

1430 Engineer Company

Troops are settling in and getting ready for the journey ahead

changing of command ceremony

holiday messages from the troops

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Inside this issue:

Company Updates	4
Accomplishments / Events	4
Announcements	4
Leader's Page	5
1st Platoon	6
2nd Platoon	7
3rd Platoon	8
HQ Platoon	9

Welcome to Afghanistan

All our troops made it safely to their final destinations. It was quite the hectic journey, but everyone is glad to finally start settling in and begin unpacking. For the first few days, Soldiers have been making updates to their living quarters in hopes of making it as comfortable as possible. It may not quite be home, but they are making strides on creating a cozy and relaxing environment to help them unwind after a long day.

While many Soldiers are missing the snow back home, others are enjoying the sunshine and moderate temperatures during the day. Most days have been in the 50's and dropping down to the 30's at night. We may not have the mountains of snow from home, but they are preparing

for the cold weather to come. February will be the coldest in the 20s and then the temperatures will only go up after that.

Most of FOB Fenty and Shank is covered with river rock or dirt, however there are many trees that can be seen in surrounding areas. Dust as always is a problem, and seems to get into everything especially when the wind kicks up. Most of the time the sky is so hazy that you are unable to see the mountains that surround us. However, when the dust settles and the mountains peak through they are beautiful. In some areas they are snow capped giving the troops a small reminder of home.

Aloha to the 1430th Engineer Company

From the moment our ADVON arrived, the 230th Engineer have been welcoming and hospitable to our company. With true Hawaiian spirit they embraced us with open arms, accepting us as their own. Motivated by the anticipation of go-ing home, their key leaders worked with their counterparts in the 1430th. They ensured that we understood the policies and procedures of our new locations.

Many of the other Soldiers in

their unit showed us the ropes for all the additional things our Soldiers would want for entertainment such as internet and Satellite TV. They were more then eager to give us tours of the FOB and introduce us to the contacts they have made over the past ten months.

The 230th Engineers paved the way to a functional

working environment and comfortable living arrangements. We would like to thank all of

CPT Talantino and 1SG Lacno of 230th EN CO fold up their Guideon and prepare to go home.



them for their time, efforts, and dedication to ensuring a smooth transition for the 1430th EN CO.

“They are paving the way to what will be a very successful mission..”



CPT Rolling and 1SG Wagner unveil the 1430th Guideon. Yoopers do it best!

Events

On 20 December 2010 the 230th EN CO and the 1430th EN CO conducted their transfer of command ceremony. Spirits were high with the 230th Engineers closing another chapter in their lives, and preparing for the journey home. While the 1430th cheered in their anticipation of completing the mission ahead with honor, and once again proving that the

First Sergeant's Rap

Dear Friends and Family,

After almost 18 months of training and more training, we have made it to our destination. We are getting settled in and starting to do our jobs. This seems like it has been a long road to get where we are at now. None of this could have been possible without the Love and sup-port from everyone at home. We have spent so many months planning and preparing for this, now that we are here and starting to work we can start planning for our return. As we have started our jobs the morale of the Company is exceptionally high, for the most part we are as comfortable as we can be, And all Soldiers are performing well above expectations and are already finding ways to make “creature comforts” available and finding the in and outs of this place. I look forward to the chapter of the “ life and times of the 1430th” until then farewell.

1SG Charles Wagner



Captains Corner

Merry Christmas friends and family of the 1430th.



It has been a long time coming but we are finally on ground here in beautiful sunny Afghanistan. We started this journey about two months ago when we arrived to Fort McCoy WI in order to prepare for our year ahead. I am happy to say that your Soldiers surpassed all of our expectations both by their professionalism as well as their work ethic. Fort McCoy was very pleased with our performance, and the 1430th not only completed our requirements, we exceeded the standard.

We next had the arduous task of moving our entire company from Fort McCoy to Bagram Afghanistan. I would like to assimilate moving an entire company of Soldiers to taking a

family of four with two very young children to Disney World on a plane for the first time. You are going to get there, and once you're there it will be fun, however while you are traveling there you are promising yourself you will never do it again. We flew from Wisconsin, to North Carolina. We had about a two hour layover so we could pick up another group of Soldiers and fuel for the plane and off we went again. On the next leg of our journey we stopped over in Shannon Ireland for a short layover, and off we went to Germany. Most of us slept through this portion of the trip to include the landing. By this time we had been traveling for over twenty hours and most of us were pretty tired. We could see the end but we still had one

more stop to make in Manas Kyrgyzstan. This was our last stop before we entered Afghanistan. We stayed for about 24 hours here and caught up on some much needed sleep and personal hygiene. The next leg of the trip was for us to board an air force jet and fly into Bagram Afghanistan. Once again we found our tents and started the sleep catch up process. We stayed in Bagram for about three days before our final leg of the journey on another plane that has taken us to our new home for the next few months.

In true 1430th form once we arrived on ground

here our Soldiers wasted no time in getting their living accommodations up to hotel standards. One thing I can say about the 1430th Soldiers that nothing is spared when it comes to ensuring they are comfortable. Our living arrangements are actually very nice, especially for Afghanistan deployment standards. We all have private rooms, and many have already figured out how to get internet access to their rooms. These Soldiers never cease to amaze me.

We are now ready to get to work. The months ahead look nothing less than packed full of projects for us, which is great because time flies by. Our job here in Afghanistan is to basically to do exactly what we were trained for which is make FOBs or (Forward Operating Base) bigger, better,

and safer. The 1430th has all are in our thoughts and prayers. We are well already in the short time we fed and counting the days until we get to spend have been here established time with all of you again. Thank you all for your themselves as the unit to go to support. I can't tell you how much the friends and if you need something done. families of this unit set us apart from everybody The work ethic of these man else over here. We carry you all with us, and you and women is nothing less the support you have shown us really makes this than exceptional. I am already adventure much easier. Thank you. proud of this unit, and in the short time we have been here they have adapted and become incredibly resourceful. Though we are all far away this Holiday season you

“These Soldiers never cease to amaze me”.



Captain Jason Rolling
Company commander

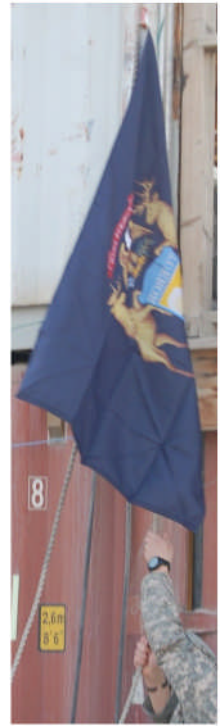
Executive Officer's

Families and friends of the Soldiers of the 1430th, let me start by wishing all of you a happy holiday season and thank you all for your love and support for us this year. Holidays are a very hard time for Soldiers and families during deployment, so what I'd like to do is provide a snapshot of what we've been doing thus-far and will continue to do and improve on throughout the rest of the year.

The headquarters section is responsible for all types of support for 1430th platoons, whether a vehicle need to be stripped down and rebuilt or little private Johnny needs a new pair of socks, its up to us. Our hours are late, sometimes never ending it seems, and the pace of work is fast, but the priority is overall to get the company what it

needs to accomplish the important missions. I can't thank these Soldiers enough for their hard work and unrelenting dedication to their jobs.

Deployment began slightly different for HQ. We sent several Soldiers early, myself included, on an advance party whose mission was to prepare the housing, offices, and vehicles for the entire com-pany. I can't thank those who came to our sendoff enough, for showing their support. It means a world of difference to know there are loved ones back home waiting for our return. Once the main body arrived the real work started. Mob-Station went by faster our clocks could keep up with. The long days of training and late nights of planning took its toll, but our payback came when our



“...the roar of three fighter jets tearing off the runway, the event was memorable to say the least. .”

company's' success was recognized as nothing less than excellent by our support staff at Ft. McCoy.

As soon as it began, mob ended for several of our headquarters personnel who again de-parted early so we could get into Afghanistan and prepare to receive the main body. After a plane ride that was about 5 movies and decent night's sleep long, and stopping in a total of three different countries, we arrived in the country of Kyrgyzstan at the Manas Airfield just in time to find out that Secretary of State Clinton was there delivering a speech. A few of us just happened to be walking around when her convoy drove by. A sandwich, a candy bar, and a couple of naps later (not to mention a well re-

ceived dose of caffeine), we were off again, flying into Bagram Air Base.

Stepping off the airplane, we were greeted with an impressive view of mountains on all sides, and the roar of three fighter jets tearing off the runway, the event was memorable to say the least. Our arrival was welcomed by yet again another American Dignitary, when President Obama gave a speech that very night....ok, maybe he wasn't there welcoming just us, but that's pretty coincidental eh? Stopping again for a few days, we accomplished culture train-ing, weapons qualification, and building a fort out of our luggage while waiting for a flight. Though we waited for 24 hours and it took two separate flights, we made it to our current place

of residence, FOB Fenty.

Headquarters got right to work, learning the ropes, once we arrived and within just a couple days we had met all the key players and were getting a pretty good handle on the day to day tasks. Soon we were up to speed on the mission, and ready and wait-ing for the main body to get their boots on ground. Their arrival soon came in three flights and several thousand pounds of luggage. Within a couple days the 1430th Soldiers were settled in and ready to start mission. This is where we are right now, prepared, anxious, and ready to go.

All in all we have it pretty good here. The

housing is housing and we have plenty of privacy.

The food is plentiful and readily available three times a day, and there are several Local national shops and a Post Exchange.

It's no UP but we can work with this for a year. I'm

privileged to be among these Soldiers of yours. Happy holidays folks... and thanks for your support.

Serving with honor,
2LT Andrew Tripp



1st Platoon

A note from 1st

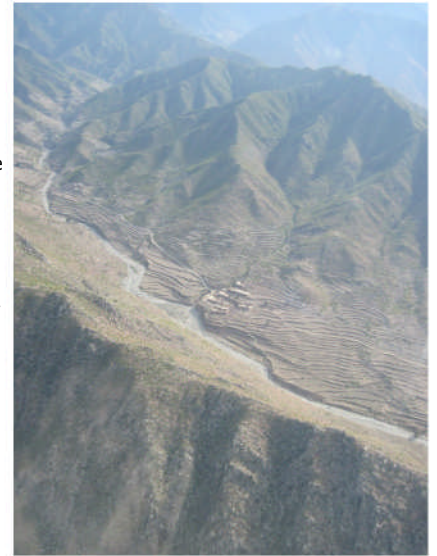
I would like to begin first off by wishing all of the family and friends of the 1430th a Merry Christmas. You should all be pleased to hear that things are going well, and your Soldiers are getting settled into their rooms here in Afghanistan. Though living conditions may not be five star quality; rest assured that the upgrades your loved ones have made definitely give us a leg up on other units at our base. Also, you may be comforted to know that we are en-

joying good food, hot showers, and excellent work out facilities. As far as our journey to Afghanistan is concerned, it was a relatively smooth and painless process. Everyone pushed through the long plane ride, temporary living quarters, and adjusting to the large time difference. Indeed, your Soldiers are some of the finest our military has to offer. In closing, I would like to take this opportunity to thank all of the family members back home for the support you have

provided us; it has been instrumental in our success to this point. Please continue to keep us in your thoughts and prayers as we continue our mission supporting Operation Enduring Freedom. Once again

I hope you all have a Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year.

- 1LT Patrick Riley



“There have been many different cultures, and ways of life that we have been able to witness”.

To my loved ones,

My experience here so far has been beyond belief! Every morning, I get to watch the sun rise over the mountains. The locals are very friendly and provide good conversation. I have enjoyed learning some of the Dari language (language most frequently spoken in Afghanistan) and some of their customs. I am enjoying myself and this year is going to fly by!

Sincerely, PFC Couillard



Hello friends and family,

so far our mobilization has been quick and for the most part easy. Every location we have stopped at in our travels has been a good experience that we will enjoy telling our families about when we return. There have been many different cultures, and ways of life that we have been able to witness. We as Americans have had the privi-

lege of being able to help those that don't have the luxuries we do. We are privileged to have the honor of not only serving fellow Soldiers by improving their living conditions, but also assisting families of Afghanistan that aren't as fortunate.

Sincerely,
SPC Anger

I would like to thank everyone for the support from home front,

2nd Platoon



We call ourselves the “Yoopers”.

We arrived here a short time ago and now it is time to settle in to our new home. Currently our troops are getting their living quarters set up and trying to get as comfortable as possible.

The weather here is a little cold in the morning, but no snow yet. We came expecting three feet of snow, just like back home.

And it Begins

Currently we are doing some small jobs around the Company area and some concrete work for the 10th Mountain Division. This helps us get our feet wet and see how the process works. I expect that more jobs will come in when the word gets out that the Yoopers are in town.



“I expect that more jobs will come in when the word gets out that the Yoopers are in town”.



We would like to wish everyone back home a very merry Christmas and a happy New Year.

3rd Platoon

Happy Holidays from Afghanistan!

The plane ride was long and very tiring. The upside is that we explored a good portion of the globe stopping in North Carolina, Ireland, Germany, Kurdistan, and finally Afghanistan! The total flight time was around 23 hours.

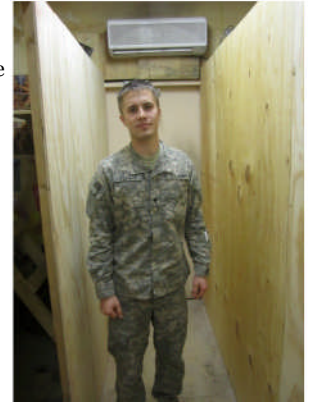
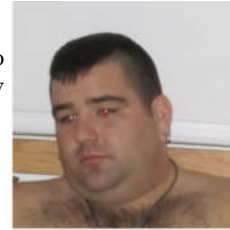
Overall the trip was good.

We are currently settling in and conducting reconstruction on our living quarters. Things are chugging along nicely and we will be starting some big projects very soon. The Sol-

diers are excited to begin work and get things going. We are all excited to get back home to be with our families again. Talk to you in a few weeks

-1LT Hanson

I would just like to say hello and happy holidays to all of my friends and family. It has been a long road and a long time to get here. A lot of plans, buses, and tears but we are here now keeping busy work-ing and doing our job. The holidays here could never compare to the one back home, but we do our best to keep them fun and light. On that note I hope everyone has a great holiday season. Merry Christmas, happy New Year, and most important Chloe Raine I Love you.
SPC Andrew Wiertella



Hello Friends and Family,

Looking back I never thought I would be in the position I'm in. In Afghanistan, a country entirely different from what we are all used. Unsure what I would see or who I would meet, differences in culture and way of life. Now that I am here I feel confident in our mission and the reasons we have come. The dry, dusty land needs improvement, and the people need to

see what they can accomplish. We are surrounded by beautiful mountain ranges that are so big it almost seems surreal. The first morning when I walked outside and saw them it almost took my breath away. It was like a painting, a giant back drop that someone put there over night. This place has potential and with our company, and the support of our family's, I believe

we can make a difference here. We've got a good team and we all are looking forward to getting a good start and showing people what we can do. The main thing that drives me is my family and great support system I have at home. I love and miss you all. Enjoy the holidays and I'll be there with you in heart and spirit.
-SPC Bradley Tapani

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Happy Holidays,

As the holidays near I find myself thinking about my loved ones back home. I think of the summer barbecues, the beach, the parties, and just spending time with everyone. However, Afghanistan shines a new light on the life back home. Every-day things back home that are taken for granted are not so com-mon (or healthy) here. A simple thing like drinking a glass of water

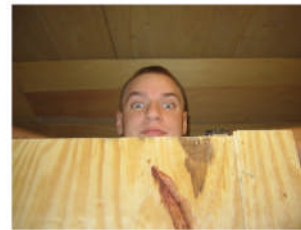
from the faucet may leave you in a hospital bed.

Time here has been a lot different than I originally expected. Day to day life is a lot safer and goes on without any real scares. The gym is open all hours of the day, and the food isn't too bad! Also, despite my original thoughts before stepping foot into Afghanistan it is actually a very picturesque

area. Once the dust clears gorgeous mountain ranges and

vast fields can be seen surrounding our base. I know this time in Afghanistan will go by quickly and safely with the group of soldiers the 1430th has to offer and we will all be home safe and sound to enjoy those things we miss everyday!

-SPC Clifton Carter



Doing a Wilson impression of Home

HQ/Maint. Platoon



Hello to all,

The Soldiers from HQ's Platoon would like to wish everyone back home a Merry Christmas and Happy New Year. We have almost two months completed of our tour here in Afghanistan. It was a long flight getting here from the US and many sleepless hours, but spirits are high and we are moving forward with our mission. Everyone is getting used to the time change of 9.5 hours. The Soldiers are working on making modifica-

tions to their sleeping and working areas. They will be starting some bigger projects in the 2011 for life support systems (showers, bathrooms, and sleeping areas) of fellow American/Afghanistan Soldiers in Afghanistan. This is not a bad place to be, we have hot meals, showers and Heat and A/C in the barracks. There are multiple gyms, local national shops, and a PX here on the base. Soldiers are finding out different ways to com-

municate back home to include the USO, MWR (Phones and Internet), and buying internet/phones from the local nationals. Please keep our Soldiers in your thoughts and prayers during our journey through OEF 11.

-SFC Don Kelloniemi

Sooo Umm,

I wanted to say to my friends and family back home that I'm having an awesome experience and wanted to say Happy holidays and Happy New Year.

-PFC Pearson



"It was a long flight getting here from the US and many sleepless hours, but spirits are high and we are moving forward with our mission."

Field Maintenance Team



So we're finally here with boots on ground and wrenches in our hands. The equipment that we inherited from our counterparts definitely needs some tender love and care. But no task is too great for us to handle. Looking forward to making our mark here in Afghanistan. Not just the VB's that you would usu-

ally find in our wake, but the lasting impression from our vigorous, unwavering work ethic. Even with all the work ahead to keep us distracted from being so far away from home our hearts are still heavy with longing to be back home with our families. Carl is up to his usual self networking with everyone around us to get those little things that are hard to come by but make life here easier. The E

-4 mafia (Plunger, Everman, Chaney, Shank and Palmer) are still getting into as much mischief as possible without getting into trouble. They always seem to know the fine line better than anyone else. And our new guy Shankster hasn't been scared off yet. So all in all everything is well. Even Larry sitting high on the hog, tenderly guiding his Soldiers.

-SSG Phil O'neill



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 it's first mission in Soto Cano, 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 "Yooopers" will complete every mission above and beyond all expectations.

Thank You Richard Hardy Memorial School, S. Pittsburg, TN



Ms Karen Fox's class put together a holiday care package for the company. Many of the Soldiers acquired new pen-pals. They also received piles of hard candy and candy canes. Many games were included like checkers, chess, and cards. They also sent nurf footballs and baseballs. The Soldiers were very grateful and enjoyed all the treats. It also helped get them in the spirit of the holiday.