

USMC MOTOR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION, INC.

Convoy Express



The Official Newsletter of The USMC MTA

Founded Sept. 1997 - Incorporated Sept. 2008

“PROUD MEMBER OF THE NATIONAL MARINE CORPS COUNCIL”



July 31, 2017 | MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - U.S. Marines with Combined Anti-Armor Team (CAAT), 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Marine Air Ground Task Force-8 (MAGTF-8) maneuver to the next objective for a Tank Mechanized Assault Course (TMAC) during Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 5-17 at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., July 28, 2017. The purpose of ITX is to create a challenging, realistic training environment that produces combat-ready forces capable of operating as an integrated MAGTF. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Sgt. Kassie L. McDole)

USMC MTA “at the Garden”

Hilton Garden Inn Jacksonville, N.C.

1016 Jacksonville Parkway Jacksonville, North Carolina

Tel: +1-910-346-2400 Toll: 1-800-774-1500

REFERENCE SOURCE CODE: UMT

20th. Reunion / Anniversary

Sept 17, 2017 - Sept 21, 2017

***Optional: 3 Days Before / 3 Days After**

*(Three Days Before - Three Days After = Same Reunion Daily Rate)

Five Steps To

5

***Same Rate
3 Days Before
14 15 16**

***Same Rate
3 Days After
22 23 24**

Book A Room

- 1) Go to the Hilton Garden Inn Website:
<http://hiltongardeninn.hilton.com/en/gi/groups/personalized/O/OAJWBGI-UMT->
- 2) locate “Book A Room” at the bottom right on Hilton Webpage - continue
- 3) travel dates: enter the dates to arrive and depart and
of rooms # adults # children **Source Code UMT**- continue
- 4) **s**elect the appropriate bedroom for your needs- continue
- 5) goto: START HERE for secure booking: **it only takes TWO MINUTES**

* before and after dates / booking’s while making reservations

20'th. Anniversary MTA Shirt's

One Time Only - Sale Ends Sept. 2017

The 20th Anniversary Shirt's are Now on Sale.

The men's have a pocket - Woman no pocket

Men: Green, Blue and Red

Women Red, White and Blue

Mens Cost \$30. (pocket) + shipping (1 shirt 6.00 2- shirts 7.00 3 or more shirts 8.00)
Womans Cost \$27. + shipping (1 shirt 6.00 2- shirts 7.00 3 or more shirts 8.00)

WHEN ORDERING SPECIFY ANNIVERSARY SHIRT

New Members

Moynihan, Timothy #1552 LCpl (VM)

Brown, Frank #1553 MSgt. (RET)

Perkins, George #1554 GySgt. (RET)

(VM)= Veteran Marine (RET)= Retired Marine

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Front Page

Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms
Photo By: Sgt. Kassie L. McDole

Around The Corps

U.S. Marines with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 Photo
By: Lance Cpl. Jacob Farbo

U.S. Marine Antitank Missileman With Combined Anti-Armor Team
(CAAT) Photo By: Sgt. Kassie L. McDole

Marine Corps Air Ground Combar Center Twenty Nine Palms, Cal.
Photo By: Sgt. Kassie L. McDole

Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. Photo By: Keith Hayes

Articles

Corpsmen Battle The Heat During Intergrated Training
Photo By: Melany Vasquez

Ousting ISIS From Al Anbar: The Advise and Assist Mission Photo
By: 1st Lt. Dave Williams

afterservice@usmcmta.org

afterservice@usmcmta.org an email address, established for communicating so you can now contact us for information of employer(s) who are seeking out Motor Transport Veteran applicants. One must be a member in good standing. Further informations will appear here as we continue forward with this link. Please see Webmaster message in this newsletter.

Camp Lejeune: Past Water Contamination

From the 1950s through the 1980s, people living or working at the U.S. Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, North Carolina, were potentially exposed to drinking water contaminated with industrial solvents, benzene, and other chemicals. Learn about research on past chemical contamination. - See more at: <http://www.publichealth.va.gov/exposures/camp-lejeune/#sthash.SLw9Rrli.dpuf>

Scholarship's. MTA members,

it's not too early to talk to your children, grandchildren about the next scholarships. Remember one is awarded to a student going to attend a four year college and the other is for a student going to a vocational/technical school/college. June 30th is the submission deadline Forms are available email auxpresident@usmcmta.org

MTA is hosting a breakfast

three Sundays a month (I thu 3) at the VFW. on Sunday's from 8 am till 11 am. Thanks to all of you for supporting us there.

The monthly dutch treat luncheons

are continuing in the Jacksonville area; contact Shirley Prevatte or any one of the area auxiliary members for info or email auxpresident@usmcmta.org

hqmc.marines.mil - Department of Defense

It is our honor to recognize the hqmc.marines.mil and Department of Defense and their contributions of story and photos presented within The Convoy Express and the following statement: The appearance of U.S. Department of Defense (DOD) visual information does not imply or constitute DoD endorsement.

The United States Marine Corps Motor Transport Association, Inc.

is a 501 (c) (19) non-profit organization operating exclusively for the purpose beneficial to the interests of the Nation and United States Marine Corps Motor Transport Occupational Specialty Field. This Association was formed to bring together all Retired, Veteran Marine, Active Duty, Reserve and others who have served in or with the USMC Motor Transport Field.

USMC MOTOR TRANSPORT ASSOCIATION INC.

Elected and Appointed Officers

To contact an officer use the following email addresses, where email is not noted contact the USMC MTA Secretary at secretary@usmcmta.org or call 910.450.1841

Elected Officers

President
Dwight Davidson
president@usmcmta.org

2nd Vice President
Humberto Gonzalez
2ndvp@usmcmta.org

1st Vice President
Robie Roberson
1stvp@usmcmta.org

Secretary
Marcel Arbelaez
secretary@usmcmta.org

Treasurer
Ron Rang
treasurer@usmcmta.org

Trustees
1 Year – Harold Clapp
2 Year – Joe Clark
3 Year – Bob Boni
trustees@usmcmta.org

Special Finance Committee
1st Vice President
Treasurer
2 Year Trustee

Immediate Past President
John Stump III

Past President's
Barry O. Delp
1997-1998*
Deceased

Gary L. Miner
1998- 2000

Robert H. Canning
2000- 2005*
Deceased

Honorary Past President
Albert Patterson
2000*
*Deceased



Appointed Officers

Sgt. at Arms
George Hanlin
sgtatarms@usmcmta.org

Chaplain
Marshall Jarvis
chaplain@usmcmta.org

Assistant Chaplain
Francisco B. Paras Jr.
chaplain.asst.@usmcmta.org

PX Manager
Charles Robinson
px@usmcmta.org

Public Relations
pr@usmcmta.org

Historian
Charles Robinson
historian@usmcmta.org

Webmaster / Newsletter
Don McCrary
webmaster@usmcmta.org

Assistant Webmaster
Daryl Rose
webmaster.asst@usmcmta.org

Appointed Officers

National Marine Corps Council
Cathy Stump
nat.mccouncil@usmcmta.org

Annual Reunion Advisory Committees (*Co-Chairs)
West Coast:
Jimmie Stewart
Jack McDermott
Laura Thorsell

Annual Reunion Advisory Chairman
1st Vice President
Robie Roberson

Annual Reunion Advisory Committees (*Co-Chairs)
East Coast:
Bob Boni
Al Weare

President

Dwight Davidson

Greetings,

Hope that this finds you all doing well. Summer is about over and the children will be going back to school. The weather here has been very hot and I am sure that many of you have experienced the same.

Our Jacksonville reunion is now on and we are looking forward to seeing you there!

I will now start looking for the 2018 reunion , I will be traveling to Texas. first for a reunion with Truck Co.FLS6 -A-B FLC

While I am in Texas I will also travel to San Antonio to check out the site, at no cost to MTA.

Our breakfast at the VFW has been slow, if you are in the area, please come and dine with us.

Our Christmas party for this year will be taken over by Iona Davidson and Tina Rang and will be held on December 9th.. Please join us there ..

Robie has some health problems and needs a break . We are all wishing him the best and hope he will get better soon.

More information to come.
So for now keep smiling and take care .

Dwight

Secretary

Marcel Arbelaez

As we head into fall the excitement in the office is for our up coming reunion in Jacksonville, NC.

I hope to see many of our members at this event. Jacksonville and Camp Lejeune has made major changes since some of you were last stationed or visited.(PINEY GREEN ROAD EXPANSION IS COMPLETE!!!!)

As we travel for the last leg of the summer vacation or start to head to our winter homes, please do not forget to update your mailing address, phone number and email address with the USMC Motor Transport Association. You can email the information to secretary@usmcmta.org.

Safe Travels and see you at the reunion!

Marcel Arbelaez
MTA Secretary
Office: 910.450.1841
DSN: 910.750.1841
Hours: Tues - Wed - Thurs 10 AM to 2 PM (Closed on Holidays)

Webmaster

Don McCrary

On Oct.1, 2017 there will be a change taking place as to how we will access the usmcmta.org website. This change is required for individuals who use Google Chrome as their search engine. It will be necessary for the members who use Google Chrome to use <https://www.usmcmta.org> in order to access the website. Without this change MTA members will receive a fault warning indicating that our website has issues, while it does not.

To avoid the effects of Google Chrome, please set a new bookmark effective Oct. 1, for <https://www.usmcmta.org> .

By chance, that you may experience interruption in gaining access to our website you can email me and I will assist anyway I can.

If you have not already made reservations for the upcoming MTA reunion in September, please consider doing so soon. A large turnout is expected, for we are returning to where the MTA Association began and became what it is today. Information for both the reunion and the twentieth anniversary shirts are posted on the website and included in this issue of our newsletter.

I'd like to take a moment to give my appreciations to Headquarters Marine Corps, for access to Marine Corps information that we post in our newsletter. This information keeps us abreast as to how our family of Marines are doing, what they do and the sacrifices each face on a daily basis.

Semper Fi.
Don

MTAA President

Mary Jarvis

Happy August/September!!

This will be short and sweet since Marshall and I are on the road. The Auxiliary was to have a meeting the 19th which I was intending to partake in via telephone but due to a friend's death just as we arrived at our destination..we were attending the funeral at meeting time. Five members were in attendance so a quorum was met and meeting held.

We are always asking for info on any ill members ..and we send all healing prayers. The last we have heard is our Trustee Sandy Roberson's husband and integral member of the MTA ..Robie, please keep him in your thoughts and prayers.

Other business included discussion of the East Coast Christmas party..more to come on that item.

We want to congratulate our scholarship winners for this year. Our \$2000 recipient is Heidi Swigart who will attend Cal Poly in San Luis Obispo in California and the \$1000 was awarded to Jessica Stempowski attending Penn State this fall.

The reunion will begin on Sunday, September 17th and the host hotel will be the brand new Hilton Garden Inn in Jacksonville. Hopefully by now everyone has made their reservations and sent in their packets and fees. Jacksonville airport is the closest and a shuttle is available I understand but if that doesn't work several members who live in the area have said they will do transport as long as they are aware ahead of time.

Once again..I hope you are all planning a trip to Jacksonville for the reunion in a couple of weeks.

On behalf of myself and the MTAA we hope to have a great turnout and I know we'll have a great time.

May God Bless our Country, our troops at home, deployed and those whom we have lost. May He give strength to those who struggle daily with health issues and PTSD.

Until next time..

Mary

Around The Corps



July 21, 2017 | Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan - U.S. Marines with Marine Aviation Logistics Squadron 12 pull a Humvee at Marine Corps Air Station Iwakuni, Japan, July 21, 2017. The USO hosted a field meet and cookout for MALS-12, which included several competitions such as grappling, pull-ups and a Humvee pull. Photo By: Lance Cpl. Jacob Farbo



MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - A U.S. Marine antitank missileman with Combined Anti-Armor Team (CAAT), 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Marine Air Ground Task Force-8 (MAGTF-8) fires a BMG-71E inert TOW missile from a HUMVEE at a target for a Tank Mechanized Assault Course (TMAC) during Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 5-17 at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., July 28, 2017. The purpose of ITX is to create a challenging, realistic training environment that produces combat-ready forces capable of operating as an integrated MAGTF. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Sgt. Kassie L. McDole)

July 31, 2017 | MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER, TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. - U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. John D. Gruter, a machine gunner with Combined Anti-Armor Team (CAAT), 1st Battalion, 1st Marine Regiment, Marine Air Ground Task Force-8 (MAGTF-8) provides security in the turret of a HUMVEE before a Tank Mechanized Assault Course (TMAC) during Integrated Training Exercise (ITX) 5-17 at Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center, Twentynine Palms, Calif., July 28, 2017. The purpose of ITX is to create a challenging, realistic training environment that produces combat-ready forces capable of operating as an integrated MAGTF. (U.S. Marine Corps Photo by Sgt. Kassie L. McDole)



Jun. 23, 2017 | Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif. - The Modified Target Acquisition, MTAS, turret swivels through its paces as the last of the testing is performed on the newest rocket launcher for the Light Armored Vehicle Anti-Tank vehicles, at Production Plant Barstow, Marine Depot Maintenance Command, aboard the Yermo Annex of Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., June 15. Crews from production plants Barstow and Albany, Ga., are training at PPB to learn how to install the new MTAS turrets. Photo By: Keith Hayes

CORPSMEN BATTLE THE HEAT DURING INTEGRATED TRAINING EXERCISE 4-17

July 4, 2017 | By Cpl. Dallas Johnson, Marine Corps Air Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms



Marines and sailors with CLB-453 provide the Logistics Combat Element to ITX 4-17 - A safety vehicle with the Combat Logistics Battalion 453, Combat Logistics Regiment 4, 4th Marine Logistics Group, Marine Forces Reserve, sits ready to transport Marines to the battalion aid station during Integrated Training Exercise 4-17 in Twentynine Palms, California on June 21, 2017. The corpsmen of CLB-453 provided medical care for 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, helping to decrease the risk of heat casualties during the final battalion exercise of ITX 4-17. Photo By; Melany Vasquez

MARINE CORPS AIR GROUND COMBAT CENTER TWENTYNINE PALMS, Calif. --

As temperatures soar to well over 100 degrees, U.S. Navy medical personnel and Marines from units across the Marine Corps Reserve battled record high temperatures and the daily threat of heat related injuries during Integrated Training Exercise 4-17 on Marine Air-Ground Combat Center Twentynine Palms, California, from June 8-July 7, 2017.

ITX 4-17 is the largest Marine Corps Reserve training exercise of the year with Marines from over 20 different units coming together to form Marine Air Ground Task Force 23 to prepare two infantry battalions, 2nd Battalion, 25th Marine Regiment, 4th Marine Division, Marine Forces Reserve and 2/24, 4th MARDIV, MARFORRES, as well as supporting units to seamlessly integrate with active duty counterparts in the event of a crisis that requires a rapid response.

The corpsmen attached to Camp Wilson had the primary job of maintaining the health, safety and well-being of all the service members training at ITX 4-17. The realistic training of ITX also gave U.S. Navy corpsmen, doctors and surgeons the opportunity to provide real world care in an environment that imitates real combat.

"We're primarily here to support 2/24 and 2/25," said Chief Petty Officer Daniel Rios, the lead chief petty officer of the regimental aid station on Camp Wilson. "As they go forward to their

ranges, we observe from a short distance and let the Reserve component go ahead and attack their objective."

Acclimatization was difficult for many Marines who came from areas with cooler climates, but the doctors and corpsmen of MAGTF 23 took every measure possible to help their bodies adjust and keep them from overheating.

"At Twentynine Palms, the weather is particularly austere," said Lt. Cmdr. Jason Park, the assistant regimental surgeon with 4th Marine Logistics Group. "As everyone knows, it's a very hot environment. So, first and foremost, we're constantly reminding the Marines to stay hydrated and to eat."

To maintain their constant readiness, medical teams participated in numerous drills; including heat exposure training, intra-vein training and medivac training.

"The Marines are going to be bugged by us," said Rios. "We're making sure they always have a full canteen and drinking it, and always making sure they're eating. And the most important thing we do as corpsmen is talking with every Marine one-on-one so we know how they're doing."

ITX 4-17 was the first iteration of ITX where active duty corpsmen and doctors integrated with Reserve Sailors organic to the units who participated. Of the 66 total medical staff participating in the exercise, 31 came from active duty. The unique aspect of

this type of augmentation is that if 2/24 and 2/25 mobilize during fiscal year 2018, the same active duty medical staff who augmented ITX 4-17 would again join their reserve counterparts.

"We got a number of very knowledgeable active duty corpsmen with a lot of combat and Fleet Marine Force experience," said Cmdr. Luis Bautista, the regimental surgeon for 23rd Marines. "These corpsmen have been helping and teaching the reservists so much about their ratings."

Sailors further increased proficiency by getting their Fleet Marine Force pin; three military badges of the United States Navy which are issued to those U.S. Navy officers and sailors who are trained and qualified to perform duties in support of the United States Marine Corps.

"While here, the corpsmen are taking a number of classes," said Bautista. "They're learning the history and organization of the Marine Corps, as well as taking practical applications like land navigation and knowing the weapon systems. We have a number of sailors who are going to be taking the test very soon."

As ITX 4-17, doctors, corpsmen, and all medical staff who participated in this year's iteration of the exercise will leave with the knowledge and training necessary to keep Marines in the fight in the most sweltering environments all times.

ousting ISIS from Al Anbar: The Advise and Assist Mission of Task Force Al Asad

July 31, 2017 | By 1st Lt. David Williams, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade



Ousting ISIS from Al Anbar: The Advise and Assist Mission of Task Force Al Asad

U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Johnny Perez, a mortarman assigned to Task Force Al Asad, with 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force-Crisis Response-Central Command, loads gear into a mine-resistant, ambush-protected all-terrain vehicle while at Al Asad Air Base, Iraq, July 5, 2017. These Marines are part of the Task Force's coalition security force team in charge of providing security to the base and personnel onboard. Task Force Al Asad's mission is to advise and assist and build partner capacity with the Iraqi Security Forces in Al Anbar province in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve, the global coalition to defeat ISIS in Iraq and Syria. (U.S. Marine Corps photo by 1st Lt. Dave Williams)

IRAQ —

While combat operations in Mosul and Raqqa dominate today's headlines, the fight to destroy the Islamic State in Iraq and Syria extends far beyond these two cities. In Iraq's Al Anbar province, which encompasses much of the country's western territory, the fight is still on-going and Task Force Al Asad plays a key role in enabling the total destruction of ISIS in this region.

TFAA, commanded by U.S. Marine Corps Col. Fridrik Fridriksson, epitomizes the current coalition in the fight against ISIS. The task force, whose mission is to advise and assist (A&A) the Jazira al-Badiyah Operations Center and the 7th Iraqi Army Division, is a vital component of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve's efforts to destroy ISIS, and for TFAA specifically, within their Al Anbar-centric battlespace.

"Now, the Iraqis are doing everything," Fridriksson said. "What we're doing is trying to enable them. Not fight for them, but with them ... these are truly going to be Iraqi victories."

The coalition effort is palpable while traveling around the task force compound with numerous patterns and colors of camouflage moving about the concrete barriers and bunkers among a mix of permanent, semi-permanent, and temporary structures.

While TFAA is run by a U.S. Marine, as are many of the primary staff, just under 10 percent of the entire team are U.S. Marines.

Upon entering TFAA's headquarters building, the coalition effort becomes further apparent as offices are filled by U.S. Marines and Soldiers working alongside their Danish and British army counterparts. The task force proudly displays their unit logo consisting of a lion, the English word for asad, in front of an American, Iraqi, Danish, and British flag.

These partners, which also fall under Fridriksson's command and who make up a preponderance of the personnel, are vital to mission success.

"This is not just joint, this is a coalition," Fridriksson said.

Fridriksson went on to explain that being able to work in this type of environment with all services from the Department of Defense and with over a half dozen different countries has been absolutely rewarding.

Over the past eight months, TFAA has supported the Iraqis through the Building Partner Capacity mission with training which includes infantry tactics, logistics, engineering, and maintenance among others, as well as support to operations. Combined, these efforts improved the ISF's

fighting capacity in the Euphrates River Valley (ERV).

"This is their fight, we've got to be able to support that the best way we can," said U.S. Marine Corps Maj. William Warkentin, operations officer for TFAA.

The A&A mission support largely involves intelligence, surveillance, and fire support resulting in well over 100 strikes on the enemy and supporting over a dozen different operations. TFAA is able to follow these operations from their combat operations center in order to best support their partners. This includes both support in offensive operations as well as in self-defense of the Iraqi forces.

"When you catch the enemy trying to attack your Iraqi partners and you're able to stop that ... that's one of the best takeaways, you seeing the success on the battlefield when you know you have saved Iraqi lives," Warkentin said. Offensive operations conducted by their partner forces are depicted on maps hanging in the Task Force's work spaces. On these maps, the shrinking of ISIS in Al Anbar to this point in the operation date back to the first Task Force rotation in 2015.

(continued on page 9)

OUSTING ISIS FROM AL ANBAR: THE ADVISE AND ASSIST MISSION OF TASK FORCE AL ASAD

July 31, 2017 | By 1st Lt. David Williams, 5th Marine Expeditionary Brigade

“By, with, and through is embodied here at the Task Force,” Warkentin said.

Over the course of the task force’s deployment, they conducted more than 130 key leader engagements with the ISF in support of the A&A mission. These engagements improve relationships between TFAA personnel and the ISF, allowing them to work together and determine how the task force can better support the Iraqis and their mission.

“Breaking bread with our Iraqi partners is an important part of a key-leadership engagement,” Warkentin said. “If you’re not sitting down with the generals and the operations planners, then you can’t really do that enable piece ... When they see how committed we are, it makes it easier for them to open up to you ... Being here for nine months, you see that relationship develop, you become friends.

” While not directly tied to the A&A mission of TFAA, the task force also oversees base development for CJTF-OIR in order to enable their operations in the Euphrates River Valley, now and into the future, explained U.S. Marine Corps Col. Matthew Seay, TFAA Deputy Commander. Many personnel of the task force have worked throughout their deployment developing and implementing this plan.

U.S. Marine Corps, Army, Air Force and coalition combat engineers throughout the task force operate heavy equipment daily in support of this effort. These include laying foundations for new structures, repairing weathered runways, and improving force protection measures.

The U.S. Marine Corps combat engineers are assigned to Marine Wing Support Squadron 372, deployed to the Middle East as part of the Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task

Force-Crisis Response-Central Command, the Marine Corps’ crisis response force for U.S. Central Command. These Marines were sourced to TFAA for engineering operations in support of the base’s master plan.

“It’s meaningful work, and it’s getting done,” said 1st Lt. Khari Ford, the SPMAGTF-CR-CC engineering detachment officer-in-charge. “Instantly there’s a number of sites that as soon as we finish, someone lives there or moves in to work there. You know that everything you do, it matters to someone. It’s something that’s supporting the fight.”

The quickest a site was occupied after completion was 20 minutes, Ford said, highlighting the demand for their work.

Meanwhile, the security of Al Asad Air Base must be maintained. A combined team of U.S. Marines work alongside the British and Danish armies to ensure the perimeter and the safety of those on the base. The security force Marines are assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, also attached to TFAA from the SPMAGTF-CR-CC.

“They are part of the front line as far as advising and assisting the Iraqis,” said U.S. Marine Corps 1st Lt. Paul Queen, 1/7’s TFAA security force detachment officer-in-charge.

Queen deployed to Al Asad on a previous deployment in early 2016 and said the progress since then is evident.

“[The Marines] can see tangible results to their efforts... There is much more integration between the Iraqis and the Task Force,” he said.

Their mission is to provide security for TFAA to “allow the Task Force to engage with the Iraqis and enable them and their mission,” Queen said.

In doing so, their daily operations consist of conducting base-defense patrols, providing security for key-

leader engagements, standing guard at posts, serving as a quick reaction force, and exchanging infantry tactics, techniques, and procedures with the 7th IAD.

Queen and his Marines are part of TFAA’s multi-national security force team that is so tightly integrated that they share the same building and office space, much like the Task Force’s headquarters. “

[There is] integration between three different countries and four different services at the company level, Queen said when asked about the experience. “It’s been phenomenal.”

TFAA will continue to play an important role in Al Anbar as they continue to A&A the ISF. As Fridriksson’s deployment comes to an end and another commander arrives, the Task Force will continue supporting the JOC and 7th IAD when they arrive and assume the mission. Fridriksson noted the need for the task force to adapt in the future as the fight changes.

“The Task Force will morph. It will change. We have to be able to shape, change, and turn, and be as flexible and responsive to Iraqis as they need us to be,” he said.

Task Force Al Asad stood up in 2015 and is currently on its fourth rotation. Their mission is to advise and assist and building partner capacity with the Iraqi security forces in Al Anbar province as they move to destroy ISIS in Iraq. The task force commander and much of his primary staff are U.S. Marines, but they are a minority of the overall population given vast support from the Coalition including the U.S., British, and Danish Armies. TFAA operates in support of Combined Joint Task Force-Operation Inherent Resolve, the global coalition to defeat ISIS in Iraq and Syria.

TAPS

To report a death, notify the USMC MTA Secretary, at secretary@usmcmta.org or call 910-450-1841.

Names will be printed after notification of a member passing. The names will remain on this list until the ringing of the bell, in their honor, at the next Reunion. The Motor Transport Association would like to extend their heartfelt sympathy to the survivors during the time of bereavement for their loved ones.

| | | |
|-------------------------|-----------------------|---------------------------------------------|
| Peters, Ivor | MGySgt (RET) | Oct. 12th. |
| Lee, Phyllis S. | Cpl. (VM) | WWII Nov. 23rd. - 93Yrs. (1923-2016) |
| Condra, James E. | Lt. Col. (RET) | Dec. 27th. |
| Carter, John G. | MSgt (RET) | WWII Jan. 17th. |
| Stites, H. Jack | Capt. (RET) | Jan. 26th. |
| Tomasini, Gerald | GySgt (RET) | Mar. 3rd. |
| Hando, Victor S. | Sgt (RET) | Apr. 8th. |
| Oliver, David R. | CMSGT (RET) | May 6th. |

Almighty Father, whose command is over all and whose love never fails, make me aware of Thy presence and obedient to Thy will. Keep me true to my best self, guarding me against dishonesty in purpose and deed and helping me to live so that I can face my fellow Marines, my loved ones and Thee without shame or fear. Protect my family. Give me the will to do the work of a Marine and to accept my share of responsibilities with vigor and enthusiasm. Grant me the courage to be proficient in my daily performance. Keep me loyal and faithful to my superiors and to the duties of my country and the Marine Corps have entrusted me to. Make me considerate of those committed to my leadership. Help me to wear my uniform with dignity, and let it remind me daily of the traditions which I must uphold.

If I am inclined to doubt, steady my faith, if I am tempted, make me strong to resist: if I should miss the mark, give me the courage to try again.

Guide me with the light of truth and grant me wisdom by which I may understand the answers to my prayer.

Amen

National Chaplain
Marshal Jarvis