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From: Vaughn CIV Bryan T [mailto:bryan.vaughn@usmc.mil]

Sent: Monday, June 01, 2009 10:26 AM

Subject: Casualty Update

Families,

The Commanding Officer of the 13th MEU sends the following update on the injured Marines and Sailor. It's great to hear their prognosis is very positive. Many of you have asked for the address for the Injured that have been medevaced to Bethesda:

Marine Corps Liaison Office
(Attn: LCpl Waldron 13th MEU BLT 1/1) (Attn: Sgt Peters 13th MEU CLB-13)
National Naval Medical Center
8901 Wisconsin Avenue
Building 10, Room 1022
Bethesda, Maryland 20889

Cards and letter will be much appreciated. Large Care packages are very difficult for the Marine Liaison to forward, store for the Marines. During their stay at Bethesda there is nothing that the Marines and their visiting families can't be provided. We asked everybody to continue the strong prayers for LCpl Waldron, Sgt Peters and their families.

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Col D. W Coffman sends:

LCpl Garcia (B/1/1) suffered minor superficial injuries in mortar explosion. He was treated in Djibouti and returned to his company. He is in full duty status back aboard USS Comstock. We will not report further on him in these updates.

Chief Bennett (H&S/1/1) suffered broken arm and other bang-up injuries in HMMWV accident. He was medevaced to Landstuhl Hospital Germany on 26 May where he had surgical repair on his arm. He was medevaced to Bethesda NNMC 29 May and then on to San Diego on 30 May where he will continue his treatment and recovery. I expect full recovery. We will not report further on him in these updates.

LCpl Waldron (B/1/1) suffered very serious injury from shrapnel in mortar explosion. He was treated initially in Djibouti and then medevaced to Landstuhl on 26 May. He received additional surgery in Landstuhl 28 May.

After that he was extubated (out of induced coma and breathing on own). He was medevaced to Bethesda NNMC afternoon of 29 May for further treatment. His family joined him at Bethesda. He is now out of ICU and on Ward 5E. He has had some challenges with pain management, but is otherwise doing well. He still needs a major jaw reconstruction. Oral Surgeons are working on their plan for that and expect to do the surgery sometime next couple days. He will be at Bethesda for a while. He is strong and motivated and has great support from his unit and his family. He is receiving visitors and getting lots of encouragement from all over the country and from his fellow Marines out here with the MEU.

Sgt Peters (CLB-13) suffered very serious injury in HMMWV accident, with severe head trauma. He was treated initially in Djibouti and then medevaced to Landstuhl on 26 May. After additional treatment at Landstuhl, he was medevaced to Bethesda NNMC today 31 May (expected to arrive 1700 local at Andrews AFB). He has his wife and lots of family there waiting for him. Although stable and with some positive signs, his condition remains very serious and he has a long road ahead. He remains in ICU at Bethesda as the medical team works on a course of action for treatment. He and his family are getting tremendous support from across the country and from CLB-13 and the MEU.

Please continue your outstanding support to LCpl Waldron and Sgt Peters and their families. Our Family Readiness Officers can tell you how to help.

D. W. Coffman
Commanding Officer 13th MEU