402nd Army Field Support Brigade, Joint Base Balad, Iraq

OUTPOST

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402nd AFSB DA civilian employee is CEO of international foundation

By Galen Putnam
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq - In 2007, a Soldier in Talil came up with a simple idea to foster relations between the United States military and Iraq - provide desperately needed engineering textbooks to a local Iraqi university.

Working through connections with his alma mater, Oregon State University, then-Captain Joshua Mater, who was a Civil Affairs officer with the 98th Civil Affairs Battalion, coordinated a book donation that netted the Thi Qar University School of Engineering $30,000 in new engineering textbooks from OSU.

Not surprising for a guy who, as an undergraduate, organized an alumni fundraiser to benefit the Military Science Scholarship Endowment Fund for future cadets at OSU and Western Oregon University, raising more than $2,000.

What is surprising, however, is that Mater, now the deputy plans officer for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, at Joint Base Balad, Iraq, is the co-founder and CEO of an influential international non-profit organization.

In 2008, Mater and fellow Soldier Jesus Quispe, who coincidentally is the Redistribution Property Assistance Team logistics management specialist for 2nd Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade at JBB, co-founded the Michael Scott Mater Foundation in honor of Josh's Father who passed away in 2002 after battling cancer. The MSMF seeks to create opportunities for individuals and communities by providing financial resources, work-force training, cross cultural exchanges and sustainable solutions to real world challenges. Quispe serves as the foundation's chief operating officer.

"The decision to start MSMF wasn't an easy one," Mater said. "Building an organization from scratch takes hard work and

Mater — Continued on Page 10

Courtesy photo

Iraqi Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research Dr. Abud Theyab Alajeely, presents Josh Mater, co-founder and CEO of the Michael Scott Mater Foundation, with a Ministry Seal of Appreciation as Catherine Mater, Director of Sustainability for the Oregon State University College of Engineering looks on. Josh Mater is the deputy plans officer for the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, at Joint Base Balad, Iraq. Catherine Mater is Josh's mother.

Power 6 Perspective

The 402nd AFSB: What it is, what we do

The 402nd Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) is the single face to the field for Army Materiel Command (AMC) sustainment logistics forming a Materiel Enterprise in Iraq, Kuwait, and Qatar that integrates acquisition, logistics, and technology to protect, equip, and sustain the Warfighter. The 402nd AFSB works hand-in-hand with United States Forces – Iraq, the 103rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and the 1st Theater Support Command (TSC) to provide unparalleled operational and strategic support to the Warfighter.

The 402nd AFSB is headquartered at Joint Base Balad, Iraq and is comprised of more than 8,000 military, Department of the Army Civilians, and contractors assigned to four battalions. Each of the brigade's four battalions is

Col. Lawrence W. Fuller

assigned a unique functional mission ranging from operational sustainment of equipment to management of Army Pre-positioned Stock commodities.

The 402nd AFSB (one of seven AFSBs assigned to the Army Sustainment Command, a two-star command headquartered at Rock Island Arsenal, Ill.) is staffed and equipped to accomplish a broad range of missions. The unit's large workforce is capable of performing depot-level maintenance and direct liaison with Life Cycle Management Commands. The 402nd AFSB's vast industrial sites in Iraq, Kuwait, and Qatar provide unprecedented capacity for sustainment maintenance and logistical support.

The 402nd AFSB core mission of sustainment logistics is absolutely vital as the Responsible Drawdown of Forces (RDoF) continues in Iraq. The Army Materiel Command, and the Army Sustainment Command, will continue to resource the 402nd AFSB so it can provide unequalled Warfighter access to AMC's Materiel Enterprise.

As the RDoF in Iraq continues, the 402nd ASFB will evolve to provide mission-focused and condition-based sustainment to support to United States Forces - Iraq, US Army and Central Command units. The 402nd AFSB will transform to provide sustainment commensurate to the troop strength and equipment density levels within Iraq. As the RDoF reaches its conclusion, the 402nd AFSB subordinate battalions in Iraq will be ready to relocate, restructure, or deactivate. The Army Prepositioned Stocks battalions in Kuwait and Qatar will continue to provide world-class support to ARCENT (3rd Army) and the 1st TSC.

The non-doctrinal Redistribution Property Assistance Team (RPAT) and Mobile RPAT, which so effectively assisted bringing property into theater for the Iraq surge, are now the hub for all equipment retrograded out of Iraq. The Soldiers, Civilians, and Contractors assigned to the 402nd AFSB will carry out the myriad tasks associated with the RDoF in Iraq.

The 402nd AFSB will accomplish these tasks efficiently and effectively; enabling high velocity, acute visibility, and required accountability throughout the entire retrograde process.

Power 6 Out!

LAWRENCE W. FULLER
COL, LG
Commanding

402nd AFSB

OUTPOST

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Chaplain's Corner

The power of the spoken word

By Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Paul E. Dirksmeyer
402nd Army Field Support Brigade

It was at Camp Buehring Kuwait, sometime during 2003, that I was standing in a line leading to a tent which was used as at a makeshift MWR phone/internet center.

As I stood in line I was complaining to some specialist behind me about having to wait in line, outside, in the hot sun, for somewhere between 30-45 minutes just to be able to make a phone call back home. This specialist, a Soldier with the 3rd Infantry Division, had apparently just returned with his unit from having taken Baghdad some months prior and was going home in a few weeks. He was standing in line to call his wife to tell her when he would be returning to her. This was the first opportunity he had to call her in several months. He also told me, in a very kind and respectful way, that several months ago before he and his unit crossed the border into Iraq he had stood in line on this same spot for nearly eight hours just to have the chance for a 5-minute phone call in order to "hear his wife's sweet voice" before he and his unit had to move out.

After hearing this young soldier's story I felt, quite justifiably, like a complete horse's ass. By the graciousness of the Holy Spirit I learned something quite valuable that day: *the incredible power of the spoken word.* Imagine, eight hours of standing in line in the sun just for a 5-minute phone call with his wife. For him it was well worth it, time well spent, to be able to "reach out and touch" the one he loved during one of the most frightening times of his life. I have no doubt that this 5-minute phone call was pure gold for his wife as well, giving her the opportunity to be reassured by her husband and to reassure him before he literally went off to do battle. They could have written the same words to each other, and I'm sure they did, many times, but it was no substitute for hearing the words directly from each other. I have no idea what they said during their 5-minute conversation that day, but I have no doubt they used their short phone time to lovingly encourage each other. Such is the power of the spoken word.

Dirksmeyer

If human words can have such a lasting effect on us, imagine how much more so with God's word. In Isaiah God says:

"As the rain and the snow come down from heaven and do not return to it
without watering the earth and making it bud and flourish so that it yields
seed for the sower and bread for the eater, so is my word that goes out from
my mouth; it will not return to me empty but will accomplish what I desire and
achieve the purpose for which I sent it." (Isaiah 55:10-11)

Indeed, in the first chapter of Genesis God merely spoke ("Let there be …"), and something marvelous happened — life was given and creation came to be. Such is the power of God's spoken word.

As human beings, God has bestowed upon us the gift of speech and the ability to use the power of the spoken word. And with this ability God has granted us the choice to either use our words to give life to someone or to destroy someone. You want an example? Consider how your words affect your closest relationships and you will realize that your words have a definite creative force to build them up and give them "life," or to tear them down and destroy them.

The wounds incurred through mental and emotional abuse are some of the most horrific and slowest to heal, causing some of the most protracted damage a human being can ever experience. The same holds true for the words we use with our co-workers and those we supervise — to either use encouraging words to build them up and give them "life," or harshly criticize them and invariably tear them down.

Such is the power of our words. As God said of his word in Isaiah, the same applies to us: *our words do not return to us empty.*

God has bestowed upon us the gift of language to be used to nurture and enhance our relationships — in our relationship with God through the words of prayer, and in our relationships with each other through words of encouragement and love.

Let us never underestimate the power of our words.

1/402nd AFSB welcomes new commander

By Galen Putnam
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

The 1st Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, welcomed a new commander during a change of command ceremony at the MWR-East Recreation Center on Joint Base Balad, Iraq July 21.

Lt. Col. Daniel J. Moroney assumed command from Lt. Col. Paul R. Fiscus whose next assignment will be at Headquarters, Department of the Army, Deputy Chief of Staff, G-3/5/7 Force Management, Organizational Integration Division, Maneuver Sustainment Branch. Moroney arrives from Arlington, Va., where he served as the executive officer of the US Army Warrior Transition Command.

The ceremony featured a live, three-way satellite hook-up to Fort Belvoir, Va., and Fort Bragg, N.C., so family members, friends, and associates could participate in the ceremony interactively. At JBB, Angela Glenn from 1st Bn., 402nd AFSB Command Group symbolically presented Nancy Fiscus with a single red rose, while Mr. Chris Fiscus presented her with a bouquet of red roses at Fort Belvoir. Tina Latin symbolically presented a single yellow rose to Romi Moroney as she received a bouquet of yellow rose buds from Maj. Tom Schumacher at Fort Bragg.

In addition, at Fort Belvoir, Brig. Gen. John Wharton, chief of staff, Army Materiel Command, presented Mrs. Fiscus with the Catherine Greene Award for "her invaluable contributions toward improving the quality of life for the Soldiers, DA Civilians, and contractors of the 1st Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade from July 2009 through July 2010."

Col. Lawrence W. Fuller, commander of the 402nd AFSB, presided over the ceremony, and praised Fiscus for his skills and many accomplishments.

"Paul commanded the largest battalion in Iraq with over 3,500 Soldiers, DA Civilians and contractors and he did so with the skill and seasoning of a brigade commander," Fuller said. "Paul is a forward thinking, mission-focused leader who stayed engaged with the brigade combat teams he supported while ensuring that his interaction with the USF-I staff was synched to execute sustainment level maintenance, on time and within budget. He accomplished all this while drawing down AMC's industrial footprint throughout Iraq in accordance with USF-I guidance. He reduced the battalion personnel strength by 897, a reduction of over 25 percent in a six month period. A remarkable accomplishment!"

Galen Putnam

Lt. Col. Daniel J. Moroney, incoming commander, receives the unit's colors from Col. Lawrence W. Fuller, commander of the 402nd AFSB, during the 1st Battalion, 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, change of command ceremony at Joint Base Balad July 21.

Fuller welcomed Moroney, and challenged him to be a driving force.

"We welcome Lieutenant Colonel Dan Moroney to the AMC family. … Dan comes with a solid reputation for customer focused support and an intense desire to provide the very best to Soldiers," Fuller said. "I challenge you to push your battalion to its limits to ensure we provide [that] support on time and on target. You have a tough job ahead, but I have complete confidence that you will continue to raise the bar and take your unit to the next level."

The mission of the 1st Bn., 402nd AFSB, is to provide one-stop single integration fielding for new technology systems, sustainment maintenance, and armoring to the United States Forces – Iraq Area of Operations. Provide centralized Command and Control for AMC Life Cycle Management Command's forward repair activities, new equipment fielding, and logistics sustainment.

USETTI ROC Drill paves way to future

Program to transfer more than 52,000 items to Government of Iraq

By Galen Putnam
402nd AFSB Public Affairs

TAJI NATIONAL MAINTAINENCE DEPOT, Iraq – More than 50 personnel from 10 organizations gathered here for a United States Equipment Transfer to Iraq Rehearsal of Concept Drill hosted by the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade July 8.

The ROC Drill, also beamed to remote locations via video-conferencing, was conducted to discuss equipment transfer processes and streamline coordination among the many key players involved in the USETTI mission.

United States Forces – Iraq executes the USETTI Program within the Iraq Theater of Operations by transferring equipment deemed Excess Defense Articles to the Government of Iraq in order to facilitate the Responsible Drawdown of Forces, while enabling the Iraqi Security Forces to reach their Minimum Essential Capability.

The USETTI Program concept of operations was briefed by Josh Mater, deputy Plans officer, 402nd AFSB. Other topics included the transfer of non-expendable "white" and "green" equipment as well as expendable/durable items, and Sister Service Coordination.

Also discussed were equipment transfer authorities such as Foreign Excess Personal Property; Section 516 of the Foreign Assistance Act of 1961; and Section 1234 of the National Defense Acquisition Act.

"The USETTI mission is truly unique because it involves so many entities like the Department of State, the DoD, USF-I, and others. That's why coordination is so important," Mater said. "The purpose and emphasis of today's meeting was to go over the equipment transfer and accountability processes for each type of equipment that is going to be transferred to the Government of Iraq. We also wanted to ensure that everyone involved understands the salient details that go into each one of these processes."

Galen Putnam

Maj. Darcy Schnack, support operations officer, 2nd Battalion, 402nd AFSB, briefs the battalion's mission during the United States Equipment Transfer to Iraq Rehearsal of Concept Drill hosted by the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade at Taji National Maintenance Depot July 8.

Mater went on to explain the 402nd AFSB's role in the USETTI mission.

"The 402nd is really the nebulous for this entire mission," he said. "Regardless of where the equipment is originating from, virtually all of it touches our operations here at some point."

Building 500, operated by 2nd Bn., 402nd AFSB at Taji National Maintenance Depot, is the focal point of the USETTI operation. It is here that vehicles and other equipment such as computers and military gear are processed for turnover to the Government of Iraq. More than 52,000 pieces rolling and non-rolling stock items will be handled by the facility in support of the USETTI mission. A huge undertaking with international implications, USETTI reaches from the highest-levels of government, right down into the weeds.

"I am responsible for the external operations of the battalion," said Maj. Darcy Schnack, support operations officer, 2nd Battalion, 402nd AFSB. "There is an aspect of USETTI that concentrates on internal operations, and involves our S3 (Plans and Operations), and the 2nd Battalion Theater Property Book handles the accountability aspect. As the support operations officer, I kind of roll it all up. There is a lot of involvement from many players from 2nd Battalion."

According to Schnack, the ROC Drill was a valuable forum.

"We've had many meetings, and the mission has really grown," she said. "We're now getting to execution phase so it was useful bringing all of the players together today to layout the common operation picture of how we'll do business. Of course there are still areas we need to resolve, but this provided the opportunity to bring them to light and discuss the way ahead. It is important for us to help the Iraqis improve their operating capabilities, and that is why this ROC Drill was held."

Meet the new 402nd AFSB command sergeant major

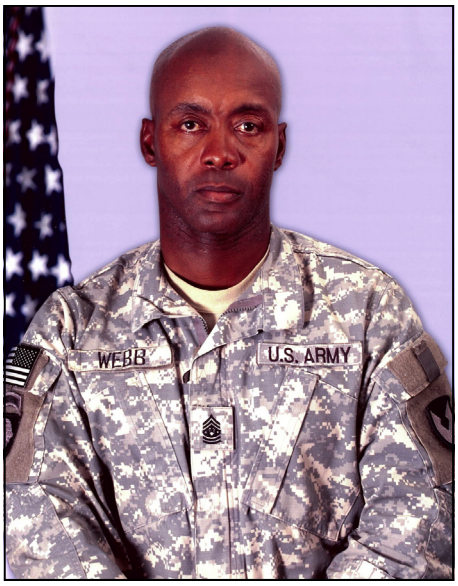
CSM Webb arrives from 403rd AFSB in Korea

Command Sergeant Major Joel F. Webb serves as Command Sergeant Major of the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, Army Sustainment Command, a position he has held since July 5, 2010.

Command Sergeant Major Webb came to the 402nd AFSB from Camp Henry, Daegu, Republic of Korea, where he served as Command Sergeant Major of the 403rd Army Field Support Brigade, Army Sustainment Command, since July 2007.

He entered the United States Army on Aug. 18, 1980. After completing Basic Training at Fort Jackson, South Carolina, he was awarded the Outstanding Male High Physical Fitness Award for achieving the top Army Physical Fitness Test score in his Brigade.

He then attended the Subsistence Supply Specialist Course (76X) at Fort Lee, Virginia. His assignments include: B Company, 426th Supply & Service Co., Fort Campbell, Kentucky from Nov. 1980 to Nov. 1981; A Co., 3rd Supply and Transportation Battalion, Wurzburg, Germany from Dec. 1981 to Aug 1983; Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 426th Supply and Transportation Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky from Sept. 1983 to Oct. 1984; HHC VII Corps, Stuttgart, Germany from Nov. 1984 to June 1986; A Co., Madigan Army Medical Center, Fort Lewis, Washington from July 1986 to March 1988; A Co., 193rd Supply and Transportation Battalion, Fort Clayton, Panama from April 1988 to Nov. 1989; B Co., 426th Supply and Transportation Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky from Dec. 1989 to June 1992; 29th Area Support Group, Kaiserslautern, Germany from Aug. 1992 to Aug. 1994; Headquarters and A Co, 2nd Forward Support Battalion, Camp Hovey, Korea from Oct. 1994 to Aug. 1995; HHC 24th Corps Support Group, Fort Stewart, Georgia from Sept. 1995 to Oct. 1996; HQ 396th /223rd Heavy Equipment Transporter Co., Fort Stewart, Georgia from Nov. 1996 to Feb. 1999; A Co, 702nd Main Support Battalion, Camp Nimble, Korea from Feb. 1999 to Feb. 2000; A Co, U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy from March 2000 to May 2001; HHC Division Support Command, Fort Campbell, Kentucky from June 2001 to June 2004; HQ 106th Trans. Bn., Fort Campbell, Kentucky from July 2004 to March 2005; HQ 801st Brigade Support Battalion, Fort Campbell, Kentucky from July 2005 to July 2007.



Command Sgt. Maj. Joel F. Webb

His military and civilian education include: the Basic Leadership Course, Warrior Leaders Course, Basic Non-Commission Officer Course, Advance Non-Commission Officer Course, Battalion Training Maintenance Course, Unit Movement Control Course, Combat Lifesaver Course, Battle Staff Course, First Sergeant Course, and the United States Army Sergeants Major Academy and the Command Sergeant Major Designee Course. He has an Associate's Degree in Applied Science Administrative Management Studies from Excelsior College, Albany, New York.

His awards and decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with three Oak Leaf Clusters; the Meritorious Service Medal with two Oak Leaf Clusters; the Army Commendation Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters; and the Army Achievement Medal with four Oak Leaf Clusters.

A native of Soperton, Georgia, Command Sergeant Major Webb is married and has four boys.

402nd AFSB conducts its first-ever aircraft airlift

Photos by Galen Putnam

A Soldier from the 25th Combat Aviation Brigade perches atop a UH-60 Blackhawk to ensure clearance while being loaded onto an Air Force C-17 Globemaster at Joint Base Balad, Iraq July 14. In its first-ever mission of this type, the 402nd Army Field Support Brigade, took control of 31 Blackhawks from the 25th CAB, and is responsible for the transfer and reset of the aircraft to Kuwait, Fort Drum, N.Y., and Hunter Army Airfield, Ga. This marks the first time the 402nd AFSB has signed for aircraft on its property books.

A UH-60 is secured into the massive cargo bay an Air Force C-17 for stateside delivery.

Soldiers from the 25th CAB push a UH-60 Blackhawk into place so it can be winched aboard an Air Force C-17 Globemaster.

LOGCAP provides necessities for life in the field

By Col. Sylvia Rafels
LOGCAP USD-N

The Logistics Civil Augmentation Program Forward Iraq, under the auspices of the 402d Army Field Support Brigade, executes oversight and requirements management to provide combat service support to the US Military and the Department of State personnel in the Iraq theater of operations, and at the same time continues to have a leading role in supporting United States Forces-Iraq responsible drawdown efforts.

The ultimate end state of Team LOGCAP in Iraq during Responsible Drawdown of Forces is successful withdrawal of forces, base realignment, and accurate and complete property disposition. This end state is achieved with a right-sized contracting enterprise in mind ensuring that we continue to provide quality LOGCAP services "on time, and on target." These essential combat support services include, but are not limited to, base life support services, food service, bus transportation and water production.

In Iraq, the LOGCAP staff is divided into the North, Central and Southern regions to coincide with United States Division - North, United States Division - C, and United States Division – South. Command and Control is headed by a regional officer in charge. Each regional OIC is staffed with logistics support officers dispersed throughout the region at key locations to support mission requirements.

There is a separate LOGCAP office that supports corps logistics service support, theater transportation management and postal operations at Joint Base Balad that is aligned with the 103d Expeditionary Sustainment Brigade. The main focus of this article is on the staff, mission, and functions of LOGCAP in the USD-North area of operations and its leading role in Responsible Drawdown of Forces, to include base transfers, base closure assistance teams, support to the Iraqi Air Force, and property disposition.

Currently, the USD-N falls under command and control of the 3rd Infantry Division, also called Task Force Marne. TF Marne is responsible for operations in the Northern Area of Iraq.

Courtesy photo

An incinerator is installed at FOB Warhorse.

As part of the presidential mandate of 50,000 troops by September 1, 2010, Task Force Marne works to reduce its footprint of Soldiers, equipment and locations.

LOGCAP supports the USD-N by providing logistical combat support services to bases located within the region. LOGCAP LSOs are located at various installations in USD-N and serve as the program interface to the supported units. They work in conjunction with the Administrative Contracting Officers of the Defense Contract Management Agency who is tasked to provide contractual administrative oversight of all LOGCAP services, and the CENTCOM Contracting Command's representative to collaborate on the best approach in fulfilling the unit's requirements.

This "team" is responsible for analyzing and recommending the best contract solution for additional service or support requests from the supported USD-N units. It should be noted that the LSOs actively assists the customer in developing a statement of work for the required services and oversees the life cycle of the requirement from development through service delivery. In the case of bases returned to the Government of Iraq, the LSO is significantly involved throughout the base closure process.

TF Marne has aggressively worked to fully transfer or transfer to partnership status more than 40 former US facilities in Northern Iraq.

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Assisting in this effort is the Base Closure and Assistance Team; a contracted team of multifunctional logisticians which guide units on processes, procedures and best practices for transferring bases to the GoI. The BCAT teams go to the unit's location in order to give hands-on assistance and build habitual relationships and works closely with the LOGCAP staff at that location. The efforts of TF Marne and BCAT have resulted in 100 percent on time base transfers with zero deficiencies reported by the US Government and the Government of Iraq.

Bases returned to the Government of Iraq in USD-N follow a 135-day timeline template developed by KBR. The timeline begins with the base transfer notification, immediately followed by a coordination meeting with the base mayor and supported unit. The supported unit initiates a statement of work requesting the commencement of base transfer activities that includes a timeline for the cessation of all LOGCAP services provided at that base. Property at the base is inventoried and vetted for use elsewhere, be it within Iraq, Afghanistan, or other government agencies. The contractor personnel at the base fill vacant positions elsewhere or are demobilized depending upon need. The contractor is relieved of their duties and the base considered closed when the mayor, ACO, and the contractor site manager sign the letter of release at the end of the 135-day cycle.

Courtesy photo

LOGCAP representatives greet a worker at LOGCAP job site in Iraq.

Using another technique called Tiered Authority, a portion of a base may be returned to the Government of Iraq while the US retains a presence there. At COB Speicher, several large areas of the installation are being turned over to the IAF as they open their air force academy there. These facilities will be used by the IAF to house, feed, and train their future pilots. All property within the facilities is vetted for use elsewhere as with the 135-day timeline mentioned previously. The buildings are then turned over to the IAF as fully functional with power, lights and heating and ventilation. This gradual turnover of the facility, occurring simultaneously with the US drawdown, allows for a smaller US footprint on the base hence a smaller logistics support effort for LOGCAP.

Using the 135-day timeline and Tiered Authority, the USD-N has reduced both its Soldier and contractor presence by several thousand in support of the RDoF. Actions continue to prepare the remaining bases for closure as we near the Dec. 2011 deadline. LOGCAP continues to be timely and vigilant in its support of RDoF while maintaining its high level of service support to the war fighter always adhering to the mantra of “on time, on target.”

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dedication; doing it from Iraq was nearly impossible. However being a part of nation building and helping individuals in need is the most rewarding aspect of my life."

The MSMF, which operates in several countries including Iraq and Peru, in addition to the United States, conducts programs to bolster international relations and economic growth.

The MSMF Green Micro-Loan Initiative provides business training, networking opportunities and loans, from $1,000 to $20,000, to entrepreneurs in order to help start or grow new or existing business with an emphasis on sustainability. The foundation's World Empowerment Initiative develops job skills through vocational training in vulnerable communities.

MSMF partners with businesses, schools, and governments to provide individuals with the necessary skills to enter or re-enter the workforce.

The MSMF Sustainable Solutions Initiative is built on the concept of coalition development between members of academia, industry, government and communities in order to promote the development and implementation of green technologies and sustainable practices throughout the world. The foundation's School4School Initiative focuses on international education strategies to help meet the twin challenges of preparing Americans for a global environment, while continuing to attract and educate future leaders from abroad.

"The Sustainable Solutions Initiative has allowed MSMF to meet and work with some of the most dedicated professionals in Iraq by building a sustainable higher education system from the ground up," Mater said. "I am constantly amazed at their willingness to promote change in the face of such immediate danger."

Courtesy photo

Representatives of the Kiewit Construction Company brief the Iraqi delegation on the Big Pipe Project in Portland, Ore., during their visit to the United States in Aug. 2009.

Since Mater returned to Iraq in Sept. 2008, he has focused much of his scant personal time to coordinating foundation initiatives. His current "big push" is the Coalition for Sustainable Engineering Education in Iraq.

The idea came up in August 2009, when MSMF and OSU hosted a delegation of 19 Iraqi engineering professors and Ministry of Higher Education and Scientific Research officials in Oregon. Invited by Oregon Governor Ted Kulongoski and financed by the US Embassy in Baghdad, the delegation took part in a two-week conference focusing on sustainable engineering and construction management protocol in order to develop communication between the various institutions, develop an outline for student/faculty exchanges and brainstorm other initiatives.

"The four women of the Iraqi delegation were the architects of the CSEE," Mater said. "They went out into the hotel lobby and an hour and-a-half later they had come up with the concept for this plan."

The primary thrust of the CSEE is to build the capacity of the Iraqi university system by bringing state of the art testing laboratories to selected institutions to help the MoHESR develop and implement a national sustainability strategy which includes engineering, agriculture, and forestry among other areas. The testing laboratories will enable collaborative research between Iraqi and US academic institutions, serve as workforce training and implementation platforms for Iraq's developing economy, and allow for an internal learning loop between CSEE member institutions that has never existed in Iraq.

Once the idea was conceptualized and presented at the

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conference, things started to move fast. Spearheaded by the MSMF, OSU and dedicated Iraqi professors, CSEE quickly gained the interest of the MoHESR.

After a flurry of activity to further develop the CSEE, another conference was held, this time in Baghdad. The May 12 - 19 event was conducted to codify requirements among CSEE participating universities and the MoHESR in order to prepare for the official signing of the agreement. The event culminated with the MoHESR announcing the National Education Program for Sustainable Engineering Education led by Dr. Angham Alsaffar, who was selected by the MoHESR to spearhead this national effort. As guests of the Minister of Higher Education, MSMF and Catherine Mater, Director of Sustainability for the OSU College of Engineering, spent seven days meeting with the 20 potential member institutions, the Ministers of Higher Education, Agriculture and Water Resources, and officials from the United States Embassy and United States Forces - Iraq.

During the conference, five key areas were identified as priorities: Water quality and conservation, including wastewater treatment and recycling; indoor and outdoor air quality; renewable energy including wind, solar and biomass technology; green built materials and construction; as well as ecosystem services and investment.

How are such lofty goals attained? One step at a time.

"The next step is to get the CSEE agreement signed by all parties; the universities, Iraqi ministries, OSU and MSMF," Mater said. "This will take place in Baghdad in October 2010 during a week-long sustainability conference hosted by the Iraqi Minister of Higher Education, at which experts from OSU will discuss the integration of sustainability into the Iraqi higher education curriculum and how this will lead to economic development and job creation in Iraq."

Michael Scott Mater Foundation:
www.msmf.org

Oregon State University Senergi initiative:
www.engr.oregonstate.edu/news/senergi.html

Article on 2008 book donation to Thi Qar University:
http://www.army.mil/-news/2008/11/20/14382-army-field-support-brigade-arranges-book-donation-to-iraqi-university/

Oregon State University representatives will include President Ed Ray; College of Engineering Dean Dr. Ron Adams; College of Agriculture Dean Dr. Sony Ramaswamy, College of Forestry Dean Dr. Hal Salwasser, and College of Engineering Director of Sustainability Catherine Mater. Iraq will be represented by the ministers of higher education and agriculture, and presidents of the 20 CSEE member universities. Also on hand will be Mr. Aziz Alnassiri, chief executive officer of Ramin International Technology Solutions (RiTS), who is the primary partner in developing the Information Technology capabilities within CSEE member universities — a critical component toward supporting CSEE objectives. Mater will represent the MSMF.

"OSU has an absolute commitment towards making this partnership work," said Catherine Mater, who happens to be Josh's mother. "Unlike normal university outreach programs which focus on student/faculty exchanges and online training, OSU's partnership in the CSEE initiative is based on immediate capacity building within the country that will lead to economic development on the ground with an emphasis on sustainability."

CSEE has become a component of the OSU Sustainable Energy and Infrastructure (SENERGI) initiative which focuses on developing clean, renewable energy and energy efficiency for the State of Oregon and beyond. Unifying the research and expertise of OSU's Colleges of Engineering, Agriculture, and Forestry, CSEE will utilize Oregon green build technologies and systems to promote economic development in Iraq.

"We are proud to have a guy like Josh on board here at the 402nd AFSB," said Col. Lawrence W. Fuller, brigade commander. "Not only is he a valued employee, he is an inspiration to others. His efforts to build relations with our Iraqi partners are commendable. Our reason for being in Iraq is to help them rebuild their country and achieve stability and Josh does that both on and off duty."

As USF-I and the Materiel Enterprise continue responsible drawdown operations and the development of Iraq's minimum essential capability, the capacity produced by initiatives such as CSEE are critical to ensuring the Government of Iraq's ability to become self-sustaining.

"As Iraq grows as a nation, the CSEE program can expand to meet emerging requirements. The Minister of Higher Education and Scientific Research is to be commended for integrating sustainability into the Iraqi higher education system in order to meet the future needs of the nation," Mater said.

402nd Army Field Support Brigade, Joint Base Balad, Iraq

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W. Arnold Pindle
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Command Sergeant Major

Lt. Col. Iola J. Simpson
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Where can I find those photos?

Photos are posted to the Mini 5 shared drive. To locate the photos, open the shared drive and look for the folder named "402nd Photos." It is at the *bottom* of the folders list because it is a link!

If you do not have access to the Mini 5 shared drive, direct photo requests to Galen Putnam, **OUTPOST** editor.

FROM THE FIELD

402ND ARMY FIELD SUPPORT BRIGADE, IRAQ

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ARMY PREPOSITIONED STOCK CRAFT RETIRES

After 46 years of faithful service, a United States Army watercraft has finally moved on. The fuel barge, designated BG (Barge Gasoline) 6448, has completed its tour of duty and is now officially retired. Like many who have retired from active duty, the BG 6448 has found itself in a new occupation. The barge was once part of the Watercraft Equipment Site managed by 2d Battalion, 401st Army Field Support Brigade commanded by LTC Michael T. Wright.

The U.S. Army fuel barge is a Design 231B non-self-propelled vessel used to transport liquids or dry cargo and was intended to be towed to overseas destinations. The barge is 120 feet long, 33 feet wide, and 10 feet deep with six integrated tanks. It is designed to carry 4,160 barrels of fuel, which translates to over 188,416 gallons. It has a built-in fuel delivery system. The heart of this system is a diesel engine coupled with a pump capable of delivering as much as 1,000 gallons per minute.

The BG 6448 was one of only four fuel barges left in the Army inventory. These floating fuel tanks have been deemed a pollution hazard, so they are being phased out of service due to a moratorium on single-hulled barges. The Army decided to divest itself of these barges because converting them to a double-hulled craft or purchasing new equipment proved to be too costly. Instead of purchasing new replacements, Army Watercraft proponents under the U.S. Army Transportation Corps and the TACOM have been making modifications to existing vessels to take up the mission of transferring fuel to smaller craft that once relied on the fuel barge.

Fair winds and following seas to BG (Barge Gasoline) 6448.

Instead of scrapping the BG 6448, it was sold through Foreign Military Sales to the Iraqi Naval Forces. The deal was brokered by the local Defense Reutilization and Marketing Office (DRMO) at Camp Arifjan, Kuwait, as well as United States Forces – Iraq (USF-I). The barge will be used to augment Iraqi Naval Forces by filling a need for operational sustainment.

In coordination with the Kuwaiti Navy, USF-I, and the Military Sealift Command, the vessel was towed out of its former home port of Kuwait Naval Base on Friday July 25. Home stationed in Bahrain, The United States Naval Ship (USNS) Catawba, a Fleet ocean-going Tug, was called in by the US Navy to transport the barge to its new home in Umm Qsar. It was a carefully coordinated event that involved the Army Materiel Command, DRMO, Military Sealift Command, USF-I, Foreign Military Sales, and an extraordinary commitment by the host nation of Kuwait to be able to get the barge to its new home.

The BG 6448 has completed what, for many of us, would be more than a lifetime of service. It performed well and has moved on to a bright new future.

FROM THE FIELD is a special supplement to the 402nd AFSB OUTPOST. It is written by the servicemembers, DoD civilians and contractors who comprise the Army's largest brigade.

249TH QUARTERMASTER COMPANY: IMPLEMENTING IMPROVEMENTS

By 2/402 AFSB S-3

The 249th QM CO has a unique mission that no other unit has held before. They are the first active-duty Army Company attached to an Army Field Support Brigade (AFSB) whose mission is to augment operations at the Redistribution Property Assistance Team (RPAT) yards; fixed and mobile. A vital automated information system the company uses as part of its mission is the Theater Provided Equipment (TPE) Planner.

TPE Planner is a web based tool that automates the theater's old manual process used to vet lateral transfers, redistribution and disposition decisions for non mission essential TPE. 249th QM CO has a TPE Planner cell located at Joint Base Balad (JBB) with personnel responsible for inputting and executing data entry to assist the RPAT yards. Under the original process, the Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge (NCOIC) of the mobile missions would send intermittent data on an excel spreadsheet to the TPE Cell. Personnel from the TPE Planner cell would then sort through and update data before inputting it into the TPE Planner. The TPE cell could process roughly 500-1,000 entries/day; but it was an inefficient, tedious and time consuming process. Due to inefficiencies, the 249th QM CO Commander, Captain Matthew Haistings decided to implement a new business process.

His plan was to send trained data entry clerks on mobile missions to update the TPE planner on site. SPC Kristina Ranftl was the first Soldier embedded with a mobile team, and is currently at FOB Hammer supporting the Second Brigade, 10th Mountain Divisions redeployment mission. Due to her success, two additional TPE data entry clerks have been sent to support mobile RPAT missions; PFC Mauro is currently at Basrah supporting the 17th Fires Brigade mission and PFC Talley is at Sykes supporting the First Squadron, Fourth Cavalry Regiment redeployment missions. SFC Shaun Silas, 249th QM CO Operations NCOIC stated, "It is more effective to update TPE Planner being embedded with the mobile teams because the personnel who generate the information are on ground and can provide data as it is develops."

PFC Adrian Lujan, on mission at FOB Hammer conducts a courtesy paperwork check to help with the efforts of off-ramping 2/10 MTN in the next several months after they were given the green light to continue their efforts in turning in their equipment.

SPC Delano Purvis inputting Data into TRAM.

SPC Kyle Nelson verifying the 1348 with the data plate to ensure the SNs and NSNs match.

The 249th Quartermaster Company has embraced this improved process that will benefit the Army's Responsible Drawdown of Forces-Iraq.

With the improvements, the mobile RPAT missions are able to update sus- ensuring equipment reaches its designated destination, supporting the missions of units fighting in Operation Iraqi Freedom and Operation Enduring Freedom.

The TPE Planner Team - Front row (left to right) SPC Lorna Lawrence, SPC Maria Parker, SPC Kristina Rantfi, PFC Crystal Talley. Back row SFC Shaun Silas (left), SPC Delano Purvis.

2nd Battalion, 402nd AFSB celebrates independence

The 2nd/402nd Battalion took time out on 4 July to have a Pig Roast in celebration of Independence Day. Soldiers, Civilians, and contractors came together over a plethora of food, music, and entertainment. The barbeque, which was set-up by the S-4, brought in approximately 100 guests from all areas of the battalion.

The focal point of the barbeque, of course, was the 105 pound pig. Ramos "Loco" Esteban of HTSI Team 2, who has a few pig roasts under his belt, was responsible for preparing the pig. Esteban, who began cooking eight hours prior to the barbecue's start, did an excellent job of seasoning and cooking the swine to perfection. The 2nd Battalion DCO, Mr. Keith Andrews, was responsible for preparing the other meats and manned as many as three grills as he watched over the chicken breasts, porterhouse steaks, hotdogs, and hamburgers that were roasting on the grill. Side dishes were supplied pot-luck style and were also numerous, including chips, dips, and salads. The contributions made by the chefs, grill-masters, and bakers helped make this barbeque a huge success. Entertainment was supplied by the battalion's resident DJ, Ms. Demetria Booker of the S-4 department. Ms. Booker, armed with her laptop, speakers and a hard-drive full of songs, provided a great soundtrack to the celebration. While listening to the tunes, guests participated in a dominos tournament, horseshoes, as well as various card games.

It's nice to see, even in the midst of one of the busiest times of the year, that the importance of this type of event is not lost. Even if they only last a few hours, events like this, which bring the workforce together, are great morale boosters. Crew members are able to relax, converse with co-workers, and build or strengthen camaraderie in the process. Many thanks go out to the individuals who assisted the S-4 in making this celebration a success.

Third Country National team members participate in the celebration of America's independence.

SFC Bossier, 1SG of the 402nd AFSB , took a break away from work to come enjoy the festivities.

The 2/402nd AFSB 4th of July celebration cake.

1st Battalion, 402nd AFSB holds July 4th Barbecue

Benjamin Cruz Jr.

Keeping in tradition with our fellow American brothers and sisters throughout the world, this year the 1/402nd AFSB decided to honor the special day with a 4th of July barbeque. It was held right behind the Battalion Headquarters. The coordinator of the event, SGT Louis Krolczyk (S-3), with assistance from Battalion staff, did an amazing job managing, decorating, and ensuring a great time at the event. The barbeque began at 1900 and continued until after 2200 hours.

Between 75 - 100 people showed up and played games for prizes. The winner of the Bongo ball event won a Dodge Challenger t-shirt donated by the AAFES Dodge dealership. People opened up decks of cards located randomly on tables and started games. While everyone was mingling music was played by DJ Rob, 2nd Battalion, who was spinning popular beats and techno tunes. In addition to grilled burgers, there was chicken, potato salad, cole slaw, two cakes and other delicious goodies.

During the celebration, time was given to honor three Soldiers (SGT Patrick Donnelly, SPC Steven Miller, SPC Michael Sanchez) with certificates of appreciation for their work assisting WO1 Nathan Noel with the RTCH program. Soldiers of 1st Battalion were also given the Army Materiel Command Combat Patch and Battalion Coins. Combat patches, also called shoulder sleeve insignia, identifies the Command a Soldier deployed with into a combat zone. Soldiers with multiple deployments may wear any of the patches from the commands they served. The combat patch is one symbol of a seasoned veteran, and it provides one more bond between Soldiers who have sacrificed so much in the service of the Nation. The awarding of the combat patch on the same day that we celebrate our country's Independence is remarkable. The 4th of July event was also significant because it's the last Battalion picnic for LTC Paul Fiscus, our 1st Battalion Commander, before he passes command to LTC Daniel Moroney. The official handover takes place on 21 July in the MWR East at Joint Base Balad.

The night ended with a raffle everyone was anxiously waiting for. The winner of the raffle, Larry Holloway, won a new Nintendo Wii, donated by AAFES for the event.

The Bongo Ball tournament

Battalion personnel enjoying the food.

LTC Fiscus presenting WO1 Nathan Noel with the Combat Patch and Battalion Coin.

Mr. Ray Gipe (S-3) barbequing for the

Personnel enjoying the festivities.

USD-N CONDUCTS AUTOMATED EXTERNAL DEFIBRILLATOR TRAINING

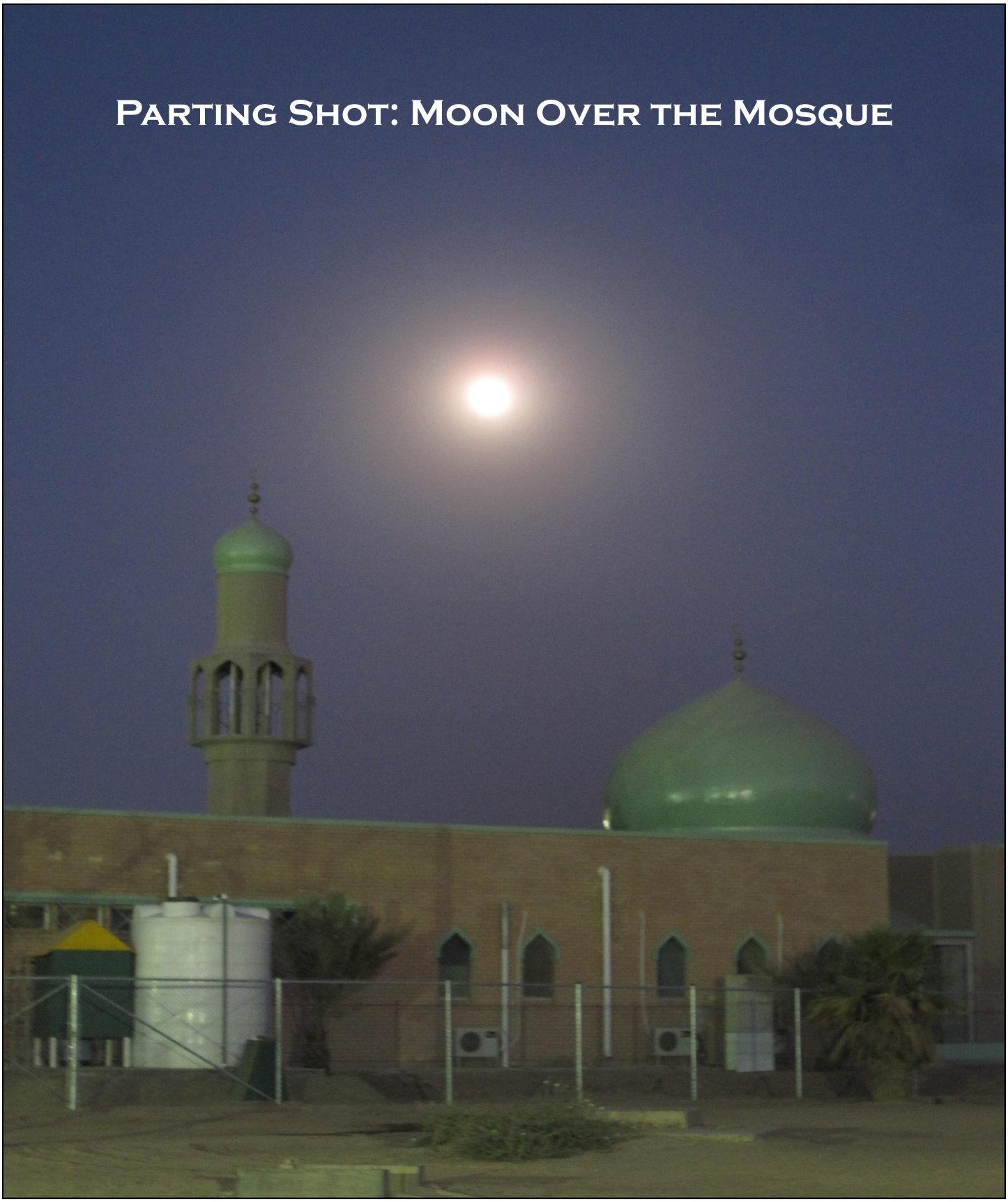
USD-N Speicher conducted automated external defibrillator (AED) training on 25 June 2010 at the North MWR, 18 AMC Staff employees attended this training. The training was conducted by MAJ Pat McVeigh and SGT Brady Neighbors of the 21st Combat Support Hospital.

AED Plus® Units will be mounted in Buildings throughout the AMC footprint for emergency utilization. The AED Plus® is to be used by trained rescuers to provide emergency defibrillation. It incorporates a sequence of visual and voice prompts to help rescuers follow established AHA/ERC Guidelines 2005 protocols for use of AEDs. It also incorporates recording/memory capabilities to allow medical control authorities to review rescuer's use of the device. Recording includes ECG rhythms, event data, device identification, and optionally, voice recording of rescuer and ambient sounds. This information is available via an upload capability to a personal computer for medical personnel event review and archiving.

The AED Plus automatically adjusts the defibrillation energy based on the type of electrode pads connected to it. Following attachment of electrodes to a victim's chest, the defibrillator monitors the electrocardiographic (ECG) rhythm of the victim's heart, analyzes that rhythm, and determines whether the rhythm is shockable or non-shockable. When needed, defibrillation energy is delivered through these same electrodes. When the unit detects a shockable rhythm, it charges and issues the warning *PRESS FLASHING SHOCK BUTTON* to the rescuer. The rescuer presses the Shock Button to deliver the shock. The rescuer will then be prompted to perform CPR for a period of two minutes, after which the unit automatically initiates a new ECG analysis.

Mr. Dennis Mitchell, USD-N LSE DCO and Mr. Derrion Johnson, USD-N LSE S1 inventory the automated external defibrillators (AED) before placing them in the work areas.

Parting Shot: Moon Over the Mosque



LTC Steven Van Riper

A full moon rises over the mosque located near the brigade headquarters July 24 at Joint Base Balad (JBB). The mosque will reopen in the upcoming months as more Iraqi government officials, military personnel, and citizens begin working on JBB.