

Sustainer Magazine



Sustaining The Line

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FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMANDING GENERAL



“Let’s Get Expeditionary!”

The theme for this issue of the Sustainer Magazine is “moving forward.” With the deployment and block leave over, it’s time for every Soldier to focus on our future training events. This year will be an exciting yet challenging year for every one of us as we prepare to complete reset and enter our train and ready phase during 3Q FY15.

It is important to note our FY 15 Progressive Training Strategy is nested with the XVIII Airborne Corps. Throughout our future training exercises we will continue to synchronize with the Corps to become a more cohesive expeditionary force.

One of our future training exercises, Swift Response, is scheduled to take place later on this summer. Swift Response is a joint training event, led by XVIII Airborne Corps and includes participants from Germany, Spain, Italy, and the United Kingdom among others. Key capabilities that will be tested during this exercise include strategic out-load, Airborne Joint Forcible Entry, and execution of follow-on mission sets. Swift Response will help us to refocus on an expeditionary mindset through the setup and operation of our Early Entry Command Post.

The significance of our Early Entry Command Post cannot be overemphasized. It will provide XVIII Airborne Corps with a rapidly deployable Operational Sustainment Headquarters and further increase XVIII Airborne Corps’ expeditionary capabilities around the world.

The EECP at its core will provide an expeditionary sustainment foundation, and allow us to perform a variety of sustainment functions. Additionally, we will be able to expand on the EECP when required for more increased functionality. The amount of versatility this will provide to XVIII Airborne Corps is unprecedented and will provide true expeditionary support.

Transitioning to our families and safety, we can begin preparing for the warmer weather this spring. Naturally, warmer weather brings a variety of activities for you and your families to enjoy. I ask that each of you continue to be safe and plan accordingly; everyone within the command is mission essential...always think safety.

While we continue to move forward, I want all of you to know that I appreciate what you do each and every day. It is an absolute honor to command such a team of true professionals. Continue to stay focused, enforce standards and be disciplined!

S6

Sustaining the Line!

All the Way!

Army Strong!



FROM THE DESK OF THE COMMAND SERGEANT MAJOR

“Let’s Get Expeditionary!”



With our regeneration phase at an end, it is once again time to begin preparing for future missions. We will continue moving forward, focusing on our training and the setup of our Early Entry Command Post.

It is important to keep in mind that as time progresses, our Army will continue to evolve into a more expeditionary force. Our Army will be an Army of preparation and we must make sure that, as leaders, we are well prepared. Even more importantly, we must train our Soldiers to be adaptive; to be able to adjust to an ever changing environment and to be able to take on whatever challenges the future may hold.

One way we can facilitate this training is through the experience we have achieved during more than 13 years of combat. Throughout this war there has been a vast amount of knowledge gained through all facets of the Army. All leaders within the 3d ESC can better prepare our younger generations of Soldiers by passing this knowledge down and ensuring it is not lost as Soldiers transition out of the Army.

While knowledge is important, it does not define who we are as Soldiers. Each and every Soldier needs to remember their standards and discipline. This is the foundation of Soldiering and it is essential that we continue to emphasize its importance. Continue to train your junior leaders to reinforce the Army Standards and make sure you are leading by example.

It is a pleasure working with each and every one of you. Every day I am astounded by the professionalism and the can do attitude that our 3d ESC Soldiers bring to the table. Your knowledge and experience is second to none. Keep up the exceptional work as we continue moving forward together.

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Sustaining the Line!

Chaplain

*Lt. Col. Thomas Cox
Chaplain, 3d ESC*

We do everything we can to avoid/be prepared for the worst in life, i.e. pray, buy insurance, etc. Even with all our preparations and our carefully calculated efforts, bad things happen to both good and evil people. Sometimes these “bad things” strike and chip away at the foundation of our personal identity or destroy the future we were planning to experience. When the foundation of who we are begins to crumble we feel bad about ourselves, and the loss of our perceived future can produce feelings of hopelessness and despair. Solomon refers to this in Proverbs 18:14 “A man’s spirit sustains him in sickness, but a crushed spirit who can bear.”

The busyness of our culture makes it easy for us to focus on work and responsibilities. It is very easy to neglect the spiritual dimension of who we are. When calamity strikes, we want comfort and/or hope immediately. We want to flip a switch and have an instant relationship with

our creator so we can make sense out of the tragedy, or have a renewed hope for the future. If we’ve neglected our relationship with our creator, how will we know when God is with us? It is ridiculous for us to do no physical training for a year and expect to pass a physical fitness test. In like manner, how will we experience God’s peace if we don’t have a relationship with God?

I invite you to check the foundation of your life. Do not minimize the neglect of the spiritual dimension of who you are as a human being. Spiritual resiliency requires dedicated effort and some personal reflection. Get “Plugged in” to a real relationship with God. Let His truth be the basis for how you live your life. And let God sustain you and give you strength during life’s difficult times.



Safety

Mr. Percy Black
Safety Director, 3d ESC

Spring Safety Tips

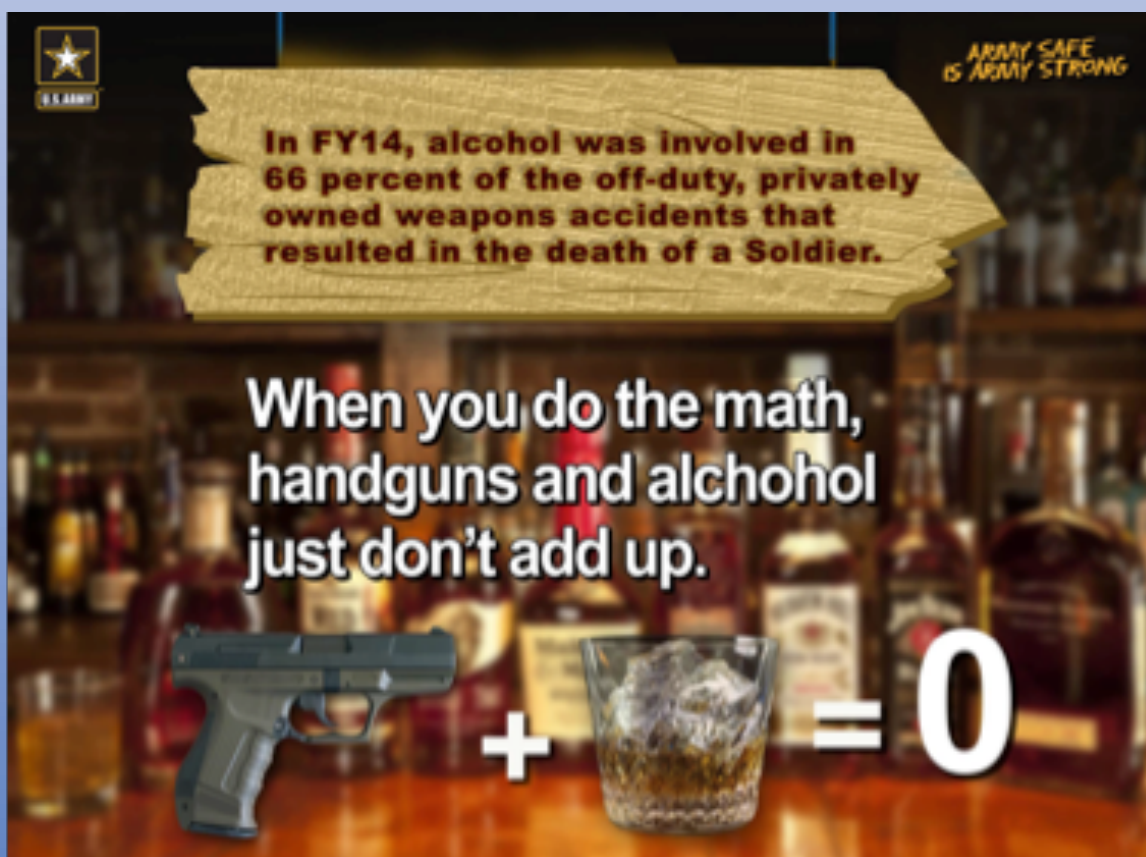
The snow is melting, the trees are budding...Spring is finally here! Spring is a great time to get away from the cold, dark days of winter and have some fun in the sun. Focus on keeping your family safe while enjoying the warmer weather by following these tips.

If your spring plans include traveling, consider these safety tips :

- Look out for each other. Always travel with a group, because there is safety in numbers.
- Prepare for the unexpected when you travel, carry extra cash or a credit card to deal with an emergency.
- Buckle up! Don't Text and Drive!
- Drivers are reminded to be on alert for motorcycles, especially when pulling out into or across traffic, and when changing lanes.
- Motorcycle riders need to wear proper riding gear and take advantage of motorcycle training safety courses.
- Motorcycle riders should also remember to look out for potholes, loose sewer lids, and loose gravel. The long hard winter took its toll on the roads and many of these problems have yet to be fixed.



If drinking alcohol is part of your spring leisure plans, remember that it can impair your judgment and actions.



- Don't drink too much!
- Decide in advance what and how much you will drink.
- Plan on how you will refuse once you reach your limit.
- DO NOT DRIVE. Use a designated driver or choose public transportation.
- Alcohol and weapons don't mix!

Outdoor Spring Safety Tips:

- You can get dehydrated anytime of the year. Drink plenty of water, non-carbonated and non-alcoholic drinks, even if you do not feel thirsty.
- Be aware of the weather conditions. It can change quickly. Seek shelter in case of storm.
- If barbequing is in your plans, make sure you clean your BBQ and check for leaks, breaks, and other wear & tear. Remember, never store propane inside your house or garage.
- Don't let the cool spring time temperatures fool you, protect yourself from the sun whenever you're outside at work or play. Use a sun protection factor (SPF) of at least 15. Look for the words "broad-spectrum" on the label - it means that the sunscreen will screen out both ultraviolet B (UVB) and ultraviolet A (UVA) rays.
- Don't forget to protect your eyes also.

While you are enjoying the beautiful weather and dusting off the cobwebs of winter, remember to take your on the job safety awareness with you.

HERE IT COMES Are you ready to hit the road?

- Have your vehicle serviced
- Plan your route
- Pack an emergency road kit
- Check the weather forecast
- Get plenty of rest
- Complete a TRIPS assessment

READY ...OR NOT?

Ready ... or Not is a call to action for leaders, Soldiers, Army Civilians and Family members to assess their "readiness" for what lies ahead—the known as well as the unknown.

Throughout our professional and personal lives, events happen all around us. We are often able to shape the outcome of those events, but many times we're not. Navigating life's challenges is all about decision-making.

So are **YOU** ready ... or not?

ARMY STRONG

TRIPS

https://safety.army.mil

Army strength starts here...

...which gives you strength here.

Family engagement kit

<https://safety.army.mil>

Army Safe is Army Strong and that starts with a Soldier's Family. Have the information to help you and your Family stay safe. Be prepared and get your own Family Engagement Kit today!

ARMY STRONG

ARMY SAFE IS ARMY STRONG

https://safety.army.mil

Moving Forward



Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, and Command Sgt. Maj. Edward A. Bell, command sergeant major of the 3rd ESC, case the 3rd ESC colors during a ceremony, Dec. 1 at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan. The 3rd ESC cased its colors after an eight-month deployment to Afghanistan where it served as the last ESC in Afghanistan and was responsible for sustainment and retrograde operations during the final stages of Operation Enduring Freedom.

*Maj. Jared Auchey
3d ESC Public Affairs*

The 3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, or ESC, commemorated the culmination of its mission with a casing ceremony, Dec. 1, at Bagram Air Field, Afghanistan.

The ceremony symbolized the end of operations for the 3rd ESC in Afghanistan. The 3rd ESC was the last ESC to provide single sustainment mission command in Afghanistan and was composed of more than 35,000 Service members, Department of Defense civilians and contractors. They

also managed many non-doctrinal responsibilities to include the redistribution, disposal, and retrograde of excess materiel, as well as the de-scope efforts associated with base closures across Afghanistan through U.S. Central Command's Materiel Recovery Element.

The 3rd ESC deployed to Afghanistan in April 2014. The 3rd ESC was responsible for successfully reducing the theater during the final stages of Operation Enduring Freedom

and setting the conditions for Operation Resolute Support, beginning in 2015.

The 3rd ESC accomplished, what is seen as arguably the largest and most demanding retrograde of equipment and personnel in the Army's modern era. This is due to the geographical location of Afghanistan and the aggressive timeline to retrograde equipment out of the country by the end of 2014.

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Historic Mission, From Previous

Maj. Gen. Darrell K. Williams, commanding general of the 1st Theater Sustainment Command, who reviewed the ceremony, delivered remarks praising the 3rd ESC's accomplishments supporting retrograde and sustainment operations.

"With the outstanding support given here, and the mission you accomplished during the historic final days of the drawdown, you have added to the already rich 3rd ESC legacy," Williams said.

During the deployment, the 3rd ESC managed the closing or transfer of 61 bases, retrograded nearly 5,500 vehicles and more than 105,000 pieces of other equipment, all while sustaining U.S. and coalition forces across Afghanistan's six regional commands.

Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3rd ESC, discussed how Afghanistan is one of the most difficult locations to provide logistics and brought many challenges to the 3rd ESC which its Soldiers had to work tirelessly through to get the job done.

"The Soldiers that comprise these ranks are truly logistical professionals and experts, and believe me, they were put to the test," Walker said.

The 3rd ESC was involved in Ph.D.-level logistics using lessons learned from Iraq to get the mis-

sion accomplished. Afghanistan is a landlocked country and to retrograde equipment it was necessary to use every possible transportation node while at the same time placing an emphasis on the stewardship of resources and creating efficiencies.

"We could not have accomplished any of this though without the support of our numerous strategic partners such as the Defense Logistics Agency, United States Transportation Command and Army Materiel Command, [Office of the Secretary of Defense] and the [Department of the Army] staff to name just a few."

"Sustainment is a team sport, and it was an entire enterprise effort that resulted in our strategic and operational successes over this last year of OEF," Walker said.

"I am extremely proud of our team," Walker said. "We have accomplished the mission provided and I know that we are prepared for whatever lies ahead - I am confident there is nothing we can't do."

Walker told the Soldiers standing in formation, "You all should be proud of the enduring, positive legacy you have left in Afghanistan and for upholding the great reputation of the 3d ESC."

He later discussed the monumental tasks that the 3rd ESC team was doing in Kuwait, as part of the 1st Theater Sustainment Command

(Operational Command Post) to support operations throughout Central Command's area of responsibility in the Middle East and Southwest Asia. They supported operations in Kuwait, Jordan, Task Force Sinai in Egypt and Operation Inherent Resolve in Iraq among many others.

Walker said the success of the mission was due to the Soldiers and their families who supported them. He also noted the great support from the Fort Knox community.

"Throughout our battlefield circulations it was clearly evident that the centerpiece of success was our young men and women who worked diligently to accomplish the mission in some very austere environments," said Command Sgt. Maj. Edward A. Bell, command sergeant major of the 3rd Sustainment Command Expeditionary and Tarboro, North Carolina native, following the ceremony.

"We were truly a team of teams comprised of all services along with DOD employees and contractors, who made mission by living by our watch words of maintaining "standards and discipline" in all we do," Bell said.

The Soldiers from the 3rd ESC successfully completed their deployment to Afghanistan and will soon be completing their mission in Kuwait. The 3rd ESC will continue to provide exceptional logistical support in current and future operations.



3d ESC Returns from Afghanistan



Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), and Command Sgt. Maj. Edward A. Bell, command sergeant major of 3rd ESC, uncasing the unit colors during a redeployment ceremony Dec. 6 at Natcher Physical Fitness Center on Fort Knox, Ky. The Sustainers, who were deployed in April 2014 to Afghanistan, were tasked with providing single sustainment mission command in Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Justin A. Silvers)

*Staff Sgt. Justin Silvers
3d ESC Public Affairs*

Family members anxiously filled the Natcher Physical Fitness Center to welcome home Soldiers of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) during a redeployment and uncasing ceremony Dec. 6.

The uncasing of the unit colors marked the return of the 3d ESC Soldiers from Afghanistan and the start of operations at Fort Knox.

The sustainers, who were deployed in April of 2014 to Afghanistan, were tasked with providing single sustainment mission command in Afghanistan. This included logistical support for such items as fuel, water and rations, and enabled service members across Afghanistan to continue their train, advise and assist mission without interruption.

Additionally, the 3d ESC was tasked with the essential, yet complex task of redistribution, disposal, and retrograde of excess materiel across Afghanistan, as well as base closures through the CENTCOM Materiel Recovery Element.

Maj. Gen. Jefforey Smith, deputy commanding

general of XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg, was the guest speaker at the ceremony and welcomed the Sustainers back to Fort Knox

“Congratulations for a job well done,” said Smith. “Your nation’s proud of you, we’re proud of you here at Fort Knox, and of course XVIII Airborne Corps is proud of you; welcome home.”

Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3d ESC, and Clay County, Alabama, native, said he was proud of the sustainers, and thanked everyone for their attendance and patriotism.

“I want to thank all of you for coming out to welcome home these heroes,” said Walker. “I wish you could bottle up the emotion, the pride and the patriotism that these Soldiers have felt not only tonight but the last few days with our stops through Portsmouth, New Hampshire and in Iceland; just a tremendous outpouring of patriotism (and) they deserve every bit of it. I want to thank you all for giving them that here tonight.”

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3d ESC Returns, From Previous

During his speech Walker spoke on the impact of the 3d ESC Soldiers and the changing atmosphere in Afghanistan.

"Those of you that have been to Afghanistan the past 13 plus years, you would simply not know it as it stands today," said Walker. "A tremendous amount of work has went in to change the whole dynamic of Afghanistan and turn it into a train, advise and assist platform; the men and woman that you see standing out here today had a lot to do with that."

"61 bases were reduced, thousands of pieces of equipment retrograded; the largest retrograde in the shortest span of time in our Nation's history," said Walker. "The enemy had a vote every single day (but) these guys got it done each and every day."

Walker closed his speech saying he appreciated the support from the Family members, Fort Knox, and the surrounding community.

"I just want to thank the Fort Knox community, our rear detachment and the local community for their great support," said Walker. "Finally I want to thank the families; you too are true heroes and should be standing up here right alongside your spouses. We could not do what we accomplished the last eight months without your love and support, courage, resiliency and your tremendous sacrifice that goes into being an Army spouse or significant other."

After the ceremony the Soldiers and family members ran to their loved ones, anxious to hug, hold and embrace one another. Sara Reinstatler, wife of Capt. Billy Reinstatler, was excited to see her husband and said during the deployment she was able to keep in touch almost daily.



Capt. Billy Reinstatler, Deputy G4 with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) and a native of Dayton, Ohio, holds his daughter Hannah for the first time during a redeployment ceremony Dec. 6 at Natcher Physical Fitness Center on Fort Knox, Ky. The Sustainers, who were deployed in April 2014 to Afghanistan, were tasked with providing single sustainment mission command in Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Justin A. Silvers)



Hope Walker embraces her husband, Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) commanding general and a native of Clay County, Ala., during a redeployment ceremony Dec. 6 at Natcher Physical Fitness Center on Fort Knox, Ky. The Sustainers, who were deployed in April 2014 to Afghanistan, were tasked with providing single sustainment mission command in Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Staff Sgt. Justin A. Silvers)

"We Skyped more than anything and talked almost every day," said Sara. "The kids got to see daddy and hear daddy on Skype." Sara said being able to talk to Billy over Skype helped time to pass while he was deployed and allowed him to see his children grow.

"Our daughter Theresa didn't start walking until after he left, and he was able to watch her run around the house," said Sara. "A lot of Family Readiness Group events and get togethers also helped us stay connected."

Jessica Edmiston was also excited to spend time with her husband and high school sweetheart, 1st Lt. Brandon Edmiston.

"We talked almost every day," said Jessica. "But I missed being around him, he's like my best friend."

During the deployment the 3d ESC managed the closing or transfer of 61 bases, retrograded nearly 5,500 vehicles and more than 105,000 pieces of other equipment, all while sustaining US and coalition forces across Afghanistan's six regional commands.

3d ESC Soldiers Reunite with Loved Ones



Tara Howes and her children wait for her husband, Master Sgt. Dean Howes, during a redeployment ceremony Dec. 20 at Natcher Physical Fitness Center on Fort Knox, Ky. The Sustainers, who were deployed to Kuwait in April 2014, provided critical sustainment support throughout the Middle East; specifically in Iraq as part of Operation Inherent Resolve. (U.S. Army photo by Maj. Jared D. Auchey)

*Maj. Jared Auchey
3d ESC Public Affairs*

Soldiers from the 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) were greeted by family and friends during a redeployment ceremony Dec. 20 at Natcher Physical Fitness Center on Fort Knox.

The Sustainers, who were deployed to Kuwait in April 2014, provided critical sustainment support throughout the Middle East; specifically in Iraq as part of Operation Inherent Resolve. This included essential logistical support for items such as fuel, water and rations.

Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3rd ESC, was the guest speaker for the ceremony and said the Sustainers performed their mission exceptionally well.

"They made a significant difference and huge impact across the entire CENTCOM AOR as part of the 1st Theater Sustainment Command Operational Command Post in Camp

Arifjan, Kuwait," Walker said.

Walker also thanked all the families for their support to the Soldiers.

"I would be remiss if I didn't take a moment to thank our family members, who are the silent heroes that are essential to the strength of our Soldiers," said Walker. "Your love and support were critical to our mission success, and I thank you for your great sacrifice over the past eight months of the deployment."

Tara Howes, spouse of Master Sgt. Dean Howes, was ecstatic to see her husband.

"I can't wait to just hold him and squeeze him," said Tara. "We are so excited to have him home for the holidays."

Patrice Dixon-Schofield, spouse of Sgt. 1st Class Craig Scho-

field, was also excited to be with her husband.

"We have been waiting for this moment for eight months and it is finally here," said Patrice. "Home is where the heart is."

This ceremony marked the conclusion of the 3rd ESC's deployment. After the ceremony concluded, family members rushed to hug and hold their loved ones.

**"I can't wait to just hold him and squeeze him,"
~Tara Howes**

Support Operations Section

*Maj. Christina Lewis
3d ESC SPO*

Across the Army, commanders rely on staffs comprised of all ranks and specialties to provide relevant information and knowledge to aid in their decision making process. Soldiers serve in sections like the G-1, the administrative section for a General Officer's staff, or the G-3, the operations element of the same staff. In the sustainment realm, a unique and essential staff section exists that many people have never heard of – the Support Operations Section or SPO for short.

Led by Col. Powers and Sgt. Maj. Emmons, the SPO section in 3d ESC has nine distinctive branches providing sustainment expertise for anything an Army Service Component Command or Joint Task Force would need during deployment or expeditionary operations. From coordinating flights for redeployment to tracking theater fuel reserves to monitoring the readiness of major combat systems, the SPO section links the brigades on the ground to the strategic enterprise supporting all war fighters. Although these nine branches are distinct in size and specialty, their combined efforts ensure units at all levels have the sustainment support they require.

The largest branches in the SPO are Supply and Services, Mobility, Materiel Readiness and Munitions. When you think Army logistics, these branches are the heart and soul. They ensure the readiness of Soldiers and their equipment based on unit requirements, forecasting stockage levels, and using unique distribution methods to meet short deadlines. Bottom line, if you need food, water, fuel, parachutes, ammunition, repair parts, office supplies or just need it all moved; these branches coordinate it all.

Four other branches are smaller but no less important to the sustainment mission. The Operational Contracting section has grown in importance as the need for contractors on the battlefield increases in complex environments. They ensure the ESC headquarters and down trace units can meet the needs of line units by providing civilian support.



Courtesy Photo



Courtesy Photo

Financial Management oversees units who distribute cash and pay contracts in the area of operations. Human Resources Operations oversees postal operations and casualty liaison teams. Logistics automation systems and their networks are critical to the modern battlefield. The Sustainment Automation Support Management Office (SASMO) branch ensures this network connectivity, providing the other branches access to real time data to anticipate sustainment support. Although these branches are small, their impact and importance cannot be underestimated.

Finally, the Distribution Integrations branch synchronizes the operations of the all the branches within the SPO to the rest of the ESC staff. They also coordinate with tactical and strategic level Headquarters in order to keep

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the SPO and ESC Commander informed on the sustainment mission.

The SPO and SPO SGM oversee a challenging section. The SPO section has to understand the intent of the ESC commander, the requirements of the units they support, the myriad of strategic enablers that support the war fighter and each individual must be a subject matter expert in their specific area. Overall, the 3d ESC SPO provides world class sustainment that all Soldiers demand and deserve.

SUSTAINMENT OPERATIONS CENTER



Above: The Sustainment Operations Center during the construction process and after completion. The SOC is a focal point for a variety of sustainment functions. (U.S. Army photo by Sergeant 1st Class Gary Cooper)

*Sgt. 1st Class Summer Presley
3d ESC G6*

The Sustainment Operation Center (SOC) is the focal point for conducting Mission Command Operations and the integration of all sustainment functions: finance, force management, human resources, joint logistics resources, contracting, installation support functions and managing the distribution network. With the major construction of the SOC now complete, the G6 section has taken on the major responsibility of installing and maintaining the digital communications equipment that will enable 3d ESC to conduct global, real time collaboration in support of sustainment operations.

The SOC will be connected through secure and non-secure computers, phones, and video teleconference assets. Channeling through these mediums the SOC will utilize a suite of Mission Command and Sustainment Systems to enable the command to collaborate with the XVIII Airborne Corps Headquarters and other strategic

partners to leverage sustainment capabilities when and wherever needed in support of Corps operations.

Systems being established in the SOC include: Command Post of the Future, commonly referred to as CPOF, the Distributed Common Ground Systems (DCGS-A) to provide detailed intelligence updates and analysis, the Battle Command Sustainment Support Systems (BCS3) to provide logistics tracking, Standard Army Maintenance System-Enhanced, Standard Army Ammunition System-Modernization, and Standard Army Retail Supply System (SARSS).

This suite of systems will provide the common operations picture allowing the commander and staff to stay on the front line of sustainment operations as missions arise. The G6 section is ensuring the 3d ESC has an advanced Sustainment Operations Center that will enable the commander the ability to leverage assets worldwide and synchronize mission efforts.



The 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) hosted a military ball Mar. 6 at the Gault House Hotel in Louisville, Kentucky. Lt. Gen. Joseph Anderson, commanding general of XVIII Airborne Corps and Fort Bragg, was the guest speaker during the event, and received a mug in appreciation for his speech.



The 3d ESC ball, which is held annually, allows Soldiers to foster esprit de corps with their fellow service members and camaraderie with their invited guests.

G3 Operations

*Maj. Kerry Houck
3d ESC G3*

The last two months have been productive, as we transition from our recent deployment to Afghanistan. We have reorganized the 3d ESC G3 to prepare for PCS moves, retirement, and career progression. The G3 is leading the way on "let's get expeditionary."

Lead planners from the G3 continue to participate in WFX Concept Development and have begun discussions of the WFX command structure and training objectives. The Initial Event Planning (IEP) in February further refined the direction and scope of work that lay ahead. We also had select members of our G3 Plans

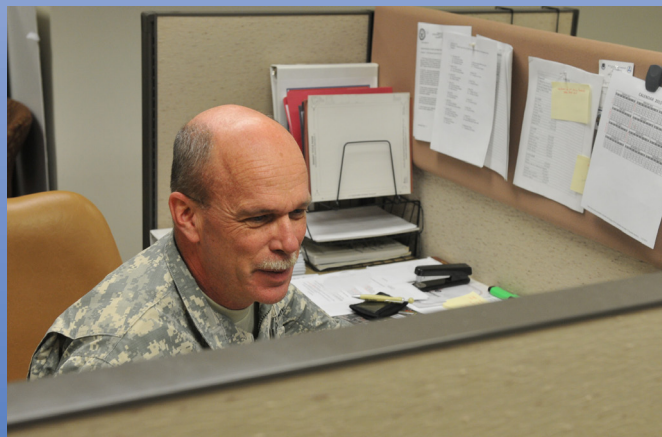
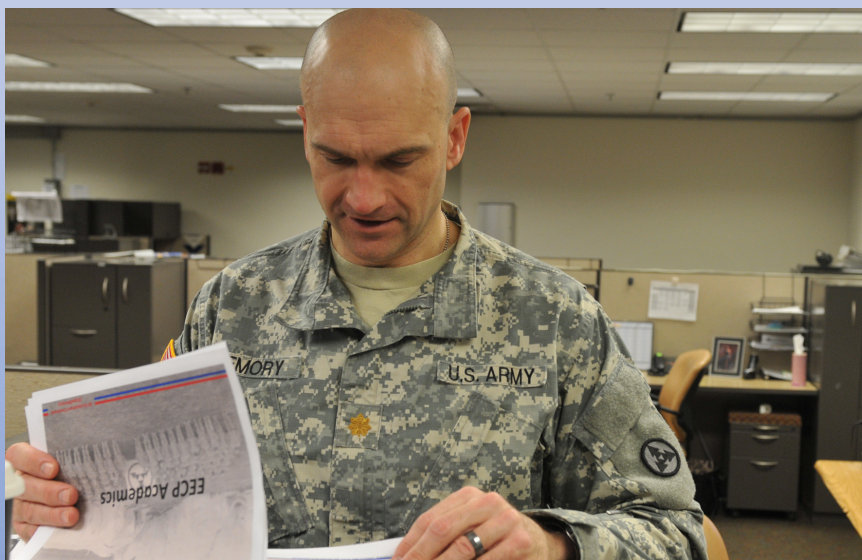
Office travel to Fort Bragg in January, to participate in the JFE IPC. We will remain nested with the Corps to ensure we maximize the training opportunity and provide robust sustainment planning capability for the JTF.

Our staff is now finalizing plans to exercise our EECP capability in terms of COMDEX and TOCEX events in 3d QTR; continuing preparations for what will be our Early Entry Command Post "Leader Validation."

Due to the anticipated high personnel turnover in April, we are leaning forward to replace key and essential EECP personnel with those

having longevity. This validation will allow us to rapidly close the knowledge gap, as we move toward supporting the Corps during the July JFE.

Finally, the G3 has focused on our Army Partnerships. The G3 continues to reach out to our partnered Reserve ESCs (103rd, 310th, and 316th) to develop collaborative training opportunities for the upcoming year. We will take lessons learned from the 310th ESC and their support to III Corps (in absence of the deployed 13th ESC) to better refine products in our own Sustainment Operations Center.



3d ESC Preps for EECP Setup



Sgt. Hamilton and Sgt. Cole listen intently as Mr. Michael Wyatt, a contractor with DRASH instructs on them on proper drash tent setup. Below : Soldiers with the 3d ESC repack drash tents and load them back into trailers.

Soldiers with the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) checked serviceability of DRASH tents in preparation for the 3d ESC's Early Entry Command Post exercise, scheduled for the end of March. The EECP concept was developed after the 3d ESC's disaster relief deployment to Haiti in order to more effectively handle challenges it faced there



Promotion Ceremony



Congratulations to 1st lieutenant Brandon Edmiston, who was promoted to captain during a promotion ceremony Feb. 27 at the 3d ESC Headquarters.

During the ceremony, Brandon's father, Bob, administered the oath of office, reaffirming Brandon's commitment to the U.S. Army.



Sustainers Recognize Volunteers

*Sgt. 1st Class Gary Cooper
3d ESC Public Affairs*

The 3rd Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) hosted a volunteer recognition ceremony to recognize the selfless service, time, and energy volunteers donated to the unit Feb. 6, at Fort Knox.

The awards honored the volunteers' contributions, which brought Families together, improved morale, created a positive atmosphere for the Sustainers and enhanced the Fort Knox community.

Each volunteer took time out of their busy schedule to donate as much time as possible, not because they had to, but because they wanted to support the unit and each other over the course of the recent deployment.

"Our strength is our families," said Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3d ESC. He continued to explain that the volunteers are an integral part of the Sustainer team and were critical to the success of the deployment.

Third ESC Master Chaplain Assistant Noncommissioned officer, Master Sgt. James Morris II, narrated the event, while his wife Pamela received a Certificate of Appreciation for Patriotic Civilian Service, for contributing more than 20 hours of civilian service, while their children, Salena, 14, Jasmine 13 and James III, 12, were among 12 others who each received certificates of achievement for volunteering.

"We helped out at the [Lord's Supper] Soup Kitchen, and babysat kids at family readiness meetings," said James III, "and also babysat at marriage retreats."



Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), and Command Sgt. Maj. Edward A. Bell, 3d ESC Command Sergeant Major, give Michelle P. O'Rourke the Silver Wahatchee Award during a volunteer appreciation ceremony, February 6, at Fort Knox, Ky. The Silver Wahatchee Award recognizes individuals who have voluntarily contributed in a significant long-term



Brig. Gen. Donnie Walker Jr., commanding general of the 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary), gives Salena Morris a certificate of achievement during a volunteer appreciation ceremony, Feb. 6, in Fort Knox, Ky. Volunteers were recognized for the hard work and support they gave the 3d ESC during 2014. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. 1st Class Gary J. Cooper, 3d ESC Public Affairs)

"Recognition is not really important to me," said Jasmine, "but volunteering for the Army is my pleasure."

Third ESC FRG leader, Michelle O'Rourke, received the Silver Wahatchee Award, which recognizes individuals who have voluntarily contributed in a significant long-term service to the improvement of

the Signal Corps community.

"I'm just thankful that we got to recognize some of our volunteers, especially these Morris kids," O'Rourke said.

"Not many teenagers want to help out with FRG things, but these kids came to every event we had, set up food, entertained the kids, and gave the moms a little bit of a break," added O'Rourke. "That's invaluable, especially in the middle of a tough deployment."

We wanted to recognize the tremendous job that the volunteers did in supporting us, which allowed us to perform our mission, explained Walker. The Soldiers and the 3d ESC are grateful for their unwavering support.

"My goal when I get out of the Army is to travel and do humanitarian aid in as many different countries as I can," said Moffitt. "I want to come back here and be more involved."

"Last deployment was my first experience being deployed and seeing the children and how they lived," said Moffitt. "It hit me a certain way. How they lived and the struggles they go through. It stuck with me ever since then."

She said she has wanted to do something for the children of Afghanistan and is glad she found a way to make a difference.

When people hear about Afghanistan, they may only think about the terrible things war has brought to the country and not so much about the people who go through it.



Sustainers



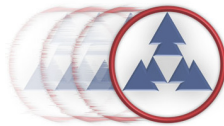


Sustaining the Line !

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MOVEMENT CONTROL **is the name**

TRACKING TRUCKS **is the game**



First Team !