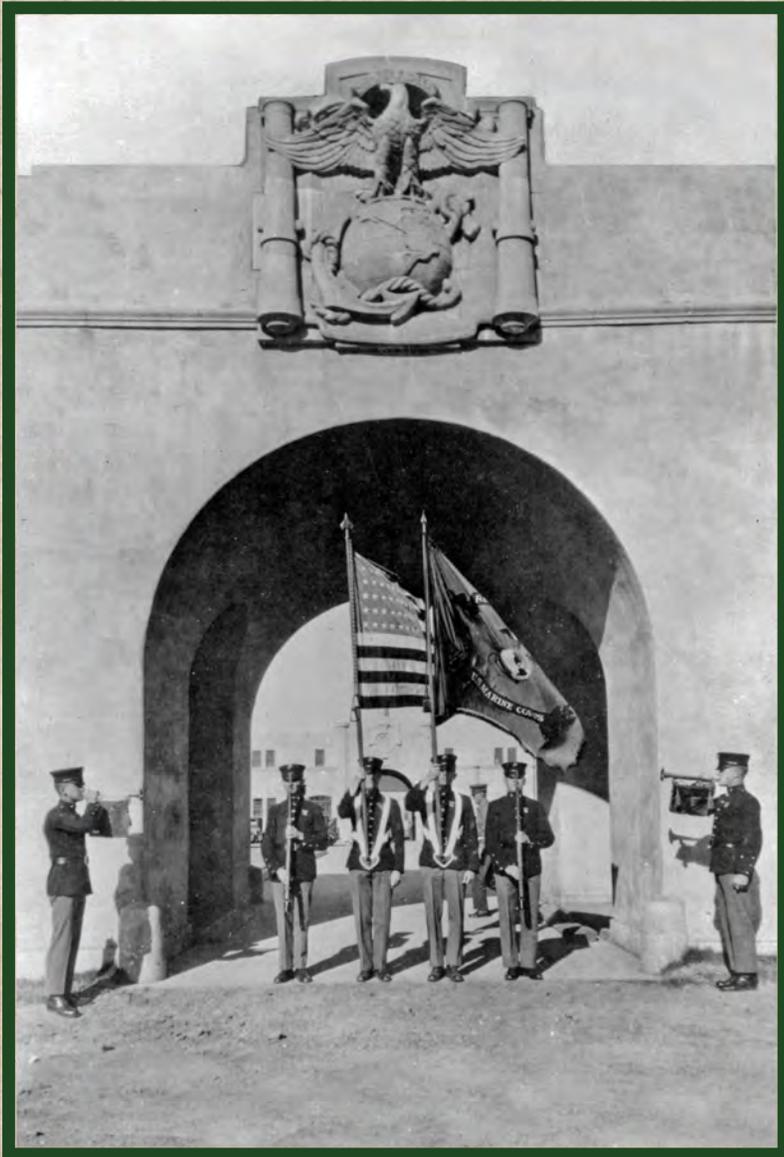


CENTENNIAL CELEBRATION

100 Years of Service



MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT
SAN DIEGO

Sequence of Events



Drum and Bugle Corps - Music in Motion

Silent Drill Platoon - Drill Performance

Colors Presentation

Honors

Pass and Review

Retire the Colors in Place

Meet and Greet



100 Years of San Diego History

The United States Marine Corps has supported and protected San Diego for 100 years. Beginning in 1914, Colonel (later Major General) Joseph H. Pendleton and prominent San Diegans advocated for a permanent Marine base in America's Finest City.

The Navy authorized the establishment of a Marine base in San Diego in 1916 and Congress appropriated funding.

Ground-breaking began in 1919, and Brigadier General Pendleton commissioned Marine Corps Base San Diego on December 1, 1921.

Since its commissioning the base has been home to a variety of Marine units, but for much of its history, the base has been noted for "Making Marines."

The 1948 redesignation of Marine Corps Recruit Depot reflects the installation's primary role.

Today, the base continues to serve as a pillar of the San Diego community while recruiting and training United States Marines.

MCRD San Diego Mission



The mission of the Recruit Depot and the Western Recruiting Region is to exercise operational control of recruiting in the 8th, 9th, and 12th Marine Corps Districts; to provide reception, processing, and recruit training for enlisted personnel following initial entry into the United States Marine Corps; and to produce a basically trained United States Marine embodied with the fighting spirit, core values and esprit de corps which have ensured our Corps' success for over 246 years.

The unique relationship between the Marine Corps Recruit Depot and San Diego is the result of over 100 years of mutual support, assistance and growth. This relationship is reflected in the history of the Marine Corps in San Diego, the Depot as a post of the Corps, and the heritage of San Diego itself.

The Depot's primary function is to take quality individuals from the western two-thirds of the United States and transform them through the foundations of rigorous basic training and prepare them to win our nation's battles.



MCRD San Diego Timeline

1911 - Marines arrive in San Diego in response to unrest in Mexico.

1914 - Marines return to San Diego and stay for Exposition Duty from 1915-1916 in Balboa Park.

1916 - The Navy approves the establishment of a Marine installation in San Diego. Congress appropriates funding.

1919 - Ground breaking commences.

1921 - Marine Corps Base San Diego (MCB San Diego) opens 1 December.

1931 - West Coast Marine aviation is headquartered at MCB San Diego.

1935 - The Fleet Marine Force (FMF) is headquartered at MCB San Diego.

1948 - MCB San Diego is redesignated as Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego (MCRD).

1996 - The Crucible, a 54 hour culminating event, is added to recruit training.

2021 - The first platoon of female recruits train at MCRD San Diego.

2021 - MCRD San Diego celebrates 100 years of service to the community.



Battle Color Detachment

The Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment is a ceremonial unit from Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., featuring “The Commandant’s Own” United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps, the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon and the Official Color Guard of the Marine Corps. Each year, this highly skilled unit travels worldwide to demonstrate the discipline, professionalism and “Esprit de Corps” of United States Marines.

The official Battle Color of the Marine Corps is featured during the ceremony with fifty-four streamers and silver bands. This Battle Color commemorates all of the military campaigns in which Marines have participated. It is a privilege for Marine Barracks, Washington, D.C., the Oldest Post of the Corps, to be entrusted with the custody of this Battle Color.

The Battle Color Detachment begins each year with a rigorous training regimen at Marine Corps Air Station Yuma, Arizona. Here the Marines drill from sunrise to sunset perfecting the sequences that comprise this ceremony. Upon completion of this training, the detachment sets out on a tour of military installations throughout the United States along with several highly visible community events. This annual tour marks the beginning of the ceremonial year for the Marine Corps’ worldwide ceremonial ambassadors.

Following this annual tour, these units will be featured during the Friday Evening Parade at Marine Barracks Washington, D.C., and at the Marine Corps War Memorial in Arlington, Virginia, for the Tuesday Sunset Parade. The parade season runs from May to August each year in the National Capitol Region and is open to the general public.

The Marines’ Hymn

From the Halls of Montezuma,
To the shores of Tripoli,
We fight our country’s battles
In the air, on land and sea;
First to fight for right and freedom
And to keep our honor clean;
We are proud to claim the title of
United States Marine

Our flag’s unfurled to every breeze
From dawn to setting sun;
We have fought in every clime and place
Where we could take a gun;
In the snow of far off northern lands
And in sunny tropic scenes;
You will find us always on the job
The United States Marines

Here’s health to you and to our Corps
Which we are proud to serve
In many a strife we’ve fought for life
And never lost our nerve;
If the Army and the Navy
Ever look on Heaven’s scenes;
They will find the streets are guarded by
United States Marines