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JANUARY 2011

LEGACY MINUTEMEN



KBC INSIDER

VOL. 1 - ISSUE 6 - JANUARY 2011

Task Force Rushmore Public Affairs Office 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade

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Questions, comments or submissions for the

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ON THE COVER

Members of the 1-181st Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts Army National Guard, hand out candy to Kuchis children Jan. 3, 2011, during a humanitarian mission in Kabul, Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Spc. Michael Broughey)

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SOCIAL MEDIA THINGS TO KNOW BEFORE LOGGING IN

he Internet has fundamentally changed the way the military communicates in the 21st century. Increasingly, individuals are looking to the web and social networking sites to communicate with family, friends and the world

Social media is an excellent way to stay in touch with those you care about back home and to share with them your experiences. However, all military personnel have a responsibility to know the risks and rewards of using social media. Those who wear the military uniform must always remember to conduct themselves in a professional manner at all times, and be cognizant of others on the web who wish to exploit the information you share and use it to cause harm.

Read the following DOs and DON'Ts to help protect yourself, your families and your fellow servicemembers.

DOs

- DO use social networking sites to communicate the military story; you are our best spokesperson.
- DO be cognizant of how you represent yourself; reconsider posting comments that reflect poorly on the organization.
- DO keep your tone professional.
- DD ensure content posted is appropriate to good order and discipline to the military.
- DO treat social media sites like the newspaper. If you don't want to see it in print, don't say it!
- DO protect classified, sensitive, or need-to-know information and report violations.
- DO remember violators of Operational Security (OPSEC) may be subject to UCMJ action.
- DO make it more difficult for an adversary to identify and exploit vulnerabilities.
- DD mitigate the risk of using social media by educating servicemembers, not by stopping the dialogue.



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facebook.





DON'Ts

- DON'T post inappropriate statements. Users have the right to voice their opinions. However, they do not have the right to post vulgar or obscene comments that degrade morale or unit cohesion.
- DON'T post distasteful photos or video that depict any form of obscenity.
- DON'T post sensitive or classified information that could compromise OPSEC. Release of this information could result in lost lives:
 - Policies, Rules of Engagement and Rules of Force
 - Vulnerabilities of defensive dispositions, capabilities of units, weapons systems
 - Doctrine for using various weapons
 - New weapons available, or are being employed
 - Unit strength, exact numbers or composition
 - Troop movements: dates, times and locations
- DON'T post any photos or videos that could compromise OPSEC: Entry Control Points, **Vehicle Battle Damage, Sensitive Communication** or Force Protection Equipment.
- DON'T post personally identifiable information: information to distinguish or track your identity, employment history, home address, exact school your kids go to.





SHOES, SHOES, SHOES Kabul Melli employees work with patterns used to make boots for the Afghan National Security Force. The manufacturing company not only provides high-quality footwear to ANSF, but they employ hundreds of local citizens as well.



HAIL TO THE VICE-CHIEF

Capt. Thomas Clark, Camp Alamo garrison commander from Company C, 1-181st Infantry Regiment, welcomes Vice President Joe Biden during his visit to see Afghan Soldiers at the Kabul Military Training Center in Kabul Jan. 10, 2011. (Photo courtesy of 3-4th Infantry)



SENATOR VISIT

Chairman of the Senate Armed Services Committee, Sen. Carl Levin, D-Mich., left, talks to Lt. Gen. William Caldwell, right, Commander NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A), and Command Sgt. Maj. Ralph Beam, center, NTM-A Command Sergeant Major, after a briefing at Camp Eggers, Afghanistan, Jan. 22, 2011. (U.S. Navy photo by Petty Officer 2nd Class Ernesto Hernandez Fonte)

BARGAIN SHOPPING

Spc. Brett Feauto, center, and Sgt. Rachel Hecht, right, both members of Charlie Medical Company, 334 Brigade Support Battalion, lowa Army National Guard, look at merchandise from a local Afghan vendor at the bazaar on Jan. 14, 2011, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. (U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Rebecca Linder)

Soldier paints mural representing "Freedom Over Tyranny"



(U.S. Army photos by Sgt. Rebecca Linder)

Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Williams, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, poses in front of the mural he painted called, "Freedom Over Tyranny," after a dedication ceremony Dec. 1, 2010, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. Williams, 32, who has been painting since he was 14, painted the mural that symbolizes the relationship between U.S., coalition and Afghan forces serving together in order to help the Afghan people.

By Sgt. Rebecca Linder

Task Force Rushmore Public Affairs

CAMP PHOENIX – After giving up hours, days and even months of free time painting a mural on the wall of the Camp Phoenix gym, artist Sgt. 1st Class Joseph Williams and many others stationed here gathered to take part in a dedication ceremony on Dec. 1 for his painting called "Freedom Over Tyranny."

As counterinsurgency continues to be the mission for troops serving throughout Afghanistan, Williams, a member of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, decided to paint a mural that would symbolize the relationship between U.S., coalition and Afghan forces serving together in order to help the Afghan people.

"We use this mural as a reminder for what we are here for now, that we are helping the Afghans build up their country again and partner not only with coalition forces, but the people of Afghanistan," said Vice Adm. Robert

Harward, Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 commander, during the ceremony.

"The world will soon see that this collective effort that we've all done together is going to rid this country of the tyranny that it's been under and the war that is has suffered for years," added Brig. Gen. Ted Johnson, 196th commander. "You will see as we unveil this, we stand shoulder to shoulder for freedom over tyranny so this great country can move on with its history."

Williams, who studied art in San Francisco, said he was heavily influenced by the great American illustrator, Norman Rockwell to come up with the idea of the drawing.

"His 'Four Freedoms' paintings from 1943 really inspired me and I think it wasn't until we were in a conflict of our own that the Four Freedoms really spoke to me," said Williams, of Moorhead, Minn. "Given our fight along the side of our Afghan and coalition counterparts, it only seemed natural that this idea of 'Freedom Over Tyranny' applied so well here."

"In 1941, Franklin Roosevelt made a speech before Congress before going to war talking about the four pillars of freedom – freedom of speech, freedom of religion, freedom of fear and freedom of want," said Harward. "Today, in that same spirit, we salute Sgt. 1st Class Williams for his motivation and inspiration."

Using his artistic abilities, Williams, who has been painting since he was 14, now 32, used four Soldiers to model for the painting, which represents the Bulgarian, American, French and Afghan forces, who were also there for the ceremony.

"It's been an honor to be able to help Sgt. 1st Class Williams in his endeavor to communicate the ideals that the coalition forces bring to Afghanistan," said Sgt. Matthew Wells, 196th Soldier who helped pose for the mural.

"This idea is why we are here, it is why we stand together," added Williams. "Even though the struggle for freedom is a more difficult path, it is unquestionably the difficult path worth fighting for."

Afghan Air Force begins overhaul of Mi-17 helicopters



(Photo by Vladimir Potapenko

An Mi-17 helicopter is pulled into a hanger at Kabul International Airport, Jan. 16, 2011, as part of the first local overhaul of an Afghan air force aircraft.

By MC2 Vladimir Potapenko

438th Air Expeditionary Wing

KABUL INTERNATIONAL AIRPORT – The Afghan Air Force (AAF) transported a Mi-17 helicopter to Afghanistan Rotary Logistics at the Kabul International Airport, Jan. 16, as part of the implementation of the AAF's first local maintenance overhaul.

Due to an inability to extensively refurbish aircraft within the confines of Afghanistan, the AAF has until now been forced to ship aircraft to better equipped nations such as the Ukraine. But with the awarding of a local contract and the delivery of the first Mi-17, the AAF is beginning its transition to complete self-reliance in the care and upkeep of its aircraft.

"Our goal is to be able to complete overhauls on our own base; this is a step toward that ultimate goal," said AAF Col. Mohammed Shafi, commander of the Kabul maintenance group.

Though the trip from the Afghan air force base in Kabul to the ARL hanger on the commercial side of Kabul International Airport was short – the distance of a single runway, the impact of the move is hardly as negligible.

"Notably, this adds to Afghanistan's ability to support its military," said U.S. Air Force Lt. Col. Matthew Gamblin, a logistics and maintenance advisor with the 438th Air Expeditionary Wing.

"More importantly, this helps build the industrial base of Afghanistan and keeps money in the country; thus helping to win the fight for the population and build this country's security," said Gamblin.

The delivery is the beginning of an overhaul partnership that can accommodate up to six Mi-17 helicopters a year.

This is an undeniable success, said Shafi.

JANUARY 2011 7

Afghan industry supporting ANSF, creating jobs

By G. A. Volb

KABUL – Kabul Melli, a local industry success story, has delivered nearly 200,000 pairs of boots to both the Afghan National Army and Afghan National Police.

Signed to an indefinite delivery, indefinite quantity contract, Melli makes and delivers boots in response to Afghan National Security Force needs.

Assistant Secretary of the Army for Acquisition, Logistics and Technology Mr. Malcolm Ross O'Neill visited their factory for a first-hand look at their products and processes, Jan. 16.

"Our first emphasis is always on meeting the needs of our forces," O'Neill said. "However, we will continue to leverage our contracting efforts in pursuit of job creation and development of the local manufacturing economy. The goal is to locate existing Afghan companies in key manufacturing sectors that can provide the skills and goods we need. Ultimately, our objective is to provide the impetus for a self-sustaining Afghan economy that provides better opportunities for its citizens."

"The Army is in full support of the mission to develop and support the Afghan local economy," O'Neill continued.

"It's critical to our counterinsurgency strategy. If our contracting efforts, in support of our forces and allies, can facilitate job creation and local investment, then everybody wins."

Recovering from decades of conflict, Afghanistan's economy has improved significantly since the fall of the Taliban regime in 2001, according to the CIA World Factbook. This, it suggests, is largely due to the infusion of international assistance, the recovery of the agricultural sector, and service sector growth. Kabul Melli represents this type of positive growth in local industry

(Phata by G. A. Valb)

A Kabul Melli employee adds eyelets to one of the boots the company made for the Afghan National Security Force. Kabul Melli stands as an example of successful industrial achievement in Kabul, a priority for NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan and the coalition. The manufacturing company not only provides high-quality footwear to ANSF, but they employ hundreds of local citizens as well.

both the Afghan government and NATO Training Mission – Afghanistan is focused on developing.

"There is a current order for 136,000 boots and 82,000 athletic shoes to support the increase in ANA end strength," according to Maj. Kevin Groff, ANSF footwear acquisition program manager.

"We recently offered, and Kabul Melli accepted, a second option year on the current contract, which will extend the period of performance through February 2012," Groff said.

"The boots were built, tested and

improved, through feedback and testing, to the high-quality boots they are today," said Groff. "They are now comparable in every way, quality wise, to those produced by U.S. manufacturers."

The improvements were made despite obvious challenges of doing business in Afghanistan.

"There multiple are and challenges concerns associated with doing business here," Groff said. "Security is one, finding qualified, educated workers is another. Purchasing and receiving raw materials causes consternation production, because currently there is no indigenous production of the materials within Afghanistan. Delays in deliveries are caused by the logistics of getting the materials through the borders of neighboring countries."

"These local citizens demonstrate exceptional courage by undertaking business initiatives under challenging conditions presenting significant risks to their success and safety," O'Neill said. "I came away greatly impressed professionalism, dedication and entrepreneurial spirit despite these obstacles. I was particularly struck by their consideration of such issues as child care and equal pay for female workers."

Groff said Kabul Melli is determined to continue the production of high-quality boots, physical training shoes, and shower shoes for the ANSF.

"We need to continue to provide contracting personnel who understand the unique challenges and opportunities presented by the local Afghan economy," he said. "While conducting our own mission, we have a chance to plant economic and social seeds that will enhance our long term security and improve conditions for the local population."

Army National Guard and Reserve leaders visit troops



By Task Force Rushmore Public Affairs

CAMP EGGERS – Senior leaders from the Army National Guard and Army Reserve met with deployed National Guard and Reserve Soldiers Jan. 21 at Camp Eggers in Kabul, Afghanistan, to speak about issues that concern Soldiers both at home and abroad.

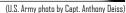
Army Maj. Gen. Raymond Carpenter, acting director of the Army National Guard, and Lt. Gen. Jack Stultz, chief of the Army Reserve, talked about issues ranging from changes in the National Guard and Reserve, recruiting and retention, deployment cycles and Soldier resiliency.

Carpenter and Stultz conducted a battlefield tour across Afghanistan to meet with senior military officials in Afghanistan about the efforts and support of the National Guard and Reserve as a key component of the operational force in support of the war effort.

"The Army can't do what they do without you. Prior to 2001, the Guard and Reserve were the strategic reserve, but now you're a part of the operational force," said Stultz. "You're appreciated and you're needed and we are doing everything we can to get more resources and capability put into your formations so you can maintain that trained and ready force."

"We find ourselves nine years into two wars with an all-volunteer force. I don't think the people who envisioned the all-volunteer force ever expected it would be able to sustain itself over that period of time," added Carpenter. "This is due to the outstanding men and women we have serving in our organizations. Your commitment to the mission, your country and each other is something to be proud of."

During the town hall meeting, Soldiers had the opportunity to ask questions and voice their concerns about future force structure in the





(U.S. Army photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss)

Maj. Gen. Raymond Carpenter, right, acting director of the Army National Guard, shakes hands with Spc. Alex Page of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, during a town hall meeting with deployed National Guard and Reserve Soldiers Jan. 21, 2011, at Camp Eggers in Kabul, Afghanistan.

reserve component and recruiting and retention.

"We in the National Guard, not unlike the Army Reserve, are seeing recruiting rates that are unprecedented," said Carpenter. "The retention rates we are seeing are also unprecedented and that's huge.

"This is something we ought to be proud of, both from the leadership perspective and also from your perspective, because the people that are making that happen are the people with bars, with stripes and with rockers – the leaders."

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U.S., coalition forces shop bazaar; enhance economy

By Sgt. Rebecca Linder Task Force Rushmore Public Affairs

CAMP PHOENIX – Shopping in America is one thing, but who would have thought shopping in Afghanistan during a time of war would be an option. The bazaar at Camp Phoenix in Kabul has improved the local economy in recent years, built relationships, and provided servicemembers with a break from their normal routine to buy an assortment of authentic merchandise.

With eager and anxiousness to earn some money, around 100 local Afghan vendors gather here on Fridays to sell goods such as bracelets, scarves, blankets, suits and several other products to American and other coalition forces.

"It gives coalition forces, civilians, and servicemembers a chance to actually buy products from the local Afghan market that they might not have an opportunity to get back in the states or wherever they are from," said Staff Sgt. Dustin Kourt, badging noncommissioned officer, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade. "The option to sell here is pretty much open to all local Afghans from the area; they are able to sell their goods for themselves and make a living this way to support their families."

Before the locals are allowed to start selling their products or even come on camp, each must go through a series of screenings to ensure they are healthy and safe from harming anyone on camp.

"The locals get a full screening process including medical, and an intelligence interview before receiving a badge, where they will still be escorted at all times," said Kourt, of Wagner, S.D. "Also, the Bazaar is manned and guarded by U.S. and coalition forces to keep it a safe environment for troops to shop."

Since the same vendors usually come to the camp week after week, relationships between camp personnel and the locals have grown to become friendships and the Afghans like seeing what the U.S. forces are doing here, added Kourt, a South Dakota Army National Guard member.

Building relationships has not only provided the locals with continued business, but is also helping to win the hearts and minds of the Afghan people.

"By building those relationships, a good word is being put out about the American forces and that we are trying to help their people," said Kourt. "If we do continue to build those relationships, then that will alleviate certain locals from citing with the enemy or Taliban forces," ended Kourt.



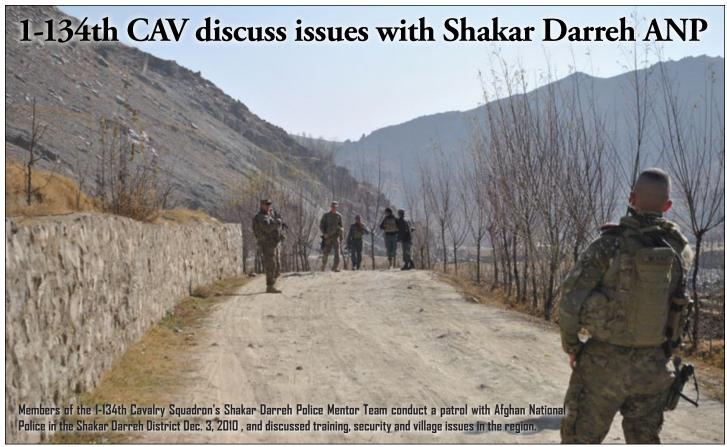
(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Rebecca Linder)

Spc. Nick Lonowski, Charlie Troop, 1-134th Calvary Squadron, Nebraska Army National Guard, gives an Afghan vendor money after buying two watches at the bazaar on Jan. 14, 2011, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. Lonowski and other servicemembers shop at the bazaar every Friday to help their local economy and purchase merchandise that they wouldn't normally be able to get during a time of war.



(U.S. Army photo by Sgt. Rebecca Linder)

U.S. Navy Lt. James Sullen, talks with a vendor while picking out a hand-made blanket at the bazaar on Jan. 14, 2011, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan. Sullen and other U.S. and coalition forces buy blankets, jackets, scarves and other authentic products to help the local economy in Afghanistan.



(U.S. Army photo by 2nd Lt. Sean Polson)

By 2nd Lt. Sean Polson Task Force Fury, 1-134th Cavalry Squadron

SHAKAR DARREH DISTRICT – The Shakar Darreh Police Mentor Team (PMT) of the 1-134th Cavalry Squadron, Nebraska Army National Guard, met with Afghan National Police (ANP) of the Shakar Darreh district on Dec. 3.

Team leaders from the 1-134th visited with the police teams and the ANP district commander to discuss security, training and ways to help villagers in the region. The PMT leaders reviewed how the ANP team's training is going and any additional improvements the teams will need to work on.

"The Afghan police need to be mentored to learn how to function properly as a force to provide the basic need of security to the everyday lives of their fellow villagers," said Sgt. 1st Class Randy Freye, team leader, Bravo Troop, 1-134th. "While working with the Afghans does have its challenges because of language and cultural differences, it is interesting to learn how a different culture approaches tasks and problems presented to them. It is also good to build the relationships with the mentorees."

Drinking chai tea with the police chiefs and engaging in conversation to hear their opinions on some current events is also helpful in knowing what is best for the people, added Freye.

During their discussions, the PMT leaders gathered information about the welfare of the villages and assessed any emergency needs. An important aspect of gaining the support of the local people is not



(U.S. Army photo by 2nd Lt. Sean Polson)

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Members of the 1-134th Cavalry Squadron's Shakar Darreh Police Mentor Team review the progress on a bridge being constructed in the Shakar Darreh District Dec. 3, 2010.

only providing security, but also improving their quality of life if possible. This is where the 1-134th's civil affairs team comes into action.

The civil affairs team is part of the Commanders Emergency Response Program (CERP) where funds can be used to help benefit communities with quality-of-life needs such as drinking wells, schools, clinics, dams, roads and bridges. After village concerns are addressed by the local elders, the

PMTs will nominate these emergency needs to the civil affairs team, who will award the projects to Afghan contractors.

"I like our mission. It gives us the opportunity to impact the lives of the Afghans through the police by providing security to their everyday lives," said Freye.

While Freye is happy to provide safety to the people, he is also hopeful they will be able to provide a reliable and consistent power source to the villages through the CERP.

JANUARY 2011



MILESTONE New facility marks increased capacity for Afghan Rule of Law efforts

By Combined Joint Interagency Task Force 435 **Public Affairs**

new Afghan prison, known as Housing Unit Delta, opened on Monday, Jan. 17 at the Detention Facility in Parwan province (DFIP), marking the most significant milestone to date in the Afghan government's growing capacity to assume responsibility for detention operations in Afghanistan.

"Today, I am witnessing firsthand the transfer of Housing Unit Delta from Americans to the Afghans," said Afghan National Army Gen. Sher Mohammad Karimi, chief of the general staff ANA, during a ceremony to mark the completion of the housing unit and its transfer to the Afghan government.

The opening of this new facility, operated under Afghan authority, is part of the broader conditions-based transition of detention operations. That transition process began a year ago when Afghan and U.S. government officials signed a memorandum of understanding designating the Ministry of Defense as the lead ministry responsible for the transition of detention operations.

"I am very happy today's transfer is happening and we get this responsibility," said Karimi.

HU-D is the first of three newly-constructed Afghan housing units scheduled to open in Parwan in the coming months. Afghan pre-trial detainees or post-trial convicts will occupy the new housing units, which will operate under Afghan law and procedure. These units will be operated by ANA Soldiers from the Parwan and Pol-E-Charki Military Police Brigade.

"This is a big honor that we get this job," said ANA Brig. Gen. Safiullah Safi, Parwan and Pol-e-Charki Military Police Brigade commander. "I assure you that our military police will do the job according to our religion and according to our rules of Islam and according to the policy of the Minister of Defense."

After completing basic corrections training last May, ANA military police completed advanced training at ANA Logistical Support Activity in Parwan to prepare for duty in the DFIP. The first cohort of ANA military police began working alongside their U.S. counterparts last July. ANA Soldiers are fully trained in the safe, secure, humane care and custody of prisoners in HU-D in accordance with international standards and Afghan law.

"We are excited to take responsibility for this unit," said a Soldier assigned to HU-D, who has served six years in the ANA. "We are serving our country and the people of our country and we serve against the enemies of

the country."

The Soldiers will conduct daily housing unit operations in HU-D, including manning over watch stations, searching cells for contraband, escorting prisoners to and from appointments and overseeing recreation, daily hygiene and meal service for prisoners.

The design of the housing unit, in accordance with the International Committee of the Red Cross standards, allows for safe and humane care and effective management of the prison population. The housing unit consists of handicap accessible cells, communal cells, bathroom and shower facilities, classrooms and recreation yards with drinking fountains and toilets.

Meals, logistical support and medical care are currently provided by the U.S. government in partnership with the Afghan government until the conditions-based transition of detention operations to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan is complete.

The new housing unit, like future housing facilities that will be transferred to the Afghan Government, is part of a larger Justice Center in Parwan. The JCIP includes not only corrections facilities but also office space and facilities for investigators, prosecutors, defense counsel, and judges assigned to work on national security cases. The Justice Center is intended to serve as Afghanistan's central location for the pre-trial detention, investigation, prosecution and post-trial incarceration of national security threats.

The Parwan and Pol-E-Charki Military Police Brigade is responsible for the confinement of detainees and national security threats throughout Afghanistan, and for the training, equipping and assigning of ANA personnel for the guard force and headquarters staff at the DFIP. The Parwan and Pol-E-Charki Military Police Brigade also provides rapid reaction forces and quick reaction forces for emergency situations. The brigade, established in 2006, partners with CJIATF-435, the Ministry of Justice, Supreme Court, Attorney General's Office, National Directorate of Security and the Ministry of Interior for the conditions-based transition of DFIP operations to the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan.



(Department of Defense photo by U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Adam M. Stump)

From left, Afghan National Army Maj. Gen. Marjan Shuja and Gen. Sher Mohammed Karimi, chief of the general staff ANA, receive a briefing during the Housing Unit Delta opening ceremony Monday, Jan. 17, 2011, in Parwan. Housing Unit Delta, a state-of-the-art facility located near the Detention Facility in Parwan several kilometers from Bagram Airfield, was completed in January 2011 and will be occupied by Afghans awaiting trial or tried and sentenced under the Afghan Penal System.



(Department of Defense photo by U.S. Air Force Master Sgt. Adam M. Stump)

Afghan National Army Soldiers from the Parwan and Pol-E-Charki Military Police Brigade prepare for a demonstration during the Housing Unit Delta opening ceremony Monday, Jan. 17, 2011, in Parwan. Housing Unit Delta is the first of three additional housing units at the Detention Facility in Parwan operated by the Afghan National Army Soldiers from the Parwan and Pol-E-Charki Military Police Brigade as a sovereign Afghan prison.

LEGACY MINUTEMEN

1-181st Infantry Regiment shares lineage of U.S. Army's first fighting force



(U.S. Army photo by Spc. Michael Broughey)

Sgt. Greg MacAvoy, right, and Sgt. Steven Grasso, both of the 1-181st Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts Army National Guard, hand out candy to Kuchis children Jan. 3, 2011, during a humanitarian mission in Kabul, Afghanistan. During the mission, the 1-181st also distributed clothing and blankets to the nomadic tribe.

hether they are standing watch in a tower or patrolling the streets of Kabul, members of 1-181st Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts Army National Guard, continue the legacy of minutemen who traded plows for rifles nearly 400 years ago.

The battalion, which deployed throughout Afghanistan in October 2010, is one of four units in the U.S. Army which share a lineage dating back to the creation of the Massachusetts Bay Militia Dec. 13, 1636.

More than a dozen platoons from the 1-181 are currently deployed to provide security for Provincial Reconstruction Teams (PRTs) while members of Headquarters and Headquarters Company (HHC) are supporting operations in the Kabul Base Cluster (KBC).

As part of the integrated base defense operations, 1st Lt. Sean Klay, of HHC's 2nd Platoon, said his Soldiers are responsible for providing security for the Entry Control Point (ECP), which is the main access

point for civilians and military personnel onto Camp Phoenix.

"Everyone knows we have the most dangerous job on the post – bar none," Klay said, adding it takes diligence, patience and respect.

Klay said his platoon interacts with coalition forces and Afghans who work as soldiers, linguists, make deliveries or who are seeking employment or medical attention at the ECP on a daily basis.

They are making headway by providing basic medical assistance – mostly bandages – and referring more serious cases to local hospitals or to the Troop Medical Center for emergencies, Klay said.

"We're putting the friendly face on the base," Klay said, adding this is a crucial aspect of counterinsurgency (COIN) operations.

Capt. Andrew Prewitt, the battalion's intelligence officer, said it's essential to develop relationships with Afghans since a counterinsurgency war is population-centric.

"The Afghan population must be convinced that it's in their interest to work against the insurgents and support the successes

of Afghan National Army (ANA), Afghan National Police (ANP) and NATO Forces," Prewitt said.

Pfc. Norbert Borowski, of HHC's 1st Platoon, said he didn't know what to expect while mobilizing for the mission, but has learned that asking the right questions and watching how people react is just as important as knowing when to shoot.

"It is pretty challenging," Borowski said, adding he relies on the experience of fellow Soldiers who have deployed before.

Pfc. Michael Terestre, of HHC's 3rd Platoon, said tower duty is also very challenging since Soldiers must pay attention to subtle changes in a busy urban environment.

"It's a little bit of nothing and a little bit of everything," Terestre said.

Spc. Mario Morales and fellow members of HHC's 3rd Platoon serve on the Quick Reaction Force (QRF) which is tasked to bolster security around Camp Phoenix, assist coalition forces and react to emergencies around the KBC area.

Morales said the members of the QRF are grateful that Kabul is relatively safe thanks to the efforts of coalition forces – both past and present. Like fellow Soldiers who go out on dismounted patrols, the QRF will continue to promote and ensure a secure environment, he said.

"We probably do more than we think," Morales said.

Executive Officer Maj. Mark Kalin said other members of the 1-181st operate small teams which supervise facilities management, infrastructure improvements and life support operations around the KBC, including at the following camps: Alamo, Darulaman, Julien and Dubs.

"We have made significant improvements in force protection infrastructure to include a newly designed ECP for Dubs," Kalin said, adding they recently opened a new gym for Julien and are managing the development of a Julien Annex for the future UK Infantry Basic School.

Sgt. 1st Class Paul Monohan, who works in the mayor cell at Camp Julien, said they are having a busy, but interesting time supporting the base and the COIN Academy.

It is a pleasurable challenge to work with many civilians and members of fellow coalition forces, including those from Mongolia, Germany, the Netherlands, Great Britain and New Zealand, according to Monohan.



(U.S. Army photo by Spc. Michael Broughey)

Cpl. Michael Sutherland, 1st Plt., HHC, 1-181st Infantry Regiment checks the identification documents of local Afghan fuel-truck drivers while 1st Lt. Alan Molin, HHC executive officer, inspects the storage compartments of the fuel truck outside Camp Phoenix Nov. 25, 2010.



(U.S. Army photos by Spc. Michael Broughey)

ABOVE: Staff Sgt. Mark Maslon, 1st Plt., HHC, 1-181 Infantry Regiment and a U.S. linguist are stopped by an elderly man who stepped outside his home to talk outside Camp Phoenix, while Pfc. Adam Flaherty (right) and Pvt. Timothy Brewer, also of 1st Plt., stand guard on each side Nov. 12, 2010.

BELOW: Pvt. Joshua Dextraze, a combat medic with 1st Plt., HHC, 1-181 Infantry Regiment treats and





An Afghan contractor checks the battery on a forklift he operates and maintains while Sgt. 1st Class Paul Carroll, service contracts manager for the Directorate of Resource Management, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, watches Dec. 16, 2010, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul.

CONTRACTING A WAR

Resource management team sustains troops, saves money, boosts economy

By Capt. Anthony Deiss

Task Force Rushmore Public Affairs

or U.S. and coalition forces serving in the capital region of Kabul, Afghanistan, receiving the food and fuel they need to fight the war doesn't happen without the funding that it requires.

Making funding possible is the Directorate of Resource Management (DRM) for the Kabul Base Cluster Installation Command.

These South Dakota Army National Guard Soldiers from the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade provide the expertise needed to award, fund and sustain contracts, which ensure servicemembers have the necessary essentials to be successful in their

mission

"We get the funding needed to support the troops and facilitate the contracts required for services or equipment," said Maj. Pete Jerzak, director of resource management for the DRM. "If servicemembers need nontactical vehicles for their mission, we take care of everything from getting the contract paperwork submitted, approved, funded and awarded."

With 11 military bases in the Kabul Base Cluster, the DRM is responsible for ensuring all the installations have the needed construction, commodities and service contracts to sustain the bases and the more than 9,000 servicemembers that reside on them.

"Dining and laundry services, building construction and maintenance, armed

security guard and labor contracts, firefighting equipment – anything that sustains our camps and our troops comes through DRM," said Jerzak. "Our main goal is to give the servicemembers exactly what they want, when they want it and how they want it at the best price possible to the U.S. taxpayer."

And the best price is exactly what they are providing. In the last seven months, the DRM has saved the U.S. government more than \$175 million.

"Through streamlining services and taking a hard look at base or mission requirements we've saved a lot of money," said Jerzak, of Rapid City, S.D. "We are concerned about the validity of the projects and services and we make sure we don't have redundant contracts.

"If a shop has eight personnel and four non-tactical vehicles (NTV), we ask the question: What's the actual requirement?" continued Jerzak. "Do you need four NTVs for eight people? No you don't – you can probably get by with two. That's a savings of \$250,000."

Another example Jerzak noted is having one Logistics Civil Augmentation Program supervisor – instead of two – for two bases in close proximity to one another. This saved the government \$1.5 million.

"It's reducing and validating actual requirements – that's how we streamline it," said Jerzak. "As a fellow tax payer, I don't want my money wasted."

To improve contract efficiencies and reduce redundant contracts, Jerzak relies on his DRM team to help cover down on the bases of the KBC. With only five members, the DRM works closely with contracting officer representatives (CORs) on each base, who oversee contracts and are responsible for ensuring the military gets exactly what they specify from a vendor.

"An important aspect of this job is the relationship we have with CORs," said Sgt. 1st Class Paul Carroll, service contracts manager for the DRM. "We want to make certain the CORs understand the contracts and we are getting what we pay for.

"Ensuring the COR assigned is managing a contract correctly and keeping visibility on when a contract expires is really critical," continued Carroll, of Spearfish, S.D. "We want to make sure there is not a gap in service, because if there is, it's the servicemember that suffers."

Guiding the DRM team on how contracts are awarded has been the COIN, or counterinsurgency, directive issued by International Security Assistance Force Commander Gen. David Petraeus. Jerzak said the directive is helping stop corruption and boost the economy.

"What we try to push is not multiple contracts to many vendors but one large contract to the correct vendor," said Jerzak. "We try and get as many of those correct contracts to the smaller Afghan companies where they can spread the money out more in the community."

Smaller Afghan companies rely on other businesses to help provide the supplies, equipment or services it needs in order to fulfill a contract – instead of using a larger company which has these assets available.

The money essentially gets "stove piped" and directly benefits one company rather than multiple, said Jerzak. "I think the Afghans see that by awarding contracts to smaller vendors we provide equal and fair distribution. You reinforce an economy we



(U.S. Army photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss)

Sgt. 1st Class Paul Carroll, left, service contracts manager for the Directorate of Resource Management, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, listens to Master Sgt. Richard Albertson, a contracting officer representative (COR) with the 196th, visit with an Afghan contractor about forklift services and maintenance Dec. 16, 2010, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan.



(U.S. Army photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss)

Maj. Pete Jerzak, right, director of the Directorate of Resource Management of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, visits with Chief Warrant Officer 4 Carstin Alan, deputy director for DRM, on a contract Dec. 16, 2010, at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan.

need to build up."

The COIN directive is also producing a better service and quality product from Afghan companies.

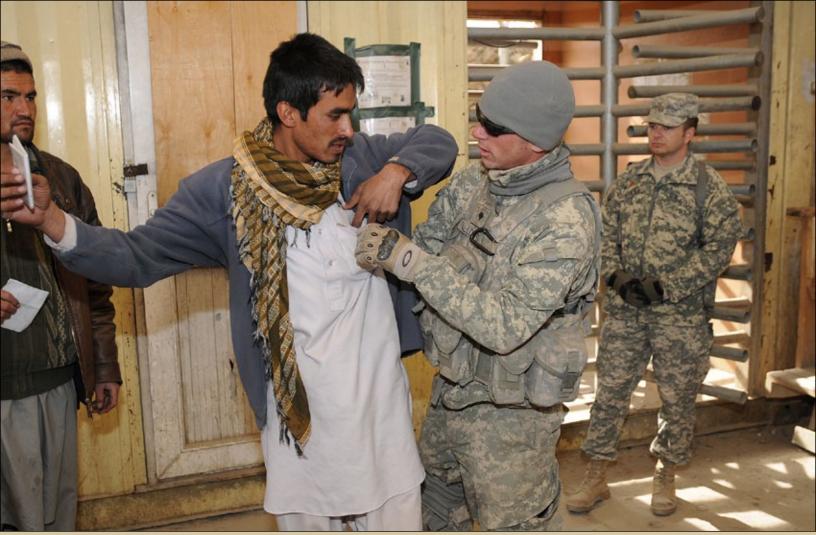
"We reinforce the COIN policy by spending the correct amount of money on the Afghan products the first time; instead of just throwing more money at equipment time-and-time again," said Jerzak. "The Afghans are improving their products because we are buying more quality products off the economy. They are learning

they need to provide better products and that's helped out a lot."

With saving money, improving contracts and services for servicemembers and boosting the local economy, the DRM team is making a difference in the war fight throughout the KBC.

"Getting our troops what they need, reducing spending and needless contracts and helping the Afghans – at the end of the day that's what we want to accomplish – and we've done that," ended Jerzak.

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(U.S. Army photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss)

Maj. Phillip Stiles, right, director of the Directorate of Emergency Services, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, supervises Spc. Fallows, 1-181st Infantry Regiment, Massachusetts Army National Guard, search an Afghan worker Dec. 19, 2010, entering Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan.

PROTECTING THE FORCE

Soldiers assess Kabul Base Cluster security

By Capt. Anthony Deiss

Task Force Rushmore Public Affairs

hen it comes to force protection for the Kabul Base Cluster, ensuring the 11 military installations of the KBC are properly protected is the responsibility of the Directorate of Emergency Services.

"We are responsible for assessing and analyzing

the threats against the KBC," said Maj. Phillip Stiles, director of the DES. "We start from the outside walls and look all the way in."

From base perimeters and guard towers to entry control points and searching procedures, these Soldiers of the 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, look at security from every possible angle.

"To assess threats we look at three areas; ourselves, to find what our vulnerabilities are; the enemy, to see what their capabilities are; and critical areas, the parts of camps where we could not perform our mission if those areas were affected," said Stiles, of Rapid City, S.D.

"Vulnerabilities come in all shapes and forms," said Master Sgt. Todd Mettler, noncommissioned officer in change for the DES. "We do an inspection of all the camps and look at all the force protection measures they have in place and how to improve them, to include protection of troop billets and dining facilities."

The DES visits with everyone from the lowest-ranking Soldiers manning the towers to the highest-ranking officers operating the camps.

"Everyone has different information or perspectives that someone else may not have," said Stiles. "Everyone's input is valuable."

After assessing camp areas, the DES conducts a risk assessment



(U.S. Army photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss)

Master Sgt. Todd Mettler, right, and Maj. Phillip Stiles, both with the Directorate of Emergency Services, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, survey construction upgrades to base security measures for Camp Phoenix Dec. 19, 2010, in Kabul, Afghanistan.



Sgt. 1st Class Joe Williams, noncommissioned officer in charge of badging for the Directorate of Emergency Services, 196th Maneuver Enhancement Brigade, South Dakota Army National Guard, scans the eye of an Afghan soldier to biometrically confirm his identity Oct. 9, 2010, on Camp Phoenix in Kabul, Afghanistan.

(U.S. Army photo by Capt. Anthony Deiss)

and prioritizes projects to protect against rockets, mortars and small-arms fire. One of the principal threats the DES looks at extensively is the improvised explosive device (IED).

"The IED is a big threat and it's one thing we strive to protect ourselves from," said Mettler, of Sioux Falls, S.D. "Detection and deterrence are probably two of the biggest assets to defeating the IED."

"We look to identify where the enemy's avenues of approach are – entry control points being one," added Stiles. "Making sure foot and vehicle traffic are safe and effective is a key area."

Once vulnerabilities are identified, the DES gets to work on implementing changes and improvements.

"We work with our KBC counterparts in the Directorates of Public Works and Resource Management, so we can get the funds and develop the contracts we need to make improvements," said Stiles. "Force protection is really a team effort and we can't be successful without the help from our other directorates."

It's not just bombs and bullets the DES works to protect against, but also people. The DES evaluates badging and biometrics procedures to keep enemy personnel from infiltrating the bases.

"We have many people that are not U.S. military that work on our camps – from contractors to local Afghans," said Mettler. "We badge people to know who they are and that they have a purpose to be here.

"The biometrics piece is huge," continued Mettler. "In Afghanistan, you will find people using fake documents, so we biometrically enroll people — we take finger prints, retinal scans, their picture — to make sure that a person coming onto camp is that person and not the Taliban."

With upgrading physical security measures, as well as personnel screening processes, the DES has increased the KBC's force protection footprint across Kabul.

"We've made significant strides in our force protection posture and we're working towards improving even those," said Stiles. "We started numerous projects on all of our camp and within a year those improvements will pay significant dividends."

According to Stiles, the camp's security posture is also making neighborhoods around the bases safer.

"It's important for Afghan citizens to understand that the

security that is improved here on the camps also improves security for those neighborhoods around them," he said. "Any improvements we make – making it more difficult or a less appealing target for insurgents to attack – in turn improves area security."

Even with upgrades to security in and around the bases, these Soldiers know they can never stop fortifying their position.

"The threats are evolving," said Stiles. "The threat we had in 2003 is not necessarily the same threat that we face today. As we evolve so does the enemy and we need to stay ahead of them."

To stay ahead of the enemy's tactics, it's not just concrete barricades and surveillance systems that keep base residents secure, but also people.

"The best defense is the Soldiers and their vigilance," said Stiles. "It's a combination of the technology, the construction and the Soldiers. We have to have equal parts of all three, but vigilance with the Soldiers is where it all begins."

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