

CLB-5 charges hill



Photo by Pfc. Timothy Childers

Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 5, 1st Marine Logistics Group, participate in a 7-mile hike as part of their monthly battalion physical fitness session at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 25t

See story on Page 2

Family day builds camaraderie

Story and photos by
 Cpl. Khoa Pelczar
 Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines, sailors and their families and friends enjoyed a day of fun during Combat Logistics Regiment 17's Family Day at Lake O'Neil, Aug. 26.

With the support of Marine Corps Community Services, the event was held free of charge to all service members and guests, including food and beverages.

"It was put together really well," said Pfc. Ethan Warden, electrician, Communications Company, CLR-17, 1st Marine Logistics Group. "So many people showed up. I had a lot of fun, especially on the rock-climbing wall."

In addition to the rock wall, children enjoyed bubble buckets and an inflated obstacle course. On stage, a disk jockey provided music entertainment for everyone. The dunk tank and the inflated multi-sports center were also hot spots at the event.

See FAMILY Page 3



Service members and guests stand in line for food at CLR-17's Family Day, Aug. 26.

INSIDE



A look into the past of 1st Medical Battalion

Page 4

CG advises labor day safety Page 5

Landing support jumps into thin air..... Page 6

CLB-7 Marine receives Purple Heart Page 7

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Go the distance: CLB-5 takes on 7-mile hike

Story and photo by
Pfc. Timothy Childers
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – It's still dark as Marines arrange their packs beside a convoy of trucks, whose diesel engines rumble, breaking up the quiet dawn. They've packed all their gear tactically inside their bags. This morning is like most early mornings here, a cool blanket of fog obscures the distance. All the Marines wait patiently to load up the trucks. The Marines of Combat Logistics Battalion 5 are about to condition themselves.

Marines from CLB-5, 1st Marine Logistics Group, completed a 7-mile hike as part of a pre-deployment conditioning exercise here, Aug. 25.

"We're going to do a 7-mile conditioning hike to develop and increase our physical fitness in preparation for combat operations," said Sgt. Maj. Troy E. Black, the battalion sergeant major of CLB-5, 1st MLG, "It's very unique in the logistics world to do hikes."

The hike is part of CLB-5's



Marines from Combat Logistics Battalion 5 participate in their monthly battalion physical fitness session at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 25. The 7-mile hike was planned to condition the Marines for the battalion's upcoming deployment.

pre-deployment physical fitness conditioning program. The unit has a very comprehensive physical fitness conditioning program from battalion to platoon levels, said Black, from Louisville Ky. CLB-5 conducts battalion-level physical fitness sessions monthly; this month was a 7-mile hike. The program will increase the distance of the hikes as the deployment date approaches.

During the hike, Pfc. Saundrina K. Marriott, a field radio operator,

CLB-5, 1st MLG, said the hike was tough, especially the hills. The hike was worth the effort though because it will help fellow Marines build endurance for their upcoming deployment, said Marriot, from Louisville, Texas.

The hike went very well, said Staff Sgt. Matthew B. Langlois, the training chief of S-3, CLB-5.

Langlois, 25, from Bridgeport, Pa., said he had a good time, and felt the battalion was more prepared for its mission overseas.



Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 5, 1st Marine Logistics Group, completed a 7-mile hike as part of a pre-deployment conditioning exercise aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 25.

HAPPENINGS

Motorcycle Safety Courses

An advanced riders course will be held weekly, Tuesdays and 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. To see the 1st MLG Riders Facebook page click here.

SDSU football tickets

Free tickets will be distributed to the first 50 single Marines for the San Diego State football game at the Quakcomm Stadium, Sept. 3. Sign-up for tickets are first come first serve. For more information, call Daniel at (760) 725-6722.

Heartbreak Ridge Half-Marathon

Camp Pendleton Races is hosting a 13.1-mile course through the rolling hills of Las Pulgas, Camp Pendleton, Calif. The race is scheduled to start at 8:05 a.m., Sept. 10. Registration opens at 6 a.m. Registration is free for all active duty personnel stationed at Camp Pendleton. For more information contact the race office at (760) 725-6836.

Labor Day Pier Swim

Oceanside will host its annual Labor Day Swim at the Oceanside Pier, Sept. 5. The pier swim is a 1-mile event that begins and ends at the beach. For more information, visit the San Diego Coast Life Web site at www.sandiegocoastlife.com.

Korean National Military Symphony

A free concert at Pacific Views South Mesa will be held, Sept. 20. For details, call (760) 725-2231.



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The son of Sgt. Ryan Boudreau, from Saskatchewan, Canada, assistant operations chief, Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, swings at a ball at the inflated multi-sports center during CLR-17's Family Day at Lake O'Neill, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 26.

FAMILY

continued from Page 1

"I feel like I'm a kid again at a carnival," said Warden, from Chamois, Mo.

The event gave Marines and sailors in the unit the chance to get to know each other and build unit camaraderie.

"I get to relax and enjoy myself, be with my friends and meet new people in the unit," said

Lance Cpl. Eduardo Naranjo, radio operator, Comm. Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG. "The best part is that I don't have to be at work right now on a Friday afternoon. We don't get that often."

Naranjo, from Boston, hopes to see more events like this in the future.

"It's a great way to let the Marines [and sailors] have fun and get to know each other," Naranjo said. "It will only help us to become a better unit."



Pfc. Ethan Warden, from Chamois, Mo., electrician, Communications Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, kicks a soccer ball at the inflated multi-sports center during CLR-17's Family Day at Lake O'Neill, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 26.



(Above) CLR-17 service members and guests dance to music during CLR-17's Family Day at Lake O'Neill, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 26. (Left) A Marine with CLR-17, 1st MLG, throws a ball at the target of the dunk tank during CLR-17's Family Day at Lake O'Neill, Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 26.



RE-LIVING THE LEGACY 1ST MEDICAL BATTALION

Story by
Cpl. Khoa Pelczar
Staff Writer

Never leave a Marine behind has always been one of the hallmarks of the Marine Corps. Whether in combat or in garrison, corpsmen have always been there to support Marines carrying on that tradition.

The 1st Medical Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, has been around for more than 70 years, training corpsmen and providing support to the Corps. Its mission is to provide health service support to the operating units of the 1st Marine Expeditionary Force and to save every life.

Activated on Sept. 6, 1940, at Marine Corps Base Headquarters, Quantico, Va., 1st Medical Battalion has supported the Marine Corps in numerous battles throughout history. Their lineage dates back to some of the earliest operations in World War II and continues through the current Global War on Terror.

The battalion played a vital role in supporting Marines on combat operations, as well as humanitarian assistance operations. One of the battalion's many accomplishments was their involvement in the Vietnam War from 1966-1971.

Jan K. Herman, author of the book *'Navy medicine in Vietnam: Passage to Freedom to the Fall of Saigon,'* shows that the medical field was an important part of operations in Vietnam. They built the main hospital in Saigon to provide medical care for the local nationals.

Navy Capt. Russ Fisichella, commanding officer for Saigon's main hospital then, told Herman during an interview after the war, "We were professionals doing a professional job, and everybody had a specific job to do. We were all expected to be ambassadors. At the time I was there, it wasn't an American war. We were advisors. It became an

American war after that."

Fisichella left Vietnam in March 1965, the same time as the arrival of the Marine Corps medical battalions.

According to Herman's book, corpsmen with the 1st and 3rd Medical battalions were called upon to join the troops on the battlefield. They provided medical support to the Marines as members of air wings, reconnaissance teams, and artillery fire bases on the frontlines, as well as accompanied Navy SEAL teams on their special operations.

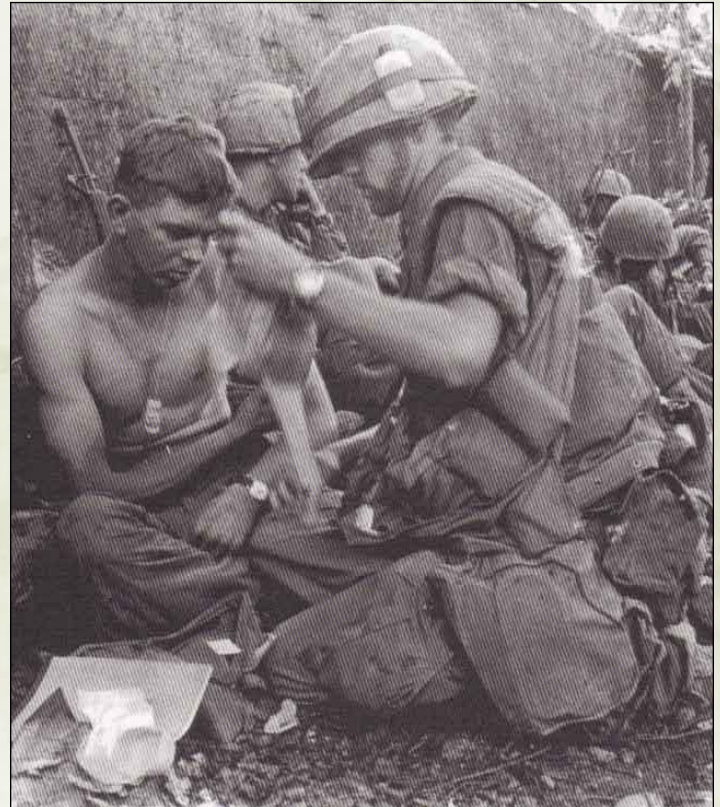
Herman writes that a Vietnam-era corpsman was very special to the Marines he served. The corpsman had the skills to save their lives. If they were hit, it was his job to take care of them.

As important as military training was during basic training, Herman explains how the Field Medical Service School concentrated mainly on training corpsmen to keep Marines alive in combat.

"I remember sitting up in the bleachers getting ready to graduate and one instructor said, 'Look, some of you won't be coming back,'" Then – Petty Officer 3rd Class James Maddox, corpsman, recalled during an interview with Herman. "I know that kind of put a lump in my throat. But it's just like anybody going out driving his car on the freeway and facing the odds of being killed in a wreck. You think 'Not me!'"

Corpsmen made their greatest contributions in supporting troops not only by providing basic medical care to them, but by being the first responders to diseases and traumatic injuries on battlefields. They had to be physically and mentally prepared to remain cool under fire and rush out to treat their Marines every time they heard the call 'corpsman up!'

Throughout America's involvement in Vietnam, approximately 5,000 hospital corpsmen and 300 dental technicians served with the



Courtesy Photo
Seaman Dennis Howe, corpsman, treats a wounded Marine during the battle of Hue, 1968.

troops in-theater, Herman wrote. More than 4,500 were awarded Purple Hearts, 290 received the Bronze Star, 127 earned the Silver Star, 29 were presented the Navy Cross, and four earned the Medal of Honor.

The Vietnam Wall in Washington D.C., memorializes the names of 683 hospital corpsmen and two dental technicians who gave the ultimate sacrifice in that war.

As stated on their official webpage under I MEF's site, www.imef.usmc.mil, the battalion battle streamers include awards such as the Presidential Unit Citation streamer with one Silver Star and two Bronze Stars, a Joint Meritorious Unit Award streamer, a Navy Unit Commendation streamer with one Bronze Star, a Meritorious Unit Commendation streamer with two Bronze Stars, an American Defense Service streamer with

one Bronze Star, an Asiatic-Pacific Campaign streamer with one Silver Star and one Bronze Star, a World War II Victory streamer, a Navy Occupation Service streamer with 'Asia,' a China Service streamer, a National Defense Service streamer with two Bronze Stars, a Korean Service streamer with two Silver Stars, a Southwest Asia Service streamer with two Bronze Stars, a Korean Presidential Unit Citation streamer, a Vietnam Cross of Gallantry with Palm streamer and a Vietnam Meritorious Unit Citation Civil Actions streamer.

Corpsmen continue to support Marines in their operations today. While the Global War on Terror remains active, 1st Medical Battalion continues preparing doctors, nurses and corpsmen to accompany the Marines to remote locations and engage in numerous operations.

Safety is paramount

Safety message
provided by:

Brig. Gen. John J. Broadmeadow
1st MLG Commanding General

Labor Day, the first Monday in September, is dedicated to the social and economical achievements of American workers. It constitutes a yearly national tribute to the contributions workers have made to the strength, prosperity, and well-being of our country. The long Labor Day Weekend also marks the unofficial end of summer. Regrettably, last year, the Navy and Marine Corps lost 28 service members during the summer holiday weekend to automobile and motorcycle accidents, as well as off-duty recreational activities. Over-consumption of alcohol combined with driving and off-duty recreation, both ashore and in the water, do not mix.

As you enjoy the various recreational opportunities available to you and your family this holiday weekend, take the time to identify potential hazards while consciously deciding to mitigate the associated risks. Unfortunately, we still have far too many Marines and sailors making poor decisions when driving or riding motorcycles. Risk acknowl-

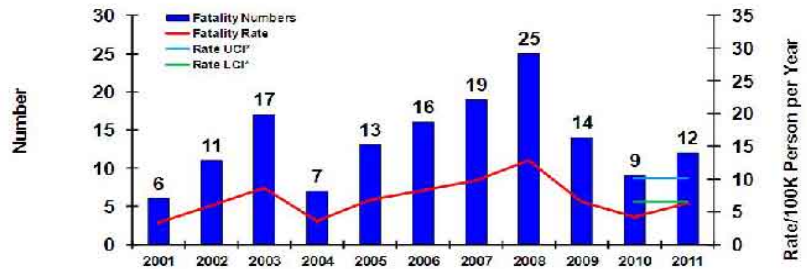


Photo by Sgt. Jesse Stence

The Regimental Combat Team 1 color guard performs during a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan, Aug. 28.



MOTORCYCLE POV FATALITIES



	31-Aug-11	31-Aug-10
CLASS A FATALITIES/FATALITY RATE	12/6.26	8/4.02
FY10 FATALITIES/FATALITY RATE:	9/4.15	
10-YEAR AVERAGE (FY01-10) FATALITIES/FATALITY RATE:	13.70/6.99	

edgement tools to support small unit leadership include the holiday accident reduction program (HARP) form and the use of travel risk planning system (TRIPS). Plan and take the time to inculcate a safety mindset in all you do. Advise and mentor your Marines and sailors about the perils of speeding, driving fatigue, and improper motorcycle operations, as well as resources to prevent suicide.

If your weekend activities involve alcohol, have a plan. If you will be drinking, arrange for a designated driver. If you have been drinking, call a friend, relative, or use the Arrive Alive program to get home safely. Do not get behind the wheel. If you see a

Marine or sailor in the process of making a bad decision, stopping him or her is as easy as calling out "cease fire" on a range to prevent a serious injury or fatality.

I expect each of you to be at the forefront of our 1st MLG force preservation efforts and to reinforce responsible driving and motorcycle operations. Let's stop the trend and shoot for zero fatalities or serious injuries this Labor Day Weekend. I look forward to seeing each of you return to work on Wednesday morning. Take care of each other and have a safe, memorable and enjoyable Labor Day Weekend. Semper Fidelis.



OFF-DUTY/REC FATALITIES



	31-Aug-11	31-Aug-10
CLASS A FATALITIES/FATALITY RATE	9/4.69	14/7.03
FY10 FATALITIES/FATALITY RATE:	15/6.92	
10-YEAR AVERAGE (FY01-10) FATALITIES/FATALITY RATE:	11.40/5.77	

*see last slide for definition of UCI/LCI and FY12 Max explanation

Leap of faith

**Story and photos by
Pfc. Timothy Childers
Staff Writer**

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – A Marine sits nervously in the cargo hold of a C-130 aircraft. His fellow Marines sitting to his right and left try to cheer him up with words of confidence. The jump master calls the 5-minute mark. His group of jumpers stands up, shuffles to the door, and clips their parachute lines onto a cable. The rear loading ramp opens and the Marines take a leap of faith into thin air.

Marines from Air Delivery Platoon, Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, conducted a personnel jump in which parachute riggers fell more than 1,000 feet over the hills here, Aug. 23. The primary purpose of the jump was to get jump masters qualified for operations.

Before the jump, Marines went through a series of pre-jump routines to ensure safety, said Staff Sgt. James Nine, the platoon sergeant of Air Delivery Platoon, LS Co., CLR-17, 1st Marine Logistics Group. The routines practiced hand-and-arm signals, reviewed landing procedures, and inspected the parachutes.

Nine, from Columbia City, Ind. said, the jump was a training operation with two primary missions: “Get

new jump masters checked off and qualified for operations, and to maintain jumpers’ proficiency.”

Marines from LS Company and soldiers participated in the jump. Air Delivery Marines train with many different militaries around the world, said Cpl. Cory Bandouveres, a jump master with Air Delivery Platoon, LS Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG.

Alongside the skilled jumpers were Marines experiencing their first time jumping in the fleet Marine force, said Bandouveres.

“We’re instilling the Marines with experience to give them a proper transition,” said Bandouveres, commenting about the junior Marines’ transitions from the military occupational specialty school house to the Fleet Marine Force.

Air delivery is a more cost-efficient, safer, and prompt means of delivering much-needed supplies to Marines in Afghanistan, said Nine. It erases the need for convoys, which are at risk from improvised explosive devices and ambushes, as well as the costs associated with the manpower and time spent organizing resupplies via convoy.

All the training, safety, and precautions these Marines take ensure a safe jump that instills the Marines with experience and as a side benefit, the Marines have a great time.



Pfc. William J. Zablatzky, a parachute rigger for Air Delivery Platoon, Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, jumps off the cargo bay hatch of a C-130 aircraft during a personnel jump over the hills of Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 23.



Marines from Air Delivery Platoon, Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, pile into a C-130 shortly before take-off at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 23. The primary purpose of the jump was to get jump masters qualified for operations.

Around the 1st MLG



Sgt. Christopher J. Burger is awarded the Purple Heart Medal by Brig. Gen. Michael Dana, commanding general, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), Aug. 26, aboard Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan. Burger was awarded the Purple Heart for injuries suffered June 19, when the bulldozer he was operating hit an improvised explosive device in vicinity of Patrol Base Huskers, in the Helmand Province of Afghanistan. A native of Charlotte, N.C., Sgt. Burger is a 24-year-old heavy equipment operator assigned to Engineer Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 7, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 2nd MLG (FWD).



Sgt. Maj. Robert A. Ledferd (left), sergeant major, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, and 1st Sgt. Alejandro Rivera (right), first sergeant, Headquarters Company, salute during the playing of the national anthem at the Corporals Course graduation ceremony at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 26. The 3-week course aims to create better Marine leaders.



A child paints a poster set up for children during the Combat Logistics Battalion 5, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group family day at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 26. The unit hosted the event to speak with families about the upcoming deployment. During the day, participants enjoyed free food, games and fun.