



The Convoy

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Delivering quality information on the 1st Marine Logistics Group

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'THANK YOU'

16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps visits Camp Pendleton

Story and photos by
Cpl. Khoa Pelczar
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent visited here, April 25, to speak with Marines and offer thanks during his last tour as the top enlisted Marine.

Kent will hand over responsibilities to the next sergeant major of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. Micheal Barrett, in a ceremony at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., June 8.

“The main reason why I’m here

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CLB-7 Marine receives Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal



Courtesy Photo

Cpl. Valdez-Rojas, cargo noncommissioned officer in charge, Landing Support Platoon, Headquarters and Service Company, Combat Logistics Battalion 7, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), receives the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal from Lt. Col. Craig Barnett, commanding officer of CLB-7, at Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan, for his heroic action of saving an aircraft crew member while conducting a cargo offloading mission in support of Operation Enduring Freedom, April 14.

Motorcycle Safety Courses

An Advanced Riders Course will be held weekly on Wednesday from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. A Basic Riders Course will be held weekly, Monday, Tuesday, Thursday and Friday from 7:00 a.m. – 4:30 p.m. Both courses will take place at Bldg. 200071. For more information, call Kevin Frantum at (760) 725-2897.

For Those Who Rock

Pacific Views/South Mesa Club will host a free live-band event May 20 from 8 p.m. – 1:30 a.m. All ranks are welcome to the Sea View Room to enjoy a cover band that will play classic rock tunes from Bon Jovi, AC/DC, Van Halen, Led Zeppelin and more.

2011 Junior Lifeguard Program

Tryouts for the 2011 Junior Lifeguard Program will take place at the 13 Area pool May 28, June 4 and June 11 from 8-11 a.m. Those who qualify will participate in one of two summer lifeguard programs ranging 5-6 weeks. At a minimum, applicants must be able to tread water for five minutes and swim underwater for 10 meters. For more information, call 760-725-2703.

Celebrate America

Pacific Views/South Mesa Club will host a free multi-cultural celebration May 18 from 11 a.m. – 2 p.m.

DStress

The DStress hotline is available to help West Coast Marines and family members deal with stress and mental health issues. Call 877-476-7734, or visit www.dstressline.com for more information. All calls are confidential.

The Pendleton Roadhouse

Kick up your country heels at this fun, entertaining and energetic country fest, May 6, at the Pacific Views/South Mesa Club from 7 p.m. - 2 a.m. The event will feature KSON Radio MC, DJ and dancers, a live band performance by Austin Law, dance competitions with prize giveaways and free line dancing before 8 p.m. Tickets are \$10 each and can be purchased from the

14 Area builds outdoor fitness center

Story and photo by
Lance Cpl. Kenneth Jasik
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines and sailors who are looking for a workout that involves more than lifting weights or running don't have to wait long; construction on an outdoor fitness area recently began at the 14 Area gym.

The covered area will provide users with equipment normally associated with combat fitness, such as large tires, weight plates, dead-lift bars, and many more; tools that are normally seen in a circuit course.

"There's a lot of interest in warrior fitness, circuit training, Cross Fit and other things like that," said Capt. Richard W. Johnson, S-4 Officer, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group. "The outdoor fitness center that we're building is going to help that happen. We just want to improve

the capability for Marines to get a more diverse workout."

A more diverse workout can benefit Marines by giving them more options for maintaining physical fitness and combat readiness.

"Our main goal for the equipment that is going to be out there is that it will help make Marines more combat ready," said Sabrina A. Taylor-Gibson, 14 Area fitness manager. "When we're looking at combat fitness, it's a little bit different than what you find indoors, where you find a lot of machine equipment that keeps you in one range of motion."

The additions will provide warrior training during all hours that the gym is open, along with what is already provided to Marines by the 14 Area fitness center.

"The fitness center already offers a warriors circuit Mondays, Wednesdays and Fridays," said Taylor-Gibson, from Merced, Calif. "We do this outside behind the gym in our parking



Construction on an outdoor fitness area recently began on the 14 Area gym.

lot, but I would like to see us utilize both areas, and incorporate that into our functional fitness area outside, so Marines and sailors can use it to the best of their ability."

Marines and sailors appear to be excited about the improvements, said Johnson.

"I've gotten positive feedback all around," said Johnson, 34, from O'Fallon, Ill. "People want a more diverse workout. Some people do want to go in the gym and just workout, but there are also people who want to do something different, change things up a bit, get outside and do something different."



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CONTACT US: 760-763-7795

Marines, sailors train for worst-case scenario



Story and photos by
Lance Cpl. Jerick Griffin
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS AIRGROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. – Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 1, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, conducted a mass casualty evacuation drill here, April 17.

During the training, Marines assessed simulated casualties, placed them onto stretchers and evacuated them in a timely manner.

“The purpose of this training is to give the Marines the skills to help save people’s lives out there,” said Petty Officer 3rd Class Markian Carreon, field medical technician, CLB-1, CLR-1, 1st MLG. “If mass casualties are received, one [corpsman] wouldn’t be able to treat them all at the same time.”

Marines were separated into four teams, each team playing a specific role in treating casualties, securing the area and evacuating casualties. After mastering each responsibility, the Marines then switched teams to learn about the other portions of a mass casualty evacuation.

“[Marines] need to know exactly what to do in these situations,”

said Carreon. “If this type of situation occurred, they should be able to do what’s needed without even thinking about it.”

In one scenario, many people were hurt from a simulated explosion. The litter team rushed in to assess casualties and quickly got them back to the medical area. Once there, patients were checked for weapons and then escorted through for treatment. The Marines treating patients used skills they learned from taking the Combat Life Savers course to give correct treatment. Then, they were rushed to the notional evacuation zone so that they could receive further medical attention.

“This training gives you an example of what you need to do in case there is a situation where a lot of people get hurt,” said Lance Cpl. Thomas Most, Supply warehouse clerk, Supply, CLB-1, CLR-1, 1st MLG. “I’m very confident that I can assist the corpsmen in properly helping save lives. In those situations every second counts, and I want to know what to do so I won’t waste any time.”

This exercise was a part of CLB-1’s month-long Enhanced Mojave Viper training in preparation for their future deployment to Afghanistan.



A Marine with Combat Logistics Battalion 1, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, treats for a simulated wound in a mass casualty evacuation drill during Enhanced Mojave Viper training at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., April 17.

Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 1, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, conduct a mass casualty evacuation drill during Enhanced Mojave Viper training at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, Calif., April 17. The training was conducted to give the Marines skills to assist corpsmen in the event numerous casualties need treatment.



- GIVE HIM ONE! -

MGYSGT BRIAN PUJOLS

Story and photos by
Cpl. Khoa Pelczar
Staff Writer

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.

– After more than 23 years of faithful service to the Marine Corps, a Marine continues to lead others under his charge after reenlisting for the seventh time here, April 23.

Master Gunnery Sgt. Brian A. Pujols, safety environmental chief, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, took the oath to continue serving the United States of America as a Marine.

“As long as I’m still of use to the Corps and able to do what I do, I’m going to be around for a little while,” said Pujols, 43, from Tampa, Fla.

It all started when Pujols was 20 years old and worked three jobs to support his family, especially to care for his 6-month-old daughter. He knew he needed a career change. Pujols saw his friend in the Marine Corps Dress Blue uniform and wanted one himself. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in September 1987.

“It’s been an interesting ride,” said Pujols, of his Marine Corps career. “Throughout my career, it has its ups and downs; I’ve had the best of times, as well as the worst of times. But the diversity of the Corps is the main reason why I stuck around for so long.”

Pujols has been on numerous humanitarian assistance missions around the globe. These have been the highlights of his career, he said. During his deployments, he also met important public figures, one of whom happened to be then President of the United States, George W. Bush. The President visited the troops in Somalia in 2002, where Pujols was conducting combat operations.

“I gained a lot of respect for our President,” said Pujols. “Not because he was a famous person, but the fact that he cares about the troops’ welfare and came to visit us in a hostile area.”

All these moments were memo-



Master Gunnery Sgt. Brian A. Pujols, safety environmental chief, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, takes an oath to continue serving the United States of America as a Marine during his reenlistment ceremony at Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 23. Pujols, 43, from Tampa, Fla., joined the Corps to support his family.

orable, but one stood out the most. It wasn’t the thrill he received from delivering care packages to those in need, nor meeting public figures and learning about their visits, it was the stress, the anxiety, the obstacles and the overwhelming responsibilities Pujols had to face as he took charge as the utility chief for the entire camp, Camp Al Taqaddum, Iraq.

“At first, I was overwhelmed,” said Pujols. “I’d been a utility chief for four years beforehand, but all we’ve been doing was responsible for and supporting a small grid such as a company-size unit. This time, I was in charge of hundreds of generators. We had everyone from all military branches, including civilian contractors, working together to keep the camp running.”

As the utility chief, Pujols was responsible for maintaining power aboard the camp, to include monitoring generators and fixing damaged ones.

“Everyone needs power,” he said. “We made sure to maintain the power for the camp so every-



Master Gunnery Sgt. Brian A. Pujols, safety environmental chief, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, hugs his son after his reenlistment ceremony at Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 23.

one can complete their missions.”

Being an experienced utility chief, Pujols knew what was expected of him and his team. It was a different experience for them as they worked with civilian gear, Pujols explained. Any challenges and problems they faced, the team tackled head-on to complete their tasks.

“To me, this has to be one of the most memorable moments of my career,” said Pujols. “There was a lot of work, but it was fun. Just to watch how we grew as a section, it made me feel accomplished.”

Now, working as a safety chief for 1st MLG, Pujols continues to help his junior Marines and sailors to

grow by ensuring safety whenever they conduct training operations.

“It’s important to take care of the young Marines and sailors,” said Pujols. “They’re the future of the Corps. If you take care of your juniors, they’ll take care of you.”

Pujols hopes to be able to retire out of 1st MLG, as he has been with the unit for more than five years and has completed several deployments with its Marines and sailors.

“It is my dream to retire out of 1st MLG,” said Pujols. “I’ve spent most of my career with this unit. I’ve built a bond with this unit. It showed me that it’s not the size of the dogs in the fight that matters;



Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent, from Memphis, Tenn., says thank you to the Marines and sailors before him during a visit to Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 25.



Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent shares his appreciation for the accomplishments of the Marines and sailors before him during a visit to Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 25.

SMMC

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is to say thank you," said Kent, from Memphis, Tenn. "Thank you for what you do, you're truly doing great things for our Corps."

Kent assumed the top Marine Corps enlisted post as the 16th Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., April 25, 2007.

Speaking to the crowd of Marines, Kent shared with the Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, a story about his life in the Marine Corps and how he became the man he is today.

"Since I graduated from high school, I've been a United States Marine," said Kent. "It's all I've known and that is being a Marine, serving with you great brothers and sisters for more than 30 years. This has been my family my entire adult life."



Sgt. Maj. of the Marine Corps Carlton Kent, from Memphis, Tenn., shares his experiences in the Corps with the Marines and sailors of Combat Logistics Regiment 15, 1st Marine Logistics Group, during a visit to Camp Pendleton, Calif., April 25.

Kent said he is proud of the Marines and sailors, knowing they would continue to carry on the traditions of the Corps.

"The Marine Corps is going in the right direction," he said. "That's because of great warriors like you, by ensuring that each Marine maintained the standard."

Established in 1775, the Marine Corps had been passing down its legacy to the youngest Marine around the nation, he said. Marines today are being trained the same way since he attended boot camp more than 30 years ago.

"The Marine veterans really think that you've lived up to the legacy of our Corps," said Kent. "But you don't have to live anyone's legacy anymore, because you have created your own over the last few years that we've been in war."

Kent thanked the Marines and sailors who were deployed and preparing to deploy to support Operation Enduring Freedom. He also offered his condolences to the heroes and the families of warriors who made the ultimate sacrifice during combat operations.

Kent took a few final moments to speak to the Marines and sailors about the future of the Marine Corps.

"Devil dogs, it's been a great ride. I have no doubt that you'll be able to continue passing this legacy down for years to come," said Kent. "The Marine Corps is in great shape and it's in great hands. The next Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps, Sgt. Maj. Mike Barrett, and his wife, Susan, are going to do great things to this Corps. You will continue to be taken care of under their watch, because he's a great leader and a warrior."

Kent thanked the Marines and sailors one last time before he headed out.

"Thank you very much. Me and my wife and our kids are going to truly miss the Marine Corps," he said. "God bless each and every one

Word — on the — Street

If you could ask the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps one question, what would you ask him?



"Sergeant Major, can you be the one to sign my reenlistment package?"

Lance Cpl. Zachary Varga
Fiscal clerk, CLR-15, 1st MLG



"What was your greatest moment while being the Sergeant Major of the Marine Corps?"

Pfc. Adam Borowick
Motor Transport Operator, 1st MLG