

4th Sustainment Brigade takes control

By Spc. John Ortiz
PUBLIC AFFAIRS NCO



Brigade Commander Col. Terence Hermans and acting Brigade Sgt. Major, Rodney Felder, of the 4th Sustainment Brigade, uncased the brigade colors during a Transfer of Authority ceremony from 640th Sustainment Brigade held at the Zone 1 Gym, Camp Arifjan, Kuwait. The 4th Sustainment Brigade will be the major logistical supplier to combat forces within the Central Command area of responsibility. **Photo by Sgt. Angiene L. Myers**

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – The 4th Sustainment Brigade from Fort Hood, Texas took charge of supplying the combat forces in Iraq from the 640th Sus. Bde., headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., in a Transfer of Authority Ceremony.

The 640th Sustainment Brigade, headquartered in Nashville, Tenn., handed the reins of authority for supplying the combat forces in Iraq to the 4th Sus. Bde., from Fort Hood, Texas.

The 4th Sus. Bde., under the command of Col. Terence Hermans, assumed the task as the commander and supplier of combat equipment and personnel to the U.S. Army Central Command (ARCENT), Multi-National Corps-Iraq (MNC-I), and Multi-National Corps-Kuwait (MNC-K) Area of Operations.

The task of a theater-level distribution mission is the first for a modularized sustainment brigade and the 4th Sus. Bde's, second deployment after previously becoming the first fully modular sustainment brigade to support the Multi-National Division-Baghdad (MND-B) AO, two years ago.

The ceremony marks the end of a three-week period in which the 4th Sus. Bde., sat in the passenger seat for a week, transitioned to the driver's seat and took control of theater convoys with guidance from the 640th Sus. Bde.

"This ceremony is a first for a brigade-size element," said Brig. Gen. Kevin A. Leonard, the commanding general for the 1st Sustainment Command (Theater), "it used to be when the new guy came onboard, the old unit would say 'I'm so glad you're here, I'm gone,' but this is a deliberate three-week process because individuals have to think about why they are here, and the strategic importance of Kuwait and [the 4th Sus. Bde.,] is going to take over the strategic mission."

"The best thing for this ceremony is to provide a venue to thank those involved for doing a successful mission," said Leonard.



Our Colonel's Word



Col. Terence Hermans
4th Sustainment Brigade Commander

The Fort Hood 'Wranglers' have all arrived safely and hit the ground running.

In the short time since we have been here, we have:

- Completed RIP/TOA with the 640th Sustainment Brigade
- Received into our formation –

The 28th Transportation Battalion from Manheim, Germany.

The 1-126 Cavalry Squadron and 1-148 Infantry Battalion from Michigan and Ohio.

-Stood up Task Force Wrangler Medic – one of the many tasks is to provide 24/7 medical aid for our Soldiers and Airmen.

The 'Wrangler' Brigade consists of 6 Battalions with over 4700 Soldiers and Airmen performing a wide range of logistics operations.

The facilities on Camp Arifjan are outstanding. The dining facility, gym, PX, and other MWR facilities are within walking distance for our Soldiers when

they get a well deserved break from daily operations.

You should be proud of your 'Wranglers,' they are all great Americans, serving with pride and distinction.

It is the Families who are the true backbone of our organization. By you taking care of business on the home front, your loved ones can focus on the war front.

'JUST GET IT DONE'



The WRANGLER

"The Wrangler" is authorized for publication by the 4th Sustainment Brigade for any interested personnel. The contents of "The Wrangler" are unofficial and are not to be considered the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, including the Department of Defense or Operation Iraqi Freedom.

"The Wrangler" is an Army-funded newspaper in accordance with Army Regulation 360-1.

"The Wrangler" is published twice a month by the 4th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs Office.

The Public Affairs Office is at 4th Sustainment Brigade, APO AE 09366.

4th Sustainment Brigade Commander
Col. Terence Hermans

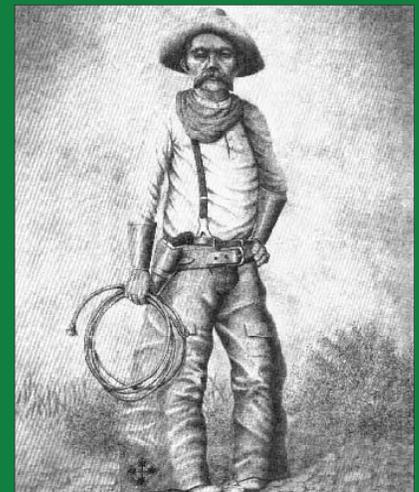
4th Sustainment Brigade Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. Rodney Felder

Chief, Public Affairs
Sgt. 1st Class Erick Ritterby

Public Affairs NCO/ Editor
Spc. John Ortiz

Multimedia NCO/ Layout & Graphics
Sgt. Angiene L. Myers

Public Affairs Specialist/ Sports Writer
PV2 James Hemingway



The CSM Remarks



SGM Rodney Felder
Acting Brigade Sergeant Major

First, let me say it is indeed an honor and privilege to be serving as the 4th Sustainment Brigade’s Senior Enlisted Advisor. I also have the unique opportunity to serve as the Brigade Operations Sergeant Major. That coupled with the SEA job gives me a ‘front row’ access to understanding the missions of every battalion, their capabilities, and their Soldiers. It allows me to do what senior enlisted are charged to do – **Give the Force Energy.**

Providing energy to a force that’s fully engaged is not a difficult challenge. When Soldiers are focused on the mission, when they

know their Leaders have their best interest in mind, they will always rise to the occasion. In every mission we execute north of the border, the common denominator is the Soldier. In some cases, that Soldier is an Airman. In order for the Soldier north of the border to execute their mission, everyone else must be involved. The Soldier in the maintenance bay, the intel-analyst, the planner, and the Battle Captain all play a critical role. There are many others, all part of a combined interdependent effort whose single focus must be – **Executing the Distribution Fight.**

When our formation seems stressed, when our Soldiers seem tired or hurting from a catastrophic event, Leaders must **Give Soldiers Energy.** This is a tough business; we have to arm our formation with the latest *Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures*, the best maintenance program and the latest intelligence reports. When a convoy rolls, our Soldiers need to believe that they have the total support of the 4,000-plus formation they leave behind.

I am excited about the coming year. We will test ourselves, our system and our processes. We will measure twice and cut once. We will get better everyday, there is too much

at stake, too many units depending on us.

I want to take this opportunity to recognize the Soldiers we currently have who are deployed in Iraq. They are representing America and the Army well. They are making a difference and they are making their Families proud.

To the units who depart in the next couple of weeks – thank you for your service, specifically the E 429th, your loss is our loss. Know that our Fallen Hero will not be forgotten. The leaders and Soldiers of the Wrangler Brigade will never lose sight of Ssg Jesse Ault’s sacrifice, we will **Get Better Everyday**, and we will **Give the Force Energy.**

Finally, when you see Wranglers not having a Wrangler day, **Give them Energy**, they may just need a word of encouragement. When you see Wranglers in the motorpools working on Wrangler Equipment, **Give them Energy**, it may be as simple as a bottle of water. When you see Wranglers doing Wrangler PT, at a convoy brief, at a rock drill or at their workstation, **GIVE THEM ENERGY.**

I look forward to serving with you.

WRANGLER 7, Out.

Content

* 4th Sustainment Brigade Takes Control	Front Page	* Our Colonel’s Words	2
* 21 Soldiers Swear In As U.S. Citizens	4	* CSM Remarks	3
* Soldier Saves Life Of National	6	* Medic’s Advice	5
* Sports Highlights	6	* Boots On Ground (Photos)	7
* Legal Pointers	8	* Birthday “Shout Out”	9

21 Soldiers Swear In As U.S. Citizens

By Sgt. Angiene L. Myers
4TH SUSTAINMENT BRIGADE



Brigade commander Col. Terence Hermans and acting brigade Sgt. Major Rodney Felder, of the 4th Sustainment Brigade, uncased the brigade colors during a Transfer of Authority ceremony from 640th Sustainment Brigade held at the Zone 1 Gym, here. The 4th Sustainment Brigade will be the major logistical supplier to combat forces within the Central Command area of responsibility. *Photo by Spc. John Ortiz*

CAMP AIRIFJAN, Kuwait – 62 service members from 25 different countries representing three different branches of the U.S. military participated in the naturalization ceremony 5 April.

“These 62 individuals took an oath and began a journey of honorable service to our country, which is to become their country,” said Lt. Gen. James J. Lovelace, the U.S. Army Central Command commanding general.

“These service members are about to become equal members of the American family,” he said.

Among the many swearing in, were 21 Soldiers from the 1-160th Infantry Battalion, a National Guard unit based out of Inglewood, Calif.

Like the rest of the Soldiers, these individuals inspired to become a citizen of the country that they pledged to protect when they enlisted in the National Guard.

“My inspiration for becoming a citizen is a [way] to continue serving my community and my nation,” said Jeremiah Flores, an Infantryman with the 1-160th.

Flores is the first person in his family to become a U.S. citizen and knows first hand about the long process of naturalization that people not in the military would have to go through.

“My [parents] worked hard to be legal residents and are still working to become citizens,” said Flores.

Applicants applying for citizenship of the United States have to wait at least 10 years, but as a member of a military service, you can apply as soon as your enlistment began.

“My naturalization took almost five months and the military helped a lot, I didn’t have to worry about processing fees and I had assistance during the whole process,” said Pedro Pacheco-Rosales, a

Combat Medic with the 1-160th.

“I have emotions that I can’t describe, being apart of a great nation, a nation that has helped my family, a nation that gives hope and makes dreams come true without limitations,” said Pacheco-Rosales.

During the ceremony, a promise was made to support and defend the Constitution and laws of the United States of America against all enemies, foreign and domestic, as a Soldier, this promise is not far from the oath that was taken as recruits when they enlisted in the Army.

“It is really a commitment that all 62 are about to make,” said Lovelace, “it’s a commitment they made long ago when they joined the military and pledged allegiance to the Constitution of the United States.”

“The treasure of freedom is great,” he said, “because we as service members serve in countries that don’t have the liberty that we as Americans do.”

Medic's Advice

Working In A Hot Environment

By Sgt. Frederick M. Waterhouse Jr.
MEDICAL LOGISTICAL NCOIC

The weather is warming up and Summer is around the corner! Here in Kuwait, it is about to get real hot! Being uncomfortable is not the major problem with working in high temperatures. Workers who are suddenly exposed to working in a hot environment face additional and generally avoidable hazards to their safety and health.

Certain safety problems are common to hot environments. Heat tends to promote accidents due to the slipperiness of sweaty palms, dizziness, or the fogging of safety glasses. Excessive exposure to a hot work environment can bring about a variety of heat-induced disorders like heat stroke, heat exhaustion, heat cramps, and heat rash.

One of the best ways to reduce heat stress on workers is to minimize heat in the workplace. Humans are, to a large

extent, capable of adjusting to the heat. This adjustment to heat, under normal circumstances, usually takes about 5 to 7 days, during which time the body will undergo a series of changes that will make continued exposure to heat more endurable.

In the course of a day's work in the heat, a worker may produce as much as 2 to 3 gallons of sweat. Because so many heat disorders involve excessive dehydration of the body, it is essential that water intake during the workday be about equal to the amount of sweat produced. Most workers exposed to hot conditions drink less fluids than needed because of an insufficient thirst drive. A worker, therefore, should not depend on thirst to signal when and how much to drink. Instead, the worker should drink 5 to 7 ounces of fluids every 15 to 20 minutes to replenish the necessary fluids in

the body. There is no optimum temperature of drinking water, but most people tend not to drink warm or very cold fluids as readily as they will cool ones. Whatever the temperature of the water, it must be palatable and readily available to the worker.

The key to preventing excessive heat stress is educating the employer and worker on the hazards of working in heat and the benefits of implementing proper controls and work practices. The employer should establish a program designed to acclimatize workers who must be exposed to hot environments and provide necessary work-rest cycles and water to minimize heat stress. When feasible, the most stressful tasks should be performed during the cooler parts of the day (early morning or at night). Rest periods should be extended to alleviate the increase in the body heat load.



TOA Continued from Page 1

"There really is a debt owed to each and every one of you that can never be paid, as one Soldier to another, thank you for your service and for being a part of the 'First Team.'"

"The 640th Sus. Bde., leaves a great legacy from a collective effort," he said, "[the unit] moved more gallons of fuel each day than the famed Red Ball Express did in over a month, and accomplished the mission in which every convoy was a movement to contact, with some missions lasting in excess of 21 days."

"The 640th Sus. Bde., has accomplished amazing things given the time frame of their deployment," said Leonard, "the support given to the war effort has been the real measure of success with no mission ever being stopped or even paused due to logistics."

"There are several things that I can say to the 4th Sus. Bde.," said Col. Brett Nila, the 640th Sus. Bde., commander, "be flexible, things change at a moment's notice, ask a lot of questions, never take anything for granted, and take care of the individuals who are doing the hard work."

"Upon arrival into theater, the 640th Sus. Bde., welcomed and took care of us, and the knowledge that was accumulated over the year was transferred over to [the 4th Sus. Bde.,]," said Col. Terrence Hermans, the 4th Sus. Bde., commander,

"As we take the reins today, we will build on their success and work," said Hermans, "we will endeavor to take the operation to the next level of excellence and look forward to a legacy that builds on what the 640th Sus. Bde., has done and beginning a new chapter in the Kuwait area of operations and joining the 'First Team.'"

SOLDIER SAVES LIFE OF NATIONAL

By Capt. Adam J. Fick
1st Battalion, 160th Infantry



CAMP VIRGINIA, Kuwait – Staff Sgt. Victor A. Zavalza, a member of 1st Battalion, 160th Infantry Regiment of the California National Guard based out of Inglewood, Calif., has been nominated for the Soldier’s Medal for bravery and actions accomplished in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

On Dec. 29, 2007, Zavalza, a convoy commander, was on a routine mission escorting a fuel convoy, when a fuel tanker was involved in an accident. This accident led to a rollover that initiated a series of events.

The rollover caused the truck to rest on its driver’s side, trapping the driver, a third-country national, and initiated a fuel leak.

Zavalza, a member of Alpha Company, and his Soldiers were first on scene. Zavalza, quickly assessed the situation and took immediate action to rescue the truck driver.

He instructed his Soldiers to secure a fire extinguisher and follow him.

As they neared the crash site, the area between the cab and fuel tanker of the rollover

truck engulfed in flames and exploded.

Unfazed by the explosion and without regard for his personal safety, Zavalza searched the cab of the truck while his gunner suppressed the flames with a fire extinguisher.

Zavalza found the driver conscious but trapped inside. He single-handedly extracted the driver from the burning vehicle and carried the person to safety.

Immediately after carrying the person to safety, the cab was completely engulfed in flames.

Due to his quick actions and unwavering commitment to the mission and personal courage, Zavalza undoubtedly saved the life of the driver, and is nominated for the highest award given for non-combat heroism.

Hemingway’s Sports Highlights

By PV2 James Hemingway
PUBLIC AFFAIRS SPECIALIST

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait— The 2008 softball season is underway and the Wolfpack Soldiers from the Brigade Troops Battalion, 4th Sustainment Brigade have dashed off to a good start in their season.

The Wolfpack’s record is 2-1, the team was shaky in the second game that they lost, but the third game was a great one. The Wolfpack pummeled the 109th Transportation Company softball team 19-8, our bats were mighty and our feet were swift. Individuals played well, but as a team, played even better.

The wolfpack’s next game is on April 16 at 2000 at the Zone 1 softball field against EFM-K-0.

The Wolfpack will be ready for our next game. “We continue to see people

outside of the work environment which creates camaraderie, allows fun, and builds team work”, said 1st Sgt, John Simmons Jr., of the Headquarters Headquarters Company, and pitcher for the team, “this is only a game and it should be fun.”

“We are only three games into the season and this is shaping up to be the best season ever,” he said. The team hopes to do well this season; it will be hard, but fun in the long run. “Individual players should try their best, have fun, and try to carry that into the work environment, win or lose,” said Simmons.

The Wolfpack hopes to win the rest of the games in

the season, with players working as a team, everything will fall into place.

“Our team has a lot of hidden talent and it is starting to show on the field,” said Spc. Darrie McNabb with HHC.



CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait-- Staff Sgt. Coger runs to first base after hitting the softball to the outfield during the 19-8 win over 109th transportation company at the Zone 1 softball field.
Photo by Spc. Lenise Pilcher

Boots On Ground



CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait -- Battlion commander Lt. Col. Kevin Stevens and Command Sgt. Major C.W. Mitchell Jr., of the 4th Sustainment Brigade, Brigade Troops Battalion uncased their colors during the Transfer of Authority ceremony held at the Zone 1 Gym, 5 April. **Photo by Sgt. Angiene L. Myers**



CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait-- 1st Sergeant John Simmons Jr. stands tall with his Soldiers during the Patch Ceremony on 11 April. This is the first deployment for all the Soldier's participating in the ceremony. **Photo by PV2 James Hemingway**

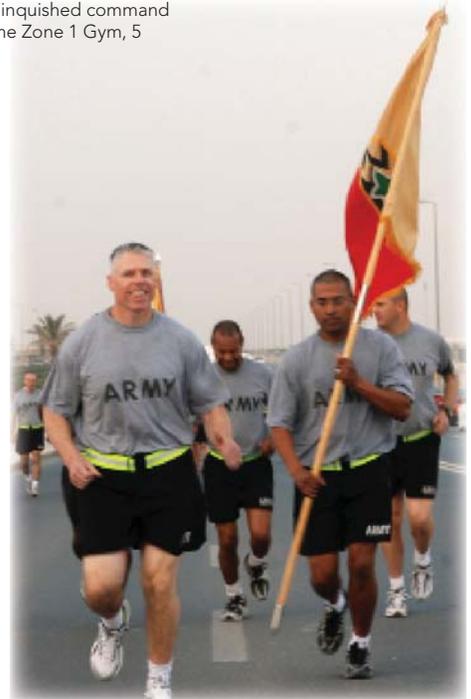


CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait -- Soldiers of the 4th Sustainment Brigade looked on during a Transfer of Authority ceremony, where 640th Sustainment Brigade relinquished command to 4th Sustainment Brigade held at the Zone 1 Gym, 5 April. **Photo by Sgt. Angiene L. Myers**

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait-- Cpt. Phoebe Price HHC, BTB, 4th Sustainment Brigade company commander placed a combat patch on a Soldiers arm during a Patch Ceremony on 11 April. This is the first deployment for all the Soldier's participating in the ceremony. **Photo by PV2 James Hemingway**



CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait-- CSM Clyde Mitchell, Brigade Troops Battalion Command Sergeant Major placed the unit's patch on PV2 Hemingway's shoulder during the Patch Ceremony 11 April. This is the first deployment that Hemingway has participated . **Photo by Sgt. Angiene L. Myers**



Col. Terence Hermans, the 4th Sustainment Brigade Commander leads the Wranglers along with Spc. Eliborio Mata, the guidon bearer, a human resource specialist with the brigade S-1 section. **Photo by Spc. John Ortiz**

Legal Pointers

The Nuts & Bolts of Filing a Personnel Claim

The Personnel Claims Act (PCA) is a means that allows Soldiers to file a claim against the Army for damaged and lost personal property.

The PCA allows Soldiers to file a claim for losses that are 'incident to service,' examples of losses incident to service include Household Goods Moves, Tent Fires, Lost Laundry, and Barracks Theft.

Situations Covered:

If the Army was responsible for shipping your goods, and they were lost due to the shipment, you may file a claim.

If you are provided a place to stay, and the loss results from your living in the billets, like a tent fire or a theft, you may file a claim, though, a theft is only covered if the property was properly secured.

If the Army is responsible for providing a service, like laundry and your personal items are damaged, you may file a claim, though Soldiers should go through regular supply channels at the company level for items that were issued.

Items Covered:

The regulation covering the PCA, limits the dollar amount compensable. The limits are applied by category of item and limits quantities and types of items for claims. The standard applied is what is reasonable to possess. It is not reasonable to possess a mink coat or other luxury items in a deployed

environment, and a claim for such would be denied. This does not mean that you are prohibited from possessing such items. It simply means that the government will not bear the burden of the loss.

If you choose to have large quantities of goods or luxury items, look into private insurance for the items. Most home owner's and renter's insurance policies cover losses, regardless of the location of the item. This is particularly a good idea for Soldiers that have expensive jewelry and large electronic/entertainment goods.

What You'll Need:

The more information you provide, the more favorable an outcome for you. Proof of ownership and existence of the item lost are the biggest factors. In a deployed environment, we are sensitive to the fact that you may not have certain forms of proof. However, we still expect you to submit as much as possible.

Things to Include:

- Receipts
- Credit Card Statements
- Detailed description of the item. "Backpack" vs. "Large black Bug-Out Backpack purchased at PX".
- A print out from a catalog or online source
- Pictures of the item. If your items are lost because of a fire, PLEASE take photos of the damage prior to

the clean up.

- Memorandum from your Commander

In addition, Soldiers have up to two years to file a claim. Take your time, gather the appropriate documents and then file your claim.

The Process:

Pick up a packet from the servicing claims office. Complete all forms and include the supporting documents and return the completed packet to the claims office. The claims office will evaluate your claim and process it in accordance with regulations. Once a claim has been approved, it will be forwarded to finance for payment. An electronic funds transfer will be sent to the same bank account as your military pay. Once submitted, your claim should be processed and paid in about two weeks.

Fraudulent Claims:

The claims office is here to support our Soldiers and compensate for losses. However, all claims will be investigated and individuals should file only accurate and honest claims to avoid filing a false claim. A false claim will result not only in your not receiving funds, but may result in UCMJ action.

To find out more or to file a claim contact the Legal Assistance located at Building 1490, DSN: 430-5258.

Submissions

The Wrangler wants to hear from you

Do you want to highlight someone or something going on in your unit or section? Have a photo that you want posted? Please send all submissions via email to Sgt. Myers at angienne.l.myers@kuwait.swa.army.mil. In the body of the email, please include the following: Full Name, Rank, Unit and Duty Position. Attach your submission as a Word Document and limit to 300 words. Submissions subjected to edits. For photo submission, please include a cutline describing the photo (Who, What, When, Where and Why).

Contact Sgt. Myers for more information.



April Birthday "Shout Outs" for BTB, 4th SB

SGT Richardson, Fawna	1 April	SPC Bryant, Roger	16 April
PFC Camacho-Velazquez	2 April	PFC Thomas, Charles	17 April
CPT Lisell, Luke	2 April	CW2 Sankey, Paul	18 April
CPT Smith, Mary	2 April	SFC Jackson, Lisa	19 April
SSG Smith, LaMarsha	3 April	MAJ Yerkic, Michael	20 April
CW4 Cotton, Tane	4 April	SPC Yadon, Dustin	21 April
MAJ McGee, Daniel	4 April	PFC Hendricks, Max	21 April
CPT Wilson, Bahaiz	6 April	SGT Cox, Kevin	23 April
PFC Earley, John	8 April	SGT Christian, Ronald	26 April
CPT Crumbey, Anthony	10 April	SSG Garcia-Torres, Marcelino	26 April
SPC Hamilton, Aston	14 April	SFC Jones, Marcus	28 April
SGT Sebree, Jamerius	15 April	PV2 McIntyre, Oneesha	28 April
SGT Augustine, Roner	16 April	SSG Rupe, Linda	28 April