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Special Troops Battalion welcomes new company, task force

HRC

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16th SB Public Affairs

BAMBERG, Germany — The 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, welcomed a new human resources company and logistics task force to the fold during an activation ceremony here June 18 at Summerall Field.

Maj. Dina Wandler, commander, 38th Human Resources Company, 16th STB, and 1st Sgt. Diedre Nevels, first sergeant, 38th HR Co., unfurled the new company colors before a crowd of Soldiers and family members during the ceremony.

“Though my husband, Matthias, and our son Alex are staying in Virginia until July, we are thrilled to be assigned in Germany and to be part of the Bamberg community,” Wandler said. “It’s an exciting time to be back with the 38th and to serve once again, in this tremendous unit and to be a part of its future as a modular HR company.”

The company will play an important role in the brigade, said Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Williams, command sergeant major, 16th STB.

“The addition of the 38th Human Resources Company enhances the sustainment capability of the brigade and our ability to meet the needs of our Soldiers in theater,”

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Williams said.

The 38th HR Co., formerly the 38th Personnel Services Battalion, Bamberg, was activated as part of an Army transformation, said 1st Lt. Sumatthana Elston, 38th HR Co.

“Our mission has changed to one of modular, platoon-level deployments,” Elston said. “In the past we deployed as a detachment under personnel services battalion structure.”

The company of about 100 Soldiers is comprised of a headquarters and five postal platoons, Elston said. Two platoons are currently deployed and the rest will deploy within a year.

The other activating unit in the ceremony, the Logistics Task Force — Alpha, comprised of about 40 Soldiers and civilian contractors, will provide fuel, food and water, maintenance, signal, and medical support to area units in Iraq, and also command and control, said Capt. Charles Ausman, commander, LTF — Alpha.

“The task force was stood up to provide the oversight and logistical support for the mission,” Ausman said. “All the personnel were hand-selected to serve in this relatively austere and challenging environment apart from the brigade and battalion. We’ll work to ensure the flow of supplies continues to move through the border and to be the eyes and ears to the commander about what is going on through the checkpoint.”



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Lt. Col. Christopher Chun, commander, 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, leads a battalion formation in rendering honors to the colors during an activation ceremony for the 38th Human Resources Company and Logistics Task Force — Alpha June 18 at Sumerall field. Soldiers from the 38th HR Co. render honors in the background. (Photo by Sgt. Keith M. Anderson)

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Maj. Dina Wandler, commander, 38th Human Resources Company, 16th Special Troops Battalion, and 1st Sgt. Diedre Nevels, first sergeant, 38th HR Co., unfurl the new company colors before a crowd of Soldiers and family members during the company's activation ceremony at Sumerall Field, Bamberg, June 18. The postal company will support the 16th Sustainment Brigade and outlying units in Iraq, said Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Williams, command sergeant major, 16th STB. (Photo by Sgt. Keith M. Anderson)