



**3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command
16th Sustainment Brigade
Public Affairs Office**

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'Scouts' tack on combat patches in Iraq

PATCH

By Sgt. Keith M. Anderson, 16th SB Public Affairs

CONTINGENCY OPERATING BASE Q-WEST, Iraq — Soldiers from the 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, donned their combat patches in a ceremony here at the Morale, Welfare and Recreation Center Aug. 28.

The ceremony marked the Bamberg-based 'Scouts' 15-month deployment to a combat zone.

"The combat patch you now wear signifies membership in a small fraternity," said Lt. Col. Christopher Chun, commander, 16th STB, to the formation of battalion Soldiers. "You represent less than one-tenth of one percent of Americans that have answered the call to duty and served in a combat zone."

Chun said that Soldiers would remember this tour in Iraq with pride.

"Years from now you can sit back on Veteran's Day and truly feel a part of a long-standing tradition of defending our nation against its aggressors."

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Spc. Sean Dillard, electronics maintenance shop technician, Bravo Co., 16th STB, said tacking on the patch was important to him.

“I’m proud to be wearing this combat patch now, in honor of my younger brother Donald and my mother Linda,” Dillard said. “It shows that what I’m fighting for isn’t for nothing, but for something much greater.”

The 22-year-old from Zeigler, Ill., whose brother passed away in 2006 and mother passed away in 2007, said his service was a way to honor his mother and brother, and make them proud.

“I decided everything I’m going to do is going to be for them,” Dillard said.

The combat patch also signifies experience, and the importance of deployment in building future leaders, and in building a better trained, more capable Army, said Command Sgt. Maj. Gregory Williams, command sergeant major, 16th STB.

“Deployment develops growth, maturity and institutional knowledge,” he said. “Our Soldiers will learn tactics, techniques and procedures, and lessons-learned that they can carry with them and pass along to other Soldiers and other units.”



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Capt. Argentina Gibson, commander, Bravo Co., 16th Special Troops Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, with 1st Sgt. Ronnie Allen, first sergeant, Bravo Co., tacks the 'Knights' Brigade combat patch onto Sgt. Scott Oyer, training room non-commissioned officer. The 16th STB 'Scouts' donned their combat patches for the first time in the battalion's history. "The combat patch you now wear signifies membership in a small fraternity," said Lt. Col. Christopher Chun, commander, 16th STB, to the formation of battalion Soldiers. "You represent less than one-tenth of one percent of Americans that have answered the call to duty and served in a combat zone." (Photo by Sgt. Keith M. Anderson)