



THE WARRIOR'S LOG

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'Excellence, Innovation & Quality' for the Marines and Sailors of the 2nd Marine Logistics Group

MAY 6, 2011

Training Aid

CLB-6 hits Bragg to hone operational edge for upcoming deployment

Pfc. Franklin E. Mercado
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Combat Logistics Battalion 6, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, conducted Battalion Field Exercise 2 at Fort Bragg, N.C., from April 20-28.


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Two in a Row

2nd Maint. Bn earns 2nd consecutive Puller Outstanding Leadership Award

Cpl. Melissa A. Latty
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Every year a small, medium and large-sized unit within the II Marine Expeditionary Force is awarded the Lieutenant General Chesty Puller Outstanding Leadership Award to commend the unit for superior leadership.

The award, which originated approximately seven years ago, was awarded to 2nd Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group for the large-size unit category for fiscal year 2010.

“This award signifies balanced excellence within the battalion,” said Maj. William H. Barlow, the 2nd Maint. Bn. commanding officer. “Marines at every level contributed to our success. Each level of leadership has to accomplish their mission for the entire battalion to be successful.”

This is the second time the

battalion was recognized for their superior leadership. The unit received the Puller award in fiscal year 2008 as well.

The acting battalion sergeant major, 1st Sgt. Marcelino Del Valle, said receiving the award show the Marines that all of their hard work pays off.

“Things like this keep the Marines motivated and reminds them that what they do makes a huge difference,” he said.

Barlow agrees that the recognition gives the Marines a sense of self accomplishment.

“The Marines don’t always get to see the product of all of their hard work,” Barlow said. “They see the repaired equipment, but they don’t see get to see the unit out in the field that gets to train because of the equipment they fixed.”

The unit will display their second victory in the halls of their battalion headquarters next to their previous win for all of their Marines to observe and take pride in.



Photo by Cpl. Melissa A. Latty

Maj. William Barlow, commanding officer, 2nd Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 25, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, and 1st Sgt. Marcelino Del Valle, the acting 2nd Maint. Bn. sergeant major, pose proudly next to the Lieutenant General Chesty Puller Outstanding Leadership Award, which the unit received for their superior leadership, aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C. April 28, 2011. The award, which originated approximately seven years ago, was awarded to 2nd Maint. Bn. for the large-size unit category for fiscal year 2010.

BLOTTER



2 May 2011 - A Marine with 2nd Maintenance Battalion reported that during a health and comfort inspection, he discovered a clear plastic bag with an unknown green leafy substance. A permissive search resulted in the discovery of four packages of spice, which were subsequently seized as evidence. The offending Marine was apprehended, processed and released to his unit representative.

27 April 2011 - A Marine with 8th ESB reported that a fellow Marine had stole his clothes. A permissive search resulted in the discovery of the Marine's clothes, which were subsequently seized as evidence. The offending Marine was apprehended, advised of his rights, which he invoked, and was released to his unit OOD.

Right place, right time

Marine's quick reaction saves life, earns NAM

Lance Cpl. Bruno J. Bego
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan – Sometimes quick thinking and acts of bravery can change a person's life, and sometimes it just enables another's to continue on.

Cpl. Eduardo Valdez Rojas, from San Diego, a landing support specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), was in the right place at the right time while supervising an offload and was able to prevent a civilian contractor from being crushed, April 14, aboard Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan.

Standard procedures dictate that landing support Marines oversee the loading and unloading of cargo by civilian contractors to ensure all regulations are followed.

Prior to starting his shift, Valdez Rojas went through every step of the process to ensure he knew exactly what was supposed to occur and be ready for any situation.

"I make sure I understand what we are going to do before we actually do it," he said. "I study every possibility and always think about the worst case scenario. We work with big equipment and a lot of different people."

Sgt. Alexander J. Tobusch, from Batavia, Ill., a landing support specialist with CLB-7, was also supervising when the accident happened.

"We saw [one of the contractors] try-

ing to lift the pallet with a jack so the fork lift could pick it up from the plane's ramp," Tobusch said.

At that time another contractor, who was standing on the other side of the ramp assisting in the offload, noticed the pallet was going to fall and tried to hold it in place. The weight of the pallet knock the man off balance, and he fell off the ramp and landed on his back. The 1,300-pound pallet followed him.

"I have never seen somebody move so fast," Tobusch explained. "He ran toward the guy and dragged him away as we saw the pallet land right where he fell.

"It seemed so natural, like he was ready for something like that already, but I would have never expected anything less than what he did that day," he added.

"I have known him since he was a [private first class] and he has always been selfless ... He always put the others before himself."

The diligence to his duties and demonstration of courage earned Valdez Rojas a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal during an award ceremony, April 26, 2011, aboard Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan.

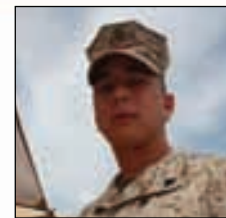
"It is good to be recognized, but I would do it again if I had to, with or without recognition," Valdez Rojas concluded. "I think the best satisfaction I can get out of this experience is the fact that I helped someone live. That person is still alive and can go back to his family because I did something."



Photo by Lance Cpl. Bruno J. Bego

Cpl. Eduardo Valdez Rojas, from San Diego, a landing support specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), poses for a picture alongside Lt. Col. Craig P. Barnett, from Maricopa, Ariz., the commanding officer for CLB-7, after his award ceremony, April 26, 2011, aboard Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan.

WARRIOR - OF THE - WEEK



CORPORAL

EDUARDO VALDEZROJAS

JOB: Landing Support Spec.

HOMETOWN: San Diego

Q: Why did you join the Marine Corps?

A: "I joined the Marine Corps for my family; to provide and just to make me better."

Q: What's your favorite MRE?

A: "My favorite MRE is beef stew, only when it's cold though."

Q: If you could do another job for a day, what would it be?

A: "I would be a Harrier pilot."

Q: What is your favorite sports team?

A: "My baseball team is the Padres. My football team is the Chargers, of course. We haven't won the big one, but our time will come!"



Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) escort the logistics kandak of the 215th Corps, Afghan National Army, from Camp Blackhorse, Kabul province, Afghanistan, to Camp Shorabak, Helmand province, Afghanistan, April 24.

Courtesy Photos

Truckin'

CLB-8 Marines escort new kandak to Helmand province

Sgt. Rachael Moore
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – U.S. forces are continuously working with Afghan national security forces to help them become an independent military.

Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) traveled nearly 1,000 miles to ensure the newly-formed logistics kandak of the 215th Corps, Afghan National Army arrived safely to their new home, Camp Shorabak, Helmand province,

Afghanistan, April 14 through 27.

The Marines of CLB-8 drove from Camp Leatherneck to Camp Blackhorse, Kabul province, Afghanistan, to link up with the kandak and then escorted them back.

“U.S. forces traveled with the ANA, first and foremost, to provide additional security for the movement,” said 2nd Lt. Alex G. Jabbal, CLB-8 convoy commander. “Our intent was to ensure the kandak’s commander, Lt. Col. Mumtaz, felt he was supported in his movement and set up for success in his opera-

tions going forward.”

Before departing Camp Blackhorse, the Marines sat down with the Afghan soldiers for a complete convoy planning process, as this was the first convoy the kandak executed.

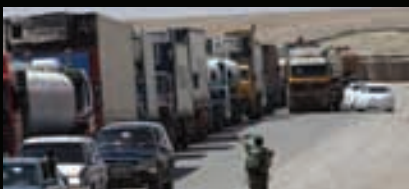
“The Marines provided a mentoring unit to the kandak,” added Jabbal, a Plano, Texas, native. “We aided [them] during convoy operations [by] recovering vehicles and performing maintenance on the road.”

The convoy, which consisted of more than 100 vehicles and 600 personnel from ANA and

U.S. forces, took six days to travel from Camp Blackhorse to Camp Shorabak.

“We had to truly partner with ANA forces to accomplish this mission,” said Jabbal. “Almost the entire length of the route was secured by local ANA and [Afghan National Police], including movement through various cities.”

Now that the kandak is at their new home, they will continue to train with Marines from the 2nd MLG (Fwd.) on logistical operations, convoys and vehicle maintenance.



BRAGG,
continued from Page 1

The exercise was in preparation for an upcoming training event at Mojave Viper aboard Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., later this year.

During the exercise, the battalion participated in numerous situations that simulated scenarios Marines and sailors with the unit could possibly encounter while deployed. Those scenarios included combat logistics patrols, counter insurgency tactics and simulated enemy contact.

“These are all very important aspects of our training because these are all things we encountered on our last deployment,” said Maj. Chris E. Charles, the operations officer for the battalion. “Training is always important, but when you have Marines that have already experienced it, they know we aren’t just out there for fun, it’s to train.”

It was obvious the Marines had an understanding of that importance. They were all where they needed to be when they needed to be there, said Charles.

“The way the Marines performed from the leadership down to the junior Marines

was exceptional,” he said. “They performed their tasks effectively and they are poised to execute well at (Mojave Viper).”

Taking place in the rugged terrain of Eastern California, Enhanced Mojave Viper is a month-long training exercise designed to simulate combat operations in Iraq or Afghanistan. The grounds include a Military Operations on Urban Terrain town, complete with a mosque, native role players and improvised explosive device lanes. Units conduct all types of training from live fire and mounted and dismounted tactical movement, artillery and tank training.

“As a unit we did great,” said Lance Cpl. Devin J. Fosler, a logistics vehicle system operator with CLB-6. “This was good preparation for Mojave Viper. A lot of units don’t have training events to get you ready for Mojave, but I think it was a great idea to come out here and take part in this instead of just throwing us to the lions.”

CLB-6, which spent seven months in Afghanistan last year in support of International Security Assistance Forces Operations, will land in Helmand Province again later this year.



A Marine with Combat Logistics Battalion 6, Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, shoots a M32 Grenade Launcher during field operations training at Fort Bragg, N.C., April 24, 2011. The purpose of the exercise was to prepare CLB-6 for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Photo by Lance Cpl. William M. Kresse



Cmdr. Earl A. Franz answers questions at the Concussion Restoration Care Center, April 29.

Photo by Staff Sgt. Theresa E. Seng

Concussion Care gets Defense visit

SSgt. Theresa E. Seng
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

HELMAND PROVINCE, Afghanistan

- The assistant secretary of defense for health affairs, the deputy assistant secretary of defense for Wounded Warrior care and transition policy, and other medical advisers visited the Concussion Restoration Care Center aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, April 29, 2011.

Dr. Johnathon Woodson, a brigadier general in the Army reserve, and an Iraq and Afghanistan veteran, and John R. Campbell, who served in the Marine Corps and received two purple hearts in Vietnam, came to see what the treatment facility has to offer.

In the past eight months, the CRCC had 2,454 concussion-related visits, 2,208 musculoskeletal-related visits, and 348 mental health evaluations. Only 26 patients were medically evacuated back to the states for treatment; the rest returned to a full-duty status after treatment at the CRCC.

During the visit, the distinguished visitors talked to the doctors about combat stress treatment, concussion care and musculoskeletal injuries, and ways to improve training to help prevent such cases.

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