



From: Battalion Commander

SUBJ: STATE OF THE BATTALION – 29 FEBRUARY 2016

Marines, Sailors, Families, and Friends:

During the past month, we have promoted 29 Marines to the rank of Lance Corporal, 9 to Corporal, 3 (meritoriously) to Sergeant, and 1 to Captain.

In the past month, the battalion has continued to execute training with the Expeditionary Operations Training Group (EOTG) here in Camp Pendleton, as well as with the Expeditionary Warfare Training Group Pacific (EWTGPAC) in Coronado, California. This training is paramount in preparing our battalion to operate across all domains – air, land, and sea – and included everything from nautical navigation to fast roping out of helicopters. Additionally, battalion staff members participated in training aboard the USS *Makin Island*. This training facilitated greater cooperation with our Navy counterparts, which will pay dividends on our upcoming deployment. The battalion also planned and executed its fourth battalion field exercise in Camp Pendleton, during which time critical training was conducted with civilian role players, on urban and stability operations. Concurrently, 2/4 sent over 50 Marines and Sailors to specialty courses at the Marine Corps Mountain Warfare Training Center in Bridgeport, California, such as Winter Mountain Leaders Course and Mountain Communications Course. These Marines and Sailors will enable the battalion to operate at a much higher level of proficiency during our upcoming month-long battalion exercise in Bridgeport.

Upon returning from the field, the battalion immediately turned to maintaining our weapons and gear and planning for our exercise in Bridgeport. This exercise presents a unique training opportunity for 2/4 in that the battalion will be facing a thinking enemy (a company of US Army Rangers) in an austere, mountainous, snow-covered environment. This training will significantly challenge the battalion across all warfighting functions, but we will return to Camp Pendleton a better infantry unit.

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

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

Semper Fidelis,

**Brian Greene
Lieutenant Colonel, USMC**