

Regional Command Southwest *Round-up*

Biweekly PAO
Report

----- July 8, 2014 -----

NEWS

Scout Sniper Platoon mourns loss of fallen brother

Story by Cpl. Joseph Scanlan

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Nearly four months into their combat deployment, Marines and sailors with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, experienced a heartbreaking loss. Sergeant Thomas Z. Spitzer, a team leader with Scout Sniper Platoon, 1st Bn., 7th Marines, was killed while conducting combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 25.

[\(Read the STORY\)](#)



R4OG: no gear left behind

Story by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – As troops continue to draw down from Afghanistan and head back to the United States, their tactical equipment needs to be redeployed as well. Redeployment and Retrograde in support of Reset and Reconstitution Operations Group was established aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, during April 2012. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

Afghan National Police Advisor team completes advising mission in Lashkar Gah, Afghanistan

Story by Sgt. Frances Johnson

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – The Marines of the Afghan National Police Advisor Team returned to Camp Leatherneck from Lashkar Gah, Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 27. The ANPAT, an advising team made up of approximately 20 Marines from all over the Marine Corps force including the reserves, spent eight months advising the Afghan National Police in order to develop a strong, capable and credible police force for Helmand province.

[\(Read the STORY\)](#)



Last Marines in Afghanistan proud to serve on U.S. Independence Day

Story by 1st Lt. Garth Langley



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan— Thomas Paine once said, "Those who expect to reap the blessings of freedom, must, like men, undergo the fatigue of supporting it." As the nation honors Independence Day during patriotic celebrations across the nation, deployed U.S. service members with Regional Command (Southwest) paused briefly to honor America, July 4, 2014.

[\(Read the STORY\)](#)

Marine Wing Support Squadron 274 Marines finish bulk fuel bladder removal aboard Camp Bastion

Story by Cpl. Cody Haas

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan— Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 274 removed an empty 210,000-gallon fuel bladder just after sunrise aboard Camp Bastion, Afghanistan, June 28, 2014. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



Marines emerge victorious in World Cup tournament at Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan

Story by Cpl. Joseph Scanlan



CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan – When Marines and sailors are not patrolling and supporting missions in Afghanistan, they often exercise to relieve stress and pass time. With the 2014 FIFA World Cup currently underway, the Marines of "Suicide" Charley Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, decided to host their own soccer tournament aboard Camp Dwyer, June 21, 2014.

[\(Read the STORY\)](#)

Logistics Command keeping Marines in the fight since 1798

Story by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Whether deployed in a combat zone, stateside, or conducting training operations with partnered countries, Marines need logistical support to aid them in accomplishing their missions, and Logistics Command Forward was responsible for the supplying their needs up until June 1, 2014. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



PHOTOS

Marines, sailors with Regional Command (Southwest) conduct sustainment training in Afghanistan

Photos by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska



Marines and sailors with Regional Command (Southwest) sight in on their targets during sustainment training aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, July 2, 2014. The exercise was part of required training to ensure service members' weapons were zeroed for shooting accuracy.

[\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)

1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, Charlie Company, 2nd Platoon, Security Patrol

Photos by Cpl. John Martinez

Cpl. Brandon Jewell, an automatic rifleman assigned to 2nd Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, patrols through a field outside of a compound during a security patrol in Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 30, 2014. Security patrols are conducted to disrupt enemy operations against the Bastion-Leatherneck Complex. [\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)



CH-47 Artillery Lift

Photos by Cpl. James Pauly



Guardsman Karl Simonaitis and Private Carson Howe with Joint Helicopter Support Squadron signal coordination with the CH-47 Chinook pilot to pick up an L-188 Light Gun aboard Main Operating Base Price, Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 30, 2014. The gun is being transferred from MOB Price to Camp Bastion to provide additional support toward the redeployment of coalition forces.

[\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)

1st Battalion, 2nd Marines, Charlie Company Disrupting the Enemy

Photos by Cpl. John Martinez

Lance Cpl. William Long, a rifleman assigned to 1st Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, provides security in front of a Mine-Resistant Ambush Protected vehicle during a company operation in Helmand province, Afghanistan, June 28, 2014. Patrols are conducted to disrupt enemy operations against the Bastion-Leatherneck Complex. [\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)



VIDEO

Freedom File: Tango Battery's New Mission

Video by Army Sgt. Christopher Tobey



Marines with Tango Battery offer units aboard Camps Leatherneck and Bastion vital surface-to-surface fire capabilities, but their mission has changed as the Afghan Security Forces assume more responsibility in their sector.

[\(Watch the VIDEO\)](#)

To see more news, videos and photos of Regional Command (Southwest) Marines, sailors, soldiers, airmen and our coalition partners, please visit our Facebook page by clicking below.

