

# TEAM BULLRUSH

15th MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT



Contents..... 2  
 Introduction..... 3  
 15th MEU History..... 4  
 A Navy Partnership..... 5  
 A MEU Mission..... 6  
 Introduction to the MSEs..... 7  
 CE Commanding Officer..... 8  
 CE Executive Officer and Sergeant Major..... 9  
 BLT Commanding Officer..... 10  
 BLT Executive Officer and Sergeant Major..... 11  
 Vehicles and Equipment..... 12  
 ACE Commanding Officer..... 14  
 ACE Executive Officer and Sergeant Major..... 15  
 Aircraft..... 16  
 CLB Commanding Officer..... 18  
 CLB Executive Officer and Sergeant Major..... 19  
 Support..... 20  
 15th MEU Honors..... 22

**COMMANDING OFFICER**  
**EXECUTIVE OFFICER**  
**SERGEANT MAJOR**

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The Navy and Marine Corps team is the most formidable expeditionary fighting force in the world, able to respond to today's crisis...with today's force...Today!

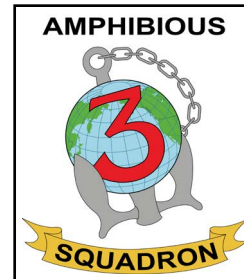
### “AMERICA’S AWAY TEAM”

America depends on the Marine Corps to deploy forces with the ability to move ashore and be self-sustaining for prolonged operations. These forces are organized into Marine Air Ground Task Forces, or MAGTFs, a combination of aviation, ground and support assets. MAGTFs provide the nation with a broad spectrum of responses when U.S. and allied interests have been threatened and when immediate assistance is needed during non-combat times of crises. Marine Expeditionary Units, or MEU, are the smallest of the MAGTFs.

Coupled with the Navy, the blue/green team serves as the nation's forward deployed, quick response team, capable of accomplishing a variety of missions worldwide.

The MEU, commanded by a Marine Corps colonel, is comprised of more than 2,200 Marines and sailors, embarked on three ships configured as an Amphibious Ready Group, or ARG.

Since its activation, the 15th MEU, or TEAM BULLRUSH, has trained to meet its mission in the rotation with the 11th and 13th MEUs to provide a continuous presence in the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean and Persian Gulf as a formidable and accomplished Marine Corps asset. From providing relief efforts following the San Francisco earthquakes in 1989, to conducting combat operations in Afghanistan immediately following the 9/11 attacks, to providing humanitarian aid/disaster relief to ravaged areas of Pakistan following the 2010 flooding, the 15th MEU brings with its capability an impressive and accurate depiction of what a flexible, seagoing force is capable of providing to our nation and her allies.



## HOW WE GET THERE

MARINES AND SAILORS OF THE MEU ARE EMBARKED ABOARD THREE AMPHIBIOUS SHIPS, DESIGNATED AS AN AMPHIBIOUS SQUADRON (PHIBRON) COMMANDED BY A NAVY CAPTAIN, WHO BEARS THE TITLE OF COMMODORE.

### Amphibious Squadron 3

LHA 5

LPD 20

LSD 47

USS Peleliu

USS Green Bay

USS Rushmore



Joined together, the 15th MEU and PHIBRON 3 are designated as the Peleliu Amphibious Ready Group (PELARG). With its Navy brethren, the MEU serves as the nation's forward-deployed, quick response team, capable of accomplishing numerous missions around the globe.

THE MEU IS AMERICA'S EXPEDITIONARY INTERVENTION FORCE AND CAN MOVE QUICKLY TO WHEREVER NEEDED TO ACCOMPLISH CONVENTIONAL OPERATIONS. THE STRENGTH OF THE UNIT RESIDES IN ITS INHERENT COMBINED-ARMS CAPABILITY WHILE OPERATING FROM FORWARD-DEPLOYED AMPHIBIOUS SHIPPING. LIKE ALL VERSIONS OF A MAGTF, THE 15TH MEU IS COMPRISED OF FOUR ELEMENTS: COMMAND AND CONTROL, GROUND COMBAT, AVIATION COMBAT AND LOGISTICS COMBAT.



## MISSION

The 15th MEU provides a forward deployed, flexible sea-based MAGTF capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis response and limited contingency operations, including enabling the introduction of follow-on forces and designated special operations to support the theater requirements of Geographic Combatant Commanders (GCC).

The size and composition of the MEU makes it well suited for amphibious operations, security operations, noncombatant operations and service as mobile training teams. The MEU is an expeditionary force in nature, able to operate in foreign lands without U.S. bases and facilities. It is naval in character, useful in conventional operations in the air and ashore and is able to operate with U.S. fleets around the world. The MEU's combined-arms team bears substantial force and is capable of a high degree of tactical mobility while delivering significant, sustained firepower within an objective area.



## UNIT COMPOSITION



## COMMAND ELEMENT

The CE is comprised of the commanding officer, a Marine Corps colonel, and supporting staff of approximately 300 Marines and sailors. It provides the command and control essential for effective planning and execution of operations and synchronizes the actions of each element within the MEU.



### Ground Combat Element

The GCE is comprised of about 1,200 Marines and sailors and is built around an infantry battalion that is reinforced with an artillery battery, amphibious assault vehicles, combat engineers, reconnaissance, tanks and light-armored reconnaissance vehicles. 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, call sign 'Dark Horse,' commanded by Lt. Col. Christeon Griffin, will serve as the GCE for WESTPAC 12-02.



### Aviation Combat Element

The ACE is a reinforced helicopter squadron consisting of about 500 Marines and sailors. Marine Medium Helicopter Squadron 364, also known as the Purple Foxes, commanded by Lt. Col. Ned Biehl, provides CH-46E Sea Knights. Detachments from various units provide CH-53 Super Stallions, UH-1Y Hueys and AH-1Z Super Cobras, as well as AV-8B Harrier jets. KC-130 transport planes are on standby ashore to support the MEU when needed. To operate, maintain and defend these assets, the ACE has Marines who conduct air-traffic control, air defense, aircraft maintenance and supply.



### Logistics Combat Element

The LCE is comprised of about 300 Marines and sailors. Combat Logistics Battalion 15 provides combat support such as supply, maintenance, transportation, explosive ordnance disposal, military police, water production and distribution, engineering, medical and dental services, fuel storage and distribution and other services to the deployed MEU. Lt. Col. John Wiener commands the LCE, which gives the MEU the ability to support itself for 15 days in any environment.

## COMMANDING OFFICER UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS COMMAND ELEMENT

Col. Campbell was commissioned at the University of Oklahoma in 1987, with a Bachelor of Arts in Military History and subsequently attended The Basic School and Infantry Officer School in Quantico, Va., from 1987-1988.

2nd Lt. Campbell served with 3rd Light Armored Vehicle Battalion, 29 Palms, Calif., as a platoon commander and company commander from 1988 to 1991. He was assigned as the executive officer and guard officer for Marine Corps Security Force Company, Bermuda, in 1991, was reassigned to Fleet Anti-Terrorism Security Team Company, 5th Platoon in Norfolk, Va., from 1992 to 1994, and deployed to Somalia in support of Operation Restore Hope.

From 1994 to 1995, Capt. Campbell was assigned to USMC Technical Assistance Field Team in Saudi Arabia as the Schools and Naval Special Forces advisor and attended Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico from 1995 to 1996. Upon graduation, he was assigned as the inspector instructor, Echo Co., 4th Reconnaissance Bn., Anchorage, Alaska, from 1996 to 1999.

Maj. Campbell was then assigned as the executive officer, 2nd Reconnaissance Bn., Camp Lejeune, N.C., from 1999 to 2000 and was reassigned as the commanding officer, 2nd Force Reconnaissance Co., from 2000 to 2001. After completing his assignment, he was assigned as executive officer, 2nd Bn., 6th Marines, Camp Lejeune, from 2001 to 2002 and deployed with the 22nd Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable), with the additional duty as Maritime Special Purpose Force Commander. Maj. Campbell was then assigned to command the Georgia Train and Equip Program in the Republic of Georgia from 2002 to 2003, and then reassigned to a regional support office, Fort Belvoir, Va., as the Marine liaison officer from 2003 to



2004, where he deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom.

Lt. Col. Campbell commanded 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, Camp Lejeune, and deployed twice to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom, from 2004 to 2006. In 2006, he attended the Naval War College, and graduated in November 2007 with a master's degree in international and strategic studies. From 2008 to 2010, he was assigned to U.S. Africa Command, Operations and Logistics Directorate, Stuttgart, Germany, as the Anti-Terrorism/Force Protection Division chief while also serving as the Counter Terrorism Branch chief.

In March 2011, he assumed his present duties as the commanding officer of the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit in Camp Pendleton, Calif.

Col. Campbell's personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with combat distinguishing device, Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (third award), Joint Commendation Medal (second award), Navy Commendation Medal (fourth award), Navy Achievement Medal (second award) and the Combat Action Ribbon with Gold Star (second award). He is also a qualified combatant diver and military free-fall parachutist.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Lt. Col. John O'Neal was born in Southfield, Mich. He graduated from Eastern Michigan University and was commissioned via the Platoon Leaders Course program in 1990. After completing The Basic School, he attended flight school and was designated a naval aviator.

As a CH-46 pilot, his operational flying tours include service with HMM-165, HMM-262, HMM-265 and HMM-162. He held various billets to include ground safety officer, administrative officer, logistics officer, assistant operations officer and aircraft maintenance officer. He participated in a variety of deployments including a Unit Deployment Program to Okinawa, four Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) Western Pacific deployments, the 2nd Marine Expeditionary Brigade deployment for the invasion of Iraq and numerous other deployments in support of exercises and theater security cooperation engagements. His operational tours also include executive officer, 2nd Air Naval Gunfire Liaison Company, which included two deployments to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

Lt. Col. O'Neal has served on staff at multiple levels of command, including future operations officer, MAG-36; plans, policies, and doctrine officer (N5), Expeditionary Strike Group Two; and joint working group

lead within the Global Force Management Branch of the Operations Directorate, U.S. Joint Forces Command. He also served as a staff platoon commander, tactics instructor and air officer at The Basic School and as the operations officer and flight instructor at Helicopter Training Squadron 18.

Lt. Col. O'Neal is a graduate of The Basic School, Amphibious Warfare School, Marine Corps Command and Staff College, the Joint Forces Staff College and the Air War College. Additionally, he holds a Master of Arts in public administration from the University of West Florida and undergraduate degrees in environmental engineering and history.

Lt. Col. O'Neal's awards include the Bronze Star with combat distinguishing device "V", Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal (second award), Air Medal with Strike Flight numeral "6", Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals (fourth award), Joint Service Achievement Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon and numerous campaign and unit awards. He is also a qualified military parachutist.



## SERGEANT MAJOR

Sgt. Maj. John Scott has deployed in support of Operation Desert Shield and Operation Desert Storm, two Unit Deployment Programs, Operation Restore Hope, Somalia, humanitarian operations in East Timor and Native Fury, Operation Enduring Freedom and participated in Cobra Gold, Southern Frontier, Tandem Thrust, Bright Star, Desert/Steel Knight and Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He has served as a drill instructor, embarkation and logistics specialist, squadron gunnery sergeant/logistics chief, Headquarters Company's first sergeant, and battalion sergeant major. Additionally, he was named Marine

Corps Enlisted Logistician of the Year in 2000.

In November of 2011, Sgt. Maj. Scott assumed his present duties as the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit's sergeant major.

Sgt. Maj. Scott's personal awards include: Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal (second award), Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (third award), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (fifth award) and the Combat Action Ribbon (second award).



## COMMANDING OFFICER UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS GROUND COMBAT ELEMENT

Lt. Col. Christeon Griffin was born in 1971 in Mims, Fla. He graduated from Georgia Southern University in 1994 and later earned his commission through the Platoon Leader's Course. Following completion of the Basic Officer Course and Infantry Officer Course, he was assigned to the 1st Battalion, 5th Marines, at Camp Pendleton, Calif., where he led a rifle platoon in Alpha Company. He was then assigned to Weapons Company, where he led the 81mm mortar platoon and later served as the company's executive officer.

In 1999, Lt. Col. Griffin was assigned as the company inspector-instructor, Charlie Co., 4th Reconnaissance Bn., San Antonio, Texas. Early in his tour he attended Airborne School in Fort Benning, Ga., and Amphibious Reconnaissance School in Coronado, Calif., where he was the honor graduate.

In 2002, he attended the Infantry Officer Advanced Course in Fort Benning, where he was a distinguished graduate. He was then assigned to 1st Marine Regiment, where he assumed command of Alpha Co., 1st Bn., 4th Marines, Camp Pendleton. As a rifle company commander during Operation Iraqi Freedom, his company participated in the initial ground assault from the Kuwaiti border to Baghdad, as well as four months of follow-on stability operations. Lt. Col. Griffin was subsequently awarded the Leftwich Trophy for this tour of duty.

Upon his return, he was assigned as the battalion operations officer, 3rd Bn., 1st Marines, Camp Pendleton.



The battalion conducted counter-insurgency operations in the Al Anbar Province and was later the 1st Marine Division's main effort in the November 2004 Fallujah assault Operation Al Fajr.

In 2005, Lt. Col. Griffin assumed command of Marine Corps Recruiting Station Fort Lauderdale, Fla. From 2006 through 2008, the station earned the distinction of receiving the Commandant's Superior Achiever Award.

In June 2008, he reported to Marine Corps Command and Staff College, Quantico, Va., and in June of 2009 was assigned to 5th Marine Regiment as the operations officer. In 2011, he assumed his present assignment as the commanding officer of 3rd Bn., 5th Marines, Camp Pendleton.

Lt. Col. Griffin's personal awards include the Bronze Star Medal with combat "V", the Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (third award) attached with two combat "V" devices, the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, the Combat Action Ribbon and the Leftwich Trophy.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Maj. Urbano Cruz entered the Marine Corps in 1988 and spent four years enlisted as a field wireman and radio operator. He graduated from Florida Atlantic University in 1997, followed by Officer Candidate School, The Basic School and Infantry Officer Course in 1999.

Maj. Cruz's deployments include the Persian Gulf, Iraq and Afghanistan.

He has held the operation billets of platoon commander, Weapons Company executive officer, Assault Climber Course, Tactical Recovery Aircraft and Personnel, Urban Assault Climber

Course and HRST course officer-in-charge, Weapons Company commander, Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center officer-in-charge.

He attained Level II Mountain Warfare Combat Instructor certification in rock, snow and alpine disciplines.

Maj. Cruz's awards and decorations include the Bronze Star, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy Unit Commendation, Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, NATO Medal – ISAF Afghanistan, National Defense Service Medal, Sea Service Deployment



Ribbon, Combat Action Ribbon, ISAF Campaign Medal, Iraq and Afghanistan Campaign Medal, Navy Meritorious Commendation, Global War on Terrorism Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Kuwait Liberation Medal, Southwest Asia Service Medal and Good Conduct Medal.

## SERGEANT MAJOR

Sgt. Maj. Douglas Yagel enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1988. Upon graduation, he attended training at Naval Air Station Millington, Tenn., to become an aviation ordnanceman.

His deployments include two unit deployment program cycles to Okinawa; Operations Desert Shield/Desert Storm and MAGTF 4-90 in the Republic of the Philippines; South Korea; Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan; Australia, Cambodia, Operation Iraqi Freedom throughout Al Anbar Province and Afghanistan from 2010-2011.

He volunteered for recruiting duty

and was awarded the Centurion Award for attaining 100 contracts during his three-year tour.

Sgt. Maj. Yagel has held the billets of quality assurance representative, division chief, mentor/advisor to the Afghan National Army, first sergeant and he began his current billet of battalion sergeant major in June 2011.



### Assault Amphibian Vehicle (AAV-7A1)

The AAV-7A1 model carries the surface assault elements of the landing force, and their equipment, from amphibious ships to inland objectives. Once ashore, it has the capability to conduct mechanized operations. Variants include the Comaand AAV with enhanced communications and the AAV-Recovery, capable of towing.



### Medium Tactical Vehicle (R)

Air transportable and able to haul 15 tons (7 tons off road), this truck is used to haul troops and supplies.

### Light-Armored Vehicle (LAV-25)

The LAV-25 has a crew of three Marines and may be employed with a scout element of six additional Marines. Armed with both 25-mm chain guns and 7.62-mm machine guns, the LAV is designed to defeat soft armored targets and has an amphibious capability as well. A logistic variant hauls supplies and equipment, and the LAV-Recovery is capable of towing.



### High Mobility Multi-purposed Wheeled Vehicle (HMMWV)

Armored for protection, high ground clearance and four-wheel drive give the M114 High Mobility Multi-purposed Wheeled Vehicle cross country mobility, whether carrying troops or supplies. Variants include the troop carrier, ambulance, shelter carrier and the heavy payload carrier.

### M1A1 Abrams

The M1A1 is the Marine Corps' main battle tank and is armed with a 120-mm smoothbore main gun and both a .50-cal and a 7.62-mm coaxial machine-gun. The M1A1 provides armored firepower to successfully close with and destroy any opposing armored fighting vehicle in the world, while providing protection for its crew in any conceivable combat environment.



### Landing Craft Utility (LCU)

The Landing Craft Utility is used during amphibious landings to transport equipment and troops. The mission of the LCU is to land/recover personnel and equipment (tanks, artillery, equipment, motor vehicles) during amphibious operations. The LCU has the capability of sustained sea operations and has its own galley and berthing spaces.

### Lightweight 155-mm Howitzer

Designated the M777/M777A2, this towed howitzer, capable of firing unassisted high-explosive projectiles to a range of 15 miles, is a direct and general support artillery system with major structures made of high-strength titanium alloy. For accurate targeting, the A2 variant's digital fire-control system takes into account wind speed, meteorological conditions and the Earth's rotation.



### Landing Craft Air Cushion (LCAC)

The Landing Craft Air Cushion is a high-speed, over-the-horizon amphibious landing craft capable of carrying a 60 to 70-ton payload. Its mission is to transport weapons, equipment, cargo and personnel from ship to shore and across the beach. With speeds reaching in excess of 40 knots, it can make an undisclosed, over-the-horizon assault from up to 50 miles offshore.

## COMMANDING OFFICER UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS AVIATION COMBAT ELEMENT

Lt. Col. Ned Biehl graduated from the United States Naval Academy in 1994 with a Bachelor of Science degree in Oceanography and received his commission as a second lieutenant. Upon graduation from The Basic School in Quantico, Va., he reported to Naval Air Station Pensacola, Fla., followed by NAS Corpus Christi, Texas, and NAS Whiting Field in Milton, Fla., where he completed flight training and was designated a naval aviator in May 1997.

Lt. Col. Biehl reported to HMT-204 aboard Marine Corps Air Station, New River, N.C., in June 1997 for initial training in the CH-46E Sea Knight helicopter. Upon completion of the FRS, he was reassigned to his initial Fleet Marine Force duty as a member of HMM-161 at MCAS El Toro, Calif. While with HMM-161, Lt. Col. Biehl was promoted to captain in 1998. He accompanied the Greyhawks to MCAS Miramar, Calif., in support of the Base Relocation and Closure in February of 1999. Lt. Col. Biehl's first deployment was with the 13th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), Camp Pendleton, Calif., on the USS Tarawa, in which he participated in humanitarian assistance operations in East Timor and Determined Response in support of the USS Cole recovery in Aden, Yemen. His second deployment was with the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit (SOC), Camp Pendleton. On this deployment he conducted combat operations in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. He served in operations as the pilot training officer, the weapons and tactics instructor and additionally held the billets of ground safety officer, CH-46E NATOPS officer, assistant maintenance officer, Airframes Division Officer and Director of Safety and Standardization.

In 2003, Lt. Col. Biehl reported to MAG-16. He served as the MAG-16 CH-46E weapons and tactics officer and deployed in OIF II and fulfilled the duties of senior watch



officers in the MAG-16 command operations center in Al Asad, Iraq. In August of 2004, Lt. Col. Biehl reported for duty at HMX-1 in Quantico, Va. He was designated a White House helicopter aircraft commander in both the VH-3D and VH-60N. He was promoted to the rank of major in September. At HMX-1, he served as the department head of the White House Liaison Office, Ground Safety Officer and Greenside Quality Assurance Officer.

In October 2008, Lt. Col. Biehl reported to MAG-39 and deployed to Iraq on a Joint IA billet with MNC-I as a senior future operations planner. Upon return, he assumed duties as the MAG-39 assistant operations officer. In February of 2010, he reported for duty at HMM-268 as the squadron's executive officer and helped prepare the Red Dragons for their deployment with the 11th MEU, Camp Pendleton, which was the first MEU deployment in MAG-39 in more than 10 years. In October 2010, Lt. Col. Biehl was promoted to his current rank. In February 2011, he transferred from HMM-268 to fulfill the duties as the MAG-39 operations officer.

Lt. Col. Biehl has accumulated more than 3,100 mishap-free flight hours in Naval aircraft. His personal decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Air Medal with strike/flight numeral 3, the Navy Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Maj. William Pacatte graduated from San Diego State University in 1998 with a bachelor's degree in criminal justice administration. He was subsequently commissioned a second lieutenant upon graduation through the Naval Reserve Officers Training Corps program.

His deployments include Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom and Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II where he participated in Operation Phantom Fury.

Maj. Pacatte has held the billets of

squadron pilot training officer, ground safety officer, ground training officer and schedules officer, CH-46E tactics instructor, the squadron standardization and training officer, and the CH-46E division head and his current billet of executive officer.

He attended The Basic School, Naval aviation training, Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course and reported to the U.S. Naval War College to attend resident Command and Staff where he earned a master's degree in National Security and Strategic Studies



and graduated with distinction.

Major Pacatte's awards include the Air Medal (11 Strike/Flight and one single mission Air Medal), Navy Commendation Medal (third award) and the Navy/Marine Corps Achievement Medal.

## SERGEANT MAJOR

Sgt. Maj. Derek Leggett entered the Marine Corps in 1989 at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. Upon graduation, he attended training to become a fire direction controlman.

His deployments include the Persian Gulf as Part of Task Force Ripper in support of Operations Desert Storm, Desert Shield, and Desert Saber; Operation Restore Hope in Mogadishu, Somalia; and two deployments to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom.

He has held the billets of operations chief, platoon sergeant, drill instructor at Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, first

sergeant and his current billet of sergeant major.

He has attended Operations Chief's Course, Small Arms and Weapons Instructor Course and Marine Combat Instructor of Water Survival Course.

His personal awards include the Bronze Star with Combat "V", the Navy Commendation Medal, the Navy Achievement Medal (third award), and the Combat Action Ribbon (second award).





**CH-46E SEA KNIGHT**

The Marine Corps' medium lift helicopter's primary function is troop assault and its secondary is movement of supplies and equipment.

Additional tasks are combat and assault support for evacuation operations and other maritime special operations, over-water search and rescue augmentation, support for mobile forward refueling and rearming points and aero-medical evacuation of casualties from the battle space to suitable medical facilities.

**AH-1Z SUPER COBRA**

The primary mission of the AH-1Z Super Cobra is to provide fire support and security for forward and rear area forces. Other capabilities include point target/anti-armor, anti-helicopter, armed escort, supporting arms control and coordination, point and limited area air defense from enemy fixed-wing aircraft as well as armed and visual reconnaissance.

**UH-1Y HUEY**

The UH-1Y provides utility combat helicopter support to the landing force commander during ship-to-shore movement. The aircraft performs a multitude of missions such as close air support, command and

control, supporting arms coordination, assault support and medical evacuation, search and rescue and reconnaissance.

**AV-8B HARRIER**

The Harrier is a short takeoff/vertical landing attack jet that flies like a conventional airplane but can land vertically aboard aircraft carriers and in confined landing sites. Used primarily to support Marines on the ground, the Harrier's mission is to attack and destroy surface targets as well as provide an air defense and armed escort capability to the Marine Corps.

**CH-53E SUPER STALLION**

The Marine Corps' heavy-lift helicopter is designed for transportation of troops, materiel and supplies and heavy loads including vehicles and aircraft recovery.

The CH-53E is equipped with a refueling probe and can be refueled in flight.

**KC-130 HERCULES**

This versatile asset provides in-flight refueling to tactical aircraft and helicopters as well as rapid ground refueling when required. Additional tasks are aerial delivery of troops and cargo and emergency re-supply into unimproved landing zones.



## COMMANDING OFFICER UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS LOGISTICS COMBAT ELEMENT

Lt. Col. John Wiener was born at the Philadelphia Naval Hospital in 1968. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1992 and served as an organizational automotive mechanic with Marine Wing Support Squadron 473, Marine Air Group 49, 4th Marine Air Wing. As a lieutenant, he served as a truck platoon commander and the operations officer with Truck Company, Headquarters Battalion, 2nd Marine Division, Camp Lejeune, N.C., deploying to Guantanamo Bay, Cuba, in support of Operation Sea Signal and Operation Safe Passage. He also served as the battalion motor transport officer with 3rd Battalion, 6th Marines, 2nd Marine Division. As a captain he served as the battalion motor transport officer with 3rd Battalion, 14th Marines, 4th Marine Division; he commanded two companies and a Combat Service Support Detachment in the 3rd Force Service Support Group; he served as the operations officer with Marine Expeditionary Unit Service Support Group 31, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) and he served as the battalion logistics officer for 1st Battalion, Regimental Combat Team 7, 1st Marine Division, deploying to Kuwait and Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom I.

As a major, he served as the assistant plans officer and assistant operations officer with G-4, I Marine Expeditionary Force, deploying a second time to Iraq in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom II. As a major he also served with the J-4, United States Special Operations



Command. As a lieutenant colonel, he served as the Chief of Staff for the Research, Development, and Acquisition Center, United States Special Operations Command and as the Executive Officer, Combat Logistics Regiment 17, 1st Marine Logistics Group. He assumed command of Combat Logistics Battalion 15 on January 27, 2011.

Lt. Col. Wiener is a graduate of Expeditionary Warfare School and Marine Corps Command and Staff College where he graduated with honors. He holds a Bachelor of Arts degree from Rutgers University and Master of Military Studies degree from Marine Corps University. He also holds Acquisition Career Field certifications for both Life Cycle Logistics and Program Management.

Lt. Col. Wiener's personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal, the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal (third award), the Joint Service Achievement Medal, the Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon.

## EXECUTIVE OFFICER

Maj. Bryan Boyle graduated from the University of The Arts, in Philadelphia, Pennsylvania, in 1993 receiving a Bachelor of Science in Industrial Design and entered the Marine Corps after completing Officer Candidate Course in 1996.

Maj. Boyle's deployments include Okinawa, Kuwait, Iran, Ramadi and Afghanistan.

He has held the operational billets of assistant motor transport officer, battalion motor transport officer,

battalion logistics officer, Headquarters and Service Company commander, base operations officer, operations officer Exercise Support Division and assistant chief of staff G-4.

Maj. Boyle is a graduate of Officer Candidate School, The Basic School, Motor Transport Officer Course, Marine Corps Logistics Education Program (non-resident), and Marine Corps Command and Staff College (non-resident) graduating as the Distinguished Graduate for his class.



Maj. Boyle's personal decorations include the Meritorious Service Medal (second award) the Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal, Navy-Marine Corps Achievement Medal (fourth award) and the Combat Action Ribbon.

## SERGEANT MAJOR

1st Sgt. Bradley Simmons enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1996 and after recruit training became an assault amphibian vehicle crewman.

His deployments include Okinawa, Japan, Iraq, and Sangin, Afghanistan.

His other assignments include Marine Security Guard in Moscow, Russia, and Caracas, Venezuela, where he served as the assistant detachment commander and was selected as the Marine Security Guard of the Year 2001. 1st Sgt. Simmons was selected as the first staff noncommissioned officer to the Congressional Fellowship Program and served in the Office of United States Senator Sherrod Brown in

Washington, D.C.

He has held the billets of assault amphibian vehicle section leader, platoon sergeant, platoon commander, guard chief, first sergeant and his current billet of battalion sergeant major.

1st Sgt. Simmons' personal decorations include the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal with combat distinguishing device (third award), Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal, and the Combat Action Ribbon (second award).



CLB-15 provides all six functional areas of combat service support (CSS) to the 15th MEU: ground supply support, ground equipment maintenance support, transportation



support, general engineering support, health service support and services support. CLB-15's ability to provide support establishes limits on what is operationally feasible for the supported units. The goal of CLB-15's action is to extend those limits as far as possible.

The MEU deploys with the logistic capability to sustain itself with specific classes of supply for up to 15 days. These sustainment stocks include food, water, fuel, ammunition, construction materiel, and repair parts. For replenishment and procurement of those items not contained within the MEU, coordination occurs to obtain resupply from the closest available source. Synchronizing this effort for the MEU is the CLB-15 Supply Detachment of administrative, warehousing, and expeditor professionals.

Transportation support is moving from one location to another using highways, waterways, oceans, and airways. Throughput of cargo and personnel passed through the transportation systems supports the Marines and Sailors conducting operations ashore. The means and the controls for managing the transportation support action within CLB-15 includes the use of light and medium trucks, Helicopter Support Teams for external lifting of assets, controlling the beaches,

ports, airfields, and terminals. Accomplishing this mission for the MEU are the Transportation Support Detachment Marines known as the "Red Patchers" signified by the red patch on their trousers and covers.



Maintenance involves those actions taken to keep materiel in serviceable condition and actions required to return materiel to serviceable condition. CLB-15 employs a variety of personnel from the Maintenance Detachment with unique skills and tools to accomplish the MEU's ground maintenance requirement for the following equipment: ordnance, motor transport, engineering, and communications-electronics. CLB-15 provides general engineering support of an expeditionary nature, including survivability, counter-mobility, and mobility enhancements via the Engineer Detachment.

This support includes explosive ordnance disposal (EOD), horizontal and vertical construction, utilities support, engineer reconnaissance, materiel handling, and general supply support incident to the storing and dispensing of bulk water and bulk fuel items. This also includes the capability to produce fresh water from multiple sources to include salt water.

## WATER PURIFICATION



The focus of CLB-15's Health Services Support (HSS) emphasizes the provision of far-forward, mobile, medical and shock trauma support that is capable of stabilization and

rapid evacuation of casualties who are unable to quickly return to duty. Our HSS is a process that delivers a healthy, fit, and medically ready force; counters the health threat to the deployed force; and provides critical care and management for combat casualties. This is accomplished via emergency room physicians, trauma nurses, medical and dental officers, independent duty corpsmen and field medical corpsmen contained in the Health Service Detachment.



# 15<sup>TH</sup> MEU HONORS

PRESIDENTIAL UNIT CITATION STREAMER

IRAQ

2003

JOINT MERITORIOUS UNIT AWARD WITH TWO BRONZE OAK LEAF CLUSTERS

PHILIPPINES

1991

SOMALIA

1992-1993

RWANDA-ZAIRE

1994

NAVY UNIT COMMENDATION STREAMER WITH THREE BRONZE STARS

SOUTHWEST ASIA

1990-1991

1994

1997-1998

AFGHANISTAN

2001-2002

MERITORIOUS UNIT COMMENDATION STREAMER WITH TWO BRONZE STARS

1987-1989

INDONESIA-SRI LANKA

2005

PAKISTAN

2010

NATIONAL DEFENSE SERVICE STREAMER WITH ONE BRONZE STAR

ARMED FORCES EXPEDITIONARY STREAMER

AFGHANISTAN CAMPAIGN STREAMER

IRAQ CAMPAIGN STREAMER

GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM EXPEDITIONARY STREAMER

GLOBAL WAR ON TERRORISM SERVICE STREAMER

