



#### In This Issue

National Police Coordination Center P.3  
Moving Kandak at SKAIA P.4  
Interview with Capt. Moran P.5  
MD TAG Visit P.6  
Qawm Promotions P.6

*Members of the 29th ID, ANSF Development Current Operations team pictured with Brig. Gen. Reinhard Kuhn, IJC Chief Combined Joint 3. Pictured l to r is Lt. Col. Larry Thomsen, Sgt. Maj. Steven Cutsail, Maj. Wilhelm Wentz (Germany), Capt. Monique Smith, Brig. Gen. Kuhn (Germany), and Lt. Col. William Greer. Photos page 1 and 2 courtesy of Capt. Monique Smith, 29th ID ANSF DEV*

## Current Operations: A Truly International Mission

By Lt. Col. William Greer, 29th ID ANSF Development

The multi-national feel of the International Security Assistance Force (ISAF) Joint Command (IJC) Combined Joint Operations Center (CJOC) was never more evident than on Christmas morning. Immediately following the morning shift change brief, the Soldiers in the CJOC were greeted with a very cheery "Merry Christmas" by Brig. Gen. Reinhard Kuhn. Kuhn, a member of the German army and the current Chief Combined Joint 3 for IJC, wished all Soldiers a merry Christmas in their native language. As Kuhn's pronunciation was corrected by the native speakers on occasion, it reminded all what a truly international mission the forces here in Afghanistan represent.

The 29th Infantry Division Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) Development Current Operations section works in the CJOC along with service members from 21 nations, representing different branches of their armed services. There are currently 160 military members working on the CJOC floor monitoring operations throughout Afghanistan twenty-four hours a day, seven days a week. The members are divided into shifts, with each shift working twelve hours a day to ensure a continuous presence. The personnel from the different nations are integrated throughout the CJOC and perform a variety of roles in support of operations.

English is the primary language for all North Atlantic Treaty Organization (NATO) operations and is predominately spoken on the CJOC floor. However, it is a frequent occurrence to hear conversations in German, Czech, Italian, Turkish, Afghan and other languages. While all members on the team speak fluent English, the accents can be challenging. Even the native English speakers from Canada, Australia and the United Kingdom can appear to be speaking a different language at times. Terms such as "cheers", "no worries mate", the Canadian "eh" and the frequently heard "guten morgen", permeate the CJOC floor. (See CUOPS on Page 2)

## CUOPS from page 1

Being deployed to Kabul certainly provides members of the 29th Infantry Division the opportunity to learn about the country and culture of the Afghan people. Working with such a diverse group provides the members of current operations the opportunity to learn about the different countries and cultures of our NATO allies. Whether it is enjoying a cigar with a French Soldier, having a conversation with a Polish, Italian, Czech or Greek Soldier, or sharing a cup of Turkish coffee or English tea, experiences are shared and differences are appreciated. The experience of working on a truly international mission is one that is enjoyed and will be long-remembered after our tour is complete.



Photos of CJOC personnel at IJC clockwise from top right photo: 1 to r Lt. Col. Larry Thomsen, Lt. Col. Tibor Mayer (Hungary), Capt. Monique Smith, Maj. Giamarco Di Leo (Italy); Middle right: 1 to r Col. Jaroslaw Janczewsky (Poland), Sgt. Maj. Steve Cutsail, Lt. Col. Tomasz Wolk (Poland); Bottom right: 1 to r Lt. Col. Thomsen, Lt. Col. Adam Edmunds (UK), Lt. Col. Jens Nyruup (Denmark), Sgt. Maj. Cutsail; Bottom left: Sgt. Maj. Cutsail and Lt. Col. Frank Andersen (Denmark); Middle left: Maj. Rob Carr (UK) and Sgt. Maj. Cutsail; Top left: Maj. Konstantinos Stroponitis (Greece) and Capt. Smith



## National Police Coordination Center (NPCC)

By Lt. Col. James Shelley, 29th ID ANSF Development, NPCC

The National Police Coordination Center (NPCC) is the Ministry of Interiors (MOI)'s national asset under the Deputy Minister's Plans and Operations Directorate. The mission of the NPCC is to coordinate and synchronize police operations at the national level and between zone commands. Although primarily a coordination center, during national level emergencies the NPCC converts to an emergency operations center for the MOI. The mission of the ISAF Joint Command (IJC) partners to NPCC is develop independent MOI capacity to plan, direct, synchronize and monitor cross-governmental, joint and combined operations to provide Afghan-led and coordinated law enforcement activities.

29th ID ANSF Development (ANSF DEV) personnel are imbedded throughout IJC's NPCC team in operations, plans and as liaisons to the Kabul City Police (KCPC) as well as NATO Training Mission-Afghanistan (NTM-A). The heart of NPCC is the Operations Section Watch Desk. ANSF Development members Maj. Silberman and Capt. Reschke anchor the night shift, providing the critical link between Afghan police operations and IJC. Maintaining the Afghan National Police (ANP)-IJC link is critical to supporting security operations such as the recent Loya Jirga and Ghazi Olympic Stadium opening. Maj. Hof-

fler, as the Battle Space Manager, works directly with the Chief of Operations (CHOPS) and our Afghan partners to execute current police operations. ANSF DEV Liaison Officers to Kabul City Police Center (KCPC), Maj. Fessock and Maj. Puleo, complete the link between operational and tactical security and law enforcement activities in the greater Kabul area. Finally, Lt. Col. Dashiell synchronizes police operations among the Afghan Uniformed, Border and Civil Order Police.

Within the NPCC Plans Section, ANSF DEV member Maj. Marchanti is actively involved in supporting and mentoring the ANP's logistical support mission. He has assisted in the implementation of the ANTS (Afghan National Tracking System), a GPS-based system to track logis-

tical convoys as well as planning operations to resupply remote ANP outposts such as Barg-e-Matal.

Other ANSF DEV personnel on the NPCC team that support police operations are Lt Col. Shelley as the NPCC Deputy Director, Lt. Col. Williamson as our ANSF DEV Liaison Officer to NTM-A, and Master Sgt. Carvajal as the NPCC Non-Commissioned Officer in Charge. Lt. Col. Williamson provides a vital link between MOI, IJC, and NTM-A while Master Sgt. Carvajal provides the behind the scenes support to the NPCC team that ensures that the team can complete its missions.

The ANSF DEV members within the NPCC team are fully integrated as a team with their IJC colleagues and Afghan partners to develop capacity within the Afghan police in order to transition the Afghan police into an independently functioning civil law enforcement agency.



Photo top of page of IJC's NPCC Team.

Photo above shows Maj. Clay Hoffer manning the watch desk while ANP Col. Halim briefs the NPCC.

Photos courtesy of Lt. Col. James Shelley, 29th ID ANSFDEV, NPCC

# At the Kabul Moving Kandak, it is the little things that count.

By Lt. Col. Charles Blomquist, 29th ID ANSF Development

One of the unique assignments bestowed upon the 29th ID Afghan National Security Force (ANSF) Development team is the opportunity to mentor the officers and non-commissioned officers at the Afghan National Army's (ANA) 111th Capital Division Moving Kandak at South Kabul International Airport. Since the October transfer of authority to the new ANSF Development team, Lt. Col. Charles Blomquist and Master Sgt. Kenneth McGill make a weekly trip to the Moving Kandak to advise the leadership of this little understood, but essential ANA unit. The Kabul Moving Kandak is a subordinate unit of the 111th Capitol Division and the commander reports directly to the division command. The primary purpose of the Moving Kandak is the coordination within the ANSF for providing transportation for personnel taking leave and for transferring new recruits from Kabul to their assigned units. The Moving Kandak Commander, Col. Khalid, has learned to take the challenges of commanding this unit in stride.



*Master Sgt. Kenneth McGill, the one with a big smile on his face, stands with the First Sgt. of the Moving Kandak.*

Despite the challenges facing the Moving Kandak, ANSF Development has made efforts to not only improve the operations and accountability of the unit, but make some quality of life improvements that will help reduce attrition within the ANSF and raise morale. For example, while it might not be a big deal for many of us living in dormitory style barracks, access to clean water is critical. Working with the Regional Command Center Contracting Office, several contracts have been executed to assist in this critical quality of life requirement.

Improving the dining facility is another area of focus. On any given day, the Holding Kandak's dining facility can seat up to 150 personnel at one time. The kandak staff must push through Soldiers rapidly in order to feed the large number of transients, which at times houses up to 700 soldiers waiting for flights. The kitchen has a number of wood burning stoves, poor lighting, and no ventilation which makes it unbearably hot and smoky throughout the day. Until ANSF Development got involved, the sewage produced in the kitchen ran out the back of the facility



*Afghan National Security Forces personnel enjoying a meal in the Moving Kandak dining facility.*

through an open trough that was adjacent to the Soldiers' wash area. Needless to say, this was extremely unhealthy and promotes disease. Through the efforts of the 29th ID ANSF Development team, a new septic system was emplaced, creating a much healthier environment.

The ANSF Development team is committed to improving the Holding Kandak in other, more visible ways. For example, the Kandak has no morale, welfare, and recreation (MWR) facilities or activities. Additionally, there are no laundry services available to the Soldiers or staff in order to handle personal clothing and linens. These improvements are among many others that will soon be implemented at the Holding Kandak.

The Kabul Holding Kandak is perhaps the last facility that ANA Soldiers experience before they go on leave and is their first stop upon returning to duty. Ensuring a safe and clean facility for these Afghan warriors to transition through is one of the ways ANSF Development is helping to "make it matter."

*Col. Khalid flanked by two of his mentors, Lt. Col. Charles Blomquist and Staff Sgt. Bradley Whitwell, USMC.*



# Interview with Captain Keith Moran, 29th ID ANSF DEV, Ground Forces Command (GFC), Facilities' Engineer

By Sgt. 1st. Class Russell Myers Jr., 29th ID ANSF Development



*Photo left shows Capt. Keith Moran, Facilities' Engineer for Ground Forces Command (GFC) mentor team of 29th ID, ANSF Development, with one of the contractors performing work at GFC HQ, Abdullah, standing on a newly installed roof at the complex.*

## Capt. Moran's Biographical Info:

Hometown: New Haven, CT

College: Fairfield University

Degree: Bachelor of Sci. in Finance

Civilian Occupation: Fairfax County, VA Police Officer

Time in Service: 8 years

Branch: Engineer

Q: As a Facilities' Engineer what is your mission at Ground Forces Command (GFC)?

A: My mission here at GFC is to manage the renovation projects at South Kabul International Airport (SKAIA) that when finished will give the GFC an up to date facility to command and control the ground forces of Afghanistan's National Army.

Q: Tell me more about the projects at SKAIA.

A: The renovation projects total more than one million dollars, and upgrade existing facilities with heating, air conditioning, communications infrastructure, lighting, and plumbing. These essential services allow the GFC to concentrate on their mission.

Q: What is your favorite part of your job at GFC?

A: I enjoy being able to get out of the office and work with the Afghans on the many construction sites. It allows me to see the Afghans on the job sites and communicate to them the importance of their contributions to their nation and to GFC.

Q: How does your civilian occupation, military training, and experience help in the duties at GFC?

A: The most basic part of my job here at GFC is interpersonal communications. The experiences of working in a culturally diverse community as a police officer in Fairfax County has helped me manage communication across the cultural spectrum of our contractors and partners here in Afghanistan.

*Photo right shows the renovation project of the GFC's Headquarters building. The photo shows the building still in the demolition stage with a new roof being installed.*



# Maryland Adjutant General's Visit to Kabul

By Sgt. 1st. Class Russell Myers Jr., 29th ID ANSF Development

Just after Christmas celebrations in Kabul, the Soldiers of ANSF Development got a few special visitors. On December 28, Maryland's Adjutant General, Maj. Gen. James Adkins, accompanied by Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Sann, visited the Kabul area as part of a delegation of Adjutant Generals from three states. Maj. Gen. Adkins had the opportunity to share a meal with 29th ANSF Development Soldiers at both International Security Assistance Force headquarters in downtown Kabul and at the ISAF Joint Command at North Kabul International Airport.

The delegation visited with the Soldiers and received several overview briefings on the current and future operations in Operation Enduring Freedom. The visit brought greetings from home during the holiday season, and both Adkins and Sann emphasized the support from elected officials, colleagues, friends, and family.

*Photo top right: l to r Command Sgt. Maj. Brian Sann, Maj. Robert Marchanti, 29th ID NPCC Anti-Crime LNO, and Maj. Gen. James Adkins are pictured at the ISAF dining facility on a recent visit of the leaders to Kabul, Afghanistan. Below: Brig. Gen. Whittington (left), 29th ID ANSF Development Director and Maj. Gen. James Adkins hold a Maryland state flag owned by a Vietnam veteran that has been flown in Vietnam, Iraq, and now in Afghanistan.*



## Lt. Col. Thomsen Promotion



Brig. Gen. Charles W. Whittington, Jr., Director ANSF Development promotes Maj. Donald "Larry" Thomsen, 29th ID ANSFDEV member, and CUOPS Watch Officer, to Lieutenant Colonel at IJC HQs.

## Capt. Smith Promotion



Brig. Gen. Charles W. Whittington, Jr., Director ANSF Development promotes 1st. Lt. Monique Smith, 29th ID ANSFDEV member, and CUOPS Battle Captain, to Captain at IJC HQs.



**QAWM**  
**ISSUE 02**  
**8 January 2012**

**29th Infantry Division, ANSF Development**

**NKAIA-IJC-SYP**  
**APO, AE 09320**