



# THE WARRIOR'S LOG

VOLUME 3, ISSUE 13

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

MAY 4, 2012



Marines with Bulk Fuel Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group drain a 20,000-gallon collapsible tank during a training exercise on Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field Bogue, N.C., April 23.

Photo by Sgt. Anthony Ortiz

## Gallons of SUPPORT

*Bulk Fuelers assist air ops at Bogue*

See story on Page 4

INSIDE



**2nd EOD Company returns home from Afghanistan... Page 5**

2nd MLG Social Media



Follow us on the Web



Alia Reese, wife of Maj. Travis Reese, the plans officer for 2nd Marine Logistics Group, signs a book at the Marine Corps Exchange aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., April 21.

Photo by Sgt. Rachael K. A. Moore

# Staying Connected

Military spouse offers families tool to get through deployments

**Sgt. Rachael K. A. Moore**  
2nd MLG Public Affairs

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** – Not long after they wed, Alia and Travis Reese found themselves saying goodbye to one another.

“I was a new spouse and had no real idea of how the military worked,” explained Alia, wife of Maj. Travis Reese, the plans officer for 2nd Marine Logistics Group. “We lived off base and while I knew a few other spouses, I was not particularly close to any nor was I familiar with any military resources available to me.”

Travis went afloat in 2000 to test the fire capabilities of a ship off the shores of Puerto Rico. Halfway around the world, the USS Cole was attacked in the Yemeni Port of Aden. The crew suffered 17 casualties and 39 injured service members.

“I had heard the news very early in the morning on my drive from Virginia Beach to Williamsburg,” explained Alia. “By the end of the day, I had received numerous phone calls from family wanting to know what was going on, but since I didn’t know myself, it just made things worse.”

Although Travis was aboard a different ship about 8,000 miles away from the bombing, Alia still panicked due to her lack of military knowledge.

“I was scared out of my mind,” Alia said. “It was four or five days until I heard from him. My biggest worries were all ships were being targeted, and [Travis’ unit] would be directed to respond.”

This was the moment Alia knew it was time for things to change.

“I had to know more about the military, and I had to get connected,” she explained. “I

didn’t want to feel like that again, and definitely didn’t want my kids to go through it.”

So Alia set out on a journey to learn more about the military and specifically what her husband did in the Marines.

“I started attending Marine Corps Family Team Building events like [Life-style, Insights, Networking, Knowledge, and Skills] and pre-deployment classes,” explained Alia.

L.I.N.K.S. and other classes offer military spouses knowledge about the military and give them tools to help cope with deployments and separations.

When it came time for another deployment, Emma, the oldest child in the Reese family, was almost two years old. Alia was equipped with the knowledge to educate herself and her daughter about the job Travis was doing in Afghanistan.

“She was at the age where she knew he was gone, but she didn’t understand how long he would be gone,” explained Alia. “I wanted to keep him involved in her day-to-day life, and Emma loved looking at pictures, so I started a scrapbook for her. Travis would send pictures to us via e-mail, and I’d put them in the book. It showed her what her daddy was doing overseas.”

Alia continued to update the pictures as the years went on for Emma, but she was getting older and a little more curious. The still pictures proved to help her cope and understand why her father was gone.

“I would tell her ‘daddy is helping the Iraqis’ and explain to her how he was working with good guys to fight against bad guys,” Alia said. “He would send us pictures of him by [Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles] and in battle gear.”

Alia used those pictures to explain how the gear and trucks were designed to protect service members.

“By using pictures, you can tell stories about what they’re doing or what they’ve

**See Book, Page 6**



**28 April 2012** - A Marine with Combat Logistics Regiment 27 approached the gate and the strong odor of an alcoholic beverage was detected emitting from the Marine’s breath. The Marine submitted to a series of field sobriety tests, which indicated signs of impairment and subsequently submitted a sample of his breath for chemical analysis. The Marine was apprehended, processed and released to a unit representative.

**1 May 2012** - A Marine attached to 2nd Maintenance Battalion failed to maintain proper distance and struck a pedestrian. The pedestrian was transported to Naval Hospital Camp Lejeune for treatment and evaluation of his right shoulder and left leg for pain. The investigation continues.

2D MLG BLOTTER

# Positive Impact

*Long hours, ample pride builds food service excellence*

**Cpl. Katherine M. Solano**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** – There are few things more comforting than a hot meal after a long day in the field, or a holiday feast when Marines are far from family. Food service Marines exemplify the term hard workers, providing a vital service to the masses during every aspect of training, down-time and fighting.

In recognition for their demanding standards and relentless schedule, once a year a few are selected by the Maj. Gen. W.P.T. Hill Memorial Awards Program for Food Service Excellence. This year, Staff Sgt. Rodell Terry, a section staff noncommissioned officer with Food Service Company, 2nd Marine Logistics Group was recognized as the Active Duty Staff NCO Food Service Specialist of the Year.

“The job we do is the biggest morale booster to all Marines consuming chow within the facilities,” said Terry.

The food service Marines’ attention to detail, high sanitation standards and unmatched schedules are rewarded daily by the gratitude of the Marines served.

“Despite all those hours you will still always see the Marines taking a lot of pride in their work,” stated Cpl. Emma Stanfield, a food mess clerk with Food Svc. Co., 2nd MLG.

Stanfield elaborated on the importance of their job, saying “we make sure the Marines are fed and ready for whatever mission is put in their way.”

“The Food Service Specialist of the Year

Award means all the long hours and hard work paid off in the long run,” Terry explained.

Stanfield went on to further explain the award, to her, meant a Marine was skilled, proficient and very knowledgeable in their MOS.

When Terry’s Marines were asked why they believed he was chosen for the award, she was quick with a response. The Palestine, Ill., native described Terry as being well-rounded, but more importantly, as exemplifying Marine Corps leadership.

“He holds Marines accountable but is very fair,” she said.

Terry was a little more humble and slower to articulate why he thought he received the award.

---

**“We make sure the  
Marines are fed and ready  
for whatever mission is put  
in their way.”**

- Cpl. Emma Stanfield

---

“The leadership quality [I have] that sticks out in my mind is I’m always willing to learn new information from senior leadership and junior Marines,” said the Henderson, N.C., native. “My favorite part of my job is that I’m in a position now

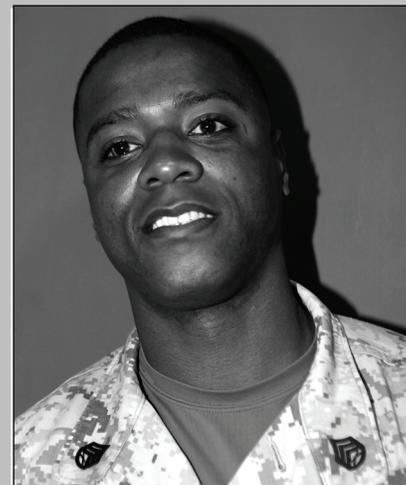
to train and pass on all the knowledge I gained throughout the years to junior Marines and have a positive impact on someone else’s career.”

While Terry is proud of receiving the award, he still wants people to recognize the larger impact of his MOS.

“I want the American public to know that when they think about the Marine Corps, [they shouldn’t] just think all we have is trigger pullers,” Terry concluded. “We also have many supporting occupations that provide support 24 hours a day, sustaining the infantry men.”

Terry will travel to Chicago in early May for the 2012 Joint John L. Hennessy and Maj. Gen. W.P.T. Hill Award Ceremony.

## WARRIOR of the WEEK



**STAFF SERGEANT  
RODELL TERRY**

**HOMETOWN:**  
Henderson, N.C.

**OCCUPATION:**  
Food Service SNCOIC

**FAVORITE THING TO  
COOK:**  
Chitterlings and fried chicken

**FAVORITE MRE:**  
Spaghetti

**WHO IS YOUR HERO AND  
WHY:**

“My mom, because if it wasn’t for her I wouldn’t be the man I am today.”



Pfc. David Mancinelli (left) and Pfc. Malcolm Cambel (right), bulk fuel specialists with 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, connect a fuel issuing hose to an AV-8B Harrier during a training exercise on Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field Bogue, N.C., April 25, 2012. The exercise was conducted by Bulk Fuel Company, 8th ESB to give Lejeune-based Marines a rare opportunity to work with aircraft to ensure they had the broadest skill level possible.

Photos by  
Sgt. Anthony Ortiz

## *Bulk Fuelers support air ops at Bogue*

**Pfc. Franklin E. Mercado**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** – Some military occupational specialties are organic to the air craft assets and others to the ground forces of the Marine Corps, and some specialties are necessary to every detail of operations across the board.

The responsibilities of those jobs can vary depending on where a Marine is stationed, such as the job of a bulk fuel specialist.

While stationed at Camp Lejeune, N.C., bulk fuel Marines with 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group specialize in refueling tactical vehicles. If these Marines were stationed aboard an air station, they would refuel aircraft.

The battalion wanted to ensure their Marines had the broadest skill level possible, and conducted an exercise to provide Lejeune-based bulk fuel specialists the opportunity to work with aircraft aboard Ma-

rine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field Bogue, N.C., April 23-27.

“I’ve been in seven years, and this is the first time I’ve ever worked with aircraft,” said Sgt. Jonathon R. Ialongo, a bulk fuel specialist with 8th ESB.

The week-long exercise consisted of refueling two different types of aircraft – the AV-8B Harrier and V-22 Osprey. It also included preparing pumps and hoses to run through 20,000-gallon collapsible tanks. Marines checked the tanks for any tears, rips or holes as they were being filled.

“The Marines learned how to check the containers for leaks or discrepancies,” said Ialongo, a Millbrook, N.Y., native. “They need to know how to do it just as much as they need to know how to refuel vehicles. It’s an important part of our job.”

Staff Sgt. Ronnie Johnson, a platoon sergeant with Bulk Fuel Co., said the Marines worked extremely hard to conquer the new mission.

“They came out here and got the job

done,” Johnson said. “They didn’t complain, and I didn’t have to double check anything. Everyone from the new Marines to the [noncommissioned officers] stepped up. They all did a tremendous job.”



Cpl. Robert Sarvak, a bulk fuel specialist with Bulk Fuel Company, 8th ESB, 2nd MLG, teaches his Marines about a suction hose during a training exercise on Marine Corps Auxiliary Landing Field Bogue, N.C.



# Mission Complete

*2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company completes deployment, 1st EOD Co. takes over in Afghanistan*

**Sgt. John E. Jackson**  
*1st MLG (FWD) Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan** – While there was no official ceremony signifying the transfer of authority from one Explosive Ordnance Disposal company to the next, the guidon outside the EOD compound on Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, now belongs to 1st EOD Co., 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward).

The Camp Pendleton-based unit took over EOD responsibilities in Regional Command Southwest's area of operation from 2nd EOD Co. April 23.

While forward deployed, EOD Co.'s mission is to support the Marine Air-Ground Task Force by locating, accessing, identifying, rendering safe, neutralizing and disposing of high-yield explosives, unexploded ordnance, weapons of mass destruction and improvised explosive devices. Additionally, the EOD technicians also embed

with infantry battalions and train service members on IED awareness and proper immediate action.

Immediately after arriving in Afghanistan in early April, the 47 EOD teams of 1st EOD Co. worked alongside 2nd EOD Co., so they fully understood the current mission. The professional, no-nonsense attitude of the EOD Marines helped to ensure a successful transition.

"Our turnover was focused on the EOD team leader billet," said CWO4 Jesse McGinnis, 2nd EOD Co. commander. "The most challenging role is that of the EOD team leader. EOD teams are distributed throughout Helmand province supporting various infantry battalions. Ensuring they had sufficient time to get a full grasp of the mission at hand was paramount for long-term success."

With 1st EOD Co. in control, 2nd EOD Co. is preparing to leave Afghanistan after a

successful deployment. While deployed, the Camp Lejeune, N.C.-based company completed more than 2,800 total responses, responded to 740 IED calls and neutralized over 1,000 IEDs. Additionally, the company turned in more than 1,500 bags of evidence for further exploitation and trained nearly 10,000 personnel.

"I could not be more proud of the job that all of my Marines did," McGinnis said. "We were aggregated from six different [Marine Subordinate Commands] from all over the Marine Corps, and we combined to make a cohesive, effective combat unit.

"As a commander, each and every one of the Marines carried out my intent well above my expectations. I challenged them before our departure not to be perfect, but to be professional. They took that to heart and executed at every level of leadership. I am simply humbled by their accomplishments."



Photo by Sgt. John E. Jackson  
Marines and Sailors with 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward) take a group photo on the EOD compound at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan April 24.

# CLR-2 hosts 'Cheers, Tears & Fears'

**Cpl. Katherine M. Solano**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** – “Who better to help a spouse but another spouse who has been there and done that?”

This was the thought Tracie Newman and the other Family Readiness Officers with Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group had when they began to organize a unique event they called Cheers, Tears and Fears.

The informal discussion was held at the Officer's Club aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., April 26.

“[We] wanted spouses to have a place and a chance to ask questions freely about the emotional side of enduring a deployment,” Newman explained. “We wanted them to be able to share their experiences with each other in a positive forum to learn how to not only survive, but to thrive, during a deployment.”

Those in attendance ranged from new military spouses to “seasoned” spouses who endured up to six deployments during their marriage. Newman explained how both the new and veteran deployment spouses could be involved and benefit from the discussions. She described how everyone had the potential to hear things they might not have and how everyone could learn something from each other's experiences.

“Spouses who experienced

many deployments are given the chance to share the experience and help someone,” Newman continued. “It is a chance to make a friend, but also more importantly, to be a friend and offer support to someone who needs it.”

The regimental sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Paul A. Berry, also stressed the camaraderie and relationships built by events like this.

“None of us, Marine, or spouse, or family member, should ever feel alone or isolated in anything we do,” he said during his introduction to the group.

Within the first 30 minutes of the meeting, friendships were forged. Individuals who never met prior to the evening were laughing and crying together, hugging and exchanging phone numbers.

“While pre-deployment and return-and-reunion briefs are important, with great information, it is a lot to absorb, and there is never really time to just ask those more personal, emotional questions,” continued Newman. “They also know whatever they say here will be received with compassion, empathy and positive advice.”

Emotional questions came pouring forth, ranging from last will and testaments to communication, pre-deployment preparation and post-deployment celebrations.

Even as difficult topics were broached, the environment remained friendly and comfortable.

“I would stress it isn't a pre-

deployment brief or a return-and-reunion brief, or any kind of brief at all,” Newman said when asked how she would describe the overall event. “We create a safe atmosphere for any questions, where no feeling or emotion is wrong. They are free to speak and ask questions without fear of embarrassing their Marine or sailor, or being embarrassed themselves.”

The importance of informed spouses supporting each other with the help of events like Cheers, Tears and Fears can be summed up by a statement made by the commanding officer of CLR-2, Col. Yori Escalante.

“A ready family makes a ready Marine,” said Escalante. “If the family is ready for the Marine to deploy then the Marine is ready to deploy, because then he or she knows his family back home is going to be able to make it through the deployment.”

Feedback from the attendees ranged from “this rocked” to a suggestion to extend the event by an hour next time, because there was so much more to talk about.

“That was the best outcome I could have imagined,” Newman said. “It was two full hours of great discussion, and they wanted more. Overall, the feedback was positive and enthusiastic.”

Newman concluded, “We will continue to hold these events and hope it will be better each time.”

**BOOK,**  
continued from Page 2

done,” Alia said. “The child will feel like their parent is still there.”

Deployments and separations continued for the Reese family, as it did for most military families.

“I wanted to help other families,” said Alia.

She took the tool she used to keep her family connected and published two children's books called “My Mommy is a Marine” and “My Daddy is a Marine.”

The books feature pictures of Marines and what their jobs are, but the pictures that come with the book are just examples. Parents can replace the generic photos with pictures of their Marine.

“These unique books bridge the gap for younger children,” said Heather Stone, a Marine's wife who purchased the book. “Kids are visual learners and having the pictures to look at is a vital tool. The book is sturdy, simple and concise. They can read it on their own. It's their book. It works perfect for my children.”

While this book may not work for all families, there are many other resources available for military families.

“The most important thing is to stay connected,” explained Alia. “It doesn't matter what tool you use, but you have to do something.”

**COMMANDING GENERAL**  
MAJ. GEN. MICHAEL G. DANA

**SERGEANT MAJOR**  
SGT. MAJ. GEORGE W. YOUNG JR.

**COMMAND MASTER CHIEF**  
CMDMCM RUSSELL W. FOLLEY

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS**  
2ND LT. JAMES F. STENGER  
2ND LT. NICOLE M. YUHAS

**COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS**  
SGT. RACHAEL K. A. MOORE  
CPL. BRUNO J. BEGO  
CPL. KATHERINE M. SOLANO  
PFC. FRANKLIN E. MERCADO

**PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF**  
STAFF SGT. THERESA E. SENG

**PRESS CHIEF**  
STAFF SGT. JUSTIN J. SHEMANSKI

