



Ice Pack Quarterly

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Message from the Commanding Officer

Time flies when you're busy and having fun. MTACS-38 has had both our share of business and fun these past several months. It is hard to believe I have already been here for over six months. I am so very proud of MTACS-38. The Marines continue to perform at the highest levels.

During the month of April the Squadron held a Tactical Air Command & Control University which educates various military occupational skills about the Marine Air Command & Control System, as well as provide a general idea on how Aviation Command & Control works. We also set up our largest tactical tent in the MTACS parking lot, the CAPSET V.2, inventoried thousands of items, and upgraded all of the information systems that go with it. Suffice it to say it was a significant accomplishment (see photos). We will be taking the CAPSET V.2 to WTI 1-14 so we can operate the Tactical Air Command Center out in a "field environment". The squadron also spent some time at the swim tank focusing on their amphibious skills (see photos). We bid farewell to SgtMaj Hall as he relinquished his position as MTACS-38 SgtMaj to SgtMaj Taylor. Cpl Rader embarked on the journey we call marriage as he wed Samantha on 4 April 2013. Blake Lynn was promoted to LCpl and is wearing his cross rifles proudly. Cpl Willoughby received Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal and LCpl Jenson received a Meritorious Mast for their superior performance.

In the month of May we sent a contingent of Marines to 29 Palms to support Integrated Training Exercise 3-13 in direct support of MAG-11. The MAG-11 Commanding Officer was thrilled with the excellence, professionalism, proficiency, and support he received from the Marines of MTACS-38. A number of the Marines were able to participate in a machine gun shoot at Camp Pendleton where they were able to refresh their Infantry skills with firing a fully automatic machine-gun as part of a machine-gun crew, see photo. The Trifecta was a hit. The Trifecta was a triathlon-like squadron physical training event consisting of a 5-mile hike with a 45-pound pack, a 2.5 mile run to the MCAS Miramar combat training tank, 500-meter swim, and 2.5 mile return run to the squadron headquarters building (see photos). Suffice it to say we all slept well that night. Sgt Devincent and Elyse celebrated the arrival of their daughter Isabelle on 20 May 2013. LCpl Cowen said his vows of lifelong partnership to Lupe on 17 May 2013. Pamela Charlson and Kenneth Cornett were promoted to Sgt, David Banuet, Julio Tapia, and John Wrick were promoted to Cpl, and Madison Hopkins was promoted to LCpl. Sgt Romero received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for her superior performance during her time at MTACS-38.

During June members of MTACS-38 supported exercise Dawn Blitz in direct support of MAG-16. You may have seen clips of this exercise on the evening news; it was covered for a number of days. Once again the Marines of MTACS-38 performed exemplary. For those that made it to the chili cook off thanks for coming out. I am glad I was not a judge because all the food I tasted was great.

Commanding Officer Continued

I took the Squadron on a 5 mile run around Miramar pond along with some fireman's carry up the hill and some abs; as usual the Marines did awesome (see photos). Owen Smith was promoted to Cpl and William Sewell was promoted to LCpl. Capt Verplanck received a Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and 1stLt Dunford received a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for their superior performance at their last commands.

July kicked off with Independence Day 96 followed the next week by our Family Day and then a "Pay it Forward" 72. Unfortunately the "old guys" lost to the "young guys" in our Family Day competition. I did have lots of fun launching motivated Marines off of the raft that was attached to my Jet Ski. I also thoroughly enjoyed the pig that was cooked by GySgt Baxley and GySgt Hess. It was Noreen Towle's last event with MTACS-38, so we bid her farewell with a well-deserved round of applause and a plaque to capture her hard work here. That same day, we welcomed our new FRO, Monica Romero, with open arms and a hearty cheer. Jeremiah Yoder was promoted to LCpl. Captains Lopez and Pintek were awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for their performance during their time with MTACS-38 and 1stLt McKay was awarded the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal for her performance with her last command.

As we approach the end of summer we will gain a new MACG-38 CO, as Col Barnhill will relinquish command to Col Breeden on 15 August 2013. We have already begun to plan in earnest for WTI 1-14, Lightning Sword 1-14, and Integrated Training Exercise 1-14. Our work hours will be changing in August to 0730-1700 as we prepare for WTI 1-14. By the end of September, we will begin the flow to Yuma in support of WTI 1-14. A preponderance of the Squadron will be in Yuma part of September, the month of October, and the beginning of November. WTI 1-14 is a significant training event that provides us a unique opportunity to prepare for our mission in Afghanistan. A portion of the Marines from MTACS-38 will be supporting OEF 14.1 and 14.2.

This summer we have had many Marines depart the pattern and many join us. It is a normal part of life for Marines. It is bitter sweet to see our brothers and sisters either execute orders elsewhere or see them transition back into civilian life. Each and every Marine in some way has impacted MTACS-38. We miss them already and wish the best for them in their new commands or in the next chapter of life on the outside. For the Marines that recently arrived we are glad you are here and look forward to working with you.

Spouses and significant others are cordially invited to attend our Friday afternoon classes which usually occur every Friday from 1400-1600. We will be wrapping up the 7 Habits of Highly Effective People the beginning of August and rolling into Real Colors which is a class on personality types.

Monica Romero will be reaching out to you and inviting the spouses to a get together, I highly encourage your attendance. It is nice to get to meet the other spouses. No one can relate to your life and challenges like other spouses of active duty Marines from the same unit.

I hope those that are able to attend plan on attending the Marine Ball with us at The Westin in downtown San Diego on 14 November. No other branch of service has a uniform that compares to the Marine Dress Blues. Nothing like seeing your loved one all jazzed up in their Dress Blues.

From the Executive Officer

MTACS-38 has enjoyed the summer months here in San Diego with a Family Day on Mission Bay, a retirement ceremony honoring Master Sergeant Bell's 20 years of faithful service was concluded on Del Mar Beach, and the Marines who deployed last year to Afghanistan will enjoy a day of watersports at Carlsbad Lagoon. Overall it's been a nice period of rest and recuperation, albeit spotted with busy periods supporting various exercises. The gears have begun to turn a little faster and will continue to pick up speed until our next round of Operation Enduring Freedom deployers head out the door this winter.

The first indicator of a faster operational tempo is an increase in work hours beginning 1 August to a work day which starts at 0730 and ends at 1700. This news has been given to the Marines several months ago in order to plan appropriately for child care and to manage family expectations. I for one will have to ensure that I have snacks on hand to give my daughter on the car ride home. I drop pick her up from day care and the extended work hours might be a little later than she's used to; I don't want her to get "hangry" (hungry/angry) so I must plan appropriately. Additionally, many of the squadron's Marines will spend the better part of 5-6 weeks in Yuma, Arizona to support Weapons and Tactics Instructor Course (WTI) 1-14. This will take place between mid-September and early-November. Supporting WTI will be one major step toward preparing the squadron for a deployment to Afghanistan in 2014.

The majority of the Marines who will deploy have already been identified. If this is your first deployment as a Marine or family member, it can understandably be a stressful time. Thankfully you are not alone and your MTACS-38 family has resources for you and your family to successfully navigate a deployment. Your primary resource is the squadron's Family Readiness Officer, or "FRO." Our new FRO, Monica Romero, comes to us with a wealth of knowledge and experience in the position. If you've not met her yet, please seek her out in order to get your questions answered and to find additional tools and resources. You can also expect spouse socials (open to significant others) on a quarterly basis beginning 23 August. This is a great time for you to begin establishing a solid support network. Additionally, every deploying Marine and family member should attend the Pre-Deployment Brief tentatively scheduled for 20 November. This will answer your questions regarding mail, pay and allowances, and the general environment which the Marines are deploying into.

It's great to be an MTACS-38 Marine! The squadron is highly regarded throughout the Wing, due in large part to the hard work and dedication of your Marines. Thanks to the family members who support the Marines, as you too contribute to the success of our unit.

Semper Fidelis,
Nathan D. Faught
Maj, USMC

Message from the SgtMaj

I attended a two day Leadership Summit mandated by the Commandant of the Marine Corps. One of the topics of discussion was about Culture Change. Does this mean the institution of the Marine Corps change with society generations? The Marine Corps values are not going to change. The individual will change to the Marine Corps way of life. Marines, you are no longer just a member of society from different backgrounds. You are now part of the most respected military branch in the world. You should never forget that pride you had your heart the day you graduated from boot camp, earning the title United States Marine. Live your life according to the core values you had bestowed upon you in boot camp. The Marine Corps values have been the hallmark of Marines since the founding of our nation. In 1996, the 31st Commandant General Krulak implemented the Marine Corps Values Program. The purpose of the program was to teach Marines the importance of the Marine Corps values of Honor, Courage, and Commitment. These values remain the very soul of our institution, underlying all that is best in Marines and must continue to frame the way we live and act as Marines. We live our daily lives with faith and honor, obeying the law, leading by example, respecting others and ourselves, maintaining a high standard of integrity, placing faith and honor above everything else, and are devoted to the Corps, country, and family.

Semper Fidelis,
SgtMaj Taylor



Machine Gun Shoot

Message from TACC

Fair winds and Following Seas

As the spring of 2013 began with warmer weather and the blooming of life around us all we see that many of our brothers and sisters who will be off into new chapters in their life. Many of the officers and enlisted within TACC Company have moved on to write new chapters in their lives. It has been a great pleasure to serve with these Marines. As new personnel arrive and become part of this great team and family we reach a point where we know change is continuous in our journey in the Corps.

We finish off in a big bang with a family event at “Fiesta Island” with a grand farewell to the Family Readiness Officer Noreen Towle who has been a big part of this family. She will be greatly missed especially her laughter and the sound of her shoes coming down the hallways to talk to the Marines. The day was one of the young verses the old breed as if the passing of the torch. All the Marines were committed in engaging flag-football, volleyball, water challenge and lots of water activities for all. As we packed up to go home I am sure everyone was thinking of all that have left or are leaving our family and sure we all meet again.

Trifecta
Part I



Promotions, Awards, and Reenlistments



Promotions:

LCpl Hopkins
 LCpl Sewell
 Cpl Banuet
 Cpl Wrick
 Cpl Tapia
 Cpl Charlson
 Cpl Smith
 Sgt Cornett
 1st Sgt Aultman

Reenlistments:

Cpl Cardenas
 Cpl Kadi
 Sgt Romero
 SSgt Zobler
 GySgt Daniels



Birthdays

May

LCpl Parrott
 LCpl Kavan
 LCpl Cowen
 Cpl Calderon
 Cpl Rader
 SSgt Zobler
 GySgt Legler
 GySgt Hedrick

June

LCpl Pechman
 LCpl Copeland
 Cpl Goss
 Cpl Smith
 Cpl Mullins
 Cpl Wickersham
 Sgt Diaz Sandoval
 Sgt Sanchez
 Sgt Devincent
 Sgt Razo
 Sgt Scott

GySgt Elam
 MSgt Keith
 Capt Anderson
 Capt Turley
 Maj Faught

July

Sgt Reyes
 Cpl Banuet
 I { U v Rosario
 LCpl Lynn
 Sgt Lopez Barrios
 SSgt Petzold
 Sgt Gilbeau
 LCpl Yoder
 Cpl Vulgamott
 Cpl Harris
 Cpl Willoughby

Trifecta



The Trifecta was a great moral building physical training session. It felt great to strap on the main pack and hike like we did when we first trained to be a Marine. It was also a treat to be part of SSGT Zobler's re-enlistment ceremony that was conducted at the halfway point of the hike. The hike seemed like a long time so it was shocking to think that we had two more physically straining events to go. Even though you could see the fatigue on the Marines faces during the 2.5 mile run to the pool, it was awesome to see the building of the camaraderie as we pushed each other onward. As a result of it being a hot day, the best part was jumping into the pool and swimming 500 meters to cool off after our run. After we hopped out of the pool, we realized that all we had left was to run 2.5 miles back to the squadron. At this point we waited for everyone to be out of the pool so we could run back together as a squadron yelling motivating cadences. I, as well as many Marines, felt rewarded after completing a strenuous PT. It also helped that LtCol Korpinen gave a motivating talk at the end of the PT and congratulated us on our hard work. Overall, the Trifecta was a great workout and an awesome moral builder for MTACS-38.

~ LCpl Chad Jenson



Corporal's Course Graduation

Corporals Course provides the Marine Corporal with the education and leadership skills necessary to lead Marines. The program of instruction places emphasis on leadership foundations and a working knowledge of general military subjects.

Congratulations to the MTACS-38 Corporal's Course Graduates!

Cpl Miller Cpl Ireton Cpl Goss Cpl Jeske Cpl Simmons



LES Closing Ceremony



The Leadership Education Seminar (LES) was started by 12 Marine Corps and Navy spouses at MCAS El Toro in 1989. In 1999, MCFTB aboard MCB Camp Pendleton gave LES a home and we have flourished here ever since. With the generous funding of I MEF we put on two seminars every year. To date, LES has educated and empowered over 1,500 military spouses.

LES is a three full-day seminar. Participants learn from topics presented in a large room, and later adjourn to small group rooms where

they complete exercises and engage in discussion, further reinforcing what was taught in the presentations.

Topics include:

Communication, Personality Assessment, Values, Group Dynamics, Conflict Management, Etiquette and Protocol, Crisis & Trauma, Handling the Media, Volunteer Recruiting, Transition and Turnover.

Congratulations Veronica and Tammy!



Squadron Run



On June 25th MTACS-38 had a squadron run; it was about 5 miles long. It was a fun run, it was a legs-numb run, and after the fact we were thankful it was a done run. The run started in the Hangar 6 parking lot and went down past the construction area. The workers there who were green with envy, brought on by our motivating cadence calls. We Oo-Rah'ed, LAY-O'ed, and Yut-Yut'ed our way around the pond stopping periodically only to inflict some dedication to our abdominals. As we closed the pond circuit, the Sun was

beaming burning motivation onto every Teufelhund while we took a break to carry our "equally weighted" Devil Dog back up the long steep hill to the medical vehicle. Our own amazing Fro-reen was at the top of that difficult hill dodging our strides as she took shot after shot to capture all of our MTACCULAR spirit. We quickly formed back up and started to take off again to annihilate the final stretch of our run. The speed picked up and in turn, so did our cadences. We pounded the ground past the construction workers

whose expression had changed from envy to awe as our BigBadGreen-TacticalAirCommandingMachine passed by. We landed back again in the parking lot in front of Hangar 6 proudly showing our Squadron Guidon. Had you watched the marines that day, you would have looked on with pride and said it was a good day for your Corps, my Corps, MARINE CORPS!

~LCpl Aaron Kemble



Machine Gun Shoot





MTACS-38 Cook Off

MTACS-38 held their first Cook Off on June 6th. The Categories were: Chili, Breakfast, Dinner, and Dessert. Why not lunch, you ask? Well, our own Cpl Willoughby will say that lunch does not count as a meal category because it is just the same foods as dinner...so we decided just to leave it out. All categories were judged on presentation, taste, and originality.

Congratulations to our Grand Prize winners, Mrs. Diaz-Hernandez, 1stSgt Aultman, Mrs. Turley, and SSgt Zobler!



Family Day



Family Day Pictures



Family Day Pictures



Family Day Pictures

