

2011 year in review



Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, provide security as a helicopter takes off with wounded role-players during a mass casualty evacuation drill at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 28, 2011

CLB-11 trains for disasters

Story and photos by
Cpl. Khoa Pelczar
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marines Logistics Group, conducted a weeklong Humanitarian Assistance and Disas-

ter Relief training here, Jan. 24-30., 2011

Throughout the week, Marines and sailors received classes on the rules of engagement, force protection, entry control points, and risks and threats identification. They also conducted numerous exercises to include resupply missions, water purification exercises, noncombatant evacuation operations and mass casualty evacuation drills.

“The training is a refresher of what we’ve learned from boot camp and [Marine Combat Training],” said Lance Cpl. Tuan Nguyen, radio operator, CLB-11, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “The training is necessary because it prepares us for all aspects of what we can expect during the upcoming deployment and not just our [Military Occupational Specialty]. It helps us to think out-

See DISASTERS Page 3

INSIDE



**Military policemen
attack MOUT Town**

Page 4

LS Marines prepare for deployment Page 5

Marines, sailors learn to save lives Page 7

Service members get down and dirty Page 9

Follow us on:





Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, prepare to exit the vehicle during a Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer at Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 4, 2011.

Tossed Around **CLB-11 Marines train for vehicle rollovers**

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – “Roll over! Roll over! Roll over!” the Marines screamed as they were tossed around inside the vehicle.

Luckily, this was merely a training scenario that provided Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, a realistic approach to what it might feel like in a vehicle rollover, as they took part in a Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer, here, April 4, 2011.

The training aimed to prepare service members for their upcoming deployment with 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit.

“This is good training,” said Sgt. Marcos Bustos, career planner, CLB-11, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “If we ever experience a vehicle rollover, we need to know what to do to get a

fellow Marine or sailor out safely.”

Weighing more than 8,000 pounds, HEAT is a simulated vehicle designed to help Marines improve their techniques for safely exiting a vehicle and evacuating a wounded service member after a vehicle has flipped over or landed on its side. The simulator rotates and can stop either upside down or sideways. The Marines went through various scenarios in which fellow passengers were wounded or knocked out as a result of the rollover and Marines had to evacuate the simulated casualty.

“It feels like a real vehicle accident,” said Lance Cpl. Alexandra Gunst, warehouse clerk, CLB-11, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “We were tossed around and then afterward we had to exit the vehicle and pull out the ones who were hurt.”

After the course, the Marines and sailors of CLB-11 were better prepared for their deployment which is scheduled for mid-summer.



Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, pull a simulated casualty from the Humvee Egress Assistance Trainer at Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 4, 2011.

 <p>1st Marine Logistics Group VICTORY THROUGH LOGISTICS FOLLOW ME</p> 	<p>COMMANDING GENERAL BRIG. GEN. JOHN J. BROADMEADOW</p>	<p>SERGEANT MAJOR SGT. MAJ. ANTONIO VIZCARRONDO JR.</p>
	<p>PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICERS 1ST LT. JEREMY MCLEAN 2ND LT. TYLER MORRISON</p>	<p>COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS CPL. MICHELE WATSON CPL. KHOA PELCZAR LANCE CPL. JERRICK GRIFFIN PFC. TIMOTHY CHILDERS</p>
	<p>PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF SGT. JOHN JACKSON</p>	<p>CONTACT US: 760-763-7795 1MLG_PUBLIC_AFFAIRS@USMC.MIL</p>

DISASTERS

continued from Page 1

side the box.”

Marines and sailors conducted a combat logistics patrol to a training site, where they provided medical support and evacuated the villagers from the danger zone, explained an instructor with the Special Operations Training Group. In the scenario, the village received terrorist threats and a house collapsed and injured 24 villagers. The villagers needed security and medical support on site while there were still hostile forces in the area.

“The SOTG team was very professional in providing us a great opportunity to train,” said Cmdr. Hermann Gonzalez, emergency physician, CLB-11, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “We couldn’t have done this without their support.”

The scenario was very realistic, providing the Marines and sailors with a chance to get a good feel for what it’s really like, said Gonzalez, 47, from Sevilla, Spain. The service members also had a chance to practice calling in air support to load and evacuate casualties.

“This is good training and it’s going to get us ready for our deployment,” said Lance Cpl. Filmore Perez, motor transport operator, CLB-11, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “Today we’re supporting a [mass casualty evacuation] mission and it consists of everything we’ve learned up to this point. From providing medical care to the wounded, resupplying the village and our friendly units, to doing evacuation drills, we’ll put everything we know to the test.”

As these Marines and sailors went through the mock mass casualty evacuation mission, they

learned the key factors to successfully complete the mission, such as setting up security around the objective site, moving casualties out of danger/open areas, applying basic medical care to the wounded, securing a landing zone and communicating with air support.

“We started out slow but we began to be more proficient as we continued with the mission,” said Nguyen, 22, from Arlington, Texas. “Once we got a taste of what life might be like on deployment, we understood the mission more.”

Overcoming a rough start of getting their equipment unloaded at the site, the Marines and sailors accomplished every mission set before them. They provided security and secured the site, cared for the wounded and called in air support to successfully evacuate all personnel. They were also able to provide a fresh source of water to both ser-

vice members and villagers.

“A lot of the countries we go to, there’s no clean water source,” said Sgt. Johnny Moore, utility chief, utility team, CLB-11, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “Our team’s main objective is to get water from natural resources and turn it into fresh water. By using the Tactical Water Purification System, we’re able to provide clean water to the locals and our troops. It’s a great morale booster for everyone.”

The TWPS system provides the war-fighters an unlimited water resource, explained Moore, 26, from Lansing, Mich. The troops are able to stay hydrated to complete their missions.

“From what I saw, it looks like we have a solid unit,” said Perez, 21, from Covelo, Calif. “There are still some things we need to improve. But overall, we are ready for this upcoming deployment.”



Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, evacuate a wounded role-player out of the danger zone during a mass casualty evacuation drill at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 28, 2011.

Military policemen attack MOUT town

Story and photos by
Pfc. Timothy Childers
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – “Set!” yells the fire team leader as he waits outside a doorway, rifle at the ready position. The Marine behind him grabs his shoulder and gives the command, “Go!” The 4-man team rushes into the room.

Marines from 1st Platoon, Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, trained for Military Operations in Urban Terrain at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 25, 2011. The Marines practiced clearing buildings, breaching doors, procedures when finding weapon caches, detaining and handling enemy prisoners of war, and setting casualty collection points.

The training area, commonly known as a “MOUT town,” tested the Marines’ knowledge and skills on operations in austere areas like Afghanistan. The range portrays how an urban battlefield may look in a combat operation, complete with salvaged cars, mailboxes, street signs and gas stations.

Each building is designed differently to allow an unpredictable layout that Marines would normally experience in MOUT. The rooms are filled with distracting elements such as furniture, holes in the walls and open ceilings.

“This was the first time the Marines have trained together as a new platoon,” said Staff Sgt. Stacy N. Roman, platoon sergeant, 1st Platoon, MP Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG. “The training today has helped build unit cohesion and teamwork skills that the Marines will have to apply when they’re deployed.”

The majority of the Marines have a basic understanding of MOUT, but this training brought them together and allowed them to build on what they’ve learned and fix their mistakes for when it really counts, said Roman.

MOUT can be more dangerous than the open battlefield. Marines have the possibility of



Marines from 1st Platoon, Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, train for Military Operations in Urban Terrain at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 25, 2011

close-quarter combat that puts them face-to-face with danger. It requires Marines to be extra cautious and aware of their environment. The terrain gives enemy combatants the upper hand. It allows a greater possibility for “booby-traps” and concealment of the enemy. Evacuation of casualties also can become difficult without the support of motor transport and aircraft.

The platoon learned and sustained the basics of MOUT in preparation for the Infantry Immersion Trainer slated for next week. The trainer is designed to immerse a platoon into a simulated environment of combat, said 2nd Lt. Elisha Woienski, platoon commander, 1st Platoon, MP Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG.

“It’s important for Marines to sustain their training,” said Woienski. “In the military police field, it’s hard to know when the Marines will be called upon for a mission.”

Apart from the sustainment of training, the Marines of 1st Platoon enjoyed their experience in the MOUT town.



Marines from 1st Platoon, Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, clear a set of stairs while training for Military Operations in Urban Terrain at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Oct. 25, 2011

“It was good training. I felt that the hands-on experience was more enjoyable than the classes we took,” said Lance Cpl. Martin J. Kim, military policeman, 1st Platoon, MP Co., CLR-17,

1st MLG. “It’s good for the Marines that have never deployed to learn the basic fundamentals of MOUT. Next time, they will have the experience and knowledge that they will need.”

LS Marines prepare for deployment

Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – ‘We have an inbound LCAC’ said the sailor into the radio to inform the service members on the beach to get into their positions. A few moments later, the Landing Craft Air Cushion, a massive amphibious landing craft, stormed onto Red Beach.

This was part of a training evolution conducted by Marines with Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group and Assault Craft Unit 5 here, July 18-21, 2011.

ACU-5 is an amphibious unit located at Camp Pendleton, Calif. They utilize the LCAC to move vehicles, cargo and personnel from ship to shore in a timely manner. The LCAC, which is an 88-foot long, over-the-beach, fully amphibious craft, can carry up to 75 tons from the sea and across the beach, according to the unit’s web site.

The purpose of the 4-day training evolution was to familiarize the Marines with Maritime Prepositioning Force operations and prepare them for a future deployment with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit next summer.

According to the Marine Corps Maritime Positioning Force Publication, ‘an MPF operation is a



A sailor with Assault Craft Unit 5 directs a Landing Craft Air Cushion onto Red Beach during a Maritime Prepositioning Force training evolution with Marines from Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, at Camp Pendleton, Calif., July 18, 2011.

mission-tailored, strategic deployment option that is global in nature, naval in character, and suitable for various employments.’ Its essential purpose ‘is to establish a Marine Air Ground Task Force fully prepared to execute an operational mission.’

During the training, a sailor directed the LCAC as it settled onto

the beach, then lowered its giant bow gate. The Landing Support personnel then went to work, logging and receiving Humvees, Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicles and 7-ton trucks that were transported by the LCAC.

“We are doing this training so the Marines can gain familiarity with an MPF offload,” said Staff Sgt.

Cameron Tygett, landing support chief, Combat Logistics Battalion 15, CLR-17, 1st MLG, from Escondido, Calif. “It also gives the operators of the LCACs the chance to practice offloading and onloading.”

“Today we have vehicles from different units coming off the LCACs,” said Cpl. Joshua Ruiz, landing support specialist, Landing Support Company, CLR-17, 1st MLG. “Our goal is to take down the type of vehicles, serial numbers, how many Marines were in the vehicle, their unit and the craft it came off of. This helps keep up with how much gear and how many troops we have coming in.”

After the vehicles were taken off of the LCAC, they were directed to a staging area for training purposes. In an actual offloading situation, the vehicle and the Marines would be sent to their respective unit or assembly areas. Landing Support personnel serve multiple purposes on these missions.

“Our job can be involved with all aspects of the operation,” said Pfc. David Montes, landing support specialist, LS Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG. “From the sea to the air, and on land.”



Pfc. David Montes, landing support specialist, Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, signals a Mine Resistant Ambush Protected All-Terrain Vehicle during a Maritime Prepositioning Force training evolution with Assault Craft Unit 5 at Camp Pendleton, Calif., July 18, 2011.

CLB-11 constructs SWA hut from ground-up

Story and photos by
Cpl. Michele Watson
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON Calif. – More than 30 Marines with Engineer Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, constructed a Southwest Asia Hut from the ground up in a training support mission for the 11th MEU here, June 20, 2011.

The detachment is made up of Marines with five different military occupational specialties: electricians, water technicians, heavy equipment operators, bulk fuel specialists and combat engineers.

“We all have our certain position, but we all want to learn something new,” said Cpl. Matthew R. Flynn, assistant squad leader with Engineer Det., CLB-11, 11th MEU. “It makes it easier to work together when you’re teaching someone who wants to learn.”

The detachment is originally part of the 1st Marine Logistics Group but was attached to the 11th MEU in May to prepare for a deployment to the Western Pacific in November.

“It’s my first time being on a MEU,” said Flynn, 22, from Kansas City, MO. “I’m excited, it’s something new so I don’t know what to expect.”

The engineers have been on four field operations as part of the MEU to train for any situation they may come across during their deployment. Constructing the hut readied them for humanitarian assistance disaster relief missions where infrastructure damage has occurred.

“This training mission is to showcase the vertical construction capa-

bility in a joint-training evolution with Battalion Landing Team 31,” said 1st Lt. Jerad E. Birmingham, officer in charge of Engineer Det., CLB-11, 11th MEU. “I planned for it to take two days, and they got it done in less than one.”

While construction is one aspect of the engineers’ job, their field covers many other expectations.

“We just came back from doing a demolition range with an array of different munitions, specific for obstacle reduction and counter mobility,” said Staff Sgt. Jon S. Nelson, staff noncommissioned officer of Engineer Det., CLB-11, 11th MEU. “These field operations show the versatility of the combat engineer MOS, and I think these Marines are doing an outstanding job.”

Nelson, 33, an Austin, Texas, native, said for many of the Marines, constructing this hut was the first time they had built something that large.

“These young Marines are hungry for the experience,” said Nelson, who supervises the projects to ensure safety measures and timeliness goals are met.

While the Marines are eager for new opportunities, safety remains an important factor in all the missions they conduct.

“Safety is paramount, especially in this job where we work with high explosives and pneumatic tools,” said Birmingham, 26, a Stevensville, Mich., native.

Once the hut was completed, the engineers got to break it in by sleeping in their personally-constructed hut. With another project under their belts, the Marines are ready to move on to their next mission.



A Marine with Engineer Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, cuts plywood to use in the construction of a Southwest Asia hut during a field operation on Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 20, 2011.



Staff Sgt. Jon Nelson, staff noncommissioned officer of Engineer Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, and Sgt. Richard Williamson, a squad leader with Engineer Det., CLB-11, 11th MEU, assist with placing a roof rafter on a Southwest Asia hut during a construction training mission on Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 20, 2011.



Cpl. Dustin Lamb, a fire team leader with Engineer Detachment, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit, uses a nail gun to secure the wall of a Southwest Asia hut during a field operation on Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 20, 2011.



A simulated improvised explosive device detonates during the first Operational Medical Symposium at Naval Medical Center San Diego, Oct. 28, 2011.

Marines, sailors learn to save lives in combat

Story and photos by
Pfc. Timothy Childers
Staff Writer

NAVAL MEDICAL CENTER SAN DIEGO, Calif. — Exploding fireballs and corpsmen screaming from the top of their lungs set the scene as Marines and sailors took part in the first Operational Medical Symposium here Oct. 28, 2011, in which service members simulated treating casualties in a combat environment.

Marines and sailors from 1st Medical Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, joined by corpsmen from Naval Medical Center San Diego, provided training and education to the active duty staff of NMCS, with some who have never deployed in a combat setting, in order to prepare them for upcoming deployments.

Approximately 450 doctors, nurses and hospital corpsmen participated in 90-minute training blocks covering the five medical echelons of care used by Navy Medicine. Echelons begin at the point of wounding, illness, or injury, and provide a continuum of care extending through prolonged rehabilitation, according to Sonja Hanson, public affairs officer, NMCS.

During one of the training blocks, sailors were required to treat casualties during a simulated improvised explosive device blast. The casualties had fake injuries such as severed limbs and face lacerations

which the sailors had to treat, as instructors sprayed fake blood on the wounds and their faces.

Many of the Marines and sailors who have seen combat found that the realism of the training reflected what they had experienced overseas.

“I have had a similar experience while deployed in Afghanistan,” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Brandon B. Brown, corpsman, Simulation Center, NMCS. “The simulation was very realistic. It’s essential for the [Marines and sailors] training to have a level of realism so they will be ready when it counts.”

To simulate the stress of combat, the instructors screamed questions at the corpsmen as they performed Combat Lifesaving Skills on the casualties.

“It’s very important that we induce stress on [the sailors],” said Petty Officer 2nd Class Joseph Gagucas, formal instructor, Advisory Training Group, 1st Medical Bn., 1st MLG. “Their concentration will be required in a real-life scenario to save lives.”

Combat medicine is the first and most critical moment of the medical echelons. Stabilizing the patient in the field may be the difference between life and death for the casualty.

Motor transportation operators also play a major part in saving the lives of service members injured in combat. It’s their job to drive the casualties from the sight of injury



Corpsmen provide medical care to a simulated casualty during the first Operational Medical Symposium at Naval Medical Center San Diego, Calif., Oct. 28, 2011.

to higher echelons of care. They need to get the patients from the field to the rear as fast as possible, said Lance Cpl. Michael B. Halick, motor transportation operator, 1st Medical Bn., 1st MLG.

The Advisory Training Group comprises Marines and sailors with deployment experience who teach service members about important combat medicine concepts, including Tactical Combat Casualty Care and CLS.

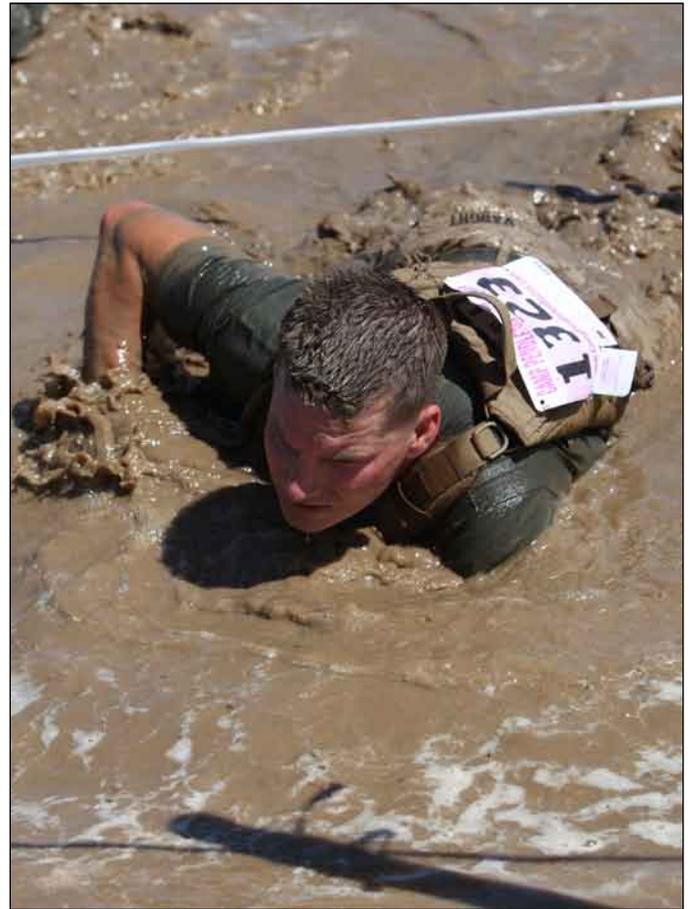
“I think the nurses and corpsmen already have a basic understanding of what’s required of them to save lives,” said Navy Lt. Kelly A. Trout, officer in charge, ATG, 1st Medical

Bn., 1st MLG. “We bring the experience of working as a team in the austere. This is one of the obstacles we can help prepare them for.”

After the training blocks were completed, the instructors reviewed the sailors’ performance. They pointed out the difficulties that they had during the event and also what they excelled at, so they would know their strengths and weaknesses. In the end they congratulated the service members on dealing with the stress and completing their mission. They were confident that if it came down to the real thing, the Marines and sailors could pull through and save lives.



A team with the Disbursing Office, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, took the 1st place trophy during the World Famous Mud Run, June 3, 2011. The 2nd place team reached the finish line 10 minutes later.



1st Lt. Thomas B. Vaught, officer in charge, S-4 Section, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, crawls across 30 feet of muddy water here, approaching the finish line during the Mud Run here, June 3, 2011.

MUD RUN:

Service members get down and dirty

Story and photos by
Cpl. Michele Watson
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – More than 300 Marines and sailors here participated in the World Famous Mud Run at the Lake O’Neill Recreation area, June 3, 2011.

Units from across the base made up 5-man teams to compete in the challenging 10K run that dragged them through dirt, sand, creeks, lakes and pools of mud.

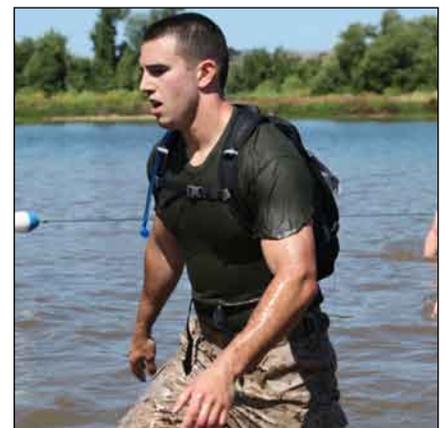
Each year on New Year’s Day, registration for the event is open to the public who pay to participate, and the slots are usually full by the end of day. This year, service members were given the opportunity to sign up for free and run the course a day before the official event on June 4. The trail brought teams up steep hills, through deep waters

and down slippery slopes.

Though the 6.2-mile boots and utilities obstacle track was physically demanding, the energy and motivation brought smiles to every team crossing the finish line. After the final 30-yard low crawl through a mud puddle, members linked arms as the announcer identified their units upon completion.

“It was extremely fun and it was a great experience for a shop or unit to participate in together,” said Sgt. Monica A. Mendoza, a legal chief with Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group. “It’s definitely a morale booster and I think it was great that they scheduled a day just for Marines and sailors.”

At the end of the run, the winning teams, to include 1st MLG’s Disbursing team who took first place, were officially announced and all members were encouraged to participate in next year’s annual run.



Petty Officer 3rd Class Zachary Davis, CLR-17 Regimental Aid Station, participates in the Mud Run here, June 3, 2011.



More than 300 Marines and sailors take off at the start of the World Famous Mud Run at Lake O’Neill aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 3, 2011.



Photo by Cpl. Khoa Pelczar

Cpl. Anthony Marquez, Maintenance Management Office clerk, Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, participates in a regimental 6-mile-hike at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 8, 2011.



Photo by Cpl. Khoa Pelczar

Staff Sgt. Garival Perez, water technician, Headquarters and Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, maneuvers a bicycle around a cone while wearing a pair of impaired goggles simulating drunk driving at a Health and Nutrition Exposition aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif. Sept. 1., 2011



Photo by Cpl. Khoa Pelczar

Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, shoot at their targets on the move during a Combat Marksmanship Program shoot on Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 28, 2011.



Photo by Pfc. Timothy Childers

Marines from Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, train to rig cargo at Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif., Nov. 8, 2011.



Photo by Pfc. Timothy Childers

Marines from Combat Logistics Battalion 5 participate in their monthly battalion physical fitness session at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Aug. 25, 2011.

Photos from around 1st MLG