



3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command
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Headquarters Soldiers say goodbye to their commander

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CONTINGENCY OPERATING SITE MAREZ-EAST, Iraq — Headquarters Soldiers here said goodbye to their commander, and welcomed a new commander, during a change of command ceremony Feb. 19.

The Grafenwoehr, Germany-based Soldiers of the Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, said goodbye to Capt. Stephen R. Leonard, outgoing commander, HHC, during the ceremony.

“I want to thank the chain of command for giving me the opportunity to command within the 18th CSSB, and that I am very proud of the support provided to me, from all the Soldiers in the company,” Leonard said.

Leonard, a native of West Virginia, is serving on his third deployment to Iraq and will soon be part of a logistical training assistance team (LTAT) at Contingency Operating Base Warrior, Kirkuk, Iraq.

Lt. Col. Christopher J. Roscoe, commander, 18th CSSB, and Command Sgt. Maj. Bryan D. Kroontje, command sergeant major, 18th CSSB, were present to recognize the two

officers taking the next step in their military careers. In addition to the Soldiers of the 18th CSSB, other military and civilian members at Marez were also in attendance.

Capt. Bertalina Villar, incoming commander, HHC, 18th CSSB, who was commissioned into the Quartermaster Corps in 2002, said she was grateful to be given the opportunity to lead Soldiers in Iraq.

“The change of command ceremony was excellent,” said Villar, “It is a great honor to lead Soldiers downrange.”

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First Sgt. Moises Gonzales, first sergeant, Headquarters and Headquarters Co., 18th Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, receives the guidon from the new HHC company commander, Capt. Bertalina Villar, incoming commander, HHC, 18th CSSB, during a change of command ceremony for the HHC, 18th CSSB, at Contingency Operating Site Marez-East, Iraq, Feb. 19, 2009. (Photo by Capt. Natalia Mercedes-Williams)

