



----- August 19, 2014 -----

## NEWS

### 1st Marine Regiment cases colors, ends mission in Afghanistan

Story by 1st Lt. Garth Langley



CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan - A blinding sandstorm swept across the desert floor surrounding Regional Command (Southwest)'s security-nebulous, Task Force Belleau Wood, Aug. 15, 2014. During a brief pause in the storm, Marines with 1st Marine Regiment held a small ceremony to case the unit's battle colors for the final time in Helmand province, Afghanistan. The regiment deployed to southwestern Afghanistan during Feb. 2014 and led more than 3,000 U.S. and coalition forces charged with safeguarding the remaining International Security Assistance Forces in the region. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

### Marines with 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company provide security for units operating in Helmand province, Afghanistan

Story by Cpl. Cody Haas

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – During the early morning hours before sunrise, Marines with 1st Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company donned their gear for a security operation in Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 8. Marines mounted in vehicles and convoyed approximately two hours from Camp Leatherneck to Patrol Base Boldak to redeploy excess supplies while 1st ANGLICO provided overwatch security. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



### Greeley, Colorado, native receives meritorious promotion while deployed to Afghanistan

Story by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska



CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan – Former U.S. senator, Olympic gold medalist and professional NBA athlete Bill Bradley once said, “Ambition is the path to success, and persistence is the vehicle you arrive in.” For Sgt. Andrea M. Robb, a 24-year-old from Greeley, Colorado, persistence has paid off on her journey from becoming a U.S. Marine to serving on her first combat deployment in Helmand province, Afghanistan. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)

## Sacramento Marine keeps artillery unit primed during Afghan drawdown

Story by 1st Lt. Garth Langley

CAMP BASTION, Afghanistan— Hugging the fence line along the perimeter of Camp Bastion, dusty artillery firing positions are dug into the rocky earth. Three M777 Howitzers nicknamed “Death Wish,” “Steve Bolton” and “Zeus,” peer across the desert horizon, ready for a fire mission at a moment’s notice. The howitzers safeguard the remaining U.S. and coalition forces serving aboard Camp Bastion and Leatherneck. [\(Read the STORY\)](#)



## PHOTOS

### US Marines and sailors donate blood in Helmand province

Photos by Sgt. Dustin D. March



Petty Officer 3rd Class Wudineh Melketsadek, a field medical technician with Combat Logistics Battalion 1, draws blood from Lance Cpl. Erik Bomber, a rifleman with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, during a walking blood bank aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 14, 2014. The walking blood bank identifies and screens qualified donors so they can donate for specific patients without delay. [\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)

### Navy officers earn Fleet Marine Force Warfare Officer device while serving in Afghanistan

Photos by Sgt. Jessica Ostroska

Navy Lt. Jesse Locke, center-right, Operational Stress Control and Recovery Psychologist, and native of Alamo, Calif., and Lt. Angelina Brannon, center-left, Patient Evacuation Control Center officer, and native of El Paso, Texas, both with Regional Command (Southwest), stand together for a unit photo after receiving their Fleet Marine Force Warfare Officer device aboard Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province, Afghanistan, Aug. 6, 2014. [\(See the PHOTOS\)](#)



## VIDEOS

### Enduring Freedom: 1/7 Marines conduct 24-hour patrol

Video by Army Sgt. Christopher Tobey



Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, conducts one of their numerous patrols to ensure security at Tactical Base Dwyer. Corporal Dominic Surina explains how they monitor different main supply routes to make sure insurgents aren't using them to transport drugs or weapons. [\(See the VIDEO\)](#)

## Enduring Freedom: 1/7 Marines conduct night mortar mission

*Video by Army Sgt. Christopher Tobey*

Sergeant Shawon Burgess, mortar team leader with Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, explains how his mortar team helps keep Tactical Base Dwyer safe and how his time as a trainer has helped to make him a stronger leader and his Marines better mortarmen. [\(See the VIDEO\)](#)



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