



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

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
3rd ESC Release #090527-3
May 29, 2009

Transportation NCO reenlisted by commanding general

By 1st Lt. Charles York
233rd Transportation Co., 391st CSSB

JOINT BASE BALAD, Iraq — For one transportation Soldier from Contingency Operating Base Speicher, her reenlistment at Joint Base Balad was a memorable one.

Staff Sgt. Amethia Stevenson, human resources non-commissioned officer, 233^d Transportation Co., 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, requested that Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, commanding general, 3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, Joint Base Balad, administer the oath of enlistment during her ceremony April 22.

“Having the 3rd ESC commander preside over my reenlistment ceremony was a rewarding experience,” said Stevenson, a native of Hopkinsville, Ken. “I am definitely looking forward to the rest of my military career.”

Stevenson, a native of Hopkinsville, Ken., said this was her fourth reenlistment but her first deployment.

The 233rd Transportation Co., under the 391st CSSB in Iraq, but actually part of the 101st Airborne Division out of Fort Knox, Ken., has met its reenlistment goals for the fiscal

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year 2009 in the first quarter after 78 Soldiers in the unit reenlisted. The unit primarily transports equipment with Heavy Equipment Transport (HET) systems.

Staff Sgt. Richard Kral, retention non-commissioned officer in charge, 233rd

Transportation Co., and Fredericksburg, Va., native, has assisted more than 120 Soldiers with information and requests for reenlistment since August 2008, despite a drop in bonuses.

“I have seen reenlistment bonuses drop significantly in the past months and in some cases Soldiers who would have reenlisted weeks prior would have seen almost \$5,000 more in reenlistment bonuses.”

Soldiers in their initial term and mid-career term have decided to put a few extra years under their belts and this has kept the company’s reenlistment NCO very busy. With requests such as duty assignments in Korea and Hawaii, Kral has been constantly bombarded with questions from the Soldiers and the leadership of the company as well.

Reenlistment has definitely been a popular topic within the 233^d Transportation Company over the past few months. Many have been reenlisting for various reasons, but all seem to be content with their choices. The Soldiers of the company have been constantly updated on all of the reenlistment options available, and most of them have taken the opportunity to have a lasting military career.



Brig. Gen. Michael Lally, commanding general, 3rd Expeditionary Sustainment Command, issues the Oath of Reenlistment to Staff Sgt. Amethia Stevenson, 233rd Transportation Co., 391st Combat Sustainment Support Battalion, 16th Sustainment Brigade, at Joint Base Balad April 22. Stevenson, a native of Hopkinsville, Ken., requested to have the commanding general perform this reenlistment, her fourth. (Photo by Staff Sgt. Richard Kral)