Lonestar Battalion breaks first light toward the bright futures of Afghan children

MARINE WEEK ST. LOUIS
3/24 builds community relations under the Arch

GET SOME! GLOBAL EXERCISES
TRADEWINDS
MEDCEUR
LANDING FORCE CARAT
BLACK SEA ROTATIONAL FORCE
AFRICAN LION
JAVELIN THRUST
From the Editor

In the past 10 years, Marine Forces Reserve has been redefined. Serving alongside the active component, every Reserve unit was activated in support of Operation Enduring Freedom or Operation Iraqi Freedom. With 1,600 Reservists currently deployed in support of OEF, and hundreds of others activated to meet missions globally, the Marine Forces Reserve is fully operational and very much active.

Continental Marines magazine provides a snapshot of recent operations, from the deserts of Afghanistan to multinational training in the steamy jungles of Southeast Asia with Landing Force CARAT.

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Continental Marines magazine provides a snapshot of recent operations, from the deserts of Afghanistan to multinational training in the steamy jungles of Southeast Asia with Landing Force CARAT.

On the cover
Lance Cpl. Brandon Walker, a TOW gunner with Weapons Company, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, Task Force Belleau Wood, fires an M1014 combat shotgun during a training exercise on Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, June 4. Marines from Charlie and Weapons Companies qualified on the range to ensure comprehension of all the weapon's conditions, functions and abilities in various combat scenarios. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Katherine M. Solano)

Inside: Marine Forces Reserve Duty Directory
Contact Reserve units around the country using this convenient directory.

DoD Disclaimer
Continental Marines magazine is an official publication of the Department of Defense. Contents of the magazine are not necessarily the official views of, or endorsed by, the U.S. Government, the DoD, or Marine Forces Reserve. The editorial content of this publication is the responsibility of the Marine Forces Reserve Public Affairs Office. Opinions expressed are not considered an official expression of the DoD or the United States Marine Corps. Any questions can be directed to Marine Forces Reserve Public Affairs Office.
## News Briefs
News that pertains to your career, education, benefits and Corps

## Spotlight
“The Marine Way”
Marine to receive the nation’s highest honor

## Around the World
Ongoing worldwide operations

## Get Some!
Mortarmen bring steel rain to the Ukraine

## Unit Profile
What’s up with the red patch on the cammies?

## Javelin Thrust 2011
Tactical air command center demonstrates stand-alone reserve force

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Marines of 4th Amphibian Assault Battalion drive amphibious assault vehicles from the amphibious transport dock ship USS Tortuga (LSD 46) during the final training exercise in Thailand as part of Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training (CARAT) 2011. (Photo by Cpl. Aaron Hostutler)
MARINES OF ALL MOS BACKGROUNDS NEEDED TO SERVE WORLDWIDE IN FULL AND PART-TIME BILLETS
If you are a former active-duty member or a non-obligated Reserve Marine, you can find temporary jobs back in the ranks. Go to www.i-mef.usmc.mil and click the Reserve Mobilizations (OCONUS and CONUS) Billets link.

CHANGE YOUR MOS LATMOVE PROGRAM
Marine Corps to grant Reservists the opportunity to change MOS. This bulletin outlines the eligibility requirements for the lateral move program and provides select Marines with the chance to transfer to a new MOS. Marines must be E-3 through E-5 or O-2 through O-3 and a current member of a Selected Marine Corps Reserve unit. All requests will be considered based on the needs of the Corps. Spaces are limited. See MARADMIN 285/11

$10,000 - $15,000 BONUSES TO JOIN THE RESERVE
The USMC Reserve is seeking former active-duty Marines and current Selected Marine Corps Reserve Marines to affiliate with units. E-4s get paid a $10,000 lump sum bonus and E-5 through E-6 may be eligible for $15,000. Program ends Sept. 30, 2011. Contact your prior service recruiter today. www.marines.com/rmi

BILINGUAL MARINES OF CERTAIN LANGUAGES TO GET ADDITIONAL MOS
If you speak a second language from the Middle East, Africa or Asia, you may qualify for an additional MOS. There are nearly 50 eligible languages. See MARADMIN 286/10

BASE PRIVILEGES
Take advantage of MWR programs at more than 250 installations worldwide. Get discounted tickets, use recreational facilities, hobby shops, paintball, boating, camping equipment and more. You and your family have access to any Army, Navy, Air Force, Marine or Coast Guard base with a valid ID card. Find installations here: www.militaryinstallations.dod.mil

AUTO REPAIR GUIDES
The Auto Repair Reference Center Web site contains step-by-step guides on most automobiles including photographs and information. Find repair tips and troubleshooting guides for free! www.militaryonesource.com

OFFICERS EARN $10,000 BONUS FOR AFFILIATING WITH RESERVE UNITS
If you are an O-1 through O-3 of any MOS or an O-4 with PMOS 7532, you may be eligible to receive a $10,000 bonus as part of this recruitment program. Eligibility extends to all components to include current members of the Selected Marine Corps Reserve, active duty, Individual Ready Reserve, Active Reserve, or Individual Mobilization Augmentees Detachment that are recruited for specific hot fills. See MARADMIN 283/11

Our Legacy

June 25, 1950:
Shortly before dawn, eight divisions of the North Korean People’s Army crossed the 38th Parallel and invaded South Korea, starting the Korean War. During the war, the Marine Corps expanded from 75,000 to 261,000, most of whom were Reservists.

June 26, 1918:
Belleau Wood would henceforth bear the name, “Bois de la Brigade de Marine,” or “Wood of the Marine Brigade,” following the Marines actions on the battlefield.

July 7, 1941:
The 1st Marine Aircraft Wing was activated at Quantico, Va.

August 7, 1990:
President George W. Bush ordered U.S. military aircraft and troops to Saudi Arabia as part of a multinational force to defend that nation against possible Iraqi invasion. This would come to be known as Operation Desert Shield.

Marine to receive the nation’s highest honor for actions while serving in Operation Enduring Freedom

Story by Cpl. Reece Lodder

Marine Corps Base Hawaii - Removed from an ambushed platoon of Marines and soldiers in a remote Afghan village on Sept. 8, 2009, his reality viciously shaken by an onslaught of enemy fighters, Cpl. Dakota Meyer simply reacted as he knew best — tackling what he called “extraordinary circumstances” by “doing the right thing … whatever it takes.”

Nearly two years later, the White House announced, Aug. 12, the 23-year-old Marine scout sniper from Columbia, Ky., who has since left the Marine Corps, will become the first living Marine to be awarded the Medal of Honor in 38 years. Retired Sgt. Maj. Allan Kellogg, Jr. received the medal in 1973 for gallantry in Vietnam three years earlier.

Meyer is the second Marine to receive the medal for actions in Iraq or Afghanistan. Cpl. Jason Dunham was awarded the medal posthumously for covering a grenade with his body to save two Marines in Iraq in 2004. President Barack Obama will present the award to Meyer at the White House, Sept. 15.

“The award honors the men who gave their lives that day, and the men who were in that fight,” Meyer said. “I didn’t do anything more than any other Marine would. I was put in an extraordinary circumstance, and I just did my job.”

Though bleeding from shrapnel wounds in his right arm, Meyer, aided by fellow Marines and Army advisors from Embedded Training Team 2-8, braved a vicious hail of enemy machine gun and rocket-propelled grenade fire in the village of Ganjgal to help rescue and evacuate more than 15 wounded Afghan soldiers, and recover the bodies of four fallen fighters — 1st Lt. Michael Johnson, Gunnery Sgts. Aaron Kenefick and Edwin Johnson Jr., and Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class James Layton.

ETT advisor Army Sgt. 1st Class Kenneth Westbrook died at Walter Reed Army Medical Center, Washington, D.C., Oct. 7, 2009, from wounds sustained in the firefight.

Meyer charged through the battle zone five times to recover his fallen comrades and injured Afghan soldiers, risking his life even when a medical evacuation helicopter wouldn’t land because of the blazing gunfire.

“There’s not a day — not a second that goes by where I don’t think about what happened that day,” Meyer said. “I didn’t just lose four Marines that day; I lost four brothers.”

“When you leave the perimeter, you don’t know what’s going to happen, regardless of what war you’re fighting in.” Kellogg, who lives in Kailua, Hawaii, said. “Once you get to a point where you make the decision — ‘I’m probably going to die, so let the party begin’ — once you say in your mind you aren’t getting out of there, you fight harder and harder.”

Beginning his career with the same regiment from which Kellogg retired in 1990, Meyer deployed with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment, to Fallujah, Iraq, in 2007, and earned a meritorious promotion to corporal in late 2008 after returning from the deployment.

In February 2009, Meyer volunteered to deploy to Afghanistan’s dangerous Kunar province and mentor Afghan soldiers as part of an embedded training team, the type of role usually filled by U.S. Special Forces.

“A Marine who seeks the challenge of joining his unit’s scout sniper platoon has to have a lot of drive and determination,” said Col. Nathan Nastase, commanding officer of 3rd Marine Regiment and formerly Meyer’s battalion commander at 3/3. “Being assigned to the ETT was a huge vote of confidence in his abilities.”

Meyer deployed to Afghanistan on the ETT in July 2009.

Meyer is the 86th living Medal of Honor recipient, and he joins a small, elite group of heroes, a reality that will often require him to conjure up haunting reminders of the battles he has fought, the friends he has lost and the painful regret he bears.

“I’m not a hero, by any means. — I’m a Marine, that’s what I am,” he said. “The heroes are the men and women still serving, and the guys who gave their lives for their country. At the end of the day, I went in there to do the right thing … and it all boils down to doing the right thing … whatever it takes. All those things we learn stick in your head, and when you live by it, that’s the Marine way.”

Though Meyer will receive the Medal of Honor for what he did in Ganjgal, he insists he will wear the five-pointed medallion and blue silk ribbon to honor his fallen brothers, their families and his fellow Marines.

“Being a Marine is a way of life,” Meyer said. “It isn’t just a word, and it’s not just about the uniform — it’s about brotherhood. Brotherhood means that when you turn around, they’re there, through thick and thin. If you can’t take care of your brothers, what can you do in life?”


Across the world, from warm tropical Caribbean islands to the cold snowy mountains of Norway, Marines are participating in exercises to prepare them for real-world conflicts and support operations.

**AFRICAN LION**
AFRICAN LION is a joint and bilateral exercise between the Kingdom of Morocco and more than 2,000 U.S. service members, mostly Marine Reservists and approximately 900 members of the Royal Moroccan Armed Forces. Task Force African Lion deployed to Morocco as a Marine Air Ground Task Force with the command element, 14th Marines, leading aviation, ground and logistics units.

**PTAP NORWAY**
PTAP NORWAY is a Norwegian armed forces-sponsored multinational invitational exercise focused on cold weather maritime/amphibious operations. Participants include forces from Great Britain, the Netherlands, Sweden, Finland, Germany, Austria and other NATO partners.

**TRADEWINDS**
TRADEWINDS is an interagency exercise involving U.S. personnel from the Marine Corps, Coast Guard, Army, Navy, Air Force, National Guard, Joint-Interagency Task Force South, Naval Criminal Investigative Service and the Federal Bureau of Investigation along with forces from: Antigua and Barbuda (host nation), Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Canada, Colombia, Dominica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Jamaica, Nicaragua, Panama, St. Kitts-Nevis, St. Lucia, St. Vincent, Suriname and Trinidad-Tobago.

**NEW HORIZON SURINAME**
U.S. Military personnel deploy to the Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Haiti and Suriname to conduct humanitarian civic assistance exercises from February through September. Troops specializing in engineering, construction and healthcare provide much needed services to communities in need while receiving valuable deployment training and building important relationships with partner nations.
**BSRF**

BSRF is a Marine Forces Europe sponsored security cooperation task force in Romania, Bulgaria, Ukraine and Georgia, conducting various security cooperation events from April through August.

**SEA BREEZE**

SEA BREEZE is an annual combined air, land and maritime exercise with the goals of enhancing amphibious operations, improving multinational maritime capabilities and fostering trust and cooperation among participating nations. This year’s exercise includes active and Reserve forces from the United States, Ukraine, Macedonia, Moldova and Georgia. Training will include amphibious operations, maritime interdiction, counter improvised explosive devices, convoy operations and other platoon level training.

**MEDCEUR**

MEDCEUR is an annual regional and multilateral exercise designed to provide medical training and operational experience in a deployed environment for U.S. and partner nations. The countries who participated in MEDCEUR 2011 are Macedonia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina, Serbia, Slovenia and Norway.

**TALISMAN SABER**

TALISMAN SABER is a biennial joint exercise with the Australian Defence Force. U.S. Navy assets provide support for amphibious assault training and various U.S. Marine Corps fixed-wing and support squadrons. The exercise is designed to practice close air support with the Australian Army in preparation for future joint combat operations.

**LF CARAT**

LF CARAT mobilized Marines to form an infantry company and assault amphibian vehicle platoon from 23rd Marine Regiment and 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion to conduct theater security cooperation and amphibious training with various partner nations.

**MEDICAL CENTRAL AND EASTERN EUROPEAN EXERCISE**

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**AFRICOM SECURITY COOPERATION TEAM**

Marines conduct security cooperation events throughout the African Command area of responsibility.

**CENTCOM SECURITY COOPERATION TEAM**

Marine Reservists conduct security cooperation events throughout the Central Command area of responsibility.

**AFRICOM**

AFRICOM SECURITY COOPERATION TEAM

Marines conduct security cooperation events throughout the African Command area of responsibility.

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Lonestar Battalion helps Afghan troops open village’s first school

Story by Cpl. Katherine Keleher

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan -- The town of Now Abad opened its first school, May 5, with the assistance of Afghan National Army soldiers and coalition forces.

The village has high hopes for the 50 students expected to attend.

“In a society that there is no school, there is no education. It will be dark like night,” said ANA Lt. Col. Haje Obied Ulla, an education and religion officer with the 215th Maiwand Corps.

“Education is like light, which brightens everything in the present and the future,” he said.

“This elementary school we established today will give the chance to the people to study, become teachers, doctors, engineers and officers. Our people need everybody, and it would be possible via education and knowledge,” said Ulla.

The idea of a school being built was first thought of by ANA troops. After the initial planning, they proposed the idea to Marines with 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment. It was then U.S., British, Danish and Afghan troops began working together to make the idea a reality.

“Our only wish is to pave the way for our kids and youth to study,” Ulla explained.

The classes will be held in a pre-existing building, with the permission of the Now Abad village elder. Children will attend class with others of the same gender, boys going in the mornings and girls in the afternoons, explained Maj. Christopher Toland, commanding officer of Headquarters and Service Company, 1/23.

“This has been in the works for about two months, ever since we arrived into the [area of operation],” said Toland, of Houston.

“We’ve been working on it with the ANA as our partner and talking to some other people over here on Leatherneck, regarding what kind of resources we can provide.”

“We’ve tried to make sure they’re part of everything that we do,” he explained. “While we’ve been doing a lot of work on the school project, we’ve made sure that the ANA is taking the lead on it so that when we do at some point have to move on, they’ll be able to take over and run this thing.”

“So they’ve been working with us greatly. They’ve got a great attitude, very professional and the Marines like working with them, so it’s been a win-win situation.”

Both ANA soldiers and coalition forces hope to build more schools in the future in the surrounding areas of Now Abad.
An Afghan National Army soldier hands out stuffed animals to local children in the village of Now Abad, Afghanistan, May 5. (Photo by Cpl. Katherine Keleher)

Girls from the village of Now Abad, Afghanistan, watch their village elder discuss final details of an elementary school with service members from the Marine Corps, British Army and Danish Army. (Photo by Cpl. Katherine Keleher)

“This elementary school we established today will give the chance to the people to study, become teachers, doctors, engineers and officers. Our people need everybody, and it would be possible via education and knowledge,”

- Lt. Col. Haje Obied Ulla, ANA

“Marine Forces Reserve has absolutely been in on the last 10 years,” said Hummer, referring to Reserve Marines’ participation in Operations Iraqi Freedom and Enduring Freedom as well as theater security operations across the globe. “They are an operational Reserve in every aspect of the definition.”

The ceremony was unlike most customary changes of command where the flag is passed from the outgoing party to the incoming party. Instead, Sgt. Maj. Kim Davis, command sergeant major, and Command Master Chief Petty Officer Eric E. Cousin, the MarForRes command master chief, passed the flags of MarForRes and MarForNorth directly to Hummer, symbolizing his assumption.

Before Hummer took charge, Maj. Gen. Darrell L. Moore led MarForRes while also acting as director of Reserve Affairs.

“Folks would say he’s been the acting commander of Marine Forces Reserve and I, as the commandant, have made the decision, in my book, you have been the commander of Marine Forces Reserve, Darrell,” said Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos, “You have done the work and taken care of the Marines and Sailors of this wonderful organization.”

Marine Forces Reserve, which is composed of approximately 100,000 Marines and 183 training centers throughout the U.S., is the largest command in the Marine Corps and is the first force-level command for Hummer. The previous commander of MarForRes was Lt. Gen. John F. Kelly who commanded MarForRes from October 2009 to March 2011. He is currently serving as the senior military assistant to the secretary of defense.

Hummer first enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1970 and was later honorably discharged as a sergeant in 1973. Hummer was later commissioned following graduation from Albright College, Reading, Pa., where he received a degree in psychobiology.
As a company grade officer, he served with 3rd Battalion, 3rd Marine Regiment and 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment and held the billets of rifle platoon commander, battalion training officer, battalion operations officer and company commander.

As a field grade officer, he served with 1st Marine Division, I Marine Expeditionary Force and III Marine Expeditionary Force. His assignments included officer-in-charge for 1st Marines Regimental Enhanced Training Section, 1st MARDIV; operations officer for the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, officer-in-charge for III MEF’s Special Operations Training Group; assistant future plans officer, 1st MARDIV; commanding officer for Battalion Landing Team 1/1 under 13th MEU and 15th MEU; and as the commanding officer for 7th Marines during Operation Iraqi Freedom I. Hummer most recently completed a tour as the director of operations for U.S. Forces – Iraq and served as the chief of staff for the Don’t Ask, Don’t Tell Repeal Implementation Team.

“There’s no shortage of work for Marine Forces Reserve. There’s no shortage of sacrifice by Marine Forces Reserve,” said Amos, noting that more than 1,000 MarForRes Marines are currently deployed to Northern Africa. Today’s Reserve is the most combat experienced he’s seen in his 40 years as a Marine, he said.

Marine Forces Reserve augments and reinforces active Marine forces in a time of war, national emergency or contingency operations, provide personnel and operational tempo relief for the active forces in peacetime, and provide service to the community. Hummer ended his remarks with a promise to the Marines he would now lead.

“I promise you that I will be your best advocate,” he said, adding, “Laissez le bon temps rouler -- let the good times roll.”
Story by Cpl. Adam Leyendecker, II MEF (FWD)

CAMP LEATHERNECK, Afghanistan — Through the course of the recent Iraq wars, and now in Afghanistan, Company C, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, has literally grown up together, using their experiences from back home to unite and strengthen them on the battlefield.

Since deploying this past winter, Company C has provided security in the area around Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province and made advancements in establishing relationships with local villagers.

Company C, nicknamed “Carlos,” is a Reserve unit out of Corpus Christi and Harlingen, Texas. The Marines of Carlos Company credit their common background as a contributor to their success. Unlike active-duty Marines, who often switch units every three to four years, Reservists typically stay with the same unit longer, so the company is full of familiar faces.

“Marines from our company are from Texas, we all have jobs in Texas, we have family in Texas, and we all train together in Texas,” said Staff Sgt. Israel Maldonado, platoon commander for Headquarters Platoon, Company C, and a native of Weslaco, Texas. “We see each other all the time and stay together throughout our careers.”

While the company shares a geographic tie, the Marines also share a cultural understanding. Ninety percent of Carlos Company shares some form of Latino heritage, said Maldonado. The Marines get together for cookouts and other functions on a weekly basis with one another back home. Several Marines in the company are related in some way, while others went to school together or played high school sports against one another.

The similarities don’t end there. Many of the Marines in Carlos Company are in some kind of law enforcement back in Texas.
Almost all speak Spanish fluently.

Maldonado, who has been with the company for 10 years, played football and attended grade school with Gunnery Sgt. Mario Moreno, platoon sergeant for 1st platoon. Maldonado and Moreno have taken their sons together to watch their favorite National Football League team, the Dallas Cowboys.

“Marines naturally are able to adapt and overcome together, but this particular unit is unique in that they all already know each other and have grown together,” said 2nd Lt. Edward E. Arrington, 2nd platoon commander.

The Marines focus much of their training back home in Texas on infantry tactics, such as shooting ranges and land navigation. In addition to already being acclimated to the dry heat of Helmand province thanks to the similar climate back home, the Marines say this training has helped them be successful during this deployment.

“I don’t know any company as close as Carlos Company,” said 1st Sgt. David M. Dyess, company first sergeant for Carlos Company. “Nobody can come between these Marines and their mission. They all know what [one] another is thinking.”

The Marines in Carlos Company deploy for their brothers to the left and right of them, said Maldonado, whose son attends the school alongside children of other Marines in the company.

“Morale is very high here, and we help lift each other up,” he explained. “We can literally ask how someone’s family is doing because we actually know everyone’s family on a personal level.”

The Marines have remained close during their deployment, which may be a reason they’ve suffered no serious casualties despite hitting several IEDs and encountering insurgent attacks during their tour.

The company has managed operations around Camp Leatherneck, the largest coalition base in Helmand province, and has successfully limited any insurgent activities in the area.

Marines with Carlos Company are scheduled to return to their families in the Lonestar State in the near future. However, most of the Marines will remain in touch with one another as friends, family or neighbors, until their next call to duty.

Lance Cpl. Adolfo Guerra, an assaultman with Company C, 1st Battalion, 23rd Marine Regiment, and Cpl. Brandon Mundine, a rifleman also with Carlos Company, stand post at an entry-control point during a training evolution, Jan. 19, at Camp Pendleton, Calif. Guerra is a Mexican-American from Texas.
ST. JOHNS, Antigua and Barbuda —

When the rioters first hit the defender’s lines, there is a brief moment of disorder and confusion as dozens of screaming protestors throw bottles, kick, punch and taunt the defenders. The defenders step back, quickly reorganize their lines and begin to slowly move forward, pushing the aggressors back with shields, batons and oleoresin capsicum spray. The confrontation is loud, messy, aggressive, chaotic and over within minutes as the defenders snatch up the riot leader, bringing an end to the hostilities.

The riot is simply training for the U.S. and Caribbean service members and police assembled at the Antigua and Barbuda Royal Police Force’s training school, but it’s a subject the participants could easily find themselves tested on in the near future.

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Alabama
HQ SVC Co Anti-terrorism Bn 1001 4th Ave SW Bessemer 205-426-0555
Co E(-) Anti-terrorism Bn 1001 4th Avenue SW Bessemer 205-426-0555
Spt Co(-) Anti-terrorism Bn 1001 4th Avenue SW Bessemer 205-426-0555
Btry K 2nd Bn 14th Mar Regt 3506 South Memorial Parkway Huntsville 256-755-1265
3rd Force Recon Co 1650 S Broad Mobile 251-402-5211
4th Grd Sensor Plt HQ SVC Co Intel Sp Bn 1650 S Broad Mobile 251-402-5211
Co L 3rd Bn 23rd Mar Regt 1650 Federal Drive Montgomery 334-294-7087
Det Co L, 3rd Bn 23rd Mar Regt 1650 Federal Drive Montgomery 334-294-7087

Arkansas
Co I 3rd Bn 23rd Mar Regt 8005 Camp Robinson Road North Little Rock 501-952-0336
Det Co I, 3rd Bn 23rd Mar Regt 8005 Camp Robinson Road North Little Rock 501-952-0336

California
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Det Beach & Terminal Ops Co A 4th Lndg Sp Bn 901 E Mission St San Jose 408-690-8528
Det Lndg Sp Equip Co 4th Lndg Sp Bn 901 E Mission Santa Fe 408-690-8528
Det HQ SVC Co 4th Lndg Sp Bn 901 E Mission Santa Fe 408-690-8528
4th Force Recon Co(-) 2144 Clement Avenue Alameda 510-774-6456
Det 2, Bulk Fuel Co A, 6th Eab 4201 North Chester Avenue Bakersfield 661-979-7453
Det Engr Spt Co 6th Engr Sp Bn 4201 North Chester Avenue Bakersfield 661-979-7453
3rd Air & Naval Gunfire Liaison Co 5631 Rickenbacker Road Bell 310-863-6569
Human Exploitation Plt Co A Intel Sp Bn Bldg 210822, Del Mar MCB Camp Pendleton 760-725-5535
3rd Civil Affairs Group Ps 555123 MCB Camp Pendleton 760-390-7819
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HMM-764 MAG-41 199 South Wolfe Ave Edwards AFB 661-275-3431
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Btry N 5th Bn 14th Mar Regt 3551 San Gabriel River Parkway Pico Rivera 562-226-8045
HQ Btry M 14th Mar Regt Bldg 14, 800 Seal Beach Blvd. Seal Beach 562-572-4268
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Mr Main Co(-) 4th Maint Bn 8277 Elder Creek Road Sacramento 916-417-2933
HQ Co 23rd Mar Regt 900 Commodore Lane San Bruno 650-537-2404
Dn Tn 23rd Marines 900 Commodore Lane San Bruno 650-537-2404

Arizona
Bulk Fuel Co C 6th Engr Sp Bn 14063 W Gilbert St Phoenix 602-421-5806
Bulk Fuel Co A(-) 6th Engr Sp Bn NMCR 3655 S. Wilmont Rd. Tucson 520-405-6298
Det Engr Spt Co 6th Engr Sp Bn 3655 South Wilmont Road Tucson 520-405-6298
VMU-4 MACG-48 Ps 992770, Bldg. 146 MCAS Yuma 847-477-5617
VMFT-401, MAG-41 Ps 992770, Bldg. 146 MCAS Yuma 928-350-4402

Co A(-) Intel Sp Bn Bldg 50, 9955 Pomerado Road MCRD San Diego 858-537-8108
Counter Intel Plt Co A Intel Sp Bn Bldg 50, 9955 Pomerado Road MCRD San Diego 858-537-8108
HQ SVC Co(-) 4th Tank Bn Bldg 50, 9955 Pomerado Road MCRD San Diego 858-537-8134
Det Medlog Co 4th Spn Bn Bldg 50, 9955 Pomerado Road MCRD San Diego 858-537-8071
HQ SVC Co(-) 4th Med Bn Bldg 50, 9955 Pomerado Road MCRD San Diego 858-537-8071
Det Lndg Sp Equip Co 4th Lndg Spn Bt Bldg 50, 3500 Nixie Way MCRD San Diego 858-537-8071

Colorado
Btry Q 5th Bn 14th Mar Regt Bldg 14, 800 Seal Beach Blvd Seal Beach 562-527-4268
Co D 4th Tank Bn Bldg 2070, 136th Street MCAGCC Twentynine Palms 951-232-3275
Deployment Processing Command West Po Box 555111 MCRD Camp Pendleton 760-725-7995
Site Spn Miramar Po Box 452024 MCAS Miramar MCRD San Diego 858-537-4020

Btry Q 5th Bn 14th Mar Regt 7th Snowmass Street, Bldg 1301 Aurora 303-961-4616
Co B(-) Intel Spn Bn 7th Snowmass Street, Bldg 1301 Aurora 720-847-7683
Imagery Interpretation Plt Co B Intel Spt Bn 7th Snowmass Street, Bldg 1301 Aurora 720-847-7683
Marine Forces Reserve Duty Directory

Connecticut

Det 401st MI Co A 6th MI Bn
30 Woodward Avenue
New Haven
203-307-5272

Det 401st MI Co A 6th MI Bn
30 Woodward Avenue
New Haven
203-307-5272

Det 6th Bn
30 Woodward Avenue
New Haven
203-307-5272

Co 4th BN 25th Mar Regt
1 Linnsley Drive
Paisville
860-913-3265

Delaware

Bulk Fuel Co 4th 6th Engr Spt Bn
2920 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington
302-998-6695

Det Engr Spt Co 4th 6th Engr Spt Bn
2920 Kirkwood Highway
Wilmington
302-998-6695

District of Columbia

Det 4th Civil Affairs Group
190 Poremba Court Sw, Suite 209
Washington
202-641-6401

Personnel Retrieval And Processing
Co 4TH HQSVC Bn
Bldg 351, Suite 108, 190 Poremba Court Sw
Washington
202-641-6401

Supply Co 4th Maint Bn
Bldg 351, Suite 115, 190 Poremba Court Sw
Washington
202-433-0207

Rations Co 4th Maint Bn
Bldg 351, Suite 108, 190 Poremba Court Sw
Washington
202-433-0207

Surg Co B(4) 4th Med Bn
Bldg 351, Suite 115, 190 Poremba Court Sw
Washington
202-433-3158

Florida

Co B(4) 4th AA Bn
8280 Somers Road South
Jacksonville
904-237-1356

2nd Human Intel Support Tm Co C
Intel Spt Bn
18605 NW 62nd Avenue
Hialeah
305-797-7163

Det HQSVC Co 4th Tank Bn
18605 NW 62nd Avenue
Hialeah
305-797-7163

2nd Intel Production Tm Co C Intel Spt Bn
9500 Armed Forces suite 300
407-782-2980

Det HQSVC Co 4th Med Bn
Suite 300, 9500 Armed Forces Reserve Drive
Orlando
407-398-3668

Det Gs Mt Co 6th Mt Bn
Suite 300, 9500 Armed Forces Reserve Drive
Orlando
407-782-2980

Co B 4th Recon Bn
1880 Roswell Street
Smyrna
404-326-0583

2 Det MTM Co 4th Maint Bn
2869 Central Avenue
Augusta
706-533-2679

3rd Intel Production Tm Co C Intel Spt Bn
Se Aric, Ft. Gillem 1407 Hood Ave.
Forest Park
256-332-2856

HQ Co 4TH HQSVC Bn
Bldg 440, 1210 Naval Forces Court
Marietta
404-493-1111

Det Ammo Co 4th Spt Bn
1210 Naval Forces Ct., Bldg. 440
Marietta
706-676-4054

HQSVC Co 4th Dental Bn
Bldg 440, 1210 Naval Forces Ct.
Marietta
404-895-3637

24th Dental Co 4th Dental Bn
Bldg 440, 1210 Naval Forces Court
Marietta
912-626-1118

Beach & Terminal Ops Co B 4th
Lndg Spt Bn
Bldg 1281, Suite 100, 62 Leonard-neal Street
Savannah
912-616-2584

Det HQSVC Co 4th Lndg Spt Bn
Bldg 1281, 62 Leonard-neal Street
Savannah
912-656-1118

HMLA-773(3) MCG-49
420 Beale Dr, Bldg 2071
Robins AFB
472-222-5461

HQ, Det. A, MCG-49
420 Beale Dr, Bldg 2071
Robins AFB
472-222-5461

Hawaii

2nd & 3rd Plt, Co F, Anti-terrorism Unit
Box 63040, MC8 Hawaii
Kaneohe Bay
808-591-0263

HQSVC Co 4th BN 25th Mar Regt
2121 Mcdonough Street
Joliet
815-341-2434

Det HQSVC Co 4th Recon Bn
2711 Mondonore Street
Joliet
815-341-2434

Engr Co C 6th Engr Spt Bn
7112 E. Plank Road
Peoria
309-222-1673

Gs Maint Co 4th Maint Bn
Bldg 218, Rock Island Arsenal
Rock Island
309-209-3947

Idaho

Det Supply Co 4th Maint Bn
Bldg 351, Suite 113, 190 Poremba Court Sw
Washington
202-433-0207

Det Personnel Retrieval And Processing
Co HQSVC Bn
1880 Roswell Street
Smyrna
(No number available)

Idaho

Co C 4th Tank Bn
Bldg 889, 4087 West Harvard Street
Boise
208-863-3217

Illinois

2nd Human Intel Support Tm Co B
Intel Spt Bn
3034 West Foster Avenue
Chicago
773-908-2113

HQSVC Co 2nd Bn 24th Mar Regt
3034 West Foster Avenue
Chicago
773-908-2113

2nd Intel Production Tm (Jirc) Co B
Intel Spt Bn
North Central Arise 3155 Blackhawk Dr., Ste. 181
Ft. Sheridan
847-266-5156

MACG-48
Bldg 3200, Suite 8200, 2205 Depot Drive
Great Lakes
847-722-9073

MTACS 48 MACG-48
Bldg 8200, Suite 8200, 2205 Depot Drive
Great Lakes
847-722-9073

MWCS 48(4) MACG-48
Bldg 8200, Suite 200, 2205 Depot Drive
Great Lakes
847-722-9073

Det A (Rea) MWCS-48 MACG-48
Bldg 3200, Suite 200, 2205 Depot Drive
Great Lakes
847-722-9073

TACC (East)
Bldg 3200, Suite 200, 2205 Depot Drive
Great Lakes
847-722-9073

Co E 4th Recon Bn
2711 Mondonore Street
Joliet
815-341-2434

Indiana

Det Comm Co HQ Bn
3010 White River Parkway East Drive
Indianaapolis
317-402-1180

Det 1 Comm Co Hqvc Bn
4780 W. Leatherneck Drive
Puebla
765-437-0190

Engr Co B 6th Engr Spt Bn
1901 South Kemble Avenue
South Bend
574-532-9027

Co K(-) 3rd Bn 24th Mar Regt
200 South Fruitridge Avenue
Terre Haute
812-241-1718

Iowa

Co E(4) 2nd Bn 24th Mar Regt
Bldg 47, Dickman Avenue
Des Moines
515-208-9080

Kansas

Gs Ammo Plt Ammco Co 4th Spt Bn
P.O. box 19517, 6700 Sw Topeka Blvd., Bldg 688
875-230-0057

Elect Maint Co(-) 4th Maint Bn
3026 George Washington Blvd
Wichita
316-706-9464

Det Engr Maint Co 4th Maint Bn
3026 George Washington Blvd
Wichita
316-706-9464

Kentucky

Co E 4th Tank Bn
959 7th Armor Division Road, Bldg 7241
Fort Knox
502-608-6623

Mp Co A HQSVC Bn
151 Opportunity Way
Lexington
859-509-1017

Det 4 HQ Co HQSVC Bn
151 Opportunity Way
Lexington
859-509-1017

Louisiana

Wmps Co(-) 3rd Bn 23rd Mar Regt
8410 General Chennault Drive
Baton Rouge
225-279-1088

HQSVC Co 3rd Bn 23rd Mar Regt
Bldg 492, 92 Olsen Avenue
NAS JRB New Orleans-JRJC
504-610-5022

Det Belle Chasse VMR
Bldg 263, 400 Russell Ave
NAS JRB New Orleans-JRJC
504-343-2696
Marine Forces Reserve Duty Directory

Co B 1st Bn 23rd Mar Regt 1440 Swan Lake Road Bouvier City 318-349-3309
Co C 1st Bn 24th Mar Regt 3423 North Martin Luther King Jr Blvd Lancing 517-819-0560
Co D 4th Comm Engr Lancing 865-522-2414

Michigan

Hq MQSG-47 1435 N. Perimeter Road Mount Clemens 586-405-0510
Hq MQSG-47 Co 6th Engr Spt Bn 101 Base Avenue Battle Creek 260-209-2220
Engr Spt Co(-) 6th Engr Spt Bn 101 Base Avenue Battle Creek 260-209-2220

Mississippi

Det MQSG-47 10810 Lambert International Blvd Bridgeton 314-401-0219
Co 3rd Bn 24th Mar Regt 200 S. Fruit Ridge Ave Terre Haute, Indiana 812-241-1718
Dn Tm 24th Mar Regt Bldg 710, 3805 155th Street Kansas City 816-510-7688
Hq 24th Co 24th Mar Regt Bldg 710, 3805 155th Street Kansas City 816-510-7688
Nbc Defense Plt Hq Co HQSVC Bldg 710, 3805 155th Street Kansas City 816-510-7688
Wpns Co(-) 3rd Bn 24th Mar Regt 1110 North Fremont Avenue Springfield 417-459-7426
Det HQSVC Co 3d Bn 24th Mar Regt 1110 North Fremont Avenue Springfield 417-869-2857 Ext. 27

Montana

2nd & 3rd Plt Co D Anti-terrorism Bn 2913 Guelph Road Billings 406-671-3546

Nebraska

Engr Maint Co(-) 4th Maint Bn 5808 North 30th Street Omaha 402-306-1383

New Jersey

Det HMLA-773 MAG-49 Bldg 414, 263 Fowler Avenue JRB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst 609-562-8711
Det Co A 2nd Bn 25th Mar Regt Bldg 3360 Picatinny Arsenal Dover 973-885-3577
Det Co B 25th Mar Regt Bldg 3306 Picatinny Arsenal Dover 973-885-3577
1st Intel Production Tm Co C Intel Spt Bn Bldg 552 JRB McGuire-Dix-Lakehurst 609-562-4199 (24 Hr)
Det HQSVC Co(-) 6th Mt Bn 338 Newman Springs Road Red Bank 732-904-5696
Det Gt Mt Co 6th Mt Bn 338 Newman Springs Road Red Bank 732-904-5696

New Mexico

Co C 4th Recon Bn 8810 South Street SE Albuquerque 505-604-2679

New York

Det Co A 6th Comm Bn 600 Albany Avenue Amityville 646-523-5746

Ohio

Det Hq 1st Bn 25th Mar Regt 1863 Monroe Nw Grand Rapids 616-813-5579

Oregon

Det Hq 1st Bn 25th Mar Regt 14000 SW Boring Boulevard Portland 503-556-5200

Pennsylvania

Det Hq 1st Bn 25th Mar Regt 14000 SW Boring Boulevard Portland 503-556-5200

Puerto Rico

516-642-7297
Wpns Co(-) 2nd Bn 25th Mar Regt 605 Stewart Avenue Garden City 516-642-7297

Rhode Island

Det Hq 1st Bn 25th Mar Regt 14000 SW Boring Boulevard Portland 503-556-5200

South Dakota

Det Hq Co HQSVC Bn 338 Newman Springs Road Red Bank 732-904-5696

West Virginia

Det Hq Btry 3rd Bn 14th Mar Regt 361 Scotch Road Mercer County Airport West Trenton 609-847-7932

Wisconsin

Det Hq 1st Bn 25th Mar Regt 14000 SW Boring Boulevard Portland 503-556-5200

Wyoming

Det Hq Co 1st Bn 25th Mar Regt 14000 SW Boring Boulevard Portland 503-556-5200
## Marine Forces Reserve Duty Directory

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>State</th>
<th>City</th>
<th>Address</th>
<th>Phone</th>
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<tbody>
<tr>
<td><strong>Ohio</strong></td>
<td>Wpns Co (-3)</td>
<td>800 Dan Street</td>
<td>937-360-7074</td>
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<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Det Hq Co</td>
<td>2936 Sherwood Street</td>
<td>937-360-7074</td>
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<td>Det Wpns Eq</td>
<td>536 North Hills Circle</td>
<td>937-360-7074</td>
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<td></td>
<td>HQSVC Co (-3)</td>
<td>5572 Smith Road</td>
<td>937-360-7074</td>
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<td>541-501-0297</td>
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<td>Det Wpns Eq</td>
<td>2101 Alcoa Highway</td>
<td>865-755-2925</td>
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<td>2101 Alcoa Highway</td>
<td>865-755-2925</td>
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<td>Det Sprngfd</td>
<td>541-501-0297</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

### Summer 2011

- **Pennsylvania**: 713-419-3498 1050 Remount Rd., Bldg 3155 North Charleston.
- **Rhode Island**: 817-807-2909 3114 Jackson Avenue Memphis.
- **South Carolina**: 481-605-4735 901-628-8672 2112 North Charleston.
- **North Dakota**: 512-497-0976 910-612-0930 1099 E Molloy & Town Line Rd Supply Co (-4th Supp Bn)
- **Texas**: 817-807-2909 817-782-2741 918-534-1000 NSCCP 14555 Scholl Street Houston.
- **West Virginia**: 817-782-2741 787-504-2022 481-512-4835 1050 Remount Rd., Bldg 3155 North Charleston.
Utah
Co C 4th Ltr Bn
Det HHQ SVC Det C 4th Ltr Bn
Bldg 2620, 17800 Camp Williams Road
River City 801-230-0649
Co B(-) 2nd Bn 23rd Mar Regt
116 Pollock Road
Salt Lake City 801-514-9779

Virginia
Co C 4th Cbte Engr BN
Det Engr Spt Co C 4th Cbte Engr BN
Det HHQ SVC Det C 4th Cbte Engr BN
314 Graves Mill Road
Lynchburg 540-295-0072
HMQ-74 MAG-49
1430 Ct Tow Way Drive
NAS Norfolk 757-444-718
HHQ SVC Det C 4th Supp BN
7401 Warwick Blvd
Newport News 757-537-8783
Det HQ HHQ SVC Det CB 4th Supp BN
7401 Warwick Blvd
Newport News 757-537-8783
Medac Co (-) 4th Supp BN
Det Surg Co B 4th Med BN
7401 Warwick Blvd
Newport News 757-537-8783
Co A(-) 4th Ltr BN
Det HQ SVC Det C 4th Ltr BN
1 Navy Drive, Sgt Harper Hall
Norfolk 757-636-3848

Co C(-) intel Spt BN
Counter-intel Plat Co C Intel Spt BN
All-source Fusion Plat Co C Intel Spt BN
26102 Bailey Avenue
Quantico 703-784-2874
Co D 4th LAR BN
26000 Bailey Avenue
Quantico 703-784-2874
Bray H 3rd BN 14th Mar Regt
6000 Strathmore Road
Richmond 804-640-8635
Co B 4th Cbte Engr BN
5301 Barnes Avenue NW
Roanoake 540-295-0286
MACS-24(-) MACG-48
1325 South Birdneck Road
Virginia Beach 757-639-7939
Human Exploitation Plat (-) Co C Intel Spt BN
1325 South Birdneck Road
Virginia Beach 757-639-7939

Washington
Det Bulk Fuel Co A 6th Engr Spt BN
Det Engr Spt Co 6th Engr Spt BN
HHQ SVC Det C 4th Ltr BN
Det Ltr Spt Equp Co 4th Ltr Spt BN
Ltr Spt Co A 4th Ltr Spt BN
Bldg 9690, North L Street
Fort Lewis 253-986-1071
Co A(-) 4th Ltr BN
1 Navy Drive, Sgt Harper Hall
Norfolk 757-636-3848
Btry P 5th BN 14th Mar Regt
5101 North Assembly Street
Spokane 509-990-6416
Co B 4th Tank BN
Det HHQ SVC Det C 4th Tank BN
1702 Tahoma Avenue
Yakima 509-728-3841

West Virginia
Det HHQ SVC Det C 4th Cbte Engr BN
103 Lakeview Drive
Charleston 304-776-4806
Det Engr Spt Co 6th Cbte Engr BN
103 Lakeview Drive
Charleston 304-776-4806
Co A 4th Cbte Engr BN
103 Lakeview Drive
Charleston 304-377-7043
Det HHQ SVC Det C 4th Cbte Engr BN
103 Lakeview Drive
Charleston 304-776-4806
Det HHQ SVC Det C 4th Cbte Engr BN
1600 Lafayette Avenue
Moundsville 304-845-2790

Wisconsin
Det Bulk Fuel Co 6th Engr Spt BN
2949 Ramada Way
Green Bay 920-336-3070
Det 11 Engr Spt Co 6th Engr Spt BN
Green Bay 920-336-2083 ext: 200
Co G 2nd BN 24th Mar Regt
1430 Wright Street
Madison 608-209-4627
Co F 2nd BN 24th Mar Regt
2401 South Lincoln Memorial Drive
Milwaukee 414-235-6045

Wyoming
Ens Det MACS-23 MACG-48
Bldg 245, 5609 Randall Avenue
Warren AFB 303-947-3419

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☐ All stories and photos should focus on Marine Forces Reserve or any of its subordinate units.

☐ If not focused on the MFR, all products must be relevant to the Reserve component.

If your suggestion meets the criteria, contact:
1st Lt, Ryan E. Alvis
(504) 697-8199
ryan.alvis usmc.mil

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If your suggestion meets the criteria, contact:
1st Lt, Ryan E. Alvis
(504) 697-8199
ryan.alvis@usmc.mil
Rioters are quickly repulsed after being sprayed with inert oleoresin capsicum spray during riot control training as part of exercise Tradewinds 2011, held in St. Johns, Antigua and Barbuda. (Photo by Sgt. Tyler J. Hlavac)
The training began in the morning with basic instruction for the students on how to handle a riot. The students spent the early part of the day practicing formations, learning commands and learning how to use riot shields effectively. Monitoring the training were military police from Military Police Companies A and B, Headquarters and Service Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group, who had spent the previous days teaching the students such subjects as hand-to-hand combat and the use of non-lethal weapons, such as tasers and batons.

The bulk of the training concentrated around perfecting formations, which are the lifeblood of defenders during a riot. The majority of the formations revolved around using riot shields similar to the Spartan style of defense popularized in the movie “300.” Groups form a line of shields and are able to push back an even a larger group of enemies.

After becoming confident with the basics, the students then suited up in full riot gear, including face shields, flak jackets, kevlar helmets, riot shields and thick pads to protect their legs. The defenders then faced off against their fellow students posing as rioters. The groups took turns, each as rioters and defenders, and spent the day clashing with each other, with each new group of rioters getting more serious about their role.

The climax of the training occurred when the rioters and defenders took up their positions in what would be the last scenario of the training. Eager to make the training more realistic, Cpl. Wilson Sylvain, a SWAT team member from Haiti, volunteered to lead the rioters. Drawing upon his past experiences, Sylvain quickly organized his fellow students-turned-protestors and the training began to take on a more serious tone. The protestors, now organized, began to heavily taunt and antagonize the defenders, chanting “Pigs go home!” stomping and clapping in unison and throwing packages of Meals Ready-to-Eat at the defenders.

Faced with a surprising level of intensity from the rioters, defender leader Lance Cpl. Von Richcreek, a squad automatic weapon gunner with Company I, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment and Nashville, Tenn., native, organized his defenders into solid lines. He then led his defenders, as they grunted loudly, in unison at each step in an attempt to demoralize the rioters.

The two groups quickly met and hostilities started slowly with a few rioters throwing punches and kicks at the defender shields, which quickly escalated with both groups in an all out brawl with each other, with cries of “Hold the line!” coming from the defenders.

The rioters broke contact after a few minutes and withdrew in an attempt to regroup.

“The man in the brown shirt! He’s in charge!” shouted Richcreek. In an attempt to shut the rioters down permanently, several defenders made a grab for Sylvain, who quickly realized he was now the main target and broke free and sprinted behind other rioters for cover. Sylvain bought himself a few
minutes as the defenders made one last aggressive push forward, utilizing a liberal dose of mock OC spray to chase away enough rioters to snatch up Sylvain and bring the riot and the training to a close.

After the training, Sylvain, speaking through an interpreter, explained that the training was very realistic.

“This is what the people do during a riot. They will throw bottles, stones, tree stumps or whatever they can get their hands on. The techniques we used today are similar to what we use back home and the dangers today are also similar,” he said.

Many of the students gained a sense of camaraderie from the training as well as preparation for the future.

“People say, ‘Man, this is the Caribbean, it can never happen here,’ but it can,” said Royal Barbados Police Force Constable Richard Walkes. “It builds bonds and it’s nice to have someone in another country you can correspond with if you go there, and you don’t have to think twice. You know their level of training.”

Despite the level of intensity involved in the training, there was an element of fun for the students involved.

“It’s really chaotic. You have to watch your guys and watch the mob, it’s a whole lot of input at once,” said Richcreek, describing his experience as defender leader. “It’s nice when you call a command, like ‘snatch team up’ and they grab up a guy.”

When asked which group performed better, Richcreek, unhesitantly named his group as the best performers.

“I didn’t expect the rioters to get that into it, at one point a guy slammed into me and I had to beat him down,” said Richcreek. “However, we all pulled together despite the language barrier and we definitely won.”
Raven in Romania

Marines teach Romanian Army tactical benefits of UAVs

Black Sea Rotational Force is a rotational deployment of Marines sent to the Black Sea, Balkan and Caucasus regions to work with foreign nations and help build their military training capacity, promote stability throughout the region, and build enduring partnerships with 13 nations throughout Eastern Europe.

Story and photos by Sgt. Matt Lyman

BUZAU, Romania — U.S. Marines and soldiers with Black Sea Rotational Force 11 traveled to Buzau, Romania, to provide the Romanian Army a familiarization course to display the capabilities of the Raven-B, unmanned aerial vehicle.

This familiarization course was presented over five days and was split between classroom lectures and practical application exercises, where Romanian soldiers were given some stick time on the Raven system.

The Raven is classified as a SUAV (Small Unmanned Aerial Vehicle), operates at a maximum service ceiling of 10,500 feet and each unit costs about $36,000, which is a small price to pay for the immense advantage the Raven system can generate on the battlefield.

“It’s a reconnaissance bird. Once it’s in the air we can achieve a certain altitude where people on the ground can’t see it above and we can loiter over them and see what they’re doing, see if they’re friend or foe and give a view of the battlefield before we get there,” said U.S. Army Staff Sgt. Stephen Provence, Raven operator.

“At only four pounds the Raven weighs less than a loaded M-4 service carbine with magazine. Coupled with the flight systems it weighs less than a M-249 Squad Automatic Weapon with a combat load of ammunition. The Raven is constructed of thin Kevlar material, making it a hardy piece of gear that is water resistant.

The Raven can be equipped with up to three cameras, one aiming forward and one on either side of the nose cone. These cameras can capture video footage and still photographs, regardless of the time of day.

Adding a Raven system at the squad level would equip them to have an immediate eye in the sky, affording troops on the ground the capability to not only conduct route reconnaissance but shoot back real-time video to the company commander, keeping him one step ahead of the enemy and allowing him to move resources as the battlefield or scenario dictates.

“The Raven is great for smaller level things: base security for small bases, route recon, patrolling, and things like that,”

"If we would’ve had the Raven during my deployments our confidence level would’ve been way higher. There were several times when an asset like that would’ve been a force multiplier, we would’ve been able to get behind the bad guys, stop them from running away or at least follow them, because our biggest issue was positive identification of the enemy," added WatersJackson.

During this familiarization course, the Romanian soldiers were given classes illustrating the physical characteristics of the Raven system to include: materials, assembly, maintenance, storage and components.

Once the soldiers had a basic understanding of the physical specifications of the Raven, they were taught how to use the operating system, which includes a laptop computer and a global positioning system. The soldiers were given the opportunity to input missions, establish waypoints and synchronize the GPS.

"We were able to learn many things in the classes," said Warrant Officer Marius Enache, Romanian Army.

"I like this equipment. I like using it and it is simple to use. It is a small and intelligent air vehicle and I hope we get the opportunity to explore its’ capabilities more in the future."

Learning the Raven system could prove important for Romanian soldiers, as the system is widely used in Afghanistan by U.S. forces, who work with and patrol alongside Romanian soldiers there.
SHIROKYI LAN, Ukraine – As soon as the call comes in from the forward observer, the countdown begins. Three minutes is all the Marines from Mortars Platoon, Weapons Company, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment have.

Three minutes to plot the direction, distance and elevation of a round, apply this information to their mortar tubes, launch the round and destroy the target. It’s three minutes of chaotic action, but for the Marines involved the payoff is worth it.

Mortars Platoon spent the day honing their craft at one of the firing ranges at the Shirokyi Lan Training Area, an area used by Ukrainian Armed Forces for training, June 8, during exercise SEA BREEZE 2011.

As the Marines fired rounds, occasionally mistakes or delays would happen; rounds would be slightly off target or the tubes would need to be cleaned, causing the Marines to run dangerously close to their three-minute deadline.

Each gun team would race to fire first and do their best to call out other teams who were running slowly. Shouts of “brush your tube” or “hurry up” filled the air to complete their mission, mingling in with commands over the radio from the fire direction controllers, such as “Watch your pod” or “Make sure your gunner is bracing,” commands that other teams had no problem repeating out loud in an effort to call out other teams.

Despite the brief moments of excitement and stress every time a fire request comes in, the Marines find the effort worthwhile.

“I like hearing the orders (radio commands)... it’s like the build up and the explosion at the end is the quick release, it’s a rush,” said Lance Cpl. Eric Winkler, a Kansas City, Mo., native and former infantryman who has been training with the platoon since February to become a mortarman.

“It’s really cool, when you hear that metal on metal sound... when the round hits a tank, it works in a different location and carries different weapons than their rifleman counterparts.

However, they often steal the show when it comes to large-scale training events.

“People are often unfamiliar with us because we use a lot of math,” said Gunnery Sgt. Ben Ramsey, an Aurora, Mo., native and platoon commander for mortars platoon. “They think what we do is mysterious, kind of like magic, but they are always drawn in because we make a good size boom.”

During the course of the day the Marines fired approximately 230 rounds. They will spend the next two days firing mortars during both the day and night as part of exercise SEA BREEZE 2011.

SEA BREEZE is an annual combined air, land and maritime exercise with the goals of enhancing amphibious operations, improving multinational maritime capabilities and fostering trust and cooperation among participating nations.
CAMP PEPELISHTE, Macedonia—Partner nations put everything they learned about mortuary affairs from Personnel Retrieval and Processing Company, 4th Marine Logistics Group, to the test in a hands-on training event as part of 2011 Medical Training Exercise in Central and Eastern Europe, June 12.

The PRP team from Smyrna, Ga., and Washington, D.C., have been teaching partner nations the U.S. military’s mortuary affairs processes for the past three days.

The Macedonian team, comprised of armed forces members and policemen, worked together inside a morgue, where two litters were set up with human remains pouches. They started working slow, but as the ambulance rolled up with more simulated bodies, they fell into a rhythm.

When an ambulance would arrive, they all gathered quickly outside to get the simulated body out and transfer it into the morgue in a timely fashion.

“The training teaches us how to connect with other forces and manage a crisis,” said Sgt. Vesna Kisuovska, Macedonian armed forces medical technician. “It’s good to see how other forces do that.”

Once inside the morgue, the team would start to process the simulated body by removing and noting all personal items and assessing the remains carefully as the PRP Marines observed their actions.

“I think well-trained people managed the training,” she said. “They were excellent because they involved actual [hands-on] training [during their presentations], not just talking.”

As the afternoon came around they received a rush of multiple simulated bodies. “I was learning how to handle dead bodies and how the organizational structure should be organized in a time of crisis,” said Staff Sgt. Svetlana Jovevska, central medical supply commander in the Macedonian Armed Forces.

“We definitely learned something because we don’t really have this kind of job,” said Staff Sgt. Vesna Spaseska, a nurse in the Macedonian armed forces. “We can show all soldiers how to react when dealing with dead bodies. The training was very complete and very well presented.”

Cpl. Eric Ahn, a PRP specialist, assessed the students and said they were very cooperative and helpful to each other.

“It was great to see that they retained the knowledge earlier, and how students from earlier classes were teaching other students who missed the classes how to process the bodies,” Ahn said.

MEDCEUR is an annual regional and multilateral exercise designed to provide medical training and operational experience in a deployed environment for U.S. and partner nations.
Marines end training with a bang

2,000 U.S. service members and 900 members of the Royal Moroccan armed forces participate in African Lion

Story and photos by Pfc. Ariel Solomon


The final exercise consisted of firing eight tube-launched, optically-tracked, wire command missiles, combining fire with four anti-tank 84mm single-use rockets and finished up with simulated bounding live fire and maneuver alongside light-armored vehicles.

“This was the best training we’ve had so far,” said Sgt. Alan Carson, a scout chief with Company F. “We got to combine LAV’s with the small arms.”

The majority of the LAV crews waited in a staging area a few kilometers away from the LAV that launched the TOW missiles. The crews rested and waited until all eight missiles were fired before moving up to the range.

After a dusty ride to the range, the Marines dismounted and prepared to fire several AT-4 shoulder-fired single-use rockets alongside suppressing fire from the vehicles.

The Marines walked forward to the firing line, well away from their vehicles to ensure the back blast from the rocket wouldn’t harm any Marines or their equipment. The Marine with the rocket prepared to fire the AT-4 as fellow Marines suppressed targets with a hail of bullets.

The Marine and the range officers called out “rocket” just before the blast of the rocket shook the range and the nearby Marines disappeared in a cloud of dust.

Each team of Marines fired the rockets until all of them were expended and the exercise moved into its final phase.

The final phase involved a bounding exercise with live rounds and the massive 25mm bushmaster chaingun onboard their LAVs. The Marines simulated covering each other as if they were moving forward by taking turns firing their weapons while others held their fire.

Next, they squeezed six Marines into the back of the armored transports, weapons in condition three, magazines loaded but no round in the chamber.

The bumpy ride up to the next firing line took only moments and once the firing began the Marines...
hopped out and lined up alongside their vehicle, the 25mm bushmaster chaingun thumping in bursts of three as the Marines began firing as if they were bounding forward. One group of Marines fired, then the next, providing cover fire for each other.

As the final exercise came to an end, the Marines were busy cleaning up empty ammunition cans and getting ready to head back to the logistics support area after being in the field for seven days.

“It feels good knowing this is the final exercise, knowing there is a hot shower at the end,” said Lance Cpl. Rimer Joseph.

African Lion is an annually scheduled, bilateral exercise between the Kingdom of Morocco and the U.S. that involves more than 2,000 U.S. service members and approximately 900 members of the Royal Moroccan armed forces.

African Lion is the largest exercise within U.S. Africa Command and is designed to promote interoperability and mutual understanding of each nation’s military tactics, techniques and procedures.

Above: A Marine with Company F, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 4th Marine Division, covers up to protect himself from the dust May 24 as he rides in the top hatch of a light-armored vehicle during the unit’s final field training exercise as part of African Lion 2011.

Left: Marines with Company F, 4th Light Armored Reconnaissance Battalion, 4th Marine Division, kick up a cloud of dust in a light armored vehicle as they speed towards the firing range during African Lion 2011.
“Red Patchers”
“We hit the shore as quick as possible and get our people and gear back on the ship even quicker”

Unit: 4th Landing Support Battalion (4th LSB)

Mission: 4th LSB conducts landing support operations in support of the Marine Air-Ground Task Force in order to enable expeditionary operations ashore and coordinate combat service support to the MAGTF in both a direct and general support relationship. Landing support specialists conduct helicopter support teams, port, rail and beach operations, similar to how they did back in World War II. Landing support specialists also assist with the preparation, planning and execution of strategic mobility plans in accordance with the Timed Phased Force Deployment Data, which is used to deploy and sustain forward deployed forces.

End strength: 1,428 Marines and Sailors

Engagements:
-Deployed during March 1944 to Pearl Harbor, Hawaii
-Participated in World War II campaigns: Kwajalein, Saipan, Tinian, Iwo Jima
-Participated in support of Operations Desert Shield and Desert Storm, SW Asia, August 1990-June 1991

A Marine from 4th Landing Support Battalion, 4th Marine Logistics Group supervised the vehicle and equipment wash-down of exercise African Lion 2011, May 29, at the Port of Agadir, Morroco. (Photo by Cpl. Nana Dannsaappiah)

Aptly nicknamed “Red Patchers” due to small squares of red cloth affixed to their uniforms, LSB Marines are the backbone of ship-to-shore and retrograde operations. They are the experts of loading and offloading personnel and equipment.

“We hit the shore as quick as possible and get our people and gear back on the ship even quicker,” said Sgt. Franky Fergurgur, platoon sergeant of First Beach Terminal Operations Platoon, Company A, 4th LSB.

The red patch was first used in WWII to identify the landing support teams assigned to assist in the off-load of Marines and equipment during amphibious landings.
CARAT: Cooperation Afloat Readiness and Training

Mobilized Marine Reservists formed an infantry company and assault amphibian vehicle platoon, from 23rd Marine Regiment and 4th Assault Amphibian Battalion, to conduct theater security cooperation and amphibious training with various partner nations in the Pacific Command area of responsibility. Activation and predeployment training occurs during January through February at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., and Okinawa, Japan. The landing force got underway in March and concluded in August, when the landing force visited and trained with military forces from Thailand, Indonesia and Malaysia. The deployment concluded with training from the Republic of Korea Marine Corps in the Korean Integrated Training Program.

Above – Sgt. Daniel Jones, a rifleman with 3rd platoon, Landing Force Company, eats a live scorpion during jungle survival training held by Royal Thai Marines in Sattahip Naval Base, Thailand. (Photo by Cpl. Aaron Hostutler)

Right - Cpl. Jose Solorzano, a fire team leader with 1st platoon, Landing Force Company, drinks water from a vine after Rangers with Company C, 8th Royal Ranger Regiment, Malaysian Army Rangers taught Marines with the Landing Force about jungle survival Eram Sisik Training Area, Kemaman Terengganu, Malaysia. (Photo by Cpl. Aaron Hostutler)
Continental Marines

www.marines.mil/unit/marforres

Staff Sgt. Matthew A. Ratliff, HMLA-773 aerial observer, fires an M2 .50-caliber machine gun out of a Uh-1N Huey helicopter during Javelin Thrust 2011 in which reserve Marines trained and prepared for future operations. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)


A Uh-1N Huey helicopter with HMLA-773 prepares for takeoff during a night firing close air support exercise, July 21. The mission was part of Javelin Thrust 2011 in which reserve Marines trained and prepared for future operations. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)
MARINE CORPS AIR STATION YUMA, Ariz. — The Marine Corps is bringing new meaning to the operational reserve concept during exercise Javelin Thrust 2011.

For the first time ever, Marine Tactical Air Command Squadron 48 set up, organized and ran a complete tactical air command center, or TACC, as part of a Reserve Aviation Combat Element, or ACE.

“Javelin Thrust is the first time that the Marine Corps has had a stand-alone Reserve force,” said Col. Kevin M. Iiams, Marine Aircraft Group 41 commanding officer and Javelin Thrust ACE Commander. “It is setting the tone for an operating reserve.”

Prior to this, the Marine Corps has never had a TACC that is run solely by reserve Marines in support of an all reserve ACE during an exercise of this magnitude. The success of Javelin Thrust confirmed that Reserve Marines are capable of performing in an operational environment on their own.

This TACC was one of the most complete ever achieved, with the technology to keep all the elements of the Marine Air Ground Task Force operating smoothly and efficiently.

The basic purpose of the TACC is to keep communication flowing between each of the elements of the MAGTF. Sgt. Robert C. Voelker, Marine Air Control Group 48 air control electronics operator from Chicago, ensures maintenance issues don’t impede the flow of communication.

“People depend on a working network,” said Voelker. “Without our work, minor problems become big ones. Then the job doesn’t get done effectively.”

The TACC possesses the ability to maintain visibility of all aircraft within the operational area. Additionally, Marines can gather the speed, direction and altitude of the aircraft, as well as the aircraft’s mission. This allows accountability of friendly and enemy forces.

The various operating elements tap into the information obtained through the TACC’s radar data link technology to stay informed on current missions.

“We are basically the heart of operations,” said Cpl. Jordan M. Schoon, MACG-48 tactical data systems administrator from Watsea, Ill.

The TACC isn’t just useful for the aviation combat element of the MAGTF, it provides a bridge between the ground and the air components.

“We help provide feedback to the ground and get them support if they need it,” said Staff Sgt. Christopher J. Ohlsen, MACG-48 air support operations operator from Gurnee, Ill. “It gives them comfort that they’re not alone and removes any limits on them through good communication.”

Through a mess of high tech antennas, linked radars, wires and computers, the TACC also provides command and control oversight between the three training locations during Javelin Thrust to keep the exercise running smoothly.

In addition to being the first independently Reserve TACC; the exercise is unique because of its diversity of forces.

“Marines are coming from all over the United States to participate in this exercise,” said Col. Barry E. Federici, MTACS-48 commanding officer. “They are learning to work together smoothly and efficiently.”

Unlike active forces where Marines regularly work alongside others in their unit, the exercise is taking Marines from locations scattered across the U.S. and creating one unified, self-sufficient force.

Story by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers
Marine week:
St. Louis
June 20-26, 2011

A Marine with 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Marine Week, fast ropes as part of a helo drop during the "infiltration of an enemy pirate camp" during the MAGTF demonstration as part of Marine Week. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)

The Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon performs in front of the St. Louis War Memorial during Marine Week 2011, June 26. The platoon traveled to St. Louis to perform two shows: one under the Gateway Arch and another during the closing ceremonies for Marine Week. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)

Lance Cpl. Dennis Wiatt, a data technician specialist with 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Marine Week, throws a hard punch at his opponent during the First to Fight boxing match in St. Louis June 20, 2011. Wiatt, like many of the Marines, had never boxed professionally. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)

Capt. Daniel Bowring, a pilot with Marine Light Attack Helicopter Squadron 269 from Marine Corps Air Station New River, N.C., helps a boy try on a helmet during Marine Week St. Louis, June 21, 2011. Marines demonstrated capabilities with static displays throughout the city. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)
ST. LOUIS - Marine Week began with Francis G. Slay, the mayor of St. Louis, kicking off the events at the proclamation ceremony June 20, during which a 24-hour honor guard was posted at the War Memorial.

Throughout the week, Marines displayed their land, air and sea vehicles and capabilities.

The week was more than just showing off equipment and capabilities; it focused on a desire to help the community, with Marines volunteering at dozens of locations throughout the city. During the closing ceremony, Maj. Gen. Anthony L. Jackson, commanding general of Marine Corps Installations West, thanked the city of St. Louis for their support and hospitality.

He added, “As you return to your daily lives, I ask you remember the Marines still in combat. I ask you all, thank the servicemen for their sacrifices, thank their families for their sacrifices and St. Louis, thank you for being so warm to us.”

The 24-hour honor guards were relieved of their post by Lt. Col. T. Shane Tomko, Inspector-Instructor officer, 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment, commander Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force Marine Week, concluding Marine Week St. Louis 2011.

“Thank you for coming here today and thank you for letting us honor you and your families,” said Tomko.

Wendy, a native of St. Louis, struggles to buddy drag Lance Cpl. Matt Spires, a squad automatic rifleman with 3rd Battalion, 24th Marine Regiment during the Combat Fitness Test outside Busch Stadium, June 23, 2011. Locals were invited to participate in the CFT as part of Marine Week St. Louis activities. (Photo by Lance Cpl. Chelsea Flowers)
The Marines have landed

Marine pilots land a CH-46 Sea Knight as part of the static display under the Gateway Arch during Marine Week in St. Louis, June 20, 2011. (Photo by Sgt. Jimmy D. Shea)