



POWER LINE



ASA(ALT), AMC leaders visit 402nd AFSB

Photos and story by Pamela Proper
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait -

Heidi Shyu, acting assistant secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology, and Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, commanding general, Army Materiel Command, visited several facilities within the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade footprint in Southwest Asia.

Shyu's trip to the region, her first since assuming her position with ASA(ALT), is critical to her ongoing efforts to prioritize the needs of America's military in combat operations.

As the senior procurement and acquisition official, her visit focused on fielding and sustainment of Army weapon systems and platforms, as well as support for contracting operations in theater.

According to a spokesman, she is most interested in gaining firsthand knowledge of Soldier's needs in the areas under her responsibility to enhance Army headquarters' support for combat operations.

The trip included a town hall meeting with the materiel enterprise team. The two leaders fielded questions from the group. Shyu said she wanted to know what the challenges are for those deployed here in support of Operation New Dawn.

"This is my first trip to the region and it has been an eye-opening experience for me. I want to know your concerns so we can look across the board for ways to be efficient in what we do," said Shyu.



Lt. Col. Kenneth Gill, commander, 402nd Army Field Support Battalion-Kuwait briefs Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Heidi Shyu, and Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, commanding general, Army Materiel Command during a tour of the largest motor pool operation in AMC at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait.

Dunwoody also shared comments she has received from the field.

"Fifty percent of the equipment used for the surge in Afghanistan came from Iraq. I know many of you have served two, three, four tours already.

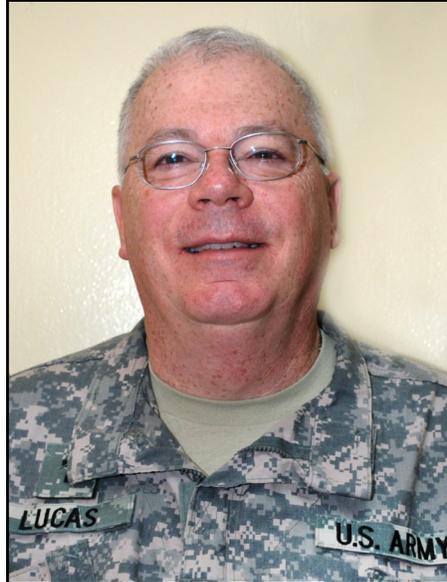
When combatant commanders tell me they never have to worry about logistics that should tell you how well you are doing your jobs here," said Dunwoody.

Chaplain's Corner

Why we remember 9-11

The 9/11 Service of Remembrance at Camp Arifjan was especially poignant. One of the presenters was a firefighter from Indianapolis who volunteered to assist at Ground Zero and arrived two days after the attack, while the smoke was still rolling off the ruins, to do what he could in the attempted rescue of any survivors.

That day led us into two wars. We were initially filled with shock and anger, but that morphed into a resolve that it must not happen again. And that is where I hope we find ourselves today. You see, as much as we want to do something for

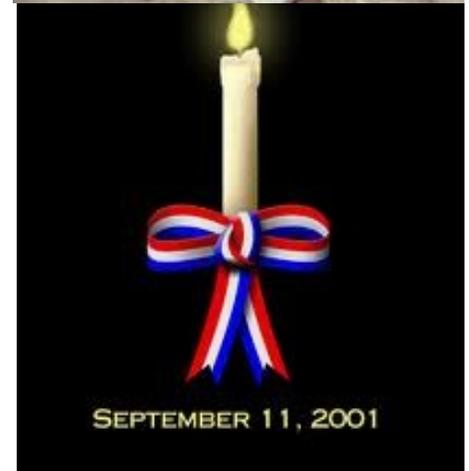


**Chaplain (Col.) Howard Lucas
402nd AFSB**

those who were murdered on 9/11, we are powerless. Every time I see the videos of the plane flying toward the tower, I find myself praying that it will swerve and miss; every time I see the footage of the towers starting to collapse, I wish for the smoke to clear and reveal that they are still standing. But it always turns out the same. Those families, those precious spouses, children, parents, children, brothers and sisters, those friends—their loss is still real, unchanged, and even though it may be less raw, it is still ever present, just beneath the surface.

But we don't serve today in Iraq, Kuwait, Qatar,

Afghanistan, and countless other places because of them. Today we are separated from our families and our homeland on account of two other groups. There is still an element of evil people in the dark memories, but they continue with bright hopes that our children and grandchildren will live in peace.



402nd AFSB

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Power Team conference brings team together

Photo and story by Pamela Proper
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – 402nd Army Field Support Brigade commander, Col. John S. Laskodi, hosted the brigade's first conference under his command Sept. 4.

Conducting the conference has been a priority for Laskodi since assuming command in July. The commander's intent was to bring key members of the brigade together to forge relationships and leave with a fresh perspective on the brigade's mission and how each unit/section fits into it.

"Together, with the team, I aim to set a course for the brigade's future. I want this to be a dialogue among professionals where you ask questions, contribute in a meaningful way, and get to know the other members of the team," Laskodi said.

The drawdown of forces in Iraq takes a concerted effort. The 402nd AFSB is part of a much bigger team that includes the 1st Sustainment Command (Theater). As a direct reporting unit, the 402nd maintains a close partnership with the 1st TSC.

Laskodi invited 1st TSC deputy commanding general, Brig. Gen. David G. Clarkson, to address the brigade.

Clarkson spoke on the importance of teambuilding, good communication and keeping people in the loop as the drawdown ramps up. Clarkson also talked about the larger logistics mission and anticipating the surge in momentum in the



402nd AFSB commander Col. John S. Laskodi welcomed Brig. Gen. David G. Clarkson, deputy commanding general, 1st Sustainment Command (Theater) to a "Power Team" conference at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Brig. Gen. Clarkson briefed the 402nd team on the mission ahead as the two organizations work together on the drawdown in Iraq.

months ahead.

"The 1st TSC is in awe of what the 402nd does," Clarkson said, "I'm glad you're here. We couldn't do this without you."

During the conference, the 402nd commander shared personal insights and said his career in logistics has given him valuable lessons for raising a family of eight children.

"Especially on Saturday mornings. You can imagine the logistics of getting everybody to soccer games and birthday parties on time," Laskodi said.

Laskodi also asked for team input to re-write the brigade vision and mission statements to better reflect the transition and the changing footprint that

will take place with the drawdown in Iraq.

"We are charting a new course for the brigade and our future footprint in Southwest Asia," said Laskodi.

Attendees were divided into four groups and directed to assess the values that best describe the unit and the mission. The values that most frequently made the top of the list were integrity, teamwork, stewardship and service.

In the coming weeks, those values will become the vision and the mission for the 402nd AFSB, Laskodi said.



Power Couples deploy and bond over ammo

Story by Pamela Proper
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait - A deployment to Southwest Asia is not everyone's cup of tea, but for some couples it beats kissing goodbye for six months.

Two married couples in the ammunition business deployed together to keep from being apart. Since they are in the same line of work, they were able to fill important positions for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade.

Suzanne Greenway, 47, and Rod Stingerie, 48, left Oklahoma for a deployment to Baghdad, Iraq, while Lynn, 47, and Donnie, 43, Brock deployed to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, from Rock Island, Ill., where they work for the Joint Munitions Command.

Greenway works for the Defense Ammunition Center and Stingerie works for the U.S. Army Technical Center Explosive Safety, both located at McAlester Army Ammunition Plant in Oklahoma.

The Brocks are newlyweds, married only five months when they deployed and between the two of them they have eight children. They decided to start their new life together with a six-month deployment. Together in Kuwait they manage a steady stream of ammunition coming in from Iraq.

"What better way to really get to know one another? After all, we share a 20-foot living space in our free time, which is very little," said Donnie.

"We are both very passionate about our jobs and believe in what we do. Being newly married, we didn't want to be separated, but wanted to do

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Photo by Pamela Proper

Donnie and Lynn Brock, ammunition managers, examine faded lot numbers on 40mm High Explosive rounds with ammunition inspector Sammie Johnson at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. Rod Stingerie and Suzanne Greenway (below) sort and inspect ammunition turned in at Camp Liberty, Iraq. Both couples deployed to Southwest Asia to be together and to do their part in Operation New Dawn.



Photo by Tony Mussi

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our part and felt we had something to contribute,” Lynn added.

Greenway and Stingerie inspect and sort ammunition that is turned in from units across Iraq. This is the second deployment for Greenway and having her husband by her side has made a difference this time.

“For my first deployment, the worst part was being separated from my family, especially my husband. But given the opportunity to deploy with him has made this tour much easier,” Greenway said.

Stingerie extended a six-month deployment so that his wife could join him in Iraq for a six month tour of duty. He agrees that family separations can be the worst part of a deployment.

“Missing the family and not being around to support your family members in time of crisis, it’s not for everyone. You have to be willing to give and take,” Stingerie said.

Both couples said they get a feeling of satisfaction working together and being a part of the drawdown in Iraq.

“The best part is being able to actually witness the outcome of your decisions. Being this far forward on the battlefield and supporting Warfighters is exhilarating and fulfilling,” said Donnie.



Photo by Pamela Proper

Donnie and Lynn Brock in a CONEX loaded with ammunition that has been delivered to Camp Arifjan, Kuwait from Iraq as part of the drawdown. The couple deployed from Rock Island, Ill. where they both work for the Joint Munitions Command and where this ammunition is managed.



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(top left) Members of the materiel enterprise direct questions to Ms. Shyu and Gen. Dunwoody (top right), at a town hall meeting at Camp Arifjan. (bottom left) Pfc. Ted Lee, aircraft and rotor mechanic at Camp Taji, Iraq explains maintenance of a main rotor spindle for the UH-60 helicopter. (bottom right) Lt. Col. Mark Syvertson, director Tactical Biometric Cell-Iraq, discusses capabilities of the mobile Biometric Identification System for Access (BISA).



TACOM LCMC Commander visits team in Kuwait

Commanding General, TACOM Life Cycle Management Command, Maj. Gen. Kurt J. Stein and Kevin Bliss, team lead for TACOM Asset Recovery Team (TART), discuss retrograde operations at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. During the general's trip to southwest Asia he also visited the MRAP Sustainment Facility in Kuwait.

