



# THE GLOBAL LINE



## McQuiston takes command

Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston became commanding general of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command during an Oct. 28 change of command ceremony on Memorial Field.....**See page 3**

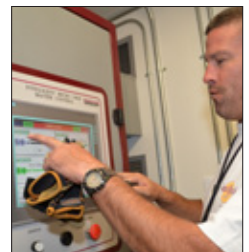
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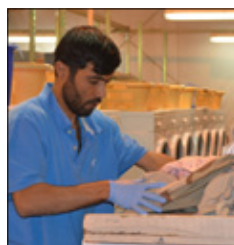
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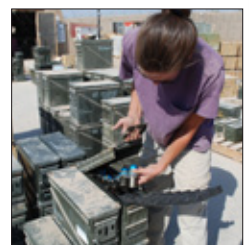
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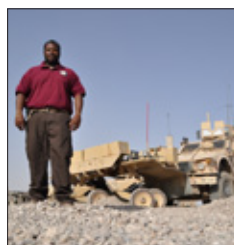
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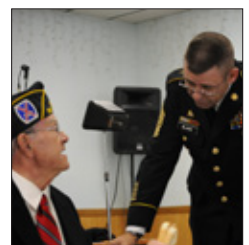
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ASC Soldiers fanned out across western Illinois and eastern Iowa over Veterans Day weekend paying tribute to area veterans.....**see page 12**



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## ASC plays a critical role in ensuring victory

Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston  
U.S. Army Sustainment Command

My first weeks at ASC have been a whirlwind! Although I was familiar with the Army Sustainment Command and its mission before I arrived here, I truly could not appreciate the scope and significance of ASC's mission until I became involved in it on a daily basis.

We have a lot to do, and we are going to have to do it at a time when resources are limited. But, from what I have seen and heard so far, I know that the people of ASC are up to this challenge.

On a local level, I plan to continue to work with community leaders to strengthen the partnerships that have been formed over the past several years. On a national level, I plan to carry this message forward to top leaders within the Department of Defense: ASC plays a critical role in ensuring victory on the battlefield and has a mission that will continue to grow in importance.

ASC's workforce of dedicated, innovative Civilians,



Soldiers and Contractors is devoted to supporting the men and women serving our Nation. It's an honor and privilege to serve within the ranks of such professionals as we accomplish our global support missions.

I know that many members of this Command will spend the holiday season far from home, deployed forward in support of front-line combat units. Your sacrifices are always appreciated, especially at this time of year, and I hope that you enjoy the holiday season and return home safely soon.

To everyone within ASC, I wish you and your family a happy and safe holiday season, and all the best in the New Year to come.

Thank you again for the warm welcome and thank you for the vital support you provide to our men and women in uniform. **On the Line!**

**MG McQuiston**

*Happy Holidays*

## THE GLOBAL LINE



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## McQuiston takes reins of Army Sustainment Command

Story and photos by Megan McIntyre  
ASC Public Affairs

ROCK ISLAND ARSENAL, Ill. – Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston became commanding general of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command during an Oct. 28 change of command ceremony on Memorial Field.

McQuiston took command of ASC from Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, who had served as commanding general since September 2009. In a retirement ceremony following the handover, Fontaine was honored for more than three decades of service.

Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, commanding general of the U.S. Army Materiel Command, presided over both ceremonies.

Marking the change of command in time-honored fashion, Dunwoody received the ASC colors from Fontaine, then passed them to McQuiston. With her position as commanding general established, McQuiston then passed the flag to ASC's top enlisted Soldier, Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake, for safekeeping.

"Today's ceremony is a little different than the traditional passing of the colors," said Dunwoody, "because we are also retiring a great American, a great patriot and a great Army Soldier."

In his farewell remarks, Fontaine spoke for his entire family. "Kathy, the girls [Laura, Sara, Michelle, and Genevieve] and I want to start by publicly thanking our families and friends who have been by our side throughout our 36-year career and provided continuous encouragement and support to our family as we served our nation," he said.

Fontaine, a native of Belgium, became a naturalized U.S. citizen in 1971 and commissioned as an Army officer in 1976.

"Only in this great nation can a Belgian immigrant serve successfully in uniform," he said with a trace of an accent. "So, I owe this nation a huge debt of gratitude. It gave me the opportunity to succeed by accepting me as one of its own – treating me with respect and dignity – even if I spoke funny."

Moving the spotlight from Fontaine to McQuiston, Dunwoody said, "Losing a great commander during demanding times is usually very challenging, but I've known Pat McQuiston for many years and I've served with her many times - and I can tell you, once again our Army has chosen wisely."

Dunwoody then introduced McQuiston by saying, "What you really need to know about Pat, you can't read in her bio. She is a gifted leader, a strategic thinker and she knows how to take care of Army Soldiers, civilians and their Families."

McQuiston began her remarks by thanking those who have helped and encouraged her own career.

"There is no way to thank General Dunwoody



**Maj. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston (right) succeeded Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine (left) as commander of Army Sustainment Command during an Oct. 28 ceremony. Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody (center), commanding general of Army Materiel Command, presided over the event at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.**

enough for her support and for her giving us this opportunity, but I'll say it anyway. Thank you ma'am," she said. "I know that she doesn't want thanks. She and the other coaches and mentors in the audience ... only expect us to do as they have done: Pay it forward to those who follow - to make our team members successful in their missions, with their families and in their lives."

McQuiston comes to ASC from Kaiserslautern, Germany, where she served as commanding general of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, U.S. Army-Europe and Seventh Army. Her assignment as commanding general of ASC is the latest step in a career that began in 1980, when she graduated from the University of Akron in Ohio and earned her commission as a second lieutenant through the ROTC program.

Her leadership assignments include serving as commander of Tobyhanna Army Depot in

**See McQuiston, page 11**

## 402nd key to responsible exit from Iraq

Story and photos by Pamela J. Proper  
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP VIRGINIA, Kuwait – Units started rolling in from the north in short bursts, but now with the deadline to be out of Iraq drawing ever-closer, the pace has accelerated for Soldiers departing Iraq and those taking over the property hand receipts from departing troops.

While it's the end of a mission for redeploying units, it's only the beginning for Soldiers and civilians manning the turn-in lanes at Camp Virginia, Kuwait.

Staff Sgt. Kwame Peterkin is the noncommissioned officer-in-charge of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade's operational area. Units turn in tactical vehicles and communications equipment to Peterkin's team - and business is brisk.

"My guys like to stay busy. It keeps Soldiers fresh," said Peterkin.

The turn-in involves some paperwork, and that, Peterkin said, is the biggest wrinkle.

"These units don't always come in here with the proper documentation. It's the biggest challenge. It halts the operation, but we work through it and we help them get it all in order so they can go home," said Peterkin.

This is Peterkin's third deployment so nothing rattles him, not even missing paperwork. He claims teamwork is what makes it all work.

"I came into Iraq when it started. I was here in the middle and now I get to see closure, the end of it,



**Pfc. Sarah Cervantes, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, marks the disposition of a tactical vehicle that has been turned in at Camp Virginia, Kuwait.**

and this time I am working with a lot of AMC (Army Materiel Command) civilians and I am learning a lot from them. Most are retirees who bring a lot of knowledge. Having AMC experience on a resume will be a plus," Peterkin said. "I tell my team, this experience you can put in your toolbox."

It is estimated that between October and December, the AMC team will process approximately 19,000 tactical vehicles moving out of Iraq. It's a job taking a coordinated effort that starts and ends with Soldiers and civilians in the lanes.

"We have great cohesion. That's what makes us a good team, makes the job easier," said Peterkin. "Civilians and military, we are all on the same sheet of music to do a mission."



**Staff Sgt. Kwame Peterkin, noncommissioned officer-in-charge, Redistribution Property Assistance Team, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, explains procedure for turning in tactical vehicles and other equipment as units arrive at Camp Virginia, Kuwait.**

# Microgrid delivers powerful performance

Story by Summer Barkley  
401st AFSB Public Affairs

How to heat and cool in the desert without attempting to heat and cool the desert itself is a question that has to be answered when planning and building camps and operating bases in Afghanistan. The easy answer is generators and then more generators.

Another answer is offered by Project Manager-Mobile Electric Power (PM-MEP) in the form of the Afghan Microgrid Project, or AMP. Forward engineering support of the project is provided in part by the Research, Development and Engineering Command's Field Assistance in Science and Technology - Center nested in the 401st Army Field Support Brigade. The 401st AFSB, working through its parent, Army Sustainment Command, delivers integrated logistics solutions to operating forces – in this case reliable power generation featuring centralized distribution and efficient use of resources.

When a camp or operating base is first set up, Force Provider packages, Project Manager-Force Sustainment Systems, provide all life support and other structures needed by the unit. Power is generated by tactical quiet generators, or TQGs. As the footprint expands, commercial generators purchased locally or provided by contractors are often added to augment the existing point generation. Often this results in more power being produced than is actually needed. Generators are run constantly and consume fuel at a constant rate regardless of power demands that may fluctuate during the day. Running generators at a low load results in "wet stacking," which decreases efficiency, increases pollution and reduces the time between maintenance actions and useful life of the equipment.

The RFAST-C team and PM-MEP installed a one-megawatt microgrid at Camp Sabalu-Harrison that can replace up to 20 60-watt TQGs that had been collectively producing more than 1,300 kilowatts of power to meet a demand of less than 400 kilowatts. The microgrid can be configured through distribution networks to provide power to 66 structures, and has the advantage of being able to match power generation with demand as opposed to running stand-alone generators 24 hours a day.

"The microgrid balances supply and demand," said Lt. Col. Alan C. Samuels, RFAST-C director, 401st AFSB. "The microgrid includes a computer-controlled system that senses demand and provides centralized distribution instead of point generation."

"The Intelligent Micro Grid provides 100 percent power to the end-user," said Joe Barniak, a contractor with PM-MEP, who keeps the microgrid running and collects daily system data. "It delivers what's needed at the time they need it without having to take a generator off-line for maintenance."

The four large generators in the microgrid system are turned on and off automatically by the system as peaks and valleys in power demand occur throughout the day according to Barniak.

Barniak said the microgrid captures fuel usage and fuel efficiency and generates load profiles. The microgrid generators are rotated automatically by the system's computer to balance the number of hours on all engines.

"It's nice to see technology get out of the RDECs [research, engineering and development centers] and put to use," said Michael J. Zalewski, RFAST-C mechanical engineer who focuses on power management.

Force protection and logistics also enter into the picture according to Samuels and Zalewski. Samuels said each set of stand-alone generators that are scattered throughout the camp requires a fuel blivet that must be refilled on a regular basis while in the case of the microgrid fuel is delivered to one central point. This localization of fuel points reduces the number of sites that fuel trucks must service throughout the camp, many times on a daily basis.

"Logistics issues arise from having to bring fuel forward by convoy or air drops," Zalewski noted. He also added that there are other technologies that can be employed by expeditionary units to reduce dependence on fuel-powered generators; thereby reducing the number of fuel resupplies required.

Samuels said looking at demand issues is another step that can be taken to increase energy efficiency and reduce costs for power generation. Suggestions include using solar shades to reduce the thermal loading on tents, tent insulation to reduce the thermal losses to the outside environment and improved environmental control units that have been developed by PM-MEP.

So, back to the initial question of how not to heat and cool the desert – there are a number of answers, but given the right set of conditions and planning, a microgrid provides reliable power matched to demand loads and peak demand times at a lower cost per kilowatt hour with reduced wear and tear on generators while achieving energy efficiency and improving force protection.

 [More on this story here](#)

## LOGCAP still taking care of troops

By Summer Barkley  
401st AFSB Public Affairs

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - You're deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and you want a hot meal, a hot shower, a clean bed, a flight, a new uniform, or somebody to put out a fire... Who you gonna call? LOGCAP, that's who.

As the U.S. Army evolved during the 1990s into a smaller force with a focus on combat arms, the need to find ways to provide combat support and



**A laundry worker folds clothes at the Bagram main laundry operated by LOGCAP contractor Fluor Corp. Working around the clock, employees wash, dry and fold 3,800 bags of laundry every day.**

Photo by Summer Barkley, 401st AFSB Public Affairs

combat service support became apparent.

The Logistics Civil Augmentation Program emerged as a way to leverage civilian contractors to support and augment United States and coalition forces on battlefields, humanitarian missions and training operations.

Managed by Army Materiel Command and executed by Army Sustainment Command, AMC's operational arm, LOGCAP services include supply operations that may include all nine classes of supplies; field services such as laundry and bath, food service, billeting and information management; and other operations and services, such as power generation and distribution, engineering and construction and physical security in the form of perimeter fencing and barrier maintenance.

The current iteration is LOGCAP IV and differs from previous iterations by competing task order

awards among three contractors. In Afghanistan, two primary contractors are providing LOGCAP services: Fluor Corporation and DynCorp International. Fluor operates in the northern and eastern part of the country, while DynCorp operates in the west and south.

The performance work statement is the same for both contractors, said James E. Allen, LOGCAP deputy program director-Afghanistan.

"We're more than 42 support battalions' of services," said Allen. "We really are an expeditionary sustainment command-sized element. We provide multiple services - many that are transparent to the end-user, to virtually every U.S. and coalition servicemember, civilian and contractor in the CJOA-A, every day."

"The Army can leverage LOGCAP's back-up and reach-back to the corporate-industrial base to fill almost any shortfall and unencumber uniformed personnel to let them focus on the fight and to win," Allen said.

Highlights of a LOGCAP Fluor day at Bagram include 3,800 bags of laundry washed, dried and folded; more than 24,000 meals; a supply support activity (which is one of the largest

in the Army, according to Allen) that manages more than 11,000 line items going to more than 400 customers. They also operate fuel points, wash racks, MWR facilities, and other services that literally touch each military, civilian and contractor at Bagram every day.

Fluor's central receiving and shipping point at Bagram conducted a Lean/Six Sigma project on cargo flow with the 101st Sustainment Brigade, resulting in a dramatic reduction in container detention fees.

In addition to providing services, Fluor is providing training and employment to nearly 9,000 Afghan workers, approximately 50 percent of its workforce. Under the Afghan First program, native employees work in jobs ranging from laborer to craftsman to administrator, even supervisory and

**See LOGCAP, page 10**

## 402nd collects ammo as Soldiers head out of Iraq

Story and photo by Pamela J. Proper  
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP LIBERTY, Iraq – They waited to the last minute to turn in their ammunition, but that was to be expected. No Soldier wanted to be the last one in Iraq without any.

But ever since the White House announcement that all troops will be out of Iraq and home for the holidays, there has been a mad rush to unload it, keeping personnel at the ammunition supply points very busy.

Rodney Stingerie and Suzanne Greenway, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, are responsible for handling the ammunition turned in at Camp Liberty from all the forward operating bases closing down around Baghdad, determining whether it's serviceable or tagged for disposal.

"We get between 10 and 15 short tons each week. That's more than half a million dollars worth of ammunition," said Greenway, chief of surveillance. "Some of this stuff has been in-theater since the beginning of the war. They were just hanging on to it."

"And we are seeing a lot more amnesty, maybe six to eight turn-ins a day, which should have ended at the beginning of the month, but we keep accepting it. We have to," said Stingerie, explosives

safety expert.

Stingerie and Greenway have been married for 25 years and they have been working together in the Army ammunition business for 23 of those years. They volunteered to deploy to Iraq in support of the drawdown and they are working at a pace that is unparalleled in their careers.

Twelve-hour days, seven days a week is the norm and the work is physical. They break down pallets of ammunition, inspect it, classify it and re-pack it for re-use or demilitarization.

"I've lost 40 pounds in the ten months I've been here," said Stingerie. Greenway said she lost six pounds. They agree the work is physically exhausting, but the experience has been invaluable.

"This has been a great learning experience. Hands-on with the ammo and training Soldiers in this environment gives us a much better perspective on what we do back home," said Greenway.

Soon they'll be heading back to the McAlester Army Ammunition Plant, in Oklahoma. That is where they work and soon they'll be able to pursue the small things they have sacrificed during deployment.

"I'm a shopaholic," said Stingerie. "I miss shopping."

"I just want a bath," Greenway said.

[More on this story here](#)



*Rodney Stingerie and Suzanne Greenway, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, survey the ammo lot at Camp Liberty, Iraq, as units from surrounding FOBs arrive in a steady stream to unload ammunition before departing the country.*

## Fort Riley troops partner with 402nd, speed up troops' exit from Iraq

Story and photo by Pamela J. Proper  
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP VIRGINIA, Kuwait – The 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, from Fort Riley, Kan., donned a new patch in a ceremony here Oct. 19.

The unit wears the shield representing Army Materiel Command. The battalion's mission, augmenting AMC, is retrograding and resetting equipment turned in by U.S. forces departing Iraq.

It is a daunting mission that started in 2009 and has already transferred about 1 million pieces of equipment to the government of Iraq. In addition, more than 64 percent of theater-provided equipment used in Iraq has already been redistributed to U.S. forces in Afghanistan.



**Lt. Col. William J. Cain, 541st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion commander, places the AMC patch on Sgt. Joshua Brown at an Oct. 19 combat patch ceremony at Camp Virginia, Kuwait.**

What AMC does, working through Army Sustainment Command and its 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, is rapidly return, repair, redistribute and dispose of equipment to regenerate combat power. The 541st CSSB is a partner in that effort.

The drawdown from Iraq is one of the Army's most significant logistics operations in its history.

Soldiers of the 541st CSSB are aware of that and ready for the challenge.

Lt. Col. William Cain, 541st CSSB commander, said his team came into the theater with eyes wide

open, and appreciates the upfront support from the 402nd AFSB, AMC's operating arm in Iraq and Kuwait.

"The 541st CSSB takes great pride in being part of the AMC team," said Cain.

"The efforts of the entire 402nd AFSB team have set us up for success with our current mission set. The support we received has been nothing short of spectacular from Day One. The Soldiers are excited about the mission and take extreme pride in providing world-class logistical support," Cain said.

AMC officials use the word "robust" to describe the capabilities of the integrated teams they have on the ground in Iraq and Kuwait. These teams have set up a synchronized battle rhythm for receiving property - large and small, rolling stock (vehicles) and non-rolling stock (all other equipment) - from units redeploying.

The drawdown is complex, yet strategically planned to be as simple as possible for road-weary troops who just want to get home.

"We are here to make the process user-friendly and solve problems at the lowest level," said Cain.

Located 50 miles from the border, Camp Virginia is the first stop outside of Iraq for redeploying Soldiers. Activity at the site is a carefully orchestrated series of lanes and turn-in points, all meticulously planned and timed out.

"Units flow through a four-corners area where they turn in all classes of supply. Then they flow into our yard where we validate administrative data on the equipment before we relieve the unit of accountability," said Cain.

Second lieutenants John Moffett and Richard Macauley, 2nd Squadron, 13th Cavalry Regiment, Fort Bliss, Texas, came to Kuwait from Mosul, Iraq, a 693-mile journey. Their unit was responsible for closing Forward Operating Base Marez.

"The biggest challenge was shipping all the containers. We moved about 120," said Macauley.

"We closed the FOB. We had to get everybody else's stuff out of there," said Moffett. "It was a long, slow journey down here and everyone made it safely, it was a smooth transition and its one step closer to home."

Moffett and Macauley are among the thousands of Soldiers served by the 402nd/541st team. With their equipment handed over to AMC, they can focus on getting back to Fort Bliss - while AMC continues resetting Army stocks.

[More on this story here](#)



## Saving batteries saves big bucks

Story and photo by Pamela J. Proper  
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – When an Army truck battery dies it often ends up in the junk yard because it is deemed unserviceable. And, while nobody likes a dead battery, as many as 50 percent that are thrown out can be recharged.

Michael Rogers, a mechanic at Anniston Army Depot, Ala., joined the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade team in Kuwait as a member of TACOM's Forward Repair Activity. His mission: recover as many batteries as possible.

"We have, to date, received 21,673 batteries into the shop. We have recovered and re-issued 9,500. That is a cost avoidance of about \$3,843,679. Right now we have 8,300 in process at the shop and we also are absorbing all drawdown batteries from Iraq as they enter Kuwait," Rogers said.

Before a battery can be disposed of, it must be properly tested and charged. Then a determination is made as to whether or not it is serviceable.

Unserviceable batteries are processed as hazardous materials and destroyed. But many can be reutilized - and that is what keeps Rogers and his colleague, Dennis Hinds, busy. They inspect, sort and recharge pallet-loads of batteries and send them back to units.

"This battery has a unit cost of \$402.44," said

Rogers, pointing to one of his vast collection. "We operate on a one-for-one swap-out with the units, so there is no cost to the units."

The two men get a feeling of fulfillment from the job.

"This mission to me is a gratifying assignment. First, because it had never been done at this scale, so it was a challenge to get up and running," Rogers said. "Also, this is saving the Army money and [we] are able to control and manage the flow of batteries coming into the shop to ensure proper disposition for the Army to avoid not getting all the life out of the batteries."

"We have shipped batteries to Afghanistan and Iraq. By us doing what we are, that's over \$3,000,000 that can be used for other projects," Rogers said.

Batteries are used in virtually everything that moves, from tanks to trucks. Rogers and Hinds receive almost 1,000 a month, so their work is critical to keeping Soldiers on the road and saving big money for the Army.

On Pentagon briefing charts, it's called the Materiel Enterprise; at Camp Arifjan, it's two guys in a dusty TACOM shop, members of Army Sustainment Command's global team, doing what they do best: serving Soldiers – and saving some money in the bargain.

[More on this story here](#)



*Michael Rogers, a TACOM mechanic from Anniston Army Depot, Ala., is a member of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade team at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. His work recovering batteries and putting them back in circulation is keeping Soldiers on the road and saving the Army millions.*

## LOGCAP

*continued from page 6*

managerial positions as security rules permit.

The company also partners with the Korean Vocational Training Center at Bagram. The KVTC is a Korea International Cooperation Agency program that provides an 800-hour training course in five skill areas.

In its second year, KVTC has 106 students enrolled in automotive, electricity, welding, construction and computer classes. Fluor employees volunteer as English tutors and also provide classes designed to help the students adapt after graduation.

“We have the graduates help train our other Afghan employees,” said Nadia Myers, Fluor Afghan First program manager.

“With no cost to the [LOGCAP] client, or to us, this training partnership is a hard bargain to pass up,” said Pete Coogle, Fluor deputy project manager for operations.

The DynCorp area of responsibility covers more than 105,000 square miles in which it provides services to more than 100,000 customers at 56 forward operating bases.

The Class I yard sends supplies out to more than 110 units and has approximately \$40 million in rations on hand in regular, refrigerator and freezer containers. Their most popular items are “lickeys and chewies” according to William Shaw, warehouse manager. He defines lickeys and chewies as things like Pop Tarts, snack foods and Gatorade protein shakes, which he says are their second most popular item – ice is the most requested item.

“I love being here,” Shaw said. “It’s all about taking care of Soldiers.”

The billeting office lodges about 20,000 servicemembers and civilians every day.

“We try to make their stay as comfortable as possible,” said Darryl Clarke, billeting manager.

The Morale, Welfare and Recreation area is a short distance from living areas and offers a fitness center, music rooms, pool and ping-pong tables, movies, reading rooms, computers and phones 24 hours a day.

DynCorp also operates the Kandahar arrival/ departure airfield control group that processes all in- and out-bound passengers as well as a



**William Shaw, warehouse manager for LOGCAP contractor DynCorp International at Kandahar Airfield, hands a case of ice to Sgt. Jay B. Bustamante, Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 25th Brigade Support Battalion, 1-25th Stryker Brigade Combat Team.**

Photo by James Arnold, DynCorp International

“mountain of iron,” according to Jeremy Jacobs, Kandahar ADAG transportation manager.

“If it flies in or out of KAF, it comes through here,” he said.

Government oversight in-theater is led by James E. Allen, who is the senior LOGCAP civilian in-country.

Col. Mark A. Calabrese, LOGCAP assistant deputy program director, is LOGCAP’s senior military person in Afghanistan. Aligned with supported commands, LOGCAP support officers are assigned to the three primary regional commands and are, in turn, backed up by LOGCAP support officers working directly with units to assist in articulating needs and requesting requirements. Sergeant Maj. Carl Waddle is the senior enlisted LSO and advisor.

“I work hand-in-hand with my mayor,” said Master Sgt. Ava L. Washington, LOGCAP support officer for Forward Operating Base Lindsey. “I push packets for their projects and I get excited when my packets get elevated [proceed through the approval process].”

## Mine rollers designed to blow up, save lives

Story and photo by J. Elise Van Pool  
401st AFSB Public Affairs

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan - "These are designed to blow up," said Albert Bacon, indicating a mine roller mounted to a tactical vehicle.

"They really work," said Bacon, a field service representative for R4, a contractor supporting Product Manager IED Defeat/Protect Force.

Bacon helps coalition forces in Afghanistan install mine rollers on the front of tactical vehicles. He has traveled across the country providing support to Soldiers and assisting with mine rollers installations.

Product Manager IED Defeat/Protect Force is one of the more than 200 separate programs managed by Program Manager Close Combat Systems. While deployed, PM IED Defeat/Protect Force is supported by the 401st Army Field Support Brigade's Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Directorate. The 401st AFSB and its two battalions are part of Army Sustainment Command, Army Materiel Command's operational arm.

"It's a good piece of equipment," said Spc. John Rollins, from Trent, Mo., of the 548th Transportation Company. "It does its job."

That job is detonating improvised explosive devices before Soldiers drive over them. The rollers are one element in the deadly serious effort to defeat IEDs.

"I feel safer and I know everyone behind me is safer," said Pfc. Juan Callepiedrahita, from Columbia, Mo., also in the 548th.



**Albert Bacon, service representative for R4 a contractor supporting Product Manager IED Defeat/Protect Force, stands in front of a mine-resistant ambush-protected vehicle with a mine roller attached to it at AFSBn-Kandahar.**

The current model mine rollers were first fielded by the Army in 2007 to protect soldiers from improvised explosive devices that detonate when their vehicles drive over them. Since then, there have been several adaptations to the mine rollers that allow soldiers to adjust the equipment without leaving their vehicle.

The rollers also help prevent expensive damage to vehicles that could leave them vulnerable to additional attack.

At the end of the day it's about saving Soldiers' lives said Bacon. "Proper use of the rollers saves lives."

## McQuiston

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Pennsylvania and commander of Defense Supply Center - Columbus in Ohio.


Among her experiences is a stint as a speechwriter for the U.S. Army Chief of Staff at the Pentagon in Washington, D.C. Later assignments took her to Fort Riley, Kan., where she served as chief of the Division Materiel Management Center and as assistant chief of staff (G-4) for the 1st Infantry Division; to Fort Hood, Texas, where she commanded the Special Troops Battalion in the 13th Corps Support Command; she returned to the Pentagon as a special assistant for personnel and logistics to the U.S. Army Chief of Staff.

Taking command of ASC is a homecoming of sorts for McQuiston, who served from Sept. 2006 to Sept. 2007 as deputy commanding general,

United States Army Field Support Command - which became Army Sustainment Command - with duty as commanding general, Army Materiel Command Forward-Southwest Asia/C-4, Coalition Forces Land Component Command, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait

McQuiston's awards and decorations include the Distinguished Service Medal, four Legions of Merit; the Bronze Star; six Meritorious Service Medals; two Army Commendation Medals; the Air Force Commendation Medal; the Army Achievement Medal; the Army Staff Identification Badge; and the Ehrenkreuz der Bundeswehr in Gold.

McQuiston is married to retired Col. Leif Johnson. They have three children: Leif, Nick, and Laura.

 [More photos here](#)



**Col. Richard Dix, Army Sustainment Command chief of staff, visits with veterans following the Nov. 11 Veterans Day ceremony in Silvis, Ill.**

Photo by Jackie Hoggins, ASC Public Affairs

### ***ASC Soldiers salute veterans***

Army Sustainment Command Soldiers fanned out across western Illinois and eastern Iowa over Veterans Day weekend paying tribute to area veterans.

In an all-out community outreach effort, ASC Soldiers gave speeches, conducted presentations and participated in parades and memorial services while representing the command and the Army.



**ABOVE: Brig. Gen. Brian Layer, Army Sustainment Command deputy commanding general, speaks to a Veterans Day audience outside the Davenport, Iowa, courthouse, Nov. 11.**

Photo by Megan McIntyre, ASC Public Affairs



**Command Sgt. Maj. Stephen D. Blake speaks with Bob Baecke, adjutant of American Legion Post 227, East Moline, Ill., Nov. 11. Blake is one of a dozen Army Sustainment Command Soldiers who represented the command at Veterans Day activities.**

Photo by Dan Carlson, ASC Public Affairs