



CPL. JONATHAN SOSNER

A CH-53E Super Stallion helicopter with Marine Medium Tiltrotor Squadron 162 (Reinforced), 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, picks up an AV-8B Harrier engine to transport it from the amphibious assault ship USS Iwo Jima to the fleet replenishment ship USNS Big Horn during a Helicopter Support Team mission as part of Combined Composite Training Unit Exercise, Dec. 1 in the Atlantic Ocean. The exercise allows all elements of the Marine Air Ground Task Force to join and train in realistic scenarios so the MEU as a whole can meet its Pre-Deployment Training Program objectives prior to their upcoming deployment at sea.

PP&O Testifies to HASC Subcommittee on Readiness

STORY BY LANCE CPL. TARYN ESCOTT

Lt. Gen. Brian D. Beaudreault, Deputy Commandant for Plans, Policies, and Operations, U.S. Marine Corps, Vice Adm. Andrew L. Lewis Deputy Chief of Naval Operations for Operations, Plans and Strategy (N3/N5), United States Navy and Mr. Cary Russell Director, Defense Capabilities and Management Team, U.S. Government Accountability Office (GAO) all testi-



CPL. ABRAHAM LOPEZ

Marines with II Marine Expeditionary Force and coalition forces aboard AAV-P7A1 assault amphibious vehicles conduct an amphibious landing during Exercise Bold Alligator 17 at Onslow Beach, Camp Lejeune, N.C., Oct. 25. Bold Alligator 17 is a large scale, multinational amphibious exercise designed to execute complex shaping operations, amphibious landing and attack, and sea basing operations to improve U.S. and coalition ship-to-shore capabilities.

CMC speaks at Reagan National Defense Forum

STORY BY SGT. ANNIKA MOODY

Senior military officials, defense industry leaders, and experts gathered at the Reagan National Defense Forum in Simi Valley, Calif.,

Saturday, to discuss the “crisis” facing the United States.

This year’s forum hoped to evaluate the retooling of the military, as well as the challenges associated. The forum also touched on recognizing other nations’ growing military capa-

bilities.

Gen. Robert B. Neller, Commandant of the Marine Corps, says that while the Marine Corps recognizes these issues, he assures that

See **Forum A6**

fied on the state of readiness for the Navy and Marine Corps.

One of the items that have affected readiness is the continuing resolution. Representative Joe Wilson, who chairs the committee, made it clear that the committee is interested in doing whatever they can to end the continuing resolution.

“So we find our maritime superiority edge narrowing through the continuing resolutions that is not allowing us to stay on glide path for readiness recovery and maintain a superiority on the sea,” Beaudreault said.

Earlier this year, Commandant of the Marine Corps, Gen. Robert Neller, addressed readiness concerns in his Seize the Initiative 2017 message to all Marines.

“We must improve our overall readiness,” Neller said in his message. “We continue to accelerate our purchases of new systems while maintaining current equipment. Right now, our ‘ready bench’ is not as deep as we need it to be for crises and contingencies.”

Wilson asked Beaudreault what elements in the Marine Corps suffer the most from atrophy, to which he responded, “Our ability to train at higher echelons above the MEU and Amphibious Ready Group Unit. Our forcible entry ability core competency of the Marine Corps and Navy team here is at risk above the MEU level. Simply we can do some training, through the command elements through virtual systems, but at some point you have to put the ships to sea and go through a mission rehearsal, and the ability to generate the number of ships required to train at a Marine Expeditionary Brigade level, just simply isn’t there.”

Lewis pointed out that even though there are some shortcomings with readiness, the Navy and Marine Corps are still operating to the best of their ability

See **Readiness A6**



ILLUSTRATION BY JENNIFER A SEVIER

The Marine Corps Systems Command’s Cyber Advisory Team completed its first emergency cyber acquisition as part of a new process designed to more quickly respond to the cyber warfighting needs of the force. The CAT quickly analyzes, distinguishes, prioritizes and tracks cyber acquisition processes in order to provide more responsive and effective support to Marine Corps cyber forces.

Inside the Observation Post

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- A3 What I’ve Learned
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- A5 Around the Corps
- B1 Combat Center hosts Best in the West game
- B2 Movie Schedule
- B4 Week in Photos



Best in the West game played at Combat Center

See page B1

Marine Corps’ Top Shot

Every week, thousands of fans cast their votes for the best photograph posted on the Corps’ Facebook page. This week’s top shot comes from Cpl. Timothy Valero.



A Marine with Company A, 1st Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit’s Ground Combat Element, fires an M72A7 rocket launcher during a familiarization course. This course offered Marines the opportunity to experience firing shoulder fired rocket launchers, Oct. 23. The 15th MEU is embarked on the America Amphibious Ready Group and is deployed to maintain regional security in the U.S. 5th Fleet area of operations.



Reprinted from the Observation Post
December 7, 1960

11TH Marines Leave DESFLEX Successful

"Light and Heavy" seems to be the password here on the high desert during the current exercise involving artillery, helicopters and fixed wing aircraft.

The Eleventh Marines from Camp Pendleton with their 105's joined forces with the "heavies" from the Field Artillery Group here. The "light" HRS Copters along with the "heavy" HR2S Medium

Transport from the Air Facility, Santa Ana, provided the mobile force, while the "light" OE's of Marine Observation Squadron Six vied for air space with the Jet Squadrons from El Toro.

In the first week of their two week operation was individual battalion operations. All four of the battalions operated separately of each other in training of their personnel.

The first battalion used

the helicopters from HMR Squadrons 462 and 362 of Santa Ana to test the ability of transporting their batteries.

The battalion was also testing a new weapon, the 107 millimeter HowTar. This weapon uses a 4.2 inch mortar tube on a modified 75mm pack howitzer frame.

Starting early in the morning the battalion moved its weapons into new placements all day

and into the night. While moving on the ground the battalion also tested the capabilities of the new "Mighty Mite."

The "Mighty Mite" is a modified version of the Jeep. It can do many of the jobs that its big brother can do.

The 1st Battalion borrowed sixteen "Mighty Mites" from infantry regiments in the 1st Division to conduct their tests.

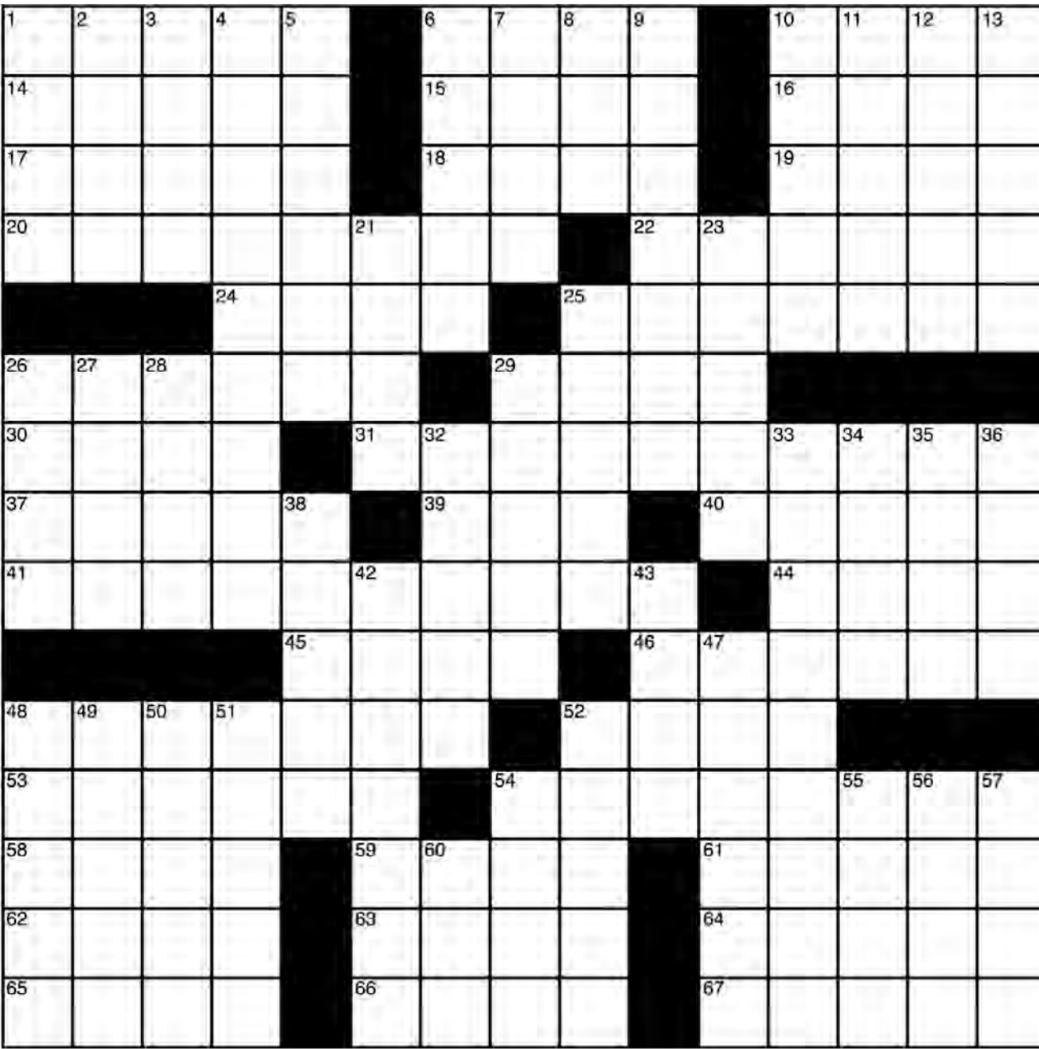
During the same period the

2nd Battalion used the time to conduct formal schooling for their Forward Observers.

The Forward Observers are the eyes of the artillery. They give informations to the firing battery on where shells are landing.

The Third and Fourth Battalions spent their time training gun crews. They also spent the night of December First firing the 105 mm howitzer.

CROSSWORD



Across

1. Throws with great force.
6. "The Wife of ..." one of Chaucer's Canterbury Tales.
10. Used in an unequal comparison.
14. T.S. ..., author of The Waste Land.
15. ... vera, used to treat burns.
16. Janet ..., former U.S. attorney general.
17. Extent of.
18. Capital of the Republic of Yemen.
19. Trees belonging to the beech family and bearing acorns.
20. Signs one's name to the backs of checks.
22. To chatter or gossip.
24. Medium to dark greenish-blue.
25. Goes back on one's word.
26. Grand ..., movie starring Steve Martin.
29. Variant of Sarah.
30. On top of.
31. Unable to be mixed.
37. Switches residences.
39. ... Miserables, novel by Victor Hugo.
40. Struck with the knee.

41. To deprive of strength.
44. Not new.
45. Variant of emir.
46. Joe and Mike ..., regulars on The Dom DeLuise Show.
48. Gathers on the surface in a condensed layer.
52. Have an affection for.
53. Ben ..., author of The Pennsylvania Weather Book.
54. Tropical American plants of the spurge family grown for their tuberous roots.
58. Jai ..., game similar to handball but using cestas.
59. ... All Boats, movie starring Richard Boone.
61. Useful.
62. Half ..., Laura Ingall's nickname.
63. Al ..., former vice president.
64. To return to mind.
65. Consumes food.
66. Increased or enlarged.
67. Surface swelling of plant parts.

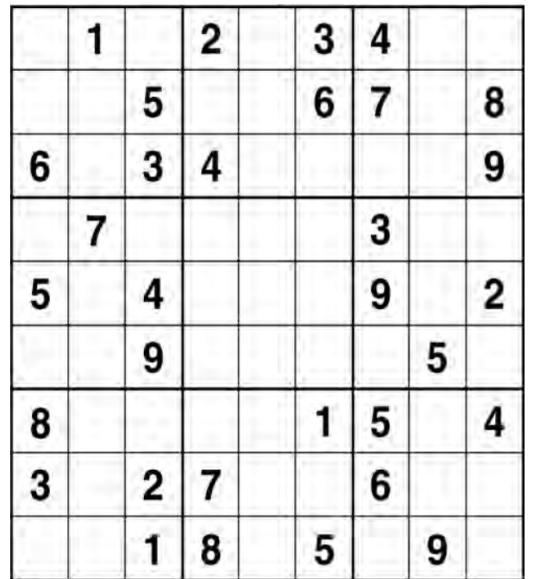
Down

1. ... Come the Brides, TV show starring Bobby Sherman.
2. Lancer in a light cavalry

3. Piece of iron running as a support across an upper millstone.
4. Pieces of type bearing two or more uncombined letters.
5. Combining form referring to hardness.
6. Canton in northern Switzerland.
7. Interjection used to express grief.
8. Unit of weight equal to 2,000 pounds.
9. Slang for firearms.
10. Brings to the attention of.
11. ... Ledger, Gabriel Martin in The Patriot.
12. Slender part of the leg above the foot.
13. Forward ends of aircraft.
21. George ..., French novelist.
23. Archaic interjection used to express pity.
25. Central part of a ship.
26. Occurred at a certain point.
27. Smallest component of an element.
28. Star that burns bright and then fades.
29. To blur by rubbing.

32. Alexander John ..., British phonetician and mathematician.
33. Overwhelmed with.
34. The ... Years of Our Lives, movie starring Fredric March.
35. British for "having no burden or load."
36. Mary Baker ..., founder of the U.S. Christian Science Church.
38. To frighten.
42. Shadows cast by trees.
43. "I" parts of people.
47. To guarantee.
48. Wide open.
49. ... Smith, author of How to Cook.
50. To distort by revealing just some of the facts.
51. Short for obituaries.
52. Mohammad E. ..., co-author of Mechanical Conveyors: Selection and Operation.
54. To watch over.
55. Combining form meaning "deputy."
56. Graduate of a specific school.
57. Plural of serum.
60. Bowl-shaped pan used for cooking Chinese food.

SUDOKU



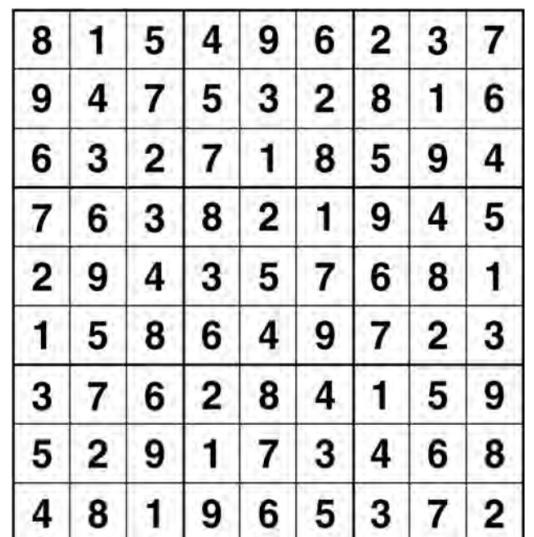
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Medium

Last week's answers



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OFF-LIMITS ESTABLISHMENTS

MCIWest off-limits establishments guidance prohibits service members from patronizing the following locations. This order applies to all military personnel.

Off Limit Establishments as of Oct 25, 2016

- Adobe Smoke Shop, 6441 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
- STC Smoke Shop, 6001 Adobe Road, Twentynine Palms
- Puff's Tobacco, 57063 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
- Yucca Tobacco Mart, 57602 29 Palms Highway, Yucca Valley
- NYPD Pizza, 260-262 North Palm Canyon Drive, Palm Springs
- Sam's Smoke Shop, 16520 West Main Street, Barstow
- Teazer's Bar & Grill Nightclub, 14269 Seventh Street, Victorville
- Angelo's Kars, 222 & 226 S. Coast

- Highway, Oceanside
- Denny's Parking Lot, 692 E Street, Chula Vista
- Burger King & McDonald's, 28th Street (parking lots), San Diego
- Club Mustang, 2200 University Avenue, San Diego
- Club San Diego, 3955 4th Avenue, San Diego
- Get It On Shoppe, San Diego
- Main Street Motel, 3494 Main Street, San Diego
- Trolley Stations, Palomar Street & San Ysidro, San Diego
- Vulcan Baths, 805 W. Cedar Street, San Diego
- Dream Crystal, 1536 Highland Avenue, National City
- Sports Auto Sales, 1111 National City Boulevard, National City

WHAT I'VE LEARNED

Svyatoslav "Slav"

Springfield, Mass. 2nd lieutenant, Marine Awaiting Training Officer in Charge, Co. A, Marine Corps Communication-Electronics School

ZENCHENKO

>I was born in Azerbaijan on July 19, 1988 (while it was still a part of the USSR). My grandfather was in the Red Army in WWII. Despite being a conscientious objector, he was assigned to transport equipment and was wounded during the war. He was relocated to an aid station in Baku, Azerbaijan, and stayed there after the war. My father met my mother while traveling with a church group in Siberia. He brought her back to Baku, where my siblings and I were born.

>After the fall of the Soviet Union, and due to an armed dispute between Azerbaijan and Armenia, my family arrived as refugees in Springfield, Mass. in 1992.

>I grew up in Springfield, then went to the University of Connecticut and worked at MassMutual before going to Officer Candidate School, but I'll always think of Springfield as my hometown.

>The number one reason I joined the Corps was because my brother served from 2002 to 2006. He was my first salute after completing OCS. The other reason I joined the Marine Corps is because it is the most challenging of the branches.

>I chose to go the officer route because I had a college degree and I wanted the greater responsibility of leading Marines. Now that I've had the experience of leading young Marines, I can say that it supercedes all other reasons to becoming a Marine officer.

>When I went to OCS, I had a lot of bad habits. I didn't realize the small particulars of military life and how by the numbers it is early on. In OCS, there's nothing keeping you there. If they don't like something about you or can prove that you're insufficient in some way, then you can be sent home. It's scary until it isn't.

>I think leading your peers is something that is very difficult. There's no obligation for them to listen to you. When you get everyone in a room who is the same rank, everyone thinks they have



the best idea, so there's the difficulty of trying to effectively lead your peers.

>I'm on a reserve contract. I chose to be a reservist because I wanted to bring the values and skills I've learned in the Marine Corps to the private sector. I do believe the Marine Corps provides us with a set of tools to be successful in the civilian world. If I can make the Marine Corps look good and pursue civilian goals, we all win.

>I have five things that I want to do to essentially flip Springfield. The city has fallen on hard times and I want to be a driving force in the city to help turn it around. I want to start a school; I want to start a basketball camp, (Springfield is the birthplace of basketball); I want to start a fatherhood initiative, because so many woes are tied to father absenteeism; I

want to invest in real estate and flip houses to revitalize entire neighborhoods; and I want to start an entrepreneurial incubator, to mass people together with good ideas to which the city will benefit. I realize it's a lot, and I don't know how I'll get it done, but you have one life and you might as well do something spectacular with it.

>My advice for fellow Marines is to rely on good principles and not to compromise them. The decisions you make based upon your principles or the lack thereof will have consequences, good or bad.

>I really believe that Marines can change the world like no other demographic. My expectations for Marines can be summed up by Richard Harding Davis who said of the Marines during the Spanish-American War that "the Marines

have landed and the situation is well at hand." That's what people should think when a Marine is among them.

>I run a small YouTube channel called Simon the Zealot/Beyond the Crossroads. It's aimed towards OCS candidates, and has expanded more into "good counsel", but I say one thing at the end of each video: "It is not about you." When you actually get to stand in front of Marines, you realize that the most important function you can perform in their lives is to set them up for success: through empowerment, being a role model, providing them with opportunities to succeed, and if need be, through discipline. The last thing I say to whatever audience I'm addressing is an attempt to counteract what I feel are common Marine Corps vices: "stay hungry, stay humble, and keep out of trouble."

Interviewed and photographed by Lance Cpl. Preston Morris

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A group of volunteers gather around toy donations brought by the Redlands Airport Association at the Twentynine Palms Airport, Saturday. This event marked the third-annual Toys for Tots drop off.

Marines, Redlands Airport Association team up for Toys for Tots

PHOTOS AND STORY BY
LANCE CPL. ASHLEE CONOVER

TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. — Marines from 4th Tank Battalion partnered with the Redland's Airport Association to deliver, through a new toy at Christmas, a message of hope to less fortunate children during the 3rd annual Toys for Tots Fly-in, Saturday.

The RAA pilots loaded 24 small aircraft with toys that ranged from stuffed animals to bicycles, and began their approximately 70-mile flight to the Twentynine Palms Airport.

"It's one of the best things we do as an aviation community; it's joyful to fly, to give and to be a part of all this," said Dennis K. Brown, the Safety Officer of the RAA. "This is our third year doing this and every time it gets bigger. The fact that it grows means more and more people are taking part in something that's going to make a lot of kids happy. We're very pleased to help, I can't think of a better cause."

At the Twentynine Palms Airport the pilots met the local Toys for Tots coordinator, Staff Sgt. Jason Slye, company master gunner, 4th Tanks. For the past three years Slye has collected the toys to be distributed to less fortunate families in the area.

"We live in a fairly poor area, and a lot of these kids wouldn't get toys otherwise so we're here to help out and give them a Christmas they might not have," Slye said.

Cindy Gablin, secretary of the RAA, was brought to tears when speaking on behalf of her volunteer community.

"To be able to give to the children, it's just an awesome thing to do," Gablin said. "This year has been the most successful by far. With 2,500 toys, 6 bicycles, and \$1,200 in checks donated, the numbers increased by five times since last year."

Toys for Tots has long been a successful nationwide community action project allowing Marines to give back to communities by helping less fortunate children throughout the United States experience the joy of Christmas.



While unloading donations off of the aircraft, volunteers neatly placed the stuffed toys and bicycles to the side where they waited for the truck to arrive at the Twentynine Palms airport, Saturday.



Theodore Gablin, President of the Redlands Airport Association, poses with one of the bicycles donated to the Toys for Tots foundation at the Twentynine Palms airport, Saturday.



Volunteers with the Redlands Airport Association load the donated bicycles to be distributed to families in need, Saturday.

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★ ★ ★ ★ ★ Around the Corps ★ ★ ★ ★ ★

Eliminating the threat: EOD conducts low-order demolition range

STORY BY LANCE CPL. ABREY LIGGINS

Marines with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion fought fire with fire as they conducted a low-order demolition range at Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, Nov. 30.

The 8th ESB Marines conducted the range in order to improve their confidence and ability to perform low-order demolition.

"A low-order technique is trying to get rid of an explosive without having it detonate," said Sgt. Caleb Johnson, an explosive ordnance technician with the unit. "We are instead trying to make the explosive components inside the ordnance burn out which essentially keeps it from blowing up and protects the surrounding area."

The technique is implemented when explosive ordnance is deemed too dangerous to move commonly used within towns, schools or residential areas to prevent collateral damage. Low-order demolition involves placing a small explosive device on the target with the goal of penetrating the outer shell, which burns out the explosive components inside, thereby minimizing the blast.

"We implemented a variety of techniques in conducting low-order demolition on different types of explosives," Johnson said. "The training is a lot of experimenting to see what works and what doesn't, so when we go out to a real life scenario, we'll know what to do."

Performing low-order demolition applies in situations that could arise in both domestically populated areas and deployed environments.

"This training is important, especially when we conduct state-side response," said Gunnery Sgt. Anthony J. Stanks, a section leader with the unit. "On occasion, we support local law enforcement in situations such as when ordnance washes up on the beach."

EOD Marines with 8th ESB train in low-order demolition multiple times throughout the year to sharpen their skills in order to maintain expeditionary readiness.



LANCE CPL. LEYNARD KYLE PLAZO

Explosive ordnance disposal technicians attach blasting caps to a 60mm mortar round during a low-order demolition range at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Nov. 30. The technique is implemented when explosive ordnance is deemed too dangerous to move and is commonly used within towns, schools or residential areas to prevent collateral damage. The Marines conducting the range are with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion.



LANCE CPL. LEYNARD KYLE PLAZO

A 60mm mortar round detonates during a low-order demolition at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Nov. 30.



LANCE CPL. LEYNARD KYLE PLAZO

Staff Sgt. Harold Cooper prepares a small explosive charge used for low-order demolition at Camp Lejeune, N.C., Nov. 30.

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Forum From A1

the Marines on the ground are capable of carrying out their missions.

“You expect your Marines to be the nation’s force in readiness and I can assure you that the forces that are forward deployed are trained and equipped,” Neller said.

Neller says that the Marine Corps is actively adjusting for future conflicts, but he also understands the need to stay focused on the current ones.

Neller added, “We’ve seen this coming, we’ve been watching and we’ve

adjusted our training. We’re not sitting here with our heads in the sand, but at the same time, you can consume readiness in your day to day deployments, so we recognize the capabilities of these other nations and we recognize, it’s probably not going to require more bri-

gade or infantry battalions. It’s going to require a different set of capabilities.” Neller continued, “We’re looking at all that, but in the meantime you have to fund for the readiness to do the current fight.”

The budget was the biggest topic of conversa-

tion at the forum and Gen. Neller’s comment was simply put.

“I want a budget. I’d like a two year budget. I’d really like a 4 year budget. I just want to know what the number is so we can figure out what we’re going to do and how

we’re going to move.”

Many issues were brought to the table but Neller stands firm on one thing, “We will never lower standards. The Marine Corps will get smaller before we lower standards. In fact, if anything we’re going to raise them.”



PFC. CODY ROWE

Sgt. Jonathon Moyers, a motor vehicle operator assigned to Marine Air Control Squadron (MACS) 2, transports an AN/TPS-80 G/ATOR radar system to Bogue Field, N.C., Oct. 24. This G/ATOR radar system is the first of its kind to be used by the Marine Corps and will be put to the test during exercise Bold Alligator.



Keep up with the 29 Palms Combat Center on Twitter follow @thecombatcenter for updates, photos & more

Readiness From A1

around the world.

“The Navy and Marine Corps team is forward deployed and standing the watch. Today, sailors and Marines are at sea aboard the AMERICA ARG and 15 MEU in Central Command, USS ESSEX in the Pacific and IWO JIMA ARG and 26 MEU in the Atlantic,” Lewis said. “We are on the tip of the spear and

working every day to sharpen it.”

Chairman Wilson concluded the hearing by stating that the committee is in favor in doing what they can to end the continuing resolution and have an actual budget in order to provide the Navy and Marine Corps with the resources they need to maintain a high state in readiness to continue to protect the nation.

PRESENTED BY

Holiday Decoration Safety

The holidays should be a time of joyful memories, not to remember an avoidable tragedy! The San Bernardino County Fire Department would like to remind you of the following holiday decorating and Christmas tree safety tips:

Check The Lights, Check The Cords

Before you put up any electrically lighted decorations, you should check the equipment to make sure it will operate safely. Check for burned-out lights, empty sockets and broken bulbs. Inspect wires carefully for breaks, fraying and damaged connections before energizing your holiday decorations. Any damaged strands of lights should be thrown out.

Artificial or Natural Tree?

Both can be enjoyed safely. If you use an artificial tree, make sure it is made of safe, fireproof materials. If your artificial tree is pre-lit, make sure you test the tree and check all electrical cords and connectors for damage, fraying or broken parts before using the tree. On a pre-lit tree, check carefully for burnt-out, broken or damaged light sockets. Damaged equipment should be replaced or repaired before using the tree.

Make A Fresh Cut

If you use a natural tree, make a fresh 1-inch cut at the base to open up pores clogged by sap. The fresh cut surface should be creamy-white so that the tree will be able to drink water.

Place In Water

For a natural tree, choose a sturdy stand that holds at least one gallon of water. Rinse the stand with a mixture of one capful of bleach and one cup of water before inserting the tree. This rinsing reduces the growth of microorganisms that can block the tree’s ability to absorb water. If the tree is not going into the house soon after purchase, it should be stored in a bucket of water in a cool place away from wind and sun.

Water Daily

An average natural tree may consume between a quart and a gallon of water per day. If the water level drops below the cut end of the trunk, a seal will form and no more water will be absorbed- **SO DON’T FORGET TO WATER THE TREE EVERY DAY!**

Mini-Lights Produce Less Heat

Miniature lights produce less heat and reduce drying on a natural tree. Always check lights for frayed or cracked wiring and broken sockets before placing on a tree. Do not attempt to repair a worn light—throw it away! Turn off tree lights when leaving the house or before going to bed. Avoid overloading circuits. Plug no more than three light sets into a single outlet.

Keep Away From Heat Sources

Place the tree away from heat sources: heating vents, fireplaces, wood stoves, radiators, T.V. sets, or sunny windows. Keep rearranged furniture away from heat sources as well. Be careful not to block a door with the tree or with rearranged furniture.

And Recycle The Tree Promptly

After the holidays, remove a natural tree from the house as soon as possible. Never burn any part of a Christmas tree in a wood stove or fireplace; it burns too fast and is explosive! The best alternative is to RECYCLE your tree through your local city or county program.

Have an enjoyable and SAFE holiday season!

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A player from 1st Tank Battalion's team makes a catch in the endzone during the Best in the West Game at Felix Field aboard the Combat Center, Saturday. The Best in the West Game consisted of Camp Pendleton's Headquarters and Service Battalion team and the Combat Center's 1st Tank Battalion team.

Combat Center hosts Best in the West Game

STORY AND PHOTOS BY LANCE
 CPL. PRESTON MORRIS

Camp Pendleton's Headquarters and Service Battalion football team faced off against the Combat Center's 1st Tank Battalion football team during the "Best in the West" game at Felix Field aboard the Combat Center Saturday.

Marine Corps Community Services, in partnership with Semper Fit, hosted the event. The game took the two best teams in the Western United States and pitted them against each other for bragging rights as the "Best in the West".

Pendleton's H&S team were first to put points on the scoreboard, but 1st Tanks quickly returned with a touchdown. By the end of the first quarter however, H&S was up 28-7.

"Regardless of who wins or loses, they're all out here to have a good time and play football," said Victoria Myler, a member of the Combat Center community. "That's why I come out and watch, I'm here to show my support, win or lose."

The game ended with H&S taking the win, 66-7.



A player from the 1st Tank Battalion team runs the ball back following a kick return during the Best in the West Game at Felix Field aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.



A player from the Headquarters and Service Battalion team scores a touchdown during the Best in the West Game at Felix Field aboard the Combat Center, Saturday.

Sunset Cinema

Friday — Dec. 8

5:30 p.m. — Geostorm, PG-13
 8:00 p.m. — A Bad Moms Christmas, R
 10:10 p.m. — Tyler Perry's Boo 2! A Madea Halloween, PG-13

Saturday — Dec. 9

12:00 p.m. — Geostorm, PG-13
 2:20 p.m. — Thank You For Your Service, R

4:50 p.m. — Thor: Ragnarok (3-D), PG-13
 7:30 p.m. — A Bad Moms Christmas, R
 9:40 p.m. — Jigsaw, R

Sunday — Dec. 10

12:00 p.m. — Thor: Ragnarok, PG-13
 2:40 p.m. — A Bad Moms Christmas, R
 5:00 p.m. — The Star, PG

7:00 p.m. — Tyler Perry's Boo 2! A Madea Halloween, PG-13

Monday — Dec. 11

6:30 p.m. — Thank You For Your Service, R

Tuesday — Dec. 12

6:30 p.m. — Jigsaw, R

Wednesday — Dec. 13

6:30 p.m. — Geostorm (Last Showing), PG-13

Thursday — Dec. 14

6:30 p.m. — Tyler Perry's Boo 2! A Madea Halloween (Last Showing), PG-13

Friday — Dec. 15

5:30 p.m. — A Bad Moms Christmas, R
 8:00 p.m. — Daddy's Home 2, PG-13
 10:10 p.m. — Thank You For Your Service, R

Solid Waste Characterization Study

In April of this year, Environmental Affairs (EA) conducted a Waste Characterization Study in an effort to better understand the amount and source of recyclable materials entering the Combat Center's landfill. The study was conducted at the Residential Commercial Recycling Section (RCRS) located on the corner of Rifle Range Road and Del Valle, a facility dedicated to processing recyclable materials. Not only is recycling required by Base and Marine Corps policies, but proceeds from the sale of recyclable materials fund RCRS operational costs as well as morale, welfare, and recreation activities.

In large part, the Combat Center relies on individual military, civilian, and residential customers to have the knowledge to identify and separate recyclable materials when depositing waste in dumpsters and other solid waste containers. Despite the efforts of Base personnel, Marines, and residents, large amounts of recyclable materials still enter our landfill. In the course of the study, waste from 100 dumpsters and four residential areas was sorted, representing over 24 tons of waste. In addition, personnel from 60 different facilities were surveyed to gather customer feedback and identify necessary improvements to the recycling program.

The study found that approximately 25% of waste going to our landfill could have been recycled. These items included large amounts of paper (16% of recyclables), cardboard (14% of recyclables), and CRV plastic bottles (13% of recyclables). The study also found that the residential areas participate in the recycling program more than non-residential areas of the Combat Center: only 16% of the residential trash was recyclable, compared to 28% of trash collected from non-residential facilities.

Certain items cannot be put in our landfill, such as hazardous waste, medical waste, and range residue/munitions. However, restricted waste was found in 86% of the dumpsters and all four residential areas, including items such as aerosol cans, e-waste, rechargeable batteries, munitions, medications, and unused MRE heaters.

The study provided several recommendations, including adding recycling containers at several buildings, additional outreach and training, and color-coding dumpsters for ease of use.

LANDFILL STUDY RESULTS



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 California law requires that contractors taking jobs that total \$500 or more (labor or materials) must be licensed by the Contractors State License Board. State law also requires that contractors include their license number on all advertising. You can check the status of your licensed contractor at www.cslb.ca.gov or by calling 800-321-CSLB. Unlicensed contractors taking jobs that total less than \$500 must state in their advertisements that they are not licensed by the Contractors State License Board.

SERVICES OFFERED POLICY
 This newspaper does not accept responsibility for services offered, by any advertiser, using this newspaper. Please carefully evaluate any services advertised, and do not use that service unless you have checked the references, and know and understand all terms of agreement and conditions between you and the advertiser.

GENERAL POLICY
 Please check your ad the first day it runs to see that all the information is correct. This will ensure your ad is exactly what you want readers to see. Call us the very first day your ad appears to make any changes or corrections. This way, we can credit you for the first day if any error occurred. The Publisher wants to do everything possible within the confines of good taste and legal constraints to help you advertise your products or services to your best advantage. The newspaper does reserve the right to edit or reject any copy or illustration.

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Established in 1937

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 Licensed and Insured
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Thurman Carson
 Owner
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Michael Johnson
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 Call and speak to one of our representatives today.
 They can help you with a great advertising plan.
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- REPAIRS
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 JAKE.ROOFWORKS@GMAIL.COM
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"We Got You Covered"

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- Roof Repair
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Residential & Commercial

FREE Estimates

Tony Garrido
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AMG ROOFING
 760-993-7610
 amg_roofing@yahoo.com
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The Classifieds

Hi-Desert Star (760) 365-3315 www.hidesertstar.com • The Desert Trail (760) 367-3577 www.deserttrail.com • The Observation Post www.hidesertstar.com/observation_post



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 JOSHUA TREE
Quail Spring Apts. Ask about our MOVE-IN SPECIALS!!! 2bd/2ba, single story, private patios, pool, spa, clubhouse, small pet okay. apartmentsinjosuatree.com. Call 760-366-3388

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RENTALS
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HALTER SUNSET VILLAGE APTS
50+ COMMUNITY

6036 Sunset Rd. Joshua Tree, CA.
 For more info, call 760-366-3218 or visit us online at: www.halterhousing.com
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UNFURNISHED HOUSES 220
 YUCCA VALLEY

FOR SALE OR LEASE 3 bdrm, 2ba. with den & sun room. Close to high school, churches & shopping. 1858 Sqft. Landscaped w/ sprinkler system. Fenced backyard. Energy efficient Master cool. Central heat & air. Natural gas. Security system. Only \$1250/mo. Call for showing (760) 408-5220

HELP WANTED 300
 Avalon Pharmacy is looking for a Full-time Licensed Pharmacy Tech. w/ experience. E-mail resume: amitabkakar@yahoo.com

Exp'd tow truck driver, must pass drug/DMV/background checks & live in 29 Palms. AAA exp. helpful. (760) 365-9410 ask for Bob

General Laborer; Entry-Level: The ideal candidate should be Ethical, must have a current Driver's License with DMV report, be able to Pass a Drug Test, willing to Work Hard, come to work each day & be on time. Call Mike the Plumber 760-219-9663

Accepting applications for CNA / Caregivers for a new 15 bed assisted living facility, for all shifts. Call 760-365-4620 for appointment.

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 Pool, Spa & Clubhouse
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GARAGE SALES

29 PALMS
COOKIES GALORE+ SAT. DEC 9th 8AM-1PM. United Methodist Church 6250 Mesquite Springs Rd, 29 Palms. +Homemade cookies, fresh green wreaths & holiday treasures.

YUCCA VALLEY
 Charlotte's Annual Christmas Boutique-Sat.12/09, 8-4, 57931 Joshua Ln YV jewelry, wooden pens & desk items, neckwear, horseshoe/metal art & much more!

ESTATE LIQUIDATION
1 DAY ONLY
December 8th
8:00 AM - ?
6724 Quail Springs Ave.
Indian Cove - 29 Palms
 • Tools
 • Furniture
 • Lots of Yard Art
 • and much much more
Always a Magical Treasure Hunt.

HELP WANTED 300
 E Free Church of YV seeking committed follower of Jesus with heart for youth to lead bible studies/ministry and plan outreach email resume: murphys@efcyv.org

OFFICE CLERK
Morongo Basin Transit Authority

This full-time position is responsible for various office duties, including acting as a receptionist, a compiler of departmental reports and assistant with financial activities of MBTA. This position is also responsible for the day to day administrative duties for MBTA regulated Taxicab services. Applicants must have experience in Word, Excel, Data entry and Customer Service. Cash handling experience desired but not required.

Apply in person at the Morongo Basin Transit Authority, 62405 Verbena Road, Joshua Tree, Ca 92252 or visit us on the web to print the application: mtbody.com/customer_service.html.

To place your classified ad call 760-365-3315 or submit ad online: www.hidesertstar.com

Hi Desert Publishing Co.

APT. & DUPLEXES 200

HELP WANTED 300
CLIENT RELATIONS CLERK
 Morongo Basin Transit Authority

This part-time position is responsible for daily activities related to the Transportation Reimbursement Escort Program (TREP) including data entry, assisting clients over the phone, generating reports, and other duties as necessary. Applicants must have experience in Word, Excel, Data entry and Customer Service. Mobility Management experience desired but not required.

Apply in person at the Morongo Basin Transit Authority, 62405 Verbena Road, Joshua Tree, Ca 92252 or visit us on the web to print the application: mtbody.com/customer_service.html

KIDS KLASIFIED 305
 Math, Science & English, Tutoring Services. 8th grade & under. \$15/hr. 760-369-0123

LEGAL SERVICES 414
Lynette's Legal Document Assist. Family Law, Notary, Evictions, Power of Attorney (760) 366-1941

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Sales & Property Management
REDUCED
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 Well kept older home 3bd, 2ba. Landscaped, natural gas. heat, evap A/C, fireplace in livingroom, wall heat in den. Wonderful fenced back yard.
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HELP WANTED 300



MORONGO BASIN TRANSIT AUTHORITY
 Now Hiring Qualified **VEHICLE OPERATORS**
 • Competitive hourly earnings and benefit options including retirement.
 • Paid training, vacation.
 • Operate SAFE, maintained vehicles.
 • Must successfully complete a DOT physical and pre-employment Drug Screen.
 Interested applicants must be customer service oriented, dependable with a clean driving record (H-6 printout).
APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AT:
 62405 Verbena Rd. Joshua Tree, CA
 M-F 8:00AM to 5:00PM.
www.mtbody.com

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AIR CONDITIONING & HEATING Evaporative Cooler Service, Repair & Installation Metal Duct Fabrication. 24 Yrs Exp. Senior Disc. Advanced Mechanical. Mike (760) 228-2934 Lic#880070

ALTERNATORS
 Starters & Alternators for anything. Auto Electric - RV's, Trailer Brakes, Interstate Batteries "No Appointment Needed" Call 760-365-5489

CLEANING/MOVING- 28 yrs experience. Packing/Unpacking. Rentals, Construction clean-ups, Real Estate. Maria's Professional Cleaning & Moving. Insured, 760-333-0493 L#10986

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CONSTRUCTION-Remodeling, Additions, Kitchen & bath, interior, exterior repairs & new construction. Call Goodpaster Construction. Serving the Morongo Basin Since 1984. (760) 228-

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HANDYMAN - Roof Repair, Swamp coolers, Painting, Yard Work, Maintenance, Clean Up & Hauling, Rental & Property Clean Out & Refurbishing. 20 Yrs. exp. (unlic) FREE ESTIMATES. Call Me, TOM WHITE. (760) 780-2540

HELP WANTED 300

GENERAL LABORER; ENTRY LEVEL IDEAL CANDIDATE SHOULD BE ETHICAL, MUST HAVE VALID DRIVER'S LICENSE w/DMV REPORT, PASS DRUG TEST, BE WILLING TO WORK HARD, ATTEND WORK ON TIME DAILY. CALL MIKE THE PLUMBER 760-219-6453

MORONGO BASIN TRANSIT AUTHORITY
 is now seeking a **Mechanic for hire.**
 The successful candidate will perform preventative maintenance including but not limited to diagnostics, service & repair of steering suspension, brakes, engines, trans-missions, differentials, electrical systems, wheelchair lifts, and air conditioning systems. Ford, heavy duty vehicles and Compressed Natural Gas experience a plus.

♦ Must be a team player willing to work flexible schedules, be a self-starter and willing to take on various tasks such as facility maintenance or other duties as assigned.
 ♦ Good driving record is a must and the ability to obtain a Class B license is required. Must provide own tools.
 ♦ The MBTA has a competitive wage schedule and benefits package that applies to this position. Specialized training for transit vehicles will be provided post-hire.
 Apply in person at the Morongo Basin Transit Authority, or visit us on the web to print the application at: mtbody.com/customer_service.html
 Apply attention: Matt Atkins, Operations Manager 760.366.2986 ext. 112 matt@mbtabus.com.
APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AT:
 62405 Verbena Rd. Joshua Tree, CA
 M-F 8:00AM to 5:00PM.
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SERVICES 435
 1985 Lic#503172

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FIREWOOD - Avocado, orange, eucalyptus, Olive & mixed. Free Delivery! Call Isaias: 951-487-8508

FIREWOOD - Your premier source for firewood. FREE Delivery. FREE Stacking for Srs. & Handicapped. Locally owned/operated. Call to place your order 760-219-WOOD (9663), 760-219-MIKE (6453) "We sell firewood the right way" JoshuaTreeFirewood.com

LANDSCAPING - Clean-up, weed removal, tree trimming, gardening & trash removal. FREE estimates Call Kris 760-406-1777

LANDSCAPING - Residential and Commercial Landscape maintenance, General cleanup, Irrigation, Trimming, Hauling, Gardening. Superior Landscapes Thomas 760-401-4128 (Unlicensed)

PAINTING - Excellent Prep! Interior & Exterior. Residential

HELP WANTED 300

HELP WANTED 300

MORONGO BASIN TRANSIT AUTHORITY
 is now seeking a **Mechanic for hire.**

The successful candidate will perform preventative maintenance including but not limited to diagnostics, service & repair of steering suspension, brakes, engines, trans-missions, differentials, electrical systems, wheelchair lifts, and air conditioning systems. Ford, heavy duty vehicles and Compressed Natural Gas experience a plus.
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 Apply attention: Matt Atkins, Operations Manager 760.366.2986 ext. 112 matt@mbtabus.com.
APPLICATIONS CAN BE OBTAINED AT:
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LANDSCAPING - Irrigation systems, tractor service, gravel, plants, trimmings, topplings, tree removal, clean-up & hauling. Weekly or monthly service avail. Alex @ Alvarez Landscaping (760) 366-0167 or 760-668-1740

LANDSCAPING - Irrigation systems, gravel & curbing, turf & grass, plants, trimmings, topplings, tree removal, clean-up & hauling. Weekly or monthly service avail. Francisco @ Hi Desert Landscaping (760) 228-0409 or 760-668-1791

LANDSCAPING - Residential and Commercial Landscape maintenance, General cleanup, Irrigation, Trimming, Hauling, Gardening. Superior Landscapes Thomas 760-401-4128 (Unlicensed)

PAINTING - Excellent Prep! Interior & Exterior. Residential

HELP WANTED 300

HELP WANTED 300

TREASURE HUNT 705
 3 brass & glass lamps \$75 760-819-1069
 Sears saw blade clock \$20 760-819-1069
 ice cream maker \$40 (760) 819-1069

animal carrier \$15 760-365-4888

Antique Barber/dentist chair \$150 367-3945

67/68 Mustang front seats \$50 367-3945

Antique Doll \$60.00 760-365-3629

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Misc. WANTED 555
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 WE BUY GOLD & SILVER, JEWELRY & COINS, AND SCRAP JEWELRY
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ALSO
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 Senior lady has been in home for 22 years has to move needs good and loving home for Sam, her beloved dog. He is a German Shepherd mix, reddish brown, 8 years, sweet and loving & a very good watch dog. Leary of children & men. 760-366-8158

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 35ft 5th Wheel/ Two Slide Out. Newly remodeled, new floors, FR.z, swamp cooler set up with shirting for permanent living. Nice & clean see to app. \$3,000. 760-363-7241

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 Sears saw blade clock \$20 760-819-1069
 ice cream maker \$40 (760) 819-1069

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German wall hanging \$10 760-365-4390

5 NFL Videos \$10.00 760-365-4390

Crochet necklaces \$10 760-366-1600#142

Custom pillows \$35 760-366-1600#142

12 pic 1948 encyclopedias \$25 288-5030

pacific industrial vacuum \$30 288-5030

Craftsman 3/8 ratchet \$30.00 760-660-5171

Spot Telescope \$20 760-819-2231

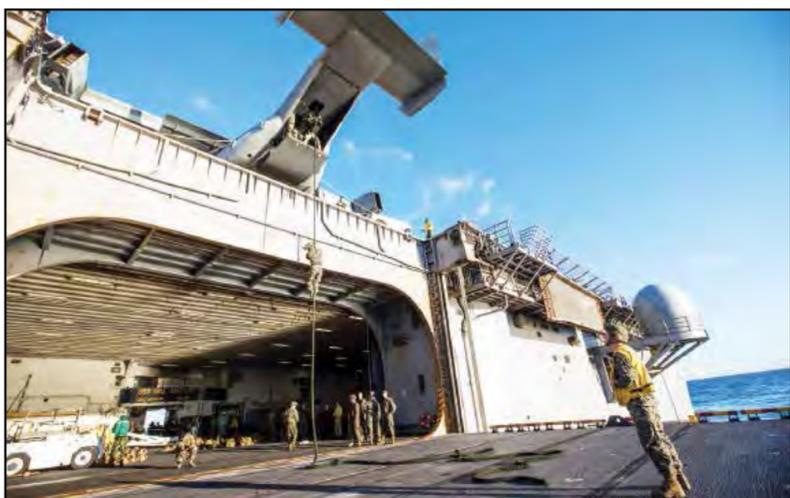
WeekINPhotos

BLT 2/6 Conducts Fast Rope Training on USS Iwo Jima

Photos by Lance Cpl. Tojyea G. Matally



A Marine with Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, descends from an MV-22B Osprey during fast-rope training as part of Combined Composite Training Unit Exercise, aboard the USS Iwo Jima, Atlantic Ocean, Nov. 22. The 26th MEU and its supporting elements are currently involved in COMPTUEX as preparation for the upcoming deployment of sailors and Marines.



Marines with Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, participate in fast-rope training as part of Combined Composite Training Unit Exercise, aboard the USS Iwo Jima, Atlantic Ocean, Nov. 22.



Marines with Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, participate in fast-rope training as part of Combined Composite Training Unit Exercise, aboard the USS Iwo Jima, Atlantic Ocean, Nov. 22.



A Marine with Battalion Landing Team, 2nd Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment, 26th Marine Expeditionary Unit, descends from an MV-22B Osprey during fast-rope training as part of Combined Composite Training Unit Exercise, aboard the USS Iwo Jima, Atlantic Ocean, Nov. 22.

SATURDAY, DECEMBER 16TH
HOT SEAT MADNESS
 TOMORROW, COME GET YOUR PAYBACK
PAYBACK WEEKEND
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SECOND PAYBACK DAY
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WIN YOUR SHARE OF
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 PLAY WITH YOUR CLUB 20 CARD IN TO WIN!

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