

## Marines test drive Motorcycle Simulator



*Photo by Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin*  
**Gunnery Sgt. Craig Ranney, president of the Combat Logistics Regiment 17 Motorcycle Club, test drives the new Motorcycle Simulator at Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 1.**

**Story by Staff Sgt. Jennifer Brofer**  
*Public Affairs Chief*

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – A \$200,000 Motorcycle Simulator was installed here, May 19, with the goal of reducing motorcycle-related accidents and fatalities, said safety officials with 1st Marine Logistics Group.

The simulator, located in Building 14137, features a stationary, full-motion motorcycle without wheels that mimics actual motorcycle handling, three liquid crystal display monitors and a computer. It's open to riders of all levels or those who wish to purchase a motorcycle.

"The simulators will assist those who have never ridden a motorcycle or have just returned to riding, (i.e.) deployment, to learn/familiarize themselves with throttle control and basic motorcycle handling," said Petty Officer 1st Class Glorille E. Jackson, safety representative, 1st MLG.

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## Facility named after fallen EOD Marine

**Story and photos by**  
**Cpl. Kenneth Jasik**  
*Staff Writer*

**MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.** – Marines with 1st Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 7th Engineer Support Battalion, Combat Logistics Regiment 1, 1st Marine Logistics Group, dedicated a new EOD facility here, May 26, in honor of the first Marine EOD technician killed in the War on Terror.

Gunnery Sgt. Michael J. Clark was killed in action, while in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, July 20, 2004. The company commander of 1st EOD Company, Maj. James N. Shelstad, said it was a fitting tribute to the Marine who once served in 1st Force Service Support Group,

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*The new Gunnery Sergeant Michael J. Clark Explosive Ordnance Disposal Facility was unveiled at Camp Pendleton, Calif., May 26, in honor of the fallen EOD Marine.*



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# Simulator

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"We are encouraging all 'potential riders' to get with motorcycle mentors and presidents to schedule motorcycle simulator time," said Jackson.

The simulator can provide riders with an opportunity to learn basic riding skills, improve techniques and fix bad habits in a safe, controlled environment, said Jackson.

"Marines and sailors can practice and make mistakes without the risk of damaging their motorcycles, personal property or themselves," said Jackson, 33, from Angeles City, Philippines.

In Fiscal Year 2010, nine Marines lost their lives in motorcycle-related accidents, according to statistics provided by the Naval Safety Center. Marine Corps leaders hope to bring that number down to zero.

To reserve the simulator, contact your unit's motorcycle club president, or call the 1st MLG Safety Office at 763-9423.



Photo by Lance Cpl. Jerrick Griffin

**A Marine test drives the new motorcycle simulator on Camp Pendleton, Calif., June 1. The sport bike and cruiser simulators mimic actual motorcycle handling.**

# Clark

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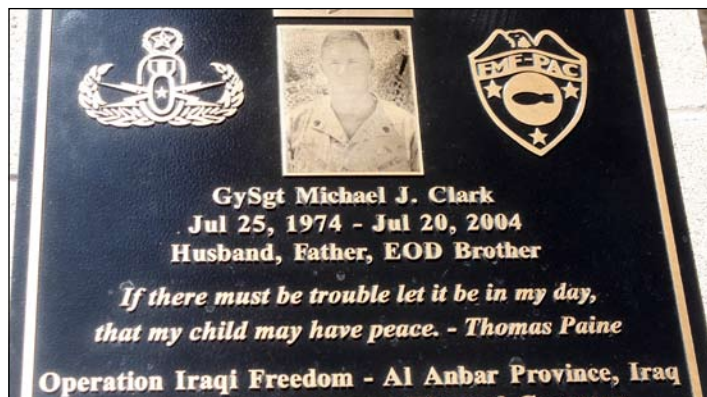
known today as 1st Marine Logistics Group.

"Gunny Clark was the first EOD tech killed in Iraq in 2004," said Shelstad, who worked with Clark from 2002-2004. "We've had numerous since then. We thought it was just fitting, [since] he came from 1st EOD Company."

When Clark died, he was a member of 1st EOD Platoon, a unit that has grown into a company due to the importance of EOD technicians' job of neutralizing the threat of improvised explosive devices.

At the ceremony were Clark's widow Sara Clark, and their two daughters, who helped unveil the new Gunnery Sergeant Michael J. Clark Explosive Ordnance Disposal Facility.

"Having this building named af-



**Gunnery Sgt. Michael J. Clark was killed July 20, 2004.**

ter Mike was such an honor," said Sara, 38, from Bellingham, Wash. "It couldn't have made us any happier."

The new EOD facility is a vast improvement from the old one, said Shelstad. It has more than 10 times the space as the old EOD building and features rooms for each team to perfect their tactics, techniques and

procedures used to neutralize any explosive threat.

The new building will help Marines in one of the most dangerous occupations perfect their skills, and Gunnery Sgt. Clark's name out front will be an everyday reminder of those who have lost their lives protecting others.

## HAPPENINGS

### Semper Ride Dirt Days

Active duty off-road motorcycle and quad riders are invited to attend the Semper Ride Dirt Days event June 17 and 18 from 9 a.m. - 4 p.m. The event will take place at Thunder Horse Ranch, located off Interstate 8 at exit 54. The event will feature two motocross tracks and two trail loops. Motorcycle and all-terrain vehicle training will be given by professional riders Ronnie Renner, Tommy Clowers and Chris Wheeler. Classes include a motorcycle cornering and jumping clinic, a Motorcycle Safety Foundation dirt bike school and a Specialty Vehicle Institute of America ATV course. Call 760-725-1154 to sign up.

### Motorcycle Safety Courses

An Advanced Riders Course will be held weekly 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.

### Free Baseball Tickets

Baseball fans can get free tickets to the June 16 Lake Elsinore Storm vs. High Desert Mavericks game by sending an e-mail to [campden@bluestarfan.org](mailto:campden@bluestarfan.org). Let them know how many tickets you need for immediate family members, and you will be added to the VIP list. Confirmation will be sent within 72 hours with details on where to pick up the tickets on game day. The game will start at 7:05 p.m.

### Father's Day Luncheon

A Father's Day Luncheon will be held June 19 from 11 a.m. - 2 p.m. at the Pacific Views/South Mesa Club. For reservations, call 760-725-2231.

### Arts and Crafts Summer Camp

An arts and crafts hobby shop summer camp will be held June 27-July 1 for children ages 6-12. Cost is \$125 and includes all materials for all projects, pizza and registration fees.



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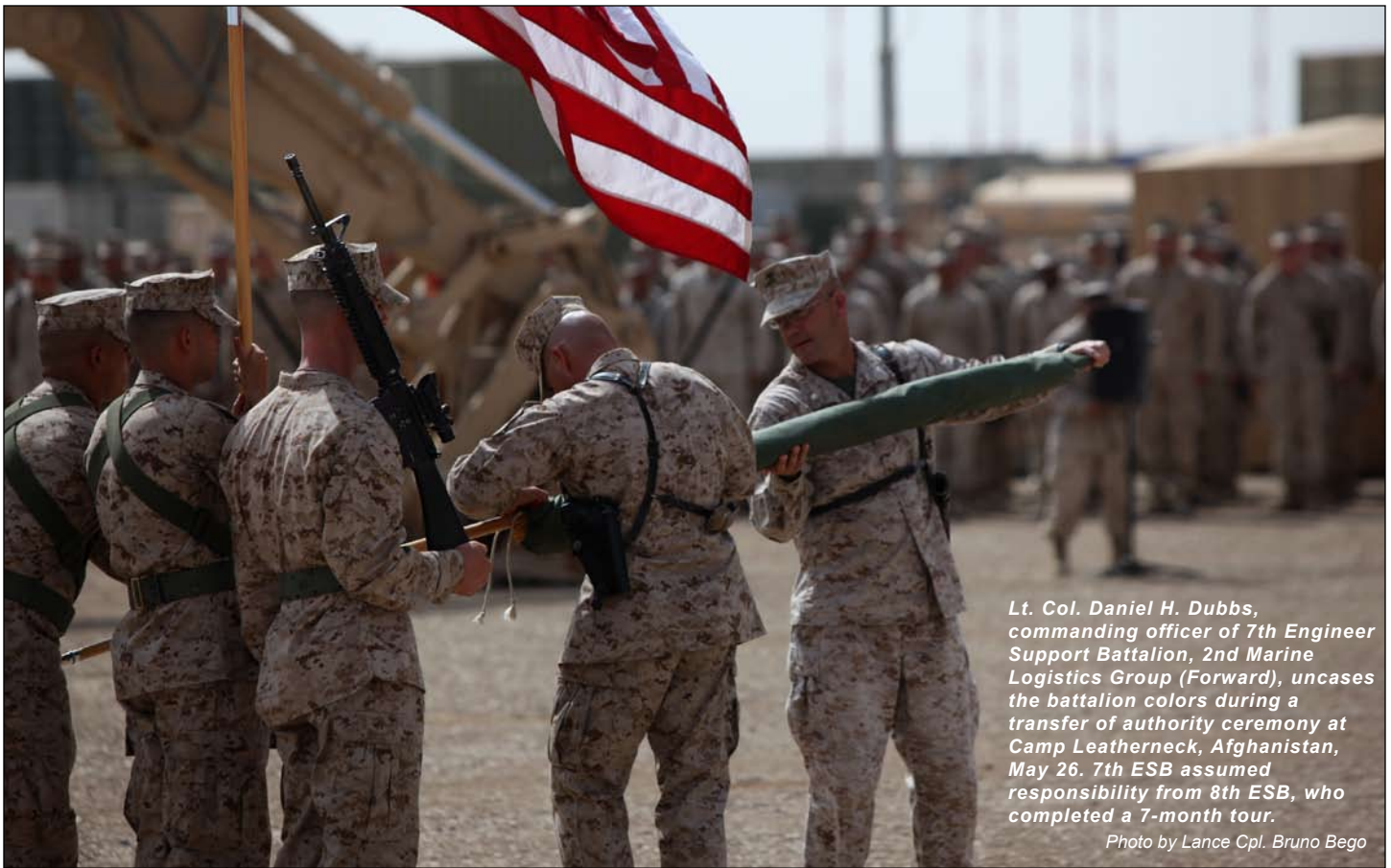
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Lt. Col. Daniel H. Dubbs, commanding officer of 7th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), uncases the battalion colors during a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, May 26. 7th ESB assumed responsibility from 8th ESB, who completed a 7-month tour.

Photo by Lance Cpl. Bruno Bego

# 7th ESB assumes authority from 8th ESB

Story by Sgt. Rachael Moore  
2nd MLG (FWD) Public Affairs

**CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan** – The commanding officer of 8th Engineer Support Battalion, 2nd Marine Logistics Group (Forward), transferred authority to the commanding officer of 7th ESB, 2nd MLG (Fwd.), during a ceremony at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, May 26.

During their 7-month deployment, 8th ESB traveled more than 145,000 miles and executed more than 750 combat logistics patrols.

"I promised them they'd be busy," said Lt. Col. Chris G. Downs, the 8th ESB commanding officer, and a Catskill, N.Y., native. "I wanted to be tasked at 120 percent

capacity, and I wanted them tired because it mattered. It mattered to [the infantrymen] who were out there doing every single day. [The Marines of 8th ESB] rose to every challenge."

The engineers emplaced 15 bridges and improved approximately 46,000 meters of roads throughout Helmand province. They also purified more than 5.5 million gallons of water, which pro-

vided troops operating in southwestern Afghanistan with more than 175,000 showers.

"They did everything we asked of them," added Downs. "I asked them to do more, and they never once got tired and never once quit."

During the ceremony, Downs spoke to Brig. Gen. Michael Dana, the commanding general of 2nd MLG (Fwd.), about the Marines and sailors within 8th ESB.

"General, I've been an engineer my entire career," said Downs. "I know [Marine Air Ground Task Force] engineering. I know joint engineering. This is what right looks like. These men and women are my heroes."

As 8th ESB prepares to redeploy, 7th ESB is ready to assume duties of providing service members throughout Helmand province with engineer support.

"I assure you [these Marines and sailors] are ready," concluded Lt. Col. Daniel H. Dubbs, the 7th ESB commanding officer, and a Villa Ridge, Mo., native. "We have a tough act to follow, but we'll be successful because of the foundation [8th ESB] laid."

**"I assure you they are ready. We have a tough act to follow, but we'll be successful because of the foundation they laid."**

—Lt. Col. Daniel H. Dubbs,  
7th ESB commanding officer



Photo by Lance Cpl. Bruno Bego

**The 8th Engineer Support Battalion color guard holds the American flag high while the national anthem plays during a transfer of authority ceremony at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, May 26.**





# - GIVE HIM ONE! - 1ST SGT CURTIS RICE

Story and photo by  
Cpl. Kenneth Jasik  
Staff Writer

**T**he first sergeant of Food Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, was awarded the Bronze Star Medal with combat distinguishing device at Camp Pendleton, Calif., May 24, for his heroic actions in Afghanistan nearly two years ago.

First Sgt. Curtis Rice was presented the award by Col. Bruce E. Nickle, commanding officer, CLR-17, 1st MLG, and according to the citation, Rice had saved the lives of Marines, Special Forces soldiers and members of the Afghanistan National Army.

While deployed to Afghanistan in July 2009, Rice was serving as the senior enlisted advisor with an Embedded Training Team, a group of American service members whose mission is to mentor and operate with the ANA. He helped prevent an ANA observation post from being overrun by approximately 50 enemy combatants, according to the citation. Also, Rice bravely faced enemy fire to resupply ammunition to the Marines located in the valley below his position and fix an M240 machine gun.

Rice, 35, from Worcester, Mass., said he was simply doing his job when he helped prevent the deaths of his team and Afghan counterparts.

"Our job is to defend our nation," said Rice, after receiving the medal. "Our nation is so proud of us, and I am so humbled to be part of this organization."

Rice believes his heroic actions under fire would not have been possible without the hard work of his fellow Marines.

"I didn't do anything differently than any other Marine would do at that time," said Rice. "That



**1st Sgt. Curtis Rice, first sergeant for Food Service Company, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group, is congratulated after being awarded the Bronze Star with a combat distinguishing device in a ceremony at Camp Pendleton, Calif., May 24.**

gunner right there was watching our six."

Rice said that all of the members of his team showed bravery during the firefight.

"You really don't care about anything else at that time but helping out your fellow Marines," said Rice.

Rice also spoke of the Marines

in Afghanistan and how they are continuing to show exemplary bravery under fire.

"There [are] Marines right now as we speak, out there on the battlefield, doing extraordinary things," said Rice. "Much more extraordinary than what I did that day."

Rice says his Bronze Star

Medal is the result of his team. He feels he shouldn't be the only service member celebrated for actions that day; his team and the Army Special Forces he was working with at the time deserve credit as well.

"It's not an individual award," said Rice. "This award here was done from team effort."