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# PRESS RELEASE

## Task Force Medical-Afghanistan Public Affairs Office

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### **30<sup>th</sup> Medical Command assumes TF MED-A** *Ceremony and Commander's Conference*

**BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan** - The 1<sup>st</sup> Medical Brigade from Fort Hood, Texas, ceremoniously cased their colors here today, transferring the authority of command to the 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Command from Sembach, Germany, as they unfurled their colors.

Brig. Gen. Ricky D. Gibbs, deputy commander, V Corps, presided over the event as Joint and Coalition medical command teams assembled to honor the transfer.

For the last nine months, 1<sup>st</sup> Med Bde led Task Force Medical-Afghanistan, the medical mission command headquarters in charge of the Afghanistan theater of operations under V Corps and United States Forces-Afghanistan. TF Med-A provides expert health service support and force protection to International Assistance Force Afghanistan Joint Command (IJC) forces as they perform the critical mission of transition to capable Afghan National Security Forces.

We executed our mission at hand, truly partnered with U.S. Forces-Afghanistan, the IJC, and each Regional Command that comprised a comprehensive battlefield healthcare enterprise that achieved marked results, measured by taking care of our wounded and saving lives, said Col. Bruce W. McVeigh, commander of 1st Med Bde.

McVeigh recognized the sacrifice of the Soldiers, Airmen, and Sailors who comprise the Task Force, and ended his speech with special thanks to their Families.

“There is no doubt that Task Force Med-A was truly the strength of the warrior, the hope for the wounded, the comfort for the dying, because that is the call for the medical care system on today’s battlefield, as it has been for centuries of warfare” said McVeigh.

The 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Command assumes the mission for their second time, having completed the very first TF Med-A rotation in 2009-2010 here at Bagram. Since then, their team executed an incremental training plan which included numerous exercises in Germany to get ready to assume the mission.

“We worked on building our 30<sup>th</sup> MEDCOM team, and now we look forward to building our Afghanistan team with our new teammates,” said Col. Koji Nishimura, commander of 30<sup>th</sup> MEDCOM, as he assumed authority of TF MED-A.

“For us there is no higher honor than to serve our great coalition service men and women, civilians, and the people of Afghanistan. For the next nine months we will strive for world record performance and professionalism,” said Nishimura.

Theater-wide preventive medicine, concussive care, behavioral health care, veterinary medicine, medical logistics, far forward resuscitative care, and administrative oversight of all DoD hospitals in Afghanistan, and many other medical missions comprise TF Med-A.

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About us: Task Force Medical-Afghanistan (TF MED-A) is the theater-enabling medical command headquarters that provides medical mission command to all Department of Defense medical capabilities at echelons above Brigade Combat Team level.

For more information on the Soldiers, Sailors, and Airmen of Task Force Med-A, follow us on Facebook at <http://www.facebook.com/pages/Task-Force-MED-Afghanistan/213494442017163>

*Story and Photos by Army Major Charles Patterson, TF MED-A Public Affairs Officer. Posted to Army CORE at <http://www.army.mil/article/90602>*

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Col. Bruce W. McVeigh, commander, and Command Sgt. Maj. Michael J. Mullaney, case their 1<sup>st</sup> Medical Brigade colors in a transfer of authority and casing ceremony at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, Nov. 1, after serving as Task Force Medical-Afghanistan Headquarters. (US Army Photo by TF MED-A Public Affairs, Maj. Charles Patterson, Released)



**TF\_MedA\_20121101\_TOA\_007**

Col. Koji Nishimura, commander of 30<sup>th</sup> Medical Command, and Command Sgt. Maj. Alexis King, uncased the 30<sup>th</sup> MEDCOM colors as they assume the authority as Task Force Medical-Afghanistan under V Corps, Nov. 1, at a ceremony at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. (US Army Photo by TF MED-A Public Affairs, Maj. Charles Patterson, Released)



**TF\_MedA\_20121102\_CdrConf\_003**

Command Sgt. Major Alexis King (left), Col. Koji Nishimura (center), commander and command sergeant major respectively of Task Force Medical-Afghanistan, and Brig. Gen. Ricky D. Gibbs, deputy commander, V Corps (right), receive a series of briefings about the comprehensive health service enterprise across Afghanistan on Nov. 2. The conference assembled leaders to discuss medical topics in order to enhance understanding and build the team of health service leadership across Afghanistan.



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Col. Koji Nishimura (left), commander of Task Force Medical-Afghanistan, Brig. Gen. Ricky D. Gibbs, deputy commander, V Corps (center), and Brig. Gen. Norvell V. Coots (right), US Forces-Afghanistan Surgeon General, receive a series of briefings about the comprehensive health service enterprise across Afghanistan on Nov. 2. The conference assembled leaders to discuss medical topics in order to enhance understanding and build the team of health service leadership across Afghanistan.

