

Recruit training makes
"Every Marine a
rifleman"

p. 8



MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

Co. A
tests
their
physical
abilities

p. 4



Vol. 72 – Issue 13

"WHERE MARINES ARE MADE"

FRIDAY, MAY 11, 2012

Co. B gains knowledge on IED Lane patrol

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUERY
Chevron staff

A combat boot steps on a metal plate causing a large explosion of white smoke that fills the air. Recruits hit the deck and secure the perimeter while carrying fellow recruits that were hit with the white smoke to safety.

Recruits take on this course during the Crucible, a 54-hour test while sleep and food deprived, they must overcome numerous team building obstacles. The Improvised Explosive Device Lane is an important test Company B completed May 1 aboard Edson Range, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

"We've lost a lot of Marines from IED's," said Sgt. Matthew Harmon, senior drill instructor, Platoon 1029, Co. B, 1st Recruit

Training Battalion.

The IED Lane simulates patrols Marines go on during deployments. Recruits learn, by simply not paying attention to their every step, they can lose limbs or lives.

"It's important to know what were looking for if we're deployed," said Pfc. Otis Orlando, Plt. 2029, Co. B, 1st RTBn. "This showed us how careless people can be and what can happen if they are careless."

Prior to reaching week 11, recruits are given a class on what IED's are, the different types and how to detect them while on patrol. While on the lane, recruits encounter one obvious IED to throw them off of one of two simulated IED's that hit the recruits with white smoke. Two field instructors walk along with

see IED ▶ 2



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Company B secures the perimeter as a simulated Improvised Explosive Device goes off aboard Edson Range, Weapons Field Training Battalion, Marine Base Camp Pendleton, May 1. IED Lane was one of the many obstacles Co. B overcame while at the Crucible. During the lane recruits had to patrol for possible simulated IED's.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Company H recruits jump into the shallow end of the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Swim Tank April 30. Co. H started week four with Combat Water Survival that requires them to swim in Marine pattern utilities with combat boots. They must pass multiple important water tests during this week to be able to be called a Marine.

Co. H swims through training week four

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUERY
Chevron staff

Heads surface for air through the blue viciously moving water as recruits attempt to make it through 25-meters of shallow water in the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Swim Tank April 30.

Company H began week four with Combat Water Survival. They must pass swim qualifications to move on to the next week of recruit training.

"It's not as common now for Marines to be on ship," said Staff Sgt. Julian Russell, chief swim instructor, Swim Tank, Support Battalion. "Just in case the situation was to present itself, Marines need to know how to swim."

All Marines are amphibious. Marines fight on land, air and sea, making it important for future Marines to know how to swim. Prior to getting in the water recruits are given mandatory classes that inform them of safety, dangers of being in water, flotation devices and different swimming techniques.

"Some of the recruits that come to recruit training have had a bad experience with drowning. We have to weave these recruits out the first day to break them of their habits," said Russell.

To distinguish these recruits from the others, they have to first swim 25-meters in the shallow end of the pool. This also makes sure they are can swim in Marine

see SWIM ▶ 2

Co. E recruits tests their physical abilities

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M.
KEANE
Chevron staff

A recruit's physical endurance and development is important throughout recruit training. Each recruit is tested near the end of recruit training through a Physical Fitness Test, which is a test designed to measure a Marine's physical strength, agility, and endurance.

Before the final PFT, recruits see where they stand physically through an inventory PFT. Recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, test their physical abilities through the inventory PFT May 7 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

"The purpose of an inventory PFT is to see the progression of each recruit before the final," said 1st Sgt. Kevin Hutson, company first sergeant, Co. E, 2nd RTBn. "It gives them a gauge to see how well they've done."

A PFT is an annual training event that every Marine must complete. It is a combination of pull-ups, timed crunches and a timed three-mile run. Female Marines are required to do a seventy-second flex-armed hang instead of pull-ups.

Each recruit is required to run a PFT in order to graduate from recruit training, explained Hutson.

In week four of recruit training, recruits run an initial PFT. Depending on their performance, drill instructors are able to identify and focus on each recruit's physical weaknesses.

Throughout training, re-cruits endure exercises and training

events that build them mentally and physically.

In week nine of training, recruits run an inventory PFT, which is used as a tool to show the recruits where they're at and what they need to do to get better, said Hutson.

A PFT begins with pull-ups. Each recruit mounts a bar and performs as many pull-ups as they can. After each recruit has recorded the number of repetitions completed, they assemble up at the starting line for the timed three-mile run. Once the recruits finish, they are then instructed to do as many crunches as they can for two minutes.

Throughout the PFT, drill instructors run alongside of the recruits motivating them to con-

tinue by pushing them to their limits.

"The drill instructors help in their own way," said Recruit Devon Hood, Platoon 2109, Co. E, 2nd RTBn. "It's more like they're building us instead of breaking us."

The inventory PFT gives the recruits a sense of their physical accomplishments so far in training.

"It also boosts their confidence," explained Hutson. "Recruits see how well they've improved from the beginning of boot camp and gives them the motivation to finish strong."

Co. E is scheduled to run their final PFT May 17. After running the inventory PFT, recruits know where they stand physically and know what they have to improve.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, hold the legs of their fellow recruits and count the number of crunches each does during the inventory physical fitness test May 7 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. The inventory PFT allows recruits to see where they stand in their physical performance before they run the final PFT the following week.

Barbershop Legend Retires



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Leonardo Herrera, recruit barber, gives his last hair cut to 1st Sgt. Sean P. Farrow, Company 1st Sgt. Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, at the recruit barbershop April 27 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. Herrera, an 81-year-old Tecuala, Nayarit, Mexico native, is retiring after 42 years of cutting hair for recruits and Marines. "He cut my hair when I was a recruit here," said Farrow, who went through recruit training 18 years ago. "He still looks the same." Herrera started cutting hair in 1969 at MCRD. "I have cut hair for everybody, from recruits to Sergeant's Major," said Herrera. "I feel sad, but I have many good memories and I've enjoyed every moment of my time here."

SWIM ◀ 1

pattern utilities and combat boots.

"I'm not a strong swimmer," said Recruit Vegas Hastiags, Platoon 2169, Co. H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion. "So I wasn't able to pass the first part."

All of the recruits that need extra help get to re-test the following day with more assistance from the swimming instructors. The stronger swimmers have a ratio of five recruits to one instructor. The other recruits receive a ratio of two recruits to one instructor to ensure they are grasping the basics of swimming in combat gear.

"During the whole swim qualification they wear boots now," said Russell, "It's more realistic training. We're not in jungle environments anymore."

After passing the first test, recruits jump off the high dive and swim 25-meters from the deep end to the shallow end.

A swim instructor launches one recruit at a time off the 10-foot tower. Another instructor stays in the water ensuring the recruit comes up for air once hitting the water. They're then required to tread water for four-minutes in the deep end. They can float on their back, tread or inflate their blouse, as long as their heads stay above water.

"I was mostly worried about floating on my back for four-minutes," said Recruit Trent Holcomb, Plt. 2173, Co. H, 2nd RTBn., who passed with no problem.

The recruits are then taken to the shallow end to shed gear in 10 seconds. The recruits aren't allowed to surface until the flak vest, Kevlar and simulated service rifle is off of them. This part of Marine Corps swim qualification was added last year to adapt to the type of environment the United States is fighting in currently.

"We've had a few times when Hummvees have flipped over and Marines

died because they weren't able to get their gear off," said Russell.

The last event the recruits must accomplish to become Marine Corps swim qualified is 25-meter deep-water travel. They have to first throw a pack into the water and hold it with one hand in front of them while swimming the full 25-meters. They can use any type of swimming stroke they were taught during this portion. The strokes they are taught are breast stroke, crawl also known as free-style, back stroke and side stroke.

"I used the breast stroke," said Holcomb. "The breathing techniques they taught us definitely helped keep my stamina up."

Once they have completed swim week, Co. H then moves on to grass week at Edson Range, Weapons Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. There they will learn Marine Corps marksmanship fundamentals that they will apply throughout their Marine Corps career.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

Company B recruits fireman's carry simulated casualties to the safe zone during the Improvised Explosive Device lane May 1 aboard Edson Range, Weapons Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

IED ◀ 1

the recruits, making sure they understand what's going on during the trail.

"We teach them the latest types of IED's they might run into in Afghanistan," said Fernando Sotelo, field instructor, Edson Range, WFTBn., MCB Camp Pendleton.

The field instructors reiterate the basic knowledge about IED's that the recruits had already been taught. They go into the three main components of IED's: types of compacts and charges, power sources and activators.

"We've experienced IED's first hand, so we volunteered to be here and pass on what we know to recruits," said Sotelo.

At the end of the trail, recruits gather around the field instructors to go over everything they just experienced and

ask questions. Orlando expressed how difficult it was to communicate during the patrol.

"This is a small step for the new Marines to understand what they need to know about IED's," said Harmon.

This is just one event on the Crucible. The drill instructors that have given them tough love during the prior 11-weeks, now guide the recruits and answer questions they might have.

"The Crucible transforms recruits into Marines," said Harmon, "It's an important part of recruit training, it's a time where we can give them mentorship."

Once they finish the Crucible, Co. B will receive their Eagle, Globe and Anchor and graduate recruit training May 11. They will then further their training at Marine Combat Training aboard MCB Pendleton.

BRIEFS

Mother's Day Champagne Brunch

Celebrate Mother's Day Sunday with a magnificent champagne brunch at the Bay View Restaurant from 10 a.m. until 2 p.m.

The price is \$26.95 for Active Duty, \$32.95 for Adults, \$16.95 for Children age 4-12, and FREE for children under age 4. Call (619) 725-6388 to reserve a spot.

Car Care Class

Those who want to learn basic auto care skills can do the job by joining the Auto Skills Center for their Car Care Class May 19, from 11:30 a.m. to 2:30 p.m., at building 142.

The class will include:

- Oil and filter change with disposal fundamentals
- Tires, air pressure and preventative maintenance
- Batteries and air filters

Those attending should dress comfortably for a hands-on garage classroom environment. No open-toes shoes.

Lunch will be provided to all those attending.

There is no charge for the workshop. The event is open to all eligible patrons and their guests. For additional information or to register, call (619) 524-5240.

Preschool Prep Camp

Preschool Prep Camp is a workshop for parents of children 36-60 months of age, covering stages of development, creative discipline tools, activities for growth and enrichment, kindergarten readiness, dealing with deployments and other separations, friendship building skills, preparing for siblings and managing aggression and challenging behaviors.

Class is on May 16, 9 a.m. to noon. The event is free of charge. Active duty and spouses are welcome.

Call the New Parent Support Program at (619) 524-0465 for more information and to register.

Padres vs Los Angeles Angels

The Single Marine Program has tickets available for the San Diego Padres vs. Los Angeles Angels of Anaheim game May 18 at 7 p.m.

This event is open to single or unaccompanied service members aboard MCRD San Diego only.

Space is limited, sign-up today.

For more information, contact Diana Vuong at 619-524-8083 or vuongd@usmc-mccs.org

CG's Welcome Aboard

The next Commanding General's Welcome Aboard will be May 22 at 8:30 a.m.

Activities will begin at the Personal & Professional Development Center Classroom, Building 14.

The morning features a series of overview briefs followed by a bus tour of the depot.

The Depot Tour will terminate at the Recreation Center, Building 590, where attendees will be treated to a complimentary luncheon and Info Expo, providing an opportunity to meet with representatives from various offices and agencies that offer support to Marines, their families and the Depot community.

Send briefs to:

rdsd_pao@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

Around the depot

This week the Chevron asks: "What moment in Marine Corps history stands out the most to you? Why?"



"A moment in Marine Corps history that sticks out to me is the Battle of Belleau Wood because it gave Marines the nickname Devil Dog." Sgt. Omar Askew, career planner, Headquarters and Service Battalion.



"A moment that sticks out to me is the Battle of Iwo Jima. Because the raising of the flag meant the war was over for America, but to the Marines it was just getting started." Sgt. Johnathan Montalvo, drill instructor, Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion



"The Battle of Fallujah, because we remember the Marines we've lost and what we've gained from it." Lance Cpl. Ryan Brooks, administrative clerk, Recruit Training Regiment, Support Battalion

MCRD holds monthly transition seminars

BY CPL. ERIC QUINTANILLA
Chevron staff

Marines transitioning out of the military have a new and improved program to aid in this process aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

The Transition Readiness Seminar is a five day course that covers a range of topics for the transitioning military member and their spouse.

"I don't think the old (transition assistance program) was meeting the requirements or needs of the Marines getting out of the military," said James Stewart, professional development trainer, MCRD Personal and Professional Development Center.

The first two days include topics that are beneficial to all Marines, while the next two days cover a specific pathway of their choice. There are four different pathways in the new TRS program including: education, employment, entrepreneurship or vocational/technical training.

"Each one of those pathways has certain pre-work that needs to be completed to be ready for the class," said Stewart. "All of this is to help prepare you for when you come here."

The completed pre-work helps the instructors to guide and offer advice to the Marine in their post-military goals. This packet includes Web sites and resources that assist with planning and understanding various veteran benefits.

"I feel like the changes were much needed," said Stewart. "It



Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Richard Blum, business development specialist, U.S. Small Business Administration, San Diego District Office, right, speaks with Marines and spouses about the benefits of entrepreneurship during the Transition Readiness Seminar at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Personal and Professional Development Center May 9. On the third day of the week-long seminar Marines are separated into one of four pathways depending on their post-military goals.

meets the core or heart of what a Marine needs when getting out."

Spouses who are interested in transitioning assistance can also choose a pathway class to attend. Due to the classes being held every month, those interested in multiple pathways have the option to attend multiple seminars.

"I think the TRS is meeting the requirements that Marines have and not only themselves but their spouses as well," said Stewart.

With an unemployment rate of 8.1 percent, the TRS helps Marines to ensure a successful transition to their next step. TRS is a requirement for all Marines

who are within 90 days to a year of the end of their current contract.

The week long Transition Readiness Seminar is held once a month at Building 14, the MCRD Personal and Professional Development Center. For more information contact Mina Threat at (619) 524-1283.

Down Under Visitors



Lance Cpl. Howard Brown

Brig. Gen. David Michael Luhrs, commandant of the Royal Military College of Australia, speaks with U.S. Navy medical personnel at Walker Hall aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego April 30. Luhrs visited MCRD with Warrant Officer Class One Ken Bullman, regimental sergeant major of the Royal Military College of Australia, to gather information regarding the U.S. Marine Corps and likely future developments. Luhrs and Bullman received a tour of the recruit training area and various sites around base.

CHEVRON
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Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

Company A recruits climb ropes at the end of the Obstacle Course May 3 aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego. This is the last obstacle on the course that recruits have to overcome. This course requires recruits to use a lot of upper body strength, making it even more challenging to climb the rope at the end of the course.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

A Company A recruit climbs over a wall on the Depot Obstacle Course May 3. The wall is one of the many events recruits must complete while taking on the Obstacle Course during week two.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

A Company A recruit walks down an inclined log May 3, while running the Depot Obstacle Course during training week two. At the end of the log recruits had to launch their bodies onto another log and swing their bodies over.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

Company A recruits overcome the Depot Obstacle Course May 3. There were various obstacles the recruits had to complete to finish the course. Much of the course required recruits to use their upper body strength.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

Company A recruits overcome the Depot Obstacle Course May 3. The various obstacles present a physical challenge the recruits must overcome to finish the course.

Co. A recruits attack the obstacle course

BY LANCE CPL. CRYSTAL DRUEY
Chevron staff

As hands grab onto a log, a sweaty body in Marine pattern desert utilities follows, bringing the recruit over the log and combat boots into the dirt.

Company A crushed the obstacle course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego early May 3, multiple times. This course consists of numerous physically challenging obstacles that at first glance can scare a recruit into thinking he can't overcome the course. Co. A drill instructors ensured the recruits acquired the confidence and knowledge to surmount the obstacles.

"I was confident I could overcome the O-Course once the drill instructors demonstrated how to do the course," said Recruit Jacob McKinney,

guide, Platoon 1013, Co. A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, "This demonstration showed us it was possible to get through it."

Recruits start by getting over the high bars. To do this they had to rely on their up body strength to get them up and over. From there they walk down logs, then launch their body onto another log and swing over.

They then leap over short and

tall logs and a wall until they reach the double bars. This is followed by a rope they must maneuver their way up.

"Recruits seem to struggle the most with the high bars and the rope," said Sgt. Cesar Gonzalez, drill instructor, Plt. 1010, Co. A, 1st RTBn. "Their senior drill instructors wait at the ropes to help get them up the rope."

Senior drill instructors are supposed to be viewed by the recruits as someone they can confide in. The seniors aren't supposed to pass judgment over any recruit, always encouraging them and showing support, which is exactly what they did for their recruits during the rope portion of the obstacle.

"I always struggle with the rope," said McKinney. "It requires a

lot of endurance and it's at the end of the course when you're already worn down, making it more challenging."

Co. A made it through the course multiple times, building up their physical strength and confidence in overcoming what sometimes seems impossible.

"This course builds up the recruits' confidence. After they overcome the obstacles they realize they can do what Marines can do," said Gonzalez.

Co. A goes on to week three after completing the O-Course. During the beginning of this week they overcome the Confidence Course, which consists of higher obstacles. As recruit training progresses so will their confidence. Co.

A will conquer many hurdles they never thought they could overcome.



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druey

A Company A recruit tries to overcome the high bars on the Depot Obstacle Course May 3. This was one of the many events recruits had to complete while taking on the Obstacle Course during training week two.

Police officer endures recruit training to be more efficient

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE
Chevron staff

Ambition is the desire that drives one to achieve the goals they have set. It makes every step toward completing that goal worthwhile, no matter how long it takes.

Pfc. Steven Sieker, Platoon 1031, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, had no problem achieving his goal to become a police officer for the Los Angeles Police Department, but Sieker's life-long goal was to be a Marine.

"I always wanted to be a Marine," said Sieker. "I not only saw it as an opportunity to start my career in law enforcement, but a way to develop myself personally and professionally."

Although the 30-year-old Inglewood, Calif. native always wanted to enlist in the Marine Corps, his desire grew stronger after 9/11.

"I had really strong feelings about it," said Sieker. "I wanted to serve my country."

After a heart-to-heart talk with his family, Sieker decided not to enlist, but the idea still lingered in the back of his mind.

He attended El Camino

Community College, Torrance, Calif. and left with an associate's degree in criminal administrative justice. From there, he went to California State University, Long Beach, Calif. where he continued his education pursuing his bachelor's degree in criminal justice.

During that time, Sieker applied to be a police officer for the LAPD and got the job. He left the university, attended the academy and was a full-time police officer by 2002.

From shift to shift and call to call, Sieker patrolled the streets and served his community as a police officer for 10 years.

"As an officer, you establish ties with the community," said Sieker. "I go home everyday feeling fulfilled; it's the best job in the world."

Over the years, Sieker had the opportunity to work with former Marines. He saw how they carried themselves, holding themselves to a higher standard even as civilians. He saw the Marines as being tactically different, witnessing how they would apply their experiences to the job and the overall outcome. What he admired most about them was their leadership skills.

"I wanted to be a good leader,"



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Pfc. Steven Sieker, Platoon 1031, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, carries a fellow recruit during an event on the Crucible May 1 at Weapons and Field Training Battalion aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton.

said Sieker. "I knew if I became a Marine it would make me a better person and a better police officer."

Those traits were the determining factor of Sieker's decision to join. He enlisted in the Marine Corps Reserves and began his journey aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Feb. 13.

Sieker held the billet of guide, a title given to the recruit who shows the most leadership traits and takes care of the platoon. He was given the billet the day he arrived at the depot.

"He's been our guide since receiving," said Pvt. Tyler Krahulee, Plt. 1031, Co. B, 1st RTBn. "The whole platoon respects him because of the experiences he's had."

As guide, Sieker was able to learn about small-unit leadership. He organized the platoon, took care of each recruit and treated them equally. He would rise above

situations in a calm manner and get the job done, said Krahulee.

Sieker kept his cool and continued to lead the platoon through the vigorous training days. His drill instructors also noticed the mature way Sieker went about recruit training.

"He leads by example," said Sgt. Chris Flores, senior drill instructor, Plt. 1031, Co. B, 1st RTBn. "Sieker's has a lot of experience; he knows what he's talking about and the other recruits respect him for that."

Although Sieker applied his experiences from being a police officer to recruit training, he was also able to learn how he can be a better leader throughout his career.

"He learned to see the other recruits as his peers as opposed to people below him," explained Flores. "As a leader, you want to be able to understand the people

you are leading and treat them fair."

Being almost 10 years older than most of his peers, Sieker saw the age difference as a chance to use his experiences to provide knowledge and also as an opportunity to learn from the younger recruits.

"It was one of my biggest challenges," said Sieker. "It was hard being away from people my own age; there were a lot of lessons learned."

With the leadership traits that were instilled in him throughout training, Sieker plans on continuing his career with the LAPD and to finish his degree at CSU, Long Beach.

"The training I received here is above and beyond what I expected," said Sieker. "I learned about being a leader and I plan on applying it to help develop me in my career."



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Pfc. Steven Sieker, Platoon 1031, Company B, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, is a police officer with the Los Angeles Police Department, went through recruit training to gain leadership skills that can only be instilled in the Marine Corps.

Brig. Gen. (sel) Paul J. Kennedy

Parade Reviewing Officer

Col. Paul J. Kennedy was commissioned a second lieutenant on May 18, 1985, after graduating from Boston University with a Bachelor of Arts degree in History. He received a Master of Military Science from Marine Corps University in June 2001, and a Master of Arts in National Security Strategy from the National War College in June 2006. His other formal military education includes The Basic School (1985), the Infantry Officers Course (1986), the Amphibious Warfare School (1994), and the School of Advanced Warfighting (2002).

From 1986 to 1989, Kennedy served as a rifle, weapons, and 81 mm mortar platoon commander, company executive officer and Weapons Company commander with 3rd Battalion, 9th Marines at Camp Pendleton, Calif. He deployed twice with the battalion, to the West Pacific as part of Battalion

Landing Team 3/9, and was promoted to first lieutenant on June 1, 1987.

In August 1989, Kennedy was transferred to Marine Corps Base Quantico, Va., where he served as a tactics instructor at The Basic School and Infantry Officers Course. He was promoted to captain on May 1, 1990.

Following his attendance of the Amphibious Warfare School, Kennedy was assigned to 2nd Battalion, 9th Marines (redesignated 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines) at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Calif., where he served as Weapons Company Commander (designated as the Mobile Assault Company) and battalion operations officer until June 1997. He was promoted to major on June 1, 1996 and deployed twice to the West Pacific as part of BLT 2/4.

Kennedy was transferred to Recruiting Station San Francisco in June 1997, as the commanding officer.

In July 2000, Kennedy attended the Marine Corps Command and Staff College and, subsequently, the School of Advanced Warfighting. He was

promoted to lieutenant colonel on July 1, 2001. Following graduation in 2002, Kennedy transferred to the 1st Marine Division, Camp Pendleton.

While there Kennedy served as the division plans officer (G-3 Operations) during Operation Enduring Freedom, and later as both plans and future operations officer during Operation Iraqi Freedom.

In May 2003, Kennedy assumed command of 2nd Battalion, 4th Marine, 1st Marine Division. From January to September 2004, he participated in Operation Iraqi Freedom, assigned to the city of Ramadi, Iraq.

Kennedy then attended the National War College, graduating in 2006. He was subsequently assigned to the Office of Legislative Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps as the director of Marine Liaison to the U.S. House of Representatives.

Kennedy was promoted to his present rank in February 2007.

From July 2008 to July 2011, Kennedy commanded the 2nd Marine Regiment which

deployed Regimental Combat Team 2 to Helmand Province, Afghanistan in support of Operation Enduring Freedom 10.1 and 10.2.

Kennedy's current assignment is as the director, Division of Public Affairs, Headquarters Marine Corps.

Kennedy's personal decorations include the Legion

of Merit (with the combat distinguishing device), the Bronze Star Medal, the Purple Heart, the Meritorious Service Medal (with gold star), Navy-Marine Corps Commendation Medal (with gold star), the Combat Action Ribbon (with bronze star), the Presidential Unit Citation, and the Navy Unit Commendation (with gold star).





Platoon 1029 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. L. A. Short Phoenix Recruited by Sgt. B. Orozro	Platoon 1035 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. L. A. Dickey Rexburg, Idaho Recruited by Sgt. M. R. Lutz	Platoon 1030 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. M. Randolph Cottage Grove, Minn. Recruited by Sgt. A. J. Kruse	Platoon 1031 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. S. D. Sieker Inglewood, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sgt. W. Buxton	Platoon 1033 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. S. Vander Healdton, Okla. Recruited by Staff Sgt. R. McGill	Platoon 1034 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. E. N. Hauser Portland, Ore. Recruited by Sgt. J. Tingley	Platoon 1033 HIGH SHOOTER (340) Pfc. J. D. Morsman Bufflo, Ms. Marksmanship Instructor Sgt. A. Ramirez	Platoon 1031 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. C. C. Melvin Chula Vista, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. R. Ferrara
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BRAVO COMPANY

1st RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. D. R. Kazmier
Sgt. Maj. J. N. Perry
Gunnery Sgt. S. C. Chromy



COMPANY B Commanding Officer Capt. J. W. Adusei Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. S. P. Farrow	SERIES 1029 Series Commander Capt. J. Plancarte Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. A. Mireles	PLATOON 1029 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. M. L. Harmon Drill Instructors Sgt. P. J. Gartland Sgt. R. D. Jackson Sgt. N. K. Milner	PLATOON 1030 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. R. J. Phelan Drill Instructors Sgt. D. M. Joy Sgt. J. A. Lichtefeld Sgt. B. L. Rogers	PLATOON 1031 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. C. Flores Drill Instructors Sgt. J. A. Flores Sgt. W. A. Getts Sgt. P. S. Haly
	SERIES 1033 Series Commander Capt. L. E. Mathurin Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. A. Saracay	PLATOON 1033 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. B. S. Rivas Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. J. A. Andazola Staff Sgt. A. Griffith Sgt. S. L. Ruby	PLATOON 1034 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. Serpa Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. G. Gutierrez Staff Sgt. R. Ramirez	PLATOON 1035 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. A. G. Librando Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. R. Reyes Staff Sgt. B. M. Reza

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

- PLATOON 1029**
 Pvt. L. E. Gonzalez
 *Pfc. D. M. McTague
 Pvt. D. J. Miedema
 Pvt. A. A. Moreno
 Pfc. S. T. Napier
 Pvt. J. A. Negrete
 Pfc. N. K. Nisson
 Pvt. M. B. Ochs
 Pvt. O. L. Otis
 Pvt. J. A. Padilla
 Pvt. A. L. Palmer
 *Pfc. C. D. Patterson
 Pfc. D. L. Peterson
 Pfc. J. T. Peterson
 Pvt. J. T. Pickens
 Pvt. A. E. Pike Jr.
 Pvt. M. S. Quarry
 Pvt. T. W. Quiggle
 Pvt. T. C. Raby
 Pvt. J. C. Ranum
 Pvt. E. S. Reeves
 Pfc. R. W. Reppond
 Pvt. E. Reyes
 Pfc. A. J. Rogers
 Pvt. J. Sandoval
 Pfc. A. M. Santala
 Pvt. A. S. Sayers
 Pvt. C. A. Secrest
 Pfc. S. T. Sherard
 Pvt. J. M. Shorkey
 *Lance Cpl. L. A. Short
 Pvt. D. L. Shulenberg
 Pvt. T. J. Sims
 Pvt. A. R. Smith
 Pvt. J. D. Smith
 Pfc. C. M. Smittenaar
 Pvt. J. C. Snyder
 Pvt. B. J. Spencer
 Pvt. J. O. Steffani
 Pvt. J. M. Stephens-
 Robinson
 Pvt. S. W. Summy
 Pfc. J. R. Tingle
 Pvt. J. J. Tommie
 Pfc. J. J. Turner
 Pvt. J. C. Vaca-Benitez
 Pvt. J. T. Walker
 Pfc. K. A. Wamsley
 Pfc. J. J. Weaver Jr.
 Pvt. J. D. Wendell
 Pvt. M. T. Wilson
 *Pfc. C. R. Wiss
 Pvt. M. A. Wunderlin

- PLATOON 1030**
 Pvt. S. T. Hopwood
 Pfc. S. J. Kaiser
 Pvt. M. A. Mancilla
 Pvt. M. A. Marin-Villagrana
 Pvt. R. R. Marker
 Pvt. T. S. Mason
 Pvt. L. M. Massee
 Pfc. A. S. McGriff
 Pvt. J. B. Moore
 Pfc. J. Moreno
 Pvt. J. A. Mosby
 Pfc. J. C. Navarrete
 *Pfc. E. Ndure
 Pvt. S. M. Nesbitt
 Pvt. J. J. Oesterreicher
 Pfc. J. G. Orlando
 Pfc. A. C. Ortiz
 Pfc. R. H. Overbay IV
 Pvt. C. A. Perry
 Pvt. C. D. Peterson
 Pfc. D. W. Phillips
 Pvt. L. T. Pietan
 Pvt. T. A. Pollock
 Pvt. B. W. Prater
 Pvt. K. N. Quinonez
 Pfc. J. M. Randolph
 Pvt. J. P. Rew
 Pvt. C. J. Roy
 Pvt. C. T. Royer
 Pfc. B. A. Rozsnyai
 Pvt. J. W. Sapp
 Pfc. J. R. Schaefer III
 Pvt. A. J. Scheutzow
 Pvt. C. J. Shumacher
 Pvt. A. J. Shurtz
 *Pfc. J. B. Sims
 Pfc. A. W. Skaggs
 *Pfc. B. J. Slowinski
 Pvt. C. A. Smith
 Pfc. J. R. Smith
 Pvt. C. P. Southerland
 Pvt. D. M. Soward
 Pvt. T. D. Spaulding-
 Jimenez
 Pvt. E. S. Spears-Brooks
 Pvt. J. D. Staggs
 Pfc. J. R. Teneyuque
 Pfc. R. J. Tolliver
 Pvt. A. Vera
 Pvt. T. M. Verdin
 *Pfc. S. D. Vogt
 Pvt. J. M. Williams
 Pvt. D. M. Zapata

- PLATOON 1031**
 Pvt. J. J. Abbott
 Pvt. A. W. Alexander
 Pvt. H. A. Boeck
 Pvt. O. S. Cifuentes
 Pvt. U. E. Felix
 Pfc. J. Fregoso
 Pvt. B. J. Garcia
 Pvt. A. L. Gaytan
 Pfc. A. N. Gombash
 Pvt. J. R. Herrera
 Pvt. R. J. Hudgins
 Pvt. C. W. Jenkins
 Pvt. M. A. Jones
 Pfc. G. A. Judge
 Pvt. A. D. Keener
 *Pfc. T. J. Krahulec
 Pvt. C. L. Lakanen
 Pvt. T. A. Lee
 Pvt. T. M. Lehrkind
 Pvt. P. A. Lenards
 Pfc. J. M. Lichty
 Pfc. K. E. Linn
 Pvt. D. Lopez
 Pvt. J. Lopezcorral
 Pfc. N. A. Luckett
 Pvt. T. S. Lyons
 Pvt. J. G. Mackey
 Pfc. D. B. Malin
 Pvt. C. L. Marquez Jr.
 Pfc. J. E. McDaniel
 Pvt. J. A. Meadows
 Pfc. C. C. Melvin
 Pvt. L. A. Mena
 *Pfc. J. C. Merritt
 Pfc. B. K. Mertz
 Pfc. M. T. Morgan
 Pvt. F. Ocampo
 Pfc. G. B. Oliver
 Pvt. R. J. Oreilly III
 Pfc. A. M. Ortega-Diaz
 Pvt. C. J. Quinlan
 Pfc. L. K. Sanchez
 Pvt. N. R. Scheib
 Pvt. J. O. Serve
 Pfc. S. D. Sieker
 *Pfc. A. Solis
 Pvt. A. A. Tamayo
 Pfc. H. A. Tatum
 Pfc. M. E. Tessier
 Pvt. E. Vergara-Bernabe
 Pvt. G. Vontoman
 Pfc. C. A. Wilson

- PLATOON 1033**
 Pvt. R. Campos
 Pvt. M. T. Cody
 Pvt. W. E. Combs
 Pfc. J. A. Cortes Jr.
 Pvt. S. E. Davis
 Pfc. R. C. Deason
 Pvt. T. E. Furze V
 Pvt. J. P. Galarza
 Pvt. F. N. Gamma-
 Hernandez
 Pfc. T. L. Gutshall
 Pfc. D. R. Harris
 Pvt. B. S. Hicks
 Pvt. H. M. Jimenez
 Pfc. S. P. Juchniewicz
 Pvt. M. A. Kelly
 Pvt. D. A. Knight
 Pvt. T. L. Komasa
 Pvt. M. C. Lind
 Pvt. T. R. Little
 Pvt. M. F. Liufauwright
 Pvt. N. T. Louie
 *Pfc. J. A. Mayo
 Pvt. A. M. Morenoortiz
 Pvt. J. D. Morsman
 Pvt. B. A. Pereyda
 *Pfc. R. J. Perez
 Pvt. C. S. Perry
 Pfc. J. J. Petrow
 Pvt. A. R. Quesada-
 Bocanegra
 Pfc. U. A. Ramos
 Pfc. C. G. Rivera
 Pfc. I. J. Rodas
 Pvt. A. M. Rodriguez III
 Pvt. M. A. Rojas
 Pvt. T. L. Russell
 Pvt. E. M. Ruvalcaba
 Pvt. M. R. Ryan
 Pvt. C. D. Salinas
 Pvt. D. P. Shantz
 Pvt. D. B. Shields
 Pvt. D. Silva Jr.
 Pfc. C. A. Smith
 Pfc. C. T. Stephens
 *Pfc. W. R. Sutton III
 Pvt. R. N. Tamoush
 Pvt. D. Valadez
 *Pfc. A. S. Vandver
 Pfc. S. D. Weston
 Pfc. J. T. Williams
 Pvt. A. M. Yarbrough
 Pfc. J. M. Zambon
 Pvt. S. G. Zezotarski

- PLATOON 1034**
 Pfc. E. T. Alamene
 Pvt. M. D. Anthony II
 Pvt. J. L. Apland
 Pfc. A. J. Avitia
 Pvt. J. D. Azevedl
 Pvt. A. U. Balbuena
 Pfc. D. J. Beeding
 Pfc. M. J. Bellson
 Pvt. A. Bernal
 Pvt. J. S. Bisiar
 Pvt. A. M. Blanco
 Pvt. T. M. Bloodworth
 Pvt. P. A. Boche
 Pvt. S. W. Boleyn
 Pfc. F. J. Bowyer
 Pfc. C. A. Bynum
 Pfc. N. M. Byrnes
 Pvt. O. Cabrera
 Pvt. V. J. Caffarello
 Pvt. E. T. Cain
 Pvt. F. Cantu Jr.
 Pvt. K. E. Carnahan Jr.
 Pvt. Z. J. Carpentier
 Pvt. I. M. Carter
 Pvt. J. S. Collinsworth
 Pfc. M. J. Costello
 Pfc. B. L. Cox
 Pvt. A. R. Dobbs
 Pvt. D. B. Ehresmann
 Pvt. Z. D. Eliot
 Pvt. M. R. Fields
 Pvt. J. A. Garcia Jr.
 Pvt. C. G. Geiler
 Pvt. K. R. Gongora
 *Pfc. K. J. Gorman
 Pvt. G. L. Granillo
 Pfc. C. A. Gray
 *Pfc. J. H. Hansen
 Pvt. D. M. Hanson
 Pfc. J. M. Harris II
 Pvt. S. E. Hartmann
 *Pfc. E. N. Hauser
 Pvt. N. J. Held
 Pvt. J. W. Hanson
 Pvt. D. D. Hesler
 Pvt. D. L. Hopkins Jr.
 Pvt. D. M. Houck
 Pvt. J. W. Imbody
 Pfc. B. L. Johnson II
 Pvt. D. R. Johnson
 Pfc. A. Mendez
 Pfc. C. A. Pierson

- PLATOON 1035**
 Pfc. B. K. Acosta
 Pfc. J. M. Andersen
 Pfc. J. E. Anderson
 Pvt. W. J. Andino
 Pvt. A. J. Arcos
 *Pfc. C. T. Audette
 Pvt. E. R. Ballweg
 Pvt. A. S. Bauer
 Pfc. M. T. Beck
 Pfc. N. J. Blair
 Pvt. C. D. Blare
 Pvt. T. W. Bollman
 Pfc. D. W. Borchert
 Pfc. J. M. Boschma
 Pvt. A. E. Brown
 Pvt. J. S. Bruce
 Pvt. P. J. Butlercsukor
 Pvt. J. E. Campos
 *Pfc. A. Carvajal
 Pfc. M. J. Castrejon
 Pfc. T. L. Charleston
 *Pfc. M. A. Cheers
 Pfc. M. A. Crotzer IV
 Pvt. M. J. Cruz
 Pvt. D. A. De Boer
 Pvt. F. Delgado Jr.
 Pvt. K. D. Dezelske
 Pfc. L. A. Dickey
 Pfc. N. T. Eason
 Pvt. C. D. Faulkner
 Pvt. J. G. Ferguson
 Pvt. R. T. Flores
 *Pfc. C. D. Francis
 Pvt. W. S. Frisby
 Pvt. J. M. Gann
 Pvt. O. J. Garcia
 Pfc. V. Garcia
 Pvt. C. M. Gilbert
 Pvt. D. J. Gordon II
 Pvt. A. F. Grack
 Pfc. E. Guerra-Farfan
 Pvt. A. R. Gutierrez
 Pfc. J. A. Harris
 Pvt. J. J. Hiither
 Pvt. C. R. Hollas
 Pfc. R. C. Howard
 Pvt. E. O. Huerta
 Pvt. M. A. Kinion
 Pfc. W. A. Kluna
 Pfc. A. Lara
 Pvt. J. R. Miltzer
 Pvt. E. I. Moreno-
 Castrejon
 Pfc. A. C. Voss

'Every Marine a rifleman' begins at recruit training

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE
Chevron staff

"Every Marine is, first and foremost, a rifleman. All other conditions are secondary." This quote, spoken by Gen. Alfred M. Gray, 29th Commandant of the Marine Corps, is printed in rifle data books issued to recruits during training and to Marines for their annual marksmanship qualification.

Without a doubt, the famous saying is what Marines are best known for today- their one shot, one kill mentality.

The rifle has been at Marines' sides since the inception of the Marine Corps in 1775. As technology advanced and battle-field's evolved, the rifle's design has changed becoming a more proficient weapon throughout the centuries.

"The Vietnam War was the turning point that improved the weapon," said Sgt. Marcus Terry, primary marksmanship instructor, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. "It was re-evaluated and made into a weapon that can be easier to operate with more accurate results."

Today, the M16-A4 service rifle is the preferred weapon of the United States Marine Corps and is being used in combat and during annual training requirements.

The M16-A4 service rifle is a lightweight, air-cooled, gas-operated, magazine-fed carbine weapon that uses 5.56 mm ball rounds. Once proper marksmanship fundamentals are applied, the weapon can be easily manipulated to deliver accurate shots, explained Terry.

"Marines are trained to be combat-ready," said Terry. "Every Marine must know how to operate their rifle if they were to deploy."

A Marine is first introduced

to the rifle in recruit training. From the moment they place their hands on it, their drill instructors stress the importance of understanding the rifle by explaining the different parts, conditions and safety rules of the weapon.

"The recruits are taught to know every part of their weapon, from the inside and out," said Terry. "If they don't understand it, using the weapon can be difficult for them."

The responsibility of maintaining a weapon can be overwhelming for some recruits. For many of them, it's the first time that they've actually held and fired a rifle, explained Terry.

"Since it was my first time using a rifle, I was intimidated," said Recruit Alec Kunesh, Platoon 3214, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion. "But the more I handle it, the more comfortable I am."

Two weeks of recruit training are dedicated to teaching recruits the basics of marksmanship.

The first week, known as "Grass Week", includes classes on trigger control, sight alignment, and breathing, which are the fundamentals of marksmanship. It also covers the different positions the recruits will be shooting in: sitting, kneeling and standing. They practice these positions for several hours a day to learn what works best for them and provide a stable position.

Week two is "Firing Week", which is where recruits can apply what they've learned. Basic marksmanship-trained coaches assist them as they go through the course of fire that they will shoot on qualification day. It's up to the recruit to apply the fundamentals in order to be successful, said Terry.

While at the range, drill instructors focus on maintenance and continue to instill weapons safety rules.

"Every day we have them clean their weapons for about



Lance Cpl. Crystal Druery

Recruits practice proper weapons maintenance to ensure their rifle functions properly. Recruits clean their weapons forty-five minutes to an hour while at the range. Every Marine must know how to take care of their weapon because if it isn't properly maintained it could jam costing a Marine their life.

forty-five minutes to an hour," said Sgt. Carlos Soto, senior drill instructor, Plt. 3214, Co. I, 3rd RTBn. "Proper maintenance is stressed; if you don't take care of your weapon it could jam costing you your life and the lives of fellow Marines."

In the unfortunate event that a weapon jams or when all

ammunition has been expended, recruits also become proficient using bayonet techniques with their rifle through the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program, which allows them to manipulate the rifle in close-quarters combat, making it the ultimate weapon.

The knowledge and skills that

recruits learn throughout training helps them live up to Gen. Alfred M. Gray's quote.

"The rifle is a great tool to educate recruits to make them into better Marines," said Kunesh. "No matter what your job is in the Marine Corps, there is the chance to deploy and you need to be ready."



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

A coach assists a recruit by reiterating the fundamentals of marksmanship May 1 at Edson Range, Weapons and Field Training Battalion aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. Two weeks of recruit training are dedicated to training each recruit in rifle marksmanship. Every Marine must know how to use and maintain a rifle in the event they deploy.