

'Keeping Tabs'

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27th Brigade Combat Team --- Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix VII

Forward Operating Base Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan

Night Moves: Log' Team Keeps on Truckin'

CAMP PHOENIX, KABUL, AFGHANISTAN

– Drivers assigned to Logistics Task Force Alpha play a vital role in sustaining the ability of Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix to operate. Members of LTF Alpha are the truck drivers in the all important transportation

support team in a country where getting around is everything. They move just about anything from newly arrived troops at the airport in an armored bus, to ammunition, repair parts and even new vehicles being

assigned to the task force. The unit is built on Company A, of the 427th Brigade Support Battalion which is based in Rochester, but unit members come from across the state including nearby Syracuse, the Watertown and North Country area, Buffalo and even



Above, an M931 Tractor carrying a new M1151 Uparmored Humvee is driven onto Camp Phoenix by SGT Darren Ringler assisted by SSG Maurice Edwards of LTF A. Both men are from Syracuse. At right the LTF A crew of an M1151 escort vehicle includes gunner CPL Rakay Pulley, driver SGT Eric Swartzenberg both from Rochester, commander SFC Earl Barber from Attica, with SGT Sean Nolan for dismounted security and medic SPC Elizabeth Bradley from New York City.



some from New York City. In addition to a team based at Camp Phoenix in Kabul, teams are disbursed at various Forward Operating bases to provide support to the Embedded Training Teams and Police Mentoring Teams “down range.” They are the logistics life line that keeps the essential materials flowing to where they are most needed. They operate Uparmored humvees and armored 5-ton trucks and tractors and go where the mission takes them, day or night -- braving threats and hazards along the way. And when the team is not on the road or preparing for the next convoy, they are conducting humanitarian support missions in nearby villages or bringing donated supplies and personal items to an orphanage in Kabul.

Bringing Joy to Children of the Alludin Orphanage



ALLUDIN ORPHANAGE, KABUL -- Members of LTF Alpha, including company 1SG Marc Maynard (above left) from Rochester hand out donated school supplies to children from the Alludin Orphanage (pronounced Al-You-Deen) in Kabul. According to 1SG Maynard, the children are very courteous and smile a lot. They are excited to see American Soldiers and often try to speak a few words of English. Various civic groups from around New York State continue to send toys, school supplies, clothing, shoes, and personal hygiene items. LTF A is comprised of Soldiers from many New York communities and the unit is pleased to be receiving donations from literally every corner of the state. In less than two months since arriving in Afghanistan the unit has filled a 20-foot connex container of donations. All are eagerly accepted, sorted and stored in the specially designated Humanitarian Aid connex until a distribution date can be arranged for delivery to the orphanage and local villages. 1SG Maynard indicated hundreds of packages have been received and the unit regularly receives an estimated five to 15 packages each day to the company mail room. In conjunction with the delivery of donations on Saturday, members of the unit inspected plumbing renovations being done at the orphanage the unit contracted for using U.S. funds from the Commander's Emergency Relief Project (CERP) program. Local Afghan labor is hired to do the work.

Keeping Tabs -

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