DVIDS premiers HD live from Afghanistan during Super Bowl XLV on FOX

Atlanta, Georgia – Feb. 3, 2011 – The Defense Video and Imagery Distribution System (DVIDS) will conduct its first live, high-definition satellite feed with U.S. Marines stationed at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, during FOX’s coverage of Super Bowl XLV. Through the use of cutting-edge video streaming technologies combined with Ku-band ground satellite terminals, DVIDS will bring crystal-clear, HD live footage of U.S. service members in Afghanistan enjoying Sunday’s big game. FOX will air the footage of the forward-deployed Marines during their game-day coverage, taking place Feb. 6 at Cowboys Stadium in Arlington, Texas.

DVIDS provides a timely, accurate and reliable connection between the media around the world and the military serving in 13 different countries.

“Providing a live HD link of deployed troops is another breakthrough to help connect the service members with media around the world,” said MAJ Scott Betts, DVIDS Direction of Operations. “DVIDS and Third Army continue to be at the forefront of providing accurate, reliable access via new communications technology to the deployed military.”

The HD feed from Afghanistan will use new IP-based streaming technology in conjunction with currently deployed satellite antenna technology. This HD transmission capability is the result of close coordination between the DVIDS hub, deployed military public affairs personnel and the manufacturer of the DVIDS ground satellite terminals.

U.S. Marine operators, Staff Sgt. Jennifer Brofer and Staff Sgt. Philip Grondin, will be at Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, operating this new equipment for the event on Super Bowl Sunday. “It’s amazing what technology has allowed us to do from a combat zone thousands of miles away from home,” Brofer said. “My friends and family might be able to catch a glimpse of me as they watch the Packers vs. Steelers game.”

About DVIDS:

Through a network of portable Ku-band satellite transmitters located in-theater and a distribution hub in Atlanta, Georgia, DVIDS makes available real-time broadcast-quality video, still images and print products as well as immediate interview opportunities with service members, commanders and subject matter experts.

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Media Contact: Kristopher Drees, DVIDS Sports Media Specialist

Kdrees@dvidshub.net