



# Arrows Forward!



Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan

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Brig. Gen. Les J. Carroll

Joint Sustainment Command – Afghanistan  
Commanding General

**JOINT SUSTAINMENT  
COMMAND—AFGHANISTAN**

**BG LES J. CARROLL,  
COMMANDING GENERAL**

**CSM TRAVIS WILLIAMS,  
COMMAND SGT. MAJ.**

**LTC GORDON TATE  
CHIEF OF PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**SFC BENARI POULTEN  
DEPUTY CHIEF OF  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS**

**SPC ANDREW VALLES  
PUBLIC AFFAIRS  
SPECIALIST**

**Christmas Message – Brig. Gen. Les J. Carroll**

Soldiers, Sailors, Airmen, Marines, Civilians, and Families of Joint Sustainment Command-Afghanistan:

In my tradition, I wish you all a very Merry Christmas! For our Families and teammates back home, I cannot begin to tell you what a great job the whole JSC-A team is doing over here. They are making a powerful impact. For instance, you probably hear on the news about a major part of our supply lines through Pakistan being shut off, but, you don't hear of shortages or concern from our senior leaders. Why? Because of the incredible work of this team of logisticians planning, overcoming, and executing their missions. What a thrill and honor it is for me to serve with all of you!

Whether you celebrate the birth of Jesus at Christmas, the rededication of the second Holy Temple with the Festival of Lights (Hanukkah), Santa Claus, or just Family time, this is a hard season to be deployed for all of us. No matter how noble our cause or how lasting the impact we are having on our world, it is still difficult to miss Christmas with those we love.

Therefore, it is even more important during this time of year to connect to those who are around us. It may not

be the one we wish we were with, but none of us should be alone. Do not be alone, then. Do not sit down and have a "pity party," as my wife Linda, likes to say. Whether you are here in Afghanistan, or serving back at home, let the pride of your sacrifice give you the calm, resolute strength you need to endure. And not only endure, but thrive! You are not a "victim" to be pitied; you are part of the brave, selfless few who are willing to make these sacrifices, serving our Nation in time of war, defending our freedom, safety, and way of life.

So, walk tall, JSC-A Family! Reach out to those around you and make sure no one else is alone, depressed, or despondent. Even under normal conditions, this time of year tends to magnify those feelings for many people. Don't let anyone around you, nor yourself, drift into that pit. Rather, let yourself be filled – wherever you are – with the Joy of the Season. Although we miss each other terribly, let yourself be surrounded by the Peace of the Season.

Thank you all for your sacrifice and service to our Nation. May God bless you and keep you and reunite us safely with each other; may He grant to us all "Peace on earth"; and may He continue to bless America.

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Search for "Arrows Forward" at [www.dvidshub.net](http://www.dvidshub.net) or follow us at the official page of the 4th ESC or JSC-A on Facebook or Flickr.



## HHC – Cpt. Pamela L. Elliott, Company Commander

Congratulations to Spc. Brittany Bibbs and Sgt. Tyler Casey for their selection as Soldier of the month and NCO of the Month. Congratulations to Cpt. Edys Batista, 1st Lt. Loren Teillon, 1st Lt. Roy Alaniz, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Walter Armstrong, Staff Sgt. Jonathan Brown, Staff Sgt. Jessica Forrest, and Sgt. Rusty Westling on their recent promotions. Arrows Forward!

HHC has been working diligently on the donation box mission, "One Box for those with none," set up by Sgt. Molly Bruns, our HR noncommissioned officer-in-charge and implemented by myself and HHC staff. We have had volunteers from multiple sections to assist with these drops. We take the donated troops care packages from our Soldiers and the Chaplain and distribute them throughout the CJO-A. This includes remote Forward Operating Bases, Combat Operation Bases, and Wounded Warrior facilities at each

location.

Staff Sgt. Laura Anderson, Theater Provided Equipment NCOIC, successfully transitioned all equipment previously transferred to the Slovakian Coalition Forces to the new rotation which arrived in country the first week of December. She has worked endlessly to ensure all equipment is transferred without error. Anderson was able to build a relationship with the new Slovakian Command Sergeant Major and his force teams to ensure a warm welcome as our Coalition Partner.

As we close in on our fourth group of R&R attendees returning, we have successfully processed over 85 R&R packets. We continue to ensure all Service Members are well educated on all procedures regarding R&R so they are able to enjoy their time at home with family, friends, and a well-deserved vacation!

As the holiday season approached

very quickly for 2011, I would like to give a huge thank you to the Service Members within the JSC-A, as well as their families. For some, this is our first holiday season away from our loved ones; as hard as it is, I can tell you that we have a family here, as well. We molded into a well-rounded and proficient unit. Every day, missions are completed with friendships being built in the same process. I know that every Service Member within our Command is taken care of on a daily basis by a battle buddy and the companionship they have built over the past six months. The families in the rear maintain our Troops during this time, the love and support given to each of us on a daily basis continue to drive us towards our homecoming. Thank you for all that you do!

Happy Holidays to everyone fighting the war front and those who stand beside us in support!

"Arrows Forward"

## Remember the "Dependents" in "BAH with Dependents" – Judge Advocate General

More often than we like, our office receives calls from spouses of Soldiers who report their military sponsor is not sending any money home or not sending enough money to cover the bills. Meeting your family financial responsibility is not only the right thing – it is required of all Soldiers serving on active duty.

Family support obligations are governed by AR 608-99, which states, "Soldiers are required to manage their personal affairs in a manner that does not bring discredit upon themselves or the U. S. Army." This responsibility includes: (1) Maintaining reasonable contact with family members so that their financial needs and welfare do not become

official matters of concern for the Army; (2) Conducting themselves in an honorable manner with regard to parental commitments and responsibilities; (3) Providing adequate financial support to family members, and; (4) Complying with all court orders.

Generally, if a court has ordered a Soldier to pay a certain amount to his dependents or former dependents, then that court-ordered amount is the maximum amount required by the Army. If there is not a court order, a written agreement between the Soldier and the spouse or dependent will determine the amount of support payments. In situations where there is no court order or

written agreement, Soldiers are required to pay an amount equal to the "BAH II-with dependents" for their rank, exclusive of locale pay.

This is a general summary of the requirements of AR 608-99. There are several exceptions for different circumstances. Most legal assistance attorneys are experts in these matters and can answer questions you may have. If you find yourself in the situation where you are uncertain how much family support you are required to provide, make an appointment to see a legal assistance attorney at your nearest JAG office.

*Staff Sgt. Ericka Davis*

*Senior Paralegal NCOIC*



# THE "IG-TEAM"

Hello again from the JSC-A Inspector General Team. Many of you in the deployed environment take advantage of local distance learning centers and on-line courses. For this issue of the newsletter, we will point out that on March 15, 2011, the Department of Defense (DOD) issued a letter of instruction, DODI 1322.25, that requires all schools receiving federal tuition assistance (TA) from the military services to sign a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with DOD. The DOD policy will ensure that a viable program to deliver TA is in place to assist you in realizing your educational goals.

If your school has not signed the MOU by 1 January 2012, it will not be able to receive federal TA and you will not be able to use your federal TA to pay for courses at that school.

Schools that do not sign the MOU will be suspended in GoArmyEd on 1 January 2012. If your school decides not to sign the MOU and you wish to continue to attend that school you will need to pay your tuition using another funding source, possibly your veteran's affairs education benefits. If you wish to continue to use federal TA you will need to transfer to a school that has signed the DOD MOU. Soldiers must contact an Army education counselor in order to change their home school and degree plan within GoArmyEd. Check with your local Army Education Center for more guidance and information involving residency issues and credit transfer between schools.

The TA program will continue to help Soldiers pay for college courses. The federal TA program covers certificate programs, college undergraduate courses and most graduate

courses delivered through on-line distance learning and/or traditional classroom instruction. The DOD MOU, which is available at [www.dodmou.com](http://www.dodmou.com), articulates the new policy and agreement for schools receiving military TA. For a listing of schools that have signed the MOU go to: [www.dodmou.com/InstitutionList.aspx](http://www.dodmou.com/InstitutionList.aspx)

When in doubt about the new policy and agreement for schools receiving military TA, use the above mentioned resources or consult with your career counselors. As always, use your chain of command to resolve problems first; however, if the chain of command cannot resolve the complaint, then you may contact the JSC-A "IG Team," DSN: 318-421-6568.

*Master Sgt. Frank Harris  
Assistant Inspector General  
Inspector General Team*

## Equal Opportunity – Lt. Col. Rose Bean, Equal Opportunity Advisor

We pause and give thanks as this year draws to a close. The Christmas season is one of the most exciting times of the year. The EO corner would like to thank all Soldiers serving in the military, especially those serving in Kandahar, Afghanistan. Family and friends play a pivotal role in making our tour in Afghanistan successful by remembering to think about us. Thinking about us can be as simple as calling on Skype or phone, sending an email, leaving a twitter message, or writing a letter the old fashioned way (snail mail). Believe it or not, we get excited when we go to the mail room or read the email and find out that our name is on the "got mail" list.

The military will do a wonderful job of preparing the meal for this holiday season, which will probably include corn bread dressing, sweet potato pie and apple pie. However, grandmas everywhere should never worry about being replaced in the cooking department because with all of the military's efforts, the meals just don't taste like grandma's.

We thank all of you for continuing to pray for our safety. We ask a special prayer for all Soldiers serving in countries other than America. Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year is our prayer. Lt. Col. Rose Holden Bean, EOA



## 'Support the Fight' Battalion honors fallen Soldiers with Wreaths Across America ceremony

Story and Photos by Staff Sgt. Alexander Burnett, 7th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs Office

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan - On a small patch of desert land, a formation of Soldiers has gathered. They come to pay their respects in a traditional manner to soldiers who have paid the ultimate price for their nation. This ceremony, which began over a decade ago in the U.S., has found its way to Afghanistan.

Soldiers, Marines and coalition forces gathered in front of the 375th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion headquarters on Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan for a Wreaths Across America Ceremony, Dec. 10.

Wreaths Across America was founded over 15 years ago when the Worcester Wreath Company began donating wreaths to be laid on the headstones of service members at Arlington National Cemetery.

The 375 CSSB command team wanted to bring this tradition to Afghanistan as a way to remember the Soldiers who gave their lives in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Two Soldiers stepped

forward to make this event a reality, said Lt. Col. Edwin Lugo Jr., the 375th CSSB commander.

"Myself and Specialist Bryan Penn were in charge of coordinating everything for this ceremony," said Spc. Kelsey Morrison, an ammunition supply specialist with the 811th Ordnance Company, 375th CSSB. "We were in charge of getting the wreaths, sending the invitations to the Marine command and ensuring this ceremony was a memorable event for all who came."

The battalion's subordinate company's fell into a formation before a small stage which held displays for five fallen Soldiers, a display for all fallen Service Members and a display for service members who became prisoners of war or were missing in action. The remembered Soldiers were: Spc. Joshua Campell, Spc. Shawn Muhr, Cpl. Colby Richmond, Pfc. Alberto Abod and Cpl. Devin Daniels. After a brief explanation of the ceremonies significance, Marine Maj. Gen. John A.

Toolan, the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Force commanding general, the 375th CSSB command team and several Soldiers laid wreaths on each of the displays.

"This ceremony is incredibly important because it is up to each of us to remember our fallen brothers and sisters," said Toolan. "In the 35 years I have served, the men and women from the Army, Navy, Air Force and Marines that have paid the ultimate price are always in my mind. It was a great honor to be a part of this."

Each Soldier's achievements and military honors were shared as the wreaths were laid in place. After the ceremony, the displays remained standing so members of the audience could pay their respects to their fallen comrades.

"This ceremony was a very emotional experience for all those in attendance," said Lugo. "I hope it is a tradition that will be continue to be observed by all the fighting forces in Afghanistan."



## New mobile parts hospital opens at Camp Leatherneck

Story and photos by J. Elise Van Pool, 401st AFSB Public Affairs Office

KANDAHAR AIRFIELD, Afghanistan -- A new mobile parts hospital has opened at Camp Leatherneck on the AMC compound.

The parts hospital is a rapid manufacturing system that can make needed replacement parts for most anything including trucks and aviation assets. They can also make custom parts and tools.

The parts hospital has a five axis lathe, band saw, manual mill, drill press, portable hardness tester and manual lathe that manufactures metal parts up six inches in diameter and under 25 inches in length.

"We make parts that take a long time to get or that are not in the supply system anymore," said Blake Brodeur, a machinist at the hospital, who is from Anniston, Ala.

The parts hospital provides a critical capability to manufacture parts that would ordinarily take months to receive through traditional supply routes. This capability allows Soldiers to get their equipment back up and running in a matter of days, rather than months.

"When a truck is down and they can't get the parts they usually come to us," said Grant Broome, the site coordinator, from Gadsden, Ala., "and they can get the trucks and things back on the field."

"Right now we are doing some hydraulic fittings for a truck that is down because of these fittings they don't have," said Brodeur.

The parts hospital can also create



Blake Brodeur, a machinist at the mobile parts hospital on Camp Leatherneck, from Anniston Ala., removes material from the five axis lathe he uses at the parts hospital. The parts hospital is a rapid manufacturing system that can make needed replacement parts for most anything including trucks and aviation assets. They can also make custom parts and tools.



Dallas Cooper, Grant Broome and Blake Brodeur are the machinists of Mobile Parts Hospital-Leatherneck. They recently opened facilities there to serve the Soldiers and Marines of Southern Afghanistan.

aviation parts, with the exception of safety items and can do custom orders. The hospital can manufacture items from aluminum, brass, stainless steel, mild steel, and pre-heat treated steel. Even if they don't have the exact material to make and item the parts hospital will work with customers as much as possible to try and make the item needed.

"If they can provide us the material we can give it a shot," said Dallas Cooper,

who is from Talladega, Ala., another machinist at the hospital.

To get a work order started the machinists need the part to be replicated (new or damaged), or blue prints of the part. They will also

need a national stock number if the part is in the military supply system, a document number if the part has previously been ordered and a unit identification code.

"We check the part out and make sure we can make it first. We draw it up on AutoCAD and then we put the program into the machine. And then a couple days later they come and get it," said Brodeur.

"It's a convenience for the Soldiers too, because they don't have to wait so long on the supply chain," said Cooper. "They can get the parts they need and still have the other parts on order."

The parts hospital on Camp Leatherneck is the newest parts hospital in the theater. It is located on the AMC compound at Camp Leatherneck. There are two other mobile parts hospitals located at Kandahar and Bagram Airfields.



## Soldiers tackle the mission of mail distribution

Story and Photo by Sgt. 1st Class Luis Saavedra, 10th Sustainment Brigade Public Affairs Office



Spc. Jesus H. Rocha, a Tracy, Calif., native, and Pfc. Troy R. Dobbs, a Midwest City, Okla. native, both assigned to Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Sustainment Brigade Troops Battalion, sort through mail in front of the battalion mail room. The Soldiers, who completed a two-week course to qualify them to be the battalion mail clerks, hand out more than 100 pieces of mail daily.

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan - Gen. George S. Patton said, "Wars may be fought with weapons, but they are won by men."

What keeps the men fighting, however, is morale. While there are five generally accepted components of morale, most would agree the holy trinity of morale is food, living quarters and mail.

The job of getting that much anticipated mail to the service members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company, 10th Sustainment Brigade Troops Battalion falls in the capable hands of two Soldiers.

Pfc. Troy R. Dobbs, a Midwest City, Okla., native and Spc. Jesus H. Rocha, a Tracy, Calif., native were selected to work in the mail room prior to leaving Fort Drum for Afghanistan. The pair became certified military mail handlers after attending a two-week course.

They pick up mail at the main post office every day and sort and log more than one hundred letters and packages before opening to customers at 1 p.m.

For Dobbs, the greatest thing about working in the mail room is the interaction with fellow Soldiers.

"I enjoy the chance to meet more of the people in the battalion and to talk with them about their day," he said.

Rocha shares a similar sentiment about working in the mail room.

"I love seeing the happy reactions people have when they get a package or letter," he said.

The volume of mail will increase significantly with the approaching holiday season, but Dobbs and Rocha remain motivated and ready to face the challenge.

"We love our job," they said.



## JSC-A helps provide a better future for Afghanistan

Story by Sgt. 1st Class Benari L. Poulten, JSC-A Public Affairs

**HOWZ-E MADAD, Afghanistan** – Working closely with U.S. Forces, coalition partners and Afghan government officials, Soldiers from the J9 section of Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan helped coordinate the donation of essential supplies - such as book bags, notebooks, and wheelchairs - to help aid the citizens of Afghanistan and support the opening of a new police station, school, and medical clinic in Howz-e Madad, in the Zharay District of Kandahar Province, Afghanistan.

"Between the units on the ground and working closely with their Afghan partners, we've been able to build a relationship and with the trust that they have, they've been able to identify ... the people who are in most dire need," explained

Master Sgt. Floyd Cobos of the 4th Expeditionary Sustainment Command. Cobos, who helps coordinate humanitarian aid as part of the JSC-A, also notes the importance of private donations. "If it weren't for the generosity of private organizations back in the states, working with the [JSC-A] Humanitarian Assistance Yard and the Civil Military Operations Center in Kuwait...we wouldn't be able to have [these essential items] available here in theater. So, the units here in theater are able to access the humanitarian assistance yards and we're able to provide those items to them."

Another 4th ESC Soldier, Spc. Ryan Pierce, also assists in coordinating humanitarian assistance with the JSC-A and he takes pride in his role. "For me, it makes me actually

feel like I'm doing something in this war as far as counter-insurgency." He sees his role as more than just a facilitator, however, pointing out that he also serves as a role model. "I just want to set the example for the kids to let them know we're not here to hurt them, we're not here to take over their villages...we're just here to help them set themselves up so they can have a better life."

Pierce understands the importance of humanitarian assistance and his contribution to Operation Enduring Freedom, summing up his feelings: "It makes me feel good, it really touches my heart to know that I helped, that I actually had a part in this... I did something I actually served in the war against terrorism."



Photos by Spc. Andrew S. Valles



## Why Afghan pets are a really bad idea – Cpt. Pamela Flynn, Environmental Science Officer



As an animal lover, I have two dogs at home that I talk about as if they were my children. If you introduced me to *your* family pet, I wouldn't think twice about petting him and showing a little affection. These great United States we live in and defend have allowed us to make the relatively safe assumption that touching an animal will not make us sick. Years of vaccinations and great medical advancements have all but eradicated many diseases in America.

Unfortunately, we are not home. In fact, we are in a developing country where people still struggle from the likes of cholera and polio, diseases Americans haven't seen in decades! Among these ancient plagues, you can find the following zoonotic diseases (passed from animals to human), all rare in the U.S., but alive and well in Afghanistan:

**Rabies:** The risk of rabies in Afghanistan is among the highest in the world! It's caused by a virus transmitted through the saliva of infected animals. It affects the central nervous system of humans causing brain alteration and death. Once symptoms appear, mortality rate is nearly 100%.

**Leishmaniasis:** This one is Afghanistan's calling card. There are four forms with various ill effects, one harming organs (potentially fatal), and three forms causing a variety of large and open skin lesions lasting months. This disease is caused by a parasite transmitted by the sand fly bite, but it is also spread to humans by infected animals. Kabul is estimated as the largest center of cutaneous leishmaniasis in the world, with approximately 67,500 cases as of 2004, according to the World Health Organization.

**Anthrax:** This bacterial infection starts with flu-like symptoms followed by severe and often fatal respiratory collapse.

**Crimean-Congo Hemorrhagic Fever:** Catchy name, right? Your next BFF may be carrying ticks that can infect you with this virus. Symptoms are sudden onset of fever, head and muscle aches, followed by hemorrhaging in the bowels, urine, nose and gums. Mortality rate is as high as 50%, according to the CDC Special Pathogens Branch.

**Brucellosis:** This bacterium is spread by contact with infected meat or placenta of cattle, goats, camels, dogs, and pigs. Symptoms are flu-like combined with undulating fever and joint pain. Relapse and symptoms may occur for years. Also spread by ingesting meat or unpasteurized dairy.

**Q Fever:** This disease has flu-like symptoms with abrupt onset of fever for seven to fourteen days. It is caused by a bacteria found in cattle, sheep, goats, and other domestic animals including cats and dogs.

CENTCOM General Order number 1.b.2.j. states that adopting pets or mascots, caring for, or feeding any type of domestic or wild animal is strictly prohibited. What with all of the prehistoric, disfiguring, mind altering, bowel hemorrhaging diseases that we may catch from Afghan animals, is it any wonder why animal contact here is prohibited by the military?

Recently, there has been a flurry of happy stories about Soldiers being reunited in the U.S. with pets they kept while deployed in Afghanistan, but these stories demonstrate a great lack of knowledge on many fronts regarding Afghan animals. The word is either not getting out, not enforced, or falling on blissfully ignorant ears already tainted by these fuzzy ferals.

If you have a hard time resisting cute little animal faces, do yourself a favor and just walk away. Don't interact with them and give your emotions a chance to make a dangerous decision. In the case of adoption, consider adopting an attitude of doing the right thing and enforcing GO 1.b, rather than taking in a potentially disease-spreading animal into the home. I guarantee we have shelters full of the exact same genus and species back in the good ol' U.S.A., a much safer source of BFFs.





Master Sgt. Michael Whitten

Lead Transportation Security Officer Michael Whitten is a Master Sergeant in the Army Reserve.

Every year on November 11th, Americans recognize the sacrifices of the brave men and women of the nation's armed forces. Across TSA, nearly 25 percent of the employees

This article was originally featured in the Idaho TSA newsletter

are military reserve or have prior military service.

Their experiences are stories that reflect the true valor of what it means to serve in the military. Throughout the past 10 years since TSA stood up, many employees have deployed during their careers to proudly serve on the battlefield and then return to their frontline posts. Having prior military service brings TSA broad expertise, ranging from experience handling explosives to managing large groups of people under austere conditions.

Here are a handful of stories from around the country of TSA's military veterans.

Michael Whitten, LTSO, Idaho

Michael Whitten (pictured above), a LTSO at Idaho's Boise Airport, has been with TSA since late 2002. In

1972 he joined the Army and holds the rank of Master Sergeant. Today he is with the Army Reserves and currently serving in Kandahar, Afghanistan where he manages logistics.

Whitten said that TSA and the military share several common traits: constantly observing people, looking for the signs that someone is out to do harm; using the latest technologies to stay ahead of those who mean harm; and providing intelligence briefs and training to counter changing tactics on the part of terrorists.

"I have learned from my experiences both with TSA and in the military, which helps me become better at both jobs," said Whitten. "One big lesson learned is patience, and that means taking the time to do things right the first time, because there might not be a second time."

## Knowledge Management – Shared Knowledge is Power

SharePoint Level 1 training is always available to the command team.

Give KM a call to schedule training for your section. A primary tool presented during Level 1 training is the utilization of Web Sites to share knowledge about any given project.

Check out the "Redeployment" page on the SIPR portal: [j3/j3\\_projects/redeployment](#). This site is totally dedicated to anything related to redeployment. Use this example for working groups and or special projects that you may be working on.

Once you have a centralized location for emails, documents and discussions related to a topic, sending out a link to the centralized web site al-

lows for a more focused and well managed sharing process. New site creation on the portals requires KM assistance, so send an email to the section listing your requirements.

Migration of our NIPR side from SP 2007 to 2010 is in full swing and progressing well. Workshops/ assistance sessions are scheduled in the USFOR-A conference room twice a week through the end of the year. Remember to leave behind documents that are no longer relevant to your mission.

Continue to use the power of the portal to share knowledge and save labor-hours.



## JSC-A Soldiers help with Entry Control Point



2nd Lt. Brendalyn Tavel, from J-1 (pictured above), was one of the many 4th ESC Soldier's who have been tasked out to Kandahar Airfield Entry Control Points (ECPs).

The ECP missions not only included Force Protection but also extends to tracking all trucks and Local National day workers entering and exiting KAF through the ECP. These ECP teams have had a profound impact on the total

throughout onto KAF, with more than 7,000 Host Nation Trucks being in-gated and out-gated, without incident. As the ECP Commander, Tavel was directly responsible for all Force Protection Personnel at ECP-4, responding to any incidents, and reported directly to the Joint Defense Operations Center (JDOC).

The ECP team interacts daily with Third Country National escorts, Kandahar Truck Yard (KTY), the Movement Control Company (MCC), Movement Control Team (MCT), Afghan National Army (ANA), Criminal Investigation Division (CID), civilian contractors, interpreters, and the Bulgarian Army in order to efficiently and effectively accomplish the mission.

The Force Protection Soldiers consisted of both Marine and Army personnel. The work done at KAFs ECPs directly impacts the increasing of throughput of vital equipment and supplies across the Combined Joint Operations Area - Afghanistan (CJOA-A) and the timely delivery of mission-essential sustainment to the Warfighter while maintaining KAF security.

## Words from the Chaplain – Chaplain (Lt. Col.) Tom Roltsch

When I was in my first year of Seminary, I took a job decorating the shopping malls in Southern California for Christmas. My crew worked at night, after the malls closed. We would go to warehouses that stored elaborate themed displays, 100 foot tall Christmas trees and even a complete Santa's Workshop with a train ride. All of this stuff looks great when you see it in the mall, but we would see it covered with dust after being in storage for a year. We would clean it off, fluff the garland, fix all the broken lights and make everything look shiny. The first thing that one realizes when handling all of the decorations is that they are all made of plastic. They look nice, but have no substance; so it can be with the Christmas holiday. We can spend all of our time trying to make Christmas look nice and lose the joy of the season that is expressed in love, family and generosity. I urge everyone to slow down this Christmas season, give people the gift of spending quality time together and take time to share yourself with others. If you are a Christian, make time to go to a worship service to practice your faith at Christmas and, of course, remember to watch your favorite Christmas movies and sing your favorite Christmas songs. God bless us every one!



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# Get a Grip!

## Grab a handle when stepping off a vehicle

» When exiting vehicles, keep 3 of your 4 limbs in contact with the vehicle – two hands and a foot or two feet and a hand

» Use steps and hand holds

» Rain, ice, and sand can make steps slippery

» Remember: Your backpack can throw you off balance

» Check for uneven ground surfaces before stepping off the vehicle

Falls and jumps are the leading cause of serious non-battle injuries (such as fractures or dislocations).

Over 2400 fall and jump-related injuries have been air evacuated from Iraq and Afghanistan.

<http://usachppm.amedd.army.mil>  
1-800-222-9698

U.S. Army Public Health Command (Provisional)  
Kennedy US Army Center for Health Promotion and Preventive Medicine (USACHPPM)

D O N ' T   D I S M O U N T   A   V E H I C L E   B Y   J U M P I N G !



Joint Sustainment Command - Afghanistan  
remembers and honors the sacrifices  
of all our fallen heroes.

