



Camp Pendleton Praised for Its Firefighting Efforts in May

Marine Corps Base Safely Combats 20,000 Acres of Wild Fires

ARLINGTON, Va. – Recently, the Deputy Assistant Secretary of the Navy (DASN) for Safety, Paul Hanley issued formal congratulations to Brigadier General John W. Bullard, Commanding General of Marine Corps Installations West (MCIWEST) – Marine Corps Base (MCB) Camp Pendleton, and Lieutenant General John A. Toolan, Commanding General, I Marine Expeditionary Forces (MEF), for the base’s success in fighting the Basilone Complex fires.

The fires included the Tomahawk fire that started on Wednesday, May 14 near Naval Weapons Station Fallbrook on the east side of Camp Pendleton, the Las Pulgas blaze that began the following day near the base’s center by a sewage plant, and one on its northern edge called San Mateo that started on May 16. In addition to protecting Camp Pendleton, the base provided 540,000 gallons of water to the local community’s firefighters and emergency service personnel in support of San Diego County’s efforts.

Hanley noted that Camp Pendleton’s Marines, Sailors and civilians successfully guarded Navy personnel and resources and those of the local community without injury.

According to the DASN, “The inflexible goal of the Department of the Navy is to reduce the number of mishaps to zero, and your team of Marines and Sailors exhibited an extraordinary commitment to safe mission accomplishment.”

The fires were fueled by severe conditions resulting from a heat wave and robust Santa Ana Winds.
