

TRANS TRIBUNE

Chronicle of Warrior Logistics in Motion!

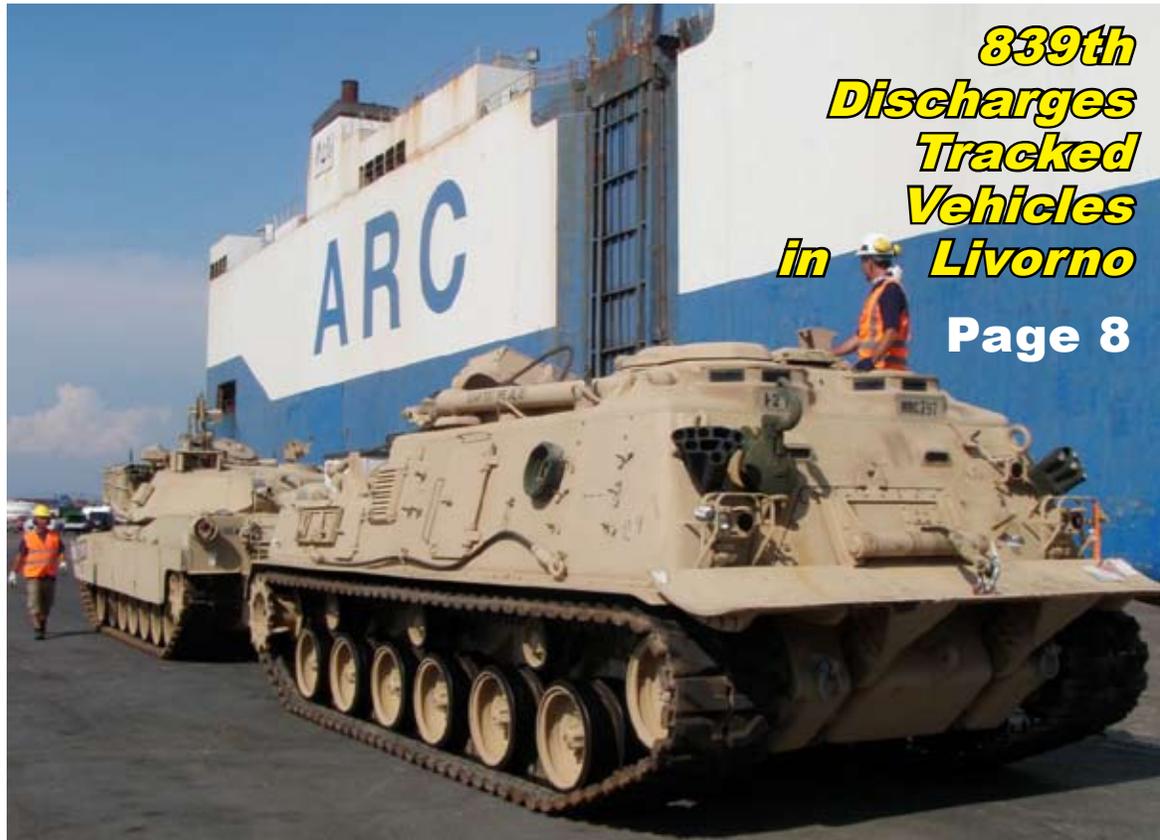
Volume 8, Number 8, August 2009



598th Transportation Group Rotterdam, The Netherlands



SDDC



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Discharges
Tracked
Vehicles
in Livorno
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**838th supports
WATC II 2009
in Cameroon**

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598th TRANS TRIBUNE

Volume 8, Number 8
August 2009

*SDDC 598th TRANS TRIBUNE
This newsletter is an official publication authorized under Army Regulation 360-1 and is published quarterly by Chief, Command Affairs, SDDC 598th Trans Gp overseas. The 598th Trans Tribune provides information of people, activities and operations of the 598th Transportation Group. Views and opinions expressed in this electronic newsletter are not necessarily those of the U.S. Government, Department of Defense, Department of the Army, or the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command. All photos, unless otherwise noted, are U.S. Army photo's. We reserve the right to edit all material for style, to fit available space, to resolve libel, force protection and grammar.*

Commander
Colonel Stephen E. Farnen

Command Sergeant Major
CSM Sgt. Maj. Felton L. Head

Editor
Chief, Command Affairs / PAO
Bram de Jong

Asst Editor/CAO
Martin Weteling

*Forward input for this newsletter to the Editor via e-mail
bram.dejong2@us.army.mil
or call DSN 362-2460 or Commercial +31 10 4592460*

From the Commander

*Col. Stephen E. Farnen
Commander 598th Trans Gp (SDDC)*



Our summer season is coming to a close and all told it has been a good one! Our Dutch weather has been fantastic and based on my observations it definitely appears that everyone managed to find the right work/play balance to safely enjoy the season. Our summer rotation of personnel has been active as well. We have a few more newcomers to welcome to the team in September and then we will be full up and set to go as we lean into what always amounts to a busy fall and winter. Again, we want to extend a final farewell to all the great 598th teammates that moved onward and upward over the summer. Though we have weathered a significant period of change – we are excited about the skill and talent we have been able to hire and integrate into our team so we can carry the torch forward.

On the mission front, we knocked out many muscle movements on top of expanding and optimizing our main effort the Northern Distribution Network (NDN) in support of contingency operations in Afghanistan. On the NDN, we have delivered well over 2500 containers with over 2500 booked and in motion. We also spent a lot of time planning and preparing for our AS 40 mission with the MV Virginian in Eemshaven, NL, while also conducting the following missions: Peace Sky (Poland), 370th EN Co (Antwerp), 173rd ABCT (Bremerhaven / Livorno), and 3d AVN (Rota). Our integrated planning and actions with AFRICOM ISO Natural Fire (Uganda) also paid off. By the end of August, the 839th TB had boots on the ground to facilitate surface movement operations for this operation.

In the first week of August, I was proud to visit the 950th Transportation Company at Bremerhaven and be present as Major Gina SanNicolas assumed command in a brief ceremony - she has a great reputation and impressive resume' so expectations are high at 950th/838th – I am confident she is poised to take them to new heights.

After that, myself and all the 598th command teams participated in 21st TSC's Quarterly Commanders' Conference - both our new battalion commanders (LTC Cheramie and LTC Vallejo) were introduced to the LOG team here in Europe and overall it was another great venue! There were also farewell events as a prelude to MG Fontaine's Change of Command which took place 20 August. The 598th was in attendance - he will certainly be missed across our AORs and we appreciate him always being a great/strong advocate for 598TH/SDDC and making us an integral part of his team! BG McQuiston has given every indication right out of the gate that the same level of support and partnership will continue.

598th Transportation Group (SDDC)

Warrior Logistics - In Motion!



Our collaborative planning for our seminal event - the Joint EUCOM/AFRICOM Deployment Distribution Conference (JEADDC), 16-20 Nov continues on glide-path...there is great teaming ongoing with our EUCOM/AFRICOM J4/DDOC partners as we hone the agenda into what is truly shaping up to be a comprehensive/relevant event for our EUCOM/AFRICOM logistics warriors, commercial partners, and more...for more see www.JEADDC.com

We wrapped up the summer with our Annual Group Training Conference! This was a fantastic event in which all Battalion commanders, Detachment commanders, Staff Directors and key leaders participated to shape our long range calendar for FY10 and beyond, synch on training guidance and intent moving forward, to include conducting breakout sessions on multiple challenges we are facing, and getting in some great team-building opportunities as well. The theme for our conference this year was "Training in the New Normal". I think we did an excellent job bridging the gap to better link our emerging mission sets to training. I'm very proud of the superb team effort of our SPO shop in pulling together this highly organized and professional conference...allowing us to hit all our training objectives and deliverables in stride. HOOAH! Also with us this week was Colonel Christopher Corkery! It was an unique opportunity to welcome and introduce Colonel Christopher Corkery our Reserve Single Port Manager for the 598th. (More on page 14)

I also want to take this time to welcome our NEW Command Sergeant Major – CSM Felton Head. CSM Head officially joined our team as the GRP CSM 14 August and he has truly hit the ground running...so much so it feels as if he has been up here longer and it has only been a few weeks. A word from him and his insights are included in this edition of the TT, but suffice it to say we are in great hands with CSM Head as our Workforce CSM and I know he is eager, enthused, and excited for the challenges that lay ahead! I truly believe he is going to enable us to take things to another level! CSM Head came from the 839th Transportation Battalion in Pisa where Sergeant 1st Class Emilio Frijas temporarily serves as the acting 839th Sergeant Major.

On the Community front – our MWR continues to impress everyone as they arrange multiple venues and trips to enhance the quality of life of our Workforce and families: Schools Orientation Program, summer reading program recognition awards, Rhein River cruises, Swing Dance lessons, Karaoke Thursdays, Friday Movie Night, environmental awareness/green campaign events and much more – to include ongoing initiatives to further enhance QOL such as fitness center upgrades, ATM installment in September, and working to get AFN Radio up and running. The community pictures in this edition help tell the story – a lot of fun activities ongoing across our FOB Rotterdam - Hats off to everyone involved making these events happen and making our Rotterdam Community the place to be and where the Covenant lives...

Team – all told, a truly impressive display of professionalism and expertise on all fronts – you are exuding the Warrior Spirit and Ethos and I couldn't be more pleased and proud of all your efforts! Thanks to all of you for being engaged leaders and ensuring a safe and fun summer was had by all!

As always, the enthusiastic entrepreneurial spirit and professionalism displayed across our Workforce continues to make me proud to serve! Stay focused...activities linked to our themes for 2009, the Year of:

- Information Technology/Knowledge Management – Leap ahead 5 years
 - o Win the information domain!
- The Family Covenant at our FOB Rotterdam Community and beyond...
 - o Deliver!
- The SDDC NCO
 - o Set expectations & define what it means to be an SDDC NCO...

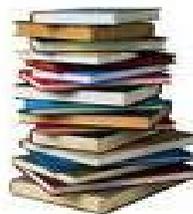
So our charter is: With these themes as a watermark and the principles of innovate, pioneer, and transform to guide us – be a committed, dependable, relentless entrepreneur and let's grow and expand who we are and what we do so our brand recognition inspires trust, endures, and resonates an aura of certainty regardless the nature of the fight or challenge across the spectrum of conflict.

Keep up the great work and continue to fight complacency at all costs! Be a prudent risk-taker and Own the Edge – this will keep us in motion and tracking in all we do.

Keep Workforce Strong and let's make a difference together! Thanks for all you do!

"Imagination is more Powerful than Knowledge" EINSTEIN

STRENGTH – VIGILANCE – RESILIENCE



***NEW ONE ADDED!**

To enhance your professional development, I offer the following books for your reading queue:

- ***Strategic Supply Management: Creating the Next Source of Competitive Advantage**, by Robert J. Trent
- **Living Supply Chains: How to mobilize the enterprise around delivering what your customers want**, by John Gattorna
- **Dark Star Safari: Overland from Cairo to Cape Town**, by Paul Theroux

Leadership Philosophy

**By 598th Transportation Group (SDDC)
Command Sergeant Major Felton L. Head**



I am extremely excited and energized to be your Group Command Sergeant Major! I am here to support the entire workforce and look forward to being a member of the team as we continue to move the 598th Transportation Group forward into the 21st century. I would like to share my leadership philosophy which provides my inner thoughts, beliefs and expectations for organizational performance and continued successes. Commitment is key to accomplishing the mission while taking care of our personnel. Our most valuable resource is our personnel and we must treat everyone fairly; with dignity and respect. Soldiers and civilians of this organization must clearly understand the mission and the Commander's intent. We must stride for excellence on a daily basis and set the standards for others to follow.

My philosophy encompasses vision, values, caring for Soldiers, civilians and their family members, leader development, managing change, diversity and a sense of humor. These key elements are essential to mission success. I will now discuss each key element:

Vision

We must understand where we are currently at, how we got here and how we are going to accomplish the mission. A clear vision provides this. History provides us with a sense of understanding of how we got to where we are today. Understanding history, especially military history is critical in shaping our future. Each commander provides us with their intent and this is a form of their vision to accomplish the unit's mission. My vision to you is; learn and understand the mission, determine a course of action, set goals to achieve the mission, keep your personnel trained and informed and execute the mission to the best of your capabilities. A Japanese proverb states, "Action without vision is a disaster," I don't want a disaster.

Values

We all come to the table with our own set of values. Normally our values and beliefs are instilled in us at a very early age. We also have a set of military values that we must understand and abide by. These values are: Loyalty, Duty, Respect, Selfless-Services, Honor, Integrity, and Personal Courage. These values serve as our moral compass to guide each and every one of us.

Take Care of Your Personnel

Don't take this for granted. Each person in this Group is vi-

tal to mission accomplishment. The importance of caring for the entire workforce embraces a wide variety of issues, such as: Army family covenant, quality of life, proper training and equipment, safety, and timely recognition for a job well done. We must embrace these issues and ensure they are fully supported.

Leader Development

We must allow our personnel the room to learn and grow. We must provide them with formal schooling, leader's training and empowerment. Normally formal educational opportunities often conflict with missions; it is imperative leaders allow their subordinates to attend school. This will pay-off in the long run. Also, give your subordinates the task and mission, be available to provide guidance, and hold them accountable.

Managing Change

I learned a long time ago that constant changes are here to stay, and the only thing that's constant is change. We must accept and understand change. Most of the times we don't agree with change but in the long-run we accept to understand it. A lot of time changes are made before they reaches our level, so don't fight it – understand it! We must be able to manage change and articulate the reason for the change. Just remember, constant changes are here to stay, and the only thing that's constant is change.

Diversity

We all come from different walks of life and each and every one of us has something different to offer. Our ethnic, religious backgrounds and experiences reflect differences that make us a unique and powerful organization. Differences may sometimes cause conflict which can be resolved by involving leadership early, using command open-door policy, and small-group sensing sessions. I will ensure that I get out of my office daily to talk to with the workforce. We must value diversity and we can always learn something from one another.

Maintain a Sense of Humor

Lastly, we should have fun and enjoy what we do. Having a sense of humor is important and extremely healthy for a positive climate. A good sense of humor helps build a spirit of teamwork and remember when all else fails, you had better be able to laugh!

Warrior Logistics – in Motion!

21st TSC Welcomes New Commanding General



Story by Angelika Lantz,
21st TSC Public Affairs

KAISERSLAUTERN, Germany – Even the hottest day of this summer could not keep the large number of guests, Soldiers, civilian employees and Families away. They attended the 21st Theater Sustainment Command's change of command ceremony at the sports field on Daenner Kaserne to wish their former Commanding General, Maj. Gen. Yves J. Fontaine, and his wife, Kathy Fontaine, a fond farewell. But they also came to meet and welcome their new Commanding General, Brig. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston and her husband Leif Johnson.

The ceremony on Aug. 20, which began with a cannon salute and a joint troop inspection, was hosted by Gen. Carter F. Ham, the Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army.

After passing the command's colors to McQuiston, Ham acknowledged the "accomplishments of the Fontaine command team."

"General Fontaine, the Soldiers and civilian employees of the 21st TSC have truly benefited from your leadership. You transformed the 21st TSC into a unit of warriors focused on supporting Soldiers ... Soldiers and commanders alike know the 21st will deliver the right stuff to the right place at the right time," he said.

Ham also found words of appreciation for "the better half of the Fontaine command team," he said. *"To Kathy Fontaine, we also owe our appreciation. A true leader and mentor to family readiness group leaders and family members, her dedication to Soldiers and Families is evident in her many volunteer activities,"* Ham said.

Additionally, Ham encouraged and welcomed the new commander. *"To Brigadier General McQuiston, welcome to Germany and the 21st TSC. You have inherited a command with a workforce*



■ *Gen. Carter F. Ham, the Commanding General of U.S. Army Europe and Seventh Army, hands the colors of the 21st Theater Sustainment Command to its new commanding general, Brig. Gen. Patricia E. McQuiston, during the change of command ceremony at the sports field on Daenner Kaserne Aug. 20. (Photos by Sgt. Frank Sanchez III, 21st TSC Public Affairs)*

that has an expeditionary mindset and a "can do" attitude. I know that you will prepare them for the inevitable challenges that lay ahead. I wish you the best of luck and know you will do well," he said.

When Fontaine took the microphone, he expressed his gratitude to all who participated in the change of command ceremony and emphasized that leaving a command is not easy. *"Well, the moment any commander dreads has come – the time to relinquish command, and it is with sadness that Kathy and I and our daughter Genevieve leave because we have thoroughly enjoyed being part of this fantastic organization – an organization that accomplishes its missions on a daily basis without much fanfare, without much accolades but to perfection all while taking time to care for Families,"* he said.

Fontaine will next serve as the commander of the U.S. Army Sustainment Command in Rock Island, Ill.

McQuiston joins the 21st TSC from the Defense Supply Center Columbus headquartered in Columbus, Ohio, where she served as the Commanding General for the past two years. She, too, thanked the Soldiers on the field and noted that the command's "tremendous reputation" as the premier sustainment command had been recounted to her numerous times since being selected for the command post.

"I am committed to maintaining this reputation," she said. ■

■ *The colors of all the 21st TSC's units are dipped low while the national colors of Germany and the United States stand tall during the playing of the German and American National Anthems at the 21st TSC's change of command ceremony Aug 20.*



950th Transportation Company

Welcomes New Commander Major Gina SanNicolas



By Captain Sol Velez, 950th XO

On 5 August, former HHC Company Commander, 101st CAB, Ft Campbell KY, Maj. Gina D. SanNicolas took command of the 950th Transportation Company. She continues the Powermovers legacy by becoming the 950th's 8th commander and 34th U.S. Army port commander at Bremerhaven. The ceremony took place at the German Marine School where distinguished members of the Bremen/Bremerhaven government; German Army, Air, and Naval Forces; members of the 598th Transportation Group and 838th Transportation Battalion were in attendance.

After taking control of the unit colors from Lt.Col. Riley Cheramie, Commander 838th Transportation Battalion, Maj. SanNicolas told ceremony attendees *"I'm excited and look forward to the challenges that lie ahead and for the opportunity to continue to build on the relationships we have with our commercial partners in order to foster a knowledge and information sharing environment, so that we, SDDC may remain a reliable and relevant source standing ready to meet the challenges of today and tomorrow"*.

Following the ceremony, guests were invited to a reception at the Germany Navy's Officer Club where attendees had the opportunity to meet and personally welcome Maj. SanNicolas. ■



■ Maj. SanNicolas accepting the unit colors from Lt.Col. Cheramie, Commander 838th Trans Bn.



■ The distinguished visitors.



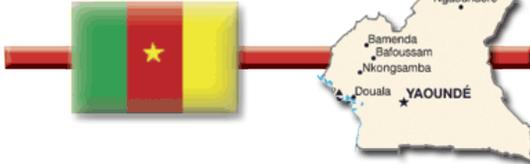
■ Photos by Ingrid Boehm, 950th Supply Tech.



838th Transportation Battalion Soldiers support WATC II 2009 in Cameroon

By Capt. Angel Rodriguez
Future Operations
838th Trans Bn

Cameroon



The 838th Transportation Battalion deployed two soldiers to support the West African Training Cruise (WATC II 09) exercise in Douala, Cameroon. Capt. Angel Rodriguez and Staff Sgt. James Phillips travelled from Rotterdam, the Netherlands on August 27th to meet the incoming vessel and to ensure all cargo was properly documented, prepared for onward movement and in transit visibility.

Cargo was successfully downloaded and Radio Frequency Identification tags were formatted and written on site.

"The ability to read and write tags is a valuable capability that we can provide for remote sites" expounded Staff Sgt. Phillips.

"We deploy as the face of SDDC to other organizations," says Capt. Rodriguez. *"It's a chance to execute our key functions in foreign locations, but it also serves as a means to interact and represent our battalion and command to other branches or forces that may not be familiar with what we do."*

WATC is a Navy Europe mission that focuses on several countries on the West African Coast to execute construction projects that are part of a "multi-phase, multi-national infrastructure improvement program". This program will open up the doors to these countries for future training events with the United States and partner nations.

Navy Europe also takes these opportunities to execute Humanitarian Civic Assistance projects. ■



839th Discharges Tracked Vehicles in Livorno

■ Photos by Leonard Baird-Boyd



By Sgt. 1st Class Juanita Maximin, 839th DDST

On Sunday the 9th of August 2009, a team from the 839th Transportation Battalion HQ and the Italy Detachment deployed to the Port of Livorno to facilitate the discharge of 70 tracked vehicles from the Vessel ARC PATRIOT. In this seemingly routine operation, challenges presented themselves which required personnel to adjust the plan in order to safely and successfully accomplish the mission.

Equipment types on this discharge varied from M109A6 Howitzers to M88 Recovery Vehicles and M1A1 Tanks. Equipment of this size required some quick thinking on the discharge when it became clear in conversations with the Chief Mate of the ARC PATRIOT that the weight limit on the ramp of the vessel would be exceeded discharging non-operational M1A1s with an M88.

■ 839th Terminal Manager Francesco Infante discusses operations with Sintemar Terminal Representatives at the Port of Livorno during the discharge of an M1A1 Tank from the Vessel ARC Patriot.

In the planning process leading up to this discharge at the Port of Livorno, an executive summary provided by the unit who loaded the vessel neglected to mention the method by which the deadlined M1s were loaded. Fortunately, the Chief Mate personally observed the loading in Kuwait and was able to provide Italy Detachment Terminal Manager, Francesco Infante, and 3/405th AFSB drivers and mechanics a description of how the process was carried out.

Thanks to detailed mission planning earlier in the week, the 839th coordinated with Angelo Borelli, SPO 3/405th AFSB, to have a second M88, in addition to the one already on the vessel, available to assist in the discharge. This proved to be a critical asset during the operation. Although listed as "operational", the M88 on board lacked a crucial piece of equipment – a steering wheel. Mechanics quickly solved the problem by installing a new wheel, and were able to utilize both recovery vehicles for the duration of the mission.

Had the 3/405th not brought their M88 along, it would have been impossible to discharge the vessel. The two M88s, working together, utilized their winches in order to lower and pull the deadlined M1s down the ramp and avoid exceeding its weight limit. 3/405th's M88 was positioned at the bottom of the ramp, using its winch to pull the deadlined M1s while the second M88 was positioned behind and provided its winch to prevent the M1s from rolling down the ramp out of control. *(Continued on next page)*

839th Discharges Tracked Vehicles in Livorno (Continued from page 6)

The impromptu plan was executed without incident, and the remaining tracked vehicles were able to discharge. "Watching an M88 lower an inoperable M1 rolling off the Patriot was like watching Joe's tow truck pulling a Lincoln Town Car onto the back of his truck", said Infante. "It's an old system that still works".

The M88 Recovery Vehicle proved its worth time and time again throughout the course of the operation as it was called upon to assist in dragging off various other deadlined pieces of equipment. The 839th Trans Battalion Italy Detachment, with the expertise of the drivers and mechanics from 3/405th, along with onward movement support from the 497th MCT, once again achieved mission success in support of the AMC 172nd Reset Mission and Operation Iraqi Freedom. ■

Marconi, Wright Brothers, McLean??!!

Contributed by Francesco Infante, 839th Transportation Battalion, Terminal Manager

These names may not ring a bell to all, but their ideas and what later turned into inventions have irreversibly influenced the everyday life of today's societies and in one way or another of almost every human being on earth. What all three have in common is movement, or transportation if you wish. Guglielmo Marconi was the father of the radio, Wilbur and Orville Wright, in the very beginning of the 20th century, developed the first effective airplane. In 1936, Malcolm Mc Lean conceived the idea of containerization and 20 years later the first cargo ship carrying containers sailed from the U.S. East Coast.



Guglielmo Marconi



An Early Marconi Key



Communications Satellite in Orbit

Indeed these inventions have changed our lives to the point that without them there would not be the term 'modern society'. Their inventions, directly or indirectly, related to transportation are vital to today's developing world and even today, man continues to refine and search for better and effective ways of exploiting the basic concepts. Needless to say, the basic ideas have developed into what we see and benefit from today thanks to great team efforts and many different synergies, the latter sometimes went unnoticed.

I often ask myself if these great talents could have imagined what they were about to start. Could they have anticipated or predicted what their inventions would do later to the rest of the world. As a result transportation today is vital to the continuing development of man and without which the planet would stay >>>

Continued on next page!



▲ Orville Wright

▲ Wilbur Wright

▲ The 1900 glider was the Wrights' first piloted aircraft

▼ Airbus 380; worlds largest plane accomodates up to over 859 passengers



primitive and be far apart. If you stop and think for a moment, you will come to realize that everything we do today in one way or another, to different degrees, is affected by transportation. Milk at the grocery store doesn't get there by itself... from source to consumer many miles are traveled. Going to work, the very means of our survival in today's society, be it by bus, plane or automobile, requires the capability and the tools of mobility as are industrialization, war, homeland defense, globalization, travel, welfare, etc.



▲ Malcom McLean.

► Emma Maersk, Worlds Largest Container Ship Afloat 11,000 TEU's

► Newark, April 1956, the MS Ideal X, the first containership



I am very proud to be a transporter, a member of the 839th Transportation Battalion, and part of the mechanism that allows societies to continue to progress and function with proactive and responsive teamwork, engaging the right person at the right time. Hooaahh ■



Team it is time to Think! 'Training in the New Normal'

Article and pictures by Martin Weteling, 598th Transportation Group PAO



■ 598th Transportation Group Commander, Colonel Steve Farmen during the opening of the 598th Transportation Group FY2010 Commander's Annual Training Conference in the 598th community building in Rotterdam, The Netherlands. He emphasized the group to think as a team and that it will take full spectrum thinking to enable relevant training in the new normal.

During the FY2010 Commander's Annual Training Conference held in Rotterdam in the last week of August, Colonel Steve Farmen, the 598th Transportation Group Commander declared 'Team it is time to Think' as the central theme for the conference.

During the four day conference, the 598th Workforce got together to understand the strategic context, intent/priorities, how we operate, training assessment/focus/strategy, specific guidance and areas of special empha-

sis. Discussions centered on achieving mission - training balance in an era of persistent conflict while being a learning organization and a unit of character in the process.

Col Farmen emphasized that the 598th Transportation Group is a unique organization to be seen as Surface Deployment and Distribution Command's Logistics Special Forces Group Forward. Capable of launching out agile, adaptive, tailored, modular teams, large or small, that can plug and play into any con-

dition or task force, lead a task force, or operate independently. With the experience, knowledge, diversity, technology, and technical/tactical skill sets to enable deployment and distribution based operations and win the information domain anywhere sustaining an enterprise view in the process.

Farmen told the group that to achieve our training intent creativity, ingenuity and resourcefulness is required across our formations to make it happen. That is what is expected

to bring our model of balancing mission and training to life.

Training objectives were set out and briefed to all commanders, detachment leaders, staff, and others attending the training conference. All were encouraged to actively interact to ensure all within the 598th Transportation Group, military, civilians and local nationals, will be trained to bolster technical progress with survivability.

Expanding operational awareness was also part of the conference. Operations Officer Major Andrew Meyers briefed the group on the Northern Distribution Route (NDN). This is the route some of the cargo destined to Afghanistan is being shipped by.

"It is a great way to inform the rest of the group about this unique part of transportation the 598th Transportation Group is involved in", said Meyers.

"This is a true challenge for us transporters and requires a group of dedicated people in many countries with one vision, to support the warfighter!" he continued.



■ S-3 Major Drew Meyers trains the attendees at the Commander's Annual Training Conference on the Northern Distribution Network and all of its challenges. The NDN provides the Soldiers, enduring freedom in Afghanistan, their equipment, and combat support.

838th Transportation Battalion Planner Stacey Vande Linden presented the audience with insight on the Integrated Surface Distribution Data Cleansing Tool (iSDDC), a comprehensive operational and strategic report for ocean cargo shipments booked and transported worldwide.

iSDDC provides summary metrics and full transportation and payment details for all Department of Defense transported shipments. Vande Linden informed the audience of the state-of-the-art web-enabled location and mapping services that show global port and associated locations supplemented by the latest carrier reported shipment and near real-time vessel locations.

"iSDDC proves to be a cost effective and highly productive tool providing a lot of information brought to you on your own workstation, just requiring a login" she said.

Topics and breakout sessions during the conference included: force protection battle drills, Mil/Civ/LN professional development, cyber warfare, Contract Office Representative Training, Reserve / IMA integration, NSPS training, FSO METL, Ethics, Budget and more. Most significantly the group successfully created and locked in its long range training calendar. The Training Support Center BENELUX also laid out their training capabilities for the group in order to achieve the training level wanted.

■ During the Commander's Annual Training Conference, the senior Non Commissioned Officers got together during a breakout session. From left to right; 598th Command Sergeant Major Felton Head, 598th Master Sergeant John Sisk, 838th Sergeant Major Reginald Thompson, 839th Sergeant 1st Class Emilio Frijas, 598th Sergeant 1st Class Will Yarbray, and 838th Sergeant 1st Class Buffie Brown-Gilchrist.





■ Colonel Steve Farmen during his briefing to the attendees of the FY2010 Commander's Annual Training Conference where he displayed his vision for the enterprize organization the 598th Transportation Group is working hard to sustain.

The battalions within the 598th Transportation Group presented their training initiatives and requirements in an atmosphere where all were eager to take in the information and share with one another. This was reinforced during the ice breaker and dinner social at Humphries in downtown Rotterdam.

"This Training Conference was an outstanding opportunity to synchronize training objectives and for the leaders from the command to gain insight into the Col. Farmen's intent for the Group training program. The Conference was packed full of information and provided each attendee with the Group perspective on training. All attendees received training information that lines them up with the CG's guidance and the GroupCommander's training guidance. It was a great conference and the training tenor for the year ahead has been set," said Lt.Col. Raymond T. Daly Jr., 598th Deputy Commander.

The final day of the training conference showed that the group benefitted from the team building opportunities and initiatives turning the 598th Transportation Group into Surface Deployment and Distribution Command's Logistics Special Forces Group Forward tailored for the future. ■

Don't Hide Computer Safety!

y m j c f p f r e r g z u m q
 b c f m z m n e y e u n v g v
 r w a w e a l t l k s w u l x
 z o c v j d i u t c a n x b r
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adware
 computer
 firewall
 hacker
 internet
 laptop
 password
 phishing
 privacy
 security
 spam
 spyware
 trojan
 virus
 worm



The solution of the puzzle you'll find on Page 18!

“Achieving Unity of Effort, Across the Supply Chain”

Joint EUCOM/AFRICOM Deployment and Distribution Conference

Sonthofen, Germany - 16 thru 20 November 2009



The United States European Command, the United States African Command and the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command's 598th Transportation Group together host the 2009 Joint EUCOM / AFRICOM Deployment and Distribution Conference (JEADDC) in the Allgäu Stern Hotel in Sonthofen, Germany from 16 November to 20 November 2009.

This year's theme is "Achieving Unity of Effort – Across the Supply Chain" and the conference will feature panels and working groups designed to synchronize efforts in support of the Department of Defense's numerous and complex supply chains. As the focus in new areas intensifies with increasingly complex requirements, collaboration and Unity of Effort is essential to be effective in the new normal! In addition to the working groups and panels, the 2009 JEADDC agenda will also include senior leader meetings, exhibits and the option for agencies to host additional meetings. Senior leaders from all host commands and beyond are committed to keynote addresses and panel discussions.

Last year's event was attended by more than 400 senior logisticians and operators representing all the military services and commercial industry from Southwest Asia, Africa, Europe, and CONUS. This year an even bigger turnout is expected.

Amongst those invited are senior leaders from a variety of commands and agencies, as well as executives and key representatives from commercial logistics providers.

More detailed information can be found on the website www.jeaddc.com. You will be able to register there for the conference and print the form required for hotel reservations. If you require more information on the venue then check www.allgaeustern.de

Contacts for your questions or concerns are:

EUCOM: Ms. Sara Jennings,
tel: +49(0)711-680-5090, DSN 314-430-5090,
sara.jennings@eucom.mil

AFRICOM: Major Ryan Norman, tel: +49(0)711-729-4515, DSN 314-430-4515,
ryan.norman@afcom.mil

SDDC: Mr. Rick Marsh,
tel +31(0)10 459-2560, DSN 314-362-2560,
marshr@sddc598th.army.mil

Register at www.jeaddc.com



Col. Stephen E. Farmen Commander 598th Trans Gp (SDDC) Meets New Rotterdam Mayor Honorable Aboutaleb

Rotterdam -- Colonel Stephen E. Farmen, Commander 598th Trans Gp (SDDC) visited Rotterdam City Hall to meet the new Rotterdam Mayor, Honorable Aboutaleb on 17 Aug 09. Farmen explained the 598th Core Business and the relocation process of 598th to the Van Ghentkazerne. The visit continued and underlined the important and vital relationship with Rotterdam City Hall.

SDDC Inspector General visits 598th

Lieutenant Colonel Juan Cardona, Deputy Inspector General SDDC, Mrs. Lisa Tepas and Mr. David G. Angeli inspected HQ 598th Transportation Group, 838th and the 839th Transportation Battalions during the month of August 2009.

■ Lt.Col. Juan Cardona explains the ins and outs of the inspection during a presentation to HQ 598th Commander and Staff.



■ Photos by bram de jong, 598th CAO

Colonel Christopher Corkery

Single Port Manager, 598th Trans Gp



Colonel Christopher Corkery joined the 598th Transportation Group as an Army Reserve Individual Mobilization Augmentee to serve in a leadership capacity for the Group should the 598th TG headquarters be called upon to further extend its presence in the EUCOM or AFRICOM theaters.

Colonel Corkery graduated from Rensselaer in 1985 with a degree in Biomedical Engineering and as a Distinguished Military Graduate, he was selected for the newly formed Aviation Branch. He graduated from the Aviation Officer Basic Course at Fort Rucker, Alabama and went on to complete Ranger School. Returning to Fort Rucker, he became an honor graduate of his Flight Class and earned a Cobra Attack Helicopter Transition.

His first unit assignment was with D Troop, 4th of the 7th Cavalry in Oujongbu, Korea where he served an Air Battle Captain, the Unit Border Trainer and later the Assistant Squadron Logistics Officer in Yonjugul near the DMZ. He transferred to the 4th Squadron, 11th Armored Cavalry Regiment in Fulda, Germany, where he patrolled the East German Border witnessing the last efforts of the Soviet Union in the Cold War. His attack helicopter platoon earned Top Gun Honors and his troop earned one of three Draper Awards given by the Army that year. He became the first aviator to serve as the Regimental S-3 Operations Officer and later returned to the 4th Squadron to command P Troop, 4/11 ACR where he led the last air-ground maneuvers on the German countryside.

Returning to the States, he attended the Armor Officer's Advanced Course at Fort Knox, KY, and the Joint Firepower Command and Control Course at Hulbert Field, FL before accepting a nomination for a tour as an Observer-Controller at the National Training Center, Fort Irwin California. As an Aviation Trainer, the Group Adjutant and then the Brigade Operations Trainer, his unit earned its second Army Superior Unit Award.

In 1995, he married Kathleen (Lyons) Corkery and returned to New England. Transitioning into the Army Reserves, he served as the Support Operations Officer for the 167th Corps Support Group, Londonderry, NH preparing his unit for operations under the 311th Corps Support Command. In the fall of 2003, he deployed with the 167th Corps Support Group to the Sunni Triangle, Iraq as the Group Operations Officer. In Iraq, he enabled the logistical support of Coalition Forces in Northern Iraq and developed force protection measures to counter the growing lethality of Anti-Coalition Forces attacks against logistics patrols.

Upon returning to the States, he assumed command of the 1173rd Transportation Terminal Battalion in Brockton, MA.

■ Col. Corkery attended the 598th Training Conference in Europe in August. When 598TT editor asked for his impressions he answered:

"As the senior Army Reserve Officer assigned to the 598th TG, I find myself in one of those situations where you have to be careful for what you wish for. Just as Colonel Janet Cobb (now Brigadier General Cobb) warned me, I was made to feel so welcome during my two weeks of Annual Training that I did not want to leave the 598th family. Yet, while I could really see myself enjoying the opportunity to serve as a full-time member of the team, something really big would have to happen to cause the Reserve Augmentees like myself to be called onto active duty, and none of us want that to happen again.

Truly great organizations convey the attitude that their primary focus is on you and your concerns. Be it moving a package half-way around the world, sending a brigade combat team to Afghanistan, or just in the way that they tell you their story. The 598th family is world class, and I look forward to being part of the team, even if it isn't full time.

He readied and deployed the unit to Kuwait where he served as the Port Commander for the Sea Ports of Ash Shuaiba, Kuwait, and the Kuwaiti Naval Base from 2007-2008. There he commanded and coordinated the efforts of 1200 Joint, Coalition, and Contractor troopers becoming the first sea port in SDDC to achieve a 100% three-way match for cargo accountability on the three primary TRANSCOM documentation systems. The battalion streamlined RSO operations improving the average mission timeline by 25% affording deploying commanders more time to train and redeploying soldiers certainty that their equipment was accounted for.

Back at home, Colonel Corkery teaches Mathematics at Manchester High School, Central, in Manchester, NH, and is working on his Masters in Educational Administration. He and Kathy live in Bedford, NH, with their two sons, Nicholas and Andrew.

Colonel Corkery's Awards and Decorations include two Bronze Star Medals for operations in Northern Iraq, and as the Port Commander in Kuwait, the Meritorious Service Medal for accomplishments as the Brigade Operations Trainer at the National Training Center, two Army Superior Unit Awards, the Army Commendation Medal with an Oak Leaf cluster, and the Navy Commendation Medal. ■

By 598th Trans Gp CAO

Lt.Col. Douglas Vallejo receives Ancient Order of St. Christopher

Rotterdam, NL -- Colonel Steven E. Farnen, Commander 598th Trans Gp (SDDC), presented Lt.Col. Douglas Vallejo, Commander 839th Transportation Battalion, the Ancient Order of St. Christopher.

This distinguished award is a recognition of a pattern of career of excellence: The Ancient Order is reserved for those few individuals whose careers embody outstanding achievements and accomplishments in the spirit, dignity, and sense of sacrifice and commitment epitomized by Saint Christopher.



Lt.Col. Vallejo was nominated by his chain of command for his service most recently as the Chief, Distribution Management Center, 3d Sustainment Command (Expeditionary) while deployed to Balad, Iraq in support of OIF from 2008 to 2009.

"A separate award ceremony was held in July 09 in Iraq for other members of the DMC. I would have participated had I not redeployed early to assume command. The award is a recognition more so of all the Soldiers who have mentored me throughout my career. It would have been a great honor to have been presented the award side by side with those outstanding Soldiers from the DMC, especially Lt.Col. Hardin. I could not have succeeded in my duty as the DMC Chief without his professionalism, expertise and friendship", said Lt.Col. Doug Vallejo.



Photos by Martin Weteling, 598th PAO

■ Mrs. Yihua Kehrer pins on the rank of Staff Sgt. on her husband, now, Staff Sgt. David Kehrer of the 598th Transportation Group S-3. Congratulations to Staff Sgt. Kehrer!

Staff Sgt. David Kehrer !

Rotterdam, NL --28 Aug 09 was a great day for the Kehrer family. At the last day of the Training Conference, Colonel Stephen E. Farnen, Commander 598th Transportation Group (SDDC) took the time to promote Sergeant David Kehrer to Staff Sergeant! Hooah!

Don't Hide Computer Safety!

Solution of puzzle on page 12

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(Column, Row, Direction)

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| computer (8,8,n) | security (2,9,ne) |
| firewall (3,9,e) | spam (12,13,w) |
| hacker (10,6,n) | spyware (7,13,w) |
| internet (1,5,s) | trojan (2,7,ne) |
| laptop (5,10,se) | virus (15,7,s) |
| password (15,5,sw) | worm (14,8,sw) |
| phishing (8,5,se) | |



Womens Equality Day



August Activities



598 MWR
*Rhine River Cruise
from Köln to Linz,
Germany*





BACK TO SCHOOL SAFETY TIPS



By Rudy Magereij, 598th Safety Manager

As the carefree days of summer give way to the hectic back-to-school season, parents should take time to teach and review important safety guidelines with children.

Riding the Bus

School bus transportation is safe. In fact, buses are safer than cars! Even so, last year, approximately 26 students were killed and another 9,000 were injured in incidents involving school buses. More often than not, these deaths and injuries didn't occur in a crash, but as the pupils were entering and exiting the bus.

Remember these safety tips:

- Have your children put everything they carry in a backpack or school bag so that they won't drop things along the way.
- Have them wear bright, contrasting colors so they will be more easily seen by drivers.
- Make sure they leave home on time so they can walk to the bus stop and arrive before the bus is due. Running can be dangerous.
- Have a safe place to wait for your bus, away from traffic and the street.
- Stay away from the bus until it comes to a complete stop and the driver signals you to enter.
- When being dropped off, exit the bus and walk ten giant steps away from the bus. Keep a safe distance between you and the bus.
- Use the handrail to enter and exit the bus.
- Be aware of the street traffic around you.

Walking and Biking to School

Even if you don't ride in a motor vehicle, you still have to protect yourself. Because of minimal supervision, young pedestrians face a wide variety of decisions making situations and dangers while walking to and from school. Here are a few basic safety tips to follow:

- Mind all traffic signals and/or the crossing guard — never cross the street against a light, even if you don't see any traffic coming.
- Walk or bike with a buddy.
- Wear reflective material...it makes you more visible to street traffic.

Riding in a Car

You might have heard before that most traffic crashes occur close to home ... they do. Safety belts are the best form of protection passengers have in the event of a crash. They can lower our risk of injury by 45%. You are four times more likely to be seriously injured or killed if ejected from the vehicle in a crash.

Everyone needs to be buckled up properly. That means older kids in seat belts, younger kids in booster seats and little kids in child safety seats.

BE CAUTIOUS; BE AWARE YOU ARE THE FIRST LINE OF DEFENSE IN PROTECTING YOUR CHILDREN.

School Children's Back Packs and Back Pain

It is that time of year when parents frantically prepare their children for school. Soon millions of children will be stuffing their backpacks with all the essentials for a successful school year. While backpacks are usually the preferred method of carrying school supplies, if not properly fitted and worn, they can result in neck, back, head, arm and shoulder discomfort or injury. Generally, the weight of a backpack should not exceed 15 percent of the user's body weight. However, as textbooks get heavier, portable computers become more prevalent, schools eliminate lockers, and children carry more personal items, the weight of backpacks can easily exceed the 15 percent limit. Recent studies of school children show that most carry backpacks that exceed the 15 percent body weight rule, and one third of the students suffer from back pain.

Important tips to consider when using a backpack:

- Do not overload. The pack should not exceed 15 percent of the user's body weight.
- Make sure the backpack:
 - a. rests comfortably on the shoulders and under the arms,
 - b. sits on the hips and pelvic area, not at the top of the back or at the buttocks,
 - c. fits the contour of the lower back, and
 - d. is not wider than the shoulders or longer than the area from the base of the neck to the top of the hips.
- Buy a backpack with wide padded shoulder straps and a waist belt, and wear both.
- The waist belt distributes the weight on the pelvis and hips. If user insists on using only one strap, switch shoulders often.
- Keep the weight in the backpack close to the body and arrange the heaviest items closest to the back.

The following signals suggest improper backpack use:

- Red marks and creases on the shoulders,
- Aching in the shoulders, neck or back,
- Pain or tingling in the arms, wrists and hands,
- Struggling to get the backpack on and off, and
- Noticeable imbalance in the child's posture, including tilting the head and neck to one side and an uneven walk. ■