

# UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

3D BATTALION, 3D MARINES REGIMENTAL COMBAT TEAM 5 2D MARINE DIVISION (FWD) UNIT 44070 FPO AP 96607-4070

> IN REPLY REFER TO: 1000 CO 29 Feb 12

From: Commanding Officer

To:

Commanding Officer, Regimental Combat Team 5

Subj:

COMMAND CHRONOLOGY FOR THE PERIOD OF 16 JANUARY 2012 THROUGH

15 FEBRUARY 2012

Ref:

(a) MCO 5750.1H

(b) DivO 5750.7D

(c) RegtO 5750.1C

1. Per the references, Task Force 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, Regimental Combat Team 5, Command Chronology is submitted.

2. The point of contact is Captain Jeremy H. Groefsema and can be reached via email correspondence at jeremy.groefsema@afg.usmc.mil or jeremy.groefsema@usmc.mil.

## COMMAND CHRONOLOGY

## 16 JAN 2012 - 15 FEB 2012

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## SECTION I: ORGANIZATIONAL DATA

- 1. UNIT DESIGNATION. Task Force 3d Battalion, 3d Marines, Regimental Combat Team 5, 2d Marine Division (Forward), II Marine Expeditionary Force (Forward)
  - a. Reporting Unit Code: M13130
  - b. Table of Organization Number: M13130
- 2. <u>PERIOD COVERED AND LOCATION</u>. 16 Jan 2012 through 15 Feb 2012: Garmser District, Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2.

# 3. PERSONNEL INFORMATION

- a. Commanding Officer
  Lieutenant Colonel Matthew Palma
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- b. Executive Officer
  Major Sean Carroll
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- Sergeant Major Sergeant Major Andrew Cece 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- d. Subordinate Commanders
  - (1) India Company:
     Captain Bobby Lee Jr.
     16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
  - (2) Kilo Company:
     Captain Barney Blaine
    16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
  - (3) Lima Company: Captain Raymond L'Heureux 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
  - (4) H & S Company: Captain Owen Boyce 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
  - (5) Weapons Company: Captain Jason Armas 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

#### e. Principal Staff

(1) Adjutant (S-1):
 First Lieutenant Drake Toney
16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

- (2) Intelligence Officer (S-2):
   Captain Jeffrey Brewer
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (3) Assistant Intelligence Officer (S-2A): First Lieutenant Aubrey Giblin 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (4) Operations Officer (S-3):
   Major Stephan Karabin II
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (5) Assistant Operations Officer (S-3A):
   Captain Lowell Krusinger
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (6) Operations Chief:
   Master Gunnery Sergeant Troy Buss
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (7) Battalion Gunner: Chief Warrant Officer 3 Raymond Browne 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (8) Fire Support Coordinator: First Lieutenant Jared Streeter 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (9) Air Officer: Captain Jeremy Groefsema 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (10) Joint Terminal Attack Controllers:
   Captain Gareth Hughes
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12

Captain John Kolb 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

Staff Sergeant Jeremy Hager 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

Staff Sergeant Justin Byrd 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

Sergeant Scott Brose 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

- (11) Chemical, Biological, Radiological and Nuclear Officer: Chief Warrant Officer 2 Felix OrtizToro 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

- (13) Assistant Logistics Officer (S-4A):
   First Lieutenant Ryan Gulliksen
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (14) Supply Officer:
   First Lieutenant Tyler Short
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (15) Maintenance Management Officer: First Lieutenant Joseph Schager 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (16) Motor Transport Officer:
   First Lieutenant Daniel Ledeen
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (17) Communications Officer (S-6):
  Captain Joshua Connors
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (18) Embedded Training Team (ETT) 1 OIC: Captain Lance Seiffert 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (19) Embedded Training Team (ETT) 2 OIC: Captain Charles Morris 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (20) Police Advisory Team (PAT) OIC:
   Captain Jeremy Wheeler
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (21) Chaplain:
  Lieutenant Jerry Durham, USN
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (22) Battalion Surgeon/Medical Officer:
   Lieutenant Sean Stuart, USN
   16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- (23) Assistant Battalion Surgeon: Lieutenant Eusebio Flores, USN 16 Jan 12 - 29 Jan 12
- (24). Battalion Judge Advocate: Captain John Sautter 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12
- (25) Historian: Captain Jeremy Groefsema 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

# 4. AVERAGE MONTHLY STRENGTH

Nov/Dec 61 834 3 69 64 903

# 5. EQUIPMENT

Marine Corps Automated Readiness Evaluation System (MARES) Reportable Equipment:

TAM	NOMEN	ROMT	POSS	EXCESS
A0061	MAST SECTION	6	7	1
A0090	AN/TSR-9 TGRS	1	1	
A0124	REMOTE SUBSCRIBE ACCESS MODULE	4	2	
A0126	AN/VRC-103	0	33	33
A0129	PRC-152	250	228	
A0139	RADIO SET, AN/TRC-209	4	5	1
A0153	RADIO SET, AN/MRC-142C	5	5	
A0172	DDS-R PWR MOD	7	7	
A0174	DDS-R LAN SVC MOD	3	4	1
A0176	DDS-R LAN EXT MOD ON-704/TYC	10	10	
A0197	DDS-R DSM	1	1	
A0234	SWAN D	1	0	
A0243	SWAN D NETWORK PACKAGE	1	0	
A0254	COMBAT OPS CENTER SET III	1	1	
A0255	COMBAT OPS CENTER SET IV	1	0	
A0266	RADIO SET, AN/VRC-104	3	3	
A0932	INTEL OPS WORKSTATION	1	0	-
A1260	AN/PSN-13	77	73	
A2042	AN/PRC-150	70	68	
A2068	AN/PRC-117F	55	78	23
A2079	AN/PRC-119F	17	17	
A2555	AFATDS. AN/GYK-60	4	5	1
A2560	TLDHS BLK II AN/PSQ-19A	6	0	
A3252	UAV DRAGON EYE	2	11	9
B0008	AIRCONDITIONER, 5T, 60K	20	24	4
B0014	ECU, A/C,36000 BTU	40	55	15
B0018	TRLR, INTEGRATED ECU	3	3	343300
B0027	PANEL, PWR DISTR	5	5	
B0028	PANEL, PWR DISTR	25	65	30
B0029	PANEL, PWR DISTR	10	19	9
B0030	PANEL, PWR DISTR	15	20	5

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B0032	PANEL, PWR DISTR	0	3	3
B0063	LOADER, SCOOP TYPE, 624K TRAM	1	0	
B0730	GEN SET, 3KW	15	20	5
В0891	MEP-803 10KW	20	30	10
В0953	GEN SET, 30KW, 60HZ, MEP-005A/B	10	12	2
В0980	GEN SET, MEP 513A	1	1	
B1021	GEN SET, 60KW, MEP-006A/806B	15	18	3
B1045	GEN SET, 100KW, TQG-MEP-807A	8	7	
B1580	PUMP, FUEL MODULE	6	4	
B2085	TANK, FUEL STORAGE	12	9	
B2086	TANK, WATER STORAGE	8	3	
B2561	FORKLIFT, EBFL	2	1	
D0003	TRK, ARM 7T CAR AMK23	7	9	2
D0004	TRK, ARM 7T CAR W/W AMK25	3	3	
D0005	TRK , ARM 7T EXT AMK27	3	3	
D0006	TRK, ARM 7T EXT W/W AMK28	2	0	
D0015	TRK, WRECKER ARM 7T AMK36	1	2	1
D0023	MARP, AMB HAGA/MAXPRO	2	2	
D0025	MRAP, CAT I 4X4	40	39	
D0027	MRAP, CAT II 6X6	10	8	
D0033	M1152	2	1	
D0036	MRAP, ATV	70	70	
D0880	TRLR, WATER TANK M149A2	8	4	
E0006	IZLID	0	22	22
E0020	SCOUT SNIPER RIFLE	11	13	2
E0042	LASER RANGE FINDER	5	2	
E0055	LAUNCHER TUBE (TOW)	8	8	
E0180	AIMING CIRCLE	4	6	2
E0207	JAVELIN M98A1	8	8	
E0915	SMAW	18	18	
E0980	MACH GUN CAL 50 M2	54	61	
E0989	M240G	95	94	
E0994	MK-19	48	53	5
E1048	LASER RANGE FINDER- VECTOR	25	23	
E1065	M224	9	8	
E1095	M252	8	9	1
E1460	RIFLE, SNIPER 7.62	8	8	
E1475	RIFLE, SPEC OPS APL .50 CAL	4	4	
E1975	SIGHT, THERMAL	95	108	13
E1976	SIGHT, THERMAL	65	59	

#### SECTION II: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

## ADMINISTRATION, ADJUTANT/LEGAL

From 16 January to 15 February 2012, the Administration Section (S-1) undertook its tasks of personnel accountability, awards preparation, fitness report tracking, directives control, legal administration and correspondence management. The following details are provided:

1.	Awards	Presented	to	Personnel	

- a. Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medals: 0
- b. Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals: 0
- c. Combat Action Ribbons: 0

## 2. Fitness Reports Submitted:

- a. Officer: 10
- b. Enlisted: 53

## 3. Administrative Separations:

- a. Approved: 0
- b. Suspended: 0
- c. Pending: 7
- 4. Legislation and Congressional Action: 0
- 5. Court Martial Convened: 0
  - a. General: 0
  - b. Special: 0
  - c. Summary: 0

## 6. Promotions:

The following promotions were effected:

Captain		1
First Lieutenant	_	0
Staff Sergeant	<u>=</u> 1	0
Sergeant	<u></u> 3	4
Corporal		4
Lance Corporal		6
Total	-0	1

- 7. Officers Joined: 0
- 8. Officers Dropped: 0

9. USMC Enlisted Joined: 0 USMC Enlisted Dropped: 4

USN Enlisted Joined: 0 USN Enlisted Dropped: 0

#### TRAINING AND OPERATIONS

From 16 January to 15 February 2012, the Battalion focused on developing the Afghanistan National Security Forces (ANSF) in Area of Operations (AO) Garmser. A fundamental element in developing the ANSF was combining the Battalion's Command and Staff meeting with the Afghanistan National Army (ANA) 2d Kandak Staff. This meeting promotes communication between Marines and ANA and ensures that there is intelligence sharing as well as the synchronization of operations. The Battalion plans to include the Afghanistan National Police (ANP) at a later date into this synchronization meeting every week. Another development here towards security and local governance is the training of the District Governor's Personal Security Detail (PSD). The Battalion developed a training course from 16-18 January to train the District Governor's PSD in security and protection tactics, techniques, and procedures.

The Battalion supported OPERATION TETHYS 12A beginning on 10 January through 7 February. The Battalion Staff escorted European Engineers to ten different canal sites so that the Engineers could conduct assessments and Quality Assurance visits for the construction being done along the Darvishan canal.

The Battalion hosted two Commander International Security Assistance Forces (COMISAF) Advisors from 20-29 January 2012. They visited with all the different ANSF entities and the Operational Command Center - District (OCC-D), as well as Operations and Logistics Sections to review the Battalion's procedures and methods for developing the ANSF. The Combat Engineer Platoon, in direct support of the Battalion, began the expansion of Combat Outpost (COP) Rankel to accommodate the arrival of the 6th Kandak Headquarters and Weapons Tolai. They are assisted by 9th Engineer Support Battalion (ESB) Marines in the construction of HESCO buildings and expanding the COP.

From 24 Jan - 30 January, the Female Engagement Team (FET) Team from COP Koshtay participated in a youth initiative and Shura in Nawa District in order to develop a similar program in the Loya Darvishan area of Garmser District. The Jordanian FET team also visited COP Koshtay on 14 February in order to promote school attendance and discuss local education initiatives.

Brigadier General Welch, as well as other key members of his Staff, conducted the District Deep Dive on 31 January. The Battalion discussed the progress of transition in Garmser District. The key points of these discussions were the status of security in the District and how, due to the lack of kinetic activity, progress has been made with regards to ANSF development, as well as the development of the local government. Mr. Michael O'Neill, the Head of Mission for the Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT), arrived on 6 Febuary. The Battalion, along with the members of the District Stability Team (DST), discussed the progress of development in the District. Some key points were brought up to the PRT where the District still requires support from the provincial government level, especially regarding the training of local government officials.

From 22-27 January, Scout Snipers operated out of Patrol Base (PB) Saraban, an ANA PB, where they observed the nearby Main Supply Route (MSR) in order to target an Improvised Explosive Device (IED) facilitator in the area North of

Forward Operating Base (FOB) Delhi. They operated as a reconnoiter force for Lima Company who conducted OPERATION DA TUNDER ZEGHELWOL. Lima Company supported the ANA as they conducted a soft clear of the Saraban area on 26 January. OPERATION KORTA SHA RAGHLAST was conducted on 3 February, where Coalition Forces (CF) and Afghanistan Border Police (ABP) cleared Khaliq Daad Kalay in Banadar and on 6 February, OPERATION LEWA OW SALAY was conducted in Lawang Kalay in Banadar. These operations were conducted in order to disrupt enemy activity in Banadar and deny the enemy the initiative. Combat Engineers participated in OPERATION NA BAKHAL SHOO beginning on 8 February. The partnered Route Clearance Platoon cleared the route ahead of Engineers, who built a new observation post in the vicinity of a crucial ferry crossing in Durzay. Snipers were inserted, as well as an Artillery LNO to KT-4 to monitor the post following its construction. This construction was a ruse to observe enemy operations around the ferry crossing and gauge enemy reaction, to the post. Observation by Marines at KT-4 will continue through the posts transfer to ANA control on 1 April. OPERATION SHAHEM TOFAM was conducted from 10-13 February. During this 72 hour operation the Battalion performed an aerial and ground interdiction of three objectives in the Eastern Desert, located in 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance (LAR) Battalion's AO. OPERATION GRIDLOCK was also conducted on 13-14 February to disrupt normal patterns of life throughout Garmser District in preparation for Operation De Gham Payela. On 12 Febuary two Scout Sniper Teams, two platoons from India Company, as well as the India Company Headquarters Element flew to FOB Payne to support 1st LAR in the conduct of OPERATION HIGHLAND THUNDER, Phase III of OPERATION TAGEER SHAMAL.

From 6-11 February, Electronic Warfare Representatives from the companies, accompanied by the Battalion Electronic Warfare Officer (EWO) flew to Kandahar to attend Electronic Countermeasure ECM training. Also, from 6-12 February a Hydrologist from Task Force Leatherneck (TFL) circulated throughout the AO making assessments and studying the water issues that plague Garmser District.

The beginning of February saw the transfer of PB Montana and PB Barcha to the ANA on the fourth and eighth of the month, respectively. As the 6th Kandak Tolais have been flowing into positions in southern Garmser, the 2d Kandak Soldiers have consolidated in northern Garmser. The 1st Tolai of the 6th Kandak moved to PB Gogak on 3-4 February. The 6th Kandak is assuming control of all positions in southern Garmser. As more elements of the 6th Kandak arrive in zone the 2d Kandak soldiers consolidate to northern Garmser. The 2d Tolai of the 6th Kandak arrived at PB Durzay on 7 February, and assumed control of the subordinate positions over the following 72 hours.

#### HEADQUARTERS AND SERVICE (H&S) COMPANY

Between 16 January 2012 and 15 February 2012, Headquarters and Service (H&S) Company supported Battalion Operations and conducted security operations in and around FOB Delhi. Headquarters and Service Company focused security operations primarily within the Hazar Joft Bazaar and supported numerous patrols to the District Government Center (DGC). A majority of these patrols have had enablers attached such as: the DST, Civil Affairs Group (CAG), FET, Military Information Support Operations (MISO), and United States Agency for International Development (USAID), in order to facilitate the legitimacy of the Afghanistan Government Officials in the eyes of the Afghanistan people. Furthermore, these efforts ensure that the District Government, ANA and Afghanistan Uniformed Police (AUP) can begin the lead for transition.

During this period, H&S Company completed their Regimental mandated reset training which consisted of BZO, ECM procedures, IED Detection Dog (IDD) training, rabies Professional Military Education (PME), Counter Improvised Explosive Device (CIED) classes, weapons handling, Operational Security (OPSEC) and combat lifesaving. Additionally, H&S Company has directed that the entire Company complete all United States Marine Corps annual and education training requirements contained in MCBUL 1500, prior to redeployment from OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 11.2.

The H&S Company Marines continued partnering with the Staff Officers of the ANA and AUP. The H&S Company Commander has started to mentor and partner with the ANA's Headquarters and Service Company Commander, whom recently arrived on deck at FOB Delhi. Primary Staff members from H&S Company routinely conduct weekly intelligence, security, and logistical meetings to discuss Current Operations (COPS) and Future Operations (FOPS).

Headquarters and Service Company's Guard Force Platoon conducted an average of one to two partnered patrols each week. All Guard Patrols are focused on the Primary Information Requirements (PIRs)/Specific Information Requirements (SIRs)/Specific Operational Requirements (SORs), which are published via the Intelligence Section (S-2). A lack of ANA Soldiers within the  $2/1/215~{\rm H\&S}$  Company and ongoing support for the conduct of multiple Winter Offensive Operations, prevented more partnering with the Guard Force Platoon.

Headquarters and Service Company has been maintaining their role of mentorship and integration of the ANA Soldiers. The Headquarters and Service Company Marines continue their focus on conducting PME classes regarding CIED Tactics, Techniques, and Procedures (TTPs), vehicle/personnel search procedures, and small unit patrolling TTPs in order to facilitate Higher's Intent. The H&S Navy Corpsmen have started to mentor and train the ANA Soldiers on Combat Lifesaving (CLS) techniques and procedures in order to increase their combat efficiency.

The Guard Force Platoon conducted security patrols throughout the H&S battlespace. The Guard Platoon conducted a total of 44 security patrols, of which nine were mounted and 35 were dismounted. This resulted in 248 kilometers of patrolling in which they engaged local elders, religious leaders, females and the general population. During the last month, the Guard Force was tasked with four Battalion-level Quick Reaction Force (QRF) missions. From these missions, the Guard Force successfully conducted controlled detonations for one 51mm mortar, three 105mm rounds, one 10L Homemade Explosive (HME) filled jug, one RPG-7 rocket, five 82mm mortar rounds, and four 105mm illumination rounds.

Within the last month, the Guard Force has enrolled 23 local nationals in the BAT/HIIDE systems. Through their constant security presence and support for multiple Battalion Operation Gridlocks, the Guard Force has conducted a search of 975 local nationals, 174 stores located in the Bazaar, 200 vehicles and 127 motorcycles.

Headquarters and Service Company has seen improvements in the areas of FOB Delhi. The FOB Delhi gym area has been maximized, in order to facilitate training space for over 400 Marines, Soldiers, Sailors, civilians and Afghanistan National Army Soldiers living aboard the FOB. Guard Post One been reconstructed to better support the defense of the FOB. The shower tents have been reconstructed, in order to allow better hygiene areas for the personnel aboard the FOB.

For the remainder of the deployment H&S Company will continue to develop the ANA and ANP throughout the H&S battlespace and continue to support the District Stability Team. Additionally, in accordance with RCT-5 and Battalion directives, H&S Company will support the demilitarization of checkpoints, PBs and COPs throughout the AO.

## Embedded Training Teams (ETT)

The ETTs' primary focus during this period was the consolidation of the battlespace. The movement of the 2/1/215 into the northern portion of the AO, and the 6/1/215 moving from Marjeh into the southern portion of the AO. RIP/TOAs were planned for the positions in the southern AO IOT enable the 6/1/215 to effectively take control of their new AO. To date, the 2/1/215 has successfully consolidated into their new battlespace while elements consisting of one Tolai for the 6/1/215 remain to make the move from Marjeh to Garmser. We have continued to build and mentor staff functions for the 2d Kandak as we work to improve their overall capacity to take the lead in security and counterinsurgency operations in zone. Logistics continues to be a major source of concern for the Kandak, namely the availability of Class IX repair parts and petroleum, oils and lubricants to enable them to conduct user level preventative maintenance. Overall, the logistical capabilities of the Kandak have improved, however they remain far short of the goal of total independence.

The 2/1/215 has participated in numerous partnered operations throughout the AO, and they continue to build battle tracking capabilities, reporting, and coordination through the OCC-D. The ANA now have permanent watch standers assigned to the OCC-D in order to enable a coordinated response with the ANP to counter security threats within the AO. Once the final elements of the 6/1/215 arrive in zone, we will work with them to ensure they have permanent watch standers assigned as well, thereby enabling coordinated responses throughout the AO.

As we have focused on mentoring and guiding the Kandak staff, we have also run two courses for the ANA Soldiers. First, we conducted a two week Non-Commissioned Officer (NCO) academy, focusing on NCO leadership and development. This course was received with great enthusiasm by the ANA Soldiers and Staff. The second course conducted was a 20 day long machine gunner's course. Though not technically a machine gun instructor's course, we did focus on many aspects, such as employment considerations and TTPs. The course will culminate in the coming days with a live fire range, validating the Soldiers' training, and building their confidence to effectively employ the M249, M240B, and M2 .50 Caliber Machine Guns. Overall, the Soldiers have done exceptionally well in this course and have shown an aptitude for sharing their learning. With some mentoring and guidance, we look to have the ANA teach the next round of machine gun courses.

The ETT continued to conduct QRF missions, intelligence-based operations, and partnered operations. The Kandak continued to respond well to all short-fuse operational requirements and demonstrated solid TTPs.

#### INDIA COMPANY

India Company continues to prepare the battlefield for transfer of lead security responsibility (TLSR) of the local populace to the ANSF personnel.

The primary focus has been to transition into an overwatch and mentoring role. The arrival of the 6th Kandak to southern Garmser was received warmly by the Marines of India Company.

On 16 January, the 3d Tolai, 6th Kandak conducted a Relief in Place (RIP) with soldiers from the 2d Kandak at partnered PBs Montana and Karma. The new Kandak also moved into the ANA only un-partnered position, PB May. The 2d Kandak echeloned their forces north in our Battalion battlespace. The 6th Kandak Executive Officer arrived at Karma when they conducted the RIP with the 2d Kandak.

On 17 January, India Company conducted its own RIP with Kilo Company for PB Amir. The RIP was used to allow Kilo Company to mentor and train the ANP who will be living at Amir. The Marines from Amir moved to COP Rankel after the RIP was completed.

The effects of the transfer of security to ANSF are being shown on a daily basis. On 2 February, PB Montana was the latest patrol base to be transferred to serve as an ANSF only position. Although the Marines and newly arrived 6th Kandak were only co-located with each other for a short period of time, they developed a mutual respect for their goals of accomplishing the mission at hand.

India Company began preparing for an 11 day operation in support of 1st LAR at the beginning of February. On 12 February India Company departed for LAR's AO.

#### KILO/POLICE MENTORING COMPANY

Kilo Company's mission of TLSR to local ANSF has progressed with the transfer of a fourth position, PB Shamalan. With the transfer of this position, Kilo Company is now located at seven partnered positions. Kilo Company's remaining positions are in the process of reducing equipment that is not vital to military operations.

Kilo Company Marines have been rapidly improving the OCC-D by establishing radio communications with ANP positions throughout Garmser, employing aggressive command and control procedures, and refining OCC-D operations with other district security efforts. The OCC-D is operated by Afghan police with the supervision of Marine advisors. Kilo Company is driving the construction of hard line telephone communication between the OCC-D, the adjacent medical center and other selected security agencies. This construction project was outsourced to a local Afghan owned and operated construction company.

On 24 January, an Afghan Local Police (ALP) academy was held at the District Police Headquarters (DPHQ). The three week course trained local nationals on the basics of being a police officer in the Garmser District. The course had 38 graduates who are now patrolmen in the ALP. On 29 January, Kilo Company's Police Mentoring Team (PMT) had a registration for their second ALP academy; there will be 45 ALP candidates in attendance. Concurrently, 1st Platoon, Kilo Company organized another ALP training academy at their PB, where they currently have 40 students.

On 31 January, Kilo Company Marines participated in a joint clearing operation. The operation was executed with the partnership of Marines, Afghan Local Police (ALP) and Afghan National Army (ANA). The clearing operation took place on both sides of the Helmand River over 17 square

kilometers. While ANP conducted the clearing portion of the operation, Marines and the ALP were fixed in blocking positions and provided a QRF for the police clearing. As a result of this operation, Afghan police detained 22 suspicious individuals.

The District Chief of Police (DCOP) successfully planned and executed a separate clearing operation through the area of Lablas. Proper coordination with the ANA, sourced support requests to Kilo Company, and strong tactical procedures were the highlights of this operation.

#### LIMA COMPANY

Lima Company has continued patrolling efforts and mentoring of the ANA Soldiers in Garmser. The Company has conducted several ranges at PB Sharp and PB Hasanabad on 21 and 31 January, and on 5 February. On 19 January, 1st Platoon Marines discovered an IED in the northern portion of the Company AO. There were several local national spotters in the area, however they managed to evade capture from the approaching patrol as they closed the distance between them. On 20 January, Lima Company participated in OPERATION GRIDLOCK, which resulted in Marines denying the enemy freedom of movement in the AO. This operation concluded on 23 January. Also on 23 January, a local national vehicle flipped into a canal. Marines in 4th Platoon from PB Sharp aided the rescue by helping to pull the vehicle out of the canal and provided medical assistance to the injured. On 26 January, Lima Company conducted clearing operations in the northern area of Garmser overlapping into an area of 2d Battalion, 9th Marines AO which is infrequently patrolled due to its secluded and distant location. Lima Company discovered two drug caches during this operation. On 4 February, Lima Company completed the transition of PB Barcha to the ANA, and relocated 2d Platoon to COP Koshtay. Lima continued clearing operations on 7 February when 2d Platoon uncovered another drug cache while on a soft knock of a compound in Darvishan. On 12 February an IED was found in vicinity of the transitioned PB Haji Achmed. Lima Company assisted in its removal. On 13-14 February, Lima Company conducted another OPERATION GRIDLOCK, denying the enemy freedom of movement in zone along the enemy's preferred avenues of approach. In addition, on 14 February, Lima Company hosted a youth shura with the assistance of the Jordanian FET. As of 15 February, every patrol Lima Company conducts is partnered. The ANA now plan, brief, lead, and debrief patrols and Lima Company has completed the transition to the overwatch phase.

## WEAPONS COMPANY

Weapons Company continued operations in the Banadar Region of Garmser District, and supported ANSF focused, counterinsurgency, and stability operations in zone. The Company conducted three named operations during this time period which yielded multiple significant events.

On 19 January, a squad from 81mm Mortar Platoon was out on a partnered patrol with ANA soldiers when a fire set by the ANA spread and set off two explosions. Upon a search of the area, the Marines identified one rocket propelled grenade warhead, a three liter jug of home made explosives (HME), and multiple IED components which had all been destroyed by the fire. Two days later, a section from 81mm Mortar Platoon returned, with ANA soldiers, and burned down the brush in the same area. Two low order explosions occurred, likely a result of IED materials burning during the fire.

On 24 January, the Afghanistan Border Police (ABP) received a local national tip about a possible IED. Combined Anti-Armor Team (CAAT) 2 patrolled to the area and was able to confirm the presence of an IED. Explosive Ordnance Disposal (EOD) was sent to the site from FOB Payne and conducted a controlled detonation of the IED. After exploitation, the IED was determined by EOD to be legacy, likely having been emplaced in late 2010 to early 2011. On 30 January, the ABP were leading a partnered patrol with CAAT 2 when they discovered 100 lbs of marijuana seeds, which the ABP transported to their higher headquarters for disposal.

On 3 February, the Company, partnered with ANA, conducted OPERATION RAGHLAST, the soft clear and census of Khaliq Dod. The village had not been visited by Marines or ANSF in over three months and the villagers were pleased to see a Marine presence. On 6 February, the Company conducted OPERATION LEWA OW SALAY, the soft clear of Lawang. The clear was successful and the Company was able to compile census information and biometrically enroll the villagers.

On 10 February, the Company partnered with the ABP, conducted two heliborne inserts and one motorized insert into the desert to the east of Garmser District. The Company then carried out 72 hours of sustained, partnered, mounted, and dismounted interdiction operations, which effectively disrupted the Taliban and narcotics traffickers from establishing a pattern of life for the area.

The Company conducted a total of four indirect fire illumination missions during this period, with three missions fired by 81mm Mortar Platoon at PB 00 and one mission fired by Headquarters Platoon at COP Torbert. Five ranges were conducted, and the Company trained on and fired weapon systems to include small arms, machine guns, demolitions, TOWs, and Javelins. Cross training was provided to the ANSF, who were able to fire both CF and Afghan weapon systems. Additionally, the Landing Zone (LZ) at Combat Outpost Torbert was certified, providing the company with easier access to assault support.

Numerous shuras were held during this time period at COP Torbert with the District Council Member, ANSF leaders and the local elders. The focus at these shuras was continuing the progress to increased Afghan governance in the area. The primary topic discussed at the shuras was the ALP program. Although the elders were not able as a group to decide to send men to the program, individual elders are participating in the program. The first group of eight trained policemen graduated the ALP academy in late January and arrived back in Banadar, providing an increase of security to the area. More local nationals are currently enrolled in the ALP academy and will be graduating in the coming months. Another contentious issue brought up in shuras was the removal of the illegal ferry in Sar Banadar. The Baluch who ran the ferry were upset that it had been removed. However, they refused to prevent the Taliban from using the ferry.

Weapons Company has continued its focus on increasing the overall level of development in the area through small scale projects and coordination with the Government of the Islamic Republic of Afghanistan (GIROA). Weapons Company, working with the ABP, established a tent school near COP Torbert, which has seen regular attendance of between 40-50 local national children. Improvements were made to the tent school at PB 00 and a wall was built around it for added security and teaching space. With the success of the two tent schools started by Weapons Company, the Afghan Ministry of Education is

beginning the process of building a fully functioning school in the area. A clinic refurbishment project in Pay Banadar Village was started which will increase the sanitation of the clinic and bring a higher level of medical care to the locals in the area. Construction was completed on a well in Baluch Village, that provides a source of water to people who had previously been forced to travel multiple miles, each way, to the Helmand River for water. Additionally, solar lights were installed in the Pay Banadar Bazaar. The project has been hugely popular with the local shopkeepers, increased the security of the market, and have allowed the shops to stay open later. These projects, along with the cell phone tower installed by the Afghan Wireless Communications Company, have brought a noticeable improvement to the welfare of the local nationals in the area.

#### AIR SHOP

During this reporting period, a total of 178 Assault Support Request (ASR) flights were facilitated by 3d Battalion, 3d Marines. Additionally, 62 Close Air Support (CAS) sorties were controlled.

#### FIRES/EFFECTS

The Fires and Effects Section for 3d Battalion, 3d Marines conducted biweekly fires rehearsals with Tango Battery, 5th Battalion, 11th Marines in order to facilitate their assumption of authority from Romeo Battery. The Fires Section also created Fire Support Plans for OPERATION NA BAKHAL SHOO, OPERATION EASTERN DESERT and OPERATION DE GHAM PAYELA in the event maneuver units required indirect fires. During this period, the Battalion also conducted five indirect fire illumination missions in support of maneuver elements from the 81mm Mortar Platoon. The Effects Section focused its efforts on promoting the transition of GIRoA and ANSF as the legitimate leaders and security providers for Garmser District. The Battalion is treating all platoon-size or greater positions that are transitioning as celebratory events, in which higher level leadership will attend in order to emphasize its significance. The Battalion is also creating a basic Afghanistan awareness package that can be disseminated throughout the AO in order to better educate the people of Garmser with regards to their governmental and military representation, geography, and purpose of government. The Fires and Effects Section has placed its efforts primarily on the transition of security and governance to ANSF and GIRoA in Garmser District.

#### INTELLIGENCE

The Intelligence Section (S-2) continued the conduct of intelligence operations in Garmser District, with all efforts aimed at reducing the Commanding Officer, his subordinate Commanders, and Battalion Staff's collective uncertainty about the District. In mid-January, the S-2 completed research and development of a 60-day Garmser assessment paper, designed to highlight the Battalion's work-up to that point, and present forecasting for the weeks to come. The assessment won wide acclaim from Regional Command South West for the assessment's substantive analysis of events and enemy activity from the previous two months following the Battalion's TOA, 18

November 2011. Additionally, the S-2 Officer and Assistant S-2 Officer, with input from the Battalion Commander and the Operations Officer, added nine PIRs for collection to address gaps in knowledge with regard to the Battalion's ongoing transition of Garmser to the control of GIROA and ANSF. The Section continues to support battalion operations, with S-2 Marines

controlling and directing unmanned aerial Intelligence, Surveillance, and Reconnaissance (ISR) platforms for a total of 332 hours. First Lieutenant Patrick Kimener continues to support Weapons Company and India Company with intelligence support in concert with the Company Level Intelligence Cell (CLIC) Team Leaders. Lance Corporal Ortiz-Santiago, the Battalion's Senior Analyst, spearheaded the production of 138 specific map types, to include multiple custom grid reference graphic (GRG) maps, Battalion and Company AO maps, maps overlaid with enemy situation templates and ad hoc strip maps as requested. At the Battalion Headquarters, the Battalion Intelligence Officer, Captain Jeff M. Brewer; the Assistant Intelligence Officer, First Lieutenant Aubrey Giblin; the Electronic Warfare Officer, First Lieutenant Andrew Loomis; Intelligence Chief, Sergeant Chris Stine; Senior Analyst, Lance Corporal Jose Ortiz-Santiago; COC S-2 Analysts, Lance Corporals Anthony Nolley-Crosson and Daniel Shannon; and Law Enforcement Professional, John Criscione, continued supporting company and battalion operations, conducting multiple combat patrols in the District Center Bazaar and supporting detainee operations at the FOB Delhi temporary holding facility. On multiple occasions, Captain Brewer accompanied the Battalion Commander on battlefield circulations in AO Garmser. Besides ISR control and map production, the S-2 Section at FOB Delhi completed briefs and special products in support of 3d Battalion, 3d Marines' battle rhythm to include daily intelligence summaries, weekly targeting products, weekly bazaar roll-ups, as well as intelligence update slides for the weekly Command and Staff Briefs and Operations/Intelligence synchronization meetings.

Collectively, the S-2 Section published 31 Daily Intelligence Summaries surveying each day's events and analyzing any changes in the Battalion's intelligence picture. Furthermore, the Section produced eight intelligence updates for the Battalion Operations/Intelligence synchronization meetings, and produced five intelligence updates for Command and Staff briefs. The Counter-Improvised Explosive Device (CIED) analyst supported the CIED working group with four CIED working group briefs. The S-2 Section produced one Targeting Working Group brief in support of the Battalion Targeting Cell. The CLIC analysts compiled four Bazaar Roll-Up products covering economic activity throughout the area of operations. Overall, the S-2 Section completed 40 Requests for Information (RFIs) supporting company and battalion operations. The S-2 uploaded 23 significant events to Marine Link. The S-2 Section also submitted five Handheld Interagency Identity Detection Equipment (HIIDE) systems into maintenance.

#### LOGISTICS

From 16 January 2011 to 15 February 2011, the 3d Battalion, 3d Marines Logistics Section continued to build upon their strong start and took the lead as the Battalion's Main Effort of Retrograde and Redeployment (R2). The Logistics Section successfully provided direct combat service support to 18 Marine positions and supported the transfer of bases to the ANA and ANP. Third Battalion, 3d Marines continued to improve the policies and directives set forth in regards to tracking, movement of assets, and overall logistic command and control.

Third Battalion, 3d Marines logistical convoys ran as scheduled throughout the AO with minimal complications, ensuring all positions maintained the required level of supplies. The Motor Transportation Section supported Phase 2 of OPERATION TAGEER SHAMAL, in which constant resupply elements moved throughout the battlespace linking up with smaller company mobile sections,

ensuring that the companies had the required Class I, III and V to continue on with their mission.

All of the internal logistical sections continued to remain in a high state of readiness and professionalism. From the installation of a new shower tent and water bags at FOB Delhi, to pushing out supporting contact teams as far south as Weapons Company, the S-4 will continue to support the Battalion's Main Effort of R2, as well as all of the individual companies' needs.

#### Communications

From 16 January-15 February, the Communications Section continued to drive forward in completing annual training, as directed by Headquarters and Service Company. The Communications Platoon cleaned, inventoried, and prepared record jackets for over 310 pieces of equipment that were retrograded to Regimental Combat Team 5 (RCT-5). In addition to these tasks, Gunnery Sergeant Sandor conducted daily Marine Corps Martial Arts Program (MCMAP) training for ten grey, two green, and six brown belt students in two different classes, both in the morning and evening.

The Wire Section conducted site surveys and installed over 25 telephone and data lines throughout FOB Delhi. The Wire Section replaced 17 phones that were terminated at the Remote Subscriber Access Module (RSAM), with Nonsecure Internet Protocol Routing (NIPR) Voice Over Internet Protocol (VOIP). Once all the NIPR VOIPs were in place, the Wire Marines prepared the RSAM to be retrograded back to RCT-5. The Wire Section also submitted over 20 Telephone Service Requests (TSRs) to RCT-5 to update the phones on FOB Delhi and throughout the Battalion Area of Operations (AO). The Wire Section then installed Armed Forces Network (AFN) services at the District Police Headquarters, COP Koshtay, and PB Amir. Finally, the Wire Section conducted internal training on the VX-900 call routes procedures, and the proper procedure to terminate copper cable to a 66 block.

The Electronic Key Management System (EKMS) Section ensured the accountability of 1063 pieces of Controlled Cryptographic Items (CCI) that are distributed throughout the Battalion AO. The Communications Officer and the CCI Custodian conducted a monthly Automated Information System (AIS) review of the CCI equipment. The EKMS Custodian continued training a Marine NCO on the policies and procedures of being the EKMS Custodian in order to prepare him for taking responsibility for the Battalion's EKMS procedures the following year.

The Maintenance Section was occupied with maintaining and retrograding all broken gear sent up from the Network Enhancement Training Team (NETT) and the different companies and sections to the Communications Platoon. The Maintenance Section conducted Limited Technical Inspections (LTIs) on over 310 pieces of communications equipment, as well as ECMs and vehicles for retrograde. Maintenance Marines accepted and inducted over 125 pieces of communications equipment into the maintenance cycle. The Section operation checked (Op-Checked), troubleshot, and upgraded over 50 Blue Force Trackers (BFTs) throughout the Battalion. Maintenance Marines Op-Checked, fixed, or filled load sets in over 30 Electronic Counter Measures (ECMs). Lastly, the Maintenance Section Op-Checked over 35 different radio systems, BFTs, and the ECMs in vehicles for the companies that were taken to the Communications Shop when the Companies came up to FOB Delhi.

The Radio Section industriously created record jackets for all the gear that has been retrograded, and for the gear that still remains in the Battalion AO. The Radio Section Op-Checked Kilo Company's Operational Coordination Center-District (OCC-D) dedicated Satellite Communications network and found issues the Marines were able to fix in order to get the network back online. The NET Team traveled to various different Patrol Bases (PBs) and Combat Outposts (COPs) to help troubleshoot the communications networks and assets throughout the AO. The NET Team took down the TEAMS antenna from PB Karma and moved it to COP Rankel after a wind storm broke the TEAMS antenna at Rankel, knocking out all of the data services to the companies south of COP Rankel, and back-up data services for 1st Light Armored Reconnaissance (LAR) Battalion.

The Data Section troubleshot and fixed three Redline Wireless Point to Point Link (WPPL) radios that were damaged due to rain and wind, successfully reestablishing Data Communications to three company positions. Data Marines also assisted the Wire Section by configuring switches on Forward Operating Base (FOB) Delhi for the installation of VOIP phones. The Data Section successfully troubleshot FOB Delhi's primary and secondary links to Camp Dwyer and re-established the links through extensive troubleshooting after inclement weather damaged the links. The Data Section also submitted updated diagrams for all enclaves to the RCT-5 Data Chief to update higher headquarters on the Battalion's configurations for transmission suites, routers, and switches.

## BATTALION AID STATION (BAS)

From 16 January-15 February, the Battalion Aid Station (BAS) successfully covered positions and assisted in all medical evolutions throughout the AO. The BAS remained busy, evaluating and treating over 120 Marines and Sailors. One Marine received the animal bite protocol treatment.

The Senior Medical Department Representative (SMDR) conducted a battlefield circulation in order to conduct Fleet Marine Force (FMF) Warfare testing and boarding. Ninety Two percent of all Navy personnel have qualified as FMF Warfare Specialists.

During this period, the BAS, with the assistance of Kilo Company, conducted on-site evaluations of local hospitals outside of FOB Dehli. These evaluations of local hospitals included logistical and medical capabilities.

## Medical Reports.

-The weekly Disease Non-Battle Injury (DNBI) and Blast Exposure and Concussion Incident Report (BECIR) are being forwarded to Regimental Combat Team 5.

-Animal bite medical protocol has been updated and is tracked at Division.

#### Administrative.

-The Battalion Surgeon and Senior Medical Department Representative attended a meeting regarding the retrograde of medical equipment and supplies.

-The Assistant Battalion Surgeon was relieved of his position during this period.

#### Logistics.

-Medical equipment and supplies were sent to the Medical Logistics Center at Camp Leatherneck in support of R2.

-Medical supplies were provided and sent to 2d Battalion, 6th Marines and 2d Battalion, 9th Marines in order to resupply them with requested items.

## CHAPLAIN

From 16-20 January, Lieutenant Durham, the Battalion Chaplain, travelled through the AO and provided religious ministry services to Weapons Company. He conducted four worship services at COP Torbert, PB 00 and PB Pay Banadar for the Marines there as well as providing counseling assistance to several Marines within the company.

During 24-28 January, Chaplain Durham provided religious ministry services to Lima Company. Chaplain Durham conducted two worship services, visited PB Masood, and accompanied Lima Company on a dismounted patrol around the Koshtay area. Chaplain Durham provided personal, spiritual, and relationship counseling and guidance for several Marines and Sailors within Lima Company.

From 31 January-4 February, Chaplain Durham provided religious ministry services to India Company Marines. He conducted two worship services, provided counsel to Marines getting ready to depart for operations near FOB Payne and accompanied 3d Squad, 3d Platoon, India Company on a dismounted patrol through the local bazaar.

Through this reporting period, Chaplain Durham provided religious ministry support to both H&S Company and Kilo Company whenever located at FOB Delhi. Chaplain Durham conducted five worship services and provided continued support as the spiritual, moral and ethical advisor to the command.

## SECTION III: ATTACHMENTS IN DIRECT SUPPORT

# 1. Personnel Information

- a. Human Intelligence Exploitation Team OIC:
  Warrant Officer Damon A. Mathews
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- b. Combat Engineer Platoon Commander:
  First Lieutenant Stafford A. Buchanan
  16 Jan 12 15 Feb 12
- c. <u>Civil Affairs Detachment OIC:</u> Captain Christopher S. Clark 16 Jan 12 - 15 Feb 12

## 2. Narrative Summary

# HUMAN INTELLIGENCE EXPLOITATION TEAM TWO (HET 2)

From 16 January to 15 February 2012, HET 2 continued operations in direct support to 3d Battalion, 3d Marines. During January, HET 2 focused on Battalion, RCT, Division and Regional Command Southwest (RC-SW) collection requirements. Human Intelligence Exploitation Team 2 continued to conduct Counterintelligence and Human Intelligence support throughout Garmser District. Human Intelligence Exploitation Team 2 focused their operations on

countering IEDs of various types, small arms fire, and planned suicide attacks and capturing High Value Targets (HVT). The team authored 46 Intelligence Information Reports (IIR) and produced seven SPOT reports of immediate tactical value. One detainee was taken from 3d Battalion, 3d Marines' battlespace was interrogated by HET 2. The team also participated in company-level operations. Human Intelligence Exploitation Team 2 collectors conducted 27 dismounted patrols in order to engage the local populace and conduct operations. The team completed 138 internal and external RFIs, and produced 19 analytical products. Furthermore, HET 2 completed 36 S-1, S-4 and S-6 requests during the month of January. The team's operations resulted in multiple IED finds and the disruption of enemy activity in the Garmser District.

#### ENGINEERS

The Combat Engineer Platoon continued to provide 3d Battalion, 3d Marines with mobility, counter-mobility, survivability and engineer reconnaissance support. The General Support Section conducted force protection improvements at COP Torbert, base expansion at COP Rankel, helped in the removal of the Medium Girder Bridge on the Darvishan Canal, improved the force protection on FOB Delhi by building an extension to Guard Post 1, constructed a guard tower in the vicinity of the de-milled PB Styx, and improved the FOB Delhi Track. The Engineer Squads provided mobility support to the line companies by conducting daily dismounted patrols, teaching classes on CIED sweeping techniques, and conducting two demolition ranges in conjunction with reset training necessary to ensure proficiency in explosive breaching. The Squads in direct support also provided limited general engineering support in order to improve the quality of life on the smaller Patrol Bases.

#### CIVIL AFFAIRS GROUP (CAG)

## Political/Governance:

The Social Sub-Committee discussed the Helmand Agrindab Valley Authority (HAVA) canal projects (OPERATION TETHYS) and it was noted that any concerns people have should be raised with the District HAVA representative. The representative would discuss the issue with the contractor and, if needed, raise the issue with the District Stability Team (DST) to link with Provincial Reconstruction Team (PRT) as the contract holder. They continued to discuss the progress of the schools, noting Kharako has had a new roof installed and that work has started on the school in Kupak. After the main District Community Council (DCC) shura they all met together to prepare a list of projects for Garmser, as requested by the Provincial Governor's Office in Lashkar Gah.

Security was the last Sub-Committee to provide a report. They reported that generally last weeks security was good, though three tractors had been burnt by the Taliban in Kadalo Drab. They discussed the lack of ANP, ANA and Marine night patrols in some areas, as well as raising their concern about checkpoints being de-milled as the Marines leave, opposed to being left for ANA or ANP/ALP. The new District Chief of Police (DCOP) was mentioned and they discussed new measures being introduced to control speed of vehicles in the Hazar Joft Bazaar, which was well received.

The Battalion Commander arrived at the meeting at this point and was able to respond to some of the particular questions and concerns. The Battalion Commander thanked the elders for their ongoing support and efforts also

noting that all the IEDs identified in the last couple of weeks came from local tips, and stated that now it was the Marines being protected by the population opposed to the population being protected by the Marines. This observation was well received by the DCC members. Lastly, it was agreed that next DCC meeting shall include the ANA, ANP, Battalion Commander and National Directorate of Security (NDS), alongside the District Governor, to discuss the closure and handover of posts in the future.

Regarding the District Development Plan (DDP) in Garmser District, some aspects seem to be going well. We believe Education, Health, and Agriculture in Lashkar Gah have received bids for some projects. However, several members of the District Government Tashkiel have not yet been able to receive their hardship money. This is due to bureaucratic requirements which they are finding difficult to comply with. A representative from the Provincial Governor's Office told the Deputy District Governor that next week he could expect the second three-months tranche of Operational and Maintenance funds to be available for Garmser.

#### Rule of Law:

On 8 February, the District Saranwal was informed by his superiors in Lashkar Gah that he is going to be temporarily transferred out of the District. The Provincial Prosecutor told the District Saranwal that he would be filling in for Khaneshin's Prosecutor who recently went on sick leave. This move comes at a bad time for Garmser. The Andar Six case is nearing completion and the Saranwal has an extremely important role to play in the trial. The Junior Saranwal seems intelligent enough, however he has very little experience and he does not understand the facts of the case nearly as well as the District Saranwal. Additionally, the Junior Saranwal and the District Judge were involved in a physical altercation at the end of November and they are still not on good terms. It is difficult to see how they can put aside their differences to work effectively. For these reasons the DST strongly recommends that the PRT engage the Provincial Prosecutor and request that he transfer the Junior Saranwal instead of the Senior Saranwal.

From 8-12 February the District Judge announced the verdict and sentence in the case of a man accused of stealing a motorcycle in the village of Lakari in late October. On 12 February, he was convicted at trial and sentenced to serve five years and one month in prison. On the same day of the conviction, he was transported to the Provincial Prison in Lashkar Gah to begin serving his sentence.

In mid-January, one of the defendants in the Andar Six case was transferred to Lashkar Gah. One of the suspects is only 16 years old and the Judge has ordered that his case be transferred to the juvenile court in the Provincial Capital. He was transported to Lashkar Gah on 15 January. The remaining eight defendants remain in pre-trial confinement and the Judge still believes that he can conduct the trials before the end of January.

# Reconstruction and Development:

OPERATION TETHYS is progressing well with the early teething issues where elders stopped contractors from working, solved. In most cases this reflects the population's concern and desire to ensure high quality work is being conducted by the contractors. The people stopped working one contractor due to their concern about him removing the old rubber matting (geo-textile membrane) that sits under the mattresses from the canal, in the second

location the contractor was stopped while the locals, along with the relevant DCC member, queried the use of local mud in the works opposed to 'red' mud which they felt was better suited for the job. In the end the contract was checked and since it did not specify 'red' mud they allowed the contractor to continue using the local mud.

Seven of the ten sites have been visited by the two STRE attachments. In general, work is progressing well though common concerns have been the following: 1) Contractors have not had plans on the site, and have not understood measurement and details of work. 2) Mattresses have been poorly filled and tied loosely. 3) Toe protection for mattress lay-down is poor or non-existent.

Abdul Samad, the District HAVA Representative, noted that in addition to the 10 HAVA projects, there is also a dredging operation using a JCB back-actor to work on the 13 Kilometer between Saraban and Jogrum. This is excellent news and very welcome by the District.

Two road projects, along with several other infrastructure projects, have been contracted by International Relief Development (IRD) and are expected to start in the near future.

# SECTION IV: SEQUENTIAL LISTING OF SIGNIFICANT EVENTS

## January 16 - February 15