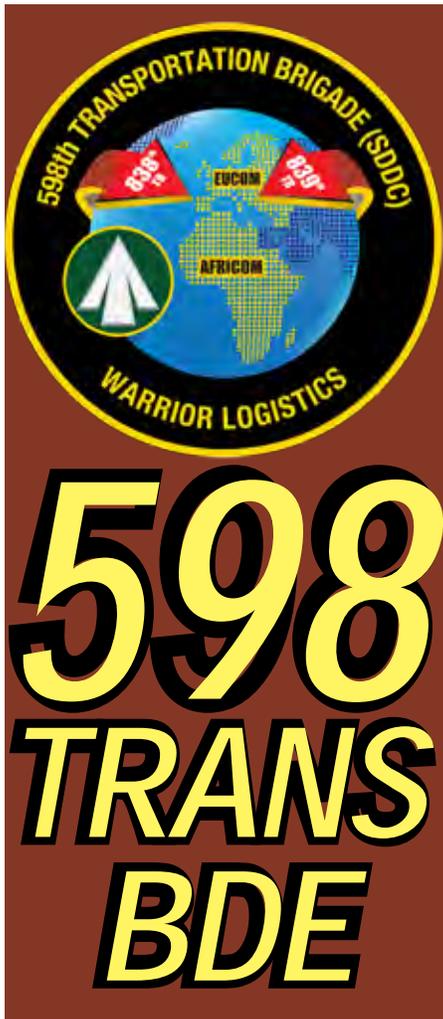




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2013 - No. 1



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# 598 TRANS TRIBUNE

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## From the Commander

*Colonel Matthew D. Redding  
Commander  
598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC)*



### *Happy New Year!*

The Greek Philosopher Heraclitus is quoted as saying "The only thing constant is change...." That will certainly be true for the year 2013 and beyond! Our transition from the Rotterdam area is nearly complete -- and this only means we have reached the "start line" for our next chapter in history!

The coming year will be an exciting one for the members of the 598th Transportation Brigade! We are starting our year with a very important visit from our Commanding General who is committed to developing a strategic plan for SDDC in line with our projected missions for 2015 and beyond. His ability to visit detachments and Battalion level locations is a great way for him to put into clear focus the many issues we face as a Brigade and the many mission related impacts we are delivering across our assigned area of operation!

We are also closing the doors on the old Brigade Headquarters in the Capelle aan den IJssel and opening the new (interim) facility for the Benelux Detachment. While it is the end of one chapter in our history - it will not lessen the strategic importance of the BENELUX region to our mission and puts the Brigade in a good position to develop the future of our mission as it relates to EUCOM and AFRICOM missions. Our relationships with the community in the BENELUX will continue to develop and the history we share with our Dutch partners is much deeper than a building location. We have a deep and abiding partnership with the Dutch Ministry of Defense and our national level cooperation is continuing to be demonstrated in the current news headlines where Dutch, German, and American forces are helping our Turkish partners with missile defense capabilities in a very troubled part of the world.

SDDC has released its strategic planning framework to shape our business and operational process for 2013 - 2020. Central to the SDDC effort will be our ability to continue support to the warfighters, organize and synchronize resources, and re-posture our forces in support of EUCOM, AFRICOM, and enable CENTCOM. SDDC is a "mode neutral" transportation solution provider and the 598th Transportation is in the midst of developing updated theater level support plans to provide new and cost effective solutions to match the strategic shift in forces as well a meet future contingency plans. It will be a dynamic time to be part of the Brigade as we begin to assist in coordinating retrograde cargo from Afghanistan while simultaneously reviewing all our existing capabilities across Europe and Africa.

All this against a backdrop of the many families who have endured moves and transitions to get us set for these challenges. I know I join CSM Howard and Mr. Marshall in thanking all our families (here and at home) for their patience and understanding as we have literally disassembled the Brigade and are putting it back together in Germany! As we solidify our relationships here in the greater Kaiserslautern area I know our communication and ability to get our message out to our families will continue to improve.

I remain humbled by the positive energy and commitment demonstrated by our entire team! Our professional civilians, military, and families have set the conditions for >>

this Brigade to stand up properly and face the future challenges head on. While the Army will face many challenges in the future - I am confident that the changes and many missions we will be asked to perform will be met by a first rate team who understands that logistics and transportation are the keys to victory! Nothing happens until something moves!

Warmest regards to everyone! I look forward to seeing you soon!

COL R

■ *598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) Commander and CSM with 598th and 838th personnel during a New Year's party at the 'Redding' Residence.*



## Command Sergeant Major Cynthia B. Howard Corner

### Greetings

Over the Christmas holidays we celebrated with family and friends and maintained the spirit into the New Year. We've also had several exciting months due to our relocation to Sembach, Germany. I would like to thank each member of this organization for the tremendous effort and hard work you put forth everyday in taking care of this Brigade. Every Soldier, Officer, Local National and DA Civilian is a valuable member of this team; we couldn't have done it without you! Reflecting back in time, let's say good bye to 2012 and welcome to 2013. As we close the Rotterdam Chapter of our Brigade Headquarters and move forward to a new beginning in Sembach, Germany, let's all cherish the great memories and continue to work as a team.

**Promotions** I would like to recognize a couple of our great Warriors on their recent selection to Master Sergeant. SFC Wanda Allen, 598th (S-4 NCOIC) and SFC Derrick Curley, 839th (Cargo NCO). This is a great accomplishment by two outstanding Noncommissioned Officers.

■ *From left to right: 598 Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia B. Howard; Sgt. 1st Class Ronnie L. Williams, S1 NCOIC and Sgt. 1st Class(P) Wanda D. Allen, S4 NCOIC.*



### Training

As we finalize relocation activities, we must continue to conduct training and keep on track with our daily assigned duties. Let's remain vigilant! I appreciate the Battalion SGM's effort in getting their respective Battalions to complete most of the training requirements within the 1st and 2nd Qtr. We are focusing hard on Resiliency training. The Brigade Master Resiliency Trainer (MRT), SFC Ronnie Williams along with the 838th Trans Battalion MRT, SFC Omar Robertson conducted Comprehensive Soldier Fitness training to Brigade personnel. The training focused on Phase II Suicide prevention, modules I & II "Hunting for the good stuff" and using the "iceberg model" on emotional responses to stimulus and stress. They also trained us on how to avoid "thinking traps" which will help us to identify the positive outcomes in building strong relationships and improvement on our performance.

**Safety** As warmer weather approaches and we take advantage of the opportunity to travel, remember to maintain your security awareness and check the Department of State website [http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis\\_pa\\_tw/tw/tw\\_1764.html](http://travel.state.gov/travel/cis_pa_tw/tw/tw_1764.html) prior to departure for current travel advisories.

**ARMY EMERGENCY RELIEF (AER)** AER will conduct their 2013 campaign from March 1st through May 15th. The campaign aims to increase Soldier awareness of the many valuable benefits AER has to offer. It also provides the opportunity to help fellow service members, Soldiers, retirees, family members, surviving spouses, and orphans with financial assistance when there is a valid emergency. Please take time from your busy schedule to familiarize yourself with AER and consider supporting this worthwhile cause. Bde POC : SFC Ronnie Williams and SSG Stoney Camp @ DSN 496-7243. ■

# SDDC CG visiting the 598th Trans BDE

By Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

The 598th Transportation Brigade and its subordinate units had the honor to welcome the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution's Commanding General, Major General Thomas J. Richardson. Maj. Gen. Richardson took the time to visit the SDDC United Kingdom Detachment, the SDDC Turkey Detachment, The 839th Transportation Battalion, the SDDC Italy Detachment, the 950th Transportation Company, the SDDC Rhine River Detachment, and the 598th Transportation Brigade Headquarters in Sembach, Germany. Maj. Gen. Richardson came to Europe to personally meet some of his workforce and to see how and where they operate.

## SDDC UK Detachment

The first stop for the Commanding General was the United Kingdom Detachment. It's not often that they get the SDDC Commander visiting them and therefore the SDDC United Kingdom Detachment ensured they were well prepared for it. Maj. Gen. Richardson learned all about the SDDC operations in Great Britain by being briefed by UK DET operations and documentation staff. The UK Detachment command briefing was executed by terminal director Ricardo Alvarado together with Marc Allen from the operations section and Colette Wright from the documentation side of the unit. They painted the CG a clear picture displaying the challenges the detachment faces when operating on missions as well as on a day to day business.

Later the same day the CG had the chance to meet some key customers of the United Kingdom Detachment where he was told about the satisfactory cooperation with his unit in the United Kingdom. *"It is instrumental for us here in the United Kingdom to welcome the commanding general. We are excited to be able to show what we do for SDDC. We are an instrumental part here in the Military,"* said Alvarado.

The CG did not leave the United Kingdom before he took the chance to recognize Colette Wright for her work. Mrs. Wright took over part of the Ocean Cargo Clearance Authority (OCCA) office's work by booking cargo for SDDC.

After an intensive day in the United Kingdom, Maj. Gen. Richardson prepared to travel to the other side of Europe to visit yet another detachment within the SDDC 598th Transportation Brigade.



All Photos  
U.S. Army  
598th CAO



■ Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson recognizes Colette Wright from the SDDC UK detachment. Wright leads the documentation section of the SDDC UK Detachment.



■ The 839th Transportation Battalion's command and staff proudly pose with Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson during his visit to the battalion.

## SDDC Turkey Detachment

In the Turkish port of Izmir, Maj. Gen. Richardson was met by the SDDC Turkey Detachment Director, Darell Caldwell and his staff. The Turkey Detachment was able to explain the complex way of working in an environment on the border of Asia. By briefing the CG the Turkey Detachment had the chance to give him some insight on the day to day activities within the 598th Trans BDE's most easterly situated Detachment. The Turkey Detachment is a part of the southern leg of the 598th Trans BDE, the 839th Transportation Battalion, located in Italy. This was the next stop for Maj. Gen. Richardson.

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### **839th Transportation Battalion (SDDC)**

At the 839th Trans BN the CG was met by its commander, Lieutenant Colonel Marcilyn Patterson and Sergeant Major Daisy Jackson. Together they toured the battalion's offices where the CG met the 839th Transportation Battalion's workforce. In the battalion's conference room the CG was given the battalion's command brief as well as that of the co-located SDDC Italy Detachment and per Video Tele Conference the briefing of the Greece Detachment. During the briefing the CG got the battalion's view on the changing area of responsibility for the battalion.

The focus of the battalion is in support all of the U.S. Africa Command where as they first also had the responsibility for the Northern part of the U.S. Europe Command. Shifting responsibility means change and changes need to be explored and executed in order to ensure mission success. The 839th is well aware of its responsibilities within SDDC and takes on the challenges of port operations in the African continent with confidence.

During a luncheon with Italian local nationals from the Italy Detachment, the CG got an opportunity to interact with them on a personal level and obtain their views on how the Detachment operates separately from the Battalion.

Later, Lt. Col. Patterson ensured the CG got a chance to tour the entire Camp Darby community by visiting the installation command emergency operation center, the clinic, commissary, and px. The CG also received command briefings from the 405 AFSBn, 731st Muns and Camp Darby Italian Installation Commander. Finally, the CG took some time to recognize some Battalion personnel at the end of the day. First, he thanked Riccardo Scotto, a local national marine cargo specialist known for his never-ending enthusiasm and willingness to ensure mission success, always and everywhere!

He was praised for his efforts to assist with the cargo booking process after the OCCA booking office in Rotterdam was terminated due to the Brigade's move to Germany. Second, Sergeant First Class Rica Hamilton, documentation specialist, was recognized for her continued outstanding work in the battalion as well as her involvement in the booking of cargo.

After recognizing battalion personnel, Maj. Gen. Richardson's visit to the 839th Transportation Battalion came to an end.

### **950th Transportation Company**

Next stop on the tour is Bremerhaven, Germany where the 838th Transportation Battalion houses

► *During his visit to the SDDC Italy Detachment the SDDC GC, Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson, took the effort to thank Riccardo Scotto, transportation specialist for the detachment, for his work for SDDC. Scotto is involved in the booking of cargo for SDDC's 598th Transportation Brigade since its move to Sembach.*



■ *Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hamilton receives a coin from Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson on behalf of his wife Sgt. First Class Rica Hamilton. Hamilton is an Operations NCO for the 839th Transportation Battalion where she handles bookings for the battalion.*



■ *Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson addresses the personnel of the 950th Transportation Company in Bremerhaven about SDDC mission challenges worldwide.*

the 950th Transportation Company. At the 950th Transportation Company the commanding general was met by its commander, Major John Dang and the traffic manager, Michael Korn.

Maj. Dang showed the commanding general the port of Nordenham, Germany, important for SDDC for the transportation of specialized goods. Following this the party traveled to the 950th Transportation Company building where Maj. Gen. Richardson was briefed on the company's pursuits for SDDC and was given a tour of the facility. The commanding general got the chance to see the Bremerhaven port area as well as the container repair site. 950th Transportation Company Traffic Manager, Michael Korn said: "950th Trans Co at Bremerhaven, Germany had the pleasure to host MG Richardson during a short but very productive visit. We were able to maximize our limited time with him, showcasing the abilities of the 950th Transportation Company and how we are nesting with his strategic way ahead. The CG walked the ammunition port of Nordenham, saw the strategic capabilities the >>

port of Bremerhaven offers to him, was informed how we conduct agricultural cleaning for 21st Theater Sustainment Command, and he received a quick tour of the 950th Transportation Company container maintenance and repair facility. An assembly was held with all employees followed by a fruitful discussion with him about the future structure and our alternate facility project.”

### **SDDC Rhine River Detachment**

Following the 950th Transportation Battalion was the SDDC Rhine River Detachment in Germersheim, Germany. Here the commanding General arrived together with the 598th Transportation Brigade Commander, Colonel Matthew D. Redding and 838th Transportation Battalion Commander, Lieutenant Colonel John Gallagher. The SDDC Rhine River Detachment resides under the 838th Transportation Battalion, located in Kaiserslautern, Germany.

The detachment’s director, Cliff Serwe, presented Maj. Gen. Richardson with a command brief that led to a conversation where many of the aspects of a changing Army were discussed. Serwe, a former Army Lieutenant Colonel, came up with some strong talking points concerning the importance of his detachment. *“We briefed the commanding general on our mission that stretches further than the Rhine River area here in Germany. The Detachment’s involvement in the transportation of goods on the Northern Distribution Network is of great importance for us and SDDC. We are responsible for a Baltic port where most of the cargo is handled and this requires most of our attention. What counts for us is to ensure that goods are being handled in a correct way and more important, in the quickest way to enable the warfighter to execute the mission”,* said Serwe.

The SDDC Rhine River Detachment is heavily involved in the transportation of goods through the Northern Distribution Network and wanted to share this with the commanding general. At the Rhine River Detachment Maj. Gen. Richardson took some time to recognize Armin Besenfelder, the Detachment’s system administrator for his work. Besenfelder is known for his ‘can-do’ attitude and goes above and beyond to make sure the detachment’s mission is executed successfully.

### **HQs 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC)**

From Germersheim the party left for Sembach, the current location of the 598th Transportation Brigade. At the brigade Maj. Gen. Richardson was welcomed by the commander, Colonel Matthew Redding and Command Sergeant Major Cynthia Howard. The visit to the Brigade Headquarters was the last leg in the commanding general’s visit



■ *At the SDDC Rhine River Detachment Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson met with the Detachment personnel. Armin Besenfelder, the Detachment’s system administrator received a coin as token of appreciation from the CG for his work for SDDC.*



■ *Whilst visiting the 598th Transportation Brigade, SDDC’s CG, Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson took the opportunity to meet with the 21st Theater Sustainment Command’s commanding general, Maj. Gen. Aundre Piggee.*

to the 598th Transportation Brigade. Within the Brigade Headquarters the commanding general toured the facility and was introduced to his staff and received the Brigade command brief informing him on the day to day business as executed. He also got an update on the relocation of the brigade which is as good as complete with the termination of the Rotterdam facility and the move of all of the remaining brigade personnel to the Sembach area.

### **21st Theater Sustainment Command**

During his stay in the Kaiserslautern area the commanding general had the opportunity to meet with his counterpart at the 21st Theater Sustainment Command (21st TSC) Major General Aundre Piggee to discuss the cooperation between the commands. Maj. Gen. Richardson left Europe with a better understanding of the way his detachments work in the European Theater.

When asked he said that his vision of the European leg of his command became clear and that he was satisfied with what he was presented.

The commanding general takes what he was presented back to the SDDC headquarters where he will work with his staff on streamlining the organization to make it even more efficient. ■

# In the Spotlight: George Kokonos

*George Kokonos, SDDC Detachment Greece Traffic Manager retired on 30 Nov 2012 after working almost 40 years for the U.S. Army. 598th Trans BDE CAO, Bram de Jong asked him some questions:*

**When did you start working for the U.S. Forces?**  
I started working for the U.S. Forces on 23 March 1973!

**In what job?** Cargo checker.

**What was special in that job?** Working out in the pier and docks checking cargo under the hook of USNS and/or break-bulk vessels and later out of seavan containers. The Transportation Terminal Unit (TTU as it was called then) at that time was supporting two large AF Bases and two Navy bases, along with smaller Army bases around Greece, so cargo volume handled by our unit was large and accountability was top priority.

**What were the peaks in your career?**

Please see below:

-- As a young Operations superintendent in 1985, three of my main subordinates had an accident that kept them out of the office for over a month. During that period I was conducting and coordinating the movement of all in/out cargo with all parties involved by myself, to include even driving the forklift for warehousing and/or stuffing/unstuffing of cargo to/from containers.

-- Participated in exercises REFORGER in Germany and DRAGON HAMMER in Sardinia, Italy back in 80's.

-- In 90's we discharged 12 ship loads of palletized ammunition for the Greek Army out of the NATO excess ammo program, working in four major ports in Greece.

-- In '95 deployed to Durres Albania for over 45 days to support AF exercise and vessel loading/discharge operation. It was like a trip in the past... Albania was just opening the doors to the world.

-- Supported the KFOR during 2000 thru the port of Thessaloniki, Greece, working three LMSRs and more than forty commercial vessels moving thousands of rolling stock and containers.

-- Supported KFOR rotations thru the port of Bourgas, Bulgaria during 2002 to include vessel loading/discharging of helicopters.

-- During 2003, trans-loaded more than 2000 pieces to include ammo containers from two vessels



■ George Kokonos  
SDDC Greece Det.  
Traffic Manager  
Retired!

*We wish him and his family a long and healthy retirement!*

- Editor-



onto other four at the port of Thessaloniki within a period of one week, with no augmenters but just only our unit's six employees. At that time we had no military presence in the unit, as the decision to withdraw them from the unit was effected a couple of months ago. I remember, I was driving by myself from Athens to Thessaloniki, a six hours' drive, and was talking non-stop on my cell phone with port authorities, vessel agents, our HQs and DAO, coordinating vessels' clearances and berthing.

-- During 2007, supported/coordinated the discharge/load of ammo containers thru the port of Astakos in Western Greece.

-- Supported vessel operations in Israel.

**What did you enjoy?** I really enjoyed the fact working for the U.S. Forces. I had the chance to meet a lot of interesting people, travel around various ports of the world and the most of all working and walking on the decks of the vessels.

**Were there any developments in Transportation during your career?** The initiation of a global contract to move cargo throughout the world made booking cargo anywhere much easier. Of course, the advent of emails has made revolutionized communications globally.

**Do you have some anecdotes?**

a. I remember during 1999 Major Pekatos, commander at that time of the unit, and me were travelling from one place to another within European ports back to back. We had to read the CONOPS of the next operation on the plane going to the new destination. We were selected that year the most deployable military and civilian personnel in Europe. He was always wondering if I was an old man or an old woman, whenever I debated him.

b. When we were visiting Burgas, Bulgaria with Brig.Gen. Fletcher, I had a flat tire in the port. He didn't even let me do anything, other than staying and watching him doing it, because I was wearing a tie, as he told me..! In the letter he sent me later thanking me for the nice trip he had in Bulgaria, he told me to call him to change my flat tire whenever I have one!

>>>

**Do you have lessons learned?** It's very important to treat the people who work under you well, showing an interest in their development and well-being.

**Can you mention some achievements the Detachment had?**

a. Back in 2003-4, the unit was given by name the task to monitor and coordinate with shippers, consignees and Customs officials the movement of all cargo going in/out of STAN ports. During that period we handled over 25,000 seavan containers and updated all data in WPS and provided pertinent documentation to include container detention charges., with no extra hiring of an employee, but only some overtime.

b. The fact that we had no accident or incident over the last 35 years of numerous vessel operations throughout the ports of our AOR.

**May be say something about your detachment colleagues during the years?** I have been privileged to work with a great group of professionals. Through numerous deployments and major missions, our personnel have always been hardworking and always looking forward for each other.

**What are your hobbies?**

I enjoy guitar playing and continuing getting classic lessons. I am currently taking lessons in Byzantine music/chanting (similar to what you hear during Greek Church services). I also enjoy a lot traveling onto the mountains of Greece, be in the nature and visit ancient ruins and places.

**Do you have any closing/farewell remarks?**

It was a great honor and pleasure working for the US Government. When the unit had my retirement party, I wished to all of my colleagues to live that moment. My son's wife is going to get twins this summer and I am looking forward to be a crazy "grand pa"!

**Spero Pekatos, Terminal Director SDDC Greece about George Kokonos:**

*"George is like the head of a family here. He was involved in almost all aspects of the detachment. He monitored emails to and from the detachment, ensuring actions were not missed or not completed correctly. George had fantastic people skills, so important in this part of the world. He could call any port in our AOR and find someone who knew him and then get results, often to the advantage of the U.S. Government."*

*"George lived through all the transitions that MTMC/SDDC went through in the last 40 years. During this time he remained flexible, innovative, and ensured the entire detachment was as well."* ■



■ 1 July 1949 - 01 July 2009, 60 years SDDC Greece Detachment. George Kokonos (right) cutting the anniversary cake with Lt.Col. Douglas Vallejo, former Commander 839th Trans. Bn. and Spero Pekatos, Greece Detachment Director.



■ SDDC Greece Detachment personnel on USNS Enterprise in Greek waters.



■ Maj. Gen. James Hodge, former SDDC CG, with the 598th Trans BDE Traffic Managers.

# 950th Transportation Company (SDDC) Conducts Redeployment of 10th AAMDC Equipment in support of **AUSTERE CHALLENGE 12**



■ AC 12 equipment being uploaded to be railed to homestation.



By Sgt. 1st Class Narada Stephens, 950th Transportation Company CCS NCOIC

The 950th Transportation Company (TC) closed out the year with another successful mission during the month of December, 2012 in support of Exercise AUSTERE CHALLENGE 12. The 950th TC served as the Single Port Manager at the Port of Bremerhaven, coordinating the discharge and download of cargo from *MV VASALAND*. With a strong focus on prior planning and safety, it was extremely important to ensure that all 374 pieces of cargo belonging to the 10th Army Air & Missile Defense Command, located in Kaiserslautern, Germany, were documented and accounted for as soon as they came off the vessel.

AUSTERE CHALLENGE 12 was a bi-lateral exercise between the U.S. and Israel. It is one of the largest and most significant joint exercises within the region. U.S. European Command (USEUCOM) and the Israel Defense Forces (IDF) successfully concluded Austere Challenge 2012 (AC12), a large-scale air defense field training and command post simulation exercise. AC12 was designed to improve interoperability between the U.S. and Israeli militaries and was conducted as part of a long-standing strategic agreement between USEUCOM and the IDF to hold bi-lateral

training exercises on a regular basis. AC12 was cooperatively planned for more than two years, involving more than 3,500 U.S. personnel from the U.S. military and more than 1,000 IDF personnel. Military observers from both USEUCOM and the IDF were pleased with the results and said AC12 enabled participants to learn from each other's knowledge and experience. Though driven by the overall situation in the Middle East, the exercise did not relate to any specific current incident or development.

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■ Members of the 950th Cargo Control Section mark and inspect cargo prior to being staged for further movement by rail.

■ Photos by Martin Von Daak, U.S. Army - 950th Trans Co

The 950th TC had to remain flexible during the time of the exercise due to unstable conditions while the exercise was being conducted. Because the Gaza conflict starting before we had moved out all of our equipment, several courses of action had to be considered based on when the equipment could return. The 950th TC was able to utilize the extensive experience within the company to plan for an unconfirmed arrival of the vessel.

Prior to the early morning start, First Sgt. Jermaine Taylor and Safety Officer Nils Pfuhl ensured that everyone understood the importance of safety throughout the mission. In below freezing temperatures, downloading of MV VASALAND commenced upon arrival mid December, 2012.

The Cargo Documentation Section was responsible for accounting each piece of equipment by validating the Military Shipping Label (MSL) and information that was retrieved from the Global Air Transportation Execution System (GATES). Once all cargo was downloaded, the Marine Cargo Section staged the pieces in Bremerhaven Port utilizing an ICODES-generated plan as well as coordinating the rail and truck uploads with the local BMCT. A total of four trains were loaded for the duration of the mission. Commercial trucks were also used to line-haul the last four pieces of oversized cargo. The 950th TC successfully completed the mission with no complications, displaying the level of professionalism that exists within the Army Transportation Corp. ■



■ Heiko Lehmann (far left) and Burkhard Bremer (middle) of the 950th TC Marine Cargo Section discuss discharge and staging procedures with a BLG Logistics supervisor.



■ Staff Sgt. Douglas Kirk 950th TC documents cargo for redeployment as it comes off the MV VASALAND.



■ Helga Wottke (right) and Barbara Marx (left), of the 950th TC Cargo Control Section validate the serial number on a generator.



■ Major John Dang, Commander of the 950th Transportation Company and First Sgt Jermaine Taylor discuss the download of the MV Vasaland.

■ Photos by Martin Von Daak, U.S. Army - 950th Trans Co



# 12th CAB Helo Move

Article and photos by Lisette Weteling,  
838th Benelux Detachment, Terminal Manager

Antwerp, Belgium -- A very cold Thursday morning announced the beginning of the discharge of in total 90 pieces of cargo from the *MS Green Cove* in Antwerp, Belgium. Among those 90 pieces were CH-47's (Chinook Cargo Helicopters) and AH-64's (Apache Attack Helicopters) which, due to their value and sensitivity, require a lot of pre-planning and organizing before they can be discharged, staged and moved to their final inland destination. Personnel of the Benelux Detachment conducted an IPR with Belgian Army, stevedoring company, 21st, MCT-Rotterdam and 838th representatives.

All these parties came together to work out a discharge and dispositioning plan where all personnel and cargo would be safeguarded and transported in the most efficient way. Due to the fact that this quay had never been used before for a larger operation, especially the force protection appeared to be a challenge for both 21st and Host Nation but in the end all parties came together with a more than satisfying solution that could meet every safety and security standard.

On 17 January 2013, after a slight delay due to the fog, TASM-O, under the watchful eyes of Benelux Detachment's marine cargo specialists, started the discharge of the many helicopters while in the mean time; stevedores from the local contractor did the same with the corresponding blade boxes. It was just around midnight, when all the helicopters were offloaded from the *Green Cove* and safely staged in the warehouse.

The dispositioning plan that MCT-Rotterdam had arranged consisted of the barge *Dynamica* having to sail up and down from Antwerp to Lampferheim, taking on 16 helicopters at a time. The blade boxes had already been moved inland by barge *Vera* which, due to ramp constraints, could not be used for the helicopters.



■ Apache (AH-64) coming down the ramp to be staged



■ Chinooks (CH-47) still on board of the *MV Green Cove*.



■ Apache (AH-64) on board the *MV Green Cove*.

Again, the combined effort of many different departments and nationalities involved in this multi modal operation is a true example of the hard work, expertise and dedication to mission accomplishment here in the Benelux Detachment and all its fellow players in this mission. ■

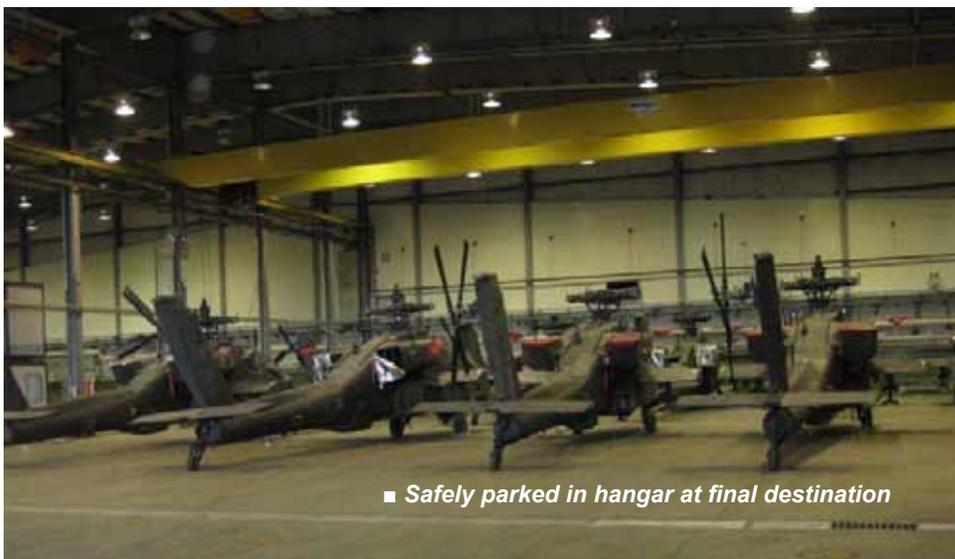
■ Photos by Lisette Weteling, U.S. Army - SDDC BLUX DET



■ Unloading from barge after arrival in Mannheim, Germany



■ Ready for move by road to Coleman Barracks



■ Safely parked in hangar at final destination

## **ADMIN INFO New Addresses!**

### **598th Trans BDE (SDDC)**

*Military address:*  
598th Trans BDE (SDDC)  
Attn:  
Unit 6713  
APO AE 09136-6713

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THE NETHERLANDS

# 1st Armored Division Combat Aviation Brigade Multi-Modal Deployment



By Ben Eichenlaub,  
Transportation Management Specialist,  
839th Trans Bn

Naval Station Rota, Spain , Jan 2013 – Italy Detachment and 839th transportation battalion personnel deployed to Naval Station Rota, Spain to provide support for the multi-modal deployment of the 1st Armored Division (1AD) Combat Aviation Brigade (CAB) to Operation Enduring Freedom (OEF). Ben Eichenlaub and Sgt. Maj. Daisy Jackson provided command and control over the operation. Italy Detachment members Roberto Casolini handled marine cargo duties, Sabrina Ciampi was in charge of documentation, and Gino Orsini was our COR for the mission.

The team's mission was discharging cargo including more than 50 helicopters from the ARC Integrity, staging of cargo, and ensuring onward movement to the airfield. When the vessel arrived it was inspected for damages, after that the documenting of cargo and discharging began. The stevedores and aviation support element performed their duties of downloading the vessel and staging at the port. Once staged the cargo traveled to the air field by tugs and trucks who were standing by.

The port activities worked in sync with one another to accomplish the mission in a safe and efficient manner. The constant flow of communication and ability to overcome obstacles made this mission a success. ■

- Theater Aviation Support Maritime Operations (TASMO) offload of CH-47 helicopters.
- SDDC personnel, Sgt. Maj. Jackson and Sabrina Ciampi, document cargo as it is offloaded.
- SDDC personnel Roberto Cassalini and TASMO personnel work together offloading cargo.



Photos by Ben Eichenlaub U.S. Army, 839th Trans Bn

# U.S. Patriot Batteries Deploy to Turkey



*Two Patriot batteries from the United States deployed to Turkey in support of NATO's commitment to Turkey's security. We stand with our Turkish Allies in the spirit of solidarity; we are determined to defend the Turkish people and their territory. The Battery(s) will augment Turkey's self-defense capabilities.*

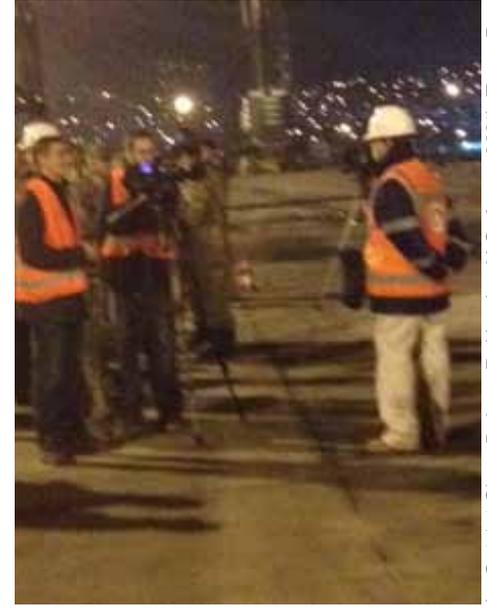
*The Patriot Battery(s) will be deployed in a purely defensive role and it will not be used to set up a no-fly zone or any offensive operation. The Patriots are being deployed to de-escalate the situation along the Turkey-Syrian border, and demonstrate Alliance solidarity and resolve. Patriots can be used against missiles and aircraft that may threaten Turkey, however in this instance the focus is on defense against short-range ballistic missiles. (Source: USAREUR PA)*

*By Major Erin Humelsine,  
839th Trans Bn, Executive Officer*

On 23 Jan 2013, five members of the 839th Transportation Battalion went to the Port of Iskenderun, Turkey to support the NATO in the move of a U.S. Patriot Battalion from the port to the final location of Gaziantep, Turkey (more commonly known as Site G). The team included Major Humelsine, Sgt 1st Class Hamler, Mr. Akyildiz, Mr. Irim and Mr. Gonan. The team's purpose was to be the Single Port Manager for the 143 pieces of cargo to be discharged from the Alliance Charleston and to provide onward moment support if needed.



■ Sgt. 1st Class Delano R. Hamler and major Erin Humelsine from the 839th Transportation Battalion (SDDC).



Major Erin Humelsine, 839th Trans Bn, (SDDC), interviewed by AFN in the Port of Iskenderun.

Photos by Sgt 1st Class Delano R. Hamler, U.S. Army -839th Trans Bn

Prior to the arrival of the *MV Alliance Charleston*, coordination needed to be conducted with the local port, the S&RTS Contractor, Turkish Customs, Turkish Military, 627th MCT, and 21st Theater Sustainment Command. Every group represented had their own agenda and ways of doing their job, the coordination meetings were extremely successful to ensure on the day of execution the off load would be done in a safe and efficient manner.

The 21st TSC held a Rock Drill on 30 Jan 2013 where every entity who had a part in the operation from cargo discharge through the movement to Gaziantep briefed and rehearsed their role in the mission. The *MV Alliance Charleston* berthed on 31 Jan 2103. The discharge lasted for 6.5 hours with all cargo being safely staged in the staging area ready for onward movement to Gaziantep.

During the discharge Major Humelsine gave an AFN interview and provided the local PAO access to view the discharge from onboard the vessel. Due to the high visibility and sensitivity of the cargo there was extensive media coverage from many different nations. ■



*We plan to publish 598 Trans Tribune 2013 No. 2 in April 2013*

*Please submit your contributions in a Word file and your photos as JPG files during the month of March 2013.*

*By contributing with your stories and photos you are part of the success of this newsletter!*

*Thanks in advance! Bram de Jong, Editor [bram.dejong2@us.army.mil](mailto:bram.dejong2@us.army.mil)  
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# Multimodal Operations

By Sgt 1st Class Philip C. Goodwin Jr.  
Documentation Supervisor  
839th Transportation Battalion (SDDC)

End of January 2013, Lt. Col. Marcilyn Patterson and Sgt. 1st Class Philip Goodwin from the 839th Transportation Battalion went to Dubai, United Arab Emirates and Aqaba, Jordan to learn the procedures and lessons learned from the 595th Transportation Brigade's multimodal sites. The purpose of the multimodal site is to provide a way to move retrograde equipment from Afghanistan back to the United States as Operation Enduring Freedom draws down. Each multimodal site starts with receiving cargo by air from Afghanistan, cleaning the cargo, providing agricultural customs pre-clearance and moving the cargo to a seaport to be sent back to the United States.

During our visits, we learned that each location has different procedures that they must perform in order to process the cargo in their prospective country. In Dubai, cargo must be inspected by several entities before being released by customs to move off of the airfield, which can take several days. In Aqaba, customs can be performed within hours due to minimal personnel inspecting the cargo. Both locations provide quick service for the overall process since the seaport is in close proximity to the airfield.

Lt. Col. Patterson and Sgt. 1st Class Goodwin went to visit these multimodal sites to assist in developing a plan to create a new multimodal site. By understanding the procedures and lessons learned from the other multimodal sites, the 839th Transportation Battalion can ensure that we implement the proper procedures to maximize the amount of cargo received and processed when necessary.

With all of the cargo that the United States has to get out of Afghanistan, using multiple multimodal sites will allow the United States to quickly move the cargo out of Afghanistan prior to the troop deadline. ■

■ *The wash rack facility on the Jordanian Naval Base.*



■ *From left to right: Mr. Richard McLean (Jordan COR), LTC Patterson (839th TB Commander) and CPT Michael Jackson (Jordan SDDC Embassy LNO) Photo taken at the wash rack facility on the Jordanian Naval Base.*



■ Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Philip Goodwin, U.S. Army - 839th Trans Bn

# 598 Command Events

## **Colonel Matthew D. Redding, Commander 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) visits Mayor Frank Koen, Capelle aan den IJssel**

7 Dec 2012, Capelle aan den IJssel, NL -- During one of his last visits to his former HQ 598th building in Capelle aan den IJssel, Col. Redding made a courtesy visit to Mayor Frank Koen.

For almost 30 years, 598th had an excellent line of communication with the Capelle City Hall and the support was superb. Now, just before the key of the 598th building was turned in to IMCOM, end of December, Col. Redding made this office call to update Mayor Koen with the recent changes; the end of SDDC presence in Capelle aan den IJssel and the Opening of the New SDDC BENELUX Detachment building at the Van Ghentkazerne in Rotterdam.

Col. Redding extended his appreciation of the continuous interest and support of four Capelle Mayors and City Hall employees



■ Photo by Bram de Jong, U.S. Army - 598 CAO



■ Photo by Kitty Harris, U.S. Army - 839th Trans Bn

■ Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Donahue, II, commander U.S. Army Africa/Southern European Task Force, Italy and Lt. Col. Marcilyn L. Patterson, commander 839th Transportation Battalion (SDDC).

## **Maj. Gen. Patrick J. Donahue, II, Commander U.S. Army Africa/ Southern European Task Force, Italy visits 839th Trans BN (SDDC)**

7 Jan 2013, Camp Darby, Italy -- Maj. Gen. Donahue, and his staff received a mission brief from Lt. Col. Marcilyn L. Patterson, commander 839th Trans BDE (SDDC). The focus was assuring the General Donahue that the 839th is responsible for direct support to AFRICOM. The CG mentioned that he expects missions in AFRICA will pick up as well as in Livorno. He was accompanied by Command Sgt. Maj. Stitzel and his CoS Col. Almeida. Also in attendance were several members of the USARAF G4, Ms. Sarah Morrison, Consul General in Florence and Command Sgt. Maj. Mark T. Council newly assigned to USAG-Vicenza. ■

(Source: 839 Trans Bn, Maj. Hamilton)



# In Memoriam

Two former 598 Trans BDE (SDDC) commanders passed away. Below you may read the text of both obituaries. Col. Lawson orchestrated the move of MTMC-TTCE from Rotterdam to Capelle aan den IJssel, NL. Col. Doehle was Commander of Bremerhaven Terminal and later on of MTMC TTCE in Rotterdam, Editor.

## Colonel (Ret.) Robert A. Lawson

Robert Allen Lawson, 78, of Weems, Virginia, formerly of Fauquier County, passed away on December 31, 2012 at Rappahannock Westminster-Canterbury, Kilmarnock, Virginia.

He was born on January 9, 1934 in Cleveland, Ohio, the son of late Morris Lawson and Christine Mueller Lawson. In addition to his parents, he was preceded in death by his son, Rob Lawson.

Bob had a distinguished military career retiring from the U.S. Army in 1978 with the rank of Colonel. He served two tours of duty in Vietnam piloting fixed wing aircraft and helicopters. He was assigned as the Army Commander in charge of the Port of Rotterdam, The Netherlands, where his duties included European ports from the Netherlands to Greece. He was the recipient of



**Col. Robert A. Lawson**  
**Commander MTMC TTCE**  
**1979 - 1983**

the Legion of Merit with one bronze oak leaf cluster, the Distinguished Flying Cross, the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal with one bronze oak leaf cluster among others.

After his military retirement, he worked as a builder, developer, realtor and broker. He was a member of Wesley Chapel United Methodist Church, near Orlean.

He is survived by his wife of 57 years, Jane Lawson; four children and their spouses – Joe Lawson of Charlottesville, VA; Ginny and Greg Hammack of Toano, VA; Kathy and Mike Craft of Fairbanks, AK; and, Melinda and Rodger Swedenburg of Amisville, VA; grandchildren – Sean, Hannah and Riley Lawson; Bob and Jacob Hammack; Joshua, Zachery and his wife Sarah, Michaela, and Matthew Craft; Lauren and Brian Sauerwald, Tyler and Katherine Swedenburg; and three great-grandchildren, Chace, Zooey and Drake.

## Colonel (Ret.) Douglas A. Doehle

11/2/36 - 1/25/13. Douglas (Doug) Doehle was born to Gladys and Fred Doehle in Bismarck, North Dakota. Doug is survived by his brother Lowell. Doug's sister Ramona and his brother Loren proceeded Doug into eternity.

Doug spent most of his childhood in Milwaukie, Oregon; attending Clackamas High, ultimately graduating from Oregon State University, where he met and married his lovely bride Marlene (Moody) in 1958. Doug and Marlene have 3 children - Nannette, Chris, and Mark. Other surviving relatives are Chris' husband, Steven Westbrook and their two sons Blair and Alec; Mark's wife Lisa Nava and their children Jessica Doehle, James Doehle, Carmen Nava and David Nava; Nannette's children Wilhelmina, Ramona and Rhys.



**Col. Douglas A. Doehle**  
**Commander Bremerhaven Tml**  
**1982-1983**  
**Commander MTMTC TTCE**  
**1983 -1985**

Doug was a 30-year career military officer with the United States Army, veteran of two tours of duty in Vietnam, having numerous stateside and overseas duty stations. Doug ultimately retired from the military in 1988 achieving the rank of Colonel.

In retirement, Doug & Marlene settled in Boise, Idaho; volunteering in their church and community. They have enjoyed a very active lifestyle, and have enjoyed visiting grandchildren, family, friends, and acquaintances met through a storied career.

Doug will be missed dearly by his family and all those whose lives have been indelibly marked by his passing.

Commander, staff & personnel of the 598 Trans BDE (SDDC) pass their condolences to both families and wish them a lot of strength the days to come.

Very respectfully  
Bram de Jong, Editor

## 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) Farewell from Capelle aan den IJssel, NL & Opening of SDDC BENELUX Detachment Building at Van Ghentkazerne, Rotterdam, NL



After a period of almost 30 years, the 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) has officially closed its headquarters in Capelle aan den IJssel. The keys of the former SDDC building were symbolically transferred to the owner on 31 January 2013.

All Military and DoD Civilian personnel have completed the relocation to Sembach, Germany. A remaining contingent of over 30 Dutch Ministry of Defense Civilians moved to the Van Ghentkazerne in Rotterdam and will continue to handle northern port distribution for the Military Surface Deployment & Distribution Command (SDDC).

On 1 February 2013, Colonel Matthew D. Redding, Commander, 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) officially opened the new office building for the BENELUX Detachment. He spoke of his gratitude to the workforce, comprised of Dutch Local Nationals. American, Belgian, and Netherlands Military and Civilian personnel were there to witness the start of this new chapter for SDDC. Colonel Redding reiterated special thanks for the hospitality of the Royal Dutch Marines and the Dutch Ministry of Defense for their assistance in establishing the temporary facility.



■ Col. Matthew D. Redding, Commander 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) and Col. RNLMC Bert Aben, Commander Van Ghentkazerne officially opened the New BENELUX Detachment Building by cutting a ribbon with giant pair of scissors.

The Colonel also thanked the Capelle aan den IJssel authorities for the continuous support and patience that SDDC received over the years and highlighted the partnership that the US Army and the Dutch have enjoyed. After the terrorist attacks on the United States (11 Sep 2001) the security posture of the building changed the area around the building in Capelle aan den IJssel. Redding said: "We are still grateful for the sympathy and support we received during our mis-

sion here from our neighbors and Capelle City Hall. Looking back it was great living and working in Capelle aan den IJssel." The move of the Brigade Headquarters is part of a larger US Army consolidation plan that affects over 30,000 U.S. Forces this sum-

■ The New BENELUX Detachment Building at the Van Ghentkazerne in Rotterdam, NL.



■ Photos by Bram de Jong, U.S. Army - 598 CAO

mer. These unit movements are designed to consolidate American forces and create efficiencies in command structure and operating costs. The strategic importance of the Benelux Region is highlighted by the fact that the brigade will maintain an operational detachment in a semi-permanent building placed on the premises of the Van Ghentkazerne. ■

Source: 598th Command Affairs



■ After the audience paid their respect listening to the Dutch and American national anthems, Col. Matthew D. Redding invited the Van Ghentkazerne Commander LTC RNLMC Bert Aben for the official Ribbon cutting ceremony.



► Adjutant RNLMC Machiel van der Stelt, the CSM/Sr. NCOIC of the Van Ghentkazerne met his 598th CSM counterpart Command Sergeant Major Cynthia B. Howard (left) and 838th Sergeant Major Chukwue-meka Ughegbu.



▲ After the Ribbon Cutting Ceremony Col. Redding, 598th Commander, symbolically returned the key of the SDDC Building in Capelle aan den IJssel to Eric Greever from REFO (IMCOM).

■ Photos by Bram de Jong, U.S. Army - 598 Trans BDE



■ U.S. Soldiers, Airmen, Civilians and Italian National assigned to Darby Community joined together Feb. 7 for a National Prayer Breakfast celebration at the Darby Community Club. (■ Photo by Chiara Mattiolo, USAG, DMC Public Affairs)

## National Prayer Breakfast

Livorno, Italy -- The 598th Transportation Brigade Commander, Col. Matthew D. Redding, and members of the 839th Transportation Battalion participated in the Darby Military Community's National Prayer Breakfast on February 7th. The breakfast was designed for the community to take reflection of the power of prayer in our daily lives, both on and off duty.

Guest speaker, Chaplain (Capt.) Alexander Palamaria, USAF, provided words of encouragement that helped break down the reasons that prayer in our daily lives is important. He showed us how prayer gives us the strength, wisdom and patience to endure the challenges that we face throughout our lives, whether at home or during a military operation. His words helped to provide a foundation that we can build successful careers and lives upon. ■

(Source: 839th Trans Bn)

# 'A Dutch Farewell!'

By Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

When the 598th Transportation Brigade announced the final plans in April 2012 for its move from Rotterdam, The Netherlands to Sembach, Germany, it automatically implied that a large portion of the Brigade employees would be laid off.

The further in the year the clearer the message became, when more than 40 Dutch local national employees would no longer be employed by SDDC's 598th Transportation Brigade and handed back over to the Dutch



■ Rotterdam, 7 Dec 2013 -- During a farewell luncheon with some hundred people 598th commander, Col. Matthew D. Redding and his staff bid farewell for more than 40 Dutch local national employees.



■ Marianne Lammers, Ocean Cargo Clearance Authority Transportation Specialist receives her 598th plaque for 10 years 598th employment, from 598th Commander Col. Matthew D. Redding.

Ministry of Defense (DMoD). The DMoD will assist the newly unemployed to seek new employment within the DMoD or externally.

A large group saying goodbye calls for a special event. A farewell luncheon was organized and some one hundred people showed up in a local restaurant to be bid farewell by the 598th Transportation Brigade command.

In his speech, Colonel Matthew Redding, Commander 598th Transportation Brigade thanked the local nationals for their support to the command. He told the captive audi-

ence that he well realized this was a special event where he had to say goodbye to a large part of his secured continuity.

Once more he explained that the changing post war environment and upcoming budget cuts called for some drastic action. He explained that he was well aware of the fact that he would leave behind tons of experience where some very seasoned Dutch



■ John Storm, 598 Information Management Telecommunication Specialist receives a plaque for 17 Years of Service.

members worked for over 35 years for the U.S. Government but that changing times require far-reaching and serious actions.

Where one would think the atmosphere in the restaurant would be timid, one would be ever so wrong, the atmosphere was excellent. Many memories were shared between those that knew their time with SDDC would end soon.

Directors came over from the new 598th Transportation Brigade location in Sembach, Germany to bid farewell to their Dutch local national workers who had been working there for as long as they could remember.

People were having a great time and made the best of a somber situation. Marianne Lammers, Ocean Cargo Clearance Authority Transportation Specialist said; "I am very



■ Tony Emmen, S1, Travel Clerck received a plaque for 28 years of Service.

■ Photos by Bram de Jong, U.S. Army - 598 Trans BDE

sad to lose my job with the 598th. I have truly enjoyed working for the Brigade but it is as it is... they move and I am not, so I will have to look for something else."

Whilst people were enjoying the buffet, Col. Redding took the time to award all those being laid off with a 598th plaque thanking them individually for their expertise and support to the Brigade.

John Storm, Information Management Telecommunication Specialist expressed himself by saying; "Deep in my heart I am very sad. To be without a job because the unit moves to Germany is something I did not applaud! We're fortunate to live in the Netherlands where we will be well taken care of but if it had been my pick I would have still had a desk to sit at."



■ In his speech, Colonel Matthew Redding, Commander 598th Transportation Brigade thanked the local nationals for their support to the command. He told the captive audience that he well realized this was a special event where he had to say goodbye to a large part of his secured continuity.



■ John Slee, 838th Battalion Cargo Control Manager received a plaque for 41 years of Service.



■ Frieda Oosterbeem 598th RM, Budget Assistant, received a plaque for 25 years of Service.

Where goodbyes are often a sad event, this was kind of a strange afternoon where sadness stayed behind since the general thought was one of 'we're all in this together'. Addresses were exchanged and promises made to see each other still but then in a different setting.

Amongst all attending were also members of the Benelux Detachment; where the 598th Transportation Brigade and the 838th Transportation Battalion had their headquarters in The Netherlands for decades and is now located in Germany, a little of SDDC stays behind in The Netherlands. SDDC presence as of 2013 consists of the Benelux Detachment. The Benelux Detachment will be located in a temporary office building at the local Marine Barracks in Rotterdam and will continue to support SDDC's mission.



■ A well represented meeting with a great dish!

SDDC's presence in The Netherlands stays strong as ever, only in a reduced size. ■



# International Relations

## 839th Trans Bn Personnel Visits the Italian Army's Airborne Museum in Pisa, Italy

By Sgt. 1st Class Philip C. Goodwin, 839th Trans Bn, Documentation Supervisor

The 839th Transportation Battalion's military personnel visited the Italian Army's Airborne Museum in Pisa, Italy on December 14, 2012 as part of their Workforce Professional Development program. This visit marked the first bilateral exchange amongst the two units. The visit gave the service members the chance to learn and understand the history and heritage of the Italian Army Airborne (Folgore) Division.

The two Italian Airborne School Sergeants Major, Primo Maresciallo Luogotenente Dinelli and Primo Maresciallo Luogotenente Miliota, welcomed the 839th Transportation Battalion members and, through Caporal Maggiore Capo Scelto Tufilli's translation, expanded on history dating back prior to World War I.

The visit allowed 839th personnel to learn about the Axis side of World War II and the internal struggles that the Italian Army went through when they changed sides from the Axis to the Allies. The visit also allowed the service members to see all of the conflicts that the Italian Army has provided NATO assistance with throughout the years, including service in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.



■ CMCS Tufilli explains to the 839th Trans BN NCOs the LANEMBO AFILOT-TRANO map.

At the conclusion of the visit, the Airborne cadre invited the 839th Transportation Battalion's service members to observe airborne training and the 839th Transportation Battalion invited the Airborne cadre to Camp Darby to learn about the Surface Deployment and Distribution Command's mission. The visit helped solidify the unity and bond that the two nations have toward safety and welfare on a global scale.

■ CMCS Tufilli interrupts the Italian version to English for the 839th Trans Bn.



■ Group photo, from left to right; Primo Maresciallo Luogotenente Dinelli, Primo Maresciallo Luogotenente Miliota, Sgt 1st Class Goodwin; Sgt 1st Class Hamilton R.; Maj. Kost; Private Marino; Sgt. Maj. Jackson; CMCS Tufilli; Sgt. 1st Class Curley; Staff Sgt. Cogman; Sgt. 1st Class Hamler; Sgt. 1st Class Hamilton, K.; and Staff Sgt. Wister.

■ Photos by Sgt. Maj Daisy E. Jackson, U.S. Army - SDDC 839 Trans BN

# Farewell to Captain Beckett

Livorno, Italy, 13 Feb 2013 -- Lt. Col. Marcilyn L. Patterson, commander 839th Transportation Battalion (SDDC) presented Captain Nathaniel S. Beckett his PCS award.



■ Lt. Col. Marcilyn L. Patterson, commander 839th Trans BN presents Capt. Nathaniel S. Beckett his Permanent Change of Station (PCS) award.



Beckett served as the Operations Officer of a forward-deployed strategic transportation battalion in Italy consisting of a headquarters, a DDST, and three geographically dispersed detachments located in Greece, Italy and Turkey with regional responsibility to support and enable full spectrum operations across 41 countries within European Command and Africa Command. Conducts intermodal port operations and distribution operations to deploy and deliver combat power and DOD/NATO cargo across both COCOMs ensuring strategic advantage/depth. Responsible for planning and executing all operations, training, movements and

security. Executes movements in support of the theater and routine/global contingencies for ammunition, retrograde, and household goods. Plans, coordinates, and resources the training and readiness of assigned Soldiers, DA Civilians, and Local Nationals.

*"This position is normally held by Major's!*

*Captain Beckett did an outstanding job. He leaves the Battalion to take the reins of command of the NATO HHC CMD in the Benelux. I know he will do an outstanding job and the 839th Battalion wishes him and his family well,"* says Lt. Col. Patterson.

*(Source 839th Trans Bn)*

## 839th SHARP TRAINING

■ Livorno, Italy -- BDE CDR conducting a site visit with the 839th Transportation Battalion and had a great opportunity to sit on the quarterly SHARP (training given by Kitty Harris, the Battalions SHARP representative. (Source: 839th Trans Bn)



## PT with BDE Commander

Livorno, Italy -- Colonel Matthew D. Redding, Commander 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC), had the opportunity to conduct PT with the battalion Soldiers and afterwards provided some mentorship on the upcoming Qualitative Selection Program (QSP) results that are coming out at the end of the month. He provided his opinion on how to accept the results if anyone's name was on it.

*(Source 839th Trans Bn)*

## The Last Group Photo taken at the SDDC Building in Capelle aan den IJssel



■ Capelle aan den IJssel, NL - 4 Dec 2012 -- Zuleika Wolff, 838th Trans Bn (SDDC) Secretary was invited to blow out the candles on her Birthday Cake in the Canteen of the SDDC building. This historic moment illustrated with coffee and cake in attendance of the remaining 838th Trans Bn, 598th Trans BDE and MCT Rotterdam personnel in the building celebrated Sue's birthday. This event was a good opportunity for a last community photo!

## Salute to our Dutch Guards!

Capelle aan den IJssel, NL -- Dutch Forces guarded the SDDC building since September 2001. The DMOD guarding with military came to an end on 16 November 2013 when most of the personnel moved to other locations. Thanks to all those military and DMOD civilian Guards who took care of a safe compound all those years!

■ The last three Soldiers of the Royal Netherlands Army who guarded posing at the main entrance gate: Corporal Yvette de Vos, Rijder 1st Class Destanli Izzet and Gunner Jeffrey van der Borgh.

(Photo US Army, 598CAO)



■ Photos by Bram de Jong, U.S. Army - 598 Trans BDE

# Changes: *New IMDG- Code Amendment 36-12 (Edition 2012)*

By Nils Pfuhl, Dangerous Goods Advisor, 950th US Army Trans Company (SDDC), Bremerhaven, Germany.

## International Maritime Dangerous Goods (IMDG) Code changes every two years

The International Maritime Organization's (IMO) Maritime Safety Committee (MSC) met on 23 MAY and adapted resolution MSC.328(90) for the new Code Amendment 36-12. The change, printed in a new pair of books (IMDG Code, 2012 Edition, Amendment 36-12), is the worldwide standard for shipping dangerous goods by sea and may be used from 1 January 2013. The Code will come into full force on 1 January 2014 and the printed version is now available for about \$225.00. Within the transitional period of 2013, the previous edition (IMDG Code, 2010 Edition, Amendment 35-10) will overlap with Edition 2012, so during the period either amendment may be used.

### Part 1 to 3

Definitions (1.2.1) saw a few changes (marked: Δ) but most imports use the new term (marked: □) 'net explosive mass' (NEM) in addition to the existing other two expressions 'net explosive quantity' (NEQ) and 'net explosive weight' (NEW) most used in the military system. Also 'foodstuff' is newly listed and the segregation has altered (see 7.6.3.1). New in part 2.0 is chapter 2.0.5 is 'Transport of wastes' which was previously listed in chapter 7.8 plus adjustments in 2.6.3.2.3 'Exceptions' are for medical devices (UN 3291) or equipment potentially contaminated (Category A) and shipped for disinfection, cleaning or repair, etc. that might not be '... subject to the provisions of this code...' (2.6.3.2.3.7). A new chapter 2.9.4 for 'lithium batteries' was included.

The 'Dangerous Goods List' in part 3.0 changed for several entries and new UN numbers up to 3506 were added (see table on the left). A few updates in special provisions (SP) of chapter 3.3 are SP 230 and 240 for lithium batteries and the new SP 360 for vehicles also with lithium batteries. SP 363 defines that e.g. generators, compressors, heating units, etc. must be declared under their dangerous substance/s e.g. UN 1203 (Gasoline) if they exceed the limited quantity level (LTD QTY) at column 7a stated in the 'Dangerous Goods List'. Chapter 3.4 (limited quantities) was renewed, including the shipment of division 1.4 compatibility group S (e.g. UN 0012 and UN

0014; LTD QTY ≤ 5 KG; SP 364). The limited quantities mitigation will not be utilized for the U.S. Army in Europe according to Mr. Dengler (Command Dangerous Goods Advisor, HQ US Army Europe).

### Part 4 to 7

New additions in packing instructions (chapter 4.1.4) for P206 chemicals under pressure, P207 aerosols and a revision for lithium batteries are highlighted in P903. Chapter 5.2.1.7.1 was modified and defines when orientation arrows are not required.

Newly introduced is the 'firework classification reference' for chapter 'Documentation' (5.4) that requires the classification reference/s (e.g. USA EX20091234) of the competent authority that shall (shall □ must) be added to all dangerous cargo declarations (e.g. DD2890) when UN nos. 0333, 0334, 0335, 0336 and 0337 are transported.

Chapter 7.1 (general stowage provision) for those loading vessels faced rearrangements in certain arrears. It starts with definitions e.g. 'Clear of living quarters ... units shall be stowed a minimum distance of 3m from accommodation...' (7.1.2). Stowage categories for class 1 (explosives) was reduced from fifteen to five (7.1.3.1) which is much simpler, but still must be separated from all other classes 2 to 9 in chapter 7.1.3.2. Other requirements for 'Stowage of goods of class 1' may be found in 7.1.4.4 of volume I. For now, these are the most significant changes, but it is recommended that users always check with official sources before relying on the information.

Source: 'IMDG Code Amendment 36-12 overview of changes from Amendment 35-10'. IMDG- Code Amdt. 36-12. 2012: IMO. Web. 14 Feb 2013. < [http://www.imo.org/Publications/Documents/Attachments/IMDG\\_%20Amdt%2036-12.pdf](http://www.imo.org/Publications/Documents/Attachments/IMDG_%20Amdt%2036-12.pdf)



New UN numbers			
UN No.	Proper Shipping Name (PSN)	Class or division	Subsidiary risk(s)
3497	Krill meal	4.2	
3498	Iodine monochloride, liquid	8	
3499	Capacitor	9	
3500	Chemical under pressure N.O.S.	2.2	
3501	Chemical under pressure, flammable, N.O.S.	2.1	
3502	Chemical under pressure, toxic, N.O.S.	2.2	6.1
3503	Chemical under pressure, corrosive, N.O.S.	2.2	8
3504	Chemical under pressure, flammable, toxic, N.O.S.	2.1	6.1
3505	Chemical under pressure, flammable, corrosive, N.O.S.	2.1	8
3506	Mercury contained in manufactured articles	8	6.1

# 598th conducts 'Train the Trainer' program for more Safety effectiveness

By Martin Weteling, 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC), Command Affairs Officer

SDDC Commanding General, Major General Thomas J. Richardson announced in September 2012 that all Brigades will provide appropriate maritime safety training to personnel who perform duties involving maritime operations. Due to the differences in the Brigades, specific guidance for implementation where no part of these requirements. In the ongoing strive for cost effectiveness without jeopardizing Safety standards for its missions the 598<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion conducted OSHA's Maritime Safety Training by bringing the trainer to Rotterdam, The Netherlands and Livorno, Italy. By having the trainer over the command saved on extensive TDY costs since the Occupational Safety and Health administration (OSHA) Maritime Safety training is a must for those who execute missions for the command. Mr. Garry Tripp from the 597<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade, Ft. Eustis taught the classes at both locations.

With the Occupational Safety and Health act of 1970, the U.S. Congress created the OSHA to assure safe and healthful working conditions for working men and women by setting and enforcing standards and by providing training, outreach, education and assistance. OSHA rules not only apply in the United States, they apply everywhere the military operates as well. This often in conjunction with Host Nation Safety and Health legislation.

In Rotterdam, The Netherlands the class was conducted at the former 598<sup>th</sup> Trans BDE location right before its final closure. In the class were 598<sup>th</sup> Trans BDE Safety and Operations personnel, the Safety Officer for the 950<sup>th</sup> Transportation Company, Bremerhaven, Germany as well as members of the 838<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion's Benelux Detachment.

During the class do's and don'ts for working in a maritime environment were explained. A full understanding of the OSHA 29, 1915 covering the maritime part was laid out for the students and more insight given on how OSHA implements rules for working in the port.

From Rotterdam, The Netherlands Mr. Gary Tripp and the 598<sup>th</sup> Trans BDE Safety Manager Rudy Magereij traveled to the 839<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion in Livorno, Italy to conduct the class there as well.

At the 839<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion, Italy the class was conducted in the conference room with the members of the 839<sup>th</sup> Transportation Battalion Detachment and the Greece- and Turkey Detachment participated .

*"In total we trained 36 personnel, Soldiers, DAC's, Dutch-, Italian-, German-, Greece- and Turkey Local National s alike, whose primary business is working at the port,"* said Rudy Magereij, the 598<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade's Safety Manager. He explained that the training is a necessity for all participating in operations at ports in the broad area of responsibility of the 598<sup>th</sup> Transportation Brigade.

*"A well trained crew helps to keep the place safe!"*; said Magereij. More safety training will be taught via the train the trainer method



▲ 597th Trans BDE Safety Manager; Gary Tripp instructs 838th Trans Bn cargo control specialist Anne van der Linden on the OSHA Maritime rules during the OSHA Maritime Safety instruction at the former 598th Trans BDE Headquarters.

in the near future to ensure the Brigade will be a well trained organization.



■ Members of the 839th Trans Bn and the SDDC Italy Det form a captive audience for 597th Trans BDE Safety Manager; Gary Tripp during the OSHA Maritime Safety training at the 839th Transportation Battalion in Livorno, Italy. From left to right: Sgt. Wistler, Mrs. De Sanctis, Mr. Deppe, Mr Tripp, SFC Curley, Mr. Orsini and Staff Sgt. Cogman.

■ Photos by Martin Weteling, U.S. Army - 598 Trans BDE