



# THE ROUND UP



Dec. 2014 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade Issue 1

## WRANGLERS TAKE OVER SUSTAINMENT OPERATIONS



**Wranglers... Just get it done!**

Photo by SSG Michael Selvage



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**Wranglers...Just get it done!**



## Colonel Timothy D. Luedecking

Wranglers, Families and friends, I want to start by wishing everyone a safe and prosperous Holiday Season from Task Force Wrangler! As we approach this Festive Season we also pass a milestone in our deployment having just past our 100-day mark here in Afghanistan. The Wrangler Team continues to do amazing things as part of our sustainment and retrograde support mission across the Afghan theater. Our Soldiers are amazing and the American Soldier fighting spirit is alive and well across the formation. There is a lot to be proud of as we continue to sustain both U.S. and coalition forces.

On any given day, our Soldiers provide critical sustainment support consisting of food, water, clothing, tools, weapons, fuel, construction material, ammunition and repair parts just to name a few. Wranglers also provide services such as human resources, finance, postal, aerial delivery operations, maintenance and mortuary affairs support across the Combined Joint Area-Afghanistan.

Over the past 100-days, TF Wrangler has conducted a Transfer of Authority with five sustainment units making us the single sustainment brigade in theater. We coordinate, execute and influence logistics support at all levels ensuring that our forces are well postured with sustainment stocks. You can't go to any Forward Operating Base in Afghanistan without seeing a Wrangler Soldier or the Wrangler patch ensuring that the retrograde and sustainment missions are professionally executed.

Many thanks to the family members and friends for the support you provide your Soldier while deployed. Your emails, packages and phone calls go a long way with ensuring the resiliency of the Wrangler team. I can ensure you that every Soldier here misses their family equally.

Finally, the Wrangler Brigade is committed with ensuring that safety and the welfare of all our Soldiers is the number one focus. We do this by enforcing good discipline and standards across the formation. Living the Wrangler Way instills a sense of pride and reinforces our commitment to all who serve under Task Force Wrangler.

Thank you for what you do and allowing us to serve side by side with the best our nation has to offer.

“Just Get It Done”

# Wranglers...Just get it done!





## Command Sergeant Major Alton Haney

The 4th Sustainment Brigade Command Team would like to wish the entire WRANGLER Nation (Soldiers, Family and Friends) a Happy Holidays. The Holidays are typically a time that families get together to celebrate, give gifts, and enjoy each other's company. It can also be a difficult time of the year for some, especially for those apart from their families. It should bring joy to everyone that The WRANGLER Soldiers have made it past the 90 day mark and the New Year is approaching fast. Time goes by fast when you're providing the best Brigade support that any TASK FORCE could ever ask for. You have all played an incredible role in mission success and you have done it with a smile. Your motivation and focus on getting after every aspect of what we do as TASK FORCE WRANGLER, leaves me in awe as I circulate around the battle field. Also your ongoing efforts have been critical to preparing the Brigade for winter operations and beyond. Colonel Luedecking and I are amazed at the efforts the Soldiers in this unit give daily. Through your diligent efforts, we have quietly amassed a reputation as a Sustainment Brigade for who no task is too great. As always we must remain vigilant, agile and focused on our top priority of providing world class logistical support. To the families and friends at home who I know could not be more proud of their WRANGLER Soldiers, thank you for everything you do and the professionalism that I witness every day. No one in this organization accepts "good enough" and that is what makes the out-standing support difference.

"Just Get It Done"

**Wranglers...Just get it done!**

# Wranglers take over sustainment operations



Photo by SFC Chris Bridson

**By Sergeant 1st Class Chris Bridson**  
**4RSSB Public Affairs**

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – The 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade, 13th Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) uncased its colors and assumed authority from the 10th Sustainment Brigade, 10th Mountain Division during a ceremony at the RC-East Joint Operations Center Flag Poles on Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan Oct. 28, 2014.

This marks the fourth deployment to Iraq, Kuwait, and Afghanistan for the Wrangler Brigade. They deployed to Iraq in September 2005 in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom IV, providing direct support to Multi-National Division-Baghdad.

In 2008 the Wrangler Brigade deployed again, this time for 15 months to Kuwait where it was responsible for Theater Distribution Operations in support of OIF 08-10. By the end of the deployment, the brigade had moved personnel and equipment for more than 20 BCTs.

Less than two years later, the brigade was back in Iraq in support of Operation New Dawn, providing continuous support in the reposturing of forces and equipment from Contingency Operating Base Adder, Tallil, for 10 months.

“Today, we embark on another historical journey as the 4th Sustainment Brigade transitions to the 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade and builds on the legacy left by our brothers and sisters,” said Col. Timothy D. Luedecking, the 4RSSB commander.

The 4RSSBs missions will include the initial standing up of Forward Logistical Bases across Afghanistan, the continued retrograde and closure of current Forward Operating Bases, the de-scoping of Enduring Bases throughout the CJOA-A, and Redeployment and Sustainment operations.

This was the sixth deployment overall for the outgoing Muleskinner Brigade who are heading back home to Fort Drum, New York, after nine grueling months.



Photo by Sgt. Adam A. Erlewein

**Col. Timothy D. Luedecking, the 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade commander delivers his speech during the Casing and Uncasing Ceremony at the RC-East Joint Operations Center, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan Oct. 28, 2014.**

## Wranglers...Just get it done!





Photo by SFC Chris Bridson

“It is most fitting that the 10th Sustainment Brigade closes out as the last sustainment brigade executing tactical sustainment operations in Afghanistan,” said Col. Willie Rios III, 10th Sustainment Brigade commander. “Since (the former) 10th Division Support Command deployed to Afghanistan in the first days of Operation Enduring Freedom in December 2001, this marks the fifth deployment to Afghanistan and sixth overall in the past 13 years.”

During the deployment, the brigade conducted more than 680 convoy escort team operations, driving more than 46,000 miles throughout Afghanistan.

The brigade successfully closed more than 60 commodity and service redistribution sites, including six supply support activities, two ammunition supply points, seven ration sites and 13 Army post offices.

After applauding the Muleskinner Brigade for their help and professionalism in the transfer of authority process, Brig. Gen. Flem “Donnie” B. Walker, 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) Commanding General welcomed Col. Luedecking and the Wrangler Brigade to BAF.

“Although we bid farewell to a great command team and a superb Army unit, the Army always gets it right and replaces them with another outstanding unit,” said Walker. “The Wranglers have an unmatched reputation and are a model Sustainment Brigade- and there is no doubt in my mind that they are ready for this challenge.”

Walker, then went on to say that the Wrangler Brigade have demonstrated the energy and drive to execute whatever lies ahead during their deployment to the Combined Joint Operations Area-Afghanistan.

Col. Timothy D. Luedecking and Command Sgt. Maj. Alton Haney from the 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade uncased their units colors during a Casing and Uncasing Ceremony at the RC-East Joint Operations Center, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan Oct. 28, 2014.

“It is an honor to lead our Soldiers on this historic journey. The Wranglers will lead this mission setting the standard for discipline and mission accomplishment living by our motto, “Just Get It Done”, the Wrangler way,” said Luedecking.



Photo by SFC Chris Bridson

Col. Timothy D. Luedecking and Command Sgt. Maj. Alton Haney from the 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade salute the National Colors and the units colors at the Casing and Uncasing Ceremony at the RC-East Joint Operations Center, Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan Oct. 28, 2014.

# Wranglers...Just get it done!



Photo by Sgt. Adam Erlewein

# Ruffians Close down Shank

**By Sgt. Adam A. Erlewein**  
**4RSSB Public Affairs**

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – Soldiers from the 730th Transportation Company, 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade, completed one of the last retrograde convoys out of Forward Operating Base Shank, in the Logar Province, Afghanistan, Oct. 21, 2014.

During their deployment, the Ruffians have closed down several smaller FOBs but the closing of FOB Shank, one of the larger bases here, is a big milestone for the retrograde mission in Afghanistan.

The 730th TC have been running convoy escort teams for retrograde operations throughout there deployment, carrying numerous supplies to and from Bagram Air Field in support of Operation Enduring Freedom and preparing for Operation Freedom Sentinel.

Sgt. Jarron S. Greene, a motor transport operator with the 730th TC, was charged with ensuring the cargo load of his HEMTT M1120 Load Handling System (LHS), a military transportation vehicle, was securely tied down and ready to haul retrograde equipment from FOB Shank to BAF.

“We are transporting mainly radio equipment, Soldiers gear and other supplies that will be redistributed to other FOBs or sent back to the states, which is a good thing since it will save the Army some money,” said Greene.

The Ruffians also had transportation assistance from local national transporters who hauled non-vital military equipment, which in turn allowed the 730th TC to concentrate on the more vital military equipment which also reduced the amount of Soldiers needed for each mission.

“Having the local national drivers in the convoy makes things safer for us since we don’t have to have additional boots on the ground to drive additional trucks or conduct additional convoys,” Sgt. Antonio Sanchez a motor transport operator from Santa Maria, California. “If we did not have the locals helping us transport this equipment the closure of Shank would have taken twice as long.”

Sanchez was in charge of preparing the local national trucks to transport FOB Shank’s equipment to Bagram Air Field, where it will be redistributed to other FOBs or it will be retrograded back into the Army’s supply system potentially saving the U.S. taxpayers money.



Photo by Sgt. Adam Erlewein

Sgt. 1st Class Jose A. Ramirez, a native of Bellflower, California, and the convoy commander of the proud Ruffians said that closing down FOB Shank is a very proud moment for him and his platoon, stating that this closure is a step forward to getting Soldiers out of Afghanistan and back home.

“Our platoon has been working extremely hard to close down FOBs in Afghanistan and being a part of history by closing down FOB Shank is a very proud moment for our platoon, and I for one am extremely proud of my Soldiers,” said Ramirez.

**Wranglers...Just get it done!**



# Gen. Dempsey Spreads Holiday Joy



Photo by Sgt. Adam Erlewein

**By Sergeant 1st Class Chris Bridson**  
**4RSSB Public Affairs**

BAGRAM AIR FIELD, Afghanistan – The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, spread Holiday Joy to the military service members stationed at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan, with a USO Holiday Troop Tour, Dec. 9.

Country music artist Kellie Pickler, retired Chicago Bears middle linebacker Brian Urlacher, actress Dianna Agron, comedian Rob Riggle, actress Meghan Markle, Washington Nationals pitcher Doug Fister and USO President Dr. J.D. Crouch II joined the Chairman's Holiday Tour.

Dempsey took to the stage, thanking the service members in attendance for everything they do.

“We all know the importance of what you guys are doing over here and we appreciate the remarkable job you all do. Whether it’s your first tour or seventh tour of duty, thank you!” said Dempsey.

He then spoke of all the wonderful things the USO have done for the men and women of the Armed Forces since its inception in 1941, before thanking Dr. J.D. Crouch II, and his wife Kristin for joining him on the tour.

The show was kicked off by an unforgettable performance from comedian and Master of Ceremonies, Riggle, who entertained the troops with an abundance of jokes, poems, and even opened up the stage for a few questions from the approximately 500 service members in attendance.

Riggle, a military veteran of more than 20 years was followed by “Glee” star Dianna Agron, who sang some of her favorite songs and encouraged the troops to join her singing “Rudolph The Red-Nosed Reindeer” further enhancing the holiday spirit inside the Air Force hanger.

After each performance, Riggle came back on stage to introduce the next guest who thanked the service members for their selfless service and shared a little bit about themselves and what this tour means to them.

“Every time I was on the field before a game and the National Anthem would play the hairs on my arms would stand on end, so it’s an overwhelming honor to be here today,” said retired Chicago Bears middle linebacker Brian Urlacher who was joined on stage by actress Meghan Markle and Washington Nationals pitcher Doug Fister.



Photo by Sgt. Adam Erlewein

**The Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff, Gen. Martin E. Dempsey visited Wrangler Soldiers during his USO Holiday Troop Tour at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan Dec. 9, 2014.**

## Wranglers...Just get it done!



Being stationed away from Family and friends during the Holiday Season can be a testing time, but seeing artists such as Kellie Pickler, on her 9th USO tour perform a plethora of hit songs, shows service members that the American people truly do care about them and believe in what they are doing.

“The USO Show was great. It was an amazing opportunity to get to meet a few stars and athletes such as Doug Fister and Brian Urlacher,” said Cpl. Clint Underhill, a native of Evansville, Indiana, and a command driver for the 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade. “Along with the athletes we had the chance to speak with General Campbell and General Dempsey. To see dignitaries such as them, take time out of their schedule to meet with myself and many other Soldiers during the holiday season was a real treat,” he added.

For the past four days, the tour has been very busy visiting service members in Spain, Italy, Turkey, and Afghanistan before heading to Great Britain next, something that did not go unnoticed.

“It was extremely commendable for the celebrities that appeared to have taken time out of their busy schedules to show us, as serving veterans, support as we provide a level of freedom to our nation,” said Spc. Andrea Rodriguez, from the 4th RSSB. “To me the experience was an enlightening morale booster for which I will have the pleasure of sharing with my peers in the years to come.”



Photo by Sgt. Adam Erlewein

Country music artist Kellie Pickler, retired Chicago Bears middle linebacker Brian Urlacher, actress Dianna Agron, comedian Rob Riggle, actress Meghan Markle, Washington Nationals pitcher Doug Fister pose for a photograph with U.S. Military service members at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan Dec. 9. The celebrities were in Afghanistan with Gen. Martin E. Dempsey, Chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff as part of the USO Holiday Troop Tour.

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**Wranglers...Just get it done!**



# TF Guardian prepares for redeployment

By Sgt. Pollyanna F. Tanuvasa  
419th CSSB UPAR

BAGRAM AIRFIELD, Afghanistan – For the past seven months Soldiers of the 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade, have been running convoy escort team missions throughout Regional Command-East and Regional Command-Capitol supporting the sustainment and retrograde mission requirements from their home base on Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan.

While maintaining and executing CET missions has been an intricate part of the overall success of the U.S. Forces in Afghanistan, the past few weeks has seen a change in the mission requirements as they transition to Operation Resolute Support and prepare for Operation Freedom Sentinel.

A big part of the retrograde mission is to de-scope the overall size of the USF-A footprint. This is done partly by engineers who are specifically assigned certain areas of each forward operating base to remove wooden buildings, living tents, and any scrap and waste materials that may be left behind, but also by units that own those areas of land.

Task Force Guardian has been responsible for approximately 80 percent of all convoy operations on BAF and owned one of the largest motor pools that also needed to be de-scoped.

The projected date for the complete de-scope of the TF Guardian motor pool was Nov. 15, but with the hard work and determination of the Soldiers it was completed three weeks early.

“The de-scope of the motor pool was difficult in planning but easy in execution,” said Command Sgt. Maj. Jose Serenil, TF Guardian command sergeant major. “The companies de-scoped and executed on their own, and us as the battalion just provided dates and oversight of the process,” he added.

The Task Force Guardian motor pool consisted of the Pit Stop, the Staff Sgt. Randall Lane Resiliency Center, the 514th Support Maintenance Company Clamshell, the convoy readiness center and the “Plywood Palace” which was a large wooden tactical operations center that contained all of the TOCs for the subordinate units of the 419th CSSB.

Serenil, a native of Los Angeles, spearheaded the de-scoping mission which he said was a team effort consisting of a brigade-level CSM working group for planning and timelines and a battalion-level working group for the planning of execution. The battalion work group consisted of Serenil, Chief Warrant Officer 3 Darrell Stephen and the company first sergeants.

The work group had to identify the least mission impacted structures, check all the containers in the motor pool to see how many were mission essential and how many could be turned in, and then start the tearing down process of their infrastructure.



Photo by Sgt. Pollyanna F. Tanuvasa

Capt. Ryan R. Koester, commander of the 114th Transportation Company, 419th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 4th Resolute Support Sustainment Brigade, prepares to de-scope a large tent that was used as a maintenance bay in the 419th CSSB motor pool at Bagram Airfield, Afghanistan, Oct. 30, 2014.

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# The Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer

## NCO of the Quarter

## Soldier of the Quarter



**SGT. Rebecca Topping**



**SPC. Carmen Figueroa**

Officers of my unit will have maximum time to accomplish their duties; they will not have to accomplish mine. I will earn their respect and confidence as well as that of my soldiers. I will be loyal to those with whom I serve; seniors, peers and subordinates alike. I will exercise initiative by taking appropriate action in the absence of orders. I will not compromise my integrity, nor my moral courage. I will not forget, nor will I allow my comrades to forget that we are professionals. Noncommissioned Officers, leaders!



## Wranglers...Just get it done!



# WRANGLER CHRISTMAS



**WHO: ALL WRANGLER SOLDIERS**

**WHAT: GIFT EXCHANGE**

**PHOTO WITH MYSTERY GUEST**

**NATIONAL LAMPOON CHRISTMAS VACATION**

**WHEN: 24 DEC. 1300-1700**

**WHERE: MWR THEATER**

**SIGN UP AT THE COMMAND GROUP OFFICE BEFORE DEC. 20<sup>TH</sup>**

**THE DAY OF THE EVENT BRING A WRAPPED GIFT,**

**OF NO MORE THAN \$5-\$10 DOLLARS.**



**Wranglers...Just get it done!**