

TRANSFER OF AUTHORITY FROM 1-43 ADA TO 3-43 ADA

Article by Capt. Corey Robertson, 31st ADA Public Affairs Officer

SOUTHWEST ASIA – Another chapter in the 11th Air Defense Artillery (ADA) Brigade’s history is closed and another has started with the successful transfer of authority (TOA) between two of its sister battalions. In November 2013, the 1st Battalion, 43rd ADA’s (1-43 ADA’s) “Task Force Cobra” and 3-43 ADA’s “Task Force Legion” conducted an official TOA. Task Force Legion assumed the vital mission of air and missile defense (AMD) within their designated area of responsibility.

Lt. Col. David E. Shank and Command Sgt Maj. Matthew T. Gruidl the Task Force Cobra command team relinquished authority and responsibility of the crucial mission after completing a 12-month deployment. Accepting authority and responsibility for continuing this critical operation is the command team of Lt. Col. Joshua L. Moon and Command Sgt. Maj. Wayne C. Woods.

Officiating over the ceremony was Col. Michael T. Morrissey, the commander of the 31st ADA Brigade, who highlighted the many accomplishments of 1-43 ADA while in theater and welcomed 3-43 ADA to the mission.

“Task Force Legion” now begins a new chapter to be added to the history of 3-43 ADA as they execute their latest mission while in theater.



Command Teams (from left-to-right): Command Sgt. Maj. Matthew T. Gruidl and Lt. Col. David E. Shank from 1-43 ADA; Col. Michael T. Morrissey, commander of 31st ADA Brigade; Col. Eric L. Sanchez, the deputy commanding officer of 32nd Army Air and Missile Defense Command (AAMDC); Command Sgt. Ma.j Gerardo Dominguez also representing 31st ADA Brigade; and Lt. Col. Joshua L. Moon and Command Sgt. Maj. Wayne C. Woods from 3-43 ADA, gathered at a November 2013 transfer of authority ceremony in theater.