



THE WARRIOR'S LOG

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

JULY 22, 2011



JTAC

Attack controllers coordinate air and artillery support to ensure safe passage of personnel and supplies during convoy operations

Sgt. Rachael Moore
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE EDINBURGH, Afghanistan – Whether it's clearing the airspace for a controlled detonation of an improvised explosive device or calling in air support, joint terminal attack controllers are the voice behind the scenes.

See JTAC, Page 5

Photos by Sgt. Rachael Moore
(Above) Staff Sgt. Robert Jernigan, a joint terminal attack controller with 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), communicates via radio with a medical evacuation helicopter July 1, 2011, outside of Now Zad, Helmand province, Afghanistan. (Top Left) Jernigan ensures all injured service members get on the medical evacuation helicopter July 1. Communicating with the pilots and ensuring the troops are ready to go for the medical evacuation are both responsibilities of JTAC teams.

INSIDE



CLB-2 welcomes new CO, bids Wolford farewell .. Page 4

Also:
Blotter Page 2
Warrior of the Week Page 3
Defense Sec visit Page 5

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Pinned

2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) corpsmen earn Fleet Marine Force pin

Sgt. Rachael Moore
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs



Photo by Sgt. Rachael Moore
Troops congratulate Sailors after they received their Fleet Marine Force pins during a ceremony aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, July 11, 2011.

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Since 1898, a group of Sailors have been dedicated to caring for wounded Marines, on and off the battlefield.

To efficiently care for Marines, these dedicated Sailors, known as corpsmen, learn about the Marine Corps and its history. To carry on the tradition, six Sailors from the 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) received their Fleet Marine Force pins during a ceremony July 11, 2011.

“It shows you care enough to learn about the people you’ll be working with,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Kewauna Williams, a corpsman with Alpha Surgical Company, 2nd Maintenance Battalion, 2nd MLG (FWD). “Not all Sailors get the chance to work with Marines, so for those who do, it’s important to understand and

“Each and every one of you uphold those same standards and haven’t let me down.”

- Brig. Gen. Michael Dana

learn the Marine Corps’ rank structure, customs and courtesies, and just where Marines come from.”

Brig. Gen. Michael Dana, the 2nd MLG (FWD) commanding general, along with Master Chief Russell Folley, the 2nd MLG (FWD) command master chief, presented the FMF pin to the six Sailors, and after the ceremony, spoke to everyone who attended.

“Much of what I’ve learned, from standards to leadership, I learned from a Sailor,” said Dana. “Each and every one of you uphold those same standards and haven’t let me down. I want to thank you. You Sailors knock it out of the park everyday.”

In order for a Sailor to receive a FMF pin they must take a written test, pass a Marine Corps physical fitness test and serve at least one year with a Marine Corps unit.

BLOTTER



15 July 2011 - A Marine with 8th Engineer Support Battalion reported an unknown person(s) stole an illuminator infrared laser scope, a laptop computer and a Full Spectrum Battle Equipment kit from FC-292. The estimated value of the stolen government property is \$13,051.33. The investigation continues.

15 July 2011 - A Marine with Combat Logistics Regiment 2 reported that an unknown person(s) stole his wallet containing his AFID card, debit card and drivers license from his unsecured barracks room. The investigation revealed no leads or suspects. The estimated value of stolen personal property is undetermined.

'I knew the risks'

Marine survives close encounter with anti-personnel mine

Lance Cpl. Bruno J. Bego
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – According to the United Nations' Mine Clearance Program, Afghanistan is the most heavily-mined country in the world. There are nearly 10 million landmines littering 530 kilometers of Afghan soil.

Some of these mines were emplaced by insurgents, but most are left over from the Soviet invasion of Afghanistan in 1979.

Cpl. Brock E. Callaway, from Bridgeville, Del., a combat engineer with Combat Logistics Battalion 8, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), was clearing a path with a mine detector when he stepped on a defective anti-personnel mine June 26, near Patrol Base Shark Tooth, Sangin District, Afghanistan.

"Our team was cutting down some trees to establish a new post for Marines in the area," Callaway explained. "We were told the area we were going to work on wasn't clear."

Before the Marines started working, Callaway swept the area around the first two trees thoroughly.

"When I finished, I started clearing the next two trees and that's when I stepped on the mine," he said.

The mine was buried along the trees near a canal. Water exposure caused the explosive material to fail, reducing its effectiveness.

"At first I thought I lost my legs," he explained. "The blast pushed me back a couple of feet away... As soon as I landed I got up and ran back toward the Marines. All I could think about was running as far as I could from that place."

The explosion wasn't strong enough to injure Callaway. Cpl. David P. Veneziani, from Cataula, Ga., a combat engineer with 2nd MLG (FWD), was standing nearby.

"I was approximately 10 or 15 meters away cutting some trees, when everything happened," Veneziani said. "We heard a small explosion... so I looked over and saw [Callaway] running toward us."

"The first thing I noticed was that he had all his extremities, which of course, was my first concern," he added. "So I grabbed him, I threw him up on my shoulders in a fireman's carry and got him away from that area."

Once the Marines reached a different and more secured position, Veneziani along with Cpl. Howard W. Laur, a combat engineer from Pittsburg, Pa., proceeded to check Callaway for injuries.

"I was mainly providing security, looking around as we took him up on the hill," Laur explained. "Once we stopped we started treating him, we removed his shoes to make sure nothing was broken, we also took his pants off to see if he had any real serious injuries on his legs."

Once Veneziani and Laur finished examining Callaway, they took him back to the base to be transported to the medical facility aboard Camp Bastion to receive further assistance.

"This was definitely a wakeup call," Callaway said. "I consider myself very fortunate to be able to walk."

"I am not going to deny that I am a little nervous to go back outside the wire again, but I knew the risks when I joined the Marine Corps," Callaway concluded. "This is my job and will continue doing it regardless of the circumstances."

Callaway wants to stay in the Marine Corps to become an instructor at his military occupational school. He intends to use his experience to teach entry level Marines going through engineer school about how to mitigate the dangers they may face when they deploy.

WARRIOR - OF THE - WEEK



**CORPORAL
BROCK E. CALLAWAY**

JOB: Combat Engineer
HOMETOWN: Bridgeville, Del.

Q: Favorite MRE?
A: "Buffalo Chicken"

Q: If you were stranded on a deserted island with one piece of gear you would want to have?
A: "Compass; at least I'll be able to find my way around."

Q: Favorite sports team?
A: "Atlanta Braves."

Q: Most impressive thing about yourself?
A: "I can teach myself just about anything."

Change of Command



Photos by Sgt. Justin J. Shemanski

(Above) Sgt. Maj. Stephanie Murphy (center), the battalion sergeant major for Combat Logistics Battalion 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, delivers the unit colors to Lt. Cols. Brian N. Wolford and Denise M. Mull during the unit's change of command ceremony at Soifert Field aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., July 7. (Below) Lt. Col. Brian N. Wolford (right) passes the organizational colors for Combat Logistics Battalion 2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group, to Lt. Col. Denise M. Mull during a change of command ceremony at Soifert Field aboard Camp Lejeune, N.C., July 7.

Sgt. Justin J. Shemanski
2nd MLG Public Affairs

CAMP LEJEUNE, N.C. – Lt. Col. Brian N. Wolford stepped down and welcomed Lt. Col. Denise M. Mull as the new commander for Combat Logistics Battalion 2 during a change of command ceremony at Soifert Field, July 7.

Wolford took command of the battalion in June 2009 upon returning from Iraq, where he served as the ground operations officer for Multi-National Force-West, and subsequently led CLB-2 into the fight in Afghanistan in August 2010.

During their 7-month deployment in support of International Security Assistance Force operations, the Marines and Sailors of the battalion participated in nearly 200 missions, and logged more than 300,000 miles as they traversed the



CLB-2 bids farewell to Wolford, welcomes Mull

unforgiving landscape of Helmand province – just a couple of the statistics a proud Wolford noted to the crowd who came to bid him farewell.

“We led quite a kinetic fight during our deployment in Hel-

mand,” said Wolford, who has participated in nine deployments during his career.

“...And what you all did was nothing short of amazing.”

Wolford detailed the process in which the unit supported the

ground forces in Afghanistan. From thousands of gallons of fuel to hundreds of tons of supplies delivered to outlying patrol bases via ground and air transportation, the personnel of CLB-2 ensured the troops they supported didn't have to worry about how they were going to sustain themselves.

“They will go to the ends of the earth for you,” concluded Wolford.

Mull, a native of Nogales, Ariz., joins the unit from United States Central Command in Tampa, Fla. She received her commission in 1993 and her personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, Defense Meritorious Service Medal and two Meritorious Service Medals.

“I'm very proud to be your future commander,” said Mull, as she addressed the Marines and Sailors standing before her.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Bruno J. Bego

From left to right, Staff Sgt. Shawn C. Vernon from Fort Worth, Texas, a motor transportation chief with the Embedded Partnering Team, Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), Secretary of Defense Leon E. Panetta and Cpl. Bryan N. Bigley, from Southlake, Texas, a motor vehicle operator with CLB-7, pose for a picture during the secretary's visit to Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan, July 10, 2011.

Defense Secretary presents Purple Hearts

Lance Cpl. Bruno J. Bego
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

CAMPDWYER, Afghanistan – The new Secretary of Defense, Leon E. Panetta, visited Marines and Sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), July 19, during his first tour through Afghanistan after a week in office.

His visit was especially significant for two of CLB-7's Marines, as he presented the Purple Heart to Staff Sgt. Shawn C. Vernon, a motor transportation chief with the Embedded Partnering Team, and Cpl. Bryan N. Bigley, a motor vehicle operator.

"It is definitely an honor to receive this award from him," Vernon explained. "He seems like he cares about us and appreciates the effort troops are making in Afghanistan."

Panetta spoke to all Marines present after the ceremony. He acknowledged the effort troops are making in Afghanistan.

"As the new Secretary of Defense, I thought it was important for my first trip to be able to come out to the war zone to speak to the men and women who are putting their lives on the line on behalf of our country," Panetta said. "I'm here to say thank you to all of you for your service, for your sacrifice and for your duty."

JTAC,

continued from Page 1

The 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) JTAC team attaches to combat logistics patrols to ensure the convoy gets where they need to go as safely as possible.

The JTAC team acts as a liaison to different units, such as aviation assets and artillery batteries, which provide immediate close air support, indirect fire and medical evacuations.

"We're there to ensure convoys have the support they need to accomplish the mission," explained Sgt. Kevin Krebs, a member of the JTAC team with 2nd MLG (FWD).

Recently, the JTAC team attached to a resupply mission, which had more than 30 local national vehicles. They're responsible for communicating with the closest artillery or mortar battery and medical evacuation units, if their assets are needed.

"It's extremely important we're there on fuel runs with local nationals," Krebs explained. "The fuel trucks are light-skinned vehicles and seem like an easy target for the enemy."

"With us there, if air support is needed, we can get it immediately," Krebs continued. "Once the aircraft gets there to provide support, it's a huge intimidation factor, and the enemy is less likely to engage."

They also provide route reconnaissance, which notifies the rest of the convoy of any enemy activity taking place in the area, and they establish restrictive operating zones for IEDs. With the large size of IEDs or the chance of multiple IEDs in one spot, it's important no aircraft are flying over the detonation location.

"We have to ensure the airspace is clear," Krebs said. "Any of the [service members] can do it, but we're the subject matter experts, so it's easier and quicker for us to do it."

With the knowledge and assets JTAC teams offer, they play an essential role in combat logistics patrols for the 2nd MLG (FWD) and other coalition forces supporting International Security Assistance Force operations.

COMMANDING GENERAL
BRIG. GEN. MICHAEL G. DANA

SERGEANT MAJOR
SGT. MAJ. WILLIAM T. STABLES

COMMAND MASTER CHIEF
CMDCM RUSSELL W. FOLLEY

PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS
1ST LT. JOSHUA SMITH (FWD)
2ND LT. JAMES F. STENGER

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SGT. RACHAEL MOORE (FWD)
LCPL. BRUNO J. BEGO (FWD)

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF
STAFF SGT. THERESA E. SENG (FWD)

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