


Change of Command Ceremony

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSEPH C. BEGLEY
COLONEL SEAN P. DYNAN



21 AREA, CAMP PENDLETON, CALIFORNIA
JULY 21, 2021

Sequence of Events



Pre-parade Serenade

Invocation

National Anthem

Relinquish of Command

Remarks by Outgoing Commanding Officer

(LtCol Joseph C. Begley)

Remarks by Incoming Commanding Officer

(Col Sean P. Dynan)

Anchors Aweigh

Marines' Hymn

Ceremony Conclusion



Ceremony Staff

Presenter..... MGySgt Jamie Myers
Chaplain..... LCDR Scott Mason
Narrator.....SSgt Nathalie Medina

*A special “thank you” to the 1st Marine Division Band for
providing today’s musical arrangements.*





Outgoing Commanding Officer

LIEUTENANT COLONEL JOSEPH C. BEGLEY



Lieutenant Colonel Begley was commissioned through the NROTC program at the University of Colorado, Boulder in May 2003. Following the completion of Officer Basic Course in December 2003, he reported to NAS Pensacola, completed flight school primary phase at NAS Corpus Christi with VT-28 and helicopter advanced phase at NAS Whiting Field with HT-8. In June 2005, he reported to HMM(T)-164 for CH-46E training.

In January 2006, Lieutenant Colonel Begley reported to HMM-165, MAG-16 where he served as the S-5 Officer. He deployed aboard the USS Boxer with the 15th MEU in September 2006, which was subsequently offloaded into Iraq in support of OIF 05-07. He returned from deployment in July 2007 and was promoted to the rank of Captain in October 2007. In February 2008, he was assigned to 2d Bn, 7th Marine Regiment to serve as a Forward Air Controller. He deployed with the Battalion to Afghanistan in April 2008. During this tour, Lieutenant Colonel Begley served in Helmand and Farah provinces. He returned from deployment in December 2008 and was subsequently transferred back to HMM-165. He served as Assistant Operations Officer and deployed with the 15th MEU again in June 2010, this time aboard the USS Peleliu. During this deployment, Lieutenant Colonel Begley participated in national tasking on the Arabian Peninsula and served in Pakistan, conducting HA/DR aviation operations following floods along the Swat and Indus River Valleys.

Lieutenant Colonel Begley returned from deployment in December 2010 and was subsequently transferred to HMLA(T)-303, MAG-39 for AH-1W transition training. Upon completion, he was reassigned to HMLA-469 where he served as the Current Operations Officer. In May 2012, he deployed with Vengeance to Camp Bastion, Afghanistan, in support of OEF. Upon return from deployment in November 2012, Lieutenant Colonel Begley assumed the role as Flightline OIC. He served in this capacity until November 2013, when he deployed with HMLA-469 Det A to MCAS Futenma, Okinawa, in support of the resumption of the HMLA Unit Deployment Program. While deployed he served as the Det Aircraft Maintenance Officer and was promoted to the rank of Major. During this time, HMLA-469 Det A supported bilateral training in Korea and Philippines.

In August 2014, Lieutenant Colonel Begley was transferred to HMLA-773 Det A, MAG-49, 4th MAW in NAS/JRB Belle Chasse. While assigned to the Red Dogs, he served as S-1, Operations Officer, and Executive Officer.

Lieutenant Colonel Begley transferred back to HMLA-469 in June 2017 and began series conversion training in the AH-1Z while concurrently assuming the duties as Aircraft Maintenance Officer. He deployed to Okinawa again in May 2018. Upon returning to Camp Pendleton in November 2018, Lieutenant Colonel Begley was briefly assigned to MAG-39 as Current Readiness and NAE Action Officer to assist with the MAG's obligations as H-1 TMS lead. In March 2019, he was assigned to 3d MAW to serve as the Director of Safety and Standardization.

In December 2019, Lieutenant Colonel Begley assumed duties as the Executive Officer of the 15th MEU. He assumed command of the 15th MEU in June 2021.

Lieutenant Colonel Begley's personal awards include the Air Medal (strike/flight numeral 8), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with combat distinguishing device and gold star in lieu of fifth award), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (gold star in lieu of third award), the Combat Action Ribbon, and Humanitarian Assistance Medal.

Lieutenant Colonel Begley holds a Bachelor's Degree in Political Science from the University of Colorado and a Master's Degree in Administrative Leadership from the University of Oklahoma.



Incoming Commanding Officer

COLONEL SEAN P. DYNAN



Colonel Sean Dynan was born in Weymouth, Massachusetts, in 1976 and was raised in Hanson, Massachusetts. In 1998, he graduated from the United States Naval Academy and was commissioned as a Second Lieutenant in the United States Marine Corps.

After attending The Basic School and the Infantry Officer Course, Colonel Dynan reported to 1st Battalion, 7th Marines, 29 Palms California in June of 1999 to assume command of an infantry platoon and subsequently served as a Weapons Platoon Commander, Company Executive Officer, Assistant Operations Officer, and Company Commander. During his three years in 1/7, he deployed twice to Okinawa, Japan, and conducted training throughout Southeast Asia.

In September of 2002 and at the rank of Captain, Colonel Dynan reported to Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. From September 2002 to June 2005, he served as a Series Commander and Company Commander in 1st Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego. From June 2005 to May 2006, Colonel Dynan attended the Expeditionary Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia.

In May of 2006, Colonel Dynan assumed command of Headquarters and Service Company, 1st Battalion, 6th Marines. He deployed with the battalion to Ramadi, Iraq, in support of Operation Iraqi Freedom 07.2. In July 2007, he assumed command of Company A, 1st Battalion, 6th Marines. As commander of Company A, he deployed with Battalion Landing Team 1/6, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit to Afghanistan from March 2008 to October 2008. Upon return from deployment he assumed command of Headquarters Company, Headquarters Battalion, 2d Marine Division.

From June of 2009 to June 2011, Colonel Dynan attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College and the School of Advanced Warfighting.

In July of 2011 Colonel Dynan reported to II Marine Expeditionary Force (MEF) as a Future Operations Planner. He subsequently deployed to Afghanistan as a member of II MEF (FWD) Future Operations and was assigned as the lead planner for Counter Narcotics and Counter Threat Finance in Helmand and Nimruz Province. Upon return from deployment in March of 2012, he was reassigned as the 2d Marine Expeditionary Brigade Future Operations Officer.

From April 2014 to November 2015 Colonel Dynan served as the 24 Marine Expeditionary Unit Operations Officer. From December 2014 to July 2015, he deployed to Europe, Africa and the Middle East with 24th MEU aboard the USS Iwo Jima.

On December 3, 2015 Colonel Dynan assumed command of 3rd Battalion, 2d Marines. Following the unit's deployment to Okinawa, Japan, Colonel Dynan relinquished command in April 2017 and reported the Naval War College as a student for the 2017-18 academic year. Upon graduation, he reported to United States Special Operations Command (USSOCOM) as a strategic planner in August of 2018. In August 2020, he was assigned as the Director, Cyber Operations – Integrated Planning Element to USSOCOM.

His personal awards include the Bronze Star with combat "V", Joint Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal with two gold stars, Navy Commendation Medal with combat "V" and gold star, Joint Achievement Medal, Navy Achievement Medal, Combat Action Ribbon with gold star, and Sea Service ribbon with silver and gold star. He has earned a Masters in Military Studies, a Masters in Operational Studies, and a Masters in National Security and Strategic Studies. He is a distinguished graduate of the Marine Corps Command and Staff College and graduated with highest distinction from Naval War College.

He currently resides in Oceanside, CA with his wife Dena and three daughters: Evelyn, Sarabeth, and Lila.

Past Commanders



Colonel M. T. Hopgood



Colonel T. P. Murray



Colonel G. S. Newbold



Colonel R. R. Blackman



Colonel W. A. Whitlow



Colonel R. C. Zilmer



Colonel T. D. Waldhauser



Colonel T. C. Greenwood



Colonel B. D. Beaudrault



Colonel R. A. Osborn



Colonel S. D. Campbell



Colonel J. R. O'Neal



Colonel V. L. Cryer



Colonel J. R. Clearfield



Colonel J. M. Holtermann



Colonel Christopher J. Bronzi



Colonel Fridrik Fridriksson



Colonel J. R. Clearfield



Colonel J. M. Holtermann



Colonel Christopher J. Bronzi



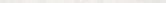
Colonel J. R. Clearfield



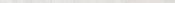
Colonel J. M. Holtermann



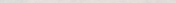
Colonel Christopher J. Bronzi



Colonel J. R. Clearfield



Colonel J. M. Holtermann



Colonel Christopher J. Bronzi

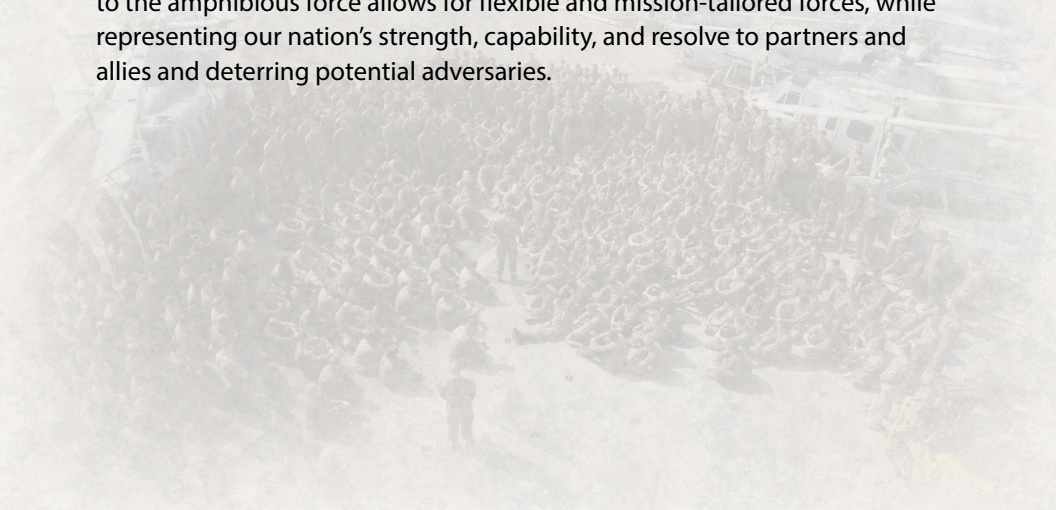
15th Marine Expeditionary Unit History



Activated in July 1987, the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit's (MEU) mission is to provide a forward deployed, flexible sea-based Marine Air Ground Task Force (MAGTF) capable of conducting amphibious operations, crisis response and limited contingency operations, to include enabling the introduction of follow-on forces, and designated special operations, in order to support the theater requirements of Geographic Combatant Commanders.


For over 30 years, the 15th MEU has trained alongside its U.S. Navy counterparts to provide a continuous presence in the Western Pacific, Indian Ocean, and Persian Gulf and as a ready MAGTF in the continental United States in the rotation with the 11th and 13th MEUs. To date, the 15th MEU has assisted in seven humanitarian assistance and disaster relief missions and has been forward deployed in support of more than ten named operations.

The 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit's presence around the world supports strategic interests by contributing to regional security and stability, and represents U.S. commitment to the Indo-Pacific, Mediterranean, Horn of Africa and Middle East regions. The blue-green team provides operational flexibility to combatant commanders by providing a versatile contingency response force using sea, air, land and logistical assets. The versatility inherent to the amphibious force allows for flexible and mission-tailored forces, while representing our nation's strength, capability, and resolve to partners and allies and deterring potential adversaries.





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 @15thMarineExpeditionaryUnit

For video and still imagery, visit www.dvidshub.net/unit/15MEUPA