



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS
3D BATTALION, 3D MARINE REGIMENT
3D MARINE DIVISION (-) (REIN)
BOX 63018
MCBH KANEOHE BAY, HI 96863-3018

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CO
30 Jun 12

From: Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines
To: Commanding Officer, 3d Marine Regiment

Subj: COMMAND CHRONOLOGY FOR THE PERIOD OF 15 MAY THROUGH 30 JUNE 2012

Ref: (a) MCO 5750.1H
(b) DivO 5750.7D
(c) RegtO 5750.1C

1. Per the references, 3d Battalion, 3d Marine Regiment Command Chronology is submitted.
2. The point of contact concerning this matter is Captain Jeremy H. Groefsema, at jeremy.groefsema@usmc.mil.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "M. J. Palma".

M. J. PALMA



**3D BATTALION,
3D MARINE REGIMENT**

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

15 MAY - 30 JUNE 2012

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3D BATTALION, 3D MARINE REGIMENT
COMMAND CHRONOLOGY
15 MAY TO 30 JUNE 2012

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SECTION I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

1. (U) Unit Designation.

a. Reporting Unit Code: M13130

b. Table of Organization Numbers:

- 1) 1013G Rifle Company, Infantry Battalion
- 2) 1013G Rifle Company, Infantry Battalion
- 3) 1013G Rifle Company, Infantry Battalion
- 4) 1027H Weapons Company, Infantry Battalion
- 5) 1037F Headquarters and Service Company, Infantry Battalion

2. (U) Period Covered and Location. From 1 January through 15 May, Garmser District, Afghanistan. From 15 May through 30 June, Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay.

3. (U) Personnel Information.

a. Commanding Officer Lieutenant Colonel Matthew J. Palma
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

b. Executive Officer Major Sean P. Carroll
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

c. Subordinate Commanders

1) India Company Captain Bobby W. Lee
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

2) Kilo Company Capt Barney B. Blaine
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

3) Lima Company Captain Raymond F. L'Heureux
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

4) Weapons Company Major Jason C. Armas
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

5) H&S Company Captain Owen M. Boyce
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

d. Principal Staff Officers

1) S-1 Officer First Lieutenant Drake P. Toney
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

2) S-2 Officer First Lieutenant Aubrey G. Giblin
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

3) S-3 Officer Major Stephan P. Karabin II
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

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- 4) Air Officer Captain Jeremy H. Groefsema
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012
- 5) S-4 Officer Captain Brian E. Hollier
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012
- 6) S-6 Officer Captain Joshua W. Connors
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012
- 7) Chaplain Lieutenant Jerry D. Durham, USN
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012
- 8) Battalion Surgeon Lieutenant Sean M. Stuart, USN
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012
- e. Staff Historian Captain Jeremy H. Groefsema
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012
- f. Sergeant Major Sergeant Major Andrew T. Cece
15 May 2012 - 30 June 2012

4. (U) Average Monthly Strength.

	MO	ME	NO	NE	TOTAL
JANUARY	62	900	3	50	1115
FEBRUARY	56	1056	3	40	1153
MARCH	56	1054	3	38	1149
APRIL	55	1082	3	37	1177
MAY	60	1119	3	43	1225
JUNE	52	899	2	71	1024

5. (U) Legal Action

The Commanding Officer, 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, is the Special Courts Martial Convening Authority. The following legal proceedings were conducted concerning Marines and Sailors of this Battalion:

General Courts Martial.....0
 Special Courts Martial.....0
 Summary Courts Martial.....0
 Non-Judicial Punishment.....5
 Competency Review Board.....0
 JAG Manual Investigation.....0
 Administrative Discharge (non-EAS).....0

1. (U) Awards

The following numbers of awards were presented to Marines and Sailors of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines:

Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and senior.....38
 Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.....145
 Certificate of Commendation.....130
 Meritorious Mast.....13

SECTION II: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

Training & Operations

(U) From 15 May to 20 May 2012 3d Battalion, 3d Marines completed its redeployment back to home station at Marine Corps Base Hawaii from Afghanistan. This redeployment concluded 3d Battalion, 3d Marines' combat deployment to OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2.

(U) Upon return the Battalion executed Warrior Transition Training beginning on 29 May and concluding on 4 June. The training included a brief on the standards of conduct by the Regimental Commander and Sergeant Major, as well as classes on Psychological aids and resources, stress and suicide prevention, sexual assault prevention, financial skills, and married and single Marines discussion periods. On 24 May the Battalion participated in a Memorial Day ceremony at Dewey Square to rededicate the Regimental battle colors.

(U) On 1 June 2012 the Battalion participated in the 3d Marine Regimental Memorial run. This run included the entire 3d Marine Regiment. Following the run, the Battalion participated in the ceremony that honored the Marines and Sailors who were killed in action during OPERATIONS IRAQI FREEDOM and ENDURING FREEDOM.

(U) The Battalion turned in Special Temporary Allowance Pool (S-TAP) gear to Supply from 5-13 June. During this time the Battalion prepared for its account turnover with 2d Battalion, 3d Marines as well as the beginning of its post deployment block leave. The Battalion executed block leave from 15 June through 15 July.

Air Office

(U) In May the 3d Battalion Tactical Air Control Party (TACP) Shop returned from deployment in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2. All Forward Air Controllers (FACs) and Joint Terminal Attack Controllers (JTACs) successfully returned with their respective companies to Marine Corps Base Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii where they were welcomed home by friends and family. Immediately upon return, each Marine enjoyed a 72 hour liberty pass to enjoy with family and a 96 hour liberty pass for the Memorial Day weekend safely spent re-uniting and completing necessary paperwork to live and operate in Hawaii. Upon return from the holiday weekend, collateral billets were re-addressed with each controller and all members were returned to H&S Company, assigned to the Operations Section once again.

(U) June found members of the Air Shop attending mandated Warrior Transition Training and resuming duties as normal prior to commencing the much deserved post-deployment leave. The leave block commenced on 15 June for 30 days and all Marines are taking advantage of this time to spend with family and travel, relaxing and refreshing themselves prior to once again commencing the work-up cycle in preparation for the next deployment. The Battalion Air Officer began working on the required classes and academics to achieve the qualification of JTAC-Evaluator (JTAC-E) which will provide the Battalion an internal ability to maintain currency of terminal controllers. This qualification is maintained by any TACP-Instructor who has been certified by Marine Aviation Weapons Tactics Squadron One (MAWTS-1) Instructors who have been checked for standardization by the Marine Corps. The leave block commenced with the attaining of this qualification as well as setting forth future plans for maintaining currency and continued training for all Air Shop Marines.

Intelligence

(U) The Intelligence Section fulfilled its responsibilities to Regimental Combat Team 5 by completing a series of debriefs and after-action discussions aboard Forward Operating Base (FOB) Dwyer. Led by First Lieutenant Giblin, these sessions provided the Intelligence Section's collective assessment of the status of Garmser District, as well as lessons learned throughout the past seven months, and ensured continuity of effort as 3/3 relinquished control of Garmser. Immediately following these debriefs, the Intelligence Section, including First Lieutenant Giblin, First Lieutenant Kimener, Lance Corporal Halford, Lance Corporal Nolley-Crosson, Lance Corporal Ortiz-Santiago, Lance Corporal Shannon, and Law Enforcement Professional John Criscione, redeployed to Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The section's Electronic Warfare Officer, First Lieutenant Loomis, returned to Okinawa.

(U) Upon return to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, the Intelligence Section conducted a joint inventory of equipment to be transferred from 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, S-TAP turn in, and began preparing and planning for upcoming training evolutions. In June, Lance Corporal Ortiz-Santiago was meritoriously promoted to Corporal and was also awarded for his performance throughout the deployment with the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal. Other members of the Section awarded were; First Lieutenant Kimener and First Lieutenant Loomis - Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Lance Corporal Halford and John Criscione - Certificate of Commendation, and Lance Corporal Shannon - Meritorious Mast.

(U) As the reporting period came to a close, the Marines from 3/3 the Intelligence Section began their much anticipated block leave period and refreshed themselves in preparation for the upcoming pre-deployment workup period and impending deployment wherever the Marine Corps needs.

S-4 Embarkation Section

(U) During this period the Embarkation Section coordinated and executed the movement of equipment and personnel in support of the Battalion's redeployment from OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2.

(U) During May, the Embarkation Section facilitated the redeployment of over 750 Marines out of the Battalion's battlespace. As a result of limited air assets available to support movements, the Motor Transportation Section was tasked with transporting over 200 Marines from FOB Dehli to Camp Dwyer via ground convoy to facilitate the redeployment of the Battalion. At the same time, transportation was arranged to bring 3d Battalion, 8th Marines into the battlespace.

(U) Additionally, the section prepared and embarked equipment allotted for a dedicated cargo flight at both Camp Dwyer and Camp Leatherneck. This shipment consisted of four 463L pallets and one quadcon which was transported via C-17 from Afghanistan back to Marine Corps Base Hawaii. The shipment contained various weapons systems and communication gear that was used to supplement the 3d Marine Regiment gear set.

Supply

(U) The Supply Section completed the retrograde from theater including the closeout and partial turnover of the M95104 account to 3d Battalion 8th Marines. This was achieved with a high degree of accuracy and minimal loss of equipment.

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(U) Following redeployment to MCB Hawaii, the Supply Section began collecting the Battalion's Special Temporary Allowance Pool (S-TAP) equipment in preparation for turn-in. During this time period, Supply also supervised 2nd Battalion, 3d Marines Supply activity as part of their Certificate of Relief.

Ammunition Section

(U) During this period, the Ammunition Section focused their efforts on account turnover with 3d Battalion, 8th Marines, as well as conducted a turnover at FOB Delhi with all serialized items accounted for. Upon completion of turnover in country, the Battalion MILSTRIP and MUREP were signed over to 3d Battalion, 8th Marines with no discrepancies.

(U) Upon return to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, the Ammunition Section began forecasting requirements for all upcoming Company level training as well as the upcoming Battalion Exercise at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport California.

Communications

(U) During this reporting period, the Communications Platoon Advance Echelon received over \$6.5 million worth of gear from 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, at the same time, main body returned to Marine Corps Base Hawaii from deployment in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2. Once retrograde to Hawaii was complete, the Communications Platoon Sergeant ensured that the Marines attended all the Warrior Transition Classes and conducted requisite medical screenings. The Platoon Sergeant also ensured that all S-TAP gear issued for use during the deployment was returned to supply prior to the platoon going on post deployment leave. The Communications Platoon continued to assume facilities and work spaces from 2d Battalion, 3d Marines, as well as inventory, test, and prepare record jackets for all equipment. Concurrently, the staff began planning and preparing for a Battalion Training Exercise at the Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California.

Headquarters and Service (H&S) Company

(U) During the month of May, H&S Company redeployed from OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2 to MCB Kaneohe Bay, Hawaii. Immediately following a safe return to Hawaii, all personnel enjoyed a 96 hour liberty period prior to returning to work.

(U) In June, Headquarters and Service Company devoted its resources to properly setting the conditions for their Marines to participate in post-deployment leave. This included S-TAP turn-in, de-issue/issue of weapons and optics, attendance of Warrior Transition Training, as well as conducting administrative measures for 3/3 Marines to execute orders for PCS and schools. In addition to these tasks, it was during this time that selected Marines were able to both shoot and participate in Coaches Course at Pu'uloa Rifle Range. The company also participated in a Regimental run to honor all of the fallen Marines/Sailors from 3d Marine Regiment who gave the ultimate sacrifice in both OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM and OPERATION IRAQI FREEDOM. The reporting period ended with the Marines from H&S Company executing well deserved post-deployment leave preparing themselves to return and train hard for any upcoming deployments.

India Company

(U) On 17 May, the main body of Company I's Marines and Sailors returned to Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay and enjoyed a 96 hour liberty period, returning to work on the 22nd. The remnants of the company returned on 20

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May and also enjoyed a long weekend prior to reporting for duty on 24 May. The first order of business was to participate in the rededication ceremony for the Regimental Colors of Third Marines, and then receive a thorough holiday weekend brief prior to partaking in the holiday.

(U) Following a safe Memorial Day weekend, the 163 Marines and Sailors of Company I participated in a motivational run on 29 May carrying the company guidon a total of 46 miles in honor of Corporal Garrett Carnes. Corporal Carnes is an India Company Marine who inspired everyone with his dedication and the strength while rehabilitating from injuries sustained in Khan Neshin District, Afghanistan which resulted in the loss of both legs. His positive attitude allowed him to complete his treatment in half the time normally required for such severe injuries.

(U) The company kicked off June by participating in another motivational run alongside the entire Third Marine Regiment to commemorate the 116 Marines who have fallen over the course of deployments to Iraq and Afghanistan. This run marked the first time in the past 8 years that all three Battalions were present aboard MCB Kaneohe Bay due to operational tempo. The remainder of June found Company I moving into their new offices on 11 June, finalizing its plans for the first portion of the training cycle and beginning block leave with the Battalion on 15 June, expecting to return on 15 July. As always, Company I will continue to look forward to new challenges presented and train to remain sharp, ready to operate wherever the Marine Corps needs.

Kilo Company

(U) The month of May found Kilo Company returning from deployment in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2. By 17 May all Kilo Company Marines had redeployed and were back aboard Marine Corps Base Hawaii, Kaneohe Bay. Immediately following arrival back to the United States, the Marines enjoyed a 96 hour liberty which was spent with family and re-integrating into garrison life. Following the long weekend Kilo Company participated in a formation rededicating the battle streamers for 3d Marine Regiment which marked an end to combat rotations for 3d Marines units, and displayed the first time (albeit a short time) that all three battalions were aboard MCB Hawaii at the same time. Kilo Company Marines then exercised a safe Memorial Day holiday weekend and returned to work ready to commence Warrior Transition training.

(U) June began with Kilo Company Marines attending Warrior Transition training and completing the re-integration to garrison life. Upon the completion of this training, all Marines turned in their S-TAP issued gear and prepared to take block leave to see family and enjoy time away from work in order to recharge themselves and mentally prepare for the upcoming pre-deployment work up. As the reporting period closes, the block leave period was well under way, beginning on 15 June and ending on 15 July, affording the opportunity to shed some stress while always maintaining an edge ready to deploy when and where the Marine Corps needs them.

Lima Company

(U) Lima Company continued its rigorous training schedule upon return from OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2. Over the past 45 days, Lima Company completed Warrior Transition Training, Block Leave, Swim Qualification, Annual NBC Training, and participated in the Regiment's Memorial Run and Ceremony to commemorate the fallen. Lima Company also conducted numerous awards formations to honor the achievements and hard work that our Marines earned from this last deployment to Garmser District, Afghanistan.

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(U) During the month of June, Lima Company conducted the Leadership Reaction Course for the entire company's Fire Team Leaders, a BZO range at R5 aboard MCB Hawaii, internal training packages to include: the fundamentals of Offensive Operations, Patrolling, Combat Life Saving, Communications, and Combat Hunter Individual Training Standards. Ten Lima Company Marines will be participating in a BAATS / HIIDES course aboard MCBH from 21 June through 22 June. The Company's training for the month of June will conclude with a 5-mile hike on 29 June.

(U) Lima Company has already concluded our account turnover with Fox Company, 2d Battalion, 3d Marines noting all discrepancies and submitting them for correction through the Battalion Supply Officer. Lima Company officially moved into the armory cage that was previously occupied by Fox Company, and has de-issued all weapons. All weapons are being re-issued and will be complete by the end of June. In addition to accountability in the armory, a thorough inventory of the motor stables has been conducted, and a weekly maintenance regimen on vehicles is being practiced.

(U) As with all deployments, there are multiple personnel shifts expected to occur during the reporting period, to include 1stLt Franko and SSgt Callen moving to the S-3, all prior to the Battalion departing for block leave. 1stLt Franko has been working with 1stLt Kopa for the turnover of Weapons Platoon, which should ease this normally rough transition. 1stSgt Connors is the inbound Lima Company 1stSgt, and arrived on Oahu on 14 June just prior to departure for block leave. Even with these changes, Lima Company continues to train hard in preparation for deployment whenever and wherever needed.

Weapons Company

(U) The company returned from a successful deployment to Afghanistan on 17 May. Immediately following, the Marines enjoyed a much deserved 96 hour liberty and upon returning to work, conducted audits, medical readiness reviews, and took care of numerous administrative requirements. The company then took part in the Memorial Day 96 hour liberty.

(U) After completion of the Memorial Day 96, the company began Warrior Transition training which encompassed a week of classes after which the Marines in the company felt thoroughly prepared for a successful transition from a combat to a garrison environment. One Marine from the company attended Coaches Course and will later be able to provide the company with marksmanship instruction. The company also held multiple awards formations during this time, awarding the Marines for their hard work during the recent deployment.

(U) On June 15th, the company went on a month of block leave with the rest of the Battalion, lasting until July 15th.

Substance Abuse Counseling Officer

(U) In May, the SACO redeployed with the Battalion to MCB Hawaii from Afghanistan in support of OEF 11.2. Immediately upon arrival, preparations were made to conduct a unit sweep in accordance with the Battalion Commander's guidance and the order governing substance abuse. Multiple unit sweeps have been conducted following the 96 hour liberty period and the Memorial Day holiday weekend. In total for this reporting period, over 2,200 Marines have participated in urinalysis sweeps intended to prevent drug abuse. As June comes to a close, the SACO continues to maintain a proactive posture aimed at minimizing drug and alcohol abuse throughout the 101 days of summer.

Family Readiness Officer (FRO)

(U) During the month of May, the FRO worked diligently to welcome back deploying Marines and keep family members informed of the many changes accompanying these major movements. Additionally, a new Marine Corps Order was published delineating the implementation of the new Family Care Plan which the FRO began managing for compliance.

(U) June found the Family Readiness office busy assisting with events such as a Homecoming Celebration and continuing to welcome new Marines to the 3/3 family by enrolling them in the eMARINE site, of which 1752 unit personnel and their family members have currently joined. In addition to these activities, the FRO conducted daily communications with spouses and family members of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines and assisted with resources and referrals, as requested or needed.

Chaplain

(U) On 15 May, Chaplain Durham began conducting in theater Warrior Transition/Return and Reunion training for 3/3 Marines redeploying to Marine Corps Base Hawaii (MCBH). On 20 May, Chaplain Durham and Religious Program Specialist Second Class (RP2) Smith successfully returned to MCBH from supporting OEF 11.2. Immediately, Chaplain Durham conducted an after action debrief with the Regimental Chaplain, CDR Jeff Logan.

(U) May ended and June began with the religious ministries department attending Warrior Transition classes, held at the MCBH Chapel with the rest of the 3/3 Marines returning from deployment. As is typical with Marines returning from deployment, several Marines are interested in getting married in the near-term future. The Chaplain assisted by preparing multiple pre-marital packages for those individuals considering marriage during block leave. Block leave officially began on 15 June and lasts 30 days during which time the religious ministries personnel will refresh and prepare for continued work supporting the Battalion's next deployment.

Battalion Aid Station (BAS)

(U) By 20 May the sailors attached to the Battalion Aid Station had returned from deployment, including 56 navy enlisted and 2 Medical Officers. This date marked the successful redeployment of all medical personnel attached to 3/3 in support of OEF 11.2. Upon returning from deployment, all members of the BAS enjoyed a much deserved 96 hour liberty followed immediately by the long Memorial Day holiday weekend and the attendance of Warrior Transition Training. During Warrior Transition Training, the sailors attached to the BAS ensured all 3/3 Marines were current on their vaccinations and collected blood necessary to conduct the litany of tests for all possible illnesses the Marines were exposed to.

(U) As this reporting period comes to an end, and following the completion of the Warrior Transition Training, the BAS has prepared to execute the much needed block leave beginning on 15 June and ending on 15 July. With this leave period complete, the sailors of 3/3's BAS will strive to maintain the high level of medical readiness expected of the Battalion, and support all training as the unit once again commences its preparation for upcoming deployments.

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SECTION III: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

<u>May</u>	
15 May	Battalion's final redeployment flight to MCBH
16 May	India Company returned to MCBH
17 May	Kilo and Weapons Companies returned to MCBH
20 May	H&S Company returned to MCBH
24 May	3d Marine Regiment Memorial Day Battle Colors Ceremony
29 May-4 June	Battalion Warrior Transition Training
1 June	3d Marine Regimental Run and Memorial Ceremony for Fallen Regimental Marines
5-13 June	S-TAP Gear Turn-In
14 June	MARSOC Screener
15 June	Post Deployment Leave begins

SECTION IV: SUPPORTING DOCUMENTATION

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Item 1: Future of Garmsir in Afghan hands: 'America's Battalion' completes final Helmand tour

<http://www.dvidshub.net/news/88436/future-garmsir-afghan-hands-americas-battalion-completes-final-helmand-tour#.T9fc5H011XU>

Item 2: Highest-deployed Marine infantry regiment celebrates end to eight years of combat

<http://www.dvidshub.net/image/591270/highest-deployed-marine-infantry-regiment-celebrates-end-eight-years-combat#.T9fdE3011XU>

Item 3: 'America's Battalion' Marines, sailors run to honor fellow wounded warrior

<http://www.dvidshub.net/image/591670/americas-battalion-marines-sailors-run-honor-fellow-wounded-warrior#.T9fdLX011XU>

Item 4: 3rd Marine Regiment honors 116 fallen heroes with memorial run

<http://www.dvidshub.net/image/595092/3rd-marine-regiment-honors-116-fallen-heroes-with-memorial-run#.T9fdR3011XU>