



From: Battalion Commander

SUBJ: STATE OF THE BATTALION – 30 SEPTEMBER 2016

Marines, Sailor, Families, and Friends,

Ahoy from Hong Kong! Your Magnificent Bastards are currently taking a well-deserved break in the famous Chinese city with our Navy and Marine counterparts in the 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit (31st MEU) and Amphibious Ready Group (ARG). This port call comes directly after conducting Exercise VALIANT SHIELD on and in vicinity of the island of Guam, where all of our companies were involved in training for airfield seizures, beach landings, and amphibious raids. Rest assured knowing your Marines and Sailors are hard at work in the Pacific!

I am proud to relay that during the month of August we were able to promote 44 Marines. The promotions included 6 Lance Corporals, 26 Corporals, 10 Sergeants, 1 Captain, and 1 Major. We continue to reward excellence during our busy deployment schedule.

After we have completed our liberty period in Hong Kong, the 31st MEU will travel to the Philippines to conduct bi-lateral training with the Philippine Army and Marine Corps. Our relationship with the armed forces of the Philippines (AFP) has been strong for many years, and we are proud to be the unit working close with our partners in the Southeast Pacific region for stability and security.

On ship, your Marines are staying busy physically and mentally through training from their leadership (and each other) at every level. Every week your Magnificent Bastards are teaching classes on topics concerning their professional military education (PME), advancing in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program (MCMAP), conducting weapons drills, mission rehearsals, and of course, physical training (PT).

We appreciate all the support family and friends are providing us. The Marines and Sailors continue to do great things and serve you with pride. We are excited about training with our Philippine partners and look forward to the rest of our float in the Pacific.

Thank you for your continued support for your Marines and Sailors. If you would like to see pictures of our training with the 31st MEU and updates on our battalion, please “like” us on Facebook at:

<https://www.facebook.com/2dBattalion4thMarines>.

Semper Fidelis,

Lieutenant Colonel Brian Greene (Battalion Commander)