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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

USMC partners with Third Army in joint Afghanistan equipping solution

Third Army – PAO

CAMP ARIFJAN, Kuwait – A U.S. Marine Corps decision to transition its fleet of nearly 300 Category I Mine Resistant Ambush Protected vehicles in Afghanistan to the Cougar Improved Suspension System vehicles will benefit both the USMC and Third Army. It's part of a coordinated effort aimed at providing the warfighters in Afghanistan the equipment they need as quickly as possible to support the build-up.

“The Marine Corps has already fielded more than 350 Cougar ISS MRAP’s to the Marine Expeditionary Brigade-Afghanistan,” said Col. Michael E. Loudy, officer in charge of the Marine Corps Forces Central Command Coordination Element – Kuwait. “The Marine Corps will transfer its 290 MaxxPro Dash vehicles to the Army and more than 110 MaxxPro Dashes have already been transferred.”

“This close coordination between the many partners involved in ensuring a successful buildup in Afghanistan will reduce the number of MRAP’s that the Army would otherwise have to transport into theater using already heavily utilized logistics channels”, said Brig. Gen. John O'Connor, Third Army Director of Logistics.

With continued coordination between USMARCENT, Joint Program Office- MRAP and Third Army, both the Marine Corps and Army commanders will have the equipment they need when they arrive in Afghanistan.

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