out, Capt. Paluczak’s flight was cancelled, and he had to wait a couple more days before he could return to Finley-Shields on what the military calls a “space available” flight.

1st Lt. Paluczak said, “The last time I saw him was in March when I was home on leave and if I didn’t see him now, it would be February before he is scheduled to come home on leave. We just hung out. We went to eat and went to the shops. We swapped stories about what we were doing; we [our battalion] had a route clearance mission in his area.”

John and Michael



“The twins stayed up until 3:30 a.m. talking about their experiences and catching up, knowing it would be another six months before they would see each other again.”

(Continued on page 20)

SECFOR (continued from page 14)

process but is critical to the success of the next day's mission.

On the morning of the mission, SECFOR converges on the MRAPs at least two hours prior to the start of the mission to finalize their preparations. About half an hour prior to the scheduled departure time, they attend a second convoy brief to review the details of the mission one last time.

Afterward, the team dons their gear and everyone loads into the MRAPs. Once outside the gate, the lead truck navigates to the destination. Gunners stay busy scanning their sectors looking for threats as well as controlling civilian traffic.

Drivers have to be extremely focused throughout the mission because our vehicles are enormous and have very limited visibility due to the small windows; often the driver and gunner have to work as a team to get around corners and, on occasion, back the vehicle up to turn around.

Upon arrival at the destination, all SECFOR Soldiers and Airmen except the drivers and gunners egress from the vehicles to serve as a dismount element to patrol the area and provide security for the agricultural specialists while

they conduct their portion of the mission. The drivers and gunners provide additional security from the vehicles themselves, repositioning as necessary to maximize their coverage of the area.



After the agricultural specialists have finished their business, everyone gets back into the vehicles and we navigate back to Finley-Shields.

But back at the FOB, the work still isn't finished. First, the entire team conducts an After Action Review to determine what they can do better next time. Next, the vehicles are unloaded, cleaned out, and preventative maintenance checks and services are performed on the vehicles to make sure they will be fully operational for the next day's mission.



SECFOR conducts an AAR.

Even on days when there are no missions scheduled, the SECFOR platoon keeps busy with classes on radios, vehicles, first aid, weapon systems and a number of other topics intended to make the deployment as safe as possible for not only the ADT, but for all those resident at FOB Finley-Shields.

Twins (continued from page 19)

both enlisted into the Missouri National Guard Feb 8, 2001 under the Buddy Program with the 128th Field Artillery in Kirksville. They attended different Missouri colleges; John went to Webster University in St. Louis and Michael attended Truman State in Kirksville, but both joined Reserve Officer Training Corps and were commissioned with the Missouri National Guard.

Capt. Paluczak said it was good to see his brother. "It was very nice of my command staff to let that happen. My brother didn't arrive until midnight and we stayed up until 3:30 in the morning talking. I lucked out and my flight was cancelled. It was also good to see others from the 203rd Engineer Battalion that I knew."

1Lt. Paluczak was ready to get home and said, "It was awesome seeing John but I'm also looking forward to going home and seeing my family."

Capt. Paluczak lives in St. Louis, with his wife Michelle, and works for Safety National as a Premium Audit Supervisor.

Learning the Lingo

By Sgt. Kostron and Roshan

As if the Army and Air Force acronyms weren't already a foreign language enough, the ADT members have incorporated some new Pashto words and phrases into their daily vocabulary. We thought a list of some of the more common ones would help the families decipher our new vocabulary.

The Pashtuns have their own alphabet and language called Pashto. Translations into English are based on phonetic spellings, so words are often times spelled differently, depending on who is doing the translation. Also, regional differences change the pronunciation, and therefore the spelling. For example, have you ever noticed on the news and maps Kabul and Kabol are used interchangeably?

This is the same as someone from Missouri (or is it Mizzurrah?) spelling "hill" as "h-e-e-l", or from Georgia spelling "hill" as "h-a-i-l", because they say it differently.

Pashto has some letters with sounds we only hear in letter combinations in English; dz, ts, kh, and zh for example. It seems complex, but several of the members have become fairly proficient in communicating with the native speakers.

With that said, our interpreters are the most important resource available to our team.

Waderega - stop

Imam , Mullah - priest, holy man

Malek - village leader

Wadi - Seasonal stream or streambed

Kariez - underground canal or irrigation tunnel

Asalaamu alaikum - I wish you good health (have a good day)

Sangai ee- How are you? (singular)

Kh em- I'm fine

Za kha em - I am fine

Oh, Ha - yes, okay

Na- no

Nishta- negative, don't have it

Sahi sho-It's alright

Sahar de pa khyr - Good Morning

Za ma noom ____dey = My name is ____

Zah! - Go Away!

Pa khyr raghlee - welcome

Delta raa sha- come here

Shurrah, jirga - council meeting

Kharhana - agriculture



Staff Sgt. Jodie Beydler is promoted in formation on Sep 15.

Pictures from the field



On 15 Sept, a formation was held to recognize the accomplishments of ADT members. SSG Beydler received her promotion; SGT Fizer and Spec. Terry were recognized as NCO and Soldier of the Month; LTC Charles was presented an MSM for an article he had published the Military Review, July-Aug issue; SSG Sekscinski, SPC Berryman, and SPC Lackey were awarded the Army Physical Fitness Badge; and the entire unit received their 101st Airborne Division combat patch. During the ceremony, ADT leaders affixed "Screaming Eagle" patch with Airborne tab to unit members' right shoulder.

For more photographs of our activities and some video clips, visit us on our Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MONG.ADTIV

Pictures from the field



MONG ADT IV



Give us a holler!

Name (NO RANK)
MONG ADT IV
FOB Finley-Shields
APO,AE 09310

www.facebook.com/MONG.ADTIV

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If you would like to receive this publication to your email or have questions or comments concerning ADT IV please contact:
marie.orlando@us.army.mil

Celebrating Birthdays in Oct

Kaylen Berendzen Derek Legg
Dean Berendzen Hayden Legg
Elizabeth Buell Nate Squires
Logan Campbell Brittany Travis
Angel Kostron Ariel Rios

Celebrating Birthdays in Oct

SPC Armour Debra Thompson
LTC Legg Thomasine Weber
Sara Eisenbacher
Gary Squires
Jessica Rios

Anniversaries

- Stephen and Tess Counts
- Dannie and Debra Thomson

Call me...call me...

Who do I call?
Where do I go?

Back at the homestead

- Family Readiness Group Leader Paula Ann Maloney
417.250.1703 or 417.683.3711
- ArmyOne Source 800.342.9647
- Family Program Office 800.299.9603
- Family Assistance Center 877.236.4168
- Deployed Pay Issues 877.276.4729
- Employer Support of Guard and Reserve 573.638.9500 ext. 7730
- 131st Fighter Wing Coord. 314.527.6362
- 139th Fighter Air Lift Wing Coord. 816.236.3511
- Military Family Life Consultants
 - Child/Youth (Amy Bledsoe) 573.418.3588
 - Adult (Phil Pringle) 573.418.3588
- Chaplain Gilmore 573.638.9618