



The Convoy

June 10, 2011

Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group

Volume 3 Issue 1



Lt. Col. Jeff Jarosz and Lt. Col. Robert Meade (far left) salute during the Combat Logistics Battalion 5 change of command ceremony, June 2. Meade assumed command from Jarosz.

CLB-5 changes command

Meade steps in as new commanding officer

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 5, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group conducted a change of command ceremony here, June 2.

Lt. Col. Jeff L. Jarosz, from Chicago, passed command to Lt. Col. Robert T. Meade, from Greeneville, Tenn. The passing of the battalion colors from Jarosz to Meade symbolized the transfer of responsibilities from one commander to the next.

“In the two years I have been here, we have done so much,” said Jarosz, the outgoing commanding officer. “It’s been an honor and a privilege to serve with these Marines.”

CLB-5 was activated here in 2006 and since has provided logistics support in Iraq and Afghanistan.

“This is an outstanding battalion,” said Meade, the incoming commanding officer. “I will continue to follow in the footsteps of [Lt. Col. Jarosz] and carry on the proud heritage of the battalion as we prepare for another deployment to Afghanistan.”

The unit will deploy to Helmand province, Afghanistan, next spring. Meade hopes to do great things with the battalion.

“He really left me a great organization here,” said Meade. “I really look forward to continuing what CLB-5 is doing.”

Marines conduct OSCAR training

Story and photo by
Cpl. Michele Watson
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – From boot camp to combat deployments, Marines are continuously placed in stressful environments. Combine these challenges with the everyday stresses of life and some Marines find themselves in a mental depression they can’t seem to get out of.

Members of Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group participated in an Operational Stress Control and Readiness training course here, known as OSCAR, June 7.

The training teaches Marines how to look for signs of depression or thoughts of suicide and how to handle those situations, whether it is a junior Marine or a peer.

“Even the strongest Marine may need support,” said Staff Sgt. Nathan K. Johnston, an OSCAR mentor trainer with CLR-17. “I need to know what signs to look for because I am my brother’s keeper.”

The Marine Corps works to build resiliency in Marines to keep them mission-ready. Through programs like OSCAR, Marines learn to identify problems with stress as early as possible. Both junior Marines and leaders are educated on their roles of handling extreme situations to ensure the safety of all service members.

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Marines participate in an Operational Stress Control and Readiness training course here, June. 6

Marines learn to recognize warning signs of stress during OSCAR training

OSCAR

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“As leaders and mentors, we need to learn to see when a Marine is being pushed to the max,” said Capt. Alexis Sanchez, an OSCAR mentor instructor. “Being pushed to the max is what makes us stronger, but when you push a Marine past that point, it breaks them down and we lose that Marine.”

During the class, participants acted out role-playing scenarios, and the group discussed how different situations should be handled. The instructors gave out pamphlets with

guidelines for handling Marines in distress.

“A man or a woman’s character is defined by how they react to a crisis,” said Johnston, a 39-year-old San Luis Obispo, Calif., native. “Our words make a difference in everything we do.”

Every person handles stressful situations in different ways. What one person may be able to cope with easily could bring another to their breaking point. A core value is to never leave a Marine behind, whether it is on the battlefield or in garrison. OSCAR is another tool offered to all ranks that teaches how to watch for a Marine in distress and how to get them the help they need.

HAPPENINGS

Motorcycle Safety Courses

An Advanced Riders Course will be held weekly Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A Basic Riders Course will be held weekly, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Both courses will take place at Bldg. 200071. For more information, call Kevin Frantum at (760) 725-2897.

Free Baseball Tickets

Baseball fans can get free tickets to the June 16 Lake Elsinore Storm vs. High Desert Mavericks game by sending an e-mail to campendleton@bluestarfam.org. Let them know how many tickets you need for immediate family members, and you will be added to the VIP list. Confirmation will be sent within 72 hours with details on where to pick up the tickets on game day.

Semper Ride Dirt Days

Active duty off-road motorcycle and quad riders are invited to attend the Semper Ride Dirt Days event June 17 and 18 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The event will take place at Thunder Horse Ranch, located off Interstate 8 at exit 54. The event will feature two motocross tracks and two trail loops. Motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle training will be given by professional riders. Classes include a motorcycle cornering and jumping clinic, a Motorcycle Safety Foundation dirt bike school and a Specialty Vehicle Institute of America ATV course. Call 760-725-1154 to sign up.

Sugar Ray Leonard

The boxing champion will conduct a book signing, July 8, from 11:30 a.m. - 1:30 p.m. at the Country Store. His book is called “The Big Fight: My life in and out of the ring.”

Camp CAMO Summer Program

Camp CAMO, which stands for Children in Action Moving Outdoors, will take place from 9 a.m. - 12:30 p.m., July 11-14, at the Paige Fieldhouse. Children ages 7-18 are welcome. Cost is \$20 for the first child and \$10 for siblings. Register online at www.mccscp.com/health.

Seminar shapes future Corps leaders

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Approximately 55 lance corporals with 1st Marine Logistics Group participated in a Lance Corporal Seminar here, May 25-27.

The 3-day course was designed to help further the knowledge of young Marines who are preparing to take the next step toward becoming a noncommissioned officer.

Some of the topics discussed during the seminar included suicide prevention, mentoring subordinate Marines, equal opportunity, decision-making, the request mast process and the Commandant’s Planning Guidance.

“The purpose of this course is for



Lance Corporals conduct a formation run at Camp Pendleton, May 27.

the [Lance Corporals] to familiarize themselves in the professional military education environment,” said Gunnery Sgt. Darrick Lowery, company gunnery sergeant, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st MLG, who served as director of the seminar.

Throughout the course, the students also learned about the different

aspects and qualities expected from a Marine Corps leader, emphasizing the leadership principles and traits.

“I think it’s a good idea to start this type of leadership training at that level,” said Lowery, 37, from Troy, Alabama. “Back when I was a lance corporal I didn’t have this type of course to teach me.”



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'Ready for the next adventure'

Colonel retires after 29 years of service

Story by Cpl. Kenneth Jasik
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – A retirement ceremony was held here, June 3, honoring the culmination of a Marine officer's 29-year career.

Col. Anthony Ardivino, outgoing chief of staff for 1st Marine Logistics Group, joined the Marine Corps in December 1982 after graduating from the University of Alabama. During his career, he served as a platoon commander, company executive officer, aide-de-camp and logistics officer.

The retirement ceremony included a speech by Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, commanding general, 1st MLG, and a presentation of flowers and awards to Ardivino's family.

"Both in times of peace and times of war, this Marine and his family have served this country and served it well," said Hudson. "Phenomenal officer, 29 years of dedicated service; they don't come any better than Tony Ardivino."

Ardivino, from Vestavia Hills, Ala., enjoyed

the ceremony and appreciated the many people who came to honor him, he said.

"It reinforced the reason I joined the Marines," said Ardivino. "The Marine Corps is a family."

Over the course of his nearly 3-decade career, Ardivino deployed in support of Operations Desert Shield/Storm, Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom.

The retirement ceremony, along with the times he returned home from deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan, was among his proudest moments, Ardivino said.

Although his Marine Corps career comes to a close, Ardivino says he's ready for the next step in his life, during which he plans to take time off for one of his favorite hobbies, hunting, and spend plenty of time with his wife and daughter. However, he said he will miss leading Marines.

"I hate that I won't be able to work with Marines anymore," said Ardivino. "It's now my time, and life is an adventure and we're ready for the next adventure."



Col. Anthony Ardivino, outgoing chief of staff, 1st Marine Logistics Group, receives the national colors on Camp Pendleton, Calif., to commemorate his 29 years of service in the Marine Corps, June 3. Ardivino joined the Marine Corps in December 1982 after graduating from the University of Alabama.

Ardivino has had a lot of experience leading Marines over the past 29 years, and he is proud of all his accomplishments, he said.

"I get out without any regrets whatsoever," said Ardivino.



- GIVE HIM ONE! -

SGT. MAJ. DERRICK CRISTOVALE

Story and photo by
Cpl. Michele Watson
Staff Writer

Many Marines can say they have someone or something driving them forward to achieve greater things in life, whether it be family, friends or faith. For Sgt. Maj. Derrick Christovale Sr., it is all of the above.

Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, commanding general of 1st Marine Logistics Group, presented Christovale with a Meritorious Service Medal at the 1st MLG Headquarters building here, June 2. Christovale was awarded for his meritorious achievements during his 4-year tour with 1st MLG.

During the first half of 1st MLG's recent deployment, Hudson said that as sergeant major of 1st MLG, Christovale ensured the commander's intent was met, continuing all operations, training and exercises among the Marines in the rear.

As their sergeant major, Christovale then deployed with Headquarters and Service Company to Afghanistan, providing support to the I Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward).

"I'll cherish the memories. This has been my home for almost four years. I have a lot of experiences here."

-Sgt. Maj. Derrick Christovale

"Sergeant Major was there day in and day out providing mental and emotional stability to his Marines," said Hudson, 52, from Zirconia, N.C. "He is a good man and a solid leader who takes charge of whatever task is at hand and ensures his Marines and sailors are taken care of."

During the ceremony, Hudson spoke to Christovale's family and friends who attended the event.

"Marines that are forward shed blood and sweat, but the families who stay behind shed tears," said Hudson.

After the ceremony, Christovale's daughter, Devynn, 15, said she felt her father deserved an award for providing protection and shelter, and being such a hard worker, both at work and at home.

"He's always working at home," said Devynn, "always fixing things."

Christovale, a Detroit native, said receiving the award was bittersweet, as it showed a great achievement in his career, but also the end of his time with 1st MLG.

"I'll cherish the memories," said Christovale.



Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, commanding general of 1st Marine Logistics Group, shakes the hand of Sgt. Maj. Derrick Christovale after presenting him with the Meritorious Service Medal at the 1st MLG Headquarters Building here, June 2.

"This has been my home for almost four years. I have a lot of experiences here."

Christovale thanked his family for the support they have given him over the years.

"The love you get when you get home, whether it is a long day or a long deployment, keeps you going," said Christovale. "It helps when they greet you at the door every day with a hug and a kiss."

Christovale also said his faith is a large contributor to his success.

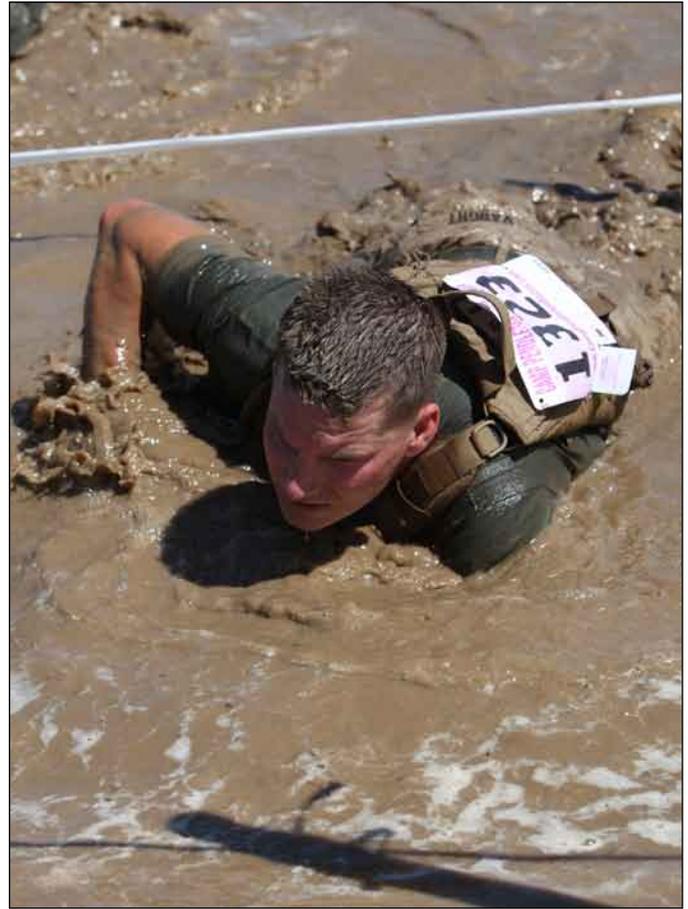
"All the strength that is found in me comes from God," said Christovale. "I just have to keep the faith and trust in Him."

Christovale took the reins from Sgt. Maj. J.H. Dixon as Marine Corps Installations West sergeant major, June 3. Though his time with the Group is over, he said he is glad he will remain at Camp Pendleton.

"I'm taking it one day at a time and seeing what the future holds for me," said Christovale.



A team with the Disbursing office, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, took the 1st place trophy during the World Famous Mud Run, June 3. The 2nd place team reached the finish line 10 minutes later.



1st Lt. Thomas B. Vaught, officer in charge, S-4 Section, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, crawls across 30 feet of muddy water before approaching the finish line during the Mud Run here, June 3.

MUD RUN: Service members get down and dirty

Story and photos by
Cpl. Michele Watson
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. -- More than 300 Marines and sailors here participated in the World Famous Mud Run at the Lake O'Neill Recreation area, June 3.

Units from across the base made up 5-man teams to compete in the challenging 10K run that dragged them through dirt, sand, creeks, lakes and pools of mud.

Each year on New Year's Day, registration for the event is open to the public who pay to participate, and the slots are usually full by the end of day. This year, service members were given the opportunity to sign up for free and run the course a day before the official event on June 4. The trail brought teams up steep hills, through deep waters and down slippery slopes.

Though the 6.2-mile boots and utilities obstacle track was physically demanding, the energy and motivation brought smiles to every team crossing the finish line. After the final 30-yard low crawl through a mud puddle, members linked arms as the announcer identified their units upon completion.

"It was extremely fun and it was a great experience for a shop or unit to participate in together," said Sgt. Monica A. Mendoza, a legal chief with Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group. "It's definitely a morale booster and I think it was great that they scheduled a day just for Marines and sailors."

At the end of the run, the winning teams, to include 1st MLG's Disbursing team who took first place, were officially announced and all members were encouraged to participate in next year's annual run.



Petty Officer 3rd Class Zachary Davis, CLR-17 RAS, participates in the Mud Run here, June 3.



More than 300 Marines and sailors take off at the start of the World Famous Mud Run at Lake O'Neill aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 3.