



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

2D MARINE DIVISION

PSC BOX 20003

CAMP LEJEUNE, NC 28542-0003

IN REPLY REFER TO:

1650

G-1

APR 29 2015

FIRST ENDORSEMENT on CO, 2d CEBn ltr 1650 S-1 of 9 Apr 15

From: Commanding General, 2d Marine Division

To: Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics (LPE)

Subj: MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION NOMINATION FOR THE 2015  
COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE YEAR AWARD

1. Forwarded, recommended with enthusiasm.
2. The 2d Combat Engineer Battalion deployed in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 14.2 and subsequently played an integral role in the final phases and the closing of Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan. Simultaneously, 2d Combat Engineer Battalion was able to continue to support the Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU) and Special Purpose Marine Air Ground Task Force - Crisis Response (SPMAGTF-CR) while deployed; and one MEU and SPMAGTF-CR through pre-deployment training. The ability of 2d Combat Engineer Battalion to provide engineer support to the entire 2d Marine Division throughout various mission requirements truly epitomizes the 2d Marine Division's motto, "Follow Me."
3. Point of contact at this command is Mrs. Linda Brown at 910-451-8731/linda.s.brown2@usmc.mil.



J. D. ALFORD  
Assistant Division Commander



UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS  
2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION  
2D MARINE DIVISION  
PSC BOX 20089  
CAMP LEJEUNE, NC 28542-0089

IN REPLY REFER TO  
1650  
S-1

APR 09 2015

From: Commanding Officer, 2d Combat Engineer Battalion  
To: Deputy Commandant, Installations and Logistics (LPE)  
Via: Commanding General, 2d Marine Division

Subj: MARINE CORPS ENGINEER ASSOCIATION NOMINATION FOR THE 2015 COMBAT  
ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE YEAR AWARD

Ref: (a) MARADMIN 039/15  
(b) MCO 1650.41C

Encl: (1) Summary of Action  
(2) Summary of Statistics  
(3) Proposed Citation  
(4) Personal Data Sheet

1. Forwarded.

2. I enthusiastically recommend 2d Combat Engineer Battalion for the 2015 Marine Corps Engineer Association Combat Engineer Battalion of the Year Award. The Marines and Sailors of this Battalion show a commitment to excellence on a daily basis, simultaneously setting the standard high for the Marine Corps Engineer Community and 2d Marine Division to emulate both in garrison and deployed in to a combat environment.

3. The point of contact for this matter is First Lieutenant Anthony J. Fazio at [anthony.j.fazio@usmc.mil](mailto:anthony.j.fazio@usmc.mil) or (910) 451-7897.

  
G. A. MCCULLAR

## Combat Engineer Battalion of the Year Award

### Summary of Action -

From 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, the Marines and Sailors of 2d Combat Engineer Battalion (CEB) provided outstanding engineer support while renewing a culture of stewardship, emphasizing force preservation, and enabling professional growth. The Battalion showcased its versatility and multitasking ability while simultaneously supporting the Special Purpose Marine Air-Ground Task Force-Crisis Response (SPMAGTF-CR), Marine Expeditionary Unit (MEU), Continental United States Based Alert Force (CBAF), and Operation ENDURING FREEDOM (OEF) 14.1 and 14.2. Operating at a high tempo while in garrison, deployed, and in combat 2d CEB maintained a high state of readiness and drive for excellence in its Marines' and Sailors' personal and professional development. The importance of force preservation, developing a cohesive team, and overall unit readiness are emphasized as the building blocks on which 2d CEB sustains a strong moral, mental, and physical foundation.

Throughout the deployment to Afghanistan 14.2, 2d CEB provided route clearance support to the Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF), 31st Georgian Light Infantry Battalion, 23d Georgian Light Infantry Battalion, Combat Sustainment Support Battalion-13, British Maneuver Battle Group, and Special Operation Task Force (SOTF) West operations. 2d CEB Marines cleared more than 7,000 kilometers of routes while ensuring safe and efficient mobility throughout 120 missions. With one platoon reinforced filling a conventional combat engineer role, 2d CEB Marines conducted dismounted sweeping for hundreds of foot patrols safeguarding the movements of the supported infantry unit. These Marines also conducted more than 72 survivability improvements, including upgrades to the perimeter defense, the construction of 13 guard posts, and most notably, designed and constructed the final defensive positions to support the MAGTF and British final withdrawal from the Bastion-Leatherneck Complex. The Battalion supported base realignment, closure, and transfer efforts by conducting 31 remediation projects, including the complete demilitarization of Patrol Base Boldak, Living Support Area-7, and thousands of acres of land plots. The timely completion of these missions proved critical in meeting the Commanding General's timeline for the transfer of Authority between Regional Command Southwest and the Afghan National Army.

Upon conclusion of the OEF 14.2 deployment in October 2014, 2d CEB Forward (FWD) had retrograded more than 94 million dollars of Marine Corps equipment and coordinated the redeployment of 257 Marines and Sailors to Camp Lejeune, North Carolina (CLNC). Throughout the deployment and during equipment retrograde, 2d CEB improved equipment accountability, supply discipline, and maintenance management, ultimately completing retrograde with zero equipment loss or discrepancies and allowing the turnover of the Battalion's compound to occur seamlessly.

2d CEB continued substantial improvements to the Battalion's new facilities at Engineer Training Area (ETA) 9/10 with the construction of an endurance course and a shotgun breaching wall. ETA-9/10 staff provided 1,016 hours of training to 945 Marines from 2d CEB and 12 other units within II Marine Expeditionary Force, including the Ground Combat Element Integrated Task Force (GCEITF). The training included 2 Sapper Leaders Courses and 19 demolition ranges.

The family readiness program was also extremely active in offering numerous social events for spouses and families including workshops on self-defense, deployment support, and other topics to support family stability. As the Battalion (FWD) and Remain Behind Element reintegrated, 2d CEB encouraged and offered various family readiness events including a holiday party where 400 Marines, Sailors, and family members were in attendance. While encouraging and promoting family participation within the Battalion, Marines and Sailors continued to conduct warrior transition training, annual training events.

Company A reformed after the deployment to OEF 14.2 in November and immediately began conducting training events focused on honing their combat engineer and provisional infantry skillsets. Training centered upon machine gun employment, ballistic breaching, fire and movement, urban mobility explosive breaching, and wood frame construction. The platoon assigned to CBAF 15.1 and took part in a three week deployment for training (DFT) with 1st Battalion, 8th Marines to Quantico, Virginia. Another platoon of Marines supported Marine Special Operations Command (MARSOC) with four separate squads spread out across the southeastern United States helping to prepare MARSOC for an upcoming deployment overseas, all while improving 2d CEB's provisional infantry skills.

Company B trained across the whole spectrum of combat engineering and infantry centric operations while in support of 6th Marine Regiment. Company and platoon-driven training was centered on preparation and execution for the OEF 14.2 mission and supporting the 22nd, 24th, and 26th MEUs to include four named exercises. Each platoon was aligned with their respective infantry battalions as part of the Ground Combat Elements. Many of these training evolutions were tailored to and revolved around real-world current events in Eastern Europe, Northern Africa, and the Levant while incorporating crisis-response scenarios.

The Marines' of Company C mission is centered upon the support of SPMAGTF-CR throughout the African Command and European Command Area of Responsibility. During SPMAGTF-CR 14.1 the Marines trained with the French Foreign Legion, Portuguese Fuzeleros, and the Spanish Marines. While supporting SPMAGTF-CR 14.2 the Marines conducted training with the Romanian Army, Serbian Army, Bulgarian Army, Hungarian Junior Officer Army, and Spanish Marines. Currently, Marines from Company C are supporting SPMAGTF-CR 15.1 and are forward staged in Rota, Spain; Sigonella, Italy, and Romania.

Mobility Assault Company partnered with other battalions throughout the Marine Expeditionary Force and completed four company level breaches with 2d Tank Battalion, one field training exercise with Explosive Ordnance Disposal Company, 8th Engineer Support Battalion, supported the School of Infantry with a platoon of Marines, supported Integrated Training Exercise 2-15 with a section of Assault Breacher Vehicles, and a company level field exercise incorporating two external units in support of company operations. The Company also embarked one Buffalo and two Huskys aboard the USS SAN ANTONIO during its field training exercise, which was the first time this equipment has been embarked aboard a Navy ship. Additionally, the platoons completed 36 platoon level training events throughout Camp Lejeune which included basic and expedient demolitions, urban mobility breaching, provisional infantry training, dismounted and mechanized breaching, and other mission essential tasks. In February 2015 the company deployed a detachment of 76 Marines in support of the 2d Tank Battalion's DFT in Fort Pickett, Virginia. During this training the detachment completed two company level mechanized breaches, one battalion level mechanized breach, two demolition ranges, one live fire and movement range, two machine gun ranges, constructed counter-mobility obstacles, and completed numerous projects to offset the monetary cost of the training throughout Fort Pickett.

Throughout this period, 2d CEB demonstrated outstanding performance, esprit de corps, and total dedication to developing Marines and Sailors morally, mentally, and physically. 2d CEB's performance, both in combat and garrison, is exceptional in every regard and a true testament to 2d CEB's overall success during this period. 2d CEB is most worthy of special recognition and is highly recommended for the 2015 Marine Corps Combat Engineer Battalion of the Year Award.

## SUMMARY - 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION STATISTICS

1. Operations. 2d Combat Engineer Battalion completed a deployment to Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM 14.2 from March to October 2014. Support was provided to the 22nd, 24th, and 26th Marine Expeditionary Units, taking part in Exercises SEA SOLDIER and EAGER LION. SPMAGTF-CR 14.1 and 14.2 were supported and took part in Exercises PLATINUM LION and PLATINUM LYNX in addition to numerous combined host nation training events with partnered nations training. The Battalion also supported 2d Marine Division training exercises including Weapons, Integrated Training Exercise and Tactics Instructor, Bold Alligator 2014, as well as 21 other battalion level training events within the division.

### 2. Accomplishments

a. 2d CEB executed special training throughout the year to include various licensing courses, Sapper Leaders Course, Combat Marksmanship Trainers, Combat Marksmanship Coaches, Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, Martial Arts Instructor Course, Chaser Certification, Advanced Course, Career Course, Sergeant's Course, and Corporal's Course.

b. 2d CEB executed annual training throughout the year to include rifle ranges, pistol ranges, combat fitness tests, physical fitness tests, and gas chambers.

c. 2d CEB was 100 percent mission ready across 72 functional area checklists for the Commanding General's Readiness Inspection (CGRI) in March 2015.

### 3. Equipment

EQUIPMENT READINESS PERCENTAGE: For FY15, 2d Combat Engineer Battalion maintained 95 percent for overall equipment readiness.

From 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015 the battalion received 6 modernized M9 Armored Combat Earth-movers (ACE) and 80 Advanced Medium Mobile Power Sources (AMMPS) along with pertinent operating and maintenance training.

### 4. Readiness

From 1 April 2014 to 31 March 2015, 2d CEB conducted weekly reconciliations and readiness meetings with all maintenance commodities and sections in order to ensure equipment was at the

highest readiness state possible as well as prepare for the Field Supply and Maintenance Analysis Office (FSMAO) and the CGRI above the division average. To enhance equipment readiness, 2d CEB reinstated internal inspections within sections and commodities, Corrosion Prevention and Control (CPAC) submissions, wall-to-wall inspections, and Equipment Lifecycle Maintenance Program (ELMP) submissions. 2d CEB's efforts ultimately led to an overall score of "mission capable" by the FSMAO and CGRI inspection team. 2d CEB was mission capable in all functional area checklists, and Marines were recognized for noteworthy performance in various commodities throughout the battalion.

## 5. Safety

a. Post deployment Warrior Transition Classes were completed prior to post-deployment block leave.

b. The battalion's Unit Safety Program and Force Preservation Program were both deemed "Mission Capable" during the 2015 CGRI.

c. Work related mishaps decreased by 10 percent from 2014 to 2015.

d. 100 percent complete for FY15 supervisor safety training.

e. By adhering to the principles and regulations of operational risk management, 2d CEB was able to train to the maximum capacity, which increased individual, small unit, and battalion capabilities. A 2d CEB exercise engaged leadership, set the standard, and emphasizes the importance of risk mitigation to the Marines and Sailors. Through realistic training events, daily routine tasks, annual training requirements, and safety briefs leaders reiterate the meaning of selflessness, discipline, and judiciousness and how these principles pertain to Marines and Sailors both on and off duty. 2d CEB developed and maintained an effective Force Preservation Council, Safety Council, Motorcycle Club, Firearm Mentorship Program, and Safe Driving Council effectively established a core leadership focused on the development and distribution of policies and information.

In an effort to promote camaraderie, teamwork, and esprit de corps a unit safety program was established in which companies, sections, or individuals are recognized for exhibiting exceptional on and off duty safety excellence with a commander's coin, time off, or awards. Not only did Marines and Sailors

practice fundamentals of safety, risk management, and heat injury prevention throughout every event, they promoted unit cohesiveness among the battalion through teamwork and friendly competition. Promoting this trust is a step toward influencing force preservation and a culture of stewardship amongst 2d CEB Marines and Sailors. With trust, companionship, and effective leadership in 2d CEB comes the willingness to help each other, hold each other accountable to a set standard, and help prevent any dire situation from occurring.

Force preservation and stewardship are practiced not only during special events, but on a daily basis in the work spaces, classrooms, and field environments within 2d CEB. Marines and Sailors understand the importance of these ideals and are encouraged to intervene and prevent mishaps with the knowledge, guidance, and wisdom they received from 2d CEB's leadership.

## 6. Miscellaneous

### a. Awarded Personal Awards During the Reporting Period

1. (7) Purple Heart
2. (2) Bronze Star
3. (1) Meritorious Service Medal
4. (9) Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
5. (2) Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal with Combat Distinguishing Device
6. (46) Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal
7. (23) Combat Action Ribbons
8. (43) Certificates of Commendation
9. (19) Meritorious Mast

### b. Submitted Pending Approval Personal Awards

1. (2) Purple Hearts
2. (13) Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal
3. (4) Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal
4. (1) Combat Action Ribbon



2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION POINTS OF CONTACT

Primary: First Lieutenant Anthony J. Fazio  
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2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION  
2D MARINE DIVISION  
UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS

FOR

SUPERIOR ACHIEVEMENT IN ENGINEERING OPERATIONS IN SUPPORT OF 2D MARINE DIVISION FROM 1 APRIL 2014 TO 31 MARCH 2015. THE BATTALION SHOWCASED ITS VERSATILITY AND MULTITASKING ABILITY WHILE SIMULTANEOUSLY SUPPORTING THE SPECIAL PURPOSE MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE-CRISIS RESPONSE, MARINE EXPEDITIONARY UNIT, AND CONTINENTAL UNITED STATES BASED ALERT FORCE. DURING THIS PERIOD, 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION COMPLETED A COMBAT DEPLOYMENT IN SUPPORT OF OPERATION ENDURING FREEDOM 14.2 WHERE THEY PROVIDED SUPERB CLOSE COMBAT ENGINEER SUPPORT IN SUPPORT OF BOTH SUSTAINED SECURITY AND KINETIC OPERATIONS. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION PROVIDED ROUTE CLEARANCE SUPPORT TO THE MARINE AIR-GROUND TASK FORCE, 31ST GEORGIAN LIGHT INFANTRY BATTALION, 23D GEORGIAN LIGHT INFANTRY BATTALION, COMBAT SUSTAINMENT SUPPORT BATTALION-13, BRITISH MANEUVER BATTLE GROUP, AND SPECIAL OPERATION TASK FORCE WEST OPERATIONS. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION MARINES CLEARED MORE THAN 7,000 KILOMETERS OF ROUTES WHILE ENSURING SAFE AND EFFICIENT MOBILITY THROUGHOUT 120 MISSIONS. THROUGHOUT THIS PERIOD, 2D CEB DEMONSTRATED OUTSTANDING PERFORMANCE, ESPRIT DE CORPS, AND TOTAL DEDICATION TO DEVELOPING MARINES AND SAILORS MORALLY, MENTALLY, AND PHYSICALLY. ENGINEER TRAINING AREA 9 AND 10 STAFF PROVIDED 1,016 HOURS OF TRAINING TO 945 MARINES FROM 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION AND 12 OTHER UNITS WITHIN II MARINE EXPEDITIONARY FORCE. THE TRAINING INCLUDED 2 SAPPER LEADERS COURSES AND 19 DEMOLITION RANGES. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION'S PERFORMANCE, BOTH IN COMBAT AND GARRISON, IS EXCEPTIONAL IN EVERY REGARD AND A TRUE TESTAMENT TO 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION'S OVERALL SUCCESS DURING THIS PERIOD. THE 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION IS MOST WORTHY OF SPECIAL RECOGNITION AND IS HIGHLY RECOMMENDED FOR THE 2015 MARINE CORPS COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION OF THE YEAR AWARD.

**PERSONAL DATA FORM**

Name: GARY A. MCCULLAR. Date: 9 April 2015  
FIRST MI LAST

Grade: O5 MOS: 1302 Date of Birth: 18 FEBRUARY 1971

Current Organization: 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 2D MARINE DIVISION

Current Billet: BATTALION COMMANDING OFFICER

Military Address: 2D CEB, 2D MARDIV, CAMP LEJEUNE, NC 28542

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Personal: N/A

Work Phone: (910) 451-7892 Home phone: (910) 325-7493

Cell Phone: (661) 246-6593

Golf shirt size (Large) LARGE

Future duty station and contact info if due for transfer prior to 1 October this year.

N/A

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**PERSONAL DATA FORM**

Name: JACOB J. WHITLEY Date: 9 APRIL 2015  
FIRST MI LAST

Grade: E9 MOS: 8999 Date of Birth: 13 MARCH 1975

Current Organization: 2D COMBAT ENGINEER BATTALION, 2D MARINE DIVISION

Current Billet: BATTALION SERGEANT MAJOR

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Golf shirt size (2XLarge) 2XLARGE

Future duty station and contact info if due for transfer prior to 1 October this year.

N/A

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