



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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Cpl. Bruno J. Bego

Petty Officer 1st Class Patrick L. McElhinney, from Jacksonville, N.C., a hospital corpsman with Embedded Partnering Team, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), assists a medic with the 215th Corps Logistics Battalion, Afghan National Army, as he takes care of a casualty during a mass casualty training exercise Sept. 10, 2011, at Camp Shorabak, Afghanistan. Marines and Sailors with the EPT continue to work with troops of the 215th CLB, so in the future they are capable of sustaining themselves while supporting Afghan infantry soldiers operating in Southwestern Afghanistan.

CAS EVAC

Afghan forces enhance medical readiness with mass casualty drills

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

CAMP SHORABAK, Afghanistan – Months of daily training culminated as soldiers with the 215th Corps Logistics Battalion, Afghan National Army, completed a complex mass casualty evacuation exercise Sept. 10, 2011, at Camp Shorabak, Afghanistan.

Marines and Sailors from the 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) Embedded Partnering Team raised the level of difficulty

See **DRILLS**, Page 6

INSIDE



Air Delivery resupplies troops via CDS bundles ... Page 4

Also:

Blotter Page 2
Shock Trauma Platoon .. Page 2
Warrior of the Week Page 5

Follow us on  

Lewis: We work as one

Shock Trauma Plt. hits the ground running

Cpl. Katherine M. Solano
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

FORWARD OPERATING BASE EDINBURGH, Afghanistan – Surrounded by nothing but sand and mountains, there exists a state-of-the-art medical facility specializing in combat casualties. It has the resources and manpower to treat multiple patients with a wide range of injuries.

In order to take over operations at the Shock Trauma Platoon, hospital corpsmen and varying physicians with the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Support Battalion 11.2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) are conducting their turnover with the medical staff of MSB 11.1 (FWD). The casualties that are treated at the facility have injuries ranging from gunshot wounds to loss of limbs due to improvised explosive devices. The installation is equipped to handle the majority of these injuries, whether they treat them directly or stabilize the patient in order to transfer them to another base.

According to Cmdr. Christopher M. Herzer, 2nd MLG



Cpl. Katherine M. Solano

Navy Capt. Andrew Johnson (center), an emergency medicine physician with the Marine Air-Ground Task Force Support Battalion 11.2, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), gives medical orders during a drill at the Shock Trauma Platoon on Forward Operating Base Edinburgh, Sept. 1, 2011. Drills are conducted frequently at the STP to maintain a high standard of patient care.

(FWD) Surgeon, the STP, as a stand-alone unit, has the capability to perform a wide range of non-surgical procedures, such as inserting intubation tubes and providing resuscitative care to patients. Since the STP has merged its capabilities with those of the Forward Resuscitative Surgical Suite, they have gained the ability to perform surgeries on site.

“When we came in, we had multiple patients every day for the first three or four days we were here,” said Navy Capt. Andrew Johnson, an emergency medicine physician with the STP at FOB Edinburgh, originally from Austin, Texas. “Instead of just talking about things, we actually got to see the other team do them, and they got to watch us. It was really the best turn-

over we could hope for, because it wasn't talk. It was actually putting into practice what they were teaching us.”

Within minutes of the medical staff landing at the base, before their bags had even been off-loaded, casualties were brought into the facility and the Sailors rushed to the aid of the corpsmen already in place, eager to help in any way they could.

“I'm very proud of our unit for this,” said Lt. Cmdr. James Gennari, an emergency trauma and intensive care unit Nurse Corps officer with the platoon at FOB Edinburgh. “Our doctors broke off and scrubbed in. Our corpsmen came in, lined up and watched to see how they could help. We had just gotten here. Some of these guys had never seen this before.”

The quick reaction and efficiency of the medical staff with the oncoming unit is a result of extensive communication and training drills. The Sailors pride themselves on their ability to work as one cohesive unit.

“Yes, we have doctors, nurses, officers and enlisted, but it's

See STP, Page 6

BLOTTER



9 September 2011 - A Marine with Combat Logistics Battalion 26 approached the gate with a DoD decal issued to another vehicle. The Marine was apprehended, processed and released to a unit representative.

9 September 2011 - A Marine with 8th Engineer Support Battalion reported he was involved in a verbal altercation, which escalated when he was pushed down the stairs. The Marine declined medical attention for minor injuries. The offender was detained, processed and released on her own recognizance.

'PUREBRED'

Corpsman Overcomes Obstacles to Live Out Family Legacy

Cpl. Katherine M. Solano

2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

**FORWARD OPERATING BASE ED-
INBURGH, Afghanistan** – Petty Officer 3rd Class Lloyd Adkins was torn between two life-long dreams: play football for the Miami Dolphins or join the military. A neck injury in high school ruined his chances at a professional football career, so he followed in the footsteps of every family generation before him.

“My parents found out that I’ve had someone that I share blood with in every war that America has ever been in, from the Revolution all the way to Afghanistan,” said Adkins, a hospital corpsman with Marine Air-Ground Task Force Support Battalion 11.1, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward). “My dad calls us purebred.”

Adkins, who travelled around the world with his Marine father and family before finally settling in Springfield, Mass., went to boot camp weighing 300 pounds. He was put on half rations and a permanent physical training plan. He graduated boot camp 100 pounds lighter.

Following dental school, he was sent to Naval Hospital Guam. At 18 years old, he admits to being lost and homesick. As a result, he acted out, received multiple write-ups and was even accused of thievery at one point.

“My name was drug through the mud,” Adkins said with his head hung low. “Me, who’s considered a purebred. That’s the lowest I’ve ever been in my military career.”

He was acquitted of the charges, but not before his reputation was irrevocably damaged. In order to get away from the repercussions of the false accusations, Adkins pleaded with his command to deploy.

He got his wish and was sent to Iraq with an Army unit in 2008. While training in Fort Bragg, N.C., Adkins ran into an old high school friend, Spc. Martin Snodgrass.

“He always used to make cracks at me for

not being infantry,” Adkins started. “We made a deal that it didn’t matter who went on more missions or who saw more action, as long as we ended up back in Massachusetts drinking a beer together at the end of the deployment.

“One day we got sent on a patrol. He came on the wrong side of an IED and got shrapnel all over the place. If there was one person in the world that I would’ve wanted to save, it would’ve been him. He knew he was dying. I was the one oblivious to the fact. He asked me to deliver a final message to his family: ‘Even though I’m not there in person, I’m always watching over them. When they die and come to heaven, I’ll have a special place saved for them.’ I couldn’t accept it when he died.”

Adkins said that Snodgrass and his family are a driving force behind his determination and initiative while on deployment. His close friend’s parents remind him to “keep fighting because Martin would’ve wanted it that way.”

After the loss of his friend and completing his year-long deployment, Adkins returned to Guam secluded and depressed. He spent a lot of time alone, including a four-day hiking trip he took from the north to the south end of the island. He grew to love the island, and even spent over 200 hours doing community service.

He pointed out some good did come out of his time in Iraq, though. Adkins was promoted to E-4 and received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. He earned respect and trust back from his co-workers and senior leaders. In his words, he left Guam in 2010 a better Sailor.

Receiving orders to Camp Lejeune, N.C., Adkins completed field medical training, again losing a staggering 50 pounds that had crept back on after knee surgery earlier that year.

Within months of arriving to N.C., he

WARRIOR - OF THE - WEEK



**PETTY OFFICER 3RD CLASS
LLOYD ADKINS**

JOB: Corpsman

HOMETOWN: Springfield,
Mass.

Q: Why did you join the Navy?

A: “I joined so I could do medical.”

Q: What’s your favorite MRE?

A: “I would have to say Tuna.”

Q: If you were stranded on a deserted island with one piece of issued gear, what would it be and why?

A: “It would have to be my knife.”

Q: Do you have a hero?

A: My father and my grandfather, because of what they had to do during their lives. In the military, we think it’s hard, but post Vietnam and World War II were total Hell.”

See ADKINS, Page 6



Handle

WITH

Care

Container Delivery System takes resupply ops airborne

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

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan – Afghanistan's rugged terrain and improvised explosive device-laden landscape often impede supply convoys on their journey to remote bases. In many cases however, one must look no further than the skies above them for a little assistance.

In order to safely deliver goods such as food, water, batteries, and ammunitions to troops operating throughout Helmand province, airborne and air delivery specialists with 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward) are in charge of packing and dispatching Container Delivery Systems.

"CDS is a container we use to deliver supplies," explained Cpl. Edwin B. Lathrop, from Trenton, Fla., an airborne and air delivery

specialist with 2nd MLG (FWD). "It consists of a skid board, an energy dispersing material in between the board and the cargo, [which is wrapped up – to keep it all together]."

The containers can vary in size and weight. They range from three to six-feet tall, weigh up to 2,200 pounds and can be launched from various aircrafts, such as the Boeing C-17 Globemaster III, C-130 Hercules, Sikorsky CH-53 Sea Stallion or the

V-22 Osprey.

“We attach a parachute to the top of the cargo,” Lathrop said. “As the CDSs leave the plane, a static line in the inside of the airplane will pull the parachute, which will slow down the fall.

“We are aiming at really small [landing zones] near the base we are looking to resupply,” Lathrop added. “The airplane has a computer system, which can measure the altitude, wind velocity and tell the crew chiefs when to release the cargo.”

According to the Marines from the platoon, the CDSs are an easy way to distribute the supplies around the area of operation. The systems can be assembled in fifteen minutes and loaded on to an aircraft in less than an hour.

“The purpose is to support Marines and Sailors on the ground,” said Lance Cpl. Braxten R. Brodie, from Frostburg, Md., an airborne and air delivery specialist with 2nd MLG (FWD). “I think we can help by taking the cargo to them in a timely and safe manner.”



Lance Cpl. Nicholas F. Reed, from Russellville, Ark., an airborne and air delivery specialist with 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), guides a fork lift while loading a 6K Loader (Top) and inspects a Container Delivery System (Above) Sept. 5, 2011, at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan.

Photos by Cpl. Bruno J. Bego



(Above, from left to right) Lance Cpl. Braxten R. Brodie, from Frostburg, Md., Cpl. Sherri A. Townsend, from Atlanta, and Lance Cpl. Joshua J. Erskine, from Paso Robles, Calif., three airborne and air delivery specialists with 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), prepare a Container Delivery System Sept. 4, 2011, at Camp Bastion, Afghanistan. (Left) Airborne and air delivery specialists with 2nd MLG (FWD) pose for a group picture among Container Delivery Systems Sept. 4, 2011.

Photos by Cpl. Bruno J. Bego

ANA increase medical emergency skills

DRILLS,

continued from Page 1

from the last mass casualty exercise by adding more vehicles and more realistic effects to the exercise.

"We set up a convoy with all the assets a real convoy would have, such as a wrecker truck, an ambulance and supply trucks," explained Petty Officer 1st Class Patrick L. McElhinney, from Jacksonville, N.C., a hospital corpsman with the EPT. "We are simulating an [improvised explosive device] explosion, but the soldiers don't know which vehicle is going to detonate it or how many people will be injured."

Several EPT members waited along the route for the convoy to drive by. As the trucks approached the area, the Ma-

rines used smoke and training grenades to simulate the explosion.

"Once they determined the convoy hit an IED, they proceeded to assess the situation," said 1st Lt. Jake H. Payne, the operations mentor with the EPT. "We are building up from the last exercise we conducted.

"This convoy included people from [the 215th CLB's] transportation and maintenance company as well as their medics," Payne explained. "It helps the soldiers see what their actual role is during a convoy when an IED goes off, and allows us to test their knowledge on immediate action drills."

The EPT members continue to work with troops of the 215th CLB, so in the future they are capable of sustaining themselves while supporting Afghan infantry soldiers operating in Southwestern Afghanistan.

STP,

continued from Page 2

one team," said Petty Officer 1st Class Leon Lewis, a hospital corpsman with the STP at FOB Edinburgh, and native of Stone Mountain, Ga. "We work as one, very closely. We let the lines of communication stay open. The only time we aren't talking is when we are doing patient care."

Gennari, an East Chicago, Ill., native, added

that it's the cross-training of the unit that allows them to act under pressure so seamlessly.

"We cross train for every nursing position as we also train the corpsmen in everything," he said.

It is the goal of the unit to be constantly training, conducting drills when they don't have patients.

"It looks like mass confusion, but it is really very orchestrated, and we have our leaders to thank for that," concluded Lewis.

ADKINS,

continued from Page 3

found himself training to deploy again, this time with a Marine Corps unit. Now, with his seven-month Afghanistan deployment nearing an end, Adkins sings the praises of his unit and his leaders.

"Lt. Garcia [the convoy commander] is one of the greatest officers I've ever served under. If he and Staff Sgt. Moyer [the assistant convoy commander] were leading an army into Hell, I'd definitely be there," said Adkins. "I give my hats off to all the Marines and Sailors. We give our hearts and souls to this unit. I'll never forget any of these guys. They'll always stay with me in my heart. I've finally achieved what I wanted, and that's the Marine Corps brotherhood. I'll never let that go."

Adkins' plans for the future include finishing his four-year active duty enlistment with Medical Bn., 2nd MLG, and then attending college to earn his bachelor's degree. He is unclear which field he wants to pursue, because, while treating Marines and servicemembers is a great source of pride according to him, "I have so many memories, and they aren't all good."

Whatever he chooses to study, Adkins fully intends to return to the military immediately following college.

He concluded, "nothing would make me prouder, and nothing would make my family prouder, than to see me walk around with that gold brim on a Marine Corps cover. I want to continue on in the name of purebred."

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