

## Corps Update (30 April 2009)

- Corps currently running warm but very hot for some specialists
- **Operations:**
  - **Punching above our weight** 8.73% of army but 10% in Iraq and 13% in Afghan
  - **Iraq** (currently 35 Engr Regt)
    - Handover to 62 Wks Gp (-), which includes elements of 45 Fd Sp Sqn, is progressing well with a planned TOA of 5<sup>th</sup> May 09 (earlier than expected)
    - Op BROCKDALE (drawdown of UK elements post Op TELIC) will require elements of 62 Wks Gp (-), 45 Fd Sp Sqn, JFEOD Gp, GEO to remain – timings tbc
  - **Afghanistan** (recent handover to 38 Engr Regt from 24 Cdo Engr Regt) –
    - Corps now providing 3 x CS Sqns (all now with 3 x CS Tps)
    - Remains the lead on C-IED with C-IED Task Force Implementation progressing in partnership with JFEngr Gp
    - Uplift to a Wks Gp strength (from STRE)
    - Uplift to Resources capability
    - Balance between Close Support and Force Support Engineering and Reconstruction and Development
  - 12 (Air Sp) Engr Gp continue to sp HQ AIR worldwide:
    - 10 Fd Sqn (Air Sp) to deploy with 28 Engr Regt to AFG.
    - Op STATURE planning ongoing (902 EAW relocation from SEEB to Musanah (new OMAN AF Airbase)
    - Conducting planning for a JFEE Sqn sized exercise in Kenya as well as Airfield improvements.
  - 29 (Land Sp) Engr Gp undergoing considerable change with uplifts to Gp HQ, implementing and sustaining the C-IED TF and regularising 101 Engr Regt (EOD) (V)
    - Supporting other operations in NI.
    - Continued sp to UK Ops.
- **Public Duties** Elements of 23 Engr Regt supporting Public Duties Feb-Apr 09.
- **Training:**
  - Foundation training in Canada continues with more focus on making training more relevant
  - **RSME P4** – Commenced on 5 Jan 09
- **TA:**
  - Continues to grow (72 Regt and 591 Sqn).
  - Assistance to Defence Review of Reserves.
  - Regularising 101 Engr Regt (EOD) (V).
- **Manning:**
  - **Officers** – good
  - **Soldiers** – undermanned by approx 3% (~200) but more ‘pain’ felt at field units. Deficit improving due to better recruitment, reduced voluntary outflow and the effect of financial incentives
  - People are producing the goods as evident by the plethora of awards
  - Proving our agility and flexibility – providing force support tasks and also delivering close support
- **Sport:**
  - **Champions:**
    - Hockey
    - Rugby Union
    - Rugby League
    - Swimming
    - Combined Services Equestrian Cross Country

- Runners up:
  - Hockey Vets Team
  - Skiing both disciplines
  - Water polo
  - Basketball
  - Tennis
- 3 skiers selected for Euro and 1 for World Championships
- Devizes to Westminster Canoe Race fastest crew
- 2 triathletes for World Championship
- 3 members of the army judo team
- 6 members of the army boxing squad incl ABA Champion
- Combined services and army golf champion
- **Professional capability** being recognised by ECUK
- **Equipment:**
  - Current operations are being supplied with equipment until Urgent Operational Requirements
  - Looking forward to TERRIER, now delayed to 2013 at the earliest
  - Maintaining its long term requirements under the Corps Capability Review
- **Summary**
  - The Corps remains hugely busy and thriving