

# 1430 Engineer Company

Getting into  
the swing of  
things

Major General  
Raymond Carpenter  
visits the troops



# Achievements and Promotions



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**Getting Our Feet Wet**

Things are moving along quite swiftly for the members of the 1430th Engineer Company. All of the platoons have begun extremely important jobs to improve living conditions for troops throughout the country. You will be proud to know that your soldiers are making waves, and friends, everywhere they go. Just today I received an e-mail raving about the impeccable skills your soldiers have, and that they are doing great things for this base. You should all be very proud of your soldiers and their accomplishments.

It is starting to get colder here now. 2nd Platoon seems to be the chilliest. They have already received snow. Those at FOB Fenty are

starting to get a taste of the bitter cold winds that sweep in through the mountains. However, the days have been generally very nice and often sunny. We received rain a few days ago settling the dust in the air. The mountains could be seen all around us in their full glory, dusted with the nights snow fall. It is quite beautiful.

All of your soldiers seem to be getting into their routines and learning a lot about their trades. We are all hoping that the frequency of job requests stays steady, as it tends to make the time fly by. Only time will tell, but with the way the 1430th's reputation is spreading, they can only expect an increase in requests for their assistance.

# Captains Corner

Hello family and friends of the 1430th. While I am writing this I am happy to report that another month has passed which means that we are another month closer to being home. To say that we have been busy would be a gross understatement. Your Soldiers continue to impress everyone here in Afghanistan, and have quickly become a hot commodity. I am happy to report that we have been blessed with another platoon in our company. First

platoon from the 649th Engineer Company out of California specializes in horizontal engineer construction and they are already busy doing great work and establishing their name.

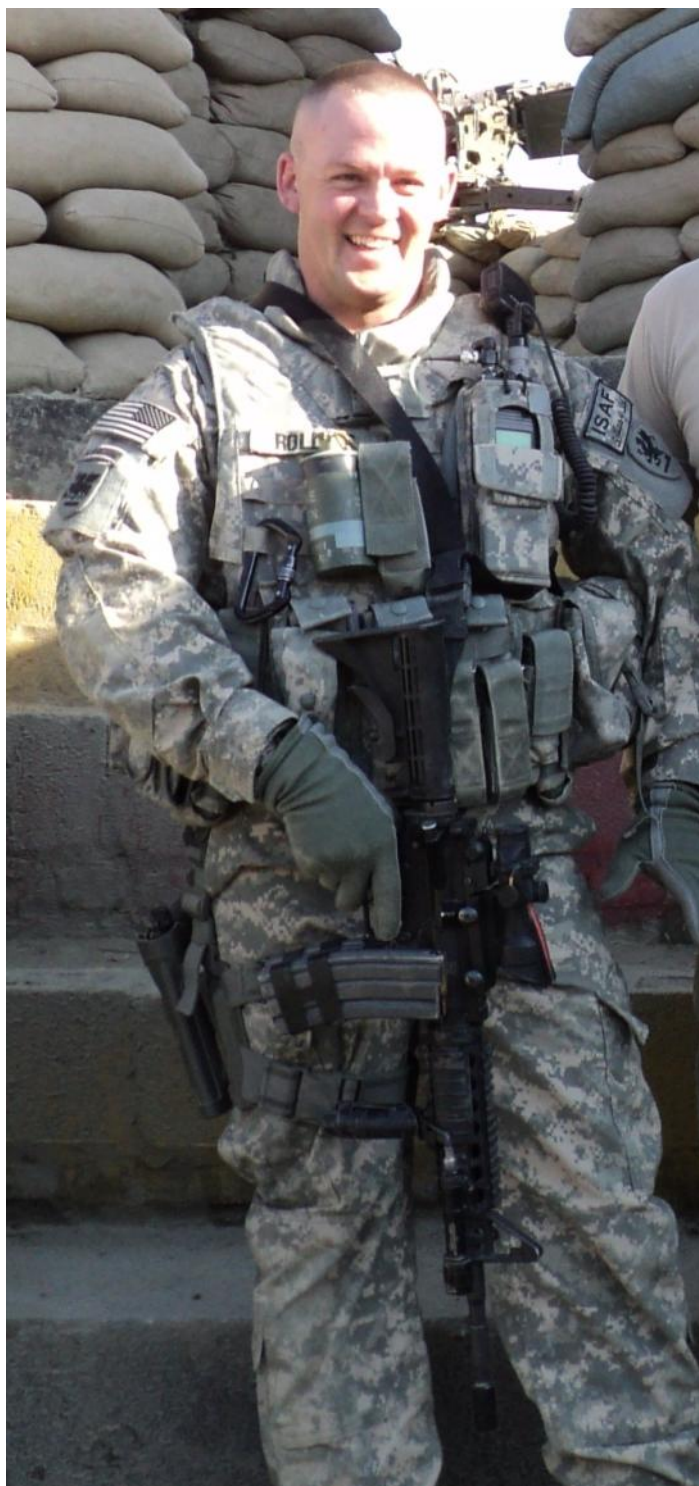
When we first started this deployment we were unknown to everyone here which meant we went out on a hunt to find work to keep everyone busy. The impressive work your Soldiers have done thus far has turned what was once

a hunt into a list of priorities. The list of possible jobs in front of us is now so great that we have had to turn people away because there are simply not enough hours in a day to accomplish everything.

**“Your Soldiers continue to impress everyone here in Afghanistan, and have quickly become a hot commodity”.**

This month we have also gone through yet another transition. The 1092nd Engineer Battalion who was our higher command has finished their year long stint here and passed the torch to the 1249th Engineer Battalion. The 1249th has been very supportive of our mission and has done a great job in assisting us with our needs.

I would like to thank the families and supporters of the 1430th and the 649th Engineer Companies. Your continued support is what has made this task laid before us attainable. The days keep ticking away, and we are all looking forward to the fall. Thank you.



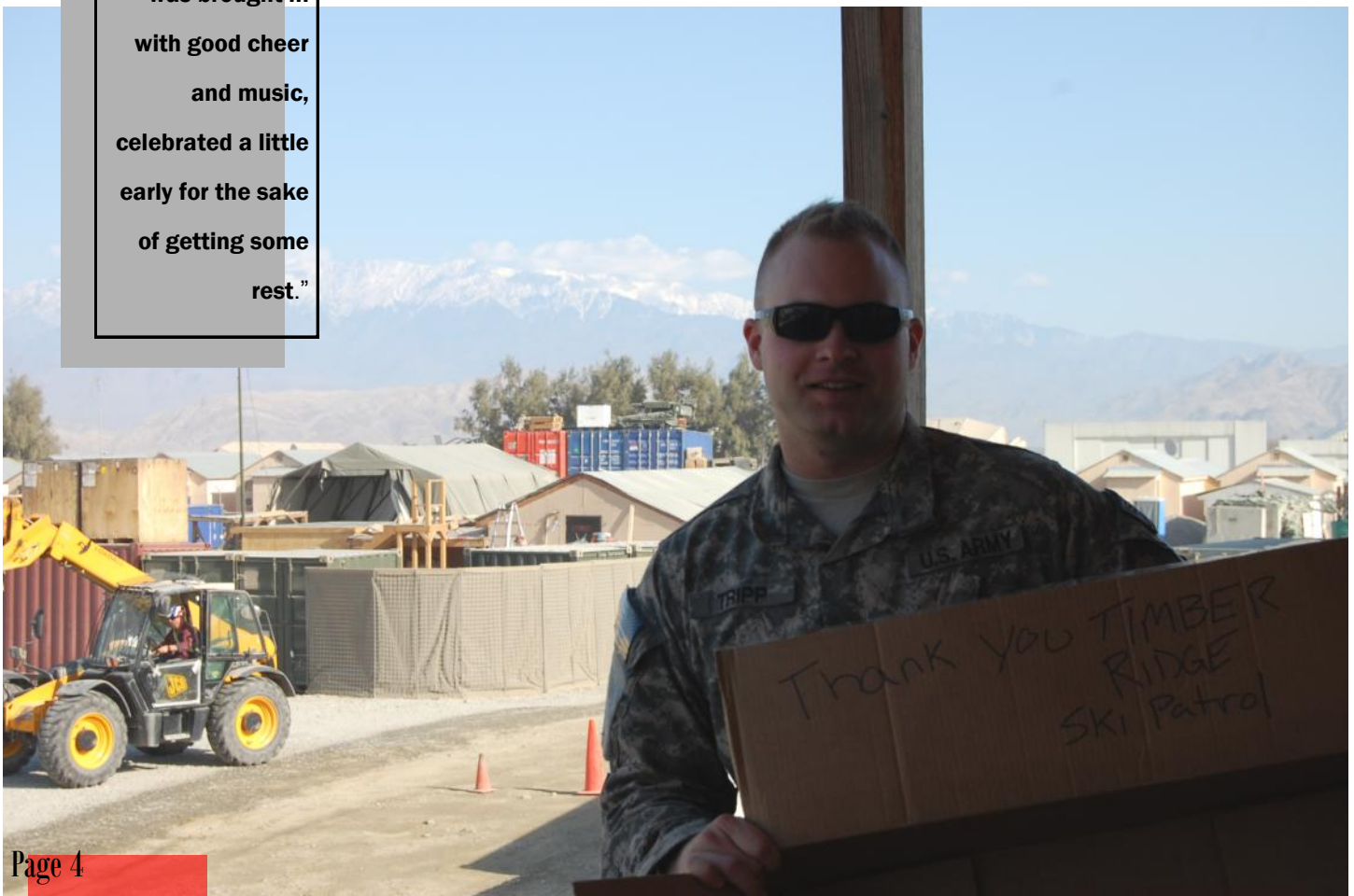
# Executive Officer's

As consistently in Afghanistan as in the United States, the New Year arrived. Soldiers might have missed out on their familiar annual traditions; however the milestone was brought in with good cheer and music, celebrated a little early for the sake of getting some rest. I for one thought of the mid-night streets of Marquette and the lowering of the illuminated New Years Ball. Our mission continues with no less drive and dedication, and it's a great distraction from the easily forgettable resolutions we all look to fulfill. We've been seeing tremendous support by the friends, families, and dedicated support groups back home, be assured, it does not go without appreciation. I would personally like to thank the Timber Ridge Ski Patrol for

the large box of goodies and health products. It's been opened to the soldiers and picked clean over the last few days. Continue to ensure the safety on the slopes; you've all been doing a tremendous job for as long I've been skiing there. Skiers are lucky to have such a dedicated patrol. To all the folks back home, thank you.

Privileged to Serve,  
2LT Tripp

**"the milestone was brought in with good cheer and music, celebrated a little early for the sake of getting some rest."**



# First Sergeants Rap



Hello Family and Friends, hardly seems like a month since our last newsletter... Well let me start by saying thanks to everyone back home supporting us over here. Without you back home supporting us we would not be able to concentrate on our projects to the point

that we are doing. To bring you up to speed, we have been getting into our Projects and have been doing some outstanding jobs. Everyone here knows our name and that there isn't a job that we cannot do. We have also gotten the reputation of completing jobs with remarkable craftsmanship, always making the customer happy, and having surpassed all of their expectations. Word has been traveling fast among the

units, and we are being flooded with work orders. The next unit that will be replacing us will have some big shoes to fill.

Our life here is as comfortable as we can be, all the Soldiers have got their areas all decorated with pictures and things from home. I too have pictures of my Family on the wall, creating a temporary home here.



The Commander and I have been taking turns traveling to visit our platoon in Shank. They too are deep into projects and have repeat customers and are not searching for work. Everyone has been



**"Everyone has been great here, our Soldiers are doing a good job and morale is still very high".**

great here, our Soldiers are doing a good job and morale is still very high. As we start into February our block leave will start, Soldiers have their allotted days and we will start rotating Soldiers on leave. Soldiers are starting to prepare and starting to make plans for their leave, this has given them something to look forward to. All in all we are as happy as we

can be for the most part and we are making the best of it. So until next month Farwell Family and Friends, take care

-1SG Wagner

# 1st Platoon

## A note from 1st

Hello again from 1st PLT. Let me start off by saying thank you to everyone back home for all of your support through thoughts, prayers, and care packages. They have been a great comfort to all of us here in Afghanistan. Second, I would like to wish you all a Happy New Year! Third, I'm sure you will all be happy to hear that things are going well here. Your soldiers are hard at work constructing and re-modeling various projects. These projects have done

a great deal to improve the quality of life for many other units, which has made us quite popular here at FOB Fenty and abroad. Not to worry though, there has still been time for your loved ones to relax and "recharge their batteries". One example that I am particularly proud of, is recently PFC Beattie participated in a bench-press contest here on base and took first place in his weight class. Finally, I would like to close by saying that everyone here is

adjusting well, and spirits are high. I am very proud of the job that your soldiers have done so far, they never cease to amaze me. I hope things are going well back home, we miss you all and await the day that we get to see you again.

1LT Patrick Riley

**"PFC Beattie participated in a bench-press contest here on base and took first place in his weight class".**



Greetings from FOB Fenty! I hope everyone is doing well. I'm enjoying my time overseas. They have everything here that you could ever need. Internet, great chow hall and good living conditions for being overseas it's not bad at all. Being here is a lot better than

I thought it would be and I'm glad to be at this place with good friends. Can't wait to see you all again!

PFC Koszla, Robert

Well hello everyone back home! I hope everything back home is going good. We think about you guys a lot over here. Don't worry about us too much over here, things are great. The food is good, there's a gym close by, and everyone in the company is friendly. We can't wait to get to come home to you all again.

SPC Norman, Brian



# 1st Platoon



PV2  
Garrett  
Spear is  
promoted  
by CPT  
Jason  
Rolling



PFC  
Matthew  
Booth is  
Congratu-  
lated by  
CPT Jason  
Rolling  
after being  
promoted

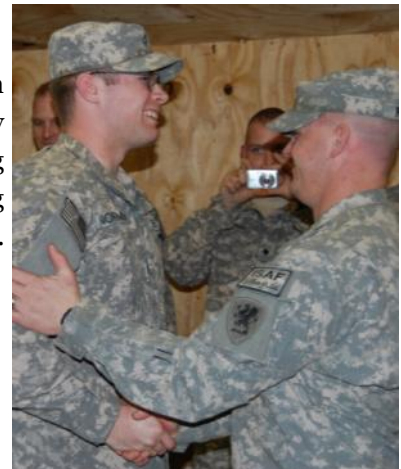


SPC Melanie Campbell  
and  
SPC Tyler Herendeen  
were promoted by  
CPT Jason Rolling.

“This month 1st  
Platoon had 6  
promotions. Way  
to go guys”.



SPC Robert  
Koszla is  
congratulated  
by his peers  
after being  
promoted.



SPC Brian Norman  
is congratulated by  
CPT Jason Rolling  
after being  
promoted.

# 2nd Platoon

Hello to everyone from 2<sup>nd</sup> Plt at FOB Shank,

It is hard to believe that we have been here over a month now. It seems like just yesterday that we were boarding a plane to come over here. The soldiers that I am honored to lead have impressed with their work ethic, determination and flexibility. We have to build everything from scratch here and sometimes it takes ingenuity and a little Yooper engineering to get things done.

These men and women have answered the call and are getting things done. The word has gotten out that we are hard workers and we build with pride and quality. We now have people banging down our doors because they want the Yoopers to work for them. I am proud and humbled by the accomplishments of these soldiers.

I hope that everyone back home is well. We miss all of you and hope to be reunited with you soon. Be proud of the men and women you have over here. They are doing an outstanding job.

- SFC Ward



SPC Brent Bridges

“We now have people banging down our doors because they want the Yoopers to work for them.”.

The weather here is almost like home in the winter time. We are taking on a lot of different jobs and learning a lot about the different trades. The food isn't bad either. It is a lot better than eating MREs.

SPC Kristopher Riccomini

It's colder here than it was in Iraq, but it's almost like home. The Surf and Turf on Fridays is the best. My buddies here make life more enjoyable and fun.

SPC Matthew Haataja

It is not as bad as I thought it was going to be. Everyone is getting along pretty well. Of course, it's not home but at least we have each other to talk to about our problems. The chow here is edible. We miss you all back home. We will see you guys as soon as we can.

SPC Raymond Long



# 2nd Platoon



SPC Matthew Curtis, SPC Eric Stott, SSG Jerry Hebert

We have done quite a lot of jobs here since we arrived a month ago. We have built shelves, decks, living quarters, and a lot of electrical wiring projects. Everyone has been involved in the jobs that come up. We are learning all aspects of the engineer fields from carpentry to plumbing to electrical. Everyone is learning different things. So far it has been a

great learning experience with a lot more jobs and adventures to come. We have been so busy that time is just flying by. I hope that all is well with everyone's families and friends and that the time without their soldiers is passing quickly for them as well.

SPC Shannah Erath



PV2 Dejian Dean being promoted by 1SG Charles Wagner.

Congrats guys!

SPC Marc Viau being promoted by 1SG Charles Wagner.



"This month 2nd Platoon received 2 promotions and 18 Certificate of Achievements".



18 Certificates of Achievement were given to soldiers in 2nd Platoon by the 1982nd Forward Surgical Team for exceptional work while constructing the Royal Jordanian

Surgical Team ICW. Their team ensured that the Medical Treatment Facility was mission ready, and set the cornerstone of positive international relationship between the United States Army and the Royal Jordanian Army at FOB Shank.

# 3rd Platoon

So how's the weather up there? Hopefully its cold and there is a lot of snow! (LOL) Cause here there is none here and the weather right now is perfect! It's like 60 degrees during the day and about 30 at night. So we can't complain on our end with the weather. Your Soldiers have been working really hard and knocking out projects left and right. The jobs have been pouring in

and things are really rolling. I've been very proud of all the hard work and dedication they have been displaying and couldn't ask for any more. Enough of me talking I'll the Soldiers fill you in on the rest.

-1LT Walter Hanson



SSG Jason Arsenault hangs sheets of plywood.

"I hear we are in for an extremely hot summer so I will enjoy this weather while it lasts".

I am coming off of a recent deployment from Baghdad and I am seeing the differences between Iraq and Afghanistan. The scenery here is a lot better. We have some mountains to look at in the distance and some of them are even snow-capped. The temperature here is chilly at night but a comfortable temperature during the day. I hear we are in for an extremely hot summer so

I will enjoy this weather while it lasts. I am already finishing up a small project to build a power distribution box for our platoon and I understand that there is plenty of work to do at other bases so I should be keeping busy. Keeping busy helps us out a lot because it makes the time go by extremely fast. Communication with home through phone calls and internet is very good as well. So far the time

seems to be going by fast and, just like my last deployment, we will all be home soon.

-SPC Gerald Alexander

So it is a lot different here than I expected, but in a good way. I was expecting to be up on a mountain with a lot of snow but the winter here is very mild and it feels good. For the most part it is also very relaxing. I have been doing a lot of welding and fabricating which I find fun. Being busy helps time go by fast. I am just trying to keep my mind on the job at hand but I do

miss everyone very much.

—PFC Frank Kiemer

SPC Justin Nedeau and SPC Ryan Higgins cut sheets of plywood for the construction of a B-Hut.



# 3rd Platoon



SPC Travis Smith Along with SGT Scott Pastor pose for a photo just outside their job site.



SPC Travis Smith is promoted by 1LT Walter Hanson and SFC Brent Lynch

The deployment thus far has been a good one. We are starting to get into rhythm with our engineering tasks and are getting a better sense of what we need to accomplish while we're here. The countryside where we live is surrounded by mountains and makes for beautiful sunrises and sunsets when you can see through the ever present dust. Our living quarters are

pretty decent, we all live in 8-man huts and most are now connected with internet that we pay for monthly. One thing I find odd about where we live is that we have to cross an active runway everyday to get to our company area and chow hall. Good thing we have a traffic light for that, as runway chicken doesn't sound like a long-term game I'd like to play. I miss my family

and friends greatly but I know that our days here are numbered and getting smaller every day.  
SPC Robert Karinen

**“One thing I find odd about where we live is that we have to cross an active runway everyday”.**



Pictured left to right; SPC John Glasco, SPC Nicole Dollar, and SPC Stephen Shier are working on plans for their next construction mission.

# HQ/Maint Platoon

Hello, from the medic section of the 1430th EN CO.

Our small part of the headquarters platoon consists of three medics; PFC Joy Routheaux, PFC Phillip Kangas, and myself; SPC David Carey. Our job is to take care of your soldiers when they are sick or injured. We have a sick call building where we live here on FOB Fenty. The soldiers that are ill stop by and we treat them with the medicine that we have on hand. If the illness is something we have no medi-

cine for we send them to the military health-care providers here on base. We have not had many visitors and we have been able to take care of the illnesses.



“Our job is to take care of your soldiers when they are sick or injured”.

A little background on us; I am an EMT in the civilian world. I work for Bell Hospital and I also volunteer at Powell Township EMS in Marquette County. I have

lived in the U.P. since 2004 and I am married. PFC Routheaux is married to one of the soldiers in 1st platoon. Her and her husband, David lives in Pennsylvania.

She was attending school in Marquette for a nursing degree prior to the deployment.

PFC Kangas joined our company later in the mobilization process; he has just recently graduated from medic school prior to joining us. He is married and lives near Ishpeming.

- SPC David Carey



# HQ/Maint Platoon

SPC Troy Seger with 1SG Charles Wagner and CPT Jason Rolling after being promoted to Specialist.

Congrats!



SPC Jamie Dotson being pinned Specialist by CPT Jason Rolling.

Congrats!

“PROMOTED:  
Private First Class  
to Specialist”.

SPC Thomas Pearson shaking hands with SFC Albert Rockhold and CPT Jason Rolling after being promoted to Specialist.

Congrats!



Operation Enduring Freedom 2010-2011



In June 2007 the 1075th Maintenance Company along with C Company of the 107th Engineer Battalion folded their flags, and joined together to become the 1430th Engineer Company. Over the next few years, the soldiers worked together to create a cohesive unit and build camaraderie amongst their peers.

In March 2008 the 1430th completed its first mission in Soto Cono, Honduras. The soldiers put all their previous efforts in action shining above the rest. Finally in 2010 several soldiers from various units integrated with the 1430th, and began training for their upcoming mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

The soldiers are continuing their legacy ensuring all surrounding task forces know that the “Yoopers” will complete every mission above and beyond all expectations.



SPC Andrew Markham with Major General Raymond Carpenter

Acting Director, Army National Guard, National Guard Bureau, Major General Raymond W. Carpenter visited FOB Fenty on January 21, 2011. He met with several soldiers on the FOB. Some soldiers were recognized by the General for their efforts and achievements thus far. SPC Rebekah Anger, PFC Frank Keimer, SPC Andrew Markham, and SSG Philip O’Neill were awarded GEN Carpenter’s Coin. They have all been an asset to their corresponding teams and the 1430th Engineer Company.