

## Home from war, Marine to receive his Victory Motorcycle

Written by Operation Gratitude  
Tuesday, 24 May 2011 12:55

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May 24, 2011 -- Operation Gratitude today announced that on Sunday, June 5 a Marine infantryman recently returned from Afghanistan will be given the Victory Vegas 8-Ball Motorcycle promised in the organization's milestone 600,000th Care Package assembled in December, 2010.

The milestone package was [delivered on Christmas day](#) by the Commandant of the Marine Corps, General James Amos, to a Lance Corporal with Kilo Company, 3rd Battalion, 5th Marine Regiment, who at the time was serving a seven-month deployment in the deadly Sangin district of Afghanistan's Helmand province. The name of the Marine who received the 600,000th care package will be revealed at the event on June 5.



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L-R: Sgt.Maj. Kent, Lt.Col. Morris, LCpl., Gen. Amos in Sangin, AFG; 12/25/10

The 3/5, also known as "Dark Horse Battalion," experienced heavy combat throughout the deployment, with 25 of its men killed and more than 150 wounded. The 600,000th package recipient, along with his 3/5 comrades, returned to Camp Pendleton in April. The Marine, who received the package containing symbolic keys attached to a letter describing the bike, was recently promoted to Corporal and will join the Operation Gratitude volunteers and guests at the armory to receive the motorcycle generously donated by [Victory Motorcycles](#).

Victory Motorcycles' External Relations Manager, Robert Pandya, will make the presentation. Pandya believes the motorcycle is a symbol of thanks to the men and women who serve in all branches of the Military.

"Victory Motorcycles is proud to be part of the 600,000th Operation Gratitude package," said Pandya, adding, "While our motorcycle represents the chance to explore the freedoms of the open road,

it is the hard work and sacrifices of our troops around the world and at home that give everyone in America that opportunity."

Among the guests at the California Army National Guard armory on June 5, the anniversary of

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President Ronald Reagan's passing, will be Michael Reagan, members of his family and representatives of the [Reagan Legacy Foundation](#) . They will join hundreds of volunteers at the armory to assemble care packages for the 5,000 crew members deployed aboard aircraft carrier USS Ronald Reagan, named in honor of the 40th President of the United States. Care packages will also be assembled and shipped to the crew of guided-missile destroyer USS Preble and guided-missile cruiser USS Chancellorsville, both currently serving in the [Ronald Reagan Carrier Strike Group](#)

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The media and members of the public (aged 12 years and older) are invited to attend the day's activities.

**WHAT:** Marine Corporal receives Victory Vegas 8-Ball Motorcycle and Operation Gratitude Volunteers assemble Care Packages for the Crew of USS Ronald Reagan, USS Preble and the USS Chancellorsville

**WHEN:** Sunday June 5, 2011

Care Package Assembly starts at 9 a.m.

Program and Motorcycle Presentation will occur: 11:30 a.m. - 12:30 p.m.

**WHERE:** California National Guard Armory

17330 Victory Boulevard

Van Nuys, CA 91406

Corner of Victory and Louise; parking available on adjacent lot