



No. **2**²⁰₁₂



TRANS TRIBUNE

*Chronicle of
Warrior Logistics
in Motion!*

598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC), Rotterdam, The Netherlands



Photo by Martin Wereling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

■ The participants of the 598th Transportation Brigade Best Warrior Competition show their skills on the range at Budel, The Netherlands.

Sgt. Xiong 'Best 598th Warrior'!.....see article on page 7

"Warrior Logistics - In Motion"



598th TRANS TRIBUNE

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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 Bde overseas. The 598th Trans Tribune provides information of people, activities and operations of the 598th Transportation Brigade. 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.

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Mr. Stephen L. Marshall

Brigade Command Sergeant Major
Cynthia B. Howard

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Deputy to the Commander's Corner

■ *Mr. Stephen L. Marshall*
598th Trans BDE (SDDC)
Deputy to the Commander



Hello to all the 598th family. What a busy month we had in May. First, we finally received the official word that we are relocating to Germany and leaving our familiar Netherlands surroundings and many friends. However, we all need to remember we are not truly leaving the Benelux but rather simply relocating.

A change of Responsibility occurred and we bid a farewell to Col. William AL. Moseley, his wife Vickie, and daughter Cassie. In my role as The Deputy to the Commander, I assumed the day to day operation and control and am additionally heading up the team charged with the task of relocation. As we move forward we are preparing to welcome our new commander on board, Col. Matthew Redding, his wife Kristen and children Alex and Gracyn. We will officially welcome them into the 598th on the 23rd of August in an Assumption of Command Ceremony to be held at a location yet to be determined. With our new Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia B. Howard on board the Command Section is getting healthy once again.

The Sembach facility is well under way and the construction and remodeling are due for completion between the 15th of August and the 30th of September. An advance party of select 598th employees will go forward to finish preparing our building for occupancy. This is scheduled for sometime around the first part of November. Eventually we will all close on the new facility expected for completion in the spring of 2013.

As many know we are concerned with the future of all our employees whether direct or indirect hires. As we move forward we are working hand in hand with the Dutch Ministry of Defense (DMOD) to ensure each employee receives the proper treatment, consideration, and follow-on employment opportunities. Basically this is a learning process for everyone and it is critical we maintain a team concept to reach the best solutions for everyone.

Last of all let me remind everyone that as we do all these things the mission is still ongoing for the 598th and our battalions. Whether on the NDN, AFRICOM, EUCOM, or USAREUR we have to leverage our assets to answer each individual demand. To do that let us all remember we still remain

Warrior Logistics - In Motion.

Cynthia B. Howard

NEW 598th Transportation Brigade

Command Sergeant Major



■ CSM Cynthia B. Howard
598th Trans BDE (SDDC)
Command Sergeant Major

WOW, words cannot express how grateful I am to be your Brigade Command Sergeant Major. I want all of you to know that I fully accept these duties and responsibilities entirely. As it is stated in the Creed of the Noncommissioned Officer, *“All Soldiers are entitled to outstanding leadership and I will provide that leadership”*. You can count on me to give you a hundred and ten percent of total commitment and dedication to this Organization, Soldiers, Civilians and Local Nationals. I’m expecting the same in return.

My time here on station has definitely flown by. From day one I realized that the Brigade operates on a busy optempo. I like it because this is where we can show our true strength, honor and definitely dedication to the mission! After only being here for 3 months I truly have observed the hard work that each and every one of you put in on a daily basis. Please know that it doesn’t go unnoticed.

I’ve had the opportunity to observe Sergeant Xiong win the Best Warrior Competition for the Brigade. She went forward to compete in the SDDC Best Warrior Week competition in Honolulu Hawaii. This was truly an unforgettable experience for her, one I know she will remember for the rest of her life. I’m also proud of her fellow competitors, Staff Sgt. Gutierrez of the 838th Trans Bn and Staff Sgt. Hamler of the 839th Trans BN. It was a very close competition and all of them represented their respective battalion with great pride and dignity.

► *All Participants, their sponsors, the Command Sergeant Major and Sergeants Major from this year’s competition. From left to right. top row; Staff Sgt. Verastegui (598th Trans BDE), Sgt. 1st Class Curley (839th Trans Bn), Sgt. 1st Class Ramos (838th Trans Bn) and Sgt. Maj. Uchegbu (838th Trans Bn). Bottom row, Sgt. Maj. Jackson (839th Trans Bn), Sgt. Xiong (598th Trans BDE), Staff Sgt. Hamler (839th Trans Bn), Staff Sgt. Gutierrez (838th Trans Bn) and Command Sgt. Maj. Howard (598th Trans BDE).*

Challenging times are ahead of us as we prepare for the move of this Brigade to Sembach and the 838th Battalion to Kaiserslautern, Germany. Please know that we are doing our very best to make this transition as smooth as possible for everyone. With the great team of experts we have, I know we can make it happen.

The Summer months are fast approaching us here in Rotterdam and I would like to leave you with a quick note about Safety. As the weather gets warmer and the days longer, many recreational opportunities will arise. Afternoon cookouts, boating, swimming, and motorcycling are favorite past-times for many of us. I implore you to conduct yourself professionally and apply composite risk management during all of your activities ~ **Army Safe is Army Strong!**

I would like to close by personally thanking each and every one of you; Soldier, Civilian, and Local National alike, for your loyalty, duty, selfless service, honor, integrity and personal commitment to this Organization.

“WARRIOR LOGISTICS - In Motion”

WARLOG 7



■ Photo by Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO



BACKGROUND INFORMATION

Stephen L. Marshall **598th Trans BDE** **Deputy to the Commander**

Mr. Stephen L Marshall is Deputy to The Commander, 598th Transportation Brigade in Rotterdam, The Netherlands and part of the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command.

Mr. Marshall is responsible for the smooth and uninterrupted processing and implementation of end-to-end distribution and multi-faceted/multi-modal operations in the EUCOM and AFRICOM areas of responsibility in support of SDDC's global mission. Those responsibilities also include Joint Service force deployment and integrated logistics operations.

Prior to his current assignment, Mr. Marshall served as the single Transportation and Logistics manager at Army Materiel Command (AMC) Headquarters at Fort Belvoir, VA., from May 2005 until July 2011. Along with those duties he served as the AMC career program manager for transportation. He also held the position of the Director for operations and acting Director of the US Army Transportation Management Center-Europe from May 1996 – May 2005. From May 2001 – May 2005 Mr. Marshall was the S-3 and also Executive Assistant to the Commander 1st Transportation Movement Control Agency in Europe.

Mr. Marshall's education includes a Bachelor of Science in Business Management and also a Masters in Management from the University of Phoenix, AZ. And he is currently pursuing a Doctorate degree.

His awards and honors include the Army Superior Civilian Service Award, the Commander's Award for Civilian Service, and many other awards including those achieved during his active duty service. ■

Cynthia B. Howard **new 598th Trans BDE** **Command Sergeant Major**

Brigade Command Sergeant Major Cynthia B. Howard is a native of Columbia, South Carolina. She entered the Army in November 1986 as a Motor Transport Operator. She attended Basic Training and Avance Individual Training at Ft. Dix, New Jersey.

Command Sgt. Maj. Howard's previous assignments include: Motor Transport Operator, 501st Trans Co, Kaiserslautern, GE; Section Chief/Squad Leader, 368th Trans Co, Ft. Story, Va.; Platoon Sgt, 541st Trans Co, Ft. Campbell, Ky.; Senior Drill Sgt, Bravo Co 2/47 Infantry Co and Alpha Co, 58th Trans BN, Ft. Leonard Wood, Miss.; Battalion S-3 Operations Sgt. HQ and HQ Co, 58th Trans BN Ft. Leonard Wood, Miss; Truck Master, 46th Trans Co, Camp Humphries, Korea; Truck Master, 89th Medium Truck Co, Ft. Eustis, Va.; First Sgt. HQ and HQ Co., 7th Trans Gp, Ft. Euisis, Va.; Senior Operations Sgt, SPO Trans Section, HQ and HQ Co, Special Troops BN, 3rd Sustainment BDE, Ft. Stewart, Ga.; First Sgt. HQ and HQ Co, Special Troops BN, 3rd Sustainment BDE, Ft. Steart, Ga.; BRigade S-3 Sgt. Maj., 3rd Sustainment BDE, Ft. Steart Ga.; Command Sgt. Maj. of 87th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion at Ft. Stewart, Ga.

Her military education includes: Graduate from Motor Transport Operators Course (64C); Primary Leadership Development Course; Basic NCO Course; Advanced NCO Course; Instructor Training Course; Air Assault School; Drill Sergeants School; Battle Staff NCO Course; First Sgt. Course; U.S. Army Sergeants Major Academy. Her civilian education includes; A Bachelors of Science in Psychology and she is also a Certified Nursing Aide.

Command Sgt. Maj. Howard's awards and honors include the Bronze Star Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Army Commendation Medal, Army Achievement Medal, Army good Conduct Medal, National Defense Medal with Bronze Star, South West Asia Medal with Bronze Stars, Global War on Terrorism Expeditionary Medal, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Korean Defense Service Medal, Noncommissioned Officer Professional Development Ribbon, Army Service Ribbon, Overseas Service Ribbon, Kuwait Liberation Medal (Kuwait), and Kuwait Liberation Medal (Saudi Arabia), Drill Sergeants Badge, Air Assault Badge and Driver Mechanic Badge,. She is also a distinguished member of the Transportation Corps Order of St. Christopher. ■

SDDC's 598th Transportation Brigade relocates to Germany



Photo by Bram de Jong, 598th Trans BDE CAO

April 27, 2012 -- News Release by
Hq. SDDC Command Affairs Office

■ HQ 598th Transportation Brigade in Capelle aan

SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, ILL., (April 27, 2012) -- In accordance with the Department of Defense and the Department of the Army, the 598th Transportation Brigade Headquarters and 838th Transportation Battalion Headquarters, both elements of the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command, will relocate from Rotterdam, The Netherlands, to the Kaiserslautern Military Community in Germany this year to improve strategic deployment and distribution support to U.S. European Command and U.S. Africa Command, which are headquartered in Stuttgart, Germany.

Overall, the relocation may affect up to 23 military positions, 57 local nationals and 35 Department of the Army civilian positions. The degree of impact on each employee that is currently assigned has yet to be determined.

The relocation of the two units will enhance SDDC's expeditionary posture to support global contingency operations and enable the U.S. Army to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of its business operations.

As overseas contingency operations and planning for the future continue, US organizational structure and facilities are continually reviewed to identify the means to operate more efficiently and effectively with available assets. The process always involves close consultation with appropriate U.S. and host-nation officials. ■



The Public Affairs Section of the 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) is working on a **Fare-Well-Booklet** which will document **55 years** SDDC presence in The Netherlands.

You worked with SDDC in The Netherlands? Mail us your portrait for the Personnel Portrait Gallery (Name, Rank, Job Title, Period of Service) and share other nice photo material, stories and personal anecdotes. (copyright free material only!)

Please forward your input to:
usarmy.rotterdam.598-trans-bde.list.598th-pao@mail.mil

We will keep you posted about the publication date, cost and how to obtain the booklet. Let us know whether you are interested!

Stephen L. Marshall, Deputy to the Commander, Responsible for 598th Trans BDE (SDDC)

By 598th Trans BDE CAO/PAO

Capelle aan den IJssel,
The Netherlands --
During a Change of
Responsibility
Ceremony at Hq
598th Trans BDE
on Friday 12 May
2012, Col. William L.
Moseley symbolically



turned over the responsibilities of the 598th Brigade by returning the 598th Colors to his SDDC Commanding General Thomas J. Richardson. Richardson presented the 598th Colors to Mr. Stephen L. Marshall, Deputy to the Commander who will be responsible for the command until the arrival of the new Commander Matthew D. Redding in August.

The ceremony was attended by civilian and military personnel of the 598th and several Military and Civilian invitees.

Richardson praised 598th personnel for what they do each and every day. For supporting U.S. EUCOM and U.S. Africom on a daily base and their vital support to the Northern Distribution Network (NDN), moving commercial cargo from the U.S. to Afghanistan.

Col. Moseley thanked his personnel for their support and wished them all the best.

Stephen L. Marshall, thanked Maj. Gen. Richardson and staff for their trust and confidence to receive the helm of the command. He also praised NL and U.S. personnel for their contributions and stated that he will proudly lead the 598th with their support until the New Commander Col. Matthew D. Redding gets onboard.

A reception followed the Change of Responsibility Ceremony.

Col. Moseley and family will move to Ft. Hood,



■ Maj. Gen. William L. Richardson, SDDC CG presents the 598th Colors to Mr. Stephen L. Marshall, 598th Deputy to the CDR.

■ The 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) Color Guard

■ Col. William L. Moseley 598th Out-going CDR; Maj. Gen. Richardson, CG SDDC and Stephen L. Marshall, the 598th Deputy to the CDR.

■ The official Change of Responsibility Cake with the 598th colors, being cut by 598th Command Sergeant Major Cynthia Howard and Stephen Marshall, Deputy to the CDR.



■ Photos by Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

SDDC 'Best Warrior' Competition

Sergeant Xiong proves to be the Best Warrior for the 598th

By Martin Weteling,
598th Trans BDE (SDDC) PAO



Sergeant Kia Xiong, Operations NCO at the 598th Transportation Brigade in Rotterdam, The Netherlands came out as the overall winner of this year's Brigade Best Warrior Competition.

During a fierce battle between contestants from the 598th Transportation Brigade Headquarters, the 838th Transportation Battalion and the 839th Transportation Battalion it was Sgt. Xiong who proved to be the overall best.

The competition started at the Van Ghentkazerne, the Marine barracks in Rotterdam, The Netherlands, with the administration of the Army Physical Fitness Test.

It was here where Staff Sergeant Charles Gutierrez from the 838th Transportation Battalion, 950th Transportation Company out of Bremerhaven, Germany, Staff Sergeant Delano Hamler, 839th Transportation Battalion, and Sergeant Xiong were able to show off their skills for the first time. The essay writing event also occurred on the first day. This challenged the competitors' ability to think outside the box. The essay writing occurred at the 598th Transportation Brigade's Headquarters.

"The fact that we suddenly don't work together but compete is somewhat strange. Normally we operate as a team conducting a mission and striving for success together. Now I have to ensure I defeat my fellow competitors"; said Sgt. Xiong. The next morning the contestants and their entourage moved to a Dutch Army Base in Budel in the south of the Netherlands.



■ 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) Command Sgt. Maj. Cynthia Howard congratulates Sgt. Kia Xiong on her selection as the 598th Transportation Brigade NCO of the year by winning the Best Warrior Competition. Sgt. Xiong, as selectee for the 598th Trans BDE, represented the brigade during SDDC's Best Warrior Competition in Hawaii.

On the weapons range at Budel, the competitors demonstrated their abilities to qualify with their assigned weapon. The competitors also had to demonstrate their ability to navigate from one point to another. This highlighted their land navigation skills. Tactical skills were also displayed on this day. Some of the skills demonstrated were their ability to shoot, move, and communicate; provide medical assistance to a casualty, and several other tactical tasks.

Staff Sgt. Gutierrez on competing; *"It is an honor and a privilege to compete in this year's competition with such skillful competitors. Even though we are opponents there is still the vast bond that unites us as Soldiers. Whatever happens, it is not only about me but about the team."*

(Continued on next page)

■ Photo by Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

Up until the last event it was not decided who would be the Best Warrior for the 598th Transportation Brigade.

The last part of the competition, the road march, proved to be the decisive element.

All three Soldiers battled for victory and marched through the scenic area surrounding Budel training area. The road march challenged each Soldier's endurance level and their ability to go the distance to win this all important event.

"I have to thank all those who stood beside me and helped me get ready for the event as well as executing on this high level. It helped me to keep going and give all I have to prove I am what I am most proud of; a Soldier in the United States Army!" he said.

Upon completion of the competition at Budel, the Soldiers returned to home base in Rotterdam in anticipation of the winner being announced.

The final day of the competition Command Sgt., Maj. Howard, the Brigade Command Sergeant Major, informed all the Soldiers that Sgt. Xiong is the winner of the Brigade Best Warrior Competition, which also makes her the 598th Transportation Brigade Noncommissioned Officer of the year 2012. As the winner Sgt. Xiong received an Army Accommodation Medal, a 598th plaque, as well as a four day pass.

The Best Warrior competition ended with a get together in the 598th Transportation Brigade CADI where everyone had the chance to hear firsthand how the competitors experienced the competition.

Sgt. Xiong, as winner, travelled to Hawaii where she participated in SDDC's Best Warrior Competition. She gave her best there and ensured all of us at the 598th Trans Brigade could be proud of her achievements.

Command Sergeant Major Cynthia Howard is proud of her Soldiers and praised their commitment.

"It is an honor and a privilege to be able to compete in the Best Warrior Competition here at the 598th Transportation Brigade. Seeing the Soldiers compete and taking pride while they do so is what makes the United States Army what it is, a great environment to work in!" she said. ■



▲ Staff Sgt. Gutierrez (Right at table) and Sgt. Xiong (bottom at table) working on their land navigation skills in order to gain the title of Best Warrior for the 598th Trans BDE (SDDC).

► Staff Sgt. Hamler treating a wounded comrade during the Best Warrior Competition in Budel, The Netherlands. In this phase the competitors had to pass different stations where they were graded on their shown skills.

▼ During the Best Warrior Competition the competitors had to present themselves to the board of NCO's for questioning. Here, Staff Sgt. Hamler; the 839th Trans BN competitor during his presentation to the board.



■ Photos by Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

SDDC - 950th Transportation Company

Supports 12 CAB OEF Deployment

By Sgt. 1st Class Jermaine Taylor, 950th NCOIC

The 950th Transportation Company are at it once again kicking off 2012 with their Deployment and Distribution Support Team (DDST) supporting the 12th Combat Aviation Brigade deployment into Operation Enduring Freedom – Afghanistan.

The DDST conducted a split base operation at the 12th CAB's locations of Katterbach and Illesheim, Germany and at the Port of Bremerhaven, Germany.

The 950th, along with the 21st Theater Sustainment Command, supported the deployment process for the warfighter by assisting in the preparation of documentation and inspections during the 30 and 10 Day Rehearsal of Concepts (ROC) drills, courtesy inspection and ISA operations. The move began with cargo preparation training on documentation, HAZMAT requirements, blocking and bracing for the Sea port of Embarkation (SPOE) and commercial air once the cargo reaches its next location.

The 950th wasted no time in preparing port support activities by setting up the Nordhafen (Germany) area of the port for the reception of 177 pieces of equipment arriving by rail and line haul. Once staged, the DDST remained engaged and committed prior to and during staging area operations as subject matter experts providing on-the-spot corrections and direction. The document section for the 950th scanned MSLs on all equipment to provide in-transit visibility through SDDC's GATES system and the Global Transportation Network (GTN) upon arrival and departing of equipment. The 950th also adapted well to unexpected complications with hazardous material, segregating those containers while continuing operations. With the 598th Trans BDE OCCA's assistance, those containers were quickly re-booked and loaded onto the *MV MAERSK KIMI*. ■



■ Photo by 1st. Lt. Robinson



▲ Marx (right) and from the Cargo Control Section document containers and their locations as they board the *MV VEGALAND*.

► 950th presenting the correct way to block and brace.

▼ Helga Wottke (left) and Anthony Pfoh (right) document cargo as it comes off railcars.



■ Photo by Master Sgt. Robert Bischof



■ Photo by 1st. Lt. Robinson

950th Conducts AS 57 Ammunition Mission

By Staff Sgt. Charles Gutierrez, 950th CCS NCO

Having been notified towards the end of February of the upcoming AS-57 mission, the 950th Transportation Company initiated all focus on the preparation for the mission to be taking place in Nordenham, Germany, the United Kingdom, and Norway. This would be the first ammunition mission for the 950th in over three years due to ongoing legal issues with sovereign immunity between Maritime Sealift Command and the German government.

Before the start of this very complex operation, the 950th TC was tasked to assist the stow plan for the movement of ammunition containers with Brigade and Battalion planners to the *MV SCHIPPERSGRACHT*, *MV MAXIME* and *MV SUN BIRD*. The pre-stow plan was coordinated with the Master of each vessel to ensure compliance with each of the vessel's characteristics.

In a truly joint effort, a tremendous amount of planning took place before the operation at Nordenham could commence. Superb force protection and safety was provided during the operation by the Host Nation with planning and coordination by Sgt. 1st Class Omar Robertson from the 838th Trans BN. The German Forces were tasked to conduct diving operations prior to the arrival of the vessels while local security contractors secured the port of Nordenham during the duration of the operation. The German Water Police also provide 24 hour waterside security.

The cargo section of the 950th Trans CO coordinated team discharge effort to maximize efficiency and time management. The German Railway company supported the very challenging rail schedule. Together with the local Bremerhaven Movement Control Team, led by Petra Nei, both parties ensured timely spotting of all trains and made adjustments to changing requirements during the operation. Sixty-two containers were loaded for transport to Germany and Italy. Additional coordination by the BMCT was required to move six containers for Germany by truck to accommodate the changing schedule due to a vessel being delayed. In Nordenham, the 950th Trans CO ran a 24 hour operation beginning with the discharge of 248 empty containers from south west Asia from the *MV SCHIPPERSGRACHT*. The 248 empty containers will be inspected by members of the 950th CSC inspection team for



■ Representatives from the Military Sealift Command along with Martin Van Daak observe the operations on the *MAXIME*. (Photo by Maj. John Dang, Commander Bremerhaven Company).



■ Maj. John Dang, Commander of the 950th Transportation Company escorts visitors from the Landeskommmando Bremen and Niedersachsen during the operation. (Photo by Lt. Col. John Gallagher, 838th Trans BN)

serviceability and disposition to either AAFES-Giessen for further use or to the Container Repair Facility if repairs are necessary.

The next phase of the operation involved transloading seventy-five containers from the *MV SCHIPPERSGRACHT* to the *MV SUNBIRD*. Once the transload was complete, the 950th TC provided two supercargo as the *MV SUNBIRD* sailed to Hammernesodden, Norway for discharge. Upon arrival to Hammernesodden, the 950th TC assisted the Norwegian Marines in the discharge and disposition of the containers, while the Marines unstuffed the containers for demilitarization, which means that the ammo gets disassembled or destroyed because they degraded or no longer utilized.

After the transload to the *MV SUNBIRD*, the operation continued to discharge seventy-two containers from the *MV SCHIPPERSGRACHT* and onload of 143 containers onto the *MV SCHIPPERSGRACHT*.

The final portion of the mission was the transload nine containers of ammunition from the *MV MAXIME* to the *MV SCHIPPERSGRACHT*. Simultaneously, the *MV MAXIME* discharged six containers and onloaded twelve containers. ■

173rd ABCT ISA Support

By Staff Sgt.(P) Delano Hamler,
Documentation NCO, 839th Trans BN

NCO, 839th Transportation Battalion The 839th Transportation Battalion has done it yet again! On 30 April 2012, the 839th deployed four members of their Deployment and Distribution Support Team (DDST) from Camp Darby to Caserma Ederle, Vicenza, Italy to assist the 173rd Airborne Brigade Combat Team (ABCT) as they prepared their equipment to deploy to Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM.

The DDST partnered with the U.S. Army Garrison Vicenza Transportation Officer to assist with the Installation Staging Area (ISA) operations. The DDST, consisting of Captain Nathaniel Beckett (OIC), Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hamilton (NCOIC), Staff Sgt.(P) Delano Hamler (HAZMAT Certifier), and Staff Sgt. Alisa Cogman (Documentation Supervisor), focused their inspection on key unit movement principles such as documentation (load



■ Staff Sgt. Hamler (left) and Staff Sgt. Cogman (right) guide 173rd ABCT Soldiers on the final steps before sealing the container.

plans & HAZMAT), blocking and bracing, and cleanliness, ensuring that all unit equipment exceeded standards.

The mission was a demonstration of continued success and support from the 839th Transportation Battalion. ■

African Lion 12 Deployment

By Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hamilton,
S3 NCOIC, 839th Transportation Battalion

The African Lion 12 discharge of U.S. Marine Corps equipment at the Port of Agadir, Morocco, on 26 March 2012 was a huge success! The download was scheduled to take three days, but was successfully completed in 15 hours. The talented crew of the ARC vessel, UNITRANS Inc., and service members from the Marines and Army was able to download 189 pieces of rolling stock and containers safely. Once the downloaded equipment touched the pier, UNTRANS, a Global Freight Manager-contracted company, loaded containers onto trucks for onward movement to the Navy pier for staging.

The Italy Detachment provided oversight during the missions. Although the ARC vessel assumed complete responsibility of this door-to-door operation, the 839th provided valuable guidance throughout the operation. Communication and team work ensured a quick discharge and onward movement of equipment leading to great mission success. ■



■ Antonio De Marco and Osman Gonen, Italy Detachment & Turkey Detachment Documentation Specialists, ensure that all cargo is accounted for and matches the cargo manifest.

■ Photos by Sgt. 1st Class Kevin Hamilton, 839th Trans BN

African Lion 12 Redeployment

By Staff Sergeant Cesar Salcedo-Acosta
Documentation NCO 839th Trans BN

The Italy Detachment, 839th Transportation Battalion deployed to Agadir, Morocco from 20-24 April 2012 to support the 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit's redeployment after the completion of exercise African Lion 12.

For me, it was a great experience working with such great professionals like Patrizia De Sanctis (Documentation Supervisor), Roberto Casalini and Riccardo Scotto (Marine Cargo Specialists) with so many years of the experience conducting these types of missions.

Working with Ms. De Sanctis and her ten years of documentation experience, made the job easier because she knew the questions to ask the redeploying unit's movement team, and the documentation required from the vessel's Captain to accept the cargo. The Italy Detachment provided an invaluable opportunity for me to learn the process of dealing with local contractors, and how they interact with the unit's personnel by looking over paperwork and HAZMAT declarations. I saw what can go wrong with documentation,, and how the Italy Detachment's Documentation Specialists and Marine Cargo Specialists fix problems. They made sure the unit had the correct documentation the day prior to loading the equipment to avoid delays. Working with Mr. Scotto and Mr. Casalini as Marine Cargo Specialist brought back memories from when I was 88H (Marine Cargo Specialist). They displayed a lot of dedication by staying engaged and committed during the vessel uploading process with the assistance the personnel from Turkey Detachment and myself. Also, Gino Orsini, as leader of the Italy Detachment, kept the personnel informed of any changes and provided essential data for mission success by conducting information meetings prior to and during the mission.

This was my last African Lion in the 839th Transportation Battalion. I am very thankful for the opportunity the work with military and civilians with so many years of experience, and having a chance to learn the different perspectives of Commercial and Military vessel operations. This was one of the most interesting episodes of my Army career. ■



■ 839th personnel meet with U.S. Marine Corps Africa (MARFORAF) G4 representatives to discuss port operations prior to the redeployment.



■ Rudy Magerij, 598th Transportation Brigade Safety Officer, observes as Patrizia De Sanctis, Italy Detachment Documentation Specialist, checks redeploying cargo data.



■ U.S. Army Soldiers and U.S. Marines pressure wash equipment prior to U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) inspections at the Pier at the Port of Agadir.

■ Photos by SSG Cesar Salcedo-Acosta, 839th Trans BN

Richardson takes command of SDDC

**U.S. Army's
Military**



**Surface
Deployment and
Distribution
Command**



*HQ SDDC
Command Affairs Office
SCOTT AIR FORCE BASE, Ill.,
(Mar. 27, 2012)*

Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson became the 18th commanding general of the Military Surface Deployment and Distribution Command this morning during a change of command ceremony held here.

Maj. Gen. Kevin A. Leonard, outgoing commanding general, retired after 33 years of service.

The ceremony was co-hosted by Air Force Gen. William M. Fraser, III, commander of U.S. Transportation Command, and Army Gen. Ann E. Dunwoody, commanding general of U.S. Army Materiel Command.

Richardson has served in a variety of command and staff positions during his 31-year career. He recently returned from Iraq where he was the J4 for U.S. Forces – Iraq. Other key assignments include: Commander, Land & Maritime DLA; U.S. Pacific Command J4; Executive Officer to the Deputy Commander, Army Materiel Command; Commander, 64th Corps Support Group; Deputy J4, U.S. European Command; and Commander, 296th Forward Support Battalion, 3rd Brigade Combat Team, 2nd Infantry Division, Fort Lewis, Wash., among other assignments.



Richardson holds a Bachelor degree in Business Administration from Stephen F. Austin State University; a Master of Military Arts and Science from U.S. Army Command and General Staff College; and a Master of Science in Strategic Resource Management from National Defense University. His military education includes the Quartermaster Basic and Advance Courses, Combined Arms Staff School, Army Command and General Staff College, and the Industrial College of the Armed Forces.

Maj. Gen. Thomas J. Richardson SDDC is the Army Service Component Command of the U.S. Transportation Command and is a major subordinate command to Army Materiel Command. This relationship links USTRANSCOM's Joint Deployment and Distribution Enterprise and AMC's Materiel Enterprise. Serving as Department of Defense's global surface transportation expert, SDDC plans, books, ships and tracks cargo; conducts port operations; and manages personal property moves for Warfighters, other federal employees and their families. The command influences more than \$5 billion in commercial carrier services. ■

René Haakman Retired!



Photo by Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

■ John Vollmer, Deputy G8, HQ SDDC pinned on the Commander's Award for Civilian Service and congratulates Rene Haakman with his medal and retirement. Rene's wife Marty Haakman assisted her husband in receiving awards and good wishes (at Rene's right).

Capelle aan den IJssel, NL -- Rene Haakman, Budget Analyst, at the 598th Transportation Brigade, retired on 1 April 2012. During a Retirement and Farewell Reception on 29 March 2012 Rene was awarded the 'Commander's Award for Civilian Service' by John Vollmer, Deputy G8 SDDC. The Resource Management Directorate at the 598th directly resides under HQ SDDC. Vollmer came from HQ SDDC, Scott Air Force Base, Ill., to pin on the medal and pass presents and good wishes from the SDDC colleagues.

Aad Koster, Dutch Ministry of Defense (DMOD) Civilian Personnel Officer passed the retirement documents on behalf of the the Dutch Army Commander Lt.Gen. Mart de Kruijf. Stephen Marshall, 598th Deputy to the Commander, presented Rene a Certificate of Retirement and the 598th Transportation Brigade Plaque.

Rene used the opportunity of early retirement after working 37.5 years for the Netherlands Ministry of Defense (DMOD). From 1974 – 1980 he worked as Administrator for the DMOD in Den

Haag and from 1980 – 2012 as Budget Analyst at the 598th Transportation Brigade. Initially located in Rotterdam, Loods Java, located at the Lloyd Kade and since 1983 in Capelle aan den IJssel.

Rene enjoyed working for the U.S. Army. That's why he never changed from employer. He appreciated his colleagues and work. *"The way of funding changed several times; from Operational & Maintenance Army funds (OMA) to Army Industrial Funds (AIF) and later to the Financial Management System (TFMS). This was a challenge every time,"* he said. *"I appreciated the staff assistance TDY trips to Bremerhaven and Kuwait. As well as the annual reconciliation visits to the finance offices in Bayonne, NJ and Omaha, Neb. "* *"I have also great memories of the SDDC deployment, which created cooperation and comraderie, during the Balkan Conflict, when 598th DMOD personnel in Rotterdam was militarized and deployed to Croatia. In 1995, I assisted documenting the unload of the British Rapid Deployment Force loaded on board the USNS Condor in the Port of Split, Croatia".*

Rene, his wife Marty, his four children with spouses and grand children were present at the ceremony, where 598th and 838th SDDC personnel and several retired colleagues came to bid Rene farewell.

Being retired, he plans to follow photography courses and enjoy life. We wish Rene, Marty and family a happy and healthy retirement! ■

4 May 2012

Dutch Memorial Day

By 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) CAO/PAO

The people from The Netherlands commemorate those who gave their lives during World War II and after that day in action on May 4th, the eve before May 5th, which is liberation day.

The commemoration of the dead and those who suffered takes place at 20.00 hours with a '2-minutes of silence' country wide!



■ Wreaths are laid by Capelle aan den IJssel City Hall; 598th Trans BDE (SDDC), representatives of the Veterans and the Police Department.



■ Lt.Col. John Gallagher, Commander 838th Trans BN and his Sgt. Maj. Chukwuemeka Uchegbu laying a wreath on behalf of the United States of America at the WWII memorial at the Cemetery West in Capelle aan den IJssel. NL.

Lt.Col. John Gallagher, Commander 838th Trans BN assisted by his BN Sgt. Maj. Chukwuemeka Uchegbu, represented Col. William L. Moseley Commander, 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) laying a wreath on behalf of the USA, during a Memorial Commemoration organized by the Capelle aan den IJssel administration. In his speech, Mayor Frank Koen recognized the 598th Trans BDE (SDDC) as long standing Allied Friends in Capelle aan den IJssel. The 598th participate in the Annual Memorial Ceremony since 1995. He stated: "I regret that the Americans made the choice to relocate to Germany. The Americans have been great residents of Capelle and you don't like those to depart." ■

■ 'Silent Walk' from the Cemetery to the Church. Mayor and Mrs. Koen; Lt. Col. Gallagher and Sgt. Maj. Uchegbu followed by the Veterans and Police representatives.



■ Photos by Bram de Jong, 598th Trans BDE CAO

598th Transportation Brigade Honors Those Who Gave The Ultimate Sacrifice

By Martin Weteling, 598th Trans BDE PAO

The Netherlands American Cemetery and Memorial in Margraten, The Netherlands is the resting place that is the holy grounds where 8301 Americans are laid to rest. They gave their lives to bring back freedom to Europe during and up to the end of World War II.

The ceremony was held to honor all the brave men and women that wound up giving the ultimate sacrifice. A very large crowd gathered at the cemetery and among them the dignitaries including the Charge d’Affaires William Nolan from the U.S. Embassy in The Netherlands, Dutch Defense Secretary Hans Hillen, and Lieutenant General Mark Hertling, Commander, United States Army Europe (USAREUR).

Impressive speeches were given to endear the fallen dead and to honor and respect those who fight for freedom and paid for this with their lives. Dutch Defense Secretary Hillen spoke about U.S. Marine Sergeant William Stacey who was killed earlier this year by a homemade bomb in Southern Afghanistan. Stacey had prepared for this tragedy by writing an ‘in-case-of’ letter to his family. Hillen quoted Sgt. Stacey’s letter. “There will be a child who will live because men left the security they enjoyed in their homes to come to his. He will have the gift of freedom which I have enjoyed for so long myself, and if my life brings the safety of a child who will one day change the world, then I know that it was all worth it.”

Together with other dignitaries present the guests paid honor by laying wreaths to memorialize the fallen. The 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) was represented by its Deputy to the Commander, Stephen Marshall. Marshall laid a wreath on behalf of SDDC honoring the men and women who ensure freedom and safety in the world shall endure.

The ceremony was concluded by a fly over of Dutch and American fighter jets in a show of ultimate respect performing the missing man formation. ■

► *An impressive crowd gathered at the Netherlands American Cemetery in Margraten, The Netherlands for the Memorial Day Service.*



■ *The Netherlands American Cemetery is the place where 8301 Americans found their final resting place after having given their lives to bring freedom to Europe. There cemetery also displays the name of 1720 names of servicemen who are Missing in Action.*



■ *On behalf of SDDC and the 598th Transportation Brigade, Stephen Marshall Deputy to the Commander laid a wreath to commemorate the brave men and women who gave their lives to ensure freedom.*



839th Trans. Bn. volunteers to beautify Second Glance Thrift Store

Story and photos by Chiara Mattiolo, USAG Livorno Public Affairs



■, 839th Trans. Bn. Soldiers help give the thrift shop a facelift.

Noncommissioned officers of the 839th Transportation Battalion volunteered to repaint the Second Glance Thrift Shop March 29-30.

“This place needed a fresh look for the spring,” said Monica Mechur, Thrift Store manager. “I am sure this new look will help bring new customers to the shop.”

839th Trans. Bn. Sgt. Maj. Daisy Jackson said that while she was talking to Mechur and became aware of her needs, she decided to make this opportunity a community event.

”I feel honored to be allowed to do this and do my little part in supporting the community,” said Staff Sgt. Elizabeth Wister, 839th Transportation Battalion.

**SDDC Presence
in
The Netherlands
from
1957 - 2012**

The Public Affairs Section of the 598th Transportation Brigade (SDDC) is working on a **Fare-Well-Booklet** which will document **55 years SDDC presence in The Netherlands**.

You worked with SDDC in The Netherlands? Mail us your portrait for the Personnel Photo Gallery (Name, Rank, Job Title, Period of Service) and share other nice photo material, stories and personal anecdotes. (copyright free material only!)

Please forward your input to:
usarmy.rotterdam.598-trans-bde.list.598th-pao@mail.mil

We will keep you posted about the publication date, cost and how to obtain the booklet. Let us know whether you are interested!

SPRING / SUMMER SAFETY

By Rudy Magereij
598th Transportation Brigade
Safety Manager



Summer is just around the corner, and many of us are daydreaming about our favorite warm weather activities, vacation, picnics, camp-outs, boating, swimming, fishing, and baseball. All of our summer plans can be great fun if we keep safety in mind.

The summer, unfortunately, is also a time when there is increased risk, and more mishaps occur in three short months than do during the rest of the year.

Some reasons for the increased risk is that we spend more time in outdoors activities and less time paying attention to the hazards. We may overextend our physical capabilities and fail to give our body's time to rest. At times, we are thinking about our weekend or vacation plans while we should be focusing on our work. Fatigue and inattention are factors in many mishaps. Alcohol abuse is another factor.

Trip planning in Europe

Planning for a trip is not just packing clothes and necessities but it also calls for preparing the car, planning the trip route, and expecting the unexpected. Although everyone has a navigation system, if you still use the old fashion maps, check it beforehand to determine proper exits and course. Avoid morning and evening rush hours. By-pass large cities driving in a city is confusing, complex and requires faster and more decisions. Inspect your vehicle before you take off.

Never leave home without:

- Driver license.
- Vehicle registration.
- Insurance cards.
- Medical information.
- Names, addresses and phone numbers of relatives or close friends / neighbors.

Remember drive defensively!

- Adjust speed to road conditions.
- Follow vehicles using the 3-second rule of spacing.
- Plan rest breaks on long trips; general rule take 15 minutes brake after 2 hours of driving.
- It is illegal to use a non hand free cell phone while operation a vehicle.
- Drinking and driving do NOT mix.

Remember these safety guidelines:

Sit in a comfortable driving position that puts at least 10 inches between your chest (measure from the breastbone and the center of the steering wheel). Sit with your back against the seat. Don't lean forward. Always wear your seat belt. Air bags and seat belts work best together. The simple act of buckling up will minimize your chances of being injured as the air bag inflates.

European law for transportation of children up to 18 years of age.

The law says that children shorter than 1.35 m (4'5") must be transported in a POV in a tested baby / child's seat. Grown ups and children taller than 1.35 m (4'5") must use their seatbelt and may, if needed, use a seat raiser. Seatbelts must be used the way they are designed. It is not allowed to use three-point seatbelts as a lap belt. ■

