



The Convoy

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Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group



7th ESB gets motivated at field meet



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Cover Page:

Seaman David Kingsley, a corpsman with 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group and a 24-year-old native of San Diego, competes in a humvee-pull tournament during the battalion's annual field meet aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.

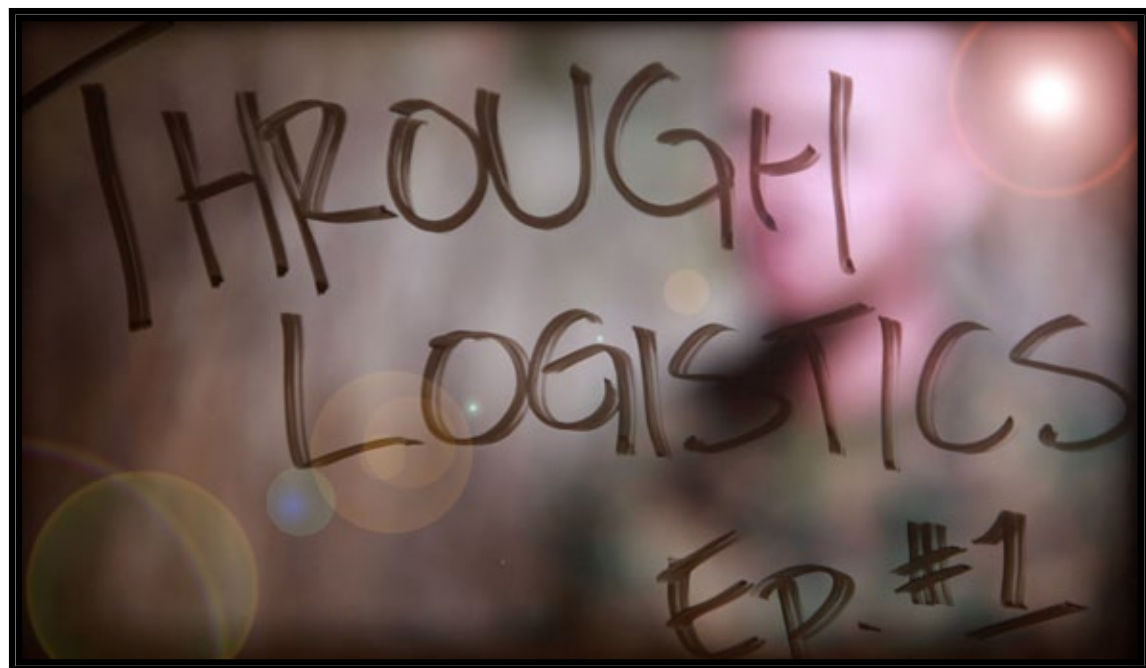
(Photo by: Cpl. Laura Gauna)

To view more photos, see page eight.

THROUGH LOGISTICS

Episode 1 features Marines from Bulk Fuel Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, using a hose-reel system to transport fuel from ship-to-shore and five miles inland.

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Bulk fuelers bolster expeditionary operations



▲ Marines with Bulk Fuel Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, provide security for a hose line aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 25, 2013.

Story and photos by:
Cpl. Kenneth Jasik
Staff Writer

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - The expeditionary needs of the Marine Corps in 'every clime and place' extend from the sea.

To power any kind of operation, from war to humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions, bulk fuel Marines with 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 1st Marine Logistics Group, trained to rapidly deploy a hose that can transport fuel from a ship to a facility deep inland, from Feb. 24 to March 1.

"Our purpose during this field [exercise] was to simulate ship-to-shore operations," said Master Sgt. Christopher D. Collins, an operations chief with Bulk Fuel Company, 7th ESB, 1st MLG. "[We deployed the hose] from Red Beach to Las Pulgas training area which is approximately a five mile spread."

The hose-reel system is a series of hoses on a giant spindle that are deployed from the back of a 7-ton truck and a small team of Marines adjust the line as they help pull



▲ A Marine with Bulk Fuel Company, 7th ESB, 1st MLG, carries a hose line through rough terrain aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 25, 2013.

it off the truck.

"What makes the hose reel a good system is that it is a lightweight, rapidly deployable six-inch hose line," said Collins, 34, from Conroe, Texas.

The line helps a large force, such as a Marine expeditionary brigade, quickly

move inland after landing on a beach and conduct follow-on operations.

"[The hose gives us] the capability to embark from a ship to a beach, put a hose reel in place and deploy that hose reel up to five miles," said Collins. "It extends the logistical capabilities of our

maneuver units."

The bulk fueler's ability to place this reel quickly is useful in both war and peace.

"Disaster relief missions go from ship to shore. [In that scenario], we would do what we are doing right here," said Cpl. John R. Bennett, a tank farm noncommissioned officer with Bulk Fuel Co.

"Then we would set up booster stations for whoever needed it, so we can fill up generators and power medical supplies or whatever is needed."

The Bulk Fuel Co. Marines trained for combat during the exercise and provided force protection to their hoses. They built, protected, and maintained the vital supply line that would fuel trucks, tanks, and aircraft supporting the mission.

"I am very confident with the Marines under my charge," said Bennett, 22, from Detroit. "They know exactly what they are doing and this field [exercise] is very helpful. A lot of Marines have started to take echarge, and we are coming together as a whole."

Brilliant Scepter: Marines return to amphibious roots



Story and photos by:
Cpl. Kenneth Jasik
Staff Writer

The USNS Bob Hope waits to begin unloading military vehicles near San Diego, March 6, 2013.

CORONADO, Calif. – As the Marine Corps refocuses on its amphibious roots, Marines face the challenge of rapidly deploying crucial gear onto the shore so they can take the fight to America’s enemies.

Marines with 1st Marine Logistics Group completed Exercise Brilliant Scepter in which they on-loaded and off-loaded the USNS Bob Hope, March 5-7, using an improved navy lighterage system to ferry vehicles back and forth.

“We have an [improved navy lighterage system] that comes from the Bob Hope,” said Sgt. Stephen P. Werner, a landing support specialist with Landing Support Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics

Group. “It beaches on the shore. We load up vehicles and it transports the vehicles to the ship.”

The exercise involved about 50 tactical vehicles transported between the ship and the beach. The Marines with 1st MLG planned and coordinated all the movements with Naval Beach Group 1, Expeditionary Strike Group 3, Naval Forces Pacific, who was responsible for the equipment once it was on the Bob Hope.

“We split the vehicles into groups,” said Lance Cpl. Nathaniel A. Brackett, a landing support specialist with, LS Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG. “Then when the landing craft arrived at the beach the vehicles were loaded onto it. After dropping

them off at the Bob Hope it would come back for the next stick.”

This is the first time many of the landing support Marines have run a beach operations group. They are more accustomed to running an arrival/departure airfield control group in landlocked Afghanistan.

“[Brilliant Scepter] gets us proficient at beach operations, as well as have us formally working with the Navy. Now we understand the nomenclature of the ships we are working with and how they operate,” said Werner, 21, from Saint Michaels, Md. “This is just one more aspect of our job we need to be proficient at. Because this is our first time

doing it, this is good training for all our Marines.”

The last amphibious encounter for the landing support Marines was during their initial military occupational specialty training.

“This is mainly a [landing support specialist]’s job,” said Brackett. “The way we talk to the ships, how we get the gear on, and how we get it off; it’s a learning experience.”

The training broke up the routine for many Marines. They were glad to take part in a training format that was new to them.

“I like being here. We are getting training and the opportunity to learn something new,” said Brackett, 24, from New Haven, Conn.

Marines with 1st Marine Logistics Group load a Humvee onto an improved Navy lighterage system to ferry it to the USNS Bob Hope, March 5, 2013.



To see more photos, [click here.](#)

Story and photo by:
Cpl. Kenneth Jasik
Staff Writer



Optics technician stands out

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines prove themselves on a daily basis.

Every so often, a Marine dedicates himself with such a passion that he stands out among his peers.

Lance Cpl. Michael M. Estes, an optics technician with Ordnance Maintenance Company, 1st Maintenance Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, was honored as the 1st MLG Marine of the Quarter, here, Feb. 22.

“The only thing I felt I did was take on and accomplish more challenges,” said Estes, 19, from Torrance, Calif. “I think the reason I stood out is because I was the first junior

Marine into work and one of the last ones to leave every day. I just try to do my best.”

According to his superiors, Estes stands out because he constantly proves himself to be a dedicated Marine.

“His initiative, his bearing, and his work ethic make him stand out,” said Sgt. Robert F. Benbow, an optics floor chief with Ordnance Maintenance Co., CLR-15, 1st MLG. “He didn’t have to be told what to do, he just did it. You talk about the whole Marine concept and that’s pretty much him.”

Estes graduated high school early so he could join the Marine Corps.

“School wasn’t for me at the time,” said Estes. “Living with your parents is not what you

want to be doing [after high school].”

Estes chose the Marine Corps over the other branches of service for one, simple reason.

“If you are going to do something, you might as well do it right,” he said.

As an optics technician, it is Estes’ responsibility to repair broken sights, binoculars, laser designators, and other tools associated with weapons accuracy. His field includes rifle combat optics and the PEQ series laser attachments.

“Our optics are used for almost everything. From PEQ-15s to basic RCOs that everyone uses on a day-to-day basis. [In combat], people are using our night sights,” said Estes.

“The gear we work on is everywhere.”

Estes knows his work is important. When troops use optics for targeting, the support he provides gives them an advantage over the enemy.

“It’s a big deal. You need to make sure there are no errors,” said Estes. “If you make errors and it gets approved to go out, you are risking your fellow Marine’s life. It’s your work. You need to take pride in it.”

Estes was honored to receive the award. To him, the recognition means that now is the time to prove he has earned it.

“[This award] is great to receive, but it doesn’t change what you do or how your work ethic should be,” said Estes. “It should make you work harder.”

Logistics Marine won't settle for less

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. - Standing out in the Marine Corps can be very competitive, but not for Gunnery Sgt.

Damian LeClair, who has dedicated his life to excellence.

LeClair, a 34-year-old native of Hooksett, N.H., never takes shortcuts. In fact, he makes it a personal goal to never settle for anything less than his best.

The Logistician of the Year award recognizes and honors Marines that make the most outstanding contributions to the logistics field. These Marines have improved concepts, doctrine, technology or procedures that contribute to the development of logistics.

LeClair, a unit movement control center chief with Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, was noticed for his amazing work ethic during his deployment to Helmand province, Afghanistan, last year.

He and his team of five Marines were tasked with providing logistical support to more than 15,000 personnel within Regional Command (Southwest).

In a given month, they processed approximately 600 logistical requests including food, equipment, gear, and supplies, often working 13-hour days to push supplies to coalition forces.

"I was just out there doing my job and trying to provide the best support I could to the Marines because they need and deserve the best support that you can give them," said LeClair.

In 1997, LeClair joined the Marine Corps. He had a passion for working on vehicles and was thrilled to know he could do it as a career in the military.

"This gave me an opportunity to do what I enjoy doing," said LeClair. "I love waking up every morning knowing I'm a Marine and doing what I love."

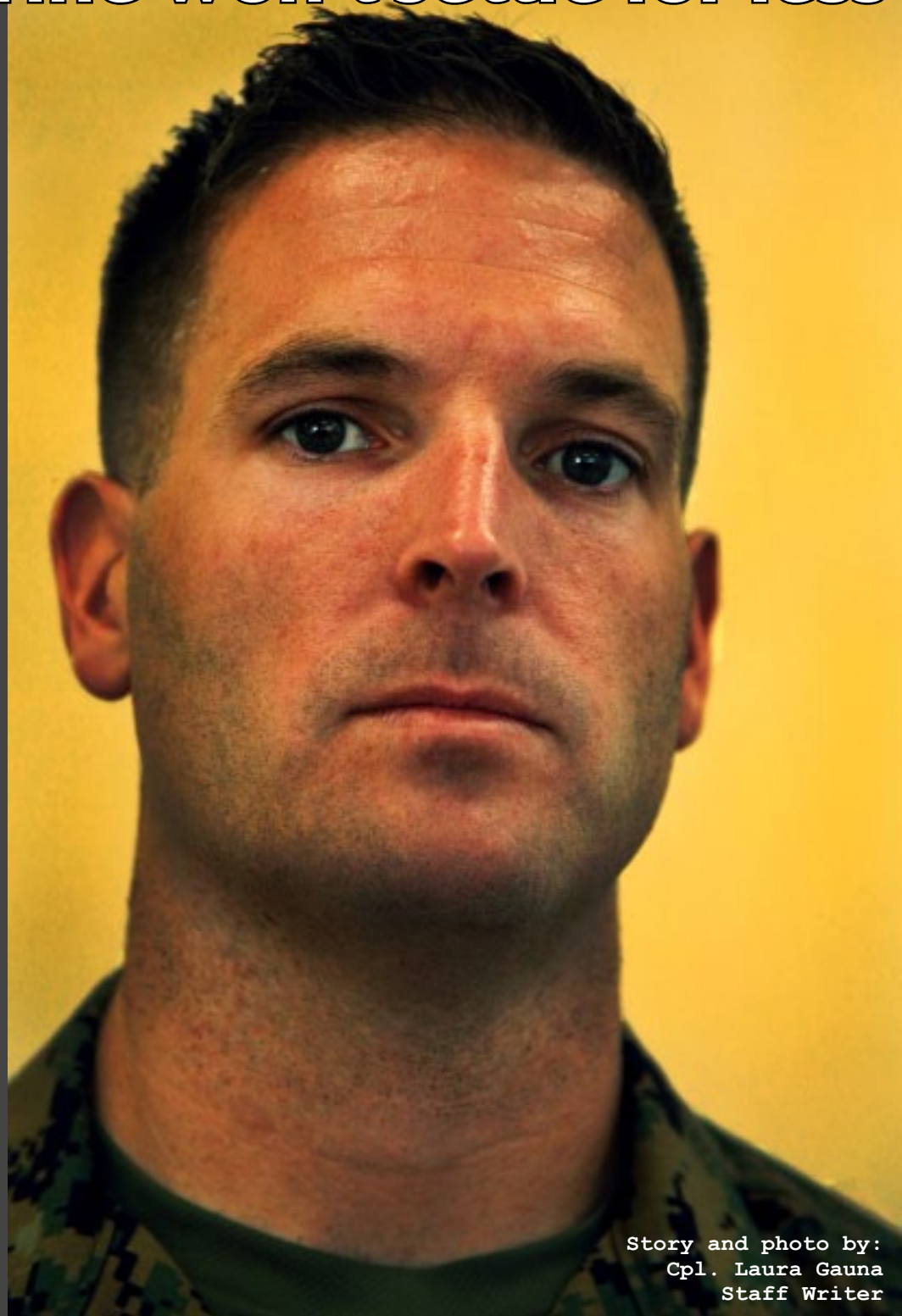
LeClair has traveled to Japan, Korea, Indonesia, Thailand, Dubai, Australia, Iraq, and Afghanistan and looks forward to exploring other places.

"There is always that unknown of where I will be in the next couple of years," said LeClair. "I could be in a different part of the world doing something completely different."

He is grateful that his family gives him their full support.

"My wife and daughter love being a part of the military," added LeClair. "They loved going to all the places we've gone and seeing the things we've seen. My wife supports me a hundred percent in everything I choose to do. It really makes a difference."

LeClair has recently been selected to instruct logistics operations at Camp Johnson, N.C. He is scheduled to leave by the end of



Story and photo by:
Cpl. Laura Gauna
Staff Writer

▲ Gunnery Sgt. Damian LeClair, a unit movement control center chief with Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group was recently recognized as the Logistician of the year and is slated to attend a dinner ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 14, 2013.

March.

"It was always one of my goals to instruct Marines," said LeClair. "I hope to teach them out-of-the-box thinking. To not do things how it's always been done, but to get creative."

In honor of his recent recognition as Lo-

gistician of the Year, he is set to attend a dinner ceremony in Washington, D.C., March 14, 2013.

"It just goes to show hard work doesn't go unrecognized," added LeClair. "This just pushes me even more to do the best I can do no matter what it is I am doing."

1st MLG trains with contaminants



Photos by:
Cpl. Kenneth Jasik
Staff Writer



Marines with 1st Marine Logistics Group completed the gas chamber exercise aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013. The gas chamber is an important event that increases Marines' confidence operating in a contaminated environment.

CLR-15 enjoys *Family Day* after returning from recent deployment



Photos by:
Cpl. Laura Gauna
Staff Writer



Families of Supply Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, enjoy various activities during the unit's family day aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.

[To see more photos, click here.](#)

7th ESB hosts field meet



< Marines and sailors compete in a volleyball tournament during 7th Engineer Support Battalion's annual field meet aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.



^ Lance Cpl. Chris Matilszka, a heavy equipment engineer with Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, competes in a volleyball tournament during 7th ESB's annual field meet aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.



^ Lance Cpl. Michael Gould, a heavy equipment operator with Headquarters Battery, 1st Battalion, 11th Marine Regiment, competes in a tire flipping tournament during 7th ESB's annual field meet aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.



Photos by
Cpl. Laura Gauna
Staff Writer

A Marine with 7th ESB, 1st Marine Logistics Group, competes in a rock-throwing tournament during the battalion's annual field meet aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.

To view more photos, [click here.](#)

Headquarters Company St. Patrick's Day run



Marines with Headquarters Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, form up during a St. Patrick's Day company run aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15, 2013.

Cpl. Laura Gauna



< Marines with HQ Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, are judged on their costumes during a St. Patrick's Day company run, March 15, 2013 aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif.

v Marines with HQ Co., CLR-17, 1st MLG, call cadence during a St. Patrick's Day company run, March 15, 2013 aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Lance Cpl. Cody Haas



Cpl. Laura Gauna



Lance Cpl. Cody Haas

To view more photos, [click here.](#)

CLB-7 reorganizes battalion

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - Two new Marine logistics units were stood up March 7 during ceremonies aboard the center.

The activations are two examples in a series of efficiency-chasing reorganizations within 1st Marines Logistics Group.

“We have to change with the times,” said Lt. Col. Steven Delazaro, commanding officer, CLB-7. “What we’re doing now is in preparation for what makes us most capable, most adaptable, and most responsive to the units we support.”

The battalion’s first ceremony redesignated CLB-7’s Support Company to Maintenance Services Company. Transportation Support Company was assigned to Transportation Services Company and Engineer Services Com-

pany was stood up under its command. These changes provide the logistics community aboard the Combat Center with a more resourceful way of working with Marines and sailors.

The unit names may be changing but their mission focus will not. The new companies have gained and lost Marines but the overall outlook on the change is positive for the battalion.

“We are shifting the unit’s support,” said Sgt. Maj. Michael Walton, battalion sergeant major, CLB-7, about the unit’s reorganization.

The mission hasn’t changed and the efforts put forth by the Marines will continue to excel, said Walton. “The Marines and sailors have done an excellent job.”

CLB-7’s second ceremony activated Combat Logistics Company 13, a new unit pulled from CLB-7’s ranks and

reassigned under the command of the Camp Pendleton-based Combat Logistics Regiment 15.

“Even though we are a new company, they are not new Marines,” said Chief Warrant Officer 2 Randy Hernandez, company commander, CLC-13. “We’ve all been working together for years. I’m looking forward to the Combat Center keeping us busy.”

The battalion, along with CLC-13, will continue to support Combat Center Marines and sailors during deployments and training.

“It’s not any different at all,” said Capt. Michael Tatosian, company commander, Transportation Services Company, CLB-7. “We’ve obtained more assets. We’re more focused now for [motor transportation] but we’re better as a battalion. We’re more efficient.”

Story and photos by:
Cpl. William Jackson
Twentynine Palms

< Captain Milton Rehbein, company commander, Maintenance Services Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 7, unfurls the guidon for his newly formed unit, March 7, 2013.



Chief Warrant Officer 2 Randy Hernandez, company commander, Combat Logistics Company 13, salutes Lt. Col. Steven Delazaro, commanding officer, CLB-7 during CLC-13’s activation ceremony March 7, 2013.



^ A corpsman and a Marine with Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, checks a role player for wounds following a simulated explosion during a Humanitarian Assistance Operation at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 4, 2011. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Jerrick J. Griffin)



^ Katherine Park reaches her hand out to her boyfriend, Seaman Blake Allen Hargis, 1st Marine Logistics Group, as he sets out to deploy to Afghanistan, [Camp Pendleton], March 17, 2010. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Shannon Yount)

1st MLG social media

Caption This Wednesday!



TOP CAPTIONS

Margarita Padilla: "SARG are you sure this is how I get rid of my Hicups?"

Cody Griffin: "Peek a boo I see you"

Bonnie Pugh Kershaw: "It all depends on your perspective."

John Rapoza: "Things are looking up."



TOP CAPTIONS

Jolene Bopp: Marines form boy band, practice for next performance making head way.

John Maxwell: "You'll be glad we did this when the ballet lesson starts!"

Milisavljevic Rachel: "What stairs? Why do we keep climbing!!"



Click here to participate

Marine Corps to the core

CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – “Would I be able to face myself the next day?” This thought coursed through the young Marine’s mind as he underwent yet another exhausting challenge, pushing his body to its limit.

The year was 1991, an infantryman, who had just returned from the Persian Gulf War, was one of a handful of Marines competing for a spot in a Scout Sniper Platoon.

“While going through indoctrination you need to remember your pride,” recalled the Marine. “Pride in yourself and in those around you. Pride to know that you are not going to quit and you’re not going to take the easy way out.”

Chief Warrant Officer 4 Gary L. Reed, who recently deployed to Afghanistan with 1st Marine Logistics Group and Combat Logistics Group 15 as the senior watch officer, was only a corporal when he passed the indoctrination and earned the scout insignia.

Several years were spent with a Scout Sniper Platoon, in which Reed took on several instructor positions and participated in several mountain warfare and cold weather training missions.

“We were a tight knit group because everybody knew that to get to the platoon meant that you had proven yourself,” said Reed, a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear defense officer currently with 1st Marine Logistics Group. “The biggest difference was that you knew each person woke up wanting to be there.”

In 1999 Reed went to the Scout Sniper School and joined the elite fighting force.

According to the an article in USA Today, The Marine Scout Sniper School is one of the most elite military sniper schools on earth and one of the toughest special operations courses in the U.S. Military.

“The school was extremely difficult,” said Reed. “There were times that I really wanted to quit, but I didn’t. I knew I wanted to be there and why.”

Reed, a 43-year-old native of Wheeling, W.Va., was with the Scout Snipers from 1991 to 2003.

“A lot of people look at the scout sniper platoon as the guys who shoot guns all the time,” said Reed. “It’s not only that; it’s being out in front of the units, providing information for the battalion commander to help him make vital decisions.”

After serving more than 15 years with the infantry, Reed started to look in another direction. He ultimately decided to become a chief warrant officer.

After he put in his request to change fields he was subsequently accepted and sent to a CBRN shop. He attended the Marine Corps CBRN School of Defense in Ft. Leonard Wood, MO and later sent to Camp Pendleton.

“It was a challenge to go from leading Marines in one job to another,” said Reed. “But I’m a tactical person by nature and the great thing about the CBRN community is that we remain within the operational areas of the Marine Corps so I was prepared.”

Since joining the Marine Corps in 1987, he has deployed nine times, including to operations Desert Shield, Desert Storm, Iraqi Freedom, and Enduring Freedom as well as deployments with the 11th Marine Expeditionary Unit and with the 31st MEU.

Reed recently competed in the Western Division Match aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., an annual event consisting of more than 380 Marines, retirees, and civilians competing for title of best rifle and pistol marksman.

“With the division matches everyone has the same standard



▲ Chief Warrant Officer 4 Gary L. Reed, a Chemical, Biological, Radiological, and Nuclear defense officer with 1st Marine Logistics Group, recently participated in the 2013 Western Division Match aboard Camp Pendleton, Calif., and received a bronze medal during the pistol competition.

weapon,” he explained. “Everyone is competing to prove they can shoot better than the individual to the left and right of them.”

This was his 6th time competing.

“I come out because I like the challenge and I love to shoot,” said Reed. “I like to challenge myself and others to be able to shoot as skillfully as they can. The goal is to improve yourself and improve others.”

Reed walked away with a bronze medal in the pistol match.

After dedicating 26 years to the Marine Corps, Reed feels retirement is nearing.

“It’s unfortunately probably around the corner,” said Reed.

“I always tell my Marines and wife you gotta love what you do, and I do. I look forward to each day, but there is probably going to be a day that I will wake up and think ‘Am I going to be productive to the Marine Corps?’”

All in all, Reed feels the Marine Corps could not have been a better fit.

“The Marine Corps has been absolutely wonderful at maturing me,” said Reed. “I love my time in it and all the friends I’ve made throughout the years, even though those numbers are withering as I stay in. Ultimately, there are so many ways to reach out to former Marines. It’s a great family and I’m glad I am a part of it.”

Around the Group

Upcoming hiring events

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By completing these steps, you'll help employers find your resume and increase your chance to get a job:

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2. Review and customize your Dashboard. The Dashboard will recommend jobs based on your Resume Builder information.
3. Create a My.Jobs personalized page.
4. Explore Career Paths to learn which career is right for you. Then, connect directly to relevant education and jobs.
5. Join Communities to network with peers, find mentors, and ask employers questions.

If you have a question or suggestion, click Support at the bottom of any page and a Marine Corps Pipeline support person will get back to you quickly.

Take a look at FAFSA

If you want to take advantage of any Federal support for your higher education, you must submit a Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA). FAFSA determines what you're eligible for in government-backed, low-interest Stafford

Your financial aid package is based on how much you can afford to contribute to your education out of your own pocket.

Here are 3 quick FAFSA tips:

(1) **START THE PROCESS EARLY:** The FAFSA for the new year becomes available on January 1st. The application can be time-consuming, so you should start as close as possible to January 1st.

(2) **SUBMIT A PRELIMINARY APPLICATION:** To complete your FAFSA, you'll need your tax return information for the current year (see next tip).

(3) **DON'T PROCRASTINATE - DO YOUR TAXES EARLY:** After submitting your FAFSA, you must complete your tax return as soon as possible.

For more information, visit www.fafsa.ed.gov or call 760-257-2158.

Volunteer Opportunities

To view all volunteer opportunities, click [here](#).

UPCOMING OPPORTUNITIES

- The Camp Pendleton C.R.E.D.O. office is in need of a volunteer to help with office administration duties. For more information, email candi.heinberger@usmc.mil.

- The Temecula Valley Little League Challenger Baseball team is in need of volunteers at the Temeku Hills Park Baseball Fields from March 2 through June 1. For more information, contact Lori Brown at 760-822-9375 or Lori@temeculavalleychallengerbaseball.org

- Fallbrook Fire Safe Council is looking for Active Duty volunteers on March 23 from 8:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m. at the Main Fire Station, 315 Ivy Street. For more information or to register, contact tmikep@recipes4linux.com.

- Ironman 70.3 Oceanside is looking for volunteers, March 28-30. For more information or to register, contact Karen at firststepkaren@aol.com or call 760-213-0480.

- North County Lifeline is in need of After School Program Assistants at Oceanside right off Mission Ave. & the 5 freeway Monday through Friday from 2:30 p.m. to 5 p.m. For more information, email malcazar@nclifeline.org.

NO Tuition Assistance!

How do I pay for school?

- Apply online for federal student assistance via the Free Application for Federal Student Aid (FAFSA).
- Apply for scholarships. Visit the Education Center (Bldg 220) for information on available scholarships, search tools and applications.
- Discuss using your GI Bill with an Education Center Counselor.
- Maximize FREE training offered online and through the Marine Corps.
- Take CLEP & DSST exams for FREE. Testing is administered weekly in the National Test Center (Bldg 219) on a walk-in basis every Thursday from 8 a.m. to 8 p.m.