



# THE WARRIOR'S LOG

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

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Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group participate in realistic combat training for first responders during Enhanced Mojave Viper at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., Sept. 6.



## Saving Lives

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## Eleven years later: Marines remember 9/11

**Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson**  
2nd MLG Public Affairs

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** - They saw the tragedy unfold through the windows of their childhood schools in New York City. They have grown, and all of them followed their own paths into the Marine Corps, but the images still burn in their memories.

Three Marines from 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group took a break from their daily jobs to meet here and remember the day 19 hijackers etched Sept. 11, 2001, into the collective memory of Americans.

"It was surreal," said Pfc. Lawrence N. Ellington-Farley, a Brooklyn, N.Y., native and an administrative clerk with the battalion. "It was like the day before didn't even happen."

He was an 11-year-old student enduring another day of classes when he saw a plane crash into the World Trade Center.

"If you looked out the window, you could actually see people jumping or falling out of the building," said Ellington-Farley, whose father was one of the first responders at the scene. "That is something I don't think I will ever forget."

The terrorist attacks of Sept. 11 claimed the lives of nearly 3,000 people and stripped the New York City skyline of its iconic Twin Towers. The legacy of the attacks still troubles the Marines of 8th ESB who experienced the event within the

city's limits.

"I have a little girl and a wife back home, and it always worries me because you never know if something will ever happen like that to New York," said Lance Cpl. Angel Anaya, an embarkation specialist with the battalion.

Anaya was 8 years old and lived in Brooklyn when the attack took place. He recalls packing supplies into disaster boxes at his school just after the event.

He said his youth made it difficult to understand the significance of the attacks at the time, but the memorial lights beaming into the sky today are a constant tribute to the scale of the event.

"Through the night you can see the two bright, blue lights of where the World Trade Center stood," said Anaya, who admits he still hasn't brought himself to visit the memorial site even though the lights are visible from his home in Brooklyn. "You think about it ... they used to be there."

Though each of the Marines were at different stages in their lives, they shared one common memory: their city changed on that day. Security measures increased. There was both unity and fear in New York City. Even common travel became a daily challenge.

"I didn't go anywhere," said Cpl. Patricio Canela, Jr., a native of Queens, N.Y., who was only 14 years old the day the towers fell. "If you see something, say something." That was their slogan. A

simple commute could turn into a long commute if you were randomly searched."

Canela is now an administrative clerk with 8th ESB and a veteran of Operation Enduring Freedom.

He found people he could relate to in the Marine Corps. They understood some of what he had been through, said Canela. That was especially true after his deployment to Afghanistan.

"Back home it is hard to explain," said Canela, recalling his experiences from the streets of New York City to isolated parts of Afghanistan. "I lost a friend on deployment. He passed away in a firefight. I came back [home] and just wanted to see my parents. It turned out that we got to see a [baseball] game in New York. I've never cried for the Star-Spangled Banner in my life, but it felt too emotional."

Canela, Anaya and Ellington-Farley each said the experience of Sept. 11 influenced their decision to join the military, but it did not define their choice to serve. They grew up with the memory of the attacks. Some lost family and friends, and they all saw their hometown drastically changed, but they came to the decision to serve over time and on their own. ■



[Click here to hear their stories](#)



Photo by Pvt. Franklin Mercado

Lance Cpl. Carlos B. Chacon, the driver for the 2nd Marine Logistics Group commanding general, makes his way to the duty vehicle aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 17.

## Colorado native holds odd billet for young Marine

**Pvt. Franklin Mercado**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** – For many junior Marines, interaction with general grade officers is limited to formations, formal classes and occasional unit physical fitness sessions.

There are a few exceptions to this rule, notably Lance Cpl. Carlos B. Chacon. About a year ago, Chacon's staff non-commissioned officer selected him for a billet,

which would require him to be near a general grade officer's side quite often.

"I drive the commanding general around," Chacon said. "It isn't hard, but a lot of people would be intimidated by it."

The 21-year-old Trinidad, Colo., native is by trade an administrative specialist with 2nd Marine Logistics Group, but for 14 months is serving as the 2nd MLG's commanding general's driver.

"The job definitely requires maturity," said Staff Sgt. Victor D. Velez, the enlisted assistant to the commanding general. "To get the job you have to be responsible and independent."

Chacon was immediately named a candidate. He was hand-picked by Velez and Sgt. Maj. William T. Stables, the 2nd MLG's previous sergeant major. Chacon assumed the duty when he began driving for Maj. Gen. Michael G. Dana, the 2nd MLG's previous commanding general.

"Chacon had all the qualities we were looking for," Velez said. "He got the job and has been doing it ever since."

Filling this unusual billet as a

lance corporal doesn't stop Chacon from also improving outside of the workplace. He actively participates in the Marine Corps Marital Arts Program and is a leader during physical fitness.

"Being [an administrative specialist] can be boring, but he constantly stays busy," said Velez. "I'm always making sure the Marines are trained, and he's always willing to train. He's always find a way to stay away from the boredom."

The Marine Chacon will be when it is all said and done is yet to be seen. If his current path is any indication, he will have a bright, prosperous future. ■

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**"It isn't hard, but a lot of people would be intimidated by it."**

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- Lance Cpl. Carlos B. Chacon

## WARRIOR of the WEEK



**LANCE CPL.  
CARLOS CHACON**

**OCCUPATION:**  
Commanding General's driver

**HOMETOWN:**  
Trinidad, Colo.

**I JOINED BECAUSE:**  
"I needed some structure in my life and did not want to go to college."

**IF YOU COULD MEET ANY MARINE OR SAILOR, WHO WOULD IT BE?**

"James Webb because not only was he a great Marine and a Navy Cross recipient, but he also tried to make the Corps much better."

**FAVORITE UNIFORM:**  
"Boots and utes."



Photo by Sgt. Anthony Ortiz

Garcia Caezar, a role player during a simulated explosion, screams for help while Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group prepare to be the first responders on the scene at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., Sept. 6. The Marines are participating in Enhanced Mojave Viper, which provides them with real-life scenarios like this one.

## CLR-2 Marines, Sailors experience realistic combat scenarios

**1st Lt. Nicole Yuhas**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif.** – A mounted convoy is traveling down the road when unexpectedly – “BOOM” – the lead vehicle sets off an improvised explosive device. Once the noise from the explosion subsides, all that can be heard are groans from the passengers, screaming in agony and yelling for help.

Straight ahead, a cloud of smoke billows out furiously from under the now mangled Humvee. Glancing right, one of the passengers is lying on the ground, motionless, but still crying out in pain. Then to the left, the vehicle driver stumbles out from the cloud of smoke, covered in blood from head to toe.

This is not a scene from a movie.

This was the scenario simulated for the Marines and Sailors of Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group during their first responder training at Enhanced Mojave Viper, here, Sept. 6.

The purpose of this training evolution is to provide both a realistic environment and experience in order to ensure Marines and Sailors are physically, mentally and emotionally prepared to react and provide medical aid in the event of an IED attack during a convoy.

“This is some of the most realistic training we can provide these men and women before they leave for deployment and possibly encounter the real deal,” explained Scott Wheeler, a counter IED subject matter expert. The most prominent threat for a convoy in Afghanistan is an IED.

The troops’ primary objective was to pro-

ficiently act as first responders – to safely approach the downed vehicle and utilize their combat lifesaver training to assess, relocate and treat the casualties – with the ultimate outcome of saving lives.

In order to maintain the unknown factor and the realistic training value, each group of 15 to 20 Marines and Sailors would go through the scenario only once, unaware beforehand of the number of casualties or the types of injuries they were going to treat.

Many individuals commented about how real it all seemed, causing them to momentarily freeze-up when they reached the downed vehicle and saw the injured passengers with fake blood everywhere.

“I didn’t expect the effects to be so awesome,” said Lance Cpl. Jessica Soberon, a Marine with Transportation Support Com-

*See TRAINING on next page*

**TRAINING,**  
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pny, from Lawrence, Mass.

“It looked too real,” continued Soberon, referring to the casualties and their simulated injuries. “My mind initially went blank [when I saw them].”

The wounded passengers were trained actors who were dressed-up by professional make-up artists to replicate the various injuries an individual could sustain if their vehicle were hit by an IED.

Injuries ranged in severity, to include burns, imbedded shrapnel, lacerations, head trauma, sucking chest wounds, and even limb amputations.

“This is probably the most valuable training, medical-wise, that these Marines are going to go through,” explained Petty Officer 2nd Class Matthew Chrobot, a hospital corpsman and instructor who evaluated the groups as they went through the drill. “There are not many other places around that they can get the training that is going to be as effective.

“This is the only time at Mojave Viper that these units are going to be able to go through, have these actors, in this exact situation,” continued the Concord, Calif., native. “Everything else, the wounds will be very notional. This is very effective, as in, they can actually see how to properly triage and effectively take care of those patients.”

The tension and stress the troops endured was apparent as hands continued to shake uncontrollably even after the drill was complete.

“It was chaotic and hard to think,” said Lance Cpl. Ryan Avery, a Marine from TS Company, still shaken-up from when his group went through.

Avery, a native of Duncansville, Pa., explained how he had to really focus on one thing at a time and rely on his previous training, methodically going step-by-step, to treat the various injuries.

The role players did not hold back, but were very dynamic — yelling, constantly moving, being uncooperative, and pretending to go into shock — making it more difficult to treat their injuries.

“This is a very high pressure situation,” said Chrobot. “Our actors are very well

trained, and they are going to be putting pressure on these Marines, yelling at them. That puts pressure on the Marines to go back to their training, develop that muscle memory, and effectively take care of those patients, get them back to the [casualty collection point], triage them, treat them, and then get them up to the [landing zone] for higher care.”

Overall, this training pulls troops outside their comfort zones and really affords them the opportunity to utilize their training and see what areas need more work and practice.

“This was good training,” said Soberon. “It was a really big eye-opener for how I need to prepare myself because I will probably be put in that situation in the future.” ■

**“This is probably the most valuable training, medical-wise, that these Marines are going to go through.”**

- Petty Officer 2nd Class  
Matthew Chrobot



Photos by Sgt. Anthony Ortiz  
Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group provide care to simulated casualties during their pre-deployment training at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., Sept. 6. This first responders training took place at Enhance Mojave Viper.



# Jane Wayne Day puts Marine spouses on firing line

**Lance Cpl.  
Paul Petersson**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. - Ribbons of light slipped between cracks in the ceiling boards and cut through the thin haze of gun smoke, silhouetting the unorthodox row of riflemen. A staggered line of uniformed Marines stood behind the shooters. Their spouses and family members grasped their weapons and unleashed another volley upon command.

The torrent of fire was all part of the Jane Wayne Day activi-

ties held for the spouses of the Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 6, 2nd Marine Logistics Group here, Sept. 12.

Jane Wayne Day is a chance for spouses to experience a day in the life of their Marines. Though the event's participants weren't classic Western folk heroines, the events left more than a few feeling like gunslingers and asking for more ammunition.

"It's an adrenaline rush," said Ashdale Nnolim, one of the spouses in attendance who took part in the live-fire exercise. "It was exciting, but it was also kind of scary."

Nnolim, whose husband is a motor vehicle mechanic with the battalion, said she never fired a gun before Jane Wayne Day. Now she has experience with both the M-9 pistol and the M-4 carbine under her belt. She also got a chance to see some of her husband's daily responsibilities.

CLB-6's Jane Wayne Day kicked off with a condensed convoy brief. The spouses saw firsthand just how much preparation and attention to detail goes into planning a convoy in a deployed environment.

After the brief, the doors to a mock seven-vehicle convoy were left open for the spouses and families to explore.

"It's nice for them to be able to interact with the vehicles and be able to see what we are doing so they are not in the dark," said Cpl. Chris Gregor, a motor vehicle operator with the battalion whose family has already supported him through three deployments. "When we come home tired at night, they're always wondering what happened at work. Having them come here for this experience is how we show them what we



**Click here to watch  
the activities**

deal with on a daily basis, what our jobs are and what it is like."

The families examined the various weapons platforms and the inner workings of some of the unit's vehicles, including the Mine Resistant Ambush Protected - All-Terrain Vehicle and a multi-purpose tractor.

"I don't know how to put it, but I learned a lot," said Nnolim. "I actually got to see why he doesn't always call me. I learned exactly what he does and what it's actually like. Sometimes you're home and wondering why they won't pick up [the phone]. It's because they are so busy."

With their shoulders tenderized by the afternoon of shooting, the participants retired to a buffet-style barbeque, where the CLB-6 family finally got a chance to kick back and take in the day's experiences. ■



**Cpl. Darius Jenkins, a motor vehicle operator with Combat Logistics Battalion 6, demonstrates how to operate the .50-caliber machine gun to his wife during Jane Wayne Day aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 12.**



**Cpl. Tyler Rickert, a motor vehicle mechanic with Combat Logistics Battalion 6, runs through the controls for a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected - All-Terrain Vehicle for his wife during the unit's Jane Wayne Day activities aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 12.**

Photos by  
Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson



Photo by Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson

Marines from Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group and soldiers from Fort Bragg, N.C., train inside a field-expedient post office aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., during a training exercise to prepare for postal service in austere environments, Sept. 11.

## Training prepares Marines, soldiers to process mail in isolated areas

**Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson**  
*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** - A Marine stood in front of the base's main post office and directed visitors toward the small, inconspicuous tent off to the side.

The field-expedient post office served as the new place of work for 14 postal Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group and three soldiers with the 82nd Sustainment Brigade from Fort Bragg, N.C., as they took rotating shifts manning the

facility during a training operation here, from Sept. 10 to 14.

Their task was deceptively simple: handle mail the old fashioned way.

It isn't much to look at. It doesn't have the technological amenities or the quantity of personnel found in the large base facility, but the consolidated field post office represents one of the only ways to take care of service members' postal needs in isolated areas.

"We're trying to give them the training needed to succeed in servicing personnel in Afghanistan," said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Christopher Helte-

bran, a postal officer with the regiment. "They are going from having everything they need at their disposal into an environment where they don't have those resources. Most of the time, they don't even have electricity."

This training will help the Marines perform missions as part of a Warrior Express Service Team, or WEST, which provides amenities such as postal service to troops in remote forward operating bases. The traveling postal teams normally operate in groups of 3 or 4 and must have the ability to

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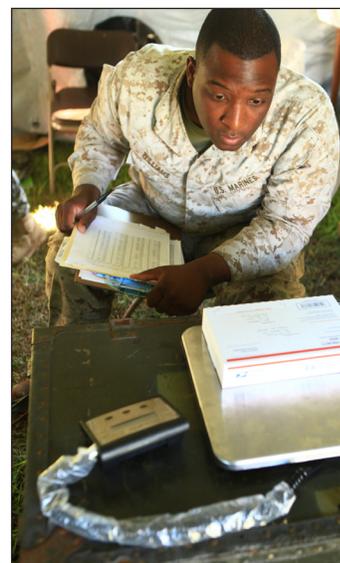


Photo by Lance Cpl. Paul Peterson

**Lance Cpl. Winston Williams**, a postal clerk with Combat Logistics Regiment 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, weighs a package at a field-expedient post office aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 11.

# Supply, Maintenance Battalions test deployment capabilities

**Cpl. Bruno J. Bego**  
2nd MLG Public Affairs

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** - Marines and Sailors with Combat Logistics Regiment 25 conducted a field training exercise here, from Sept. 10 to 14.

The exercise forced servicemembers with 2nd Maintenance Battalion and 2nd Supply Battalion out of their comfort zone that the well-equipped facilities offer and put them in a field environment, where they had to start by building a place to work.

The maintenance Marines set up an Intermediate Maintenance Activity facility, which is a huge garage with the tools needed for vehicle, ordnance, electronics and equipment maintenance.

"It gives the Marines an idea of what to expect when they deploy," said Sgt. Michael L. Watt, the maintenance chief during the training exercise. "We have moved most of our field equipment out here, and we are fully capable of conducting any type of repairs."

While on deployments, the IMA facility reduces – and in some cases eliminates – shipping costs by providing on-the-spot maintenance for equipment the Marine Corps uses, from the smallest electronic device to the up-armored vehicles.

During the exercise, the troops replaced an engine and transmission in a Humvee as well as took a generator engine apart and replaced it with a new one.

The troops also set up a dynamometer at the training site, which allowed them to test the mechanical forces of different types of engines.

"This is the first time [2nd Maint. Bn.] has been out in [a training exercise] in quite some time," explained Chief Warrant Officer 2 Frank B. Allen, the officer in charge for the battalion during the exercise.

The maintenance Marines also worked with the Global Combat Support System-Marine Corps, which is a newer system that provides a more efficient way to track maintenance activity. As 2nd Maintenance Bn. stayed busy testing their readiness capabilities, 2nd Supply Bn. set up a critical part of a logistical unit: the Supply Management Unit.

The SMU houses much-needed supplies, like parts to vehicles. Supply specialists work inside to process gear requests and to get gear out in a timely manner.

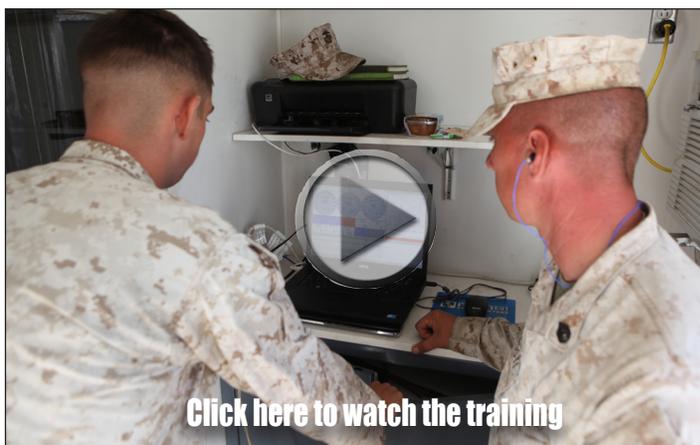
"We brought our equipment out here to make sure it works for future deployments," explained Cpl. Samuel L. Warman, a distribution management specialist with 2nd Supply Bn. "We are practicing our standard operating procedures so when we are in a deployed environment we can know how operations are going to go."

Some of the most essential parts of running a supply point were tested during training in order to gauge the level of readiness of the battalion, Warman concluded. ■



Photo by Cpl. Bruno J. Bego

**Pfc. Caleb H. Johnson, a machinist with 2nd Maintenance Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, grinds a piece of metal during a training exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 11.**



[Click here to watch the training](#)

Photo by Cpl. Bruno J. Bego

**Cpl. Casey L. Stephens (left), a motor vehicle operator, and Staff Sgt. Edward J. Esposti, Jr., the ordnance platoon staff noncommissioned officer in charge, both with 2nd Maintenance Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, observe the status of an engine being tested during a training exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 12.**

# Providing Security

## New aspect challenges Communications Co. during exercise

**Lance Cpl.  
Devin Nichols**

*2nd MLG Public Affairs*

**CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C.** - Marines with Communications Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 27 created a line of communication that spanned six miles during a training exercise here, from Sept. 10 to 14.

In the past, other units helped out by providing security for the training site, but this time was different.

This evolution challenged the Marines to take charge of their own security element and conduct patrols, while others established communications between two sites.

"Having this training gives these Marines a deeper thought process on how they should be trained," said 1st Lt. Justus Philibert, the officer in charge of the sites. "This gives the Marines the military occupational specialty training needed and reminds them every Marine is a rifleman."

The training served as a refresher for some, but for the newer Marines this was their first time handling the equipment in a simulated deployed environment.

"The field training is to make sure Marines are familiar with the gear and learn more about their job," said Cpl. Charles E. Floyd, Jr., an electrician with the company. "I have been

doing this for so long it is like riding a bike."

Floyd's job was to provide electricity for the troops by setting up a mobile electric power distribution system, which is capable of providing enough electricity to support a small city block.

"If I do not do my job well, then the communication Marines can't do theirs," said Floyd. "If everyone doesn't do their specific job then everything fails."

The week-long training exercise required new levels of teamwork while challenging the Marines to perform missions their commands may require of them in the future. ■

**MAIL,**  
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function independently. Experience is key to their self sufficiency, added Heltebran.

The WEST model and training held at Camp Lejeune drew the attention of the Army, which sent three soldiers to join the Marines at the field post office in order to expand their current postal capabilities.

"We value the Marines as being the subject matter experts," said Army 1st Lt. Ephriam Bethel, the operations officer for the human resources operations branch of the brigade. "We are always going to go out there and search for something better. Because this is something [they] do regularly, it has been great for us. My soldiers are very excited."

Bethel hopes to take the lessons learned here back to Fort Bragg, where he and his soldiers are working to build upon their own operations.

Performing postal operations without the aid of modern technology poses distinct challenges, but the small connection postal Marines provide to the outside world can be a vital link for Marines in the field. The humble tent sitting outside the main Camp Lejeune post office is the first step in ensuring troops receive postal service in forward deployed locations. ■



Photo by Lance Cpl. Devin Nichols

Marines with Communications Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 27 provide security outside the forward operating base during a field exercise aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., Sept. 11. This was the first time Comm. Co. held the responsibility of providing their own security.

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