



Co. K recruits undergo swim quals p. 8

CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



Crucible requires teamwork over individuality

BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II
Chevron staff

The crucible is the last test for recruits before becoming Marines. It's a three day event that includes various independent and collaborative test's designed to push recruits to their limits.

One of the events is called Twelve Stalls, it includes twelve different mini exercises that are designed for recruits to specifically accomplish using teamwork.

Recruits from Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, worked together successfully through Twelve Stalls, during the Crucible aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 11.

Each station had a clipboard with instructions for a slightly different mission, situation and execution. However, one similarity between all exercises was the red paint on various parts of the props.

If a recruit touched any of the red paint, that recruit became a simulated casualty. A simulated casualty's punishment was carrying two full ammunition cans up and down a dirt path.

Recruits did their best to not touch the paint or fail. But when they did, Marine instructors were there to point it out and order the recruits to do the ammo can carry.

“Red is dead and they become a casualty,” said Cpl. Mitch A. Gangwish, field instructor, Weapons and Field Training Battalion. “All these exercises are designed to promote team work. If you can't work as a team it's going to make it harder to accomplish

see CRUCIBLE ▶ 2



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

Company D recruits post security while fellow recruits work to finish a Twelve Stalls mission during the Crucible, the 54-hour final exercise of Marine Corps recruit training at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 11. If security is not posted at any time during an exercise, recruits are given additional physical exercises.



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

Sgt. Detren C. Tate, drill instructor, Plt. 3262, Company D, finds dirt on a recruit's rifle during their series commander inspection aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 10. During the inspection, recruits are asked a series of questions ranging from Marine history to their general orders.

Inspections are part of training

BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II
Chevron staff

Some recruits appeared calm, but the majority of them looked nervous as they stood in formation waiting for their series commander inspection to commence aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, Sept. 10.

Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, were inspected on their camouflage utilities, bearing and Marine Corps knowledge by both their drill instructors and series commander.

One by one each recruit was asked a series of

questions and inspected. If anything was wrong or out of place drill instructors were quick to let the recruits know with a series of shouts and orders.

Some recruits admitted that being nervous contributed to a less than perfect performance.

“I knew the answer to a question I missed; but because I was nervous I couldn't think clearly,” said Recruit Joshua M. Nelson, guide, Platoon 3262.

Nelson explained it was his first time going through an inspection and didn't know what to

see INSPECTION ▶ 2

Recruits learn Corps etiquette

BY CPL. ERIC QUINTANILLA
Chevron staff

“Good morning sir! Good morning ma'am!” can be heard throughout Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego as recruits greet all they encounter.

In their first week of training, Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, received an hour-long Marine Corps customs and courtesies class Sept. 12.

“It's in the beginning so it reiterates what the drill instructors have been telling them,” said Staff Sgt. Juan Aguilera, senior drill instructor, Co. L. “Then we can hold them accountable for not doing what they're supposed to.”

More than 250 recruits filled

the classroom for a class that covered various topics including saluting, proper greetings, rank structure, naval terms and the Marine Corps Birthday.

Although a lot of information is covered it doesn't take long for the recruits to understand the importance. The information covered here will follow them throughout their time in the Marine Corps, according to Aguilera.

“Usually within the first week they start to get it,” said Aguilera. “It's not just for boot camp. They will use this throughout the Marine Corps.”

Customs represent some of the long standing traditions the Marine Corps still holds

see MANNERS ▶ 2



Cpl. Eric Quintanilla

Company L recruits listen intently during a Customs and Courtesies Class Sept. 12. During the class recruits follow along in their knowledge books and drink plenty of water in preparation of their next physical training session.

Family Tradition



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Sgt. Maj. James K. Poterfield, sergeant major of Recruit Training Regiment, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., stands with his newly graduated Marine son, Pfc. Calvin A. Albright, on the depot's parade deck Sept. 14. The 21-year-old Albright, a member of Platoon 3201, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, enlisted in the Marine Corps to follow in his father's footsteps and to provide for his family. The sergeant major was the Parade Reviewing Officer at his son's graduation ceremony. "I'm speechless," said Poterfield, 41. "The pride of being a father and a Marine and being able to share that with my son is a privilege." Poterfield graduated from MCRD San Diego 23 years ago and walked across the same parade deck. "I felt proud to have my father there watching us as the parade reviewing officer," said Albright. "I really appreciate him and I know I have big shoes to fill."

CRUCIBLE ◀ 1

the mission."

For many recruits it took a little bit of practice before the exercises become fluid with teamwork.

Michael A. Acuna, Plt. 1066, Co. D, explained in the beginning of the exercise too many recruits were trying to take charge and arguing over what to do.

"We realized as a unit it's easier to work together and not fight," said Acuna. "When we started working as a team things starting clicking and we were able to get the mission done faster."

Recruits were responsible for using part of their squad for a security perimeter during the exercise. During one exercise a Marine instructor pointed out a group had failed to post security.

"You all died," said the Marine instructor.

The recruits appeared a little

disappointed in themselves but moved quickly toward the ammo can station and after finishing returned to try the mission again.

Recruit Branden M. Blakenmore, Plt. 1066, Co. D explained on top of it no feeling good to fail, having to run with ammo cans is a physically daunting deterrent as well.

"I think the ammo cans are a good way from keeping us from failing. We did one for not posting security and it was discouraging," said Blakenmore. "Overall I think this exercise is beneficial because we have to read the scenario and get creative with it, it's all about mission accomplishment."

Recruits worked with one another to accomplish the mission and when assistance was needed Marine instructors either gave hints to the mission or guided them to ammo cans. All in all, through repeated tries and

help from Marine instructors recruits practiced a valuable skill – teamwork.



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

Company D recruits, after having stopped to consider their best attack, proceed to another Twelve Stall exercise.

MANNERS ◀ 1

today. Many of these traditions are associated with the Marine Corps Birthday.

In addition to the many traditions, Marines also hold themselves to a higher standard when it comes to common courtesies.

"It's just proper. My mother taught me the same thing," said Recruit Wykeam Miller, guide, Co. L. "It's all about respect."

Recruits have been instructed in this since arriving at the

depot but this is their first formal class explaining all the details.

"The drill instructors have been stressing this since we got on those yellow footprints," said Miller, 18. "Every morning and every night."

"(The Marine Corps) is the heart of the nation," said Recruit Preston Perez, guide, Co. L. "If we show we are proper than it shows this nation is also proper."

Recruits of Co. L have a long journey ahead of them but those who come through the other side will know they have earned the title U.S. Marine.

INSPECTION ◀ 1

expect.

"I'm going to practice my Marine Corps knowledge and try not to be as nervous next time," said Nelson.

The intensity of the inspection was by no coincidence. Drill instructors purposely try to rattle the recruits to test their bearing under pressure.

"From this we see their strong or weak points and build on them," said Sgt. Detren C. Tate, drill instructor, Plt. 3262.

Tate explained recruits are tested thoroughly and hard, but they start preparing for the inspection on day one of

training by drill instructors showing them how to wear their uniforms and carry themselves as Marines.

"Their confidence has been prepped since day one," said Tate. "We teach them how to properly wear the uniforms and show them what we expect every day."

Another reason for the inspection is to prepare recruits for future interaction with officers and senior enlisted.

Tate said he expects recruits to come away from the experience gaining confidence in their ability to communicate to senior Marines.

Recruits understood that the inspection was another brick in the road toward learning how to carry themselves

as Marines.

After finishing the series commander inspection, Recruit Taylor M. Crain, Plt. 3262, said that mistakes made in recruit training are to be learned from.

"You can avoid a lot of problems if you fix them early on," explained Crain.

How well recruits did in their series commander inspection varied from recruit to recruit. But what didn't vary is the valuable experience and lesson they all received in bearing and effectively communicating.

"This helps the recruits work better under pressure and make it a little easier to answer questions next time," said Nelson.

BRIEFS

National Preparedness Month

September 2012 marks the ninth annual National Preparedness Month, sponsored by the Federal Emergency Management Agency, Dept. of Homeland Security.

The goal of Mission Assurance and Homeland Security is to educate the public on preparing for emergencies such as:

- natural disasters
- mass casualties
- biological and chemical threats
- radiation emergencies
- terrorist attacks.

Throughout September there will be activities across the country to promote emergency preparedness.

More than 3,000 organizations - national, regional and local, public and private - are supporting emergency preparedness efforts and encouraging all Americans to take action.

Marine Corps Birthday Ball

Ticket sales for the Marine Corps Birthday Ball have officially begun.

Tickets can be purchased at the company office. The primary point of contact is Gunnery Sgt. Collins, with 1st Sgt. Callahan and Maj. Vallee in reserve.

Be prepared to declare either chicken or beef, as well as any additional attendees.

Ticket Prices are:

- MCRD Active Duty E-1 - E-5; GS4 - GS8; NAF 2: \$25.00
- MCRD Active Duty E-6 - E-9; GS9 - GS11; NAF 3-NAF 4: \$45.00
- MCRD Active Duty Officers; GS12 - GS15; NAF 4(Directors): \$60.00
- Non-MCRD Officers, Enlisted, retirees and other guests: \$70.00

Each individual can purchase

2 tickets at their rank price. All additional tickets will be purchased at the \$70.00 guest price.

Ticket Allocation:

- CG: 200
- RTR: 950
- HQSVC Bn: 600

Weekly Bible Study

A weekly Bible Study will be held every Tuesday from 11:45 a.m., until 12:30 p.m., in the HQSVC Battalion conference room.

For information, contact Chaplain Cates at (619) 524-6928, or via e-mail at gregory.cates@usmc.mil.

Jewish High Holiday Services.

- Today – 6 p.m. RTR Bldg. 28
Chaplain Jewish room
Regular Shabbat Services
- Today – 6 p.m. RTR Bldg. 28
Chaplain Jewish room
Tuesday Evening of Yom Kippur (Kol Nidre)
- Sept. 21 – 9 a.m. RTR Bldg. 28
Chaplain Jewish room
Wednesday Morning of Yom Kippur (Yizkor)
- Sept. 26 – 6 p.m. RTR Bldg. 28
Chaplain Jewish room
Wednesday Concluding service for Yom Kippur

BootCamp Challenge Special

Active duty military members will be able to participate in this year's BootCamp Challenge at a special lower rate of \$19 per person. The rate for DoD/NAFi personnel is \$39 per person.

For information, contact Diana Vuong at (619) 524-8083, or via e-mail at vuongd@usmc-mccs.org.

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: "Do you have a role in the BootCamp Challenge?"



"I will be doing my duties as a military police officer for the Bootcamp Challenge." Lance Cpl. Tommy Suver, Military Police, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



"I'm going to be participating in the challenge." Cpl. Marissa Galindo, administrative clerk, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Company



"I would like to participate in the challenge itself or probably watch it." Lance Cpl. Antonio Rodriguez, postal clerk, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Retired Marine 1st Sgt. Arthur Barbosa looks at the Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego Command Museum display holding a picture of himself taken more than 60 years ago. Barbosa was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions while serving as a squad leader with Company E, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division during the Korean War in 1952. Barbosa is now a docent at the depot museum where he and other Marine veterans share stories about their experiences in the Marine Corps.

Navy Cross recipient shares war experience

BY LANCE CPL. B. KEANE
Chevron staff

Upon entering the Command Museum aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, a visitor would have the pleasure of meeting Arthur Barbosa, a retired Marine first sergeant, one of the many docents that guide tours for the museum's visitors.

On the humbled veteran's chest he displays two medals, the Navy Cross and the Purple Heart. The story behind those medals is a story of bravery and intuitive thinking.

His story begins when the 11-year-old New York native learned that the Japanese bombed Pearl Harbor. Barbosa recalls writing a letter to president at the time, Franklin D. Roosevelt, about wanting to be the Marine Corps mascot and his desire to be a Marine.

"I got a letter back saying that they thought I was very patriotic and that the armed services would gladly take me when I turned 17-years-old," Barbosa said with a laugh.

Sure enough, Barbosa enlisted in 1947 and was shipped off to recruit training at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C. Upon graduation, Barbosa served at various duty stations in the United States and overseas in China.

As a corporal Barbosa was assigned to "Easy" Company, 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 1st Marine Division, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., as a squad leader.

In March of 1952, the 21-year-old was deployed with his unit to Korea, where he was promoted to sergeant. Barbosa explained that the 1st MARDIV had just transferred from Eastern to Western Korea.

Barbosa and 80 other Marines were posted at Outpost-3. The Marines there had two light-machine guns, two heavy-machine guns and one mortar. During the day, the Marines would dig trenches. They would take turns standing guard at night.

On the night of April 15, OP-3 was assaulted by 700 Chinese soldiers.

Barbosa and his gunner were just

being relieved from watch.

After a cup of coffee and short conversation to wind down, Barbosa and his fellow Marine headed to bed. Two steps after they stood up, the entire skyline lit up.

"It reminded me of Coney Island on the 4th of July," explained Barbosa. "At that time, we didn't even think that we were being attacked."

They moved to higher ground to see who had fallen under attack, and soon realized that it was OP-3 being assaulted. "The Chinese pounded that outpost," said Barbosa. "It was one of those moments that you look up and pray to God saying, 'If you get me out of this one, I promise I'll go to church every Sunday!'"

The assault lasted about 30 minutes then stopped. In the eerie silence two green flares were shot off in front of them, two in the rear, and one on each side, explained Barbosa.

"Then all hell broke loose," said Barbosa. "The Chinese came at us blowing sheep horns and bugles; our riflemen didn't stand a chance."

As the Chinese came from all sides of the outpost, the Marines engaged in hand-to-hand combat using KA-Bars (Marine Corps combat knife), entrenchment tools and rifles, whatever they had, to fight off the enemy.

Another squad leader, Cpl. Duane Dewey, and Barbosa manned their guns and began to fight back.

Barbosa's gunnery sergeant ordered him to move his squad down the terrain.

"I began to move down the finger (ridge), then something inside of me said not to go any further," he explained. "I said, 'put it (the gun) up right here,' and (my gunner) didn't hesitate or ask questions."

Barbosa and his Marines were completely out in the open. He thought about the terrain and the route of attack and knew that in order to cover the entire area, their position had to be exposed.

"Frank Jeffs (assistant gunner) and I had broken up several assaults and we just laid there waiting for the next one," said Barbosa. "I kept thinking about ammo,

time and numbers."

With the sound of mortars and artillery going off in every direction, Barbosa turned to his assistant gunner and asked, "Frank, we gonna make it?"

Barbosa explained that Frank's dislike for the military due to the draft, had made him the biggest complainer in 1st MARDIV. But when he asked the young private first class that question, Frank replied with daggers in his eyes, "Hell yes! We're Marines aren't we?"

Moments later, three hand grenades were tossed in their direction. Two rolled away but the third got stuck (on our gun's ammunition belt) and went off. Frank absorbed nearly 90 percent of the blast and after mumbling a few words, he died, said Barbosa.

Barbosa, now alone, continued to man his post until the Chinese started to break off at about 3 a.m. He remembers being surprisingly calm throughout the night and that his main concern was his Marines.

"The Chinese ran into a buzz saw that night," said Barbosa. "The Marines fought them with every ounce of their bodies; it was one night to remember."

Despite being heavily outnumbered, the Marines of OP-3 maintained their position against the assault.

Barbosa's courageous efforts and initiative in connection with military operations against an armed enemy of the United Nations proved vital against enemy aggressor forces.

He was later stationed at Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, N.C. in 1953, where he was awarded the Navy Cross for his actions on the night of April 15, 1952.

"When I wear my medals, I think of the members of my squad that didn't make it," said Barbosa. "They played a large role in me receiving these. I wear the medals for them."

Barbosa proudly served in the Marine Corps for 21 years and now volunteers as a docent at the Command Museum.

There he shares his experiences as he guides recruits and other visitors through the history of the Marine Corps.

CHEVRON

ESTABLISHED 1942

COMMANDING GENERAL
BRIG. GEN. DANIEL D. YOO

SERGEANT MAJOR
SGT. MAJ. SYLVESTER D. DANIELS

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
MAJ. MICHAEL W. ARMISTEAD

DEPUTY DIRECTOR
JANICE M. HAGAR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF
MASTER SGT. ROBERT G. KNOLL

PRESS CHIEF
STAFF SGT. LEONARD F. LANGSTON

PRESS NCOIC
CPL. ERIC C. QUINTANILLA

COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS
CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II
CPL. MATHEUS J. HERNANDEZ
LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE

EDITOR
ROGER EDWARDS

CONTACT THE CHEVRON
RDSD_PAO@USMC.MIL

CHEVRON/PUBLIC AFFAIRS OFFICE
1600 HENDERSON AVE. #120
SAN DIEGO, CA. 92140
(619) 524-8722

WWW.MCRDSD.MARINES.MIL

The Chevron, printed with appropriated funds in compliance with Marine Corps order P5600.31F, is published by Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego personnel. Opinions and views expressed herein are not necessarily those of the Marine Corps or the Department of Defense. The Chevron is promulgated for informational purposes only and in no way should be considered directive in nature. All photos are official USMC property unless otherwise indicated.

Recruits learn basic bayonet fighting techniques

BY CPL. MATHEUS J. HERNANDEZ
Chevron staff

Marines have advanced on the battlefield on many occasions, sometimes relying only on their fixed bayonets. They have fought through the trenches in Belleau Wood, the jungles of Okinawa and the freezing temperatures of the Chosin Reservoir, striking their enemy with the sharp blade beneath the muzzle of their rifles in close combat.

modern warfare bayonets may not be used as often as they were during battles in Marine Corps history, recruits are still being taught the same basic techniques to fight with a bayonet in case they may need to.

Recruits of Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, completed their introduction to the bayonet assault course and pugil sticks match during recruit training aboard Marine Corps

Recruit Depot San

Diego Sept. 12. Before recruits began the course, they were given a demonstration on how to execute proper moves and techniques such as the straight thrust, forward slash, disrupt and butt stroke. They were then instructed to perform each technique with simulated rifles and bayonets repeatedly to ensure they became proficient in each move.

“Every Marine is a rifleman, so these skills are important to know,” said Recruit Anthony V. Novelly, Platoon 2133. “Any skill you learn may eventually be used, and you never know when they may be called into action. That’s why it’s

important to hone these skills as we go along with recruit training.”

Once recruits were capable of performing each move correctly, they then moved on to the bayonet assault course. However, since it was the first time recruits were facing the course, they were only required to run half of it.

“Having to maneuver through obstacles, jumping over logs and striking tires with their bayonets, is suppose to simulate a combat environment,” said Staff Sgt. Anthony Schannette, drill instructor, Plt. 2135.

“It’s all new to them. They seem to be motivated by it though, to learn combat skills. For most of the recruits this is what

they came here to do,” he said.

After completing the assault course, recruits were first given a demonstration of a pugil sticks match. Next, they matched up with an opponent roughly with the same height and weight and faced each other in full gear, a helmet, flak jacket, groin protector and pugil sticks. Recruits were taught that rifles with bayonets can be used as effective weapons for both an attack and defense when facing an opponent.

“Sometimes (these techniques) come as a last resort and all Marines have to

know these skills to be able to defend themselves,” said Sgt. Ryan-Michael Daffin, drill instructor, Instructional Training Company, Support Battalion. “I think they did very well in pugil sticks and that they grasped the concept.”

Now that recruits have learned how to properly execute bayonet techniques from the syllabus, they will continue on with recruit training. The company is scheduled to undergo the bayonet assault course several more times throughout the cycle where they will learn how to move as a team through the course and how to communicate with one another while doing so.



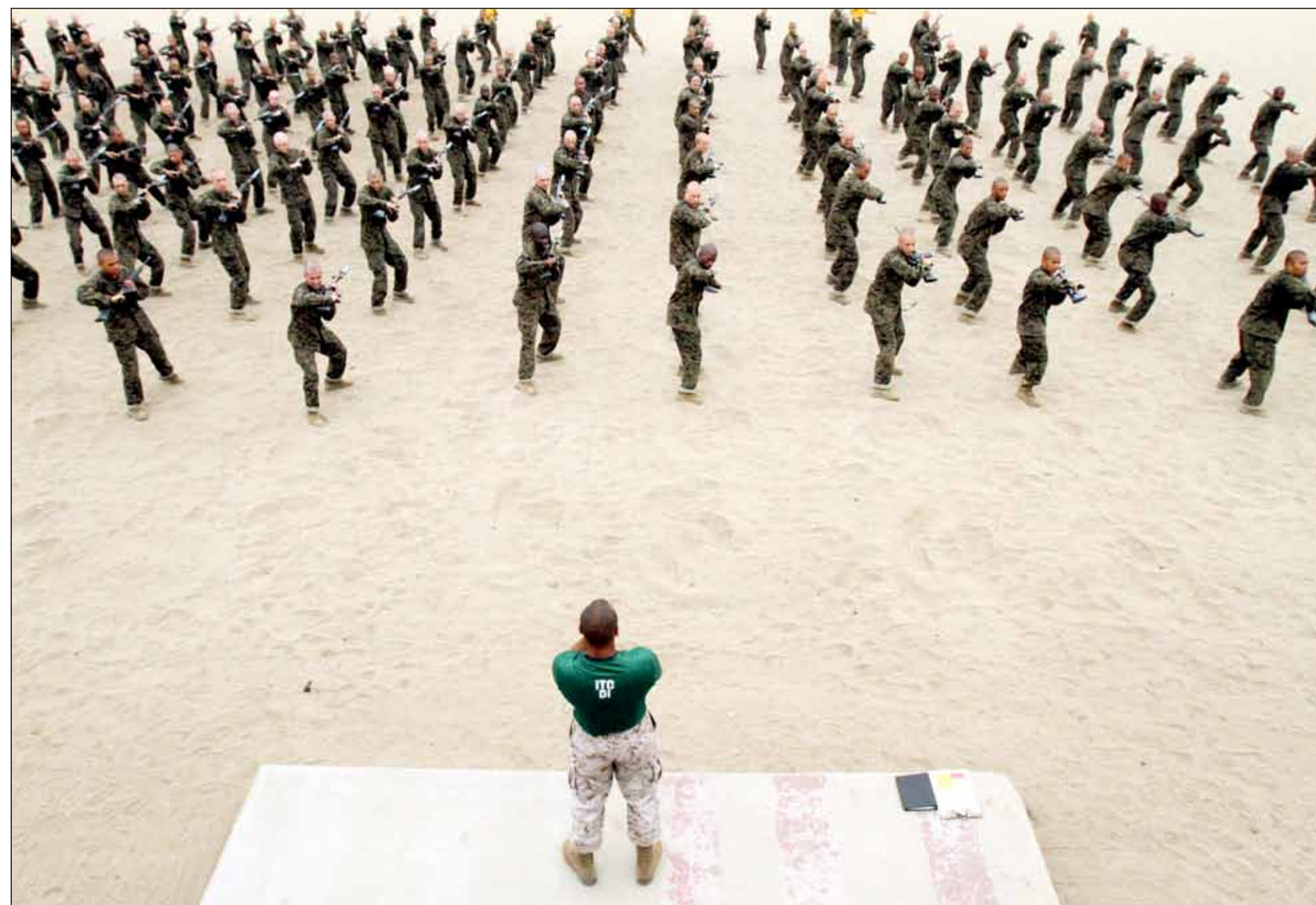
Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Company F drill instructors give a recruit stereo motivation during the bayonet assault course and pugil sticks match during training Sept. 12. After completing the assault course and moving on with pugil sticks, recruits were taught exercises to perform with their rifles, that will be needed throughout recruit training.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

A Company F recruit moves to assume the prone position behind the cover of in-place logs during the introduction to the bayonet assault course. The course challenges recruits, putting them in a combat mindset as they attacked simulated targets with their bayonets.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Company F recruits perform a butt stroke during a drill for their introduction to the bayonet assault course and pugil sticks match. Sgt. Ryan-Michael Daffin, Company F drill instructor, supervises to ensure each recruit has learned to perform each move correctly.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

A Company F recruit strikes a simulated opponent constructed of used tires, with the butt of his rifle while running the bayonet assault course during training Sept. 12.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Sgt. Ryan-Michael Daffin, a drill instructor with the Instructional Training Company, Support Battalion, demonstrates a forward bayonet slash for Company F recruits. Before recruits face the bayonet assault course and pugil stick course, they are first given demonstrations of the techniques they will need to know.



Cpl. Matheus J. Hernandez

Two Company F recruits face each other during a pugil sticks match after completing the introduction to the bayonet assault course.

World Trade Center attacks inspire DI's service

BY CPL. MATHEUS J. HERNANDEZ
Chevron staff

It was on the morning of September 11, 2001 when it happened. The tragedy that struck the United States taking thousands of lives. Millions of more people around the world stopped their everyday life to witness the disaster fold right before their eyes on television.

For one individual, like many others, it seemed as if it was just another day before it happened. He was sitting in class in Southold Junior High School in Long Island, New York, as teachers began to turn on the news.

Robert M. Surozenski stopped in shock that day as he watched the terrorist attacks on the World Trade Center's twin towers take place in New York City.

Although Surozenski understood what was happening, it wasn't until he came across one of the first photos released from that day when he felt his emotions set in.

"I remember seeing a photo of a man that had jumped from one of the twin towers because he was trapped," said Surozenski, the 23-year old. "I just remember feeling angry. I just couldn't believe that they would come to our turf and (commit) those attacks."

Having a desire to enlist already, when he attended a Memorial Day parade at a younger age, he knew that his aspirations to become a U.S. Marine were now for certain.

"From that day I didn't just know I wanted to be a Marine," said Surozenski. "I was determined to pay my debt back for all the fallen heroes that died that day."

With a patriotic family to support him, Surozenski enlisted immediately after high school in July of 2007 with the heart and mind to serve his country in honor of the fallen heroes.

During his enlistment he decided to become a drill instructor to take part in shaping the Marine Corps by transforming recruits into Marines. Just 18 days after his promotion to sergeant, Surozenski submitted his package to attend drill instructor school.

"I always wanted to be a drill

instructor," said Surozenski. "They always represented themselves with such high standards. They always looked perfect."

Now, five years later, a sergeant and drill instructor for platoon 1066, Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, Surozenski found himself in the field training recruits in their final stages of becoming Marines, 11 years to the day since the terrorist attack.

Surozenski's primary mission for the current cycle as a "third hat" drill instructor is to instill discipline in their recruits, according to Sgt. Frank Cruz, drill instructor, Plt. 1066, Co. D.

"He has a lot of heart and passion as a drill instructor," said Cruz. "He has a great work ethic and always tries to better himself. Has takes a lot of pride in training recruits."

As drill instructors and recruits went on with their training, music began to play approximately a quarter until the hour. It was 8:46 a.m.

"We stood there for a second wondering why taps went off and when we finally realized what time it was we popped to attention," said Surozenski. "This was also the reason why they sparked a conversation with the recruits about 9/11."

Recruits of Co. D shared their experiences as they discussed the attack with the drill instructor; where they were that day, what it meant to them and for some, they even related to Surozenski.

"It's somewhat surreal how I'm here training recruits to fight for the same reason I chose to fight for," said Surozenski. "They were watching the same thing I was that day. Being out here on this day means a lot and it kind of puts it into perspective as I read the citations."

Citations of Marines and their heroism are displayed and read to recruits before they execute a training task.

"Marines that have gone before left a mark on history and it's still happening today for reasons like 9/11," said Surozenski. "Marines are still doing the same things now as they did then, leaving a mark on history. Nothing's changed about the Marine Corps. The mentality is still the same, to fight for this country."



Staff Sgt. L. Langston

Sgt. Robert Surozenski, drill instructor, Platoon 1066, Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, enlisted in July of 2007 to serve his country in honor of the fallen heroes of 9/11. His aspirations led him to become a drill instructor aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego where he transforms recruits into basic trained Marines.

Retired Master Gunnery Sgt. Leonard J. Maffioli

Parade Reviewing Officer

Retired Master Gunnery Sergeant Leonard J. 'Len' Maffioli was born in Berkeley, Calif., on July 1, 1925. Upon graduation from high school in 1943, he enlisted in the U.S. Marine Corps and fought on the Pacific islands of Saipan, Tinian and Iwo Jima with the 4th Marine Division.

When World War II ended, Maffioli returned to the United States in late 1945 for discharge.

Maffioli reenlisted in July 1950, at the outbreak of the Korean Conflict and sailed for Korea with the 1st Tank Battalion, 1st Marine Division, participating in the Inchon landing, the capture of Seoul and the Chosin Reservoir campaigns.

During the Chosin Reservoir campaign, Maffioli was captured by Chinese forces

while escorting British Royal Marines of the 41st Independent Commando to Hagru-ri with Task Force Drysdale. After six months as a prisoner of war, he escaped in May 1951, along with 17 other Marines.

Maffioli was later awarded the Bronze Star Medal with Combat "V" for his part in engineering the escape. He also received the Purple Heart Medal for wounds received during his capture.

After more than five months hospitalization and convalescence, Maffioli was returned to active duty and served at various posts throughout the world, including a tour with the 3rd Tank Battalion on Okinawa, and duty with the Department of State as noncommissioned officer in charge of Marine security guard detachments at diplomatic posts in Munich, Germany and Vienna, Austria.

In 1967, after four years on recruiting duty in the greater Los Angeles area, he requested and received transfer to Vietnam where he served 13 months as

operations chief of the 1st Tank Battalion, participating in four major campaigns including the February 1968 Tet Offensive.

From Vietnam, Maffioli was reassigned to the State Department and served in Dhahran, Saudi Arabia and Kabul, Afghanistan. Subsequent tours included a stint as sergeant major of the 2nd Tank Battalion at Camp Lejeune, N.C., and four more years of recruiting in the Los Angeles area.

In 1975, Maffioli was transferred to the Marine Corps Recruit Depot at San Diego, Calif., where he served as the depot's inspection chief until his retirement in 1979.

With more than 33 years of service, Maffioli was the last Korean ex-prisoner of war, and one of the few remaining veterans of World War II on active duty in the Marine Corps. He was awarded the Meritorious Service Medal upon retirement.

Maffioli's other awards and decorations include the POW Medal, Combat Action Ribbon, Presidential Unit

Citation with 3 stars, Navy Unit Commendation, Meritorious Unit Citation with 3 stars, Good Conduct Medal 10th award, Asiatic-Pacific Campaign Medal with 3 stars, Korean Service Medal with 4 stars and the Vietnam Service Medal with 4 stars.

From 1985 to 1989, while

chairing the 4th Marine Division Association's memorials and monuments committee, Maffioli placed and dedicated memorials to the division's dead on the four islands on which that division had fought; Roi-Namur in the Marshall Islands, Saipan and Tinian in the Marianas and Iwo Jima.





Platoon 1067 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. C. W. Branson Houston Recruited by Sgt. B. A. Short
Platoon 1063 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. D. W. Blake San Antonio Recruited by Staff Sgt. K. Williams
Platoon 1061 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. G. Robertson San Francisco Recruited by Sgt. R. Dusenberry
Platoon 1062 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. K. A. Ramsey Portland, Ore. Recruited by Sgt. N. Corella
Platoon 1065 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. M. Metzler Phoenix Recruited by Sgt. C. Waggoner
Platoon 1066 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. A. Arroyo San Jose, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. T. Spurling
Platoon 1068 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. M. A. Bundy Lansing, Mich. Recruited by Sgt. M. Landers
Platoon 1065 HIGH SHOOTER (337) Pfc. N. A. Gamboa Oakland, Calif. Marksmanship Instructor Staff Sgt. K. Jones
Platoon 1062 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. A. J. Niehaus Dubuque, Iowa Recruited by Staff Sgt. C. A. Beatty



DELTA COMPANY

1st RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION



Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. D. R. Kazmier
1st Sgt. M. R. Hackett
Gunnery Sgt. S. C. Chromy

Table listing leadership for COMPANY D and various platoons (1061, 1062, 1063, 1065, 1066, 1037, 1038). Columns include Series Commander, Senior Drill Instructor, Chief Drill Instructor, and Drill Instructors.

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

Main list of recruits organized by platoon (1061, 1062, 1063, 1065, 1066, 1067, 1068, 1037, 1038). Each entry includes name, rank, and hometown.

Ability to relax teaches recruits valuable water survival skills

BY LANCE CPL. BRIDGET M. KEANE
Chevron staff

The fourth week of every recruit training cycle aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, is dedicated to swim qualification.

Water survival basic is a recruit training graduation requirement. The training teaches recruits how to survive in an aquatic environment using different strokes and techniques while wearing a full utility uniform and combat boots.

The course of qualification is to swim 25 meters in both the shallow and deep ends of the depot's Olympic sized pool, tread water for four minutes, use a waterproof-pack to swim 25 meters and perform a 10-second gear strip while submerged.

"The main thing about swim qual is being able to relax," explained Staff Sgt. Julian L. Russell, chief swim instructor, Instructional Training Company, Support Battalion. "Relaxation and having confidence in yourself will allow you to learn the techniques."

Some recruits may see swim

week as just another training event, not knowing much about the challenges involved. Even the most confident swimmers have a difficult time relaxing and maneuvering through the water in their uniform.

"I thought I was going to have no problem passing," said Recruit Joseph Boyd, Platoon 3222, Company K, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion. "It felt like the water was fighting back; I just stepped in, started to swim, looked up and everyone was leaving me behind."

Boyd, an 18-year-old Harbor City, Calif., native, explained how he usually is a strong swimmer but movement through the water became hard while wearing his camis.

"Even though it's a bit difficult, I think we're really taught this not only because we'll have to survive ourselves, but to save another Marine's life," said Boyd. "You can't just leave someone behind because you're in your uniform and it makes it harder to swim."

Although Boyd didn't qualify day one of swim week, he didn't let it discourage him. Recruits that don't qualify the first day are given re-mediation classes and a second chance to qualify. Swim instructors work one-on-one with the recruits to

ensure they learn the techniques correctly.

"I soon learned it was all about technique and staying calm; the instructors pointed out that I wasn't relaxed and that I was tense," explained Boyd.

According to Russell, most recruits who lacked confidence and had a hard time qualifying the first day are more likely to pass the second time around because instructors stress how easy it is when the recruit is relaxed.

Boyd explained that he allowed himself to calm down and just go through the motions. He soon found out how easy each technique was once he relaxed.

"I hate failing and I hate to lose, so I refused to let myself fail at this," said Boyd. "I am definitely more confident in myself now with the techniques than I was before."

Boyd and his fellow recruits of Co. K stand drenched and relieved that they endured the day's events and that they have officially passed water survival basic.

Co. K is currently at Edson Range, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., where they are learning the fundamentals of basic marksmanship.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

A Company K recruit takes a step off the 10-foot diving platform Sept. 11, at the depot's swim tank. Recruits are required to jump off into the deep end of the pool and swim 25-meters toward the shallow end.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Recruits are required to wear combat boots and utility uniform during swim training. This adds difficulty and shows recruits what it is like to move in the water wearing camis.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

A recruit finishes his 25-meter swim with a waterproof-pack Sept. 11. Recruits are taught how to effectively use a pack to swim to safety if they are ever in an emergency situation.



Lance Cpl. Bridget M. Keane

Recruits are required to do a 10-second gear strip while submerged in shallow water. They must wear a flak jacket, Kevlar helmet and carry a simulated M16-A4 service rifle. This gives recruits an idea of what it feels like to carry extra weight and allows them to know that they are capable of taking the gear off if they fall into water.