



----- August 5, 2014 -----

## NEWS

### CLB-7 redeploys, CLB-1 is last Marine logistical unit to deploy in support of OEF

Story by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Marines and sailors with Combat Logistics Battalion 7 handed over responsibilities as the logistics combat element for Regional Command (Southwest) to Combat Logistics Battalion 1 during a transfer of authority ceremony aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 1. This was the third deployment to Afghanistan for the unit based in Marine Corps Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California, and the casing of CLB-7's colors signifies their Operation Enduring Freedom mission is now complete. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

### Food service Marines offer homemade meals aboard Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan

Story by Cpl. Cody Haas

CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan— Culinary excellence is not the first thing to come to mind for most people when thinking about deployed service members in Afghanistan. However, food service specialists at Camp Dwyer strive to serve Marines and sailors a delicious meal three times a day at the Harvest Falcon dining facility. Sergeant Anthony Zappone, a food service specialist with Combat Logistics Battalion 7, and Sgt. Eduardo Ayala, a food service specialist with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, worked together to improve the dining facility, incorporating new standards and teamwork for troops and civilian contractors. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



### Marine mechanics ensure success during combat operations in Afghanistan

Story by Cpl. Joseph Scanlan



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – The ground assault force is a crucial element during combat operations in Helmand province, Afghanistan. To ensure the force's vehicles can move to and from objectives, which can entail a life or death situation, motor transportation mechanics are relied on to keep each vehicle properly functioning at all times. From sunrise until sunset, the clicks of ratchets and whines of power drills can be heard every day as the mechanics of 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, continuously work on vehicles to ensure mission success. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

## Water technicians keep Camp Dwyer afloat

Story by Cpl. Cody Haas

CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan — For service members deployed to the middle of a desert in Helmand province, Afghanistan, water is a valuable commodity. Troops depend on water for hydration, food preparation, showering and keeping vehicles and gear clean. A small team of eight water support technician Marines with Combat Logistics Battalion 1 and Combat Logistics Battalion 7 are responsible for the supply of water needed by Camp Dwyer. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



## Eid al-Fitr ceremony held aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan

Story by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Coalition service members and civilian contractors came together during an Eid al-Fitr ceremony held aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, July 28, 2014. The ceremony marked the end of Ramadan, which is a monthlong holiday that millions of Muslims observe each year by fasting from morning to evening. During the fasting period, they do not eat, drink or smoke anything from dawn to sunset. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

## Colorado Springs Marine proud to serve twice during Afghan drawdown

Story by 1st Lt. Garth Langley

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan— During America's longest war, many newly-minted Marines have wished for an opportunity to dirty their boots in Afghanistan. In the past year, however, deployments to Helmand have slowed and the remaining forces are focused on the redeployment and retrograde effort, while others continue to advise and assist the Afghan National Security Forces. Regional Command (Southwest) is set to close its doors by the end of 2014, which will mark the end of a significant chapter in the Marine Corps' role in the Operation Enduring Freedom campaign. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



## Marines, sailors with Charley Company ensure Camp Dwyer's safety in Helmand province

Story by Cpl. Cody Haas



CAMP DWYER, Afghanistan— Improvised explosive devices and small arms fire from insurgents remain a threat to units patrolling in Helmand province. Marines with Charley Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, conducted an operation near commonly traveled routes near Camp Dwyer and the surrounding area in Helmand province, Afghanistan, July 19-20. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

## Jordanian Army ends mission in Helmand province, Afghanistan

Story by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Soldiers from the Kingdom of Jordan gathered for a ceremony marking their end of mission with Regional Command (Southwest) aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, as they bid farewell to their coalition counterparts, July 23, 2014. While deployed in support of the International Security Assistance Force, Jordanian soldiers worked under Task Force Belleau Wood to aid in security force protection within Helmand province. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



## Turret gunners of Combat Logistics Battalion 7 keep convoy safe

Story by Sgt. Frances Johnson



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – While most aboard Camp Leatherneck were eating breakfast as the early morning sun began burning the earth in a golden heat wave, turret gunners of Combat Logistics Battalion 7 were already mounting .50 caliber and M240B machine guns inside the turrets of their vehicles, preparing for one of the battalion's last missions, July 14. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

## VMGR-352 lights up night sky for battlefield illumination mission

Story by Sgt. Frances Johnson

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan – A six-man air crew with Marine Aerial Refueling Transportation Squadron 352 prepared their KC-130J Hercules for a battlefield illumination mission over Helmand province, July 18. The squadron conducts various types of missions throughout Helmand province, including battlefield illumination missions that light up areas in support of coalition operations within Regional Command (Southwest). [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



## PHOTOS

### Brigade Headquarters Group – Afghanistan cases unit colors aboard Camp Leatherneck

Photos by Sgt. Frances Johnson



First Sgt. James J. Horr, left, senior staff noncommissioned officer of Brigade Headquarters Group - Afghanistan, and Col. Joseph J. Zarba, commanding officer of BHG-A, case the units battle colors during a ceremony for BHG-A aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, July 25, 2014. [\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)

## ANA soldiers conduct fire training

*Photos by Sgt. Dustin March*

Afghan National Army soldiers with the Garrison Support Unit, 215th Corps, conduct drills inflating and deflating rubber air jacks, part of the F550 fire truck aboard Camp Bastion, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 2, 2014. Marines with Marine Wing Support Squadron 274 and ANA soldiers conducted the training to increase proficiency as coalition forces redeploy. ([See the PHOTOS](#))



## Staff noncommissioned officers receive incident mitigation class aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan during deployment

*Photos by Cpl. Cody Haas*



Sgt. Maj. Reginald Robinson, sergeant major, Task Force Belleau Wood, addresses staff noncommissioned officers during an Incident Mitigation Symposium aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, Aug. 3, 2014. The class gave staff NCOs the opportunity to speak about common unit incidents in the Marine Corps and how to overcome them. ([See the PHOTOS](#))

## VIDEO

### A Mortarman's Journal

*Video by Cpl. Cody Haas*

Lance Cpl. Jordan Pettid, a mortarman with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, explains life as a mortarman while deployed to Helmand province, Afghanistan. ([Watch the VIDEO](#))



## HMLA-467: The last HMLA of Operation Enduring Freedom

*Video by Sgt. Frances Johnson*



Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 467 is on their first combat deployment as a squadron and is the last HMLA serving in support of Operation Enduring Freedom. Marines with HMLA-467 describe the functions of the squadron as a whole over the course of their deployment. ([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.**

