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Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

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Falcons roll over Outlaws

Miramar ascends to second
divisional playoff game



HMH-361 helps cover 'chaos'

The new 2012 Marine Corps recruitment commercial, entitled "Sounds of Chaos," features the full spectrum of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force carrying out an attack against an enemy.

For full story click



Marines help students understand Veterans Day

Miramar Marines talked to Literacy First Charter School's Junior Academy students about the meaning of serving in the military during a Veterans Day event.

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Falcons secure first playoff game against outlaws

The Miramar Falcons shut out the 1st Maintenance Battalion Outlaws 16-0 for their first round of the divisional playoffs at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif.

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Maj. Gen. Andrew O'Donnell Jr.
Commanding General
3rd Marine Aircraft Wing



Col. Frank A. Richie
Commanding Officer
MCAS Miramar

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Texting while driving **KILLS**

Story by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist

A man is driving down the highway with his wife and approximately four-year-old daughter when an oncoming driver, texting at the wheel, veers in their lane, smashing into their vehicle. With the parents dead instantly, the daughter says over and over "mommy, daddy wake up." This was a scenario from a graphic video.

The "Save a Life" Tour hosted a Distracted Driving event aboard Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., Nov. 4, to teach Marines about the consequences of distracted driving.

The event began with an upsetting video showing many different outcomes of distracted driving, including portions with a car hitting a child and people suffering brain

damage due to texting and driving.

People text and drive every day, not considering the pain and suffering they can inflict on themselves, a loved one or a complete stranger, explained Richardson.

"I was driving to Miramar a few days ago and a biker going about 90 mph passed me," said John Richardson, an instructor for Distracted Driving and a Grand Rapids, Mich., native. "He let go of his handlebars, reached into his coat pocket, grabbed his phone and started texting while he was passing everyone like it was no big deal. He could have looked up and plowed into a car or a tree. It was unreal, the man was lucky he did not wreck."

The "Save a Life" Tour has been traveling to many military bases along the West Coast the last few months to show service members how many ways they can ruin or

end someone's life just by replying to a text message.

Richardson explained that last year, over 20,000 people between ages 16 and 24 died from distracted driving.

After the video, there were driving simulators that require the driver to immediately reply to a phone programmed to text every few seconds, while trying to pay attention to the road.

Richardson explained how hard it was to stay at a steady speed while texting in the program.

Some people could get through the simulation without wrecking, but no one finished without breaking some kind of law, whether it was speeding or running a red light.

Distracted Driving had a display of a coffin for the event to show the possible outcome of distracted driving.

"I think Distracted Driving is a great program," said Richardson. "More people die from distracted driving than from AIDS or cancer, so it is important that we let people know how dangerous it is."

Click [HERE](#) for more photos



Lance Cpl. Joseph Mlinko, a Marine Air-Ground Task Force planner with Marine Wing Communications Squadron 38 and a San Diego native, tests a driving simulator for the Distracted Driving event here Nov. 4. The simulator required participants to reply to texts from the simulator's phone while driving. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist)

ON THE COVER:

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Cameron Harris, a wide receiver with the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Falcons, dives through defenders of the 1st Maintenance Battalion Outlaws at Paige Field House here Nov. 8. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist)

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Marines demonstrate a Marine Air-Ground Task Force assault here during the filming of the newest Marine Corps recruitment commercial Nov. 3. Marine Corps Recruiting Command used five squadrons from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing to show the point of view of each Marine who would take part in a MAGTF assault. "Sounds of Chaos" is the title of the 2012 commercial. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo)

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Collin Chappelle, a photographer with Jason Maris Photography and hired by Marine Corps Recruiting Command, takes aerial photographs of a Marine Air-Ground Task Force assault zone from the back ramp of a CH-53E Super Stallion here Nov. 3. Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 sent two CH-53E Super Stallions to fly over during a ground assault for the filming of the 2012 Marine Corps Recruiting Command commercial entitled "Sounds of Chaos." (Photo by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo)

HMH-361 helps cover 'chaos'

Story by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo

When everything hits the fan and chaos breaks out, will you run away from the fight or toward it with the Marines?

This is the theme of the new 2012 Marine Corps recruitment commercial entitled "Sounds of Chaos." The commercial features the full spectrum of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force carrying out an attack against an enemy, including troops on the ground and an assault from the air.

Five squadrons from the 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing flew to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton to demonstrate the airborne power of the MAGTF.

"Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 sent two CH-53E Super Stallions to do fly-overs of an assault zone to display the Marine Corps' aerial force capabilities," said Capt. Kent W. Arnold, a pilot with HMH-361 "Flying Tigers" and a Hyrum, Utah, native. "The wing squadrons that participated served as a visual presentation for what would be found on a Marine Expeditionary Unit or with another forward deployed unit."

Camera crews filmed the events at Pendleton from both the air and ground over the course of four days. While photographers on the ground shot images and video of troops running along the ground with aircraft flying overhead, a photographer also filmed the scene from the back ramp of a CH-53E Super Stallion. The Flying Tigers' pilots, in coordination with other squadrons participating, circled the troops on the ground in various formations to ensure the view point of every Marine in the fight was seen.

"All of the images we capture during this evolution are to promote the intensity the Marines show when they go full-force into a conflict," said Collin Chappelle, a photographer with Jason Maris Photography hired by Marine Corps Recruiting Command. "They can be used for posters, videos, print stories, and commercials. Being able to actually be in the aircraft is good because we can see [the MAGTF] from every angle the Marines [involved] do."

The aerial support showcased from Marine Corps Air Station Miramar included MV-22B Ospreys, the Super Stallions and F/A-18 C/D Super Hornets. Other aircraft seen in the MAGTF attack were KC-130J Hercules and UH-1Y Hueys.

Each participating 3rd MAW squadron can now say they had something to do with the recruitment of future Marines through their participation in what will soon be the Marine Corps' newest recruiting commercial.



MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - A CH-53E Super Stallion with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 circles above here before flying over a Marine Air-Ground Task Force assault zone during the filming of the newest Marine Corps Recruiting Command commercial Nov. 3. Photographers shot aerial photographs of the ground assault from the interior of two Super Stallions to ensure the point of view of every Marine was captured for the commercial. "Sounds of Chaos" is the title of the 2012 commercial. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo)



Collin Chappelle, left, a photographer with Jason Maris Photography and hired by Marine Corps Recruiting Command, photographs Cpl. Benjamin H. Cockrel, center, a maintenance crew member with Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 361 and an Ottawa, Ill., native, and Cpl. Justin R. Walker, right, a crew chief with HMH-361 and a York, Pa., native, during the filming of a Marine Corps recruitment commercial here Nov. 3. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo)

Marines help students understand Veterans Day

Story by Pfc.
Max S. Pennington

Marines with Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., talked to students about the meaning of serving in the military during a Veterans Day event at the Literacy First Charter School's Junior Academy in El Cajon, Calif., Nov. 8.

A number of fourth-to-eighth graders passed flags to the Marines to plant, and later had the opportunity to sit down with the Marines and ask questions about life in the military.

"It's very impacting to our kids," said Jerry Keough, a principal at the Literacy First Charter School's Junior Academy in El Cajon and a San Diego, native. "They recognize that there are people not much older than them who are serving in our military, and they look forward to this opportunity."

The students and Marines aligned flags in three rows in the school's front yard, creating a memorable experience for them.

"Each kid hands a flag to a Marine, so it is like passing a flag from that generation to ours in honor of our veterans," said Lance Cpl. Ross Grate, a military policeman with Marine Wing Support Group 37 and a Danville, Ky., native.

The students asked the Marines questions such as: Why they joined the military and questions about their experiences in the military.

"They look up to us as protecting them and their homeland," said Grate. "Maybe I said something or these other Marines said something to them that they can take with them and be successful in their lives."

Since the school opened eleven years ago, they have done something in honor of the military for every Veterans Day.

At the end of the day, the Marines and children said their goodbyes by taking a group photo with the Marines.

"I appreciate young Marines. I appreciate their willingness to come out and share a little bit of their life with our kids, so they ultimately will be better citizens for it," said Keough.

EL CAJON, Calif.—Marines with Marine Corps Air Station Miramar align flags with students during a Veterans Day event at the Literacy First Charter School's Junior Academy here Nov. 8. Students also sat down with the Marines and asked questions about the military. The Marines and the school's staff hope this event will leave a lasting impression on the students. (Photo by Pfc. Max S. Pennington)

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Falcons scramble for a loose ball during a playoff game at Paige Field House here Nov. 8. The Falcons shut out the 1st Maintenance Battalion Outlaws 16-0 for their first round of the divisional playoffs. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist)



MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Luke Boyd, a safety with the Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Falcons, intercepts a pass at Paige Field House here Nov. 8. The Falcons shut out the 1st Maintenance Battalion Outlaws as they advanced to the second round of the divisional playoffs. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist)



MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – The Marine Corps Air Station Miramar Falcons battle for position with players from the 1st Maintenance Battalion Outlaws during a playoff game at Paige Field House here Nov. 8. The Falcons advanced to the second round of the divisional playoffs after shutting out the Outlaws 16-0. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist)



Falcons secure first playoff game against Outlaws

Photos by Lance Cpl. Kevin Crist



Col. Frank A. Richie, center, the commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, cuts the first slice of Marine Corps Birthday cake as the air station and 3rd Marine Aircraft Wing celebrated the Marine Corps' 236th birthday here Nov. 9. According to tradition, the guest of honor takes the first slice, then the oldest Marine present shares a slice with the youngest Marine present. The Marine Corps has celebrated its birthday since its inception on Nov. 10, 1775. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo)

Motivation runs deep on birthday

Story by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo

“Ooh-rahs” and the chants of cadences during motivational runs rang out through the streets of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., in the days leading up to the Marine Corps’ 236th birthday.

Marines have celebrated the Corps’ birthday on Nov. 10 since its inception in 1775. The Marine Corps’ birthday is a time of year when those who have worn the eagle, globe and anchor take the time to appreciate being a part of an organization often referred to as the fiercest fighting force in America.

Since its creation, the Marine Corps has been establishing itself as America’s expeditionary force in readiness. Marines have been instilled with pride and an enduring sense of “adapt and overcome” since their boot camp. Each year around the time of the birthday,

officers and enlisted alike take the time to share this sense of pride with all other fellow Marines.

“What other group celebrates its birthday with a motivational run, that someone 50 years old would volunteer to lead,” said Col. Frank A. Richie, the commanding officer of Marine Corps Air Station Miramar. “We do everything we do to keep the traditions and values of the Corps alive. I love the Marine Corps and all that it stands for. I couldn’t and wouldn’t want to imagine working for anything else.”

The birthday was celebrated with traditional cake cutting ceremonies where the oldest Marine present shares the first slice with the youngest Marine present. The festivities also included the traditional “happy birthday” greeting for all who wear the uniform.

Many units observe the Corps’ inception through motivational runs. A motivational, or moto, run is where a unit runs throughout base together, chanting prideful Marine Corps cadences as a group.

Each birthday is finally recognized with a formal ceremony known as the Marine Corps birthday ball. The ball is a formal affair held by each unit. Unit members dress in their finest dress blue uniforms that have become synonymous with the title Marine and hold a formal dinner.

This dinner is a culmination of the entire birthday celebration, where Marines come together to honor all who have come before and those who will continue to keep the honor, courage and commitment of the Marine Corps alive.

The Miramar Minute:

CH-53E Super Stallion mechanics

Video by Lance Cpl. Erica DiSalvo



MIRAMAR MINUTE



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