

Annex 2: Example of Section II of the Unit Command Chronology

SECTION II: NARRATIVE SUMMARY

ADMINISTRATION, ADJUTANT/LEGAL

During 1 July to 31 December 2005, the Administration Section (S-1) undertook its tasks of personnel accountability, awards preparation, fitness report processing, directives control, legal administration, and correspondence management. The following details are provided:

1. Awards Presented to Personnel. Bronze Star: 2
 - a. Navy Commendation Medal: 2
 - b. Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal w/"V": 5
 - c. Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal: 3
2. Fitness Reports Submitted
 - a. Officer: 8
 - b. Enlisted: 11
3. Administrative Separations
 - a. Approved: 0
 - b. Suspended: 0
 - c. Pending: 4
4. Legislation and Congressional Action: 2
5. Court Martial Convened: 0
 - a. General: 0
 - b. Special: 0
 - c. Summary: 0
6. Promotions

The following promotions were effected:

| | | |
|---------------------|---|-----|
| Major | - | 0 |
| Captain | - | 3 |
| Lieutenant (USN) | - | 0 |
| 1stLieutenant | - | 7 |
| Staff Sergeant | - | 4 |
| Sergeant | - | 5 |
| Corporal | - | 35 |
| Lance Corporal | | 46 |
| Private First Class | - | 7 |
| Total | - | 103 |

- 7. Officers Joined: 2
- 8. Officers Dropped: 2
- 9. USMC Enlisted Joined: 54 USMC Enlisted Dropped: 13
- USN Enlisted Joined: 2 USN Enlisted Dropped: 4

INTELLIGENCE

October was the first full month of training for the S2 Section since their return to CONUS. Their focus of training was on updating security clearances and ensuring that the battalion is in compliance with the Department of Defense, Department of the Navy, Marine Corps orders and regulations. The section took the Marine Corps' Basic Skills Test. This time period also included two hikes (6 and 9 miles) in length and support to the MEF command post exercise at Camp Pendleton.

Lance Corporal Derrick Waguespack was transferred to 3rd Bn 11th Marines to serve as Intelligence Chief. Corporal Benjamin Earhart reenlisted and was transferred to MAG-39 to serve as Intelligence Chief. During this period awards for the section's performance in Iraq arrived in form of a Letter of Commendation for Lance Corporal Bailey and Navy and Marine Corps Achievement medals for Lance Corporal Waguespack, Corporal Dominguez, and Captain Bissonette.

The entire S-2 shop attended the EWTG-PAC Information Operations course given at TTECG in November. The section began working scenarios for the battalion training evolution at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California in February.

Scout/Sniper Platoon

October was the first full month of training for the Scout Sniper Platoon since their return to CONUS. The focus of training was on sustainment training and on screening and preparing candidates for Scout Sniper School. One sniper indoctrination was conducted. Additionally, the platoon took the Marine Corps' Basic Skills Test. This time period also included three hikes (6, 9 and 12 miles) in length.

Lance Corporal Joseph A. Navalle was awarded a Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal on 28 September 2005. Staff Sergeant Emilio Hernandez graduated from Platoon Sergeant's Course on 13 December 2005.

COMMAND, OPERATIONS, AND TRAINING

During the second half of 2005, 3d Battalion, 4th Marines conducted Stabilization and Support Operations (SASO) to include Convoy Operations, Urban Operations, Firm Base Operations and Combined Arms Exercises in the final month of their deployment in support of OIF-III.

After the relief in place and transfer of authority with 2d Battalion, 7th Marines in Fallujah, Iraq, the battalion redeployed to MCAGCC, Twentynine Palms, CA, in July 2005. The Battalion began its post-deployment briefs during the first two weeks in August followed by much needed block leave from 15 August through 16 September.

The last half of September, the Battalion focused on instilling the first part of its four tier training plan. The companies began reorganizing and settling in to their new spaces. The Battalion sent several Marines to

Division Schools for training in their Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) and SASO specific training.

October brought about the beginning of the Battalion's conditioning hikes with a 7.3-mile hike. Companies also held uniform inspections for their Marines. Several Marines went down to the Mission Oriented Combat Shooting (MOCS) Instructor course at Camp Pendleton while almost 100 Marines attended the Fire Team Leaders Course. Three Marines completed the Green Belt Instructors course at Camp Pendleton. The S-3 also sent Marines from the Battalion to the Advanced Course, Career Course, and Sergeants Course for two months at Camp Pendleton. The NBC section saw a change as Warrant Officer Frank Pater joined the Darkside as the newly assigned NBC officer.

The Battalion continued to train during November, although interrupted with a long period of liberty during the Marine Corps Ball, which the Battalion held at the Tropicana Hotel and Casino in Las Vegas, Nevada. Marines were sent to Machine Gun Leaders Course and Infantry Squad Leaders Course at Camp Pendleton. Training also continued with a Battalion 9-mile hike. The Battalion began its NBC training as several Marines were trained in the NBC decontamination teams.

In December, the Battalion executed the Small Unit Leader Development Course. The course was designed to teach the future and current Fire Team Leaders in the Battalion several important individual training standards and collective training standards in order to make them more proficient small unit leaders. The course included demanding physical training that was competition based. All events, communication, weaponeering and fire and movement evaluations were tallied for score and the lead fire team was recognized as the most proficient unit. The three-week course trained the Marines to master all weapons and communications equipment organic to the fire team and fire and movement. The rest of the Battalion completed a rigorous 12-mile hike through MCAGCC. Two of the S-3 clerks completed their Combat Life Saver Course just prior to the holiday leave block. The Battalion and Operations Shop also began their planning for the Battalion Mountain Warfare Training Center winter package they will be conducting in Bridgeport, California, during the month of March. The Battalion went on holiday block leave from 20 December to 5 January.

Throughout the return from OIF III, the S-3 shop continued to send Marines to the rifle and pistol ranges, monitored the annual PFT and Marine Corps Common Skills test. The Battalion Gunner and S-3A continued to screen company weekly training plans and training packages to ensure companies were following the intent of the Battalion training objectives. They also developed and set the Battalion standards for weapons certifications companies must complete prior to using that weapon system on a live-fire range. The three shop screened over twenty-five training packages and produced over five Letters of Instruction for company and battalion events.

AIR SHOP

The return from deployment started with a personnel change in the Air Shop. Capt Stephen J. Nagel returned to Marine Aircraft Group 16 and Capt Devin Smiley returned to Marine Aircraft Group 39. Capt John W. Gilmore, Jr. assumed duties as the Air Officer.

The Battalion nominated Second Lieutenants Joannides and O'Brien and First Lieutenant Maher for the Marine Corps Joint Tactical Attack Controller (JTAC) program. All three completed the JTAC Primer course in Coronado, California.

On November 15, the Air Officer and the JTAC nominees traveled to OP Left in the Quackenbush Training Area with 1/7 for a TACP shoot. The JTACs were able to obtain a majority of their 100 level T&R codes. Second

Lieutenant O'Brien was able to complete all 100 series codes and be nominated for TACP School.

The Battalion held a TACP shoot on OP Left in the Quackenbush Training Area at MCAGCC Twentynine Palms, in conjunction with 7th Marine Regiment on December 7th. The Air Shop was able to train the JTAC nominees and Army Operation Detachment Alpha soldiers on the proper use of nine-lines and Marine Corps close air support (CAS). Not only did the Marines learn to call in air strikes and become comfortable with the procedures, but they were able to integrate indirect mortar and artillery fire. All three 3/4 JTAC's completed their 100 level codes allowing them to be nominated for the TACP school.

Those that were trained learned how to call Suppression of Enemy Air Defense (SEAD) missions in conjunction with the air support to achieve a total support by fire mission on the objective. One of the goals of the TACP training was to instill a working knowledge of how to call in air to the lowest levels for day and night missions for both fixed-wing and rotary-wing aircraft.

LOGISTICS, SUPPLY, MOTOR TRANSPORT

In the month of July, the S-4's main focus was preparing the Battalion to redeploy to CONUS. The S-4 Section tracked and updated flight schedules in order to maintain a close eye on redeployment timelines. Constant coordination between multiple support agencies was conducted to make the Battalion's redeployment seamless. The Logistics Section also coordinated the turnover of the Battalion's account to 2d Battalion, 7th Marines. In addition, the Logistics Section organized and conducted the embarkation of the Battalion's gear and equipment for redeployment to CONUS. After customs was conducted and gear pack up was completed, the Battalion redeployed 8 short tons of equipment back to CONUS. The S-4 Section ensured that the Battalion flowed through each weigh station from Al Taqqaddum, Iraq, to Camp Victory, Kuwait, to the continental United States as smoothly as possible.

Once the Battalion returned back to CONUS and assumed its' new workspaces, the S-4 was busy with submitting work requests for repairs, improvements, and additions to its facilities. Over 400 work requests were submitted to Facilities Maintenance for the barracks, company offices, and section workspaces. From the middle of August until the middle of September, the S-4 section went on block leave, as did the rest of the Battalion.

Towards the end of September, the S-4 Section began the initial stages of receiving its gear set. Increments of weapons systems, vehicles, tools, etc. were receipted for from HQ Company, 7th Marines Supply.

The Logistics Section supported numerous battalion and company training evolutions, including conditioning hikes that have progressed in difficulty, live fire exercises, and annual training. The Battalion continued to place a large amount of equipment on order, including SL-3 deficiencies, to get the Battalion's equipment. Additionally, 1st Marine Division issued a gear redistribution message to move the Battalion closer to possessing an infantry battalion's T/E.

Marines who have completed 4 years of service are approaching their EAS dates and turnover of Marines and Sailors will continue for the next several months.

The Battalion has completed Explosive Drivers Course and several training evolutions in order to certify more drivers within the individual companies. Equipment was temporarily loaned to Training and Education Command (TECOM) and Bridgeport in order to facilitate their training evolutions.

The Battalion's facilities have taken a greater priority within the Regiment due to one of the barracks the Battalion utilizes being less than a year old. There was a visit from Brigadier General Flock, from Headquarters Marine Corps, Installations and Logistics, in December, in order to inspect the condition of the barracks. The Logistics Section continued to prepare for training at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport.

Supply

During the month of July 2005, Battalion Supply focused its efforts on the turnover of account M94407 to 2d Battalion, 7th Marines (2/7). This turnover consisted of actual physical turnover of end items as well as the incorporation of the standard operation procedures for logistics and supply in theatre. A contract for two shower trailers at Entry Control Point 5 was built by 3d Battalion, 4th Marines (3/4) Supply, and approved by Division G-8 Cell. A thorough turnover of all open contracts was conducted between the Supply Officers of both the incoming and outgoing battalions. A wall-to-wall inventory of the Battalion Supply Warehouse was conducted as well as a thorough CMR turnover between the Responsible Officers from 3/4 and 2/7.

During the month of August 2005, Battalion Supply arrived back in CONUS. The fiscal year 2006 budget was created and submitted up to Division via 7th Marine Regiment. Contracts were built and submitted for items deemed critical to the Battalion. Some of the items included in this were Proxima projectors, HP1320 printers and tools for the Motor Transport Section. The remainder of the FY05 budget was closed out on 31 August 2005. During the month of September 2005, Battalion Supply conducted the turnover of account M13160. This account previously was owned by 3d Battalion, 7th Marines who deployed in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom. The Supply Officer attended and completed the Government Commercial Purchase Card (GCPC) training class at Camp Pendleton in order to become an Approving Official for the Battalion's credit card purchases. In addition, the Training Allowance Pool (TAP) account was reconciled and signed off on. This was endorsed by Regiment and sent to Division.

During the month of October, supply continued to rebuild AAC M13160 through various redistributions and purchasing of items deemed a T/E deficiency. SAC III deficiencies were submitted to Division Supply. In turn, Division provided document numbers to purchase all current SAC III deficiencies. SL-3 deficiencies for gear received via redistributions were placed on order using SFO reconstitution funds. All SAC I type I and SAC I type II deficiencies were placed on order using reconstitution funds, with a total of \$1,082,607 of gear purchased. Supply received (15) HP 1320s printers via PR Builder to replace printers that remained behind after OIF III.

The Supply Section completed a Company 6 mile hump, a Battalion 7.3 mile hump and a section monitored PFT. The supply officer attended the GCPC Approving Official Course at Camp Pendleton to approve Battalion purchases made with the GCPC credit card. A CMR reconciliation took place from October 19th to November 4th, during which discrepancies were noted and reconciliation between the MAL and CMRs was conducted.

During the month of November, supply continued to execute the budget and receipt for T/E assets entering the account. \$1.5 million dollars in SL-3 deficiencies were placed on order to ensure full functionality of the Battalion's critical end items.

Two Supply Marines were sent TAD to MCB Camp Pendleton to attend the Government Commercial Purchase Card (GCPC) program in order to be credit card holders for the Battalion. The current fiscal year 2006 continuing

resolution from Congress came to an end on 18 November 2005, this slowed Battalion spending for roughly one week.

A new continuing resolution was signed into effect by Congress which allowed the Battalion to resume spending of its organic budget. In late November, the Battalion Supply Officer went TAD to Bridgeport for an initial planning conference. This conference was in preparation for the Battalion's Mountain Warfare Training exercise from February 2006 to March 2006.

A new 3043 entered the Battalion on the 28th of November. The Marine has been splitting duties as the DASF Clerk. This has allowed the section to continue cross training Marines within the 3043 field, while maintaining productivity. On November 29th 2005, Battalion Supply conducted its semi-annual PFT. During the first two weeks of December, Battalion Supply sent six Marines to the rifle range for their annual qualification and EMP training.

A Division Redistribution Message was posted stating gear to be redistributed to 3d Battalion, 4th Marines with a NLT date of 16 December 2005. Supply has been working to facilitate the proper paperwork and gear pick up from units aboard both MCAGCC, 29 Palms and MCB Camp Pendleton.

Motor Transport

Motor Transport began accepting and repairing Battalion vehicles during the months of September and October, after everyone returned from post deployment leave. For the month of November, the Motor Transport section conducted individualized training, to include weapons familiarization, communications, etc. This training was aimed at preparing Marines for future deployments and developing them to be better combat leaders. In addition to the aforementioned training, Motor-T sent Marines to the rifle range as part of annual qualification training. The Motor Transport section also set up several licensing classes, enabling the line companies to have a larger pool of licensed HMMWV drivers.

Armory

During the month of July, the Battalion Armory focused on turnover with 2d Battalion, 7th Marines armory personnel. All requisite paperwork was prepared and reviewed, creating no discrepancies for 2/7. In addition, there were no deadlined items at the time of turnover, creating virtually no issues for turnover.

After the Battalion Armory's turnover was complete, personnel assisted the companies with their CMRs and their turnover by providing WIR packages, DRMO letters, Demilitarization Certificates and other paperwork needed in order to simplify the overall turnover of the Battalion.

Upon return to 29 Palms, armory personnel assumed control of their respective cages within the regimental armory. After taking over the Battalion's cages within the armory, armory personnel set out on block leave with the rest of the Battalion.

Towards the end of September, the Battalion Armory's focus of efforts was on the reception of a slice of the battalion's weapons systems and equipment.

In October, the Battalion Armory supported numerous training packages executed by the line companies. For a number of shoots, armorer support was requested and provided, affording on-site repair capabilities to ensure seamless training for the companies. During the month of November, the Armory facilitated the temp-loan of numerous weapons to Mountain Warfare Training Center (MWTC) Bridgeport, CA. The Battalion Armory loaned (2) 81MM mortars, (2) M2 .50 CAL machine guns, (2) M249 SAWs, (2) M240G machine guns,

(2) M-16A4 service rifles, and (2) Advanced Combat Optic Gunsights (ACOGs) for testing purposes in extreme cold weather environments in Alaska. In the month of December, Marines from the Armory participated in the Tactical Small Unit Leaders Course (TSULC). In addition to sending Marines to TSULC, the Armory also sent Marines to the rifle range to fulfill annual training requirements.

Battalion Aid Station (BAS)

During the month of July, 3d Battalion 4th Marines' BAS turned over their BAS to 2d Battalion 7th Marine Regiment. Controlled substances and narcotics were inventoried for accuracy, logged, and turned over to 2/7. The BAS then prepared for the Battalion's transition out of Iraq via Al Taqaddum, to Camp Victory in Kuwait. Upon their return in late July from successful combat operations, the BAS began scheduled block leave with the rest of the Battalion. A large number of Sailors from the BAS visited families and friends from all over the United States and the world, while others remained behind to maintain the daily operations of the BAS. Daily sick call was still conducted and personal attention was paid to the medical needs of those Marines who remained behind.

The beginning of August brought with it a change in BAS location. With the change brought a tight work schedule to organize the BAS. Particular attention was paid to the administration of immunizations, obtaining supplies, and finishing and filing Post-Deployment Health Assessments in service records. Our preventive medicine department and dental department embarked on the difficult task of repairing medical readiness numbers through completion of annual blood testing and annual dental appointments.

In September, selected personnel completed the Navy-wide Advancement Exam as scheduled. On September 16, 2005, HM1 (FMF) Hendges was pinned and advanced to the rank of Chief Hospital Corpsman. LT Kvarnberg left the Battalion and went to 1st Tank Battalion to become their new medical officer. The BAS filled the vacancy with our new medical officer, LT Andersen, who in his short time with the Battalion has become an asset. The BAS also welcomed our new Preventative Medical Technician, HM3 (FMF) Oden. As the month of September came to a close, the BAS got ready for the new training schedule beginning in October.

In the month of October, the BAS staff attended classes given by our medical officers and selected corpsmen attended a variety of formal courses. Classes included: altitude sickness, knee exams, burns, immunizations, 9mm familiarization, heat/cold injuries, healthy eating habits, and suicide awareness and supply classes among others. Four corpsmen attended a first line leadership course at Camp Pendleton. Two corpsmen attended a hearing conservation course in efforts to facilitate our hearing conservation program. Additionally, several corpsmen have re-certified their Basic Life certification, which is a requirement for all health care providers.

The annual Logistical Readiness Evaluation assist visit was conducted in November. This inspection is performed to evaluate all aspects of the Battalion's medical readiness. The semi-annual Physical Fitness Assessment took place to assess that all Navy personnel are within height and weight standards. Next, the Physical Readiness Test (PRT) was held to ensure that all Navy personnel meet or exceed the physical readiness standards as set forth by the Chief of Naval Operations. Along with the PRT, selected corpsmen took part in a 9-mile company hike. Corpsmen also took part in a variety of formal courses. HM1 (FMF) Richey attended the Primary Leadership Development Course at Camp Pendleton, while two corpsmen attended the Operational Emergency Medical Skills Class, also at Camp Pendleton. Three other corpsmen went to the Front Line Leadership course in Twentynine Palms.

The end of November brought a change in leadership in the BAS. HMC (FMF, AW) Wilson retired after 23 years of active duty. HMC (FMF) Hendges then became the Senior Medical Department Representative. HMI (FMF) Richey, in addition to his duties as Independent Duty Corpsman, became the Leading Petty Officer. With the cold season upon us, December 1st brought the administration of the influenza shot to the entire Battalion. In addition to the influenza shot, all medical records were screened to make sure that all battalion personnel received needed immunizations.

CHAPLAIN

In preparing for the Battalion's return to CONUS, the Religious Ministries Team (RMT) began preparing for giving the Warrior Transition & Return and Reunion briefs to the returning Marines and Sailors. RP2 Neely returned home with the ADVON on July 7, to prepare for the RMT's redeployment to the States. The process of RIP with the 2/7 RMT, LT Rob Wills and RP2 Hickman, began on July 9. Chaplain Weems continued to provide support to the men of 3/4 through visits on the main camp where the Battalion was located in the turnover process.

Camp Mercury was very crowded during that last month in Iraq. The battalions seemed to be dealing with the conditions well even though it was obviously time for the "Darkside" to redeploy back to the states. During the month of July, Chaplain Weems provided 17 Warrior Transition/Return & Reunion briefs to the men of 3/4.

During the process of transporting the Battalion from Camp Mercury to Al Taqaddum, Chaplain Weems offered up prayers of blessing and protection to God over each convoy carrying the men of the "Darkside." On July 26, Chaplain Weems along with the remainder of the Battalion loaded on the final convoy out of Camp Mercury. It was a surreal time leaving the camp for the last time.

August was a month of briefs and leave. Once the Battalion was back in the states, it went through a series of Prevention and Post-Deployment briefs in the base theater. On August 17, the "Darkside" went on block leave through 16 September.

Chaplain Weems and RP2 Neely resumed their attendance at the weekly Regimental Chaplain's meetings. RP2 Neely began coaching the "Darkside" defensive line in their first football season in years. This provided RP2 with leadership application and training for his future as a football coach and leader of young people.

On September 28, Chaplain Weems attended the Division Chaplain's training meeting at Camp Pendleton. The officers celebrated the completion of the deployment with an Officer's Mess Night (Dine-In) at the New York New York Casino in Las Vegas on September 29.

During October, Chaplain Weems attended the Navy Birthday formation at the Naval Hospital on MCAGCC, Twentynine Palms. The RMT continued to attend weekly Regimental Chaplain's meetings. During the week of October 16-22, the 3/4 RMT was asked by CDR Smith, I MHG, to provide ministry support to the Urban Warfare Training Command (UWTC), who lost a Marine.

On Friday, October 21, Chaplain Weems participated in the Battalion's first conditioning hump (6mile). October 24-26, Chaplain Weems coordinated with CREDO West to send 9 couples from the Battalion to a Marriage Enrichment Retreat. The participants gave positive feedback about the retreat upon returning.

With November came the Marine Corps Birthday Ball and the beginning of the holiday season. Chaplain Weems was on duty as the base Duty Chaplain from November 1-8. Chaplain Weems responded to 5 duty calls beyond his normal responsibilities, one being pastoral care to a family in the loss of

their 3 month old son. Chaplain Weems gave the invocation at the 230th Marine Corps Birthday Ball at the Tropicana Casino in Las Vegas, NV.

November 14-16, Chaplain Weems attended a denominational leadership/convention in Tucson, AZ. On November 18, the "Darkside" went out on its second conditioning hike. On November 28, Chaplain Weems provided an invocation prayer for the kick-off of the Tactical Small Unit Leaders Course.

On Tuesday, November 29, the RMT coordinated with the Regimental RP to send (15) 3/4 Marines/Sailors to the Joshua Tree National Park for a Community Relations Project. The men did a fine job helping conservation efforts and building rapport with the community.

With the Holiday season in full swing, the RMT worked on distributing Holiday certificates and turkey baskets to Marines/Sailors in the Battalion for Christmas. Chaplain Weems took part in an interview with the Government Accountability Office on Domestic Violence December 7th. Chaplain Weems conducted the wedding ceremony for RP2 Neely and his fiancée on Saturday, December 10, at the Chapel at Coronado Naval Base in San Diego. On December 16, Chaplain Weems participated in the Battalion's 12-mile conditioning hike. The Battalion went on Christmas leave from December 20th through January 6th.