



## PRESS RELEASE

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### **3/405<sup>th</sup> AFSB Supports USAID Mission to the Republic of Georgia**

SECKENHEIM, GERMANY – The 3<sup>rd</sup> Battalion of the 405<sup>th</sup> Army Field Support Brigade, headquartered at Leghorn Army Depot on Camp Darby, Italy, answered an urgent call from the U.S. Agency for International Development to prepare humanitarian supplies for shipment to Tbilisi, Republic of Georgia.

Upon request from USAID, the battalion prepared 2,256 hygiene kits and 4,000 wool blankets for immediate distribution to the crisis region. The 3/405<sup>th</sup> AFSB is responsible for the storage and maintenance of USAID humanitarian supplies under an interagency agreement between the U.S. State Department and the U.S. Army.

Col. John Haley, the commander of the 405<sup>th</sup> AFSB in Seckenheim, Germany, said he was surprised to learn that the battalion had such an international reach.

“I only took command of this brigade a few weeks ago,” Haley said, “and to find out that our battalion in Italy supports missions on such a far-reaching international scale is most impressive. I’m proud that our battalion is able to assist people in need thousands of miles away.”

The Camp Darby Italian base commander, Col. Raffaele Iubini, added that support to humanitarian aid missions is one of Camp Darby’s most important missions.

“We have the ability to respond rapidly due to the excellent infrastructure and coordination between U.S. and Italian military structures, and that makes a huge difference for those waiting on the aid,” Iubini said.

The humanitarian supplies departed Italy via a U.S. European Command airlift Aug. 18.

According to the USAID website, United Nations agencies estimate that up to 70,000 people are displaced within the Republic of Georgia and as many as 30,000 people may be displaced in Russia.

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CUTLINE ( image below)

Petty Officer 1st Class Glen Turner (right) discusses reconfiguring a payload of humanitarian aid with a Carabinieri from Camp Darby and an Italian Soldier assigned to the 46th Air Brigade. Transporting the humanitarian assistance cargo from Pisa to Georgia required careful logistical coordination between the 3rd Battalion of the 405th Army Field Support Brigade, the Carabinieri, the navy Fleet Logistic Support Squadron 46, the Italian Air Brigade and the U.S. Agency for International Development. (Photo by Joyce Costello, USAG Livorno Public Affairs Officer)

