



# The Convoy

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Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group

Volume 3 Issue 3

## 1st MLG changes hands



*Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson relinquishes command of 1st Marine Logistics Group to Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow during a change of command ceremony at the 22 Area parade deck at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 17.*

Story and photos by  
Cpl. Michele Watson  
Staff Writer

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson relinquished command of 1st Marine Logistics Group to Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow during a change of command ceremony at the 22 Area parade deck here, June 17.

More than 1,000 Marines, sailors, friends and family members attended the ceremony to bid farewell to Hudson and welcome Broadmeadow as the new commanding general. The ceremony included the passing of the 1st MLG colors, remarks from the incoming and outgoing commanders and a performance by the 1st Marine Division Band.

Hudson, 52, a Zirconia, N.C., native, has commanded 1st MLG since June 2009. From March 2010 to March 2011, he served as commanding general of 1st MLG (Forward) which deployed to Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. During his remarks, he spoke about the mission of the 1st MLG.

“The Marines and sailors you see in front of you represent about 10,200 Marines and sailors assigned to the 1st Marine Logistics Group,” said Hudson. “Their task, their mission, is to provide combat logistics support to I MEF whether here or forward deployed. We have a wide variety of Marines and sailors whose sole focus in life is to support the PFC and lance

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# CLR-17 gets new commanding officer

**HAPPENINGS**

Story and photos by  
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin  
Staff Writer

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – Col. Bruce E. Nickle relinquished command of Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, to Col. James W. Clark during a change of command ceremony held at the 11 Area parade field here, June 15.

The ceremony included the passing of the regimental colors, remarks from the incoming and outgoing commanders, and music provided by the 1st Marine Division Band.

During the ceremony, Nickle recalled when he first assumed command of CLR-17.

“It was two years ago when I assumed command of this regiment from [Colonel] Broadmeadow,” said Nickle. “He told me that I was inheriting a great regiment.”

During a portion of his 2-year reign as the CLR-17 commanding officer, Nickle also served simultaneously as the commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 15.

During his remarks, he passed a few words of encouragement to Clark.

“Jim, you’re picking up a great regiment,” said Nickle, 46, from Vienna, Va. “There’s a lot of fine Marines and sailors out here, and good luck to



**Col. James W. Clark receives the regimental colors from Col. Bruce E. Nickle during the Combat Logistics Regiment 17 change of command ceremony held at the 11 Area parade field at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 15.**

you.”

Clark served as the II Marine Expeditionary Force G-4 officer prior to assuming command of CLR-17. He expressed his plans for the regiment as it moves forward.

“I plan on building on the success that [Col. Nickle] has started with this

unit,” said Clark.

During the ceremony, Nickle was awarded the Legion of Merit Medal for exceptionally meritorious conduct in the performance of outstanding service as commanding officer, CLR-17. According to the citation, Nickle showed superior leadership and contributed to the accomplishment of 1st MLG’s mission. He also played an essential role in resourcing, training and preparing forward elements of 1st MLG for deployment in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, while directing the manning, organization and training of three combat logistics battalions preparing for deployment with Marine Expeditionary Units.

“It’s been fantastic working with him,” said Sgt. Maj. Brenda Jackson, sergeant major of CLR-17, who worked with Nickle during his time as commander. “He’s a very level-headed commander. He truly cared for the Marines and sailors.”



**Col. Bruce E. Nickle and Col. James W. Clark (left), salute during the pass in review portion of the change of command for CLR-17.**

## Motorcycle Safety Courses

An advanced riders course will be held weekly Wednesdays from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A basic rider’s 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.

## San Diego County Fair

San Diego family fun with concerts, flowers, rides, exhibits and more is available at the San Diego County Fair from June 10-July 4. Celebrate July 4th with parades, fun and fireworks. For more information, please contact base ITT at (760) 725-5805.

## Knott’s Berry Farm

In a small way to show appreciation to service members for their service, Knott’s Berry Farm and Knott’s Soak City is providing one free admission to each theme park for each active duty service member during the Independence Day weekend, July 3 and 4.

## 4th of July Beach Bash

The 2011 Ken Grody Ford Beach Bash, presented by MCCS will feature live bands, kid activities, a volleyball tournament, heroes video, fireworks show and drawings for Ken Grody Ford cash prizes. This event is free to authorized patrons and guests as long as proper identification is provided. The beach bash is scheduled to be hosted at the Del Mar Beach Resort and the festivities will commence at 7 a.m.

## Oceanside Freedom Parade

Watch this year’s annual 4th of July parade starting at the 101 Café, and ending at the Civic Center. Bring folding chairs for a view along sidewalks. The event is scheduled for July 2, from 10 a.m. – noon. For more information please call (760) 754-4512.



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BRIG. GEN. JOHN J. BROADMEADOW

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# 1st MLG

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corporal walking point, day in and day out. That's been the heart and soul of my focus, and hopefully there was no Marine, no sailor that went without."

Broadmeadow transferred from Marine Corps Forces Pacific, but previously spent time with 1st MLG as commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 17.

"Marines, I am very proud to be back in your ranks," said Broadmeadow, 49, a Pawtucket, R.I., native. "This is a very special organization to me, and one that I have been in for an awfully long time."

As Broadmeadow takes command, he will take on multiple responsibilities, including the Group's upcoming deployment to Afghanistan, scheduled for early spring.

"We have some challenges ahead," said Broadmeadow. "We are going back to OEF and I have no doubt in my mind that you will be fully prepared to meet that task, and go in and support I MEF once again."

Broadmeadow said while there are many unknown challenges that lie ahead, the main focus is to remain America's force in readiness.

"As America's focus turns away from Afghanistan and away from other threats that may be out there, our focus will be unwavering," said Broadmeadow. "I look forward to serving with you."



- Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson -



- Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow -



(Above) The 1st Marine Logistics Group colors pass in review during the change of command ceremony held at the 22 Area parade deck at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 17. During the ceremony, Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson relinquished command to Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow.

(Left) The 1st Marine Division Band performs during the 1st Marine Logistics Group change of command ceremony held at the 22 Area parade deck at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 17. More than 1,000 Marines, sailors, friends and family members attended the ceremony to bid farewell to Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson and welcome Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow as the new commanding general.



# - GIVE HIM ONE! -

## CLR-17 SGT MAJ

Story and photos by  
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin  
Staff Writer

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – Sgt. Maj. Brenda L. Jackson passed the sword of office to Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Ledferd during the Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, Post and Relief ceremony here, June 20.

The 1st Marine Division Band opened the ceremony by playing a few musical selections, and Jackson, who began her Marine Corps career as a saxophonist, joined in to play a few tunes. The ceremony also included the passing of the noncommissioned officer sword of office and remarks from the incoming and outgoing sergeants major.

Jackson, from Canandaigua, N.Y., stands relieved after serving as the regimental sergeant major for the past two years. She offered Ledferd some kind words during her remarks.

“Sgt. Maj. Ledferd, you are a dynamic leader,” said Jackson. “I know you will take the unit to greater levels. Enjoy the Marines... they will definitely give you 110 percent.”

Jackson is one of only two ser-



(Left to right) Sgt. Maj. Robert Ledferd and Sgt. Maj. Brenda L. Jackson, the incoming and outgoing regimental sergeants major for Combat Logistics Regiment 17, stand at the position of attention during the regimental Post and Relief ceremony.

geants major from the band community, and in 1994, she became the first female Marine to attend and graduate from Drill Instructor School at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

“This Marine, who started her career in the band, has made our Corps a better place because of her service and her dedication to trailblazing new paths for our younger Marines,” said Col. James W. Clark, commanding officer, CLR-17.

Prior to taking over as sergeant major of CLR-17, Ledferd was the director of the Staff Noncommissioned Officer Academy here on Camp Pendleton.

“I know I’m inheriting a great unit with the foundation that has been laid by Col. Nickle and Sgt. Maj. Jackson,” said Ledferd, from Springfield, Ill. “I will do my best to do right by the command and the individual Marine.”

Ledferd also had a few words for the Marines and sailors of the regiment.

“To the Marines of CLR-17, you are phenomenal,” said Ledferd. “I have only been on deck for a short period of time, and I’m impressed 100 percent.”

At the end of the ceremony, Jackson’s husband of 15 years, retired Sgt. Maj. Brian Jackson, from Gary, Ind., surprised his wife by contacting the mayor of her hometown, who agreed to designate June 20 as ‘Sergeant Major Brenda Lee Jackson Day’ in Canandaigua, N.Y.

Before she left, an emotional Jackson recognized the Marines and sailors for their hard work during her tour.

“You have accomplished a lot during my two years as sergeant major,” said Jackson. “I’m very proud of you. It is your work and selfless dedication to the mission that makes CLR-17 stand out and shine. Thank you



Col. James W. Clark and Sgt. Maj. Brenda L. Jackson review a plaque she received as a gift during the Post and Relief ceremony

# HAPPY B-DAY DOC:

## Hospital Corps celebrates 113 years

Story and photos by  
Cpl. Michele Watson  
Staff Writer

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – Marines and sailors gathered together to celebrate 113 years of history in the Hospital Corps at the 22 Area parade deck, June 15. Service members from I Marine Expeditionary Force took part in the ceremony to praise the hard work of corpsmen throughout the nation.

Though the ceremony marked the official birthday, corpsmen have been a foundation of naval medicine for 235 years.

Brig. Gen. Charles L. Hudson, commanding general of 1st Marine Logistics Group, spoke to the corpsmen on behalf of the Marine Corps, thanking them for all the work they do to take care of Marines.

“You have been taking care of Marines on ships, on the battlefield and in garrison since the birth of the Navy and Marine Corps,” said Hudson. “As one who wears the eagle, globe and anchor, I am very appreciative of everything you do.”

Hudson went on to give examples of times when corpsmen have gone above and beyond to fulfill their role as caretakers of Marines.

“Docs have stepped up time and again, and given their lives to help take care of Marines and sailors in combat,” said Hudson. “It is an honor and a privilege to serve with you.”

The guest speaker of the ceremony was Command Master Chief of Fleet Marine Force, Mas-



**A Navy detail presents the colors during the Hospital Corps' 113th Birthday ceremony.**

ter Chief Petty Officer Christopher R. Angstead. Angstead congratulated the corpsmen for all of their accomplishments over the years.

“The Navy and Marine Corps share a very long history, and the respect for corpsmen is evident throughout the sea services,” said Angstead.

Angstead spoke of the roles that corpsmen play in the nation's current conflict by describing the versatility of corpsmen, who are present everywhere Marine boots hit the ground. From engaging the enemy, to providing water to local towns and setting up schools for children, corpsmen play a significant role in helping Marines accomplish their mission.

“To stick it out says a great deal about heart,” said Angstead. “Their moral clarity won't allow them to sit back and let someone else answer the call to serve.”

In a letter written by the Force Master Chief and Director of the Hospital Corps, Master Chief Petty Officer Laura Martinez, corpsmen were commended for the day to day differences they make in the lives of others.

“Our success is not in the number of Medals of Honor, Navy Crosses, Silver Stars or Purple Hearts we received, nor is it the ships named in our honor, but in the gratification of the patients whose lives we touch each day,” the letter stated. “Our duties carry us into numerous operational settings, in foreign countries of every climate, on the high seas and under it, and in medical treatment facilities all over the world.”



**Guest speaker, Command Master Chief of Fleet Marine Force, Master Chief Petty Officer Christopher R. Angstead, conducts the traditional cake cutting during the Hospital Corps' 113th Birthday ceremony at the 22 Area parade deck at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 15.**

# Word on the Street

**What did you do to celebrate the Hospital Corps birthday?**



*“I went to the birthday bash, and I had an extremely good time.”*

**HM2 Joseph Visarraga**  
Corpsmen, CLR-17



*“I visited the corpsmen birthday bash at the beach.”*

**Seaman Robert Menefee**  
Corpsmen, CLR-17

# Marines train with Afghan role-players

Story and photos by  
Cpl. Kenneth Jasik  
Staff Writer

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – As the war in Afghanistan continues, one of today’s most important missions for Marines is to train Afghans to conduct independent operations and prevent the Taliban from returning to power.

Marines and sailors with the Embedded Partnering Team, Combat Logistics Battalion 1, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, conducted training with Afghan role-players here, June 16, in preparation for their upcoming deployment to Afghanistan.

To practice for their crucial mission, approximately 20 EPT Marines and sailors trained with Pashto-speaking role-players who posed as Afghan National Army leaders, whom they’ll interact with on a daily basis when they deploy with CLB-1 later this year.

The Marines gave classes on weapons handling procedures and patrolling techniques, utilizing a Pashto-speaking interpreter. Then the Marines watched as the Afghan noncommissioned officers repeated the instruction to the role-players portraying their junior ANA soldiers.

Training Afghan NCOs so they can then train their junior soldiers takes a true understanding of the tactics, techniques and procedures in any given mission. Therefore, proper communication amongst the Marines and their Afghan counterparts is so important, said EPT members. Also, the Marines with the EPT understand how crucial it is to become familiar with Afghan customs and courtesies so they don’t violate cultural



**Lance Cpl. Chris J. Storrusten teaches weapons safety skills to role-players posing as Afghan noncommissioned officers during a training exercise, June 16.**

boundaries when training the Afghans how to provide logistics support to infantry ANA soldiers.

“Without this, we would lack the necessary skills to teach the Afghans to defend themselves,” said Staff Sgt. Chase J. Rohr, class liaison, advisor training cell, I Marine Expeditionary Force.

The Marines and sailors who attended the training said they gained valuable knowledge that will help them during their up-

coming deployment.

“I’ve learned to teach somebody from a different country,” said Cpl. Giovanni A. Rivera, radio operator, EPT, who participated in exercises that taught the Pashto-speaking role-players about weapons safety and patrolling. “[I can train] somebody with different customs and courtesies, and I learned a lot about the Marine Corps. I’m excited to help Marines come home by teaching Afghans how to take care of their nation.”



**Marines and sailors meet with a role-player portraying an Afghan commander during an exercise.**



**Sgt. Benjermen F. Reyes conducts a meeting with an Afghan role-player during a training exercise.**

# 1st MLG takes dirt riding to the track

Story and photos by  
Sgt. Shannon E. McMillan  
Staff Writer

PINE VALLEY, Calif. – Military off-road riders took their skills to the dirt during the Semper Ride Dirt Days event at Thunder Horse Ranch, June 17.

Service members with 1st Marine Logistics Group participated in the event hosted by Marine Corps Installations-West and Headquarters Marine Corps San Diego Semper Ride.

The event was available to all service members within I Marine Expeditionary Force and MCI-West, and the occasion provided them the opportunity to learn about, and improve safety skills.

“We do all types of skill training events for street riders,” said Kevin Frantum, traffic safety manager, Base Safety, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton. “It was time to give off-road riders their time.”

The unique off-road training provided multiple activities and training opportunities for all levels of dirt bike and all-terrain vehicle riders. Riders were able to utilize two tracks, two trails, a turning course and a jump course, free of charge.

Riders also learned basic flat turning and received tips to become safer riders, said Frantum.

Each course was designed to test the riders in their skills and help them learn from professional off-road enthusiasts.

Dirt bike riders, such as Sgt. Jason Vehlo, left the event with tips that could save his life in a future ride. A professional dirt bike rider provided Vehlo tips on proper body positioning and turning.

“Proper body positioning on a bike is very important,” said Vehlo, squad leader, 1st Platoon, Motor Transportation Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 5, 1st MLG. “If you don’t have proper body positioning, the more your body uses energy, the faster you become tired and become less of a safe driver.”

With correct body positioning, the rider has more stamina and is more aware, which allows them to be a safer rider, explained Vehlo, 26, a native of Turlock, Calif., who has been riding for eight years.

Though it was a day filled with testing their limits and learning im-



A service member tests his skills while riding on one of the tracks provided during the Semper Ride Dirt Days event at Thunder Horse Ranch, Pine Valley, Calif., June 17.

portant skills, participants were able to leave the event knowing they spent a day doing what they enjoy.

“It was awesome,” said Staff Sgt. Arthur Whitmer, wire chief, Communications Platoon, Headquarters and Support Company, CLB-5, 1st MLG. “I wish more Marines rode dirt bikes, so they could have partaken in this event.”

The event allowed everyone to get together in the same spot and have a ride together, added Whitmer, 29, a native of Fallon, Nev., a dirt bike rider for more than 11 years.

“It’s an opportunity to build camaraderie amongst other dirt bike riders in group,” said Whitmer.



(Above) A service member watches as off-road riders participate during the Semper Ride Dirt Days event. (Below) Service members test their skills while riding on one of the tracks during the event.



Service members await their turn on one of the tracks during the event.

