Volume 3, Issue 23

The Warrior's Log

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

Aug. 24, 2012

Air, Land & Sea

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Courtesy Photo

CLR-27 sends detachment to Maine's Lobster Festival

Marines, Sailors visit Maine nursing home

Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson
2nd MLG Public Affairs

Photo by Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson

Photo by Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson

ROCKLAND, Maine — More than 25 Marines and Sailors from Combat Logistics Regiment 27, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, and the USS San Antonio crew put on their dress uniforms Aug. 2 and disembarked for an afternoon with residents of the Knox Center, a nursing facility for long-term care in Rockland, Maine.

Their task seemed simple – engage the residents and enjoy some freshly cooked, bright red lobster – but what they did not realize is how hard it would be to leave.

"It was an awesome experience," said Cpl. Patrick Culleton, a field radio operator with Combat Logistics Battalion 22, 2nd MLG. "I spoke with one lady whose name was Margret, but she told me to call her Peggy. I got to know her a little bit, and I gave her my phone number so she can call and talk to me."

Culleton, who has spent more than three years away from many members of his family, said he knows, from a recent surprise visit to his grandmother who lives near Rockland, how important a friendly face is.

"I know that she is going to have a better day because I went there," said Culleton, his voice still slightly tight from the experience. "That's what it's all about."

The call to move to the Knox Center's backyard for lunch came a little too late. Many of the Marines and Sailors were already scattered throughout the building. Each one found someone to visit, which made it difficult to rally the group for their main course.

Navy Lt. Tiffany Smith, a chaplain candidate program officer temporarily working with the San Antonio's crew, finally rounded everyone up.

The center's staff and volunteers prepared large coolers of lobster, but some of the service members were too preoccupied to notice.

"I didn't realize that one Marine had not eaten because he was helping a resident," said Smith, who tried to ensure that everyone was fed before she sat down to eat. "More than anything, that stuck out."

They helped serve food to the residents, and then donned bibs to fight off the splashing juice of the lobsters. Most had no idea how to properly eat one, but nobody seemed to mind their lobster-eating etiquette.

"They were at the center just sitting down and getting to know the people," said Smith. "It can get very lonely, and [residents] can get very down. It's nice to have the Sailors and Marines come in and smile, get to know them, learn their names and just have a conversation."

A few of the residents were reluctant to let the service members leave after lunch. They wanted them to stay, said Smith.

The new friends exchanged hugs and smiles, and then the troops boarded the bus and headed back to the ship where a full agenda waited them. ■

Related stories:

Lobster Fest parade puts servicemembers up front

USS San Antonio welcomes guests during Lobster Fest

Servicemembers tackle road race at Lobster Fest

EOD Tech of the Year

Mentorship key to Marine's success

Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. - He plays a cat and mouse game with explosives for a living, but accepting credit for his achievements makes him shift uneasily in his seat.

Staff Sgt. Christopher P. Lukas, an explosive ordnance disposal team leader with 2nd EOD Company, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, swept the field to receive the Marine Corps Engineer Association's 2012 EOD Technician of the Year award. It is for "the most outstanding contribution as an EOD Marine," but Lukas isn't sure it is solely his to accept.

For him, working with explosives is a family affair.

"We end up closer than brothers because of the way we have to operate in our career field," said Lukas, who spent his youth traveling as part of a military family. "You basically know what the other individual thinks."

He credits his achievements to the mentorship of people such as Chief Warrant Officer 2 Christopher West and Gunnery Sergeants Jonathan Key and William Isele. The names are more than past mentors to Lukas. They are a reflection of how he thinks and who he is as a team leader today.

Their example taught him to step forward while others are backing away, Lukas explained. Leadership at all levels showed him how to think like his opponents, approach each situation with a plan and gave him the ability to adapt when the situation changed.

"We rely on each other so much that I think their names need to be on there," said Lukas, struggling to explain why his name came out on top. "I'm not going to sit here and say I deserve something or not. I started out as Gunnery Sgt. Key's team member for the last deployment, and all I did was what he trained me to do."

His modest tone hid the fact that Lukas found a calling in the EOD field, which he joined after nearly eight years calibrating and repairing aviation equipment. The lessons of Key, West, Isele and many others found an open mind in Lukas, who claims a desire to learn as one of his greatest strengths.

> "Everybody looks at somebody else and thinks, 'I could never do that,'"
> - Staff Sgt. Christopher Lukas

"At the end of the day, I learned everything I know from those guys," said Lukas, who found himself a team leader halfway though his last deployment. "The tables have somewhat turned. We're sitting here, and I'm training some new guys. I continually find myself saying, 'I learned this from that guy, or I learned that from this guy.'"

All that information came to a cross-

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Warrior of the Week

Staff Sergeant Christopher Lukas

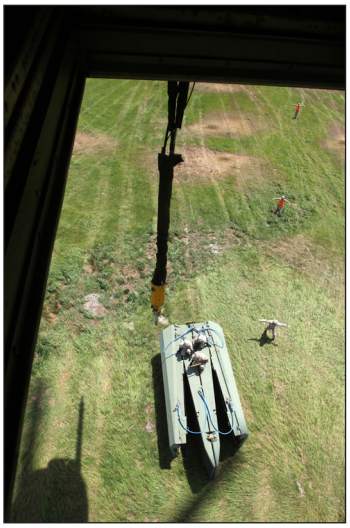
Occupation:
EOD Technician

Favorite Sports Team:
"Dallas Cowboys."

What is your favorite Uniform and why?
"Civilian attire because it's authorized."

Favorite Food:
"BBQ ribs."

Favorite Non-Alcoholic drink:
"Coffee."



8th ESB, 2nd MAW take to water for once-in-a-decade training

Story and photos by Pvt. Franklin Mercado
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — The Marine Corps is no stranger to making history, and the Marines and Sailors of Bridge Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion have made their mark in their unit's lineage, with a once-in-a-decade training exercise.

Bridge Company worked with components of the 2nd Marine Aircraft Wing to conduct a training event here, from Aug. 7 to 9, which was a first for many.

The purpose of the training was to give troops a chance to test their skills on water. The event simulated a humanitarian relief effort during which trucks couldn't maneuver and a bridge was needed.

The equipment put to use was the improvised ribbon bridge. The IRB provides wet gap crossing capabilities either as a floating bridge or a multi-bay raft for tactical vehicles.

A CH-53E Super Stallion from Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 366 took on the dubious task of airlifting several 14,000-pound individual sections of an IRB from a nearby landing zone and dropped them at Engineer's Point.

Once a section was safely dropped into the bay, Marines raced across the choppy waters aboard a watercraft to maneuver the piece of the bridge to the desired location.

The Marines flung open each section of the improved ribbon bridge, reaching into the water to undo two latches keeping the section closed during flight and jumped on to secure the raft while still floating atop the water.

The process took mere seconds, but it was an experience they will not forget, explained Lance Cpl. David S. Price, a landing support specialist with 2nd Marine Logistics Group.

"When they told us this was something that hasn't happened in so long, I didn't really know what I would think about it," he said. "Once we started doing our jobs, it was like any other exercise."

The job of the landing support specialists was crucial to the exercise. They had the unenviable task of hooking each of the sections to the helicopter, which hovered only feet from the crowns of their heads.

"The [landing support Marines] provided outstanding support," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Griffith Ruskin, the IRB platoon commander. "They did their jobs, and did them well."

Ruskin wasn't the only Marine who thought the exercise was conducted smoothly. One of the Super Stallion's crew also recognized the good work.

"We are giving them about 10 minutes between each drop and they are getting the

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A water craft races out to retrieve a section of an improved ribbon bridge during an 8th Engineer Support Battalion training exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Aug. 8.

Master Sgt. Sebastian McNeill, the fiscal chief with Combat Logistics Regiment 27 and his wife, Jamelia, sit at a table during a Spouse Appreciation Night at the Ball Center on Camp Lejeune, N.C., Aug. 10.

Photo by Sgt. Rachael K. A. Moore

CLR-27 shows appreciation for spouses' constant support

Story and Photos by Sgt. Rachael K. A. Moore
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — More than 20 couples flooded the banquet room at the Ball Center here for a Spouse Appreciation Night, Aug. 10.

As they entered the room, a soft beat of music filled the air while some guests dished up a plate of wings, fresh vegetables and other appetizers; other guests socialized with people they haven't seen in a while, and some they've never seen before.

"We want spouses to get to know each other," said Jose Padilla, the family readiness officer for Combat Logistics Regiment 27, 2nd Marine Logistics Group. "By participating you learn, you get more information, you get to know who's in charge, who does what, and that's important."

The event continued with an award ceremony. Col. Mark R. Hollahan, the CLR-27 commanding officer, along with his wife, Kim, and the regimental sergeant major, Sgt. Maj. Lanette Wright, presented a letter of appreciation to each spouse in attendance.

"In sincere appreciation of your sacrifices and support," the letter read. "Thanks for a job well done."

Each spouse received an award signed by Hollahan, a gift bag made by one of the CLR-27 volunteer spouses, and a rose.

"It's really nice to get some appreciation for what we do because we do a lot," said Nakyshia Leger, whose husband is a sergeant with Landing Support Company, CLR-27. "I have baby number three on the way, and I'm always at home with the kids. It's just nice to have a night out and they're like 'Hey, thank you for all that you do'."

The night continued with a drawing, at which Padilla gave out door prizes of things like candles, gift cards and picture frames.

"It's so worth coming out to these things because you do have fun," said Octa Fassnacht, who is married to a staff sergeant and attended the Spouse Appreciation Night last year. "It's a way to release some stress because everyday life can be so hectic."

After the prizes were gone, couples crowded the dance floor for a few dances before the night drew to a close. ■

Marines with Food Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 27 prepare to start their cooking competition to prove their field-cooking abilities Aug. 7 at Camp Lejeune, N.C.

Food Service Company showcases field-cooking abilities during competition

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Jackeline Perez Rivera
MCB Camp Lejeune Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. - The Marines of Food Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 27 began their day with the usual sounds of a kitchen. They buzzed throughout, chopping, dicing and pulling apart fruits and vegetables for the day's meals. However, today was not a usual day and the Marines were not in their usual setting.

The cooks were preparing to have every aspect of their work judged and quantified, from their food to the layout of their facilities. Oddly enough, the Marines weren't in a mess hall. They were in tents with rain dripping overhead hoping to qualify to compete for the Maj. Gen. W.P.T. Hill Award, a military foodservice award and reclaim their position as victors.

The competition gave Food Service Company the opportunity to showcase what they could offer their commanders in the field – where Marines may only have Meals-Ready-To-Eat to provide the sustenance needed for their labors.

"You're working your troops, and they're out there doing great things," said Capt. Joseph Fore, the company commander of Food Service Company. "They can come in, eat good chow and then they're ready to go back to do their jobs. It's a win-win for Marines and their command."

"MRE's are a fine ration," Fore added. "But we can do better than that."

The Marines set up a field site, which functioned as a mini-forward operating base. It included a medical area, a classroom, a command center, a berthing area with showers, along with a galley and mess hall. While they had some outside support, for instance with the installation of generators, Food Service Company built every aspect of the field site themselves, using skills they may not be able to use so close to home.

A Marine with Food Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 27 slices oranges during a field-cooking competition aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Aug. 7.

"It's a great opportunity to showcase what we can do outside of garrison," said Staff Sgt. Quiam Woody, the staff non-commissioned officer of the site. "It's great to see all of the Marines doing what they were taught."

Food service is a very adaptable field, said Master Sgt. James Hochschild.

"Food service is one of the most rounded organizations in the Marine Corps," said Hochschild. "We are self sufficient. While most Marine occupational specialties deal with specific tasks, we can do whatever tasks we have to do to support ourselves in a field environment."

They faced many challenges with their field site. Storms and lightning meant Marines had to be pulled from the site for safety reasons leading to significantly less preparation time than expected.

The chief cook, Sgt. Christopher Womack, oversaw the moving parts within the galley.

"Food service is more than dropping a bag in hot water," said Womack. "We're capable of much more."

It's important for units to be able to sustain themselves while maintaining combat capabilities, said Gunnery Sgt. Morris Mayfield, the operations chief of Food Ser-

See FOOD, Page 10

Petty Officer 3rd Class Brandon Clark and Petty Officer 2nd Class Donald Dalizu, surgical technicians with 2nd Medical Battalion, test some of their surgical equipment in a Forward Resuscitative Surgical System set up aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Aug. 15. Improvements to the medical equipment used by the FRSS have increased its power requirements, and a team of engineers and medical personnel spent a week determining the amount of energy needed to sustain its operations.

POWER

Team works to improve medical treatment in field

Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. — It's a refuge of life-saving medical equipment for troops in the fight, where surviving traumatic injuries is a race against time.

The injured come into the Forward Resuscitative Surgical System with dirt from the battlefield fresh on their boots. Advanced medical technology waits for the wounded, but the facility needs power to make the difference between life and death.

That requirement left the team from Medical Supply Company, 2nd Marine Logistics Group sure of one thing after their FRSS energy study here, Aug. 13 to 17.

They need more power.

"The Marine Corps' intention is to keep the surgical capabilities that are up close to the fight as modern as possible," said Navy Lt. Darren Pierce, commanding officer for Medical Logistics Company. "As the equipment has advanced over the last 10 years, and as new things have been added, the power requirements have increased. However, the source of power has not changed, and we're overloading the [system]."

Proximity to remote locations makes the FRSS a critical factor in saving lives, but it deprives the facility of traditional power sources.

Injured Marines and Sailors have access to surgical personnel, portable oxygen generators, infusion pumps, anesthesia equipment and body-warming devices in less than sixty minutes after their injury, said Pierce. Corpsmen treat injured troops at the scene, but the surgeons and other medical staff at the FRSS have the ability to stabilize casualties until they can be moved to higher medical facilities.

Approximately six medical professionals operate out of the facility, which can be packed up and moved to fit the needs of the combat area. That mobility requires a portable energy source capable of functioning in rigorous environments.

"There were only helicopters and sporadic convoys where we were in Afghanistan," said Petty Officer 3rd Class Brandon Clark, a surgical technician with 2nd Medical Battalion, 2nd MLG, who worked in a FRSS on his deployment last year. Clark found that the isolation often made resupplying the FRSS difficult and felt an improved power source would be a great addition.

The team at Camp Lejeune set up their own FRSS, complete with two 3000-watt generators that paralleled the ones Clark used in Afghanistan. They analyzed each piece of equipment for its power requirements and then tested the entire facility's collective power demands.

The results showed a clear need to improve upon their mobile power source in order to support the latest equipment.

"We found out that the generators we have cannot carry the load," said Petty Officer 2nd Class Edward Rogers, an advanced bio-medical technician with 2nd Supply Bn. "This is the first step. Once our generators are up to date, it takes two people a max of about one hour to get this facility up and ready to treat patients."

The study will help make the medical facility an even more reliable asset on the battlefield, said Pierce. FRSS units have saved lives in Iraq and Afghanistan since 2003. The addition of an improved power source will help it continue to serve in future conflicts. ■

Coming Home

8th ESB cases colors in Afghanistan

Story and Photos by Sgt. Michele Watson
1st MLG (Fwd) Public Affairs

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Marines and Sailors with 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward) stood proudly during a casing of the colors ceremony, marking the end of a successful tour in Afghanistan.

Lt. Col. Ferdinand Llantero, 8th ESB Commanding Officer and Sgt. Maj. John Bankus, Battalion Sergeant Major, cased the battalion's colors at Camp Leatherneck, Aug. 15. During their deployment, the battalion made a significant impact on operations in southern Helmand Province.

Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow, Commanding General, 1st MLG (Fwd), spoke to the Marines and Sailors at the ceremony about their accomplishments at multiple forward operating bases, patrol bases and combat outposts throughout Regional Command Southwest.

"As you built village stability platforms throughout the battle space, as you realigned our bases out there and expanded places like [COP] Ertoba, and helped to [demilitarize] places like FOB Edinburgh, those are the missions that characterized this battalion," said Brig. Gen. Broadmeadow.

To emphasize the magnitude of three 8th ESB tours to Afghanistan, Brig. Gen. Broadmeadow highlighted the changes and expansions of US efforts over time.

"This is the last rotation of an engineer support battalion and it's with a great legacy, particularly for this battalion with three deployments out here," said Broadmeadow. "They have seen the growth from when this was a small effort primarily centered in the Marjeh area, throughout, now, all of RC Southwest."

Marines and Sailors conducted multiple engineer projects and provided utilities support at dozens of locations. "This battalion has found themselves operating with Marines spread throughout," said Broadmeadow. "[There is] probably no other battalion more spread out around this battle space and doing great things at FOBs as small as COP Rankel or as large as our base here on Camp Leatherneck. This battalion has really made an impact."

During their time here, 8th ESB provided general engineering support including mobility, counter-mobility, survivability, engineer reconnaissance, tactical utilities, bulk water production and storage, and bulk fuel storage to many units in the area of operations.

"We have executed missions that are broad in scope and a few that are different from past ESB missions," said Llantero. "This is definitely a combination for a memorable ESB contribution and shaping up the battle field in the engineer community as a whole."

Llantero offered his appreciation of the hard work of the members within 8th ESB.

"These Marines and Sailors take on many missions and accomplish them with the mindset to always do the right things and do them right the first time," said Llantero. "Marines and Sailors, you have shown enormous capability, great pride and quality work in the execution of your missions. I admire your hard work, as you were able to overcome challenges and uncertainties to accomplish our missions, especially during tough times." ■

ENGINEER, Continued from Page 4

job done," said 1st Lt. Nicholas Ferri, one of five Marines aboard the helicopter during the exercise.

The role of the Marines in the water couldn't be understated. They executed their duties to a high level while setting a standard for the unit, Ruskin explained.

"Our Marines were excellent in the water," he said. "The exercise was extremely successful. It was definitely a milestone for the battalion and Marines."

The commotion and anticipation for the event left it hard to believe the idea sprouted from a casual conversation Ruskin had with a helicopter pilot during the 2nd MLG Family Day.

"It all started with an informal conversation I had," Ruskin said, as he recounted having the conversation as his children enjoyed a tour of a CH-53E Super Stallion. "It took three months of planning, but it all came together and was a success. The Marines received great training they've never done. I couldn't ask for a better job from them." ■

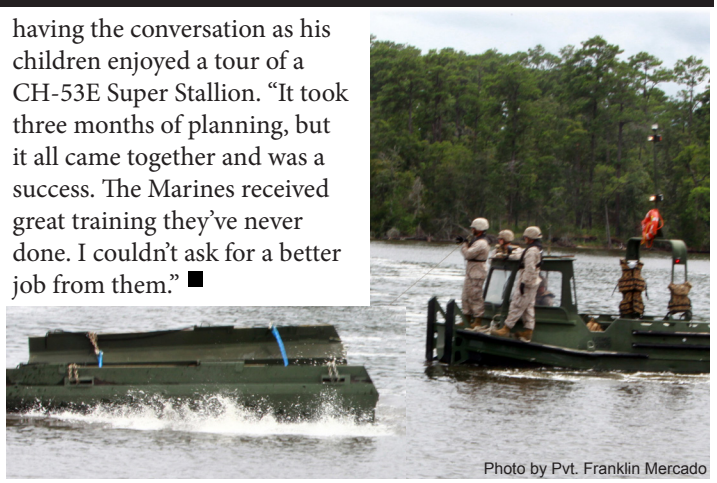

Photo by Pvt. Franklin Mercado

EOD,
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roads when he took on the role of team leader in Afghanistan, where strategy and the safety of his team member became his top priority. Lukas worked in an area rife with improvised explosive devices. He said he couldn't turn away when the call to lead came.

"You live with them every day, and get to know their personalities," said Lukas as he recalled the brotherhood and tragedies that thrust him into a leadership role. "Some of the best moments were just sitting and talking with those guys. Obviously the worst were whenever someone got hurt."

Lukas' leadership responsibilities weighed heavily upon him. He took Key's example to heart as he led Marines through the IED threats of Afghanistan, where Lukas found himself tempted to take on each hazard his team faced.

"Everybody looks at somebody else and thinks, 'I could never do that,'" said Lukas, "It basically boils down to your training and the people who are going to teach you what you need to know."

Every name has a place on that award, said Lukas. He believes he could not do his job without the support of his EOD family in the field, just as he could not do it without the support of his wife and children at home. He believes each one helped shape and protect the Marine that received the award. ■

Former professional football player visits Explosive Ordnance Disposal technicians

1st Lt. Jim Stenger
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Combine Marines who handle live explosives as a profession with one of the most profilic and exciting athletes the world has ever known and you have a recipe for an adrenaline-filled hour-long discussion.

The Marines of 2nd Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, opened their doors for Herschel Walker, Heisman Trophy winner, NFL record holder, and Celebrity Apprentice alumni, and didn't waste any time in showing him their headquarters building, explosive ordnance library, and tools used to dismantle improvised explosive devices.

Walker visited 2nd EOD Company here Aug. 9 to deliver a short message to the Marines: "Don't think you're less than anyone if you ask for help."

Walker talked about his internal struggle with Dissociative Identity Disorder, which he says he developed as a way of coping with always being told he couldn't succeed throughout his career. He was reluctant to admit he had a problem until his ex-wife started to fear his temper.

"I realized I had a problem," he recalled.

He told the audience about his month-long stay at a mental hospital, where he learned about his disorder and how to control it.

According to the World Health Organization, DID, more commonly known as multiple personality disorder, is a mental condition that leads the victim to develop different personalities in order to cope with troubling or unsettling experiences.

After receiving a tour of the EOD headquarters from Sgt. Michael H. Bentley II, an EOD technician and Wantage, N.J., native, Walker talked with the Marines for roughly an hour. The experience was one Bentley is unlikely to forget.

"Having a guy like Herschel Walker come down here and talk to us is pretty amazing," said Bentley. I personally know a few Marines who have had trouble after coming back from deployment and knowing that someone like Herschel Walker was man enough to admit he had a problem … I think it's good for them to hear that."

Walker is the current spokesperson for Freedom Care, which is "a specialized mental health and addiction treatment program for service members," according to

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Photo by 1st Lt. Jim Stenger

Marines with 2nd Maintenance Battalion render honors during a change of c The Marines of Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion gladly pose for a picture with Herschel Walker, Aug. 9, 2012, outside the EOD Co. headquarters building aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C. Walker, an avid exercise enthusiast and former NFL player, routinely visits various military installations around the United States in order to deliver a message to the armed forces: "It's ok to get help. I did."

FOOD,
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vice Company. However, most field messes set up in deployed operations are much smaller.

"This shows that in a realistic scenario we can do what we have to maintain the fight," said Mayfield.

The company would also be able to do so without sacrificing the quality of their food. Their field mess hall featured a salad and fruit bar with crisp grapes, juicy watermelon chunks, bright peppers and everything else needed to create the perfect salad. The main meals included chicken à la king, rice, peas, cornbread and shrimp Creole.

"You can get the exact same quality [in the field] as you would inside of a dining facility," said Hoschild.

Hoschild, along with most of the other Marines present, feels food is a primary cause of motivation for troops.

"They're out there in the field, and the only thing they're looking forward to is getting in the rack and getting a hot meal. It's what we're going to provide for them," added Hoschild.

The Marines of Food Service Company worked on the meal throughout the morning, and served the trays to the weary Marines in front of them.

Food Service Company passed the qualifying round and is now able to represent II Marine Expeditionary Force when they compete against the rest of the Marine Corps. ■

WALKER,
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their web site. One of Freedom Care's focuses is identifying and treating post traumatic stress disorder.

Walker has traveled around the United States meeting and talking with servicemembers to share his message.

When asked why he specifically reaches out to warriors, he said it's simply because they pay the price for freedom.

"In my game, when someone gets tired, they can take the ball and go home," he explained. He realizes that isn't the case when you join the armed forces.

Although the visit to 2nd EOD Co. was short, Walker left the group with a smile on his face. He said he was once lost but now could physically and mentally make a comeback to the NFL, if he wanted to. ■

Photo by 1st Lt. Jim Stenger

Herschel Walker, former NFL star and spokesperson for Freedom Care, shakes hands with an EOD technician student aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Aug. 9. Freedom Care specializes in mental health and addiction problems facing servicemembers.

CLB-2 uncases their unit's colors, starts tour in Afghanistan

Photo by Sgt. Michele Watson

Sgt. Michele Watson
1st MLG (Fwd) Public Affairs

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Combat Logistics Battalion 4, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), transferred responsibilities to CLB-2, 1st Marine Logistics Group (Forward), during a ceremony here Aug. 14.

The CLB-4 colors were cased during the ceremony, symbolically marking the end of their tour, as CLB-2 uncased their colors to signify officially taking over logistics support duties.

The transfer of authority ceremony marked the culmination of all of the work and sacrifices contributed by the CLB-4 Marines and Sailors, signifying the end to this stage of their adventure in the Marine Corps, said Lt. Col. Adam L. Chalkley, Commanding Officer, CLB-4.

Marines and Sailors of CLB-4 and CLB-2 worked side-by-side during their overlapping time in Afghanistan to ensure seamless transition of logistical support and CLB-2's full familiarization with their responsibilities before their official assumption of duties.

"We built the battalion to be flexible and responsive to the war fighters' needs with a 'bend don't break' mentality," said Lt. Col. Denise Mull, Commanding Officer, CLB-2. "We came in with significantly less personnel having to cover roughly the same amount of battle space, and as the only CLB with an engineering capability in the [area of operations]."

The hands on approach to the transfer of responsibilities ensured that Regimental Combat Team 6 experienced no disruption in support.

"Thus far, the battalion has done very well, but the real test lies ahead," said Mull. "I know that our Marines and Sailors will perform well." ■

Commander
Col. Edward D. Banta

Sergeant Major
Sgt. Maj. George W. Young Jr.

Command Master Chief
CMDCM Russell W. Folley

Public Affairs Officers
1st Lt. James F. Stenger
1st Lt. Nicole M. Yuhas

Combat Correspondents
Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson
Pvt. Franklin E. Mercado

Public Affairs Chief
Sgt. Rachael K. A. Moore

Press Chief
Cpl. Bruno J. Bego