



U.S. Marines and Sailors supporting Regional Command (SouthWest) and Afghan National Army soldiers stand at attention during an evening colors ceremony on Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province Afghanistan May 28, 2012. U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. David H. Berger, commanding general of Task Force Leatherneck, held the ceremony as a Memorial Day Commemoration in remembrance of those who have died in our nation's service.



U.S. Marine Corps Maj. Gen. David H. Berger, right, commanding general of Task Force Leatherneck (TFL) and Sgt. Maj. Terry L. Jones, TFL Sgt. Maj., salute the American Flag during an evening colors ceremony on Camp Leatherneck, Helmand province Afghanistan May 28, 2012. Maj. Gen. Berger held the ceremony as a Memorial Day Commemoration in remembrance of those who have died in our nation's service.



Older brother Morza, left, and Jamil, right, a linguist with Battalion Aid Station, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, comfort Towuz, a local Afghan boy, as U.S. Navy Corpsmen work to close a wound on his leg on Forward Operating Base Jackson, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 28, 2012. Towuz cut open his leg when he fell off the back of a truck while riding through the Sangin Bazaar.



Towuz, a Local Afghan national child, rests on a stretcher as U.S. Navy Corpsmen with 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6 work to close a wound on his leg on Forward Operating Base Jackson, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 28, 2012. Towuz cut open his leg when he fell off the back of a truck while riding through the Sangin Bazaar.



U.S. Marines with Fox Company, 2D Battalion, 9th Marines, Regimental Combat Team 5, provide suppressive fire during a satellite patrol in Bari Desert, Afghanistan May 25, 2012. Fox Company took part in a ten-day partnered patrol with the Afghan National Army to disrupt enemy activity throughout their area of operations.



Afghan National Army (ANA) Brig. Gen. Mohammad Ali Sujaie, commanding general, 1st Brigade, 215th Corps looks through the sight of an M69A 82mm light mortar during a shoot outside Camp Dwyer, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 28, 2012. U.S. Marines with Regimental Combat Team 5 taught an M69A 82mm light mortar train the trainer course to ANA soldiers so that they could go back to their Kandak and teach their fellow soldiers.



Afghan National Army (ANA) Brig. Gen. Mohammad Ali Sujaie, commanding general, 1st Brigade, 215th Corps, speaks to the ANA class of an M69A 82mm light mortar course during a shoot outside Camp Dwyer, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 28, 2012. U.S. Marines with Regimental Combat Team 5 taught an M69A 82mm light mortar train the trainer course to ANA soldiers so that they could go back to their Kandak and teach their fellow soldiers.



A member of Afghan National Interdiction Unit (NIU) documents the narcotics seized during a raid operation in Bari Desert, Afghanistan May 28, 2012. NIU, assisted by 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, conducted the counter-narcotics operation in Bari Desert.



U.S. Marines with 2nd Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment (2/9), Regimental Combat Team 5 move away from a burning car loaded with illicit drugs seized during a raid operation in Bari Desert, Afghanistan May 28, 2012. Afghan National Interdiction Unit, assisted by 2/9, conducted the counter-narcotics operation in Bari Desert.



U.S. Marine Corps Cpl. Morgan Baker, a radio operator with Personal Security Detachment, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, gives a high five to a local Afghan child while on patrol out of Patrol Base Hanjar Yak, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 29, 2012. The patrol was conducted to gain local atmospherics and deny the enemy freedom of movement within the area.



U.S. Marine Corps Lt. Col. David Bradney, right, battalion commander, along with Marines of 1st Squad, 2nd Platoon, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, questions a local Afghan national while on a security patrol out of Patrol Base Hanjar Yak, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 29, 2012. The patrol was conducted to gain local atmospherics and deny the enemy freedom of movement within the area.



A U.S. Marine with 1st Squad, 2nd Platoon, Charlie Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6 leaps over a canal during a security patrol out of Patrol Base Hanjar Yak, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 29, 2012. The patrol was conducted to gain local atmospherics and deny the enemy freedom of movement within the area.



U.S. Marines with the Personal Security Detachment, Regimental Combat Team 6 await commands during a familiarization range aboard Camp Delaram II, Nimroz province, Afghanistan May 29, 2012. Marines conducted the range to become more familiar with employing their weapons during periods of low light.



U.S. Marines with the Personal Security Detachment, Regimental Combat Team 6 fire on a familiarization range aboard Camp Delaram II, Nimroz province, Afghanistan May 29, 2012. Marines conducted the range to become more familiar with employing their weapons during periods of low light.



U.S. Marine Corps Sgt. Mark Grey, platoon sergeant with 2nd platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat 6, provides security during a patrol in Sangin, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 30, 2012. The patrol was conducted to carry out a site survey for an Afghan patrol base.



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Colt Bergman, a machine gunner with 2nd platoon, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat 6, provides security during a patrol in Sangin, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 30, 2012. The patrol was conducted to carry out a site survey for an Afghan patrol base.



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Allan Wargo, second from right, a team leader with Police Advisor Team 2, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, leads Afghan Local Police (ALP) in warm-up stretches in Sangin, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 31, 2012. Marines began each day with physical training before instructing ALP members on military strategy.



U.S. Marine Corps Lance Cpl. Matthew Kowaczyk, right, a rifleman with Police Advisor Team 2, Alpha Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6, and Afghan Local Police (ALP) members curl sandbags during a physical training (PT) session in Sangin, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 31, 2012. Marines instructed ALP members on military strategies and began each day with PT.



Local Afghan children watch U.S. Marines with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6 as they patrol in Sangin, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 31, 2012. Marines conducted the patrol to survey the location of a future Afghan Local Police station.



Local Afghan children smile for the camera as U.S. Marines with Bravo Company, 1st Battalion, 7th Marine Regiment, Regimental Combat Team 6 pass by in Sangin, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 31, 2012. Marines conducted the patrol to survey the location of a future Afghan Local Police station.



U.S. Marine Corps Gen. John R. Allen, front left, commanding general, International Security Assistance Force, walks with Maj. Gen. Charles M. Gurganus, commanding general of Regional Command (SouthWest) aboard Camp Dwyer, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 31, 2012. Gen. Allen and Maj. Gen. Gurganus visited Camp Dwyer to discuss progress in Helmand province and meet with Marines with 2D Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment.



U.S. Marine Corps Gen. John R. Allen, commanding general, International Security Assistance Force, presents the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device to Cpl. Jeffrey Dacey with Weapons Company, 2D Battalion, 6th Marine Regiment (2/6), Regimental Combat Team 5 aboard Camp Dwyer, Helmand province, Afghanistan May 31, 2012. Gen. Allen visited Camp Dwyer to meet with Marine leadership in Helmand province and Marines with 2/6.

Task Force Leatherneck

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