

Home Sweet Home

1st MLG Marines redeploy from Afghanistan

Story and photo by
 Lance Cpl. Khoa Pelczar
 1st MLG

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – “There he is!!! There he is,” shouted Elijah Salinas, the son of a returning Marine, Sgt. Raul Salinas, as he spotted his dad stepping off the bus during a homecoming at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11.

More than 190 Marines and sailors from 1st Marine Logistics Group redeployed after completing their tour in Afghanistan.

Friends and families of the troops had been waiting for the buses hours before the actual arrival. Everyone seemed anxious to see their loved ones.

“It’s been six months since I last saw my dad,” said Elijah. “I just want to give him a big hug and tell him I love him.”

Waiting alongside the families and friends were fellow service members with 1st MLG there, to greet their friends returning home and help the Marine Corps Community Services coordinators with providing entertainment, food, drinks and support.

“We were able to provide flags, banners and refreshments such as soft drinks, hot dogs, popcorn and cotton candy to everyone,” said Kristy Harris, MCCS coordinator, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st MLG. “There was paper and crayons for the families to make signs. We also provided tables and chairs for the families to be able to sit on while



A young boy sits on top of his relative’s shoulders in order to spot his parent in the crowd of desert cammies during a homecoming at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11. Marines and sailors with 1st MLG were greeted by their loved ones as they returned home from their tour to Afghanistan.

they were waiting.”

Two bounce houses were set up for the children to utilize, explained Harris. The one outside was an obstacle course and the kids seemed to enjoy it, a smaller one was set up inside for the younger children to play in.

“The bounce houses are always a huge hit with the kids,” said Kristy. “They enabled the parents to mingle and wait without worrying about how their children will do with any [delay] that might occur.”

As the buses pulled up, everyone rushed toward them and tried to spot familiar faces. People cheered as if they were sitting at the stadi-

um watching their favorite sporting event. Even the loud music had to surrender its place to the energy of the crowd. The troops were happy to be home and their families were ecstatic to see them safely returned.

“It feels great to be home and see all my friends,” said Cpl. Israel Balladares, administrative clerk, Headquarters Company, 1st MLG. “I’ll make sure to enjoy any breaks I have knowing that we’ll have to resume our training and preparing for future missions.”

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(From left to right) Col. Osamah Jammal, MCB Camp Pendleton chief of staff; Oscar Villa Franca, owner of Dimension Construction; Navy Cmdr. Scott King, resident officer-in-charge of construction; CWO4 Brian Mitchell, postal director; and Donald Darling, former postal director; cut a ceremonial ribbon marking the grand opening of the base's new Mail Processing Facility, March 10.

Ceremony marks opening of new postal facility

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Michelle S. Mattei
Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. — A ribbon-cutting ceremony here, March 10, marked the opening of the new Mail Processing Facility, giving 1st Marine Logistics Group's postal Marines a state-of-the-art

work space.

The building will replace the old postal location, building 1674, and will serve as the main Post Office for all of Camp Pendleton.

The structure achieved a Self-Certified Gold Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design rating due to its ability to reduce energy consumption by more than 30 percent.

The facility, which cost more than \$6.7 million to complete, has new parking lots, extensive landscaping, reinforced concrete masonry unit block construction, reinforced foundation and floors, and a standing seam metal roof.

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Every Marine a Collector

Story and photos by
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MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines from various Military Occupational Specialites within 1st Marine Logistics Group participated in intelligence training at the Company Level Intelligence Cell course here, Feb. 20.

The purpose of this course was to give Marines a better understanding of what intelligence is and how the Marine Corps utilizes it, as well as what is expected of a company level intelligence cell Marine.

“This course is designed to teach Marines how to do some of the same things Intel Marines do, as well as how to [access] the intelligence programs used by the military now,” said Matt Willis, a CLIC course instructor. “So far they have learned data reporting using the Intel Analysis Console.”

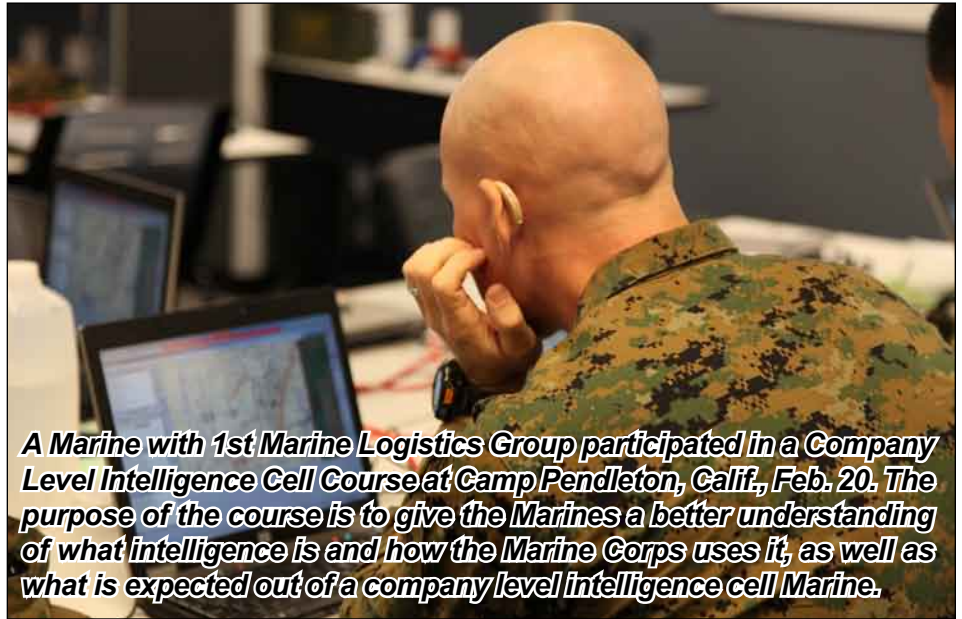
According to Willis, the role of a CLIC Marine is to provide tactical intelligence to support their company.

“Instead of just [the intel] Marines knowing what to do [while deployed], we all have a hand in sending the data back to base or documenting routes,” said Lance Cpl. Laura Licata, military policeman, Military Police Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st MLG.

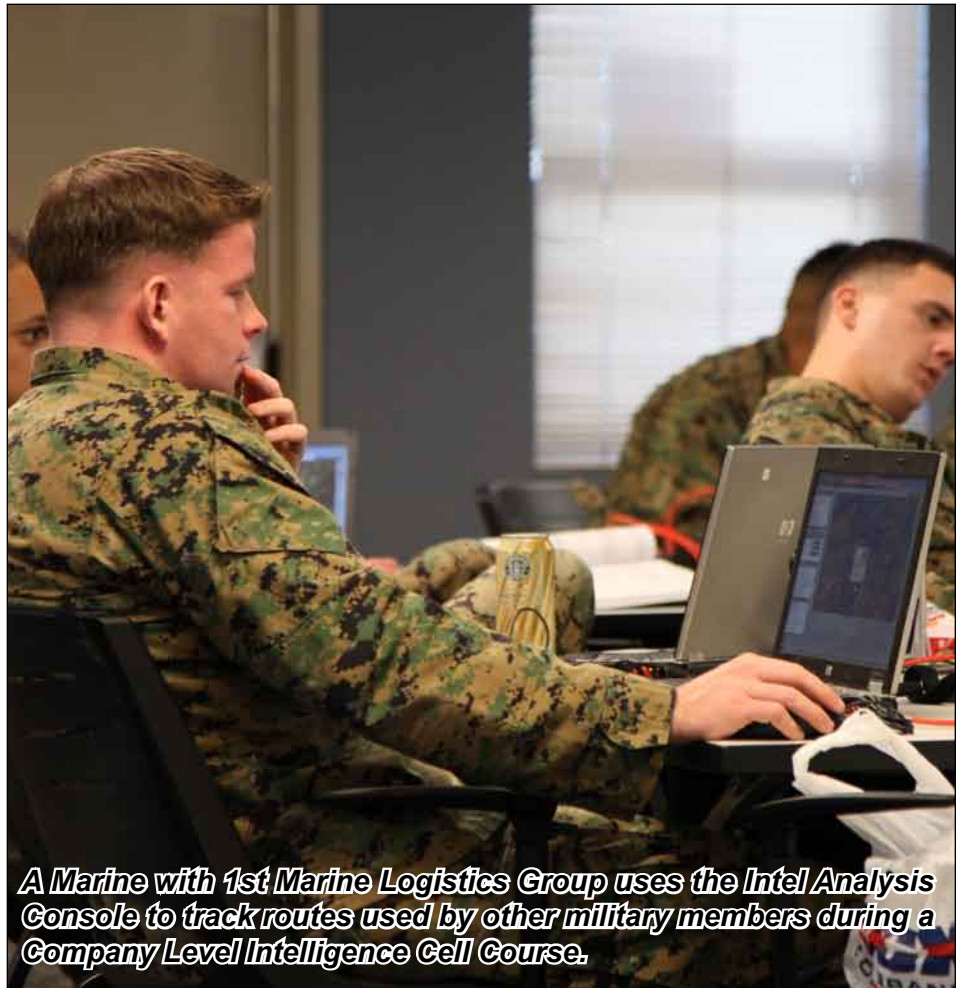
During the course, the Marines learned how to provide intelligence through written and oral communication, conduct collection management, maintain target files and intelligence situation maps, how to journal and use records and files when recording information and conduct analysis.

“All the things we are learning here are very helpful to us,” said Licata. “Especially during deployments when there is [a small number of] Intel Marines.”

The course is two weeks long and covers a variety of subjects



A Marine with 1st Marine Logistics Group participated in a Company Level Intelligence Cell Course at Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 20. The purpose of the course is to give the Marines a better understanding of what intelligence is and how the Marine Corps uses it, as well as what is expected out of a company level intelligence cell Marine.



A Marine with 1st Marine Logistics Group uses the Intel Analysis Console to track routes used by other military members during a Company Level Intelligence Cell Course.

pertaining to the intelligence field. Marines and sailors from any MOS are allowed and encouraged to attend the course.

For more information on the CLIC

course and the upcoming schedule visit www.mcis.usmc.mil/sites/itep/lists/itepcoursecatalogue.

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Development seminar provides FROs with “the right tools”

Story and photos by
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MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Family Readiness Officers with 1st Marine Logistics Group participated in the inaugural I Marine Expeditionary Force FRO Professional Development

Seminar here, March 11. The seminar was initiated by Lt. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser, commanding general, I MEF, to provide FROs with additional training in areas they assist families with on a regular basis. Family Readiness Officers are the link between the commanding officer and the families of the Ma-

rines and sailors in their unit. They provide accurate information and resources to services members and spouses to assist them in making the best decisions for their family. “Our job as FROs is to make sure the Marines, sailors and their family members have the right tools to make sure they are

in a good position for the future,” said Eric Bradford, the FRO for 1st MLG. During the seminar the FROs discussed what they think they needed to accomplish their mission of assisting families. The focal point of the discussion was leadership. They discussed leadership styles, tools and the development of new leaders.

“I think a big part of leadership is being confident,” said Waldhauser.

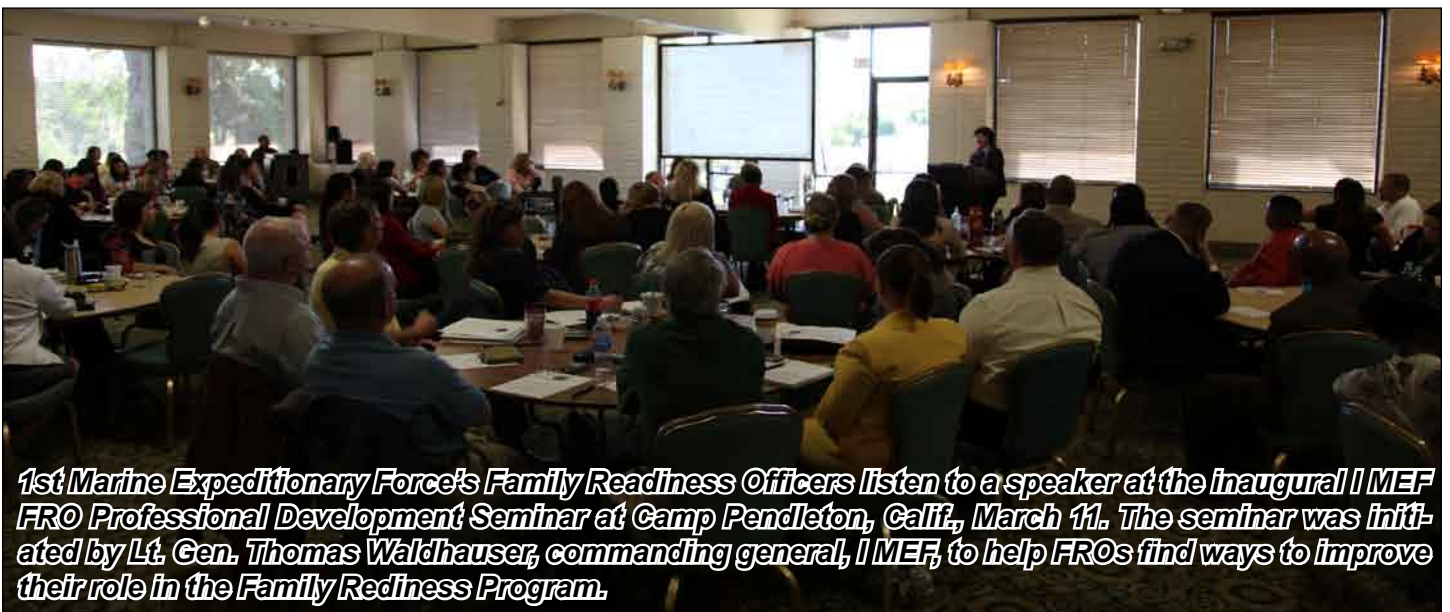
Aside from learning about leadership, the FROs also received training on social networking sites and human relations to assist in interacting and informing families.

“It’s great to have all of the FROs with MEF under one roof at one time,” said Karren Gough, the FRO for I MEF. “This gives us the opportunity to go over and discuss some issues of what we can do as FROs to make it easier for the families.”

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1st Marine Logistics Group's Family Readiness Officers attend the Inaugural I Marine Expeditionary Force FRO Professional Development Seminar at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11.



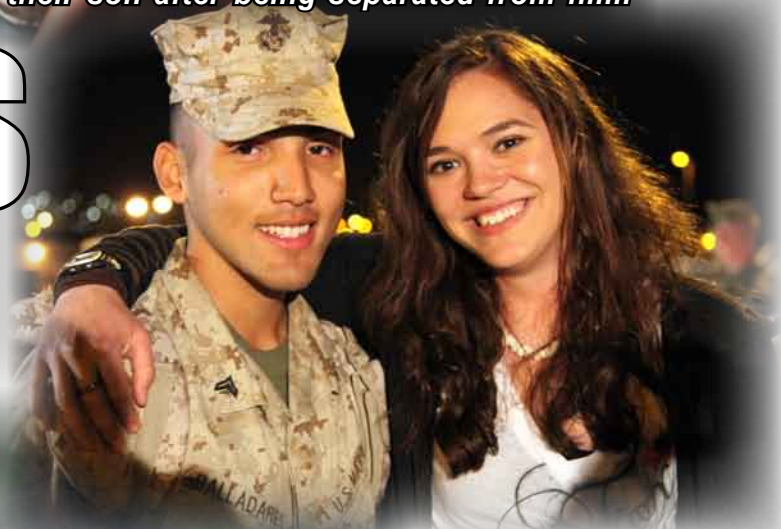
1st Marine Expeditionary Force's Family Readiness Officers listen to a speaker at the Inaugural I MEF FRO Professional Development Seminar at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11. The seminar was initiated by Lt. Gen. Thomas Waldhauser, commanding general, I MEF, to help FROs find ways to improve their role in the Family Redness Program.



Staff Sgt. Jeff Rice greets his family and friends during a homecoming at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11, as he returns from a deployment in Afghanistan. Jeff and his wife, Petty Officer 1st Class Chat Rice, who was also returning from the same deployment, were both excited to be home with their son after being separated from him.

Photos from around 1st MLG

Photos by Lance Cpl. Khoa Pelczar



(Above) Cpl. Israel Baladares, administrative clerk, Headquarters Company, 1st Marine Logistics Group, poses for a photo with his friend, Cpl. Samantha Gibson, during a homecoming at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 11. Marines and sailors with 1st MLG were greeted by their loved ones as they returned home.



Sgt. Gergely Kossuth, motor transport mechanic, Combat Logistics Battalion 11, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, shoots at a target during the 2011 Western Division Matches at Camp Pendleton, Calif., March 15. More than 200 participants competed in the event.