

'Keeping Tabs'

Issue 11, 14 Apr 08

27th Brigade Combat Team -- Combined Joint Task Force Phoenix VII



Forward Operating Base Phoenix, Kabul, Afghanistan

Arrival in Afghanistan



Members of Chalk 5 off load from an Air Force C-17 at Kabul International Airport following their four-hour flight from Kuwait.

Members of the 27th Brigade Combat Team began arriving in Afghanistan in large numbers during the first week of April. Most were flown into Kabul International Airport aboard Air Force C-17 Transports and then convoyed in shifts through the City of Kabul aboard up-armored humvees and an armored bus to Camp Phoenix for in processing and billeting. Within days, troops assigned to other Forward Operating Bases were pushed out from the base in convoys while others assigned to Camp Phoenix remained to begin the battle hand-off process with members of the SC Guard's 218th BCT who were preparing to leave. The official Transfer of Authority from the 218th to the 27th is set for late April.

At left, troops board Camp Phoenix's armored bus for the 15 minute ride from the airport to the base. Below, M1151 up-armored humvees provide the convoy protection and carry at least two arriving Soldiers in each round trip.





Welcome to Camp Phoenix

Above, members of Embedded Training Teams for the 27th BCT get an initial briefing outside the Camp Phoenix welcome center. The Soldiers come from New York City, the Capital District, the Adirondack North Country and Central and Western New York. Included in the formation are volunteers from other states as well. The Soldiers duffle bags are strapped onto pallets that were flown with them and moved to Camp Phoenix aboard a flat bed trailer. The Soldiers were trained at Fort Riley, KS. Photo right, members of the 218th and 27th SECFOR battalions begin the battle hand-off process through joint patrols and missions. Here members of the SC Guard's 1st Battalion 118th Infantry lead a convoy briefing for members of NY's 2nd Battalion 108th Infantry. From the left is SFC Conrad Alston from Buford, SC, SFC Tommy Deis from Ithaca, NY, 1LT Chris Marion from Binghamton, NY, SGT James Pedigo from Scottsburg, IN and MAJ John House – the 218th BCT's Public Affairs Officer.



Keeping Tabs –

Is a weekly electronic newsletter produced by the HQ 27th BCT Public Affairs Section for family members and friends back home and is available on-line through the NYS Division of Military and Naval Affairs website at www.dmna.state.ny.us For more information contact the DMNA Public Affairs Office at (518) 786-4581.