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21st Theater Sustainment Command, Kaiserslautern, Germany

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USAREUR's sustainment command welcomes new commanding general



Brig. Gen. Aundre F. Piggee (right), the incoming commander for the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, receives the colors from Lt. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, the commanding general of the U.S. Army in Europe, during a change of command ceremony Aug. 25 on NCO Field in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

*Story and photos by Staff Sgt. Tramel S. Garrett,
21st TSC Public Affairs*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – The Army's sustainment command in Europe held a change of command ceremony on NCO Field here, Aug. 25, to welcome a new commanding general and wish a fond farewell to the outgoing commander.

Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston relinquished command of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command to Brig. Gen. Aundre F. Piggee after two successful years as the 21st TSC commanding general. The presiding officer of the ceremony was Lt. Gen. Mark P. Hertling, the commanding general of the U.S. Army in Europe.

Hertling acknowledged the accomplishments of the command under the leadership of McQuiston and the

dynamic role that the 21st TSC continues to play in support of the USAREUR mission.

"The 21st TSC makes up nearly half of the force of USAREUR," said Hertling during his remarks. "You are absolutely without a doubt the most unique and diverse theater sustainment command in the entire U.S. Army."

Hertling also praised the partnership McQuiston built with the Kaiserslautern High School as he donned his KHS Raiders ball cap.

"I've written a lot of speeches but this one has been the toughest," said McQuiston. "Leif and I want to thank every single person here by name and mention the ones who have passed through and left their mark on this community."

"To the tremendous Soldiers, Civilians and Family members of the 21st TSC, thank you for what you do every day," said McQuiston. "Please, just know I treasured the opportunity to command this organization and learn from each of you."

McQuiston also expressed in an emotional dialogue, explaining the reason why she worked hard and treasured her time as the commander.

"If I was ever likely to forget the reason why we work so hard I would be sharply reminded by the sacrifices of those within our ranks who made the ultimate sacrifice in service to our nation," she added.

McQuiston's next assignment will be as the commanding general of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command in Rock Island, Ill. The ASC is a global organization charged with providing front-line logistics support to combat units.

Piggee expressed his appreciation to McQuiston for helping him make a smooth transition. He also addressed the Soldiers of the 21st TSC with his plans as their new commander.

"You have a superb reputation earned through excellence against every standard," said Piggee. "I look forward to serving with you and continuing the tradition of excellence."

"You will continue to be well trained, well equipped and a ready force lead by leaders focused on the basics: discipline, standards, accountability and enforcing the Army values," Piggee added.

16th Sust. Bde. Soldiers compete for Warrior title



Sgt. Timothy Dingle, a chemical operations specialist with the 12th Chemical Company, 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sust. Brigade, 21st Theater Sust. Command, fires his rifle during the qualification range portion of the 16th Sust. Bde. Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter competition on Warner Barracks, Bamberg, Germany June 28. Dingle won the title of Warrior Leader of the Quarter and will go on to compete in the 16th Sust. Bde. Warrior of the Year competition next year. (Photo by Pvt. Kevin Alex, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)

*Story by Pvt. Kevin Alex,
16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs*

BAMBERG, Germany – Four times a year, each battalion of the 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, send their best noncommissioned officer and junior enlisted Soldiers to compete in the Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter competition.

The brigade held its first WOQ and WLOQ competition for the 2012 fiscal year at its headquarters here on Warner Barracks June 28-30.

This quarter's competition consisted of seven events over three days that challenged each Soldier's mental and physical abilities including an Army Physical Fitness Test, a rifle qualification range, weapons disassembly and assembly, a day and night land navigation course, a road march and a formal board.

The competitors were considered the best of each of their respective battalions as they showcased their Army skills and knowledge in an attempt to take home the prestigious title of Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter.

"The most challenging event was definitely the road march," said Spc. Steven Palmer, a motor transport operator with the 66th Transportation Company, 39th

Transportation Battalion, 16th Sust. Bde., and WOQ winner. "It takes a lot of heart to not just race against your opponent but also yourself and finish with a good time."

Over the last year the competition has evolved to maximize the challenge while maintaining a safe and rewarding event as Soldiers endure a series of physical and mental challenges. "The range was the hardest part for me," said Sgt. Timothy Dingle, a chemical operations specialist with the 12th Chemical Co., 18th Combat Sust. Support Bn., 16th Sust. Bde., and WLOQ winner. "I had to put on the big combat goggles over my prescription glasses. I usually shoot (expert) but I ended up shooting (sharpshooter) because I couldn't put my cheek on the (rifle's) stock or my nose on the charging handle."

For some Soldiers, the competition is more than just hard work and dedication, it's also fun.

"The best part was the land navigation," said Dingle. "I've always done really well at land navigation so I knew I had day and night (land navigation) in the bag."

"My favorite part was the board," added Palmer. "It's always exciting to go in there and get tested on what you know."

For the winners, the next step is the Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Year competition scheduled for next year.

"I'm pretty sure I need to keep studying for the board," said Dingle. "This was the tenth board in my career but I still really need to learn the book answers before the Warrior Leader of the Year competition."

"After placing 2nd in last year's Warrior of the Year competition, I'm more motivated than ever to take home a win this time," said Palmer.



Command Sgt. Maj. Walton Jones, the 39th Transportation Battalion command sergeant major, congratulates Spc. Steven Palmer, a motor transport operator with the 66th Trans. Company, 39th Trans. Bn., 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st Theater Sust. Command for winning the title of Warrior of the Quarter during the 16th Sust. Bde. Warrior and Warrior Leader of the Quarter competition on Warner Barracks, Bamberg, Germany June 28-30.

Joint Training Strengthens Relationship with Serbian Army

Story by, Sgt. 1st Class, Michelle Conrad,
7th CSC Public Affairs

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – Recently, representatives of the Serbian Army participated in a joint communications training exercise with Soldiers of the 361st Civil Affairs Brigade, 7th Civil Support Command, at Daenner Kaserne here.

According to Master Sgt. Gregory F. Doles, the operations noncommissioned officer for the 361st CA Bde., the purpose of the combined exercise is to demonstrate to the Serbian army the tools that will enhance their capabilities in civil military cooperation operations in natural disaster and humanitarian aid missions.

In the 21st century strategic environment, the need for humanitarian aid and CIMC is becoming more common. This is particularly true in the challenging geographical environment of the Balkans, where the Serbian Army has an element of CIMC in their ranks.

The Serbian commander briefed the 7th CSC Soldiers on how they accomplish humanitarian aid and perform CIMC operations in their country. Serbian Army officers complete NATO tactical and strategic CIMC courses to prepare them for natural disasters, provide humanitarian aid as well as support the United Nations on missions abroad.



Dedic Radisa (left), a civil military cooperation officer for the Serbian armed forces and Sgt. 1st Class James R. Faulk, a civil affairs specialist with the 361st Civil Affairs Brigade, 7th Civil Support Command, discuss the capabilities of the Secure, Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router Satellite Access Point. SNAP provides secure or non-secure internet capability over a satellite communications terminal, which is a critical capability in humanitarian aid and natural disaster missions.

Sgt. 1st Class James R. Faulk, the Operations NCO for the 361st CA Bde., demonstrated a fully functional Secure, Non-secure Internet Protocol Router Satellite Access Point. SNAP provides secure or non-secure internet capability over a satellite communications terminal, which is a critical capability in humanitarian aid and natural disaster missions. The event culminated with members of both armies working together to install and operate SNAP.

The Serbian Army's current system is not compatible with today's ever advancing communications systems, making it difficult for them to execute humanitarian crisis missions at the local level. The capabilities of SNAP introduced our Serbian counterparts to advances in tactical and strategic communications systems they may use in the future.

Gen. Zvonimir Pesic, commanding general of the civil-military operations for the Serbian Armed Forces was greatly appreciative of the 7th CSC for hosting the exercise.

"We are hoping that this is going to be the basis for our cooperation in the future years," said Pesic.



Sgt. 1st Class Daniel E. Bowen (right), a civil affairs specialist with the 361st Civil Affairs Brigade, 7th Civil Support Command, and Nenad Ristic, a civil military cooperation officer of the Serbian armed forces work together to build the Secure, Non-Secure Internet Protocol Router Satellite Access Point. SNAP provides secure or non-secure internet capability over a satellite communications terminal which is a critical capability in humanitarian aid and natural disaster missions.

21st TSC honor members for service



The 21st Theater Sustainment Command Color Guard displays the colors during the 21st TSC Retreat and Retirement ceremony on the Panzer Parade Field in Kaiserslautern, Germany, July 28. (Photo by Sgt. Frank Sanchez III, 21st TSC Public Affairs)

*By Sgt. Frank Sanchez III,
21st TSC Public Affairs*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – Soldiers, Civilians, and Families gathered to honor and say farewell to Soldiers of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command at a Retreat and Retirement ceremony on Panzer parade field here, July 28.

This month's ceremony included a special tribute to those who made the ultimate sacrifice. The names of three Soldiers who lost their lives during Operation Enduring Freedom were unveiled at the 21st TSC Memorial site.

Brig. Gen. Mark Hendrix, the commanding general of the 7th Civil Support Command and deputy

commanding general for the 21st TSC was the guest speaker for the event.

“Now more than ever, we are so heavily engaged against an enemy so relentless and so determined,” said Hendrix to the audience gathered. “It is even more important that we pause from time to time to honor our traditions, to remember from whence we came, to recommit ourselves to the profession of arms and to each other.”

Maj. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st TSC, and Command Sgt. Maj. James Spencer, the command sergeant major of the 21st TSC, laid a wreath of flowers at the 21st TSC monument during the ceremony as the names of the three recently fallen 21st TSC heroes were unveiled. The three fallen warriors were:

Staff Sgt. Joshua Throckmorton, 527th Military Police Company

Spc. Jordan Schumann, 527th Military Police Company

Spc. Preston Suter, 527th Military Police Company

The retirement portion of the ceremony highlighted the service of Col. Sharon Duffy, the 21st TSC's deputy commanding officer, and Master Sgt. Ray Torres, the battalion operations and training non-commissioned officer in charge for the 565th Engineer Battalion in Schwetzingen, Germany.

Duffy was presented the Legion of Merit Award and Torres received the Meritorious Service Medal from McQuiston as she thanked them for their devotion to duty.

“The traditions of the Army are legendary. It just means so much to each and every single person,” said Duffy about her feelings on the eve of her retirement after 30 years of service. “You do not realize how much it means to you until you're about to become a civilian.”

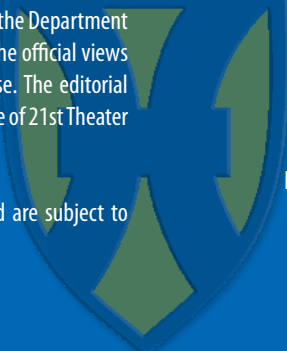
“I am finishing up a 22 year career,” said Torres. “I think that the years have made me ready for civilian life. I am happy.”

The ceremony concluded with the singing of 21st TSC March and the Army Song.

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Submit story ideas to mail.21t.aerpaom@eur.army.mil

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21st TSC Command Sergeant Major:

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21st STB welcomes new command team



Lt. Col. Donna K. Fanning, the incoming commander for the 21st Special Troops Battalion, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, receives the battalion colors from Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st TSC, during a change of command ceremony Aug. 5 on Panzer Parade Field, in Kaiserslautern, Germany. (Photo by Sgt. Frank Sanchez, 21st TSC Public Affairs)

*By Staff Sgt. Tramel Garrett
21st TSC Public Affairs*

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – The 21st Special Troops Battalion, held a change of command and responsibility ceremony on Panzer Parade Field here, Aug. 5, to welcome in a new command team and wish a fond farewell to the outgoing team.

Lt. Col. Michael A. Cortez and Command Sgt. Maj. Clifton D. Lewis relinquished command to Lt. Col. Donna K. Fanning and Command Sgt. Maj. Mariano Z. Alvarez after a successful two years as the 21st STB command team.

“Today’s ceremony is special. It’s not just change of command but a change of command team ceremony,” said Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st TSC. “Since 2009, these two remarkable men

have led, cared for and trained the battalion’s 972 Soldiers, 207 Department of the Army civilians and 159 local national civilians.”

Cortez expressed his gratitude to the Soldiers of the 21st STB and to Lewis for supporting him during his command.

“Command Sgt. Maj. Lewis, thank you,” said Cortez. “Wherever I go, whomever I work with, I will never forget what you did for the Soldiers and what you did for me.”

McQuiston acknowledged the accomplishments of the outgoing command team and the promising future of the 21st STB as she welcomed the new command team.

“The only thing that makes it easier to say goodbye to this great command team is the confidence we have in our Army, that the incoming command team will take

the work they have done and build upon that very solid foundation to lead this battalion to even greater accomplishments,” said McQuiston.

Fanning, expressed her appreciation to Cortez for helping her make a smooth transition. She also addressed the Soldiers of the 21st STB with her plans as the new commander.

“I know the coming months will bring more missions and require first and foremost support, flexibility and energy,” said Fanning. “I’m absolutely confident that this unit along with our numerous partnerships will meet that challenge.”

“Command Sgt. Maj. Alvarez and I are excited to be here and look forward to the opportunities that we share together as a unit, a team of teams, family and a community,” said Fanning.

21st TSC provides food, fuel in Rapid Trident 11



Staff Sgt. Eddie Peoples, a movement control supervisor with the 386th Movement Control Team, 14th Transportation Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, stationed Vicenza, Italy, is pictured here with two Canadian paratroopers during the Rapid Trident 11 joint multinational exercise in Yavoriv, Ukraine, July 26. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Tramel S. Garrett, 21st TSC Public Affairs)

*Story by Staff Sgt. Tramel S. Garrett,
21st TSC Public Affairs*

YAVORIV, Ukraine - Soldiers of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command provided logistical support to the U.S. Army in Europe led multi-national exercise Rapid Trident 11, here at the International Peacekeeping and Security Center, which began on July 25.

The exercise, which involves more than 1,600 personnel from over 12 nations across Europe, strengthens international military partnering and this year consists of a multi-national airborne operation and field training exercise designed to enhance joint combined interoperability with allied and partner nations.

Housing, transportation and many other logistical requirements for the multi-national airborne operation were major concerns for the planners of Rapid Trident

11, but thanks to the Soldiers of the 21st TSC, the exercise went off without a hitch and provided a unique challenge to the 21st TSC Soldiers. They were able to operate seamlessly in a foreign country where English was not the primary language.

“Some of the obstacles we overcame were the language barriers and culturally the way things are done,” said Maj. Melissa Field, a native of Hampton, Va. assigned to the 18th Military Police Brigade and the U.S. national support element officer in charge. “Some of the militaries are organized differently and we were just trying to understand the differences and work through them.”

For this exercise the 21st TSC created a team of logisticians from Soldiers assigned to the 18th MP Bde. based out of Sembach, Germany, the 16th Sustainment Brigade from Bamberg, Germany, and the 386th Movement Control Team from Vicenza, Italy.

“This team provides support to the US. Forces and support to other partner nations. We provide food, fuel and the coordination of transportation assets,” said Field.

Though the team came together in Ukraine for Rapid Trident 11 from three separate locations, they see themselves as one unit supporting the exercise.

“We arrived before everyone and received their equipment. Once everyone leaves, we will push their equipment back,” said 1st Lt. Kevin Wilson, the mobility officer for the 386th MCT and a native of Parsons, Tenn.

Rapid Trident 11 ends August 5, and the Soldiers of the 21st TSC, will continue to meet the logistical needs of the exercise and take the lessons learned back to their home stations to build upon for the future.

“This is a great opportunity for the paratroopers here to take part in an exercise with multiple countries,” said Sgt. 1st Class Antheus Straughn, the 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, supply noncommissioned officer in charge and a native of Walnut Hill, Fla.

“This exercise is very important and it enhances our ability to work with our partner nations,” said Fields. “It makes our relationship stronger. We learned to recognize our differences and overcame them.”

21st TSC inducts new members into the Sergeant Morales Club

Story and Photos by Sgt. Frank Sanchez III,
21st TSC Public Affairs



Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command awards Staff Sgt. Jordan Moore, a Military Police Officer with the 18th Military Police Brigade in Grafenwoehr, Germany, the Sergeant Morales Club Medallion during the 21st TSC Sergeant Morales Club induction and retreat ceremony on the Panzer Parade Field in Kaiserslautern, Germany, Aug. 18. Staff Sgt. Moore is a patrol supervisor and hails from Mount Vernon, Ohio.

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – The 21st Theater Sustainment Command welcomed its newest members into the Sergeant Morales Club during a special induction and retreat ceremony on the Panzer Parade Field here, Aug. 18.

The ceremony recognized an elite group of non-commissioned officers from the 21st TSC as they became lifetime members of the United States Army Europe's prestigious club.

Maj. Gen. Patricia McQuiston, the commanding general of the 21st TSC, addressed the hundreds of Soldiers, Civilians and family members in attendance.

"We are here today for a very simple reason; to honor the demonstration of excellence by five Soldiers who are willing to stand up, test themselves and be found worthy of induction into the elite ranks of non-commissioned officers," said McQuiston in her remarks.

The five new inductees were:

- Sgt. Eti Vele, 515th Transportation Company, 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, Mannheim, Germany.

- Staff Sgt. Elvia Bourland, 66th Trans. Co., 39th Movement Control Bn., 16th Sustainment Bde., Kaiserslautern, Germany.

- Staff Sgt. Ronis Gutierrez, U.S. Army Garrison, Mannheim, Germany.

- Staff Sgt. Jordan Moore, 615th Military Police Co., 709th MP Bn., 18th Military Police Bde., Grafenwoehr, Germany.

- Staff Sgt. Angela Rotondo, 357th Air and Missile Defense Detachment, Kaiserslautern, Germany.

Sgt. Vele, a wheeled vehicle mechanic and squad leader from Tafeta, American Samoa, believes being a part of the SMC will help improve his leadership role. "It's a wonderful day. I have been working hard for this and being part of an elite group is only going to help me take better care of my Soldiers," said Vele.

The SMC is an exclusive organization which recognizes Soldiers who exhibit the highest ideals of integrity, professionalism and leadership. The selection process can be long and grueling, but succeeding can bring significant advantages for NCOs looking to advance their careers.

"This is truly an honor," said Staff Sgt. Bourland, a motor transport operations squad leader from San Bernardino, Calif. "It is because of my Soldiers. That is the reason why I am here," said Bourland.



The 21st TSC welcomed its newest members into the Sergeant Morales Club during a special induction and retreat ceremony on the Panzer Parade Field in Kaiserslautern, Germany, Aug. 18.

391st CSSB under new leadership



Col. Keith Sledd, the commander of the 16th Sustainment Brigade, passes the 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion colors to Lt. Col. Donald A. MacCuish, the incoming commander of the 391st CSSB, during a change of command ceremony in Bamberg, Germany, July 22. MacCuish replaced Lt. Col. C. Scott Luekenga, who commanded the 391st CSSB since July 2009. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Lynne Lantin, 16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs)

*By Staff Sgt. Lynne Lantin
16th Sust. Bde. Public Affairs*

BAMBERG, Germany —The 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, 21st Theater Sustainment Command, held a change of command ceremony to say farewell to Lt. Col. C. Scott Luekenga, the outgoing commander, and to welcome Lt. Col. Donald A. MacCuish, the incoming commander, here July 22.

Luekenga commanded the 391st CSSB for two years and will now be taking over as the 16th Sust. Bde. Deputy Commanding Officer.

“Being selected to command the (391st CSSB) is the greatest honor the Army has given me in my 25-year career,” said Luekenga. “Command is an honor that

should not be taken lightly by anyone who has had the privilege.”

Though MacCuish is just now taking over the 391st CSSB, this isn’t his first time with the unit.

“The 391st CSSB has a great lineage and a great history, I started my career in the 191st Ordnance Battalion as a young second lieutenant pushing ammo out of Miesau, Germany,” said MacCuish. “When I heard the Army was going to let me come back to this battalion to command it, it was one of the greatest days of my life.”

The 391st CSSB is comprised of seven companies: Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 51st Transportation Co., 70th Trans Co., 515th Trans. Co., 240th Quartermaster Supply Co., 317th Maintenance Co. and 720th Explosive Ordnance Disposal Co.