



# The Convoy

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Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group.



## Spending time with students Marines participate in school's annual Jog-a-Thon

Story and Photos by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank  
The Convoy Staff

San Clemente, Calif. – Fifteen Marines with Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, traveled to Clarence Lobo Elementary School in San Clemente, Calif., to participate in the school's annual Jog-a-Thon, Jan. 15.

"The Marines bring so much to the kids," said Sandy McKinney, principle of Clarence Lobo Elementary School. "They're role models to them."

The Marines joined more than 500 kindergarten through fifth grade students in the school's biggest fundraiser.

The Marines led the kids in stretching-out prior to running around the track in the school's playground.

"It's great to take time out of our day and spend it with the children," said Lance Cpl. Marisol S. Vargas, legal clerk with Headquarters Company, CLR-17, 20, from Temple, Texas. "Making them smile makes



**Lance Cpl. Heather D. Eblin, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense specialist with Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, 20, from Marion, Ill., speaks with Clarence Lobo Elementary kids in the school's annual Jog-a-Thon at San Clemente, Calif., Jan. 15.**

my day better."

The kids received pledge sheets for a certain amount of money every time they ran around the track in a certain period of time. The money

collected will be used toward enrichment programs to include art, music and field trips.

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**Lance Cpl. Chris A. DeCarmen, a chemical, biological, radiological and nuclear defense specialist with Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, 20, runs with Clarence Lobo Elementary kids in the school's annual Jog-a-Thon at San Clemente, Calif., Jan. 15.**

## Marine saves choking man's life

Story and photos by  
Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank  
The Convoy Staff

Miami – The training a Marine received in boot camp helped him save a man's life during the Christmas holiday.

Lance Cpl. Rajiv A. Richardson, a military policeman with Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, was home on leave when he performed the Heimlich maneuver to save a choking man's life, Dec. 26.

While Richardson and his friends were walking into a restaurant to have dinner, he noticed an elderly man sitting on a bench hunched over gasping for air. Another bystander was patting him on the back in hopes of dislodging the food that was stuck in the man's airway. As the bystander was assisting the choking man, he told others to call 911.

Richardson knew the man would

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**Lance Cpl. Rajiv A. Richardson, a military policeman with Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, 24, from Miami, used the Heimlich maneuver to save another man's life, Dec. 26.**

# Bringing home the gold

## 1st MLG wins 1st Place in Division III USAA Cup

Story and Photos by  
Lance Cpl. Khoa N. Pelczar  
The Convoy Staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – For almost 30 years, the annual United Services Automobile Association Pendleton Cup has been around for members here, to participate in and enjoy.

Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group was awarded first place in Division III of the 2009 USAA Pendleton Cup here, Jan. 14, for the first time since its inception.

The USAA Pendleton Cup consists of many races, competitions and sport tournaments scheduled throughout the year. Marines could win points for their unit by participating in these activities, more points are awarded by winning the challenges.

"This is big for us," said Col. Bruce E. Nickle, commanding officer of CLR-17, 1st MLG. "We did great, I'm grateful that our Marines were out there participating in all the races, the sporting events and the (Single Marine Program) events."

Each month, SMP has a list of events service mem-



**Eddie Bolanos, 46, from Oceanside, Calif., Marine Corps Community Services athletic coordinator (left), presents a first place check in Division III of the 2009 United Services Automobile Association Cup to Col. Bruce E. Nickle, commanding officer of Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group (right), during a formation at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 14. This is the first time CLR-17 has received the award since the establishment of the USAA Cup in 1973.**

bers can join. Most are ideas taken from fellow Marines and sailors working with the SMP staff; including movie nights, and volunteer opportunities. Recreation centers around the base also offered classes, races, and physical competitions

for service members, all of which added points toward the Cup for participation.

"I'm grateful to Col. Nickle for giving me carte blanche to put the word out on MCCS activities and programs, and to all of the CLR-17 officers and (staff noncommissioned

officers) who take the time to pass it on to their shops," said Christina J. Chilleme, MCCS coordinator for CLR-17, 1st MLG.

Before, service members did not know about recreational options available to them, Chilleme said. But

as word was passed down, more participants started showing up to the activities.

"I want to encourage Marines to participate in these activities," said Nickle, 45. "Some Marines come to California and never get to experience anything. These activities build camaraderie and offer more things for the Marines to do."

To prepare for the cup, CLR-17 hosts its own internal sporting competitions among the companies, such as flag football, Nickle explained.

"Marines and sailors are motivated to get involved and go beyond their standard duties to participate in activities that are beneficial to them both mentally and physically," said Chilleme.

The MCCS Semper Fit Athletics department is doing a great job of offering activities that appeal to athletes, Chilleme said.

"I'm mostly proud about the fact that we were able to balance things out to accomplish our missions," said Nickle, from Vienna, Va. "We were able to participate in these activities and carry on with our training for our upcoming deployment."

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**Lance Cpl. Rajiv A. Richardson, a military policeman with Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group saved a choking man's life, Dec. 26.**

## MARINE

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die if no one performed the Heimlich maneuver. He yelled out to see if anyone knew how to perform the maneuver. After no responses, Richardson jumped into action to save the man's life.

"After I made the decision to help the man, I blocked everything around me out and focused on saving his life," said Richardson, 24, from Miami.

Richardson said he tried to stand the man up, but he was not responsive. So he had two men hold the choking victim up to prevent him from falling forward. Richardson went behind the man and started to perform the Heimlich maneuver.

"I didn't stop until he coughed something up," Richardson said. "I was nervous, but confident when doing it."

After performing the Heimlich maneuver for awhile, the man regurgitated his meal. Richardson leaned him back to see if the airway was clear, but the man was still unresponsive. After seeing that, he continued to perform the procedure.

"I used my first aid training that I received at boot camp," Richardson said. "Without it, I wouldn't have been able to assist in helping the man."

Richardson continued to administer the Heimlich maneuver until the man regurgitated again. This time, it dislodged the food and opened the man's airway. Immediately the man started breathing and stood up to thank the Marine for saving his life.

"Everyone there thought the man was going to choke to death," said Hobert Whitworth, assistant general manager of Miami Ale House. "If it wasn't for the Marine's quick action, the man would have died."

After the man recovered and was walking around, paramedics showed

up to the restaurant to assess the choking survivor's situation. They deemed him healthy and told him of the guy who saved his life.

"Lance Cpl. Richardson is an outstanding Marine and citizen," said Pvt. John F. Luna, a military policeman with Military Police Co., 22, from West Point, Miss. "He's always willing to help people regardless of if he knows them or not."

Richardson's initiative and the medical knowledge he received from the Marine Corps saved a man's life. He said he remembered the Heimlich maneuver training in case he would need to perform it on leave, in garrison or while deployed.

"When similar situations like this happen in combat, Marines either freeze or they step up to the plate and save lives," Richardson said. "I had the opportunity to step up and save a man's life."

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Photo by Cpl. Michele Watson

**Marines assigned to the Security Cooperation Marine Air Ground Task Force, Africa Partnership Station 10, board the welldeck of USS Gunston Hall (LSD 44) by way of Amphibious Assault Vehicles as the ship heads south to Haiti. The SCMAGTF was diverted to assist with relief efforts following an earthquake that struck Haiti.**

## 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit deploys to Haiti

Story by Cpl. Bobbie Curtis  
**II Marine Expeditionary Force**

USS BATAAN, At Sea — The 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit embarked aboard the ships of the Bataan Amphibious Ready Group at Morehead City Port, N.C., Jan. 16, en route to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to Haiti in the wake of a devastating earthquake.

The unit is capable of conducting a variety of missions to support relief efforts such as providing security, medical and logistical support to the country. The country endured a 7.0 magnitude earthquake, Jan. 12.

As part of the relief force, 31 French/Creole speaking interpreters were pulled from units throughout II Marine Expeditionary Force.

One interpreter, Lance Cpl. Junior D. Eugene, a bulk fuel specialist who came from

Headquarters and Headquarters Support Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Cherry Point, N.C., said he's anxious to arrive as he was born in Haiti.

"I jumped right up and said I would go," he explained. "Whatever I can do to help, I'm going to do it."

Eugene, who grew-up in New York City, has six brothers and three sisters in Port-au-Prince, Haiti, whom he has not been able to contact since the disaster struck.

"When I heard the news, I was devastated," he said. "I'm happy I'm getting the opportunity to support this mission."

The MEU recently returned from a seven-month deployment to the U.S. European Command and Central Command areas of operations. Though most Marines and sailors were only home for about five weeks, they mobilized in about 48-hours to answer Haiti's call for help.

Lance Cpl. Richard T. Simeone, a mortarman with Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marines, explained that deploying again so soon is worth it.

"It was tough to drop everything and just leave," he said. "I told myself that being able to help a lot of people is worth the sacrifice — it's what we signed up to do."

The 22nd MEU is deployed aboard USS Bataan en route to the earthquake stricken country of Haiti to provide humanitarian assistance and disaster relief to those affected.

The 22nd MEU is a multi-mission capable force comprised of Marine Heavy Helicopter Squadron 461 (Rein.), Combat Logistics Battalion 22, and Battalion Landing Team, 3rd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment.  
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## Happenings

### History Channel

An episode of "Life After People" will air on Jan. 19, including interview from I MEF Marines and Military Working Dogs.

### Big Bear Ski Trip

The Single Marine Program will host a ski trip to Big Bear, Jan. 23. Transportation departs from the Mainside Bowling Alley parking lot at 5:30 a.m. To sign up for the trip, contact Danielle West at 725-2019.

### Free Tax help for 2009

The Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Centers will be open Jan. 19 - April 15. The centers are located in Bldg. 1687 (Mainside), San Onofre Community Center and Abby Reinke Community Center.

### Dining/Club Events Every Mon.-Sun.

#### Mondays

Monday night football/Burn Your Own Steak or Chicken Night (South Mesa Club)

#### Tuesdays/Thursdays

Country & Western Night (Double Deuce Club)

#### Wednesdays/Fridays

Sharky's All Ranks Lounge 5 p.m.

#### Wednesdays

Hip Hop/R&B Night (Double Deuce Club), Social Hour (South Mesa Club)

#### Fridays

Officer's Pub 1795 4 to 9 p.m. Bldg 1795, The 'O' Officers Lounge Social Hour 4 p.m. (South Mesa Club), Catfish Take-out Dinner (South Mesa Club), Social Hour/DJ Dance Party Night (South Mesa Club)

#### Saturdays

Movie Night (52 Area Pizza Company), Burn Your Own Steak or Chicken/Karaoke Night (South Mesa Club)

### Visit the 1st Marine Logistics Group

Check the following sites for updates:  
 - victorythroughlogistics.vox.com  
 - flickr.com/photos/victorythroughlogistics  
 - dvidshub.net/units/1-MLG  
 - myspace.com/1stmlg  
 - youtube.com/user/1stmlg  
 - facebook: Group name "1st MLG"

For more information, please contact the 1st MLG Public Affairs Office at (760) 763-7795.



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# Photos from the 1st Marine Logistics Group



## Welding Sparks bright future for some Marines

*Photos by Cpl. Jacob A. Singsank  
The Convoy Staff*

Lance Cpl. Skyler L. Soares, a welder with Support Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, heats up a Logistics Vehicle System mud flap frame at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Jan. 7.

Soares, 19, from Portola, Calif., uses an oxy acetylene cutting torch to weaken and soften the metal so it can be bent to its original form and welded back onto the vehicle.

Marines at the welding shop are constantly repairing and fabricating metals to allow other Marines to carry on the mission.

According to the Navy Marine Corps Order 3500.15, to become a qualified metal worker, the Marine must attend The Basic Metal Worker Course at Marine Detachment Aberdeen Proving Ground, Md.

Upon graduation, metal workers are assigned to the operating forces at the Division and Marine Logistics Group level.

Metal workers examine drawings and work orders as part of their daily tasks, as well as determine sequence of operations, materials, tools, equipment, time and personnel required. They also perform installation, operation, maintenance and repair of metal-working, and welding equipment and material.

During combat, a metal worker is expected to set-up, operate, inspect and maintain Marine Corps tactical welding shop equipment. Accomplishment and proficiency in these tasks is mission essential.

Like every other military occupation, the welder is a very important duty to fulfill in the Marine Corps.

