



# THE QUARTERMASTER GENERAL'S NEWSLETTER

QUARTERLY UPDATE TO THE LEADERSHIP OF THE QUARTERMASTER CORPS

OCTOBER—DECEMBER 2010



JANUARY 3, 2011

Greetings Quartermasters!

Happy New Year to each of you and your Families! I hope your holidays were grand and that you seized the opportunity to “rejoice, refresh, renew, and refocus” as we embark upon a new year. First, let me say that I am extremely grateful, humbled and proud to be your Commandant and 51<sup>st</sup> Quartermaster General! To lead the military men and women and Civilians of our beloved Quartermaster Corps is a phenomenal honor and responsibility—one that I will never take lightly. My Team and I look forward to teaming with each of you as we continually maintain our logistical prowess, relevance and “value-added” support to the Warfighters in the multitude of missions that we execute across unit formations worldwide.

We want to continually showcase the outstanding talent of Soldiers and Civilians within our Corps and help “tell their stories” for there is much to share. In this newsletter, you will read about a young Quartermaster Soldier assigned to a Special Forces Detachment and the outstanding job he performed under fire. Additionally, we’ve reprinted an article sent to us from Afghanistan on joint operations conducted with Air Force, Navy, Marines and the Dutch Army. This article illustrates the outstanding performance by all in accomplishing their mission. Without doubt, I know there are many more great stories to be told about the stalwart duty performance of Quartermasters who comprise our ranks! We hope you will find all of the articles informative and helpful in accomplishing your tasks and sharing Quartermaster pride.

Here at the Quartermaster School, it is our mission to provide QM Warriors who are technically and tactically proficient Leaders and Soldiers in support of ARFORGEN. It is also our mission to develop and sustain adaptive QM warfighting functions that are globally executable by the joint warfighters to ensure mission success. As the Quartermaster General, I ask that you continually provide us candid feedback and communications on how we are doing in support of your needs and in response to queries throughout the year. To facilitate ease of communication, we have established a new email account for you to use. Please feel free to use this email to address questions, issues or concerns as we continually endeavor to stay linked to you! The email address is: [LEEEMSGENERAL@CONUS.ARMY.MIL](mailto:LEEEMSGENERAL@CONUS.ARMY.MIL).

Please note that we will conduct our upcoming 36<sup>th</sup> Annual Culinary Arts Competition here at Fort Lee from 27 February through 11 March. We will showcase our finest culinary warriors and teams as they compete in several categories that include feeding a three-course hot meal to 100 people using only the field kitchen—an amazing feat! Additionally, a separate competition will be conducted among our enlisted aides. If you are in the Fort Lee area during this time period, please stop by the Post Field House and check out the extraordinary talent within our ranks.

In June, we will celebrate our Corps’ 236<sup>th</sup> Birthday and annual QM Symposium. We are on a mission: “Calling all Quartermasters to Come Home to Fort Lee”, 13-17 June to get “rebuffed”; renew acquaintances; and reconnect with your Corps. Look for the details in our spring Newsletter in April or online at [http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/qm\\_generals\\_update.html](http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/qm_generals_update.html). We are confident that you will enjoy the keynote speakers, leader panels and events planned. Please mark your calendars and plan to attend—we won’t be whole without you here. We look forward to seeing you all in June!

On behalf of Quartermasters everywhere, I thank each of you for the magnanimous work you do daily...you truly make us all so proud to serve! Thank you for your continued support of our Corps and our Soldiers and Civilians. Together, we will make 2011 an outstanding year for the Quartermaster Corps. Supporting Victory—HOOAH!!!

Supporting Victory!  
  
Gwen Bingham  
COL, LG  
Commandant

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## ARMY COOK ASSIGNED TO SPECIAL FORCES DETACHMENT EARNS BRONZE STAR, COMBAT ACTION BADGE

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As Maria Rodriguez-Torres listened to the reading of the narrative which accompanied the award of the Bronze Star medal highlighting her husband's accomplishments from his tour in Afghanistan, her facial expression displayed a look of astonishment.

She heard about his courageous actions when his forward operating base came under attack and her eyes widened. She heard how he came under attack no less than 24 times in which the enemy fired rocket-propelled grenades, 82mm mortars and 107mm rocket fire, and she trembled.

Finally, she heard how he constructed and ran a kitchen to feed 150 US, Afghan, and International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) military personnel, and how he instructed three local Afghan contract employees on all aspects of dining operations, and she revealed a huge smile.



MG Michael Repass, Commander, US Special Operations Command Europe, pins the Bronze Star on SGT Rodriguez-Torres

my hero, and from the beginning I knew what being a soldier meant to him," she said.

Rodriguez-Torres, who is currently assigned to Headquarters Support Company, 1-10 SFG (A), served as the Primary Food Specialist at Forward Operating Base (FOB) Kutschbach and was responsible for the planning, forecasting, ordering and feeding of all forces in probably "one of the most dangerous kitchens in Afghanistan."

According to the Operational Detachment A detachment commander who commanded the base, FOB Kutschbach lies in the heart of a heavily contested region with Taliban insurgents maneuvering in and around the immediate area just outside the perimeter.

Then she watched MG Michael Repass, Commander, US Special Operations Command Europe, pin the Bronze Star and LTC Isaac Peltier, Commander, 1<sup>st</sup> Battalion, 10<sup>th</sup> Special Forces Group (Airborne) pin the Combat Action Badge on her husband, Sgt. Javier

Rodriguez-Torres, and she held back tears of pride and joy. "He is



LTC Isaac Peltier, Commander, 1st Battalion, 10th Special Forces Group (Airborne) pins on the Combat Action Badge

"Our base was repeatedly attacked with mortar and rocket fire on numerous occasions during our combat tour," the ODA Commander said. "During every attack, Sergeant Rodriguez-Torres remained calm, ensuring all foreign national personnel, to include assistant cooks and linguists, were accounted for before maneuvering to the mortar pit to assist with counter-fire missions. "He went above and beyond what is expected of a support Soldier working with seasoned Special Forces Operators."

Rodriguez-Torres, who hails from Aguadilla, Puerto Rico, mentioned that despite being a cook, it is always his duty to be a Soldier first.

"One second you're cooking a meal and the next you hear the alarm going off and immediately afterwards you hear the blast of the RPGs, mortars or rockets; then you find yourself reacting and running to the mortar pit to assist the gunnerymen," he said. "Even though I'm a cook, I know that I'm a Soldier first and as a Soldier we are mentally prepared for any situation or circumstance."

On one such morning as he was about to prepare breakfast for the Soldiers on the FOB, the alarm went off, and as he dove to the ground, a 107mm rocket blasted 10 feet above him. The blast was so close that he could feel the heat of the projectile, yet he instinctively checked on his three local national cooks to ensure they were not injured and he led them to safety in the bunkers.

Afterwards he ran to a mortar position and engaged the enemy by firing mortar rounds to help defend the FOB.

Towards the end of the combat tour, the ODA commander submitted a list of forthcoming tour award write ups and included Rodriguez-Torres' name for recommendation of the Bronze Star.

"I initially received resistance with a comment of "a cook? We've never had a cook receive a BSM," said the ODA commander. "I replied by sending the BSM citation in which I depicted Sergeant Rodriguez-Torres' phenomenal performance, to include his tireless work ethic and courage under fire. After that, the award was processed without any further question."

During the award ceremony, Rodriguez-Torres was humble and spoke softly about his actions during his tour. Afterwards, he gave praise to the Special Forces Operators with whom he served.

"This has been a once in a lifetime accomplishment that would not be possible without the training and mentoring offered by the ODA and the courage that the unit has," Rodriguez-Torres said. "It's incredible to see these men honoring and battling for their country without hesitating to risk their lives."

## BRONZE STAR (CONTINUED)

“For me, this is something that I did in the situation, but for them it’s something they do on a daily basis. As I hold the Bronze Star medal in my hands, I can’t help but think of the leadership and teamwork that enabled me to earn this award.”

Attending the ceremony as part of the Phillip A. Connelly Awards Program, Chief Warrant Officer 4 Georgene Davis, a US Army Food Advisor who has been around Army cooks for more than two decades, said she was in awe as she listened to Rodriguez-Torres’ citation being read.

“I’m just inspired by what this young Soldier accomplished in Afghanistan,” Davis said. “He put himself in harm’s way, displayed remarkable courage and showed that cooks are Soldiers first. His actions should make every Soldier in the entire Food Service Specialist field proud.”



Above left: SGT Rodriguez-Torres speaks to the audience about his accomplishment and praised the Soldiers with whom he served.



Above right: Mrs. Maria Rodriguez-Torres congratulates her husband after he receives his award.

## TRAINING SUPPORT FOR EL SALVADORIAN MILITARY

SSG Ricardo Silva and SSG Edgardo Rivera 92F instructors with Petroleum and Water Department, traveled to San Salvador, El Salvador to exchange doctrine and train the Armed Forces of El Salvador on petroleum operations from 21-27 March 2010. The intent of the mission was to conduct professional development exchange of Petroleum, Oil and Lubricants (POL) management topics in a classroom environment. SSG Rivera and SSG Silva were able to visit several POL units in order to assess and provide feedback on current operations within the units. The main objective was to improve and enhance the El Salvadorian Armed Forces POL management capabilities.

## TRAINING SUPPORT FOR EL SALVADORIAN MILITARY (CONTINUED)

LTC Harry Mercado and CPT Cintron, the Logistics Division G4, Army South, Fort Sam Houston, were the POCs for the mission. The exchange occurred at the Comando de Apoyo de Armas Combinadas, otherwise known as CODEM, which has the same significance as CASCOM. The exchange occurred from 21—27 March 2010, and had a total of 38 students in attendance. The students were in the El Salvadorian Air Force, Army, and Navy. The students varied in rank from Captain to Private.

SSGs Silva and Rivera presented the following subjects: POL Hazards, Environmental Considerations, Storage and Accountability, Sampling and Gauging, Fuel Filtration, Examination of POL Products, Tank and Pump Units, POL Transport, Refueling Operations, and Aviation Fuel Surveillance. Throughout the exchange, SSG Silva and SSG Rivera presented the material, and conducted AARs with the El Salvadorian military. SSG Silva and SSG Rivera also answered questions and provided references to the El Salvadorian military for future use.

POC is CPT Felicia Sturgeon and may be reached at (804) 734-2706, (DSN 687) or emailed at felicia.sturgeon@us.army.mil.



Above: Students in the El Salvadorian Military, after completion of training with Petroleum and Water Department Instructors and POCs from Fort Lee, Virginia and Fort Sam Houston, Texas.



## FISCAL YEAR 2010 COLONEL SELECTION BOARD RESULTS

On 19 October 2010, the US Army Human Resources Command released the results of the FY10 Department of the Army Colonel Promotion Selection list. Thirty-one Quartermaster Lieutenant Colonels were among the officers selected for promotion. Below is the Summary of Board Actions.

	<b>MFE</b>	<b>OS</b>	<b>FS</b>
<b>Previously Considered - Con/Sel AZ% of Cons</b>	329/72 = 8.2%	291/26 = 8.9%	183/13 = 7.1%
<b>First Time Considered - Cons/Sel PZ% of Cons</b>	364/187 = 51.4%	282/122 = 43.3%	232/104 = 44.8%
<b>Below Zone - Cons/Sel BZ % of Cons</b>	562/13 = 2.3%	414/9 = 2.2%	329/8 = 2.4%
<b>Total Selection - Total Sel/BZ Sel BZ% of Sel</b>	227/13 = 5.7%	157/9 = 5.7%	125/8 = 6.4%
<b>Opportunity - PZ Con/Tot Sel DOPMA Opp%</b>	364/227 = 62.4%	282/157 = 55.7%	232/125 = 53.9%

Congratulations to the following Quartermaster Officers on their selection to Colonel:

LTC Mary E. Abrams	LTC Kevin M. McKenna
LTC Skip Adams	LTC Sean P. McKenney
LTC Steven L. Allen	LTC Manuel C. Meno Jr.
LTC Delmar G. Anderson	LTC James S. Moore, Jr.
LTC Joe E. Arnold Jr.	LTC Bernard L. Moxley, Jr.
LTC Robert L. Barnes Jr.	LTC Charles E. Newbegin
LTC Antonio Brown	LTC Samuel L. Russell
LTC Charles Cobbs III	LTC Mark Christopher
LTC Richard A. Ellis	LTC Eugene Shearer
LTC Robert L. Hatcher Jr.	LTC Spencer L. Smith
LTC Kenneth R. Hook	LTC Keith J. Sylvia
LTC David M. Kaczmariski	LTC Kenneth D. Watson
LTC Robert E. King	LTC Darren L. Werner
LTC William M. Krahling	LTC Derrin E. Williams
LTC Joseph E. Ladner	LTC Alan D. Woodard
LTC Theodore M. Lennon	

The by-name listing of all Soldiers selected may be obtained from the following website:

[https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/Select/FY10\\_COL.pdf](https://www.hrc.army.mil/site/protect/Active/Select/FY10_COL.pdf)

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## **2011 REGIMENTAL HONORS PROGRAM**

The Regimental Honors Programs was created to recognize outstanding individuals and units, both past and present, who have helped fulfill the Quartermaster Corps' mission in very special ways, or who have brought known credit to the Regiment over the course of its long and proud history. Annually, the Quartermaster Corps sets out to recognize the outstanding contributions of our most distinguished members and units. We will begin the process of accepting nominations starting Jan 2011 for those personnel and units deserving of recognition for their distinguished service. Nominations will be accepted for induction as a member of the Quartermaster Hall of Fame, Distinguished Member of the Regiment, and Distinguished Unit of the Regiment.

Nominations will be reviewed by the Regimental Honors Selection Board which consists of Senior Officers, Warrant Officers, NCOs and Senior Executive Service Civilians from throughout the Quartermaster Corps. They will select the individuals based on their contributions to the Quartermaster Corps. Once a person or unit is selected, they will be recognized during the Regimental Honors Ceremony, as the culminating event for the 2011 Quartermaster Symposium scheduled for 13-17 June.

Nominations will be accepted until 15 March 2011. Information on the eligibility criteria and other requirements are available at: [http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/oqmg/regimental\\_office/ro\\_nomination.html](http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/oqmg/regimental_office/ro_nomination.html). For additional information regarding the Regimental Honors Program or the 2011 Quartermaster Symposium, please contact the Regimental Adjutant at (804) 734-3533 (DSN 687) or you may send an email to [LEEQMRegimentaladjutant@conus.army.mil](mailto:LEEQMRegimentaladjutant@conus.army.mil)

## **WARRANT OFFICER MENTORSHIP NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER**

Mentorship for warrant officers has always been important for their professional development but changes in the past few years have made it even more important, if not essential. In order to gain years of service as a warrant officer, the Army made a conscience decision to assess warrant officers at an earlier point in their career. Warrant officers, on the average, retire around 22 years of service. This caused a shortage of CW4s due to a large number of warrant officers retiring before they achieved the rank of CW4. Current guidelines are to recruit NCOs that do not have over 12 years of active federal service with a target of 6-8 years of service.

## **WARRANT OFFICER MENTORSHIP NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER (CONTINUED)**

This being said, the Army is recruiting younger Soldiers with less experience than they did in previous years. There are other factors that also affect the experience level of the warrant officer that the Army is producing. We have been engaged in conflict for the past 9+ years. A large part of logistical functions are being provided by contractors. These functions include food service, fuel, water, and supply support activity (SSA) operations. This drastically reduces the opportunity for enlisted soldiers to gain experience in their assigned MOS, especially during deployments.

Due to contractors performing logistical functions, the Soldiers are assigned other duties such as force protection and convoy operations during deployments. As a result of this, and other factors, it is not unusual to have a newly appointed WO1 who may be a 920A without property book experience, a 920B without warehouse experience or a 922A who has not ran a dining facility. The chances of a new WO1 in one of these categories being successful are slim if the individual does not have a good mentor.

Another change in recent years that adds to the dynamic is modularity. This has isolated some warrant officers and help is not readily available. Where 920As used to work in a property book section, they are often dispersed into Brigade Combat Teams (BCTs) with no other 920As in close proximity. There are no experienced warrant officers in the same MOS close by to provide assistance if needed. This puts a young warrant officer with little or no experience in a tough position. For those in this type of situation, it is imperative that they seek out a mentor early on to help them be successful. One of the most common observations expressed at PreCommand Courses during the Sustainment warrant officer panels is that the Army is not producing the quality of warrant officers that it did in previous years.

At a senior warrant officer summit held at Fort Rucker, AL in June 2010 one of the senior warrant officers interviewed a class of warrant officer candidates that were about to graduate. When they were asked what their biggest concern was, the answer was the lack of mentorship from warrant officers. The majority felt that once they were accepted into the warrant officer program, they were left to fend for themselves and figure things out on their own. This could be likened to going white water rafting on an unfamiliar river without a guide to show you where the dangerous rocks and other obstacles lie. It is not only technical areas where junior warrant officers need help. Many of them have transitioned from working for a senior NCO to a field grade

## WARRANT OFFICER MENTORSHIP NEEDED NOW MORE THAN EVER (CONTINUED)

officer. A good mentor is needed to help them know what is expected and to fully transition from being an NCO to a warrant officer.

What can a commander do to mitigate situations like those listed above? A good start is charging the senior warrant officer in the command with developing a warrant officer mentorship program. This should include periodic Warrant Officer Professional Development (WOPD) sessions. Mentorship relationships can be either formal or informal. It is not easy for a warrant officer, who is viewed as a subject matter expert to ask for help in an area that they may be struggling with. Therefore a mentor has to be someone whom the individual trusts and has the confidence that what is discussed will not be passed on to others.

There are a variety of mentorship tools available for warrant officers. The Quartermaster Community on SustainNet has numerous publications and survival guides that are excellent references. Warrant Officer Net provides a conduit to the rest of the warrant officer cohort for questions and help with issues or problems. There is a mentorship link on Warrant Officer Net for those seeking out a mentor. Junior Officer Development counseling sessions are an excellent opportunity to determine if junior warrant officers have entered into a mentorship relationship. Although an effective mentorship relationship cannot be forced it lets the warrant officer know that it is important and something that should be pursued.

Our warrant officer candidates and junior warrant officers need help in clarifying their career goals and developing long term career strategies toward advancement. They also need aid in developing their short term career plans. Senior warrant officers must share their knowledge and instruct them in technical, leadership and management skills. Below are some helpful links for mentorship. One is a PowerPoint presentation and the other is a Quartermaster Warrant Officer Mentorship guide. See URLs below. Please click to access:

[http://usawoa-portal.20m.com/Mentoring+in+WO+Corps-COL\\_Melanson.ppt](http://usawoa-portal.20m.com/Mentoring+in+WO+Corps-COL_Melanson.ppt)

[http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/oqmg/warrant\\_officer\\_proponency/mentor\\_toc.htm](http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/oqmg/warrant_officer_proponency/mentor_toc.htm)

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## JMAC PARTICIPATES IN MASS FATALITY RESPONSE TRAINING

The Joint Mortuary Affairs Center (JMAC) provides mortuary affairs expertise, technical assistance, and interagency coordination within the mortuary affairs/fatality management community to the Department of Defense. When requested, such expertise is also provided to federal and civil agencies in coordination with Northern Command (NORTHCOM). During the Summer of 2010, JMAC staff participated in three major homeland defense

and civil support training events.

In July 2010, JMAC participated in the New Madrid Seismic Zone tabletop exercise in Kansas City,



Missouri, which focused on the potential impact of a major earthquake to a seven state area in the heart of the continental United States. Department of Health and Human Services and the Federal Emergency Management Agency hosted the week long exercise focusing on emergency management functions, which included mass fatality management. JMAC provided advice and briefings on DoD capabilities and operational support.

Also in July, the JMAC Operations section supported a mass fatality exercise conducted by the Air National Guard at Volkfield Wisconsin National Guard Combat Readiness Training Center. JMAC's Ken Tabor participated as an Observer Controller, providing support and assistance in the planning and execution of a major exercise involving the Air National Guard's Fatality Search and Recovery Teams (FSRT), which are designed to handle contaminated human remains.



## JMAC PARTICIPATES IN MASS FATALITY RESPONSE TRAINING (CONTINUED)

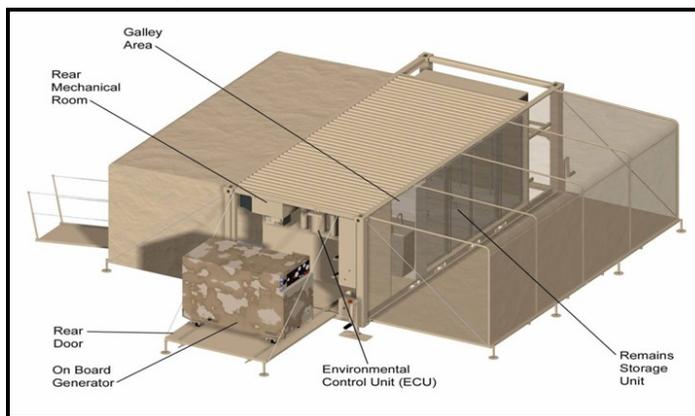
Earlier in the summer, JMAC Operations specialists Ray Collazo and Cheryl Ites offered their expertise as advisors, planners, and trainers during the 2010 Regional Mass Fatality Management Training Evolution, a four state training event held in New Jersey. Hosted by the New York City Medical Examiner's Office, this training event included more than 200 personnel representing 38 agencies and 20 Medical Examiners/Coroners. The training evolution assisted in the development of local and regional response plans that focus on responding to mass fatalities resulting from a terrorist attack or natural disaster. The training offered a unique opportunity for experts to observe and evaluate the integration of DoD's Air National Guard FSRT with their civilian emergency response counterparts.

In accordance with the US Department of Homeland Security's National Response Framework, DoD mortuary affairs personnel will assist the Department of Health and Human Services, which is the lead federal agency for mortuary affairs, during a major emergency response operation within the US. Civil authorities may request DOD support in response to a number of mass fatality scenarios, which would likely overwhelm the capabilities of local, state, and federal authorities. During such an event, the JMAC would serve in a key advisory and coordination role to DoD and NORTHCOM.



## MIRCS JOINS THE MORTUARY AFFAIRS FORCE (CONTINUED)

huge leap in Mortuary Affairs capabilities by providing a state-of-the-art mobile collection facility to support Mortuary Affairs Collection Points. The MIRCS provides the ability to process and store remains in a temperature-controlled environment, while providing a comfortable and efficient working environment for the 92Ms. In the near future, additional Army units as well as some US Marine Corps units will receive the new MIRCS. Army and Marine students at the JMAC now receive training on this new system.



*The Mobile Integrated Remains Collection System (MIRCS)*



*Left: The MIRCS being delivered to the Joint Mortuary Affairs Center, Bldg 7143.*

*Right: Soldiers training on the MIRCS.*



## MIRCS JOINS THE MORTUARY AFFAIRS FORCE

After a long wait and a lot of work, the Joint Mortuary Affairs Center (JMAC) took ownership in September 2010 of the latest development in field equipment for use by Mortuary Affairs personnel - the Mobile Integrated Remains Collection System (MIRCS). Developed by the Combined Arms Support Command (CASCOM) and the Program Manager for Force Sustainment Systems (PM FSS), the MIRCS provides a

## MARTS TRAINING IMPLEMENTED IN CENTCOM

In July 2010, the Joint Mortuary Affairs Center sent a training team to the Central Command area of operations to facilitate implementation of the Mortuary Affairs Reporting and Tracking System (MARTS). The JMAC Team, led by SSG Erik Thomsen and Ms. Cheryl Ites, spent over thirty days traveling to ten different locations in Iraq, Afghanistan, and Germany to train Mortuary Affairs personnel on MARTS.

## **MARTS TRAINING IMPLEMENTED IN CENTCOM (CONTINUED)**

MARTS produces automated records and provides an automated management system for Mortuary Affairs processing facilities, as well as providing in-transit visibility of remains and personal effects during evacuation to the US. MARTS provides much needed automation to the Mortuary Affairs community.

In addition to the training in CENTCOM, JMAC also conducted training for 17 US Marines who were preparing to deploy, and both Army and Air Force Mortuary Affairs personnel working at the Dover Port Mortuary, Dover Air Force Base, Delaware. The JMAC training team was instrumental in bringing MARTS to a fully operational capability in CENTCOM. MARTS is now being used widely throughout Operations Enduring Freedom and New Dawn as the Mortuary Affairs system of record.

All Mortuary Affairs students receive training on MARTS during their 92M10 training conducted by Joint Mortuary Affairs Center at Fort Lee. This training is also available through a three day Mobile Training Team (MTT) course, which brings instructors to units allowing them to train at their home stations. Units must submit MTT requests through ATRRS. Instructions are available on the JMAC web site at [http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/mac/jmac\\_courses.html](http://www.quartermaster.army.mil/mac/jmac_courses.html) or by contacting the Course Manager at (804) 734-3670.

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*Joint Mortuary Affairs Student trains on laptop with Mortuary Affairs Reporting and Tracking System (MARTS).*

## **SHOWER, LAUNDRY AND CLOTHING REPAIR SPECIALIST**

Shower, Laundry and Clothing Repair Specialist (MOS 92S) undergoes a 6 week and 2 day course to learn the field services Shower, Laundry and Clothing Repair mission at the Aerial Delivery and Field Services Department, Quartermaster School. Ninety percent of the training is conducted outside or in a simulated field condition with a variety of field services equipment. Soldiers learn the basics of how to set-up, conduct PMCS, and operate field shower, laundry, and clothing repair system. All training is geared to ensure Soldiers are able to report to their units and function as a 92S from day one. Soldiers are tested on four training modules and are required to take a “hands-on” and a final comprehensive written test to successfully complete the course.

Recently, field hygiene in Iraq and Afghanistan has been well chronicled for being the mission of Logistics Civil Augmentation Program (LOGCAP), otherwise known as “Civilian Contractors”. However small outposts exist that do not have fixed facilities or contractors to do the hygiene support for Soldiers. Joint Security Station Heider, Iraq, is about as small and remote as a Forward Operating Base gets. With fewer than 200 soldiers, there are no permanent laundry facilities for Soldiers. 92S Soldiers from the 540th Quartermaster Company are still performing the Shower, Laundry, and Clothing Repair (SLCR) mission there.

Quartermaster Soldiers are utilizing the Laundry Advanced System (LADS) to wash and dry 400 pounds of clothes per hour for a 24-hour turn-around. 92S are still utilized on some small out-posts due lack of coverage by the LOGCAP or fixed facilities. Many Soldiers at small outpost have no other choice than to wash clothes by hand in buckets or purchase local commercial washers. There are not enough 92S in Theater to cover all austere outposts, but mobility and modular structure of SLCR Teams has definitely been a combat multiplier.

Each Quartermaster Field Services Company has six SLCR Teams, which can deploy to six different locations to provide field services. LOGCAP can only operate in areas deemed “Secure”, but of course these restrictions do not exist for the SLCR Teams. Soldiers are able to provide morale-boosting laundry and shower services for other Soldiers in any environment in theater. Water and fuel is the only external ingredients needed to perform the mission on the battlefield. In austere locations Soldiers, providing support for other Soldiers is normally the preferred method of sustainment.

## SHOWER, LAUNDRY AND CLOTHING REPAIR SPECIALIST (CONTINUED)

There are other systems currently being considered to assist with the SLCR mission in Theater. Containerized systems such as the Containerized Batch Laundry (CBL) System and other TRICON systems are being analyzed for usage in Theater. CBL has a smaller output at 150-200 pounds of laundry per hour or approximately 75 sets of ACU's. CBL also has a Nano-filtration system that removes biotoxins that may be found in soiled hospital clothing and linens. Self-Service containerized systems such as Containerized Self Service Laundry (CSSL) systems are also employed so Soldiers are able to wash their own clothing when their schedules permit. Expeditionary TRICON Shower System (ESS) and Expeditionary TRICON Batch Laundry System (EBL) are initiatives to provide improved combat field services for the expeditionary War Fighter.

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## EXECUTING COMBAT LOGISTICS PATROLS IN AFGHANISTAN: THE DUTCH PERSPECTIVE



*Soldiers of the Regimental Support Squadron, 2D Stryker Cavalry Regiment combined with coalition partners from the Netherlands Army conduct a joint re-supply/retrograde mission from Kandahar airfield to Tarin Kowt Afghanistan.*

The Regimental Support Squadron (RSS), 2<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Cavalry Regiment, deployed to Kandahar Afghanistan in June 2010 in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. In the first five months of conducting combat logistical operations the unit has safely conducted over 70 combat logistical patrols, covering over 10,000 miles and delivering over 13,295 short tons of supplies and equipment along with the retrograding of over 4,500 short tons of all classes of supplies. Their deliveries have included 3.6 million gallons of fuel with host nation trucks; 680,000 pounds of ice; 8,000 cases of MREs and over 500 bundles supplied by air.

The unit has conducted both combined and joint missions with the Air Force, Navy, Marines and Netherlands Armed Forces Dutch Army. The RSS, as it is known, supports the 2<sup>nd</sup> Stryker Cavalry Regiment across the Southern region of Afghanistan. The Regiment is spread across 37 locations in four provinces in an area roughly the size of South Carolina. In addition to delivering supplies, the RSS manages the maintenance of 320 Strykers and 2,000 pieces of legacy equipment.

The unit is based in Vilseck Germany and is commanded by the first female Commander in the regiment, LTC Michaele M. McCulley, a native of Barstow, California and Command Sergeant Major Kenneth McKoy, a native of Fayetteville, North Carolina.



*Soldiers of the Regimental Support Squadron and the Netherlands Army receive a convoy brief from 2LT Michael Deem prior to returning from Taren Kowt to Kandahar Airfield*



*LTC Michaele M. McCulley delivers her speech during the Regimental Support Squadrons Transfer of Authority Ceremony with the 402<sup>nd</sup> BS out of Fort Lewis, Washington*



*CSM Kenneth McKoy stands in front of the formation during the Transfer of Authority Ceremony with the 402<sup>nd</sup> BSB, 1 July, 2010*

## **CIVILIAN LOGISTICS CAREER MANAGEMENT OFFICE (CLCMO)**

The Quartermaster Corps recruits future civilian leaders through the Department of Army Civilian Logistics Career Management Office (CLCMO). The CLCMO mission is to help build challenging, successful careers through the DA Logistics Management Intern Program. Many of today's key civilian supply leaders began their careers as Logistics Management Specialist Interns. The CLCMO recruits college graduates for careers in Supply Management (CP-13), Materiel Maintenance Management (CP-17), and Transportation and Distribution Management (CP-24). Individuals enter the DA Logistics Management Intern Program as general schedule (GS) employees in the grade of GS-7 with a target grade of GS-11.

During the first 18 months of this two year program, interns are assigned to the CLCMO and receive formal logistics training and education, rotational assignments, and attend the Basic Officer Leadership Course (BOLC) at Fort Lee, VA. During the BOLC, which includes a Field Training Exercise (FTX), the interns gain a personal understanding of their ultimate customer – the Soldiers in the field. Equally important, having interns participate in BOLC gives Lieutenants a personal understanding of the Army's team and the value of Army civilian team members. In BOLC, military-civilian relationships are built that can last a career and even longer.

One of the best recruiting tools is word-of-mouth. Our readers are encouraged to help recruit those young high-achieving college graduates with a desire to serve the Army as a civilian. More information on the Logistics Management Intern Program is available on the CLCMO website at <http://www.cascom.army.mil/CLCMO>.

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## **TRIED AND TRUE STRATEGIES AND POSITIONING FOR TODAY**

In the Old Testament book of Ecclesiastes there is a verse often quoted which states, "there is nothing new under the sun" (Eccl. 1:9). Most who hear this quote for the first time (or even the third!) are astonished at such a statement. It would certainly seem that there is something new every day. When you consider what is new in the 20<sup>th</sup> and 21<sup>st</sup> Centuries compared to the 600s BC, when this was written, just how absurd is such a thought!

Yet, this is a profound truth with respect to philosophies, values, attitudes, sins, virtues, etc. The list for such is, indeed, not new for at least six millennia of people living "under the sun". If we think that we have broken new ground we may need to think again. It may only be a revival of what has been known or used in the past. Consider the fact that, The Art of War by Sun Tzu, a centuries old writing, is a major blueprint for modern warfare. This was required reading for Command and General Staff College (now ILE).

But how can it be true that there is nothing new under the sun? Even though we have many modern inventions, and even though our knowledge of science has progressed, our spiritual, emotional, and even our physical "theater of operations" have not changed. And, God has not changed, nor will He. It is as if we live in a world as pieces on a chess board and we are confined to the movement within this 'board' called Earth.

I am not an advanced chess player but I know that there are overall methods of strategic play and more intricate moves and positions that master players can envision. So, if it is true that there is "nothing new under the sun", it follows that there is an overall plan in which we play to win and not be "checked or checkmated". Just as history sometimes records winning strategies and positioning, our own personal history, and that of others, may present us with productive approaches and moves that are tested and proven.

The writer of Ecclesiastes cautions us from our "modern" perch, whether it be 600BC, or 1943AD, or 2011AD, that even though there may be an increased knowledge of science and discoveries, we deceive ourselves by creating or adopting new philosophies for living, with no regard of the past or the lessons learned.

What is your approach to life and what play book are you using? Do you have winning strategies for life and beyond? Our Nation and our Soldiers have great confidence in our military leaders because these leaders are well versed and well trained in the art of war and military history, drawing from centuries of 'army lessons learned'. In the course of our personal long term plan and our daily decisions may we choose that which is no less tried and true.

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