



Volume 2

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18 June 2009

Engineers,

As we enter into the summer months, your Engineer Center of Excellence is heavily involved in supporting OIF and OEF engineer oriented efforts. Though not yet designated a formal Program of Instruction, a Route Reconnaissance and Clearance (R2C) Mobile Training Team has deployed to Iraq in support of II MEF (Forward). We are also adjusting and expanding our schedule in order to train more Marines in R2C. In coordination with the Engineer School, we have recently completed a Weapons Systems Explosive Safety Review Board (WSESRB) package on robots equipped to emplace explosive charges on IEDs.

As more Marines deploy to Afghanistan, the austere environment and lack of infrastructure make our expeditionary engineer skills especially valuable. Bridging equipment and related skills are necessary to get both personnel and vehicles across gaps of varying sizes. As old and new technology is employed against the IED threat, incident reports and lessons learned reinforce the need to frequently rotate operators using explosive detecting equipment. Especially with ground penetrating radar systems, operator fatigue/error is the most common cause of missed hazards.

As always, we are anxious to hear comments, ideas and concerns from engineers throughout our Corps. I encourage you to engage the Engineer Center of Excellence and write articles for this Newsletter as well as the *Gazette* or *Leatherneck*...
Semper Fi,
Col Heesacker



Schedule your Command's
Pre-Deployment
IED-Defeat Training Today!

Contact:

The Engineer Center of Excellence
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1. SAFETY UPDATE:

FM 3-34.214 Explosives and Demolitions

Marines have historically used a popular Army Field Manual to safely plan and employ explosives and demolitions. On 11 July 2007 however the Army rescinded this pub [FM 5-250 Explosives and Demolitions] and replaced it with another [FM 3-34.214 Explosives and Demolitions]. This new pub includes updated information and provides a special notice for Navy and Marine Corps personnel regarding actions to address non-electric firing circuit misfires. The special notice contained in paragraph 6-38 of FM 3-34.214 requires that Navy and Marine Corps personnel “wait 60 minutes plus the time remaining on the secondary initiating system”. The interval described in FM 3-34.214 is double the time listed in FM 5-250. This special notice for Navy/Marine Corps personnel is based upon Naval Sea Command’s (NAVSEA) Surface Warfare (SW)O60-AA-MMA-010, the Department of the Navy’s technical manual for explosives and demolition, and was developed in response to misfire incident reports.

The Engineer Center of Excellence’s (ECO), Doctrine Section has requested that the Marine Corps Combat Development Command (MCCDC) Doctrine Control Branch (DCB) remove FM 5-250 from the Marine Corps’ doctrine website and substitute FM 3-34.214 as its replacement. In conjunction with this, the Doctrine Section alerted Training & Education Command (TECOM) G3 so that this updated information can be broadcast to schools that are involved in the planning

and employment of explosives and demolition. During the annual review of doctrinal pubs, the ECOE also recommended that FM 3-34.214 become dual service designated however this action has not yet been completed by MCCDC. Personnel with active Army Knowledge On Line (AKO) accounts can access the new pub electronically via AKO tools. Those without AKO accounts can contact the ECOE Doctrine Section for assistance. The ECOE Doctrine Section can also assist unit pub clerks in receiving automatic distribution to NAVSEA SWO60-AA-MMA-010. The most recent version was published 24 March 2008.

The doctrine section is working to have these manuals available through a Share Point site. In addition another tool to view doctrine is the Marine Corps doctrine website www.doctrine.quantico.usmc.mil. At the current time neither of the above manuals are listed on the Marine Corps doctrine website. For any questions pertaining to these matters please contact Mr. Matt Bishop, Doctrine Analyst, Capabilities Branch, ECOE via phone at 910-440-7271, DSN 758-7271 or via email: matthew.b.bishop.ctr@usmc.mil

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2. UPCOMNG EVENTS

* OCTOBER 13 – 17 2009 Marine Corps Engineer Association Reunion Las Vegas.
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3. FROM THE ENGINEER OCCUPATIONAL FIELD SPONSOR...

OCCFIELD ISSUES

A. Meetings/ Conferences

1) DCE OAG- Issues discussed include: PTP (CE Bn and CE Plt ISO Inf Bn), CEB Mirror Imaging, EOD in GCE ISO OEF, Accelerated build of Bridge Co, Landmine replacement, Equipment Issues (deletion of MC1150/1155/ UBM from CEB), CEB Construction METL, 1372/1343 Management, Engr T&R Manual

2) MWSG OAG- Objectives discussed include: Enhance situational awareness of programs, policies, initiatives, and operational aviation ground support (AGS) issues affecting the MWSG/MWSS; provide an opportunity for MWSG/MWSS Commanding Officers and AGS community to provide guidance/direction; develop CY09 and future AGS OAG advocacy priorities; and present action items and topics for guidance and/or decision by the MWSG Executive Steering Committee (ESC)

3) ESB OAG- Issues discussed include: Review of 2007 and 2008 OAG outstanding action items, EOD Co Enablers, standardizing DS CLB Eng Det, T&R Review, MV Engr Events-define, UT trng review (based on OIF/OEF observations), K Span (UBM) trng review, SOML POI review, Education/ trng for CWO/ O, Facilities billets, Bulk fuel excess (within ESB and 202k growth)?, Dump truck deficiencies (capacity), Water trucks, K Span, Bridging (reduction in T/E), metal detector (LWMD), MTL vs 1150/ 1155, NCF integration, Joint training opportunities, Review sixcon planning, Force Generation (incl MFR), Message for MV/ amrx std for PTP, 2009 ESB OAG Message/ out brief.

4) Joint Engineer Training/ Society of American Military Engineers (SAME) National Conference- HQMC, MCES, and MCEA booth to tell USMC engineer story and review engineering-related exhibitions. Registrants participated in professional development tracks relating to contingency engineering, environmental issues, joint training, facilities engineering, and professional development.

5) SAME Senior NCO Conference- USMC Sponsored- numerous professional panels for Staff NCOs and a windshield tour of Camp Lejeune and Courthouse Bay.

6) MEP Users Conference/ Joint Power Expo- Review of USMC efforts and integration into/ exploitation of Joint efforts.

7) EOD Memorial/ Working Group- Annual rededication for EOD technicians killed in action and working group to discuss emerging requirements.

8) TECOM Engineer and Utilities Training and Readiness Manual- Continued refinement of ESB 7000 level METs and other collective and individual tasks.

9) Uncompensated review board- Briefed additional structure for utilities personnel in the GCE and engineers in the LCE for current and future requirements, but due to limited amount of trade space, no additional structure was gained. Pursuing other forms of compensation to gain structure for utilities personnel in the GCE, EOD in support of additional GCE requirements, and engineers in 3d MLG.

10) MCM and Route Clearance- Numerous meetings held to define long term requirements, shape requirements documentation, and develop programs of record that support current and emerging expeditionary/ mobility requirements in an environment with explosive obstacles and hazards.

B. Training/ Education:

1) Joint Engineer Operations Course- While we only have 3 quotas per course, we have been able to send 13 Marines to the last two courses. If interested in the course (open to everyone in the community, E7 and above), contact MGySgt J.T. Griffin to get enrolled in the distance education portion (to be eligible for the resident phase). Must have an AKO account to start the process (www.us.army.mil).

2) Sapper School- Numerous seats are available, please contact Assistant Engineer Occupational Field Sponsor, MGySgt J.T. Griffin.

3) Engineer Captain's Career Course (Type II CLS)- additional seats may be available, please contact the 1302 monitor- Capt Randy Hooper.

4) Numerous additional training courses are available- please contact MGySgt J.T. Griffin for more information.

C. Studies:

1) Bulk Fuel Study- Nothing significant to report- IPR and progress reports available upon request to LPE.

2) Explosive Hazard support to MAGTF (EOD organization/ Engineer training)- Numerous meetings held and additional guidance/ clarification provided to contractor- IPR and progress reports available upon request to LPE.

3) Engineer equipment PEI to maintainer ratio- Nothing significant to report- IPR and progress reports available upon request to LPE.

4) Mobile Power support to MAGTF- Nothing significant to report- IPR and progress reports available upon request to MCSC (PM MEP).

D. Other:

1) MCO on Marine Corps Engineer Association Awards (MCO 1650.41C) is in

staffing for review. Expect changes for next year's program.

2) Expect clarification on MRAP licensing policy within next quarter.

3) Load test order is in staffing process. LPE has for action (supporting LPC- MCO owner).

4) Engineer equipment licensing manual is in staffing process. LPE has for action.

V/R,

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4. AWARD:

2009 American Petroleum Institute (API)

Award winners (MARADMIN 264/09):

A. CATEGORY III: Marine Corps Non-Tactical Unit MCAS Iwakuni, JP.

RUNNER-UP: MCAS Cherry Point, NC.

B. CATEGORY IV: Marine Corps Tactical Unit: MWSS-273; Beaufort, SC.

RUNNER-UP: MWSS-371; Yuma, AZ.

C. CATEGORY V: Marine Corps Fuel Officer: CWO2 Richard L. Cordes; MWSS-171, Iwakuni, JP.

RUNNER-UP: CWO2 Kevin G. Pierre; MWSS-273, Beaufort, SC.

D. USMC Fuel SNCO: GySgt Delvon M. Survine; MWSS-273, Beaufort, SC.

RUNNER-UP: GySgt Keith E. Dillon; H&HS, MCAS Cherry Ppoint, NC.

E. USMC Fuel NCO: Sgt Javier E. Corcino; MWSS-273, Beaufort, SC.

RUNNER-UP: Sgt Cory D. Held; MWSS-373, San Diego, CA.

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5. FROM THE ENGINEER ADVOCATE

Navy/Marine Corps Revised Terms of Reference (TOR)

- Capping off a two year effort, in May 2009, OPNAV's N4 and DC, I&L cosigned the revised TOR revitalizing the Interoperability Working Group (IWG) between the Naval Construction Force and Marine Engineers, revising the vintage 1987/8 document into a more general document for interoperability and engagement with the appropriate levels of staffing to achieve Naval Engineer synergy and collaboration.

Programmed Operational Memorandum (POM) 12 MAGTF Gap List Deliberations

- LPE, ICW DCs, Aviation (APX) and PP&O (POG 27), participated in the Logistics, Fires and Maneuver, and Force Protection Integration Division efforts 17-25 June to link Engineering Programs to the MAGTF Gap List and rank order in priority order according to APMC guidance under a matrixed scoring effort. LPE will brief DC, I&L representatives prior to the Executive Steering Group efforts in early July to integrate across the Integration Divisions to determine POM12 priorities for sustainment and initiative creation for engineer and EOD equipping.

Navy Task Force Energy (TFE) Efforts

- Expeditionary Working Group (EWG). LPE co-chairs biweekly

EWG Meetings with the N85, and submitted 4 Marine Corps Systems Command (MCSC) Research and Development, Testing and Evaluation (RDTE) initiatives to OSD. In early April, three MCSC initiatives were selected by OSD for funding under the "American Recovery and Reinvestment Act (ARRA)". The three initiatives that received funding totaling \$10M are;

- **Integrated Trailer-Environmental Control Unit-Generator**
- **Improved Efficiency Environmental Control Units**
- **On-Board Vehicle Power Systems**

- Fuels Working Group (FWG). LPE participates biweekly in the Navy's FWG, leveraging Marine LNOs at Fort Belvoir to represent HQMC. The current FWG efforts are focused on the Navy's initiative to create a standard single fuel on the battlefield (JP-8) that is non-fossil fuel based to reduce the tether of foreign oil interdependence and reduce the creation of greenhouse gases overall. The FWG has linked into MCSC's lead engineers to participate and provide data on USMC tactical equipment.

- Upcoming Energy Efficiency Events that LPE has or will participate in:

6-7 May National Defense Industrial Association Power Conference in New Orleans

17 Jun USA Quartermaster Exposition

24 Jun Navy Executive Steering Committee

8 Jul HQMC Executive Offsite Energy Brief

Mid July USA Power Surety Insulation Testing

13-14 Aug HQMC Energy Summit at Quantico

14-15 Oct Navy TFE Energy Symposium at Tyson's Corner

saw a 300% increase in Marine Corps students, and was facilitated by LPE Occupational Field Sponsors.

Joint Operational Engineer Board (JOEB) Efforts.

Focused Logistics Capabilities Portfolio Management (CpM) Joint OE Capabilities Based Assessment Team (CBAT) Update. LPE participates in the OE CBAT under the auspices of the JOEB. The CBA is an 8 month effort to provide Quadrennial Defense Review (QDR) 2009 data for joint engineering roles and missions analysis to influence POM-12 to develop mid-term and far-term capability development objectives for joint engineering. ECOE has materially assisted the effort in determining work-to-task levels and efforts data production, and fully participated in the Functional Needs Assessment (FNA) Wargame held in March. The wargame resulted in detailed documentation of the multitude of engineer tasks to determine capability needs and gaps for future force engineering support. In an operational pause for the past two months, the Functional Solutions Analysis (FSA) is projected to kick off in July.

- **Joint Engineer Operations Course (JEOC).** Sponsored by the JOEB and currently funded by the Army, Navy and Air Force Service Engineer Chiefs, the DOTMLPF Change Request (DCR) was briefed to the Joint Capabilities Board (JCB) on 27 February under the proposal to assign sponsorship and funding responsibilities to the JOEB. The most recent course, held in Wright Patterson AFB (Air Force Institute Of Technology (AFIT) 25-19 June,

- **Joint Force Engineer Command (JFEC) Afghanistan Concept.** LPE participated in the JOEB Coordination Group (JCG) March through late May 09 and initiated a CENTCOM-sponsored effort that devised and formalized an Afghanistan Joint Force Engineer Command (JFEC) to coordinate theater level general engineering efforts for Afghanistan. Although the JFEC has limited USMC equity as all Marine Engineering units are embedded within the MAGTF, the impact of the JFEC to consolidate and align general engineering functions and services potentially will provide synergy and optimization of theater level engineering.

FY09 Marine Corps Engineer Summit Follow-Up

- LPE participated in the Marine Corps Engineer Community Engineer Summit 10-11 March 2009, hosted by ECOE. Dynamic discussion resulted in following items of interest with updates since the last newsletter:
 - **Route Reconnaissance and Clearance (R2C) Teams.** Summit consensus was that R2C teams need attached or direct support EOD teams when conducting R2C missions in a COIN environment.
 - Update: DC, I&L and PP&O initiated an increase to Marine Combat Engineer and EOD structure to provide adequate numbers of Marines to support R2C ISO OCO operations as part of the 16-19 June HQMC Operations Summit in NAB Norfolk, VA. Current DC, PP&O intent is to use GCE 202K

structure as billpayers to create additional CEB and EOD Company structure to combat the CIED threat.

- **Engineer Construction Equipment.** Two items identified by DCE OAG were needs for larger dump trucks than the MTRV Dump and large water trucks to support horizontal construction and dust abatement efforts, respectively.
 - Update: ESB OAG met 1-4 June, and came to same conclusions, and LPE met with DC,CD&I (LID) on way ahead to create initiatives for both capabilities as part of POM 12 deliberations.
- **Engineer Colonel Billets.** General consensus was that lack of permanent Marine Engineer Colonel billets in the operating forces results in less than optimum engineer staff planning, mission analysis and ability to optimize task organization of MEF and MAGTF engineer assets, and automatic subordination of Marine Engineer Commands to NCF due to lack of Commander grade parity, and recommended a permanent Engineer Colonel's billet on each MEF staff.
 - Update: LPE created tasker to Engineer graybeards and MEF/MARFOR engineers to create support metrics for this issue in preparation for the LCE OAG in August. Currently awaiting input back to better articulate the need for Engineer Colonels at the MEF's to brief the LCE OAG.
- **Supporting Establishment (SE) Facilities Billets.** General

consensus (similar to 2002 Annual Engineer Conference) validated this is not a Marine Engineer Officer core competency, given the lack of professional engineering degrees within Marine Engineer Community and lack of billets and training in facilities skills, but some feel these billets are beneficial when long term facilities issues result (e.g. Base Operating Standards imposed on overseas temporary bases in GWOT).

- Update: LPE socialized this issue with the SE through ADC, I&L (LF), and got a mixed review of value to Marine Corps SE to retain Marine Officers and Enlisted Engineers in Facilities billets. Naval Facilities Command (NAVFAC) embraced the issue as the billets are viable for CEC officers, but would need to acquire compensatory Marine Engineer Structure if they were requested to provide personnel to support the Marine Corps.

- **Engineer Principal End Item (PEI) to Maintainer Ratio Study.** The MCCDC study team held operating force interviews throughout January 09, and are currently formulating the analysis phase of this study, designed to determine standards for engineer equipment to operator ratios. Expect a final report in late July.
- **MAGTF Power and Environmental Control Unit (ECU) Study.** MCCDC Studies Division held the kickoff meeting 22 January, and the study team visited the schoolhouses and operating forces to facilitate the advancement of the two phased study to be completed by the end of August:

- Phase I: Analyze future Marine Corps Mobile Electric Power (MEP) generation and capabilities to:
- Phase II: Analyze the capabilities and requirements of a MEB and MEU to provide MEP generation and ECU support in a tactical environment:
- The scope of the study was further refined to include all Marine Corps equipment requiring MEP and ECU support that is projected to be operational during the 2012 to 2020 timeframe.
 - The following major Assumptions and factors for Considerations were defined as valid at the kickoff meeting:
 - Current Programs of Record (POR) for equipment requiring MEP/ECU support will be executed as planned.
 - Emerging concepts of operations may effect MEP/ECU requirements.
 - Emerging environmental regulations and restrictions will affect the acquisition of power and air conditioning assets forthcoming in POM-12.

Defense Energy Support Center (DESC) FY09 Fuel Cost Variations

- OSD released a memorandum on 25 June 2009 that published the third DESC fuel price change for FY09, roughly 31% increase, effective 1 July 2009. The OSD memorandum changed the FY 2009 standard fuel prices from \$60.48 to \$87 per 42 gallon barrel.

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MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION

The annual MCEA Awards board has completed their review of 91 individual and 10 Marine Corps and Seabee units. The results were provided to HQMC on 15 June for publication in an upcoming MarAdmin. The board members agreed that all of the nominees were very deserving of the unique recognition as “best of the best” and we regret that only one can be selected. We are hopeful that the Unit Commanders provide special recognition to all those nominated.

The awards will be presented on 14 October, during our annual reunion, this year to be held in Las Vegas.

2009 REUNION SCHEDULE

13 OCT, TUES: 1800- 2100

Registration & Welcome Aboard Social;

14 OCT, WED: 0800-1300 Business Meeting & Briefings;

1300 - 1800 Open Time

1800 – Cocktail Hour

1900 – Banquet Buffet & Awards

15 OCT, THURS: Open time for individual tours

Group rates are available at the Golden Nugget Hotel, Las Vegas; Phone #: 800-634-3454. Identify you are attending the Marine Corps Engineer Association Reunion. Rates are: \$49 per night for 11-15 OCT (SUN-THURS) and \$89 for 9, 10, 16 & 17 OCT. Please note that any

reservations made through a 3rd party, such as a travel agent, or website like Expedia, will not be extended the lower rate.

We will have a hospitality suite available beginning Monday, 12 OCT. All attendees will also receive a coupon book valued at \$250.

Discounts available for airfare and rental cars.

All of the above activities will take place in the Golden Nugget.

Get all the details and obtain the RSVP and reservation form at our website: MarCorEngAsn.org

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Purpose of the *Operational Engineer*

To provide a useful forum for open discussion and free exchange of ideas relating to the U.S. Marine Corps Engineer Community and its capabilities that will be published quarterly for the benefit of the entire Engineer community. Thoughts, suggestions, and ideas from the operating forces are essential to achieving this purpose.

SUBMISSION POLICY

- **Commentary on published material:** Submit promptly. Comments normally appear as letters 3 months after published material. Be brief.
- **Feature articles:** Normally 750 to 1,000 words, dealing with topics of major significance. Ideas must be backed by hard facts. Evidence must be presented to support logical conclusions. In the case of articles that criticize, constructive suggestions are sought. Footnotes are not necessary, but a list of any source materials used is helpful. The Marine Corps Engineer School will call upon the operational units to provide specific commentary on issues that have relevance to the education of the occupational field.
- **Ideas and Issues:** Short articles, normally 200-300 words. This section can include the full gamut of professional topics so long as treatment of the subject is short, concise, and professional.
- **Letters:** Limit to 100 words or less. As in most newsletters, letters to the editors are an important clue as to how well or poorly ideas are being received. Letters are an excellent way to correct factual mistakes, reinforce ideas, outlining opposing points of view, identify problems, and suggest factors or important considerations that have been overlooked in previous articles. The best letters are sharply focused on one or two specific points.
- **Suggestions:** Write the way you speak. Organize your thoughts. Cut out excess words. Short is better than long.

How to submit your input: Submissions may be sent via email (preferred) or regular mail. If regular mail is used we request that you include a hard copy of the manuscript and a disk with the manuscript in Microsoft Word format. Photographs and illustrations must be in TIFF, JPG or EPS format (300dpi, 5x7 inches, color preferred) and must not be embedded in the article. Please attach photos and illustrations in a separate file. You may include the text of the article where the photos are to be placed. Include the authors full name, mailing address, telephone number, and e-mail address.

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Regular mail to: *The Operational Engineer*, Center of Excellence, PSC Box 20069, Camp Lejeune, NC 28542-0069.

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