

# Regional Command Southwest Round-up

Weekly Report, November 12, 2011

The following content summarizes a week's worth of activity from Regional Command Southwest, commanded by Maj. Gen. John Toolan and covering Helmand and Nimroz Provinces, Afghanistan. The content was created by Marine Corps Combat Correspondents, Navy Mass Communication Specialists, Combat Camera and personnel with UK media operations under Task Force Helmand. Feel free to forward our stories to family, friends and loved ones supporting those who are deployed.

## Featured Stories



### Victory in Nawa: building a better tomorrow

NAWA DISTRICT, Afghanistan – Sunlight crept silently through the windows lining the walls of the Loy Kolay precinct, an Afghan National Army security outpost, as the Marines and sailors awoke, each nudging the soundly sleeping service member next to him. [\(more\)](#) [\(video\)](#)

*Story & video by Cpl. Jeff Drew, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division*

### Improvised Explosive Device Discovery and Detonation

SANGIN DISTRICT, Afghanistan -- U.S. Marines with Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 8 found multiple Improvised Explosive Devices (IED) in Sangin November 3, 2011. Marines with Explosive Ordnance Disposal were called in to detonate the IED. [\(video\)](#)

*By Cpl. Eric Wilterdink, Regimental Combat Team 8*



### Marines join UK partners for Remembrance Day ceremony

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan – At the 11th hour on Nov. 11, 1918, the armistice was signed between the allied forces and Germany to end World War I. Today, the 11th of November serves as a national holiday in many of the allied countries throughout the world. [\(story\)](#) [\(video\)](#)

*Story by Cpl. Meredith Brown, Regional Command Southwest  
Video by MC2 Matt Snodgrass, Regional Command Southwest*

## Lest we forget

Armed Forces personnel who have been killed while serving their country since the First World War have been remembered today at ceremonies across the UK as well as in Afghanistan and across the world. [\(story\)](#)

*A UK History and Honour news article*



## Task Force Belleau Wood Marines, partners celebrate Corps' 236th birthday

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Regardless of clime or place, whether it be in America, Japan, Afghanistan or on a ship at sea, Marines take a pause in their operational tempo every Nov. 10, to celebrate their beloved Corps birthday. [\(story\)](#) [\(video\)](#)

*Story by Cpl. Katherine Keleher, Regional Command Southwest  
Video by Staff Sgt. Jeremy Ross, Regional Command Southwest*

## Providing personal security in perilous places

PATROL BASE WHITE HOUSE, Afghanistan – Nestled in the rolling mountains of Afghanistan near the Helmand River are the fighting warriors of 1st Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment. [\(more\)](#)

*By Cpl. Marco Mancha, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division*



## The busiest man in Nawa

COMBAT OUTPOST JAKER, Afghanistan – His days end late in the evenings and begin well before sunrise. While most in Nawa are still sleeping soundly in their beds, he is already awake preparing for another seemingly endless day. [\(more\)](#)

*By Staff Sgt. Andrew Miller, Regimental Combat Team 5*

## Illinois native overcomes tragedy, sprints to finish in Helmand

FIRE BASE FIDDLERS GREEN, Afghanistan – A sprinter by trade, Josh McCormick grew up with the wind on his heels. The Rantoul, Ill., native grew up in the small, farming community playing soccer and football to stay in shape, but his passion was sprinting the track. [\(more\)](#)

*By Cpl. Jeff Drew, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Division*





### Private Matthew Thornton killed in Afghanistan

It is with regret that the Ministry of Defence must confirm that Private Matthew Thornton, from 4th Battalion The Yorkshire Regiment (4 YORKS), was killed in Afghanistan on Wednesday 9 November 2011. [\(more\)](#)

*A UK Military Operations news article*

### Hammond visits troops in Afghanistan

Philip Hammond made his first visit to Afghanistan this week since becoming Secretary of State for Defence and met ISAF commanders as well as front line UK troops. [\(more\)](#)

*A UK Defence Policy and Business news article*



### RAF Police receive Afghanistan medals

The Royal Air Force's 2 (Tactical) Police Squadron (2 TPS) have been on parade at RAF Henlow to receive campaign medals for their recent tour in Afghanistan. [\(more\)](#)

*A UK History and Honour news article*

### Coalition hosts Eid celebration aboard Camp Leatherneck

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan - Coalition forces hosted a celebration in observance of the Muslim holiday Eid al-Adha at Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Nov. 6. [\(story\)](#) [\(video\)](#)

*Story by MC2 Jonathan Chandler, Regional Command Southwest  
Video by Cpl. Bryan Nygaard, Regional Command Southwest*





### **Partnered Engagement: Outside the wire with 2nd MLG (FWD) EPT platoon**

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan - The cold desert was an unforgiving venue for Embedded Partnering Team, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), as they convoyed across the Afghan plains. [\(story\)](#) [\(video\)](#)

*Story & video by Cpl. Timothy Solano, Regional Command Southwest*

### **Marine aviation key to major offensive in Afghanistan**

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan - Under the veil of darkness, a team of Marine Corps CH-53 heavy-lift helicopters sped over the Helmand River valley in early October. [\(more\)](#)

*By Cpl. Brian Adam Jones, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Air Wing*



### **'Making a difference' pushes one Arizona Marine to excel on fourth deployment**

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan - Nine years in the Marine Corps, four deployments and less than four weeks until he sets foot on American soil once again, Staff Sgt. Davison Slivers has spent a collective two-and-a-half years defending his country in both Iraq and Afghanistan. [\(more\)](#)

*By Cpl. Katherine M. Solano, 2<sup>nd</sup> Marine Logistics Group*

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