



**“Welcome to My World,” said the Drill Instructor to the new recruits.**

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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

# CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



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“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

WEDNESDAY, JULY 3, 2013

## Recruits use teamwork to pass Confidence Course

BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II  
*Chevron staff*

Beads of sweat dripped down the faces of Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, recruits as they worked through various obstacles on the Crucible Confidence Course aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, June 25.

The Crucible is a 54-hour test of endurance in which recruits must conquer more than 30 different obstacles while they experience food and sleep deprivation.

Many of the Crucible’s exercises require teamwork, and the Confidence Course is one such exercise. For this event recruits are broken down into groups of four and must complete 50 ammo can lifts, low crawling, high crawling, buddy dragging, fireman’s carries, and overcome the Two Line Bridge and the Skyscraper.

The Two Line Bridge requires recruits to move across a rope bridge carrying cargo, while the Skyscraper requires them to lift one another up each level of the obstacle.

Both the Two Lane Bridge and Skyscraper have parts painted in red. If at any time a recruit touches red while completing the obstacle, the entire recruit group is required to do additional exercises and start over.

Co. C drill instructors watch over the training with a keen eye. They not only supervised the entire exercise, they also evaluate and grade the recruits teamwork and performance.

“By the end of the Crucible, all recruits will have been in a leadership role,” said Sgt. Cesar D. Martinez, drill instructor, Platoon 1041. “At The

see **OBSTACLES** ▶ 2



*Cpl. Walter D. Marino II*

**Recruits of Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, work together to finish the Two Line Bridge during the Crucible Confidence Course aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, June 25. The Crucible Confidence Course focuses on teamwork. During the exercise, drill instructors evaluate the recruit’s performance.**



*Sgt. Liz Gleason*

**An armorer confirms the M-16 A4 service rifle serial number matches the one on the information card before handing it to a recruit from Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17.**

## One recruit, one rifle

BY SGT. LIZ GLEASON  
*Chevron staff*

During their first week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, recruits are issued essential items they will need throughout recruit training. They receive everything from toiletries to uniforms, however the most valuable item they are issued is the M-16 A4 service rifle.

Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, spent the morning at the armory aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 18.

“Today we came to the armory and got our M-16 A4 service rifle checked out to us,” said Recruit

Alex Bautista, Platoon 2173. “It’s what I’ve been looking forward to the most so far in training.”

The M-16 A4 service rifle is used Marine Corps wide, it is a light weight, magazine fed, gas operated, air cooled, shoulder fired weapon.

“Having a rifle with them throughout training not only teaches them the importance of the weapon; it also instills responsibility and accountability,” said Sgt. Bo Kim, drill instructor, Plt. 2174. “They are responsible for the serialized rifle they signed for, they must have it with them at all times or know where it is at

see **RIFLE** ▶ 2

## Co. D prepares for rigorous training

BY SGT. LIZ GLEASON  
*Chevron staff*

Throughout history the United States Marine Corps has established itself as one of the world’s finest fighting forces.

From the day recruits take their place on the yellow footprints, they embark on a rigorous three month journey to transform from a civilian to a Marine.

During recruit training they will have to push through mental and physical challenges to improve strength and endurance.

On Training Day 7, recruits of Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, received a class on musculoskeletal injuries aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, June 18.

“As part of the Sports Medicine Injury Prevention Program, we give a course to the recruits to give them knowledge on how to take care of themselves and how to properly address concerns during recruit training,” said Scott La Falce, 1st RTBn athletic trainer. “We also inform them of common problems they may encounter (during training) and how to recognize the signs and symptoms.”

Some of the more common injuries experienced at recruit

training include shin splits, pack palsy, stress fractures and knee injuries. These injuries can result from various causes such as a poor pre-participation conditioning program, repetitive activity, inadequate rest and doing too much, too fast, too soon.

Although the training schedule is geared to help recruits reach and exceed physical standards at a safe pace, recruits arrive at the Depot at different physical fitness levels—making injuries possible.

First and foremost, it’s important for recruits to know their body and their physical limits. Knowing the difference between sore-

ness and pain is pertinent to recruit training due to how much they need to accomplish mentally and physically during their short three month stay at the Depot, according to La Falce.

“It’s good that they give us this class early on because we learn what to expect for the future, training is only going to keep getting harder,” said Recruit Daniel Johnson, Platoon 1075. “I was an athlete before joining the Marine Corps and most of the information wasn’t new to me however I did learn some new stretches and it reinforced the

see **INJURIES** ▶ 2



**Recruit Daniel Johnson, Platoon 1075, Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, demonstrates the proper way to do a calf stretch during the Musculoskeletal Injury class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17. Stretching on a regular basis can help alleviate soreness and prevent injuries.**



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

Recruits of Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, conduct ammo can lifts during the Crucible Confidence Course aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, June 25. Ammo can lifts were just one exercise among many, other exercises included buddy drags, low and high crawling.

### OBSTACLES ◀ 1

Two Line Bridge they're tired by the time they get there and because they're tired they might not be thinking straight. But they have to work together and communicate, and overall I think they worked pretty good."

Despite the heat and fatigue, recruits did not give up and did their best to work together. Many recruits understood the key to

success was teamwork.

"It can be easier or harder depending on how well you work with your team. If your team doesn't have good cohesion, you just keep going and going," said Recruit Anthony W. Treichel.

Although recruits do not know what else the Crucible has in store for them many believe teamwork will continue to be vital.

"I think all the obstacles are going to be like this, said Recruit Richard E. Noone,

squad leader.

I believe it's like this because they want us to be able to work well together under harsh conditions."

While watching his recruits finish the exercise, Martinez explained he was proud of how far they have come.

"Seeing them from the first time we got them to now and knowing I trained them to the best of my abilities makes me feel proud," said Martinez.



Sgt. Liz Gleason

Recruits from Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, check their rifle cleaning kits at the armory aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17. Each new recruit was issued a serialized M-16 A4 service rifle they will keep with them for the remainder of training.

### RIFLE ◀ 1

all times."

The service rifle is also an essential part of drill, which instills discipline, team work and esprit de corps.

Although at this point the recruits of Co. H don't realize it, they are building a foundation and setting habits that will help them throughout recruit training and their careers in the Marine Corps.

That is why it's pertinent that they are taught the proper handling, care and marksmanship techniques early on in training, according to Kim.

After they received their rifles and

cleaning kits, they were taught how to break down and properly clean their weapon. This was the first of many lessons to come pertaining to the service rifle.

"Some important things to remember when handling your rifle are keep the muzzle face up, don't point it at anyone, and don't drop it," said Bautista. "Also keep it clean, well lubricated and pretty. Also give it a good name because it's your partner, my rifle's name is Jessica."

Bautista, who started shooting at the age of nine, is looking forward to learning about the M-16 A4 service rifle and how to shoot it.

"I think that my experience will help me when it comes to accuracy however when it comes to form, it might be a little harder for me to get used to the Marine Corps' way of doing things," said Bautista. "Nonetheless, it's always good to learn new things."

Recruits will continue to gain knowledge as they progress through training and on Training Day 24 they will head to Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton Calif. where they will be taught in depth about Marine Corps Marksmanship. While at Edson Range they will also get to shoot and qualify with the service rifle.

### INJURIES ◀ 1

importance of taking care of yourself."

Johnson helped demonstrate different stretching techniques while La Falce explained what muscles they stretched and

the proper form. The recruits also learned ways to help prevent injury such as staying hydrated and setting good eating habits.

Although the recruits of Co. D are only in the first of three phases, they will con-

tinue to build on the foundation they have laid during the first few weeks aboard the depot. Laying a good foundation of knowledge and setting good wellness habits will not only help them during training but in

## BRIEFS

### Exchange Holiday Hours

The depot's Marine Corps Exchange will observe the following hours of operation for the Independence Day holiday:

- Main Stores: 10 a.m., until 5 p.m.
  - Marine Mart: 9 a.m., until 6 p.m.
  - Gas Station Mini Mart: Closed
  - Recruit Sales: Closed July 4-7
- Stay up to date with the Exchange Facebook Page at [www.facebook.com/mccsmcrdsd.mcx](http://www.facebook.com/mccsmcrdsd.mcx) <http://www.mcx-mcrdsandiego.com/salevents.htm>

### Spark Adventure Race

The depot Single Marine Program is sponsoring two five-person teams to participate in the Spark Adventure Race July 13.

The event is an exciting adventure race experience that combines all of the best aspects of urban adventure racing athletic events, games, puzzles, photo hunts and other fun and adventurous activities!

The race covers downtown San Diego from 11 a.m., until 5 p.m. starting at the Gaslamp District.

For information go to: <http://bgcspark.com/upcoming-event-spark-adventure-race/>.

To participate in this limited space event contact Josh Davis at (619) 524-8240; or via computer at [davisjp@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:davisjp@usmc-mccs.org) or on Facebook at <http://on.fb.me/16fdrlv>.

### Virtual Training and Trade Show

The depot HA Department hosts an International Military Community Executives' Association free Virtual Training and Tradeshow July 22.

The event takes place at [www.imeca.org](http://www.imeca.org).

Register at <https://imcea.org/trade-show-online-registration>.

For the training agenda contact Joshua Collins at (619) 725-6228.

### Brown Bag Lunch Seminar

The depot hosts a Financial Brown Bag Lunch Seminar July 24, from 11:30 a.m., until 1 p.m., in the Personal & Professional Development Classroom, building 14.

The seminar will explore "Investment Basics - Stocks, Bonds and Mutual Funds."

Light snacks and drinks will be provided.

Register at (619) 524-5728. For information call Michel McIsaac at (619) 524-1204 or check the web at <http://www.mccsmcrd.com/PersonalAndProfessionalDevelopment/PersonalFinancialManagement/index.html>

### Military Retiree Appreciation Seminar and Resource Fair

The depot sponsors a Military Retiree Appreciation Seminar and Resource Fair on July 26. The event is scheduled for the McDougal Hall (the depot theater) from 10:30 a.m. and 2 p.m.

Learn about legislative updates on benefits, and exposure to community resources. For information call (619) 524-5301/5732/5728. Register at <http://s.mcrd2013rs-attendee.eventbrite.com>

### Send briefs to:

[rdsd\\_pao@usmc.mil](mailto: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 any fun plans for the summer?"*



**"Visit a lot of friends from MOS school at Camp Pendleton, and just go with the flow."** *Pvt. Oscar A. Smith, Recruit Admin Branch, Support Battalion, Recruit Training Regiment*



**"I'm going to hang out with fellow Marines. I'm going to the beach, watch fireworks and going to Sea World for the first time."** *Pfc Nathaniel J. Bittler, CPAC, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion*



**"I'm going to the fair. Get out and enjoy some rides, embrace the little kid in me."** *Lance Cpl. Nicole A. Davis, Legal, Headquarters Company, Headquarters and Service Battalion*

## Freedom To Run



*Cpl. Crystal J. Druery*

**Military personnel and their family members ran the Freedom Run aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 28. All patrons had a choice of running the 5k or walking the 1k on the hot Friday. Awards were given to the top three finishers in each age category of the 5k and everyone received a free t-shirt, food and beverages. There were also sponsored booths set up, watermelon eating contest, music, and raffles.**

## New Citizens



*Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle*

**Brig. Gen. Daniel D. Yoo, Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Western Recruiting Region, left, talks with three new Americans – Marines who have just become new citizens of the United States of America in a June 28 depot naturalization ceremony. The new citizens are, left to right, Pvt. Juan Morales, Platoon 3225; and Pvt. Karanpreet Brar and Pfc. Julio Aguirre, both of Platoon 3227. Naturalized but not pictured are Pvt. Alejandro Leon-Hernandez and Pfc. Ellior Cameron, both of Platoon 3227.**



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Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Staff Sgt. Patrick C. Salcido, chief drill instructor, receiving company, Support Battalion, yells at a recruit after he failed to properly follow instructions during receiving week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17. Recruits are expected to move with speed and intensity at all times during recruit training.

# Uniformity, teamwork begins during receiving week

BY LANCE CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS  
Chevron staff

The road to earning the title 'Marine' begins when young men and women step upon the yellow foot prints. Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, did just that aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17.

The first night starts with re-recruit-filled buses arriving to the depot. Drill instructors get on the bus to give recruits their initial orders. They are told to move with speed and intensity at all times.

They then rush to step on the infamous yellow foot prints. Recruits must be loud and the only

responses they are allowed to use are "yes sir," "no sir," and "aye, aye sir" and must refer to themselves as "this recruit."

While standing on the yellow footprints, they are read a few of the articles under the Uniform Code of Military Justice, which recruits must now abide by. The UCMJ is a set of rules and regulations all service members must uphold.

"We do it to get it in their head that there are rules, regulations to follow and punishments," said Staff Sgt. Patrick C. Salcido, chief drill instructor, Receiving Company, Support Battalion.

Once recruits are made aware of the standards, they move on to the contraband room where they

are stripped of all items banned during recruit training including watches, alcoholic beverages, gambling devices, money and electronic devices.

"We rid them of all excess items that they won't need during recruit training so they stay focused," said Salcido. "It is to have them forget about home and focus on their mission at hand, becoming a Marine."

Recruits make a brief phone call to their families in which they read a pre-written message to let them know they arrived safely and are ready to begin training.

In the next stage, haircuts are then given to every recruit to establish uniformity. Their heads

are shaven and will be like this for the remainder of training.

"We take away their personality and individuality. This is the first step to break them down, and make them look the same," said Salcido. "We want to strip them from being an individual and rebuild them to be part of a team."

Every stage in this early process is controlled chaos for recruits. Drill instructors expect orders to be followed quickly and efficiently. When recruits hesitate, drill instructors yell different commands making recruits shift back and forth, screaming louder every time, and thus, causing confusion.

This confusion is only a

preparation for training and is intended to instill recruits with instantaneous obedience to orders. Obedience to orders will be reinforced once their formal training begins.

However, before this training begins, recruits are given vaccinations and the necessary equipment needed to begin in a week-long period known as receiving week.

At the end of receiving week, recruits are introduced to their training cycle drill instructors, in a day known as black Friday, marking the official commencement of training. Recruits of Co. M have 12 weeks of training to complete the transformation from civilian to Marine.



Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Drill instructors, receiving company, support Battalion, hurry recruits into the contraband room where they will be given an amnesty period to turn in items banned throughout recruit training during receiving week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17.



Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Drill instructors, receiving company, support Battalion, instruct recruits to move with speed and intensity upon their arrival during receiving week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17. Recruits must be loud and fast at all times during training.



Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, get their initial hair cuts during receiving week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17. Hair is shaven to impart uniformity and remove individuality amongst recruits.



Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Drill instructors, Receiving Company, Support Battalion, make recruits remove any prohibited items in the contraband room during receiving week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17.



Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas

Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, learn from a drill instructor to go to the position of attention during receiving week aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego June 17. Recruits stand on the famous yellow footprints when they first get off the bus.

# Recruit recovers from injury to become most improved

BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II  
Chevron staff

After cracking a rib during a Marine Corps Martial Arts lesson, Recruit Jacob A. Birdsong was devastated. He immediately realized what the injury would mean and the emotions overwhelmed him.

"I broke down into tears," said Birdsong. "It was one of the worst feelings you could imagine. I missed my family and knew it was going to set me back in training."

Birdsong was dropped from his platoon to begin a rehabilitation process. Two months later, after being medically cleared, Birdsong was inserted back into recruit training with Platoon 1046, Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego.

From one of the windows of his new squad bay, Birdsong watched his former platoon graduate and rejoice with their loved ones.

Knowing that could have been him was tough, explained Birdsong.

Over the next two months, Birdsong pushed himself through the fear of being re-injured to catch up to his fellow recruits of Co. C physical fitness level.

"Once you've been injured, it's kind of constantly in the back of your mind," said the 20 year-old, Birdsong. "During physical training it was a constant worry to be hurt and dropped again."

Birdsong said the encouragement from Sgt. Shawn M. Donovan, drill instructor, is what gave him the ability to push himself farther than he thought possible.

"He started as one of the weaker recruits and one of the last to finish the exercises," said Donovan. "But over time, through the guidance of drill instructors and his platoon mates, wound up as an asset to the team and our most im-



Cpl. Walter D. Marino II

**Recruit Jacob A. Birdsong, Platoon 1046, Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, sits with his fellow recruits during a class aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton June 25. Company C is preparing to embark on the crucible.**

proved recruit."

Birdsong improved his max set of pull-ups from four to 14 and improved his three-mile run time by three minutes.

"Sgt. Donovan would run next to me and say, 'come on you can do it,'" said Birdsong. "I didn't want to let him down and I wanted to prove to myself I could go far and not be afraid anymore."

Birdsong was not the only recruit moving on from an

injury in Plt., 1046. Fellow platoon member, Recruit Aaron M. Garfias, met Birdsong in rehab while he was recovering from his own injuries and the two quickly became good friends.

After being placed in the same platoon, they encouraged each other every day during recruit training.

"We kept motivating one another. We told each other, 'we've been here too long to

give up,' said Garfias. "Birdsong is a different person now. He's more motivated to be in boot camp. It seems like he realized how bad he wanted to be a Marine. I believe he is the most improved recruit and deserves to be a Marine."

Now near the end of their training, the biggest obstacle left for Birdsong is the Crucible. The Crucible is a 54-hour test of endurance in which recruits must conquer more than

30 different obstacles while they experience food and sleep deprivation.

Through his struggles, Birdsong has become a stronger recruit and believes he is ready for the Crucible because he has grown both physically and mentally.

"What I've been through has increased my self-respect and confidence," said Birdsong. "The crucible is really going to test me, but I can do it."

## Ret. Lt. Col. Howard Lee

### Parade Reviewing Officer

In December 1955, retired USMC Lieutenant Colonel Howard Lee was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps Reserve. He subsequently completed the Basic School in Quantico, Va., and the Marine Corps Supply School in Camp Lejeune, N.C.

In January 1958, he was integrated into the Regular Marine Corps.

Lee served with distinction in a variety of challenging command and staff positions throughout his career. His service included time in units throughout the Marine Corps, across the country, and overseas. He is a veteran of numerous deployments including Okinawa, Japan, the Mediterranean Sea, the United States intervention in the Dominican Republic, and two combat deployments to the Republic of Vietnam.

It was during the first of these two tours that he would

first distinguish himself in combat and earn the Medal of Honor. His Citation reads in part: "For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty as Commanding Officer, Company E, Fourth Marines, Third Marine Division near Cam Lo, Republic of Vietnam, on 8 and 9 August 1966.

"A platoon of Major (then Captain) Lee's company, while on an operation deep in enemy territory, was attacked and surrounded by a large Vietnamese force. Realizing that the unit had suffered numerous casualties, depriving it of effective leadership, and fully aware that the platoon was even then under heavy attack by the enemy, Major Lee took seven men and proceeded by helicopter to reinforce the beleaguered platoon.

"Major Lee disembarked from the helicopter with two of his men and, braving withering enemy fire, led them into the perimeter, where he fearlessly moved from position to position, directing and encouraging the overtaxed troops.

"The enemy then launched

a massive attack with the full might of their forces.

"Although painfully wounded by fragments from an enemy grenade in several areas of his body, including his eye, Major Lee continued undauntedly throughout the night to direct the valiant defense, coordinate supporting fires, and appraise higher headquarters of the plight of the platoon.

"The next morning Lee collapsed from his wounds and was forced to relinquish command. However, the small band of Marines had held their position and repeatedly fought off many vicious enemy attacks for a grueling six hours until their evacuation was effected the following morning.

"Major Lee's actions saved his men from capture, minimized the loss of lives, and dealt the enemy a severe defeat. His indomitable fighting spirit, superb leadership, and great personal valor in the face of tremendous odds, reflect great credit upon himself and are in keeping with the highest traditions of the Marine Corps and the United States Naval Service"

In addition to the Medal of

Honor, Lee's personal decorations include the Bronze Star Medal with combat distinguishing device and gold star in lieu of second award, the Purple Heart Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal,

and the combat action ribbon.

Lee retired from active duty in 1975. He was married to his wife Jean for 50 years. They have four children and nine grandchildren. He currently resides in Virginia Beach, Virginia.





<b>Platoon 1046</b> COMPANY HONOR MAN Pfc. S. W. Rath N. Liberty, Iowa Recruited by Sgt. J. Trickler	<b>Platoon 1043</b> SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. S. Caine San Francisco Recruited by Staff Sgt. K. Villanvera	<b>Platoon 1041</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. Wine Chicago Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. Sweda	<b>Platoon 1042</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. J. Green Spokane, Wash. Recruited by Sgt. J. Russell	<b>Platoon 1045</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. I. A. David Gilbert, Ariz. Recruited by Staff Sgt. M. Waun	<b>Platoon 1047</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. Z. Hays Ventura, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sgt. S. McMurry	<b>Platoon 1043</b> HIGH SHOOTER (335) Pfc. J. A. Garcia Albuquerque, N.M. Marksmanship Instructor Sgt. D. M. Trosclair	<b>Platoon 1046</b> HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. J. R. Rutherford Houston Recruited by Sgt. A. Visarraga
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# CHARLIE COMPANY

3rd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION



Commanding Officer  
Sergeant Major  
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. D. R. Kazmier  
Sgt. Maj. M. S. Seamans  
SStaff Sgt. C. Gonzalez

<b>COMPANY K</b> Commanding Officer Capt. J. P. Plancarte Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. C. Demosthenous	<b>SERIES 1041</b> Series Commander Capt. R. Bohn Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. G. Blas	<b>PLATOON 1041</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. A. Torres Drill Instructors Sgt. D. F. Martin Sgt. C. D. Martinez Sgt. G. W. Pro Sgt. A. S. Antunez	<b>PLATOON 1042</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. B. R. Karnes Drill Instructors Sgt. P. J. Gartland Sgt. M. Ramirez Sgt. E. A. Newman	<b>PLATOON 1043</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. C. A. Thompson Drill Instructors Sgt. N. Desimone Sgt. S. R. Faria Sgt. H. H. Mata Sgt. B. M. Rosati
	<b>SERIES 1045</b> Series Commander Capt. J. M. Phelps Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. G. Blas	<b>PLATOON 1045</b> Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. O. Morales Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. C. R. Cason Staff Sgt. S. P. Henryson Staff Sgt. C. T. Romriell Staff Sgt. D. W. Rushing	<b>PLATOON 1046</b> Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. M. Romero Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. N. A. Carrel Staff Sgt. B. W. Grzyb Staff Sgt. C. Romero Sgt. S. M. Donovan	<b>PLATOON 1047</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. M. D. Walker Drill Instructors Sgt. E. L. Gantt Sgt. J. Lopez Sgt. J. A. Sabater

\* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

- |   |   |   |  |   |  |   |
|---|---|---|--|---|--|---|
| <b>PLATOON 1041</b><br>Pvt. A. L. Amaya<br>Pfc. A. E. Coliguitierrez<br>Pvt. A. A. Figueroa<br>Pfc. A. Garcia III<br>*Pfc. R. Z. Graham<br>Pvt. M. C. Hawthorne<br>Pvt. T. M. Holmes<br>Pvt. P. L. Knauer<br>Pvt. D. X. Lenetti<br>Pvt. R. A. Matevosian<br>Pvt. M. B. McPherson<br>Pfc. F. Moncada-Mendoza<br>*Pfc. R. E. Noone<br>Pvt. D. S. Pentz<br>Pvt. D. J. Peterson<br>Pvt. E. V. Pfister<br>Pvt. A. Pinon<br>Pvt. O. D. Ponce<br>Pfc. J. A. Prieto<br>Pfc. R. A. Ramirez<br>Pvt. A. Ramos Jr.<br>Pvt. J. D. Renaud<br>Pvt. J. R. Rice<br>Pfc. T. P. Riches<br>Pfc. M. J. Ross<br>Pvt. J. J. Shildberg<br>Pvt. E. J. Seefried<br>Pvt. K. Singh<br>*Pfc. Z. O. Slater<br>Pvt. R. E. Sottak<br>Pfc. T. S. Stuart<br>Pfc. M. L. Travis<br>*Pfc. A. W. Treichel<br>Pfc. M. A. Varela<br>Pfc. E. C. Vega-Cervantes<br>Pfc. A. D. Vergara<br>Pvt. J. B. Viha<br>Pfc. E. M. Werner<br>Pvt. G. D. Wheeler<br>Pfc. M. J. White<br>Pvt. R. D. Williams<br>Pfc. J. J. Wine | Pvt. A. M. Winnett<br>Pvt. K. A. Winter<br>Pfc. T. C. Worthen<br>Pfc. C. S. Wu<br>Pvt. C. S. Xiong<br>Pfc. K. C. Yayoshi<br>Pvt. J. M. Ysasi<br>Pvt. M. Zamora<br><br><b>PLATOON 1042</b><br>Pfc. Z. T. Adams<br>Pfc. G. E. Allen<br>Pfc. E. B. Aurelio<br>Pvt. W. E. Baker<br>Pfc. J. T. Barrett<br>Pfc. J. C. Bell<br>Pfc. J. A. Bettencourt<br>Pvt. J. M. Blake<br>Pvt. A. T. Bloodworth<br>*Pfc. S. L. Bosquez Jr.<br>*Pfc. T. A. Brenner<br>Pfc. B. J. Buffington<br>Pvt. J. T. Burnette<br>Pfc. B. K. Buszka<br>Pvt. S. D. Butler<br>Pvt. P. R. Butler III<br>Pvt. D. J. Byrne<br>Pvt. C. L. Campbell<br>Pfc. S. M. Chapin<br>*Pfc. M. M. Clark<br>Pvt. L. L. Clay<br>Pvt. T. M. Cleary-Bellinger<br>Pvt. D. R. Dady<br>Pvt. D. S. Dildine<br>Pfc. K. L. Frank<br>Pvt. A. J. Gaynor<br>Pvt. F. A. Gonzalez<br>*Lance Cpl. J. A. Green<br>Pvt. A. M. Hansen<br>Pfc. J. R. Henning<br>Pvt. B. S. Hollenbeck<br>Pvt. R. L. Hrabik<br>Pvt. N. J. Huser<br>Pfc. B. S. Jennings | Pvt. R. J. Jensen<br>Pvt. S. A. Jimenez<br>Pvt. B. R. Johnson<br>Pvt. P. J. Kaleniak<br>Pfc. C. J. Kennedy<br>Pvt. J. R. Kernsmith<br>Pfc. A. L. Kittson<br>Pvt. T. J. Kolaas<br>Pvt. R. D. Lacher<br>Pvt. J. M. Lemon<br>Pvt. J. J. Lushenko<br>Pfc. D. O. Martin<br>Pvt. T. Shirley<br>Pvt. A. J. Vara<br><br><b>PLATOON 1043</b><br>Pvt. C. D. Allard<br>Pfc. M. T. Anderson<br>Pfc. D. S. Andrade<br>Pfc. I. Barajas<br>Pvt. A. M. Barron<br>Pfc. F. M. Basilids<br>Pvt. D. J. Bauereisen<br>Pfc. T. S. Bello<br>Pvt. R. J. Blakeslee<br>Pfc. T. J. Blanchette<br>Pfc. C. L. Blaylock<br>Pvt. A. R. Bonilla<br>Pvt. S. V. Bonko<br>Pvt. J. D. Bowen<br>Pfc. A. M. Breckenridge<br>Pvt. A. J. Buchanan<br>Pfc. S. F. Caine<br>Pfc. G. R. Carr<br>Pvt. L. E. Cisneros<br>Pfc. I. M. Clark<br>Pfc. S. D. Day<br>Pvt. F. A. Delgado<br>Pvt. R. J. Dyer<br>Pvt. J. J. Dzierzewski<br>Pfc. J. R. Elmer<br>Pvt. G. L. Escoto<br>Pvt. D. X. Ferguson<br>Pfc. J. M. Freeman<br>Pvt. D. C. Fruciano<br>*Pfc. J. C. Garcia | *Pfc. J. A. Garcia<br>Pfc. N. A. Genoways<br>Pvt. K. E. Gilmore<br>Pvt. L. A. Gomez<br>Pfc. E. Gonzales<br>Pfc. J. A. Grillo<br>Pvt. T. A. Hahn<br>Pvt. C. W. Hamilton<br>*Pfc. A. C. Harvey<br>Pfc. T. G. Helstern<br>Pfc. H. J. Hernandez<br>*Pfc. I. J. Hernandez<br>Pvt. J. R. Hindman<br>Pvt. J. A. Owen<br>Pvt. B. A. Hughes<br>Pvt. J. P. Hughes<br>Pfc. C. A. Terrible<br>Pvt. O. Z. Zambrano<br>Pvt. J. D. Bowen<br>Pvt. G. A. Mendoza-Galdamez<br><br><b>PLATOON 1045</b><br>Pfc. J. A. Argueta<br>*Pfc. B. M. Bailey<br>Pfc. M. R. Barraza<br>Pfc. G. D. Barron<br>Pvt. W. J. Beaumont<br>Pfc. A. C. Biggs<br>Pvt. D. A. Blay<br>Pvt. T. W. Braverman<br>Pvt. C. A. Bucchino<br>Pvt. V. T. Burnett<br>Pvt. S. Burns<br>Pvt. E. Camacho-Lebron<br>*Pfc. J. Casian<br>Pvt. D. L. Choice<br>Pvt. C. A. Christopher<br>Pvt. L. H. Chung-Pacheco<br>Pvt. J. A. Cing<br>Pvt. B. T. Claunch<br>Pvt. T. Curtis<br>Pvt. J. L. Dagit<br>Pvt. L. J. Davis<br>Pvt. S. A. Durbin | Pvt. J. E. Fischer<br>Pvt. G. Gomez<br>Pvt. D. L. Gonzales-Martz<br>Pvt. C. Gonzalez<br>Pvt. D. G. Gonzalez<br>Pvt. E. V. Gonzalez<br>Pvt. I. Grohe<br>Pvt. T. W. Hamilton<br>Pvt. C. Iland<br>Pfc. D. A. Isham<br>Pvt. K. Jefferson<br>Pfc. B. E. Jones<br>*Pfc. N. J. Kulla<br>Pvt. P. Lopez<br>Pvt. J. M. Marquez<br>Pfc. J. I. Meza<br>Pfc. A. Morales<br>Pfc. J. P. Morales<br>Pfc. A. Murillo<br>*Pfc. M. J. Nau<br>Pfc. R. A. Ojeda<br>Pvt. C. A. Otero<br>Pvt. M. M. Phelps<br>Pvt. M. T. Quirke<br>Pvt. H. Rocha-Gonzalez<br>Pfc. S. Russel<br>Pvt. G. I. Santos<br>Pvt. A. R. Schenek<br><br><b>PLATOON 1046</b><br>Pfc. J. A. Birdsong<br>Pfc. A. M. Garfias<br>Pvt. C. R. McClendon<br>Pfc. J. S. Merrywell<br>Pvt. M. D. Mexner<br>Pvt. J. N. Meyer<br>Pvt. Z. S. Miller<br>Pvt. M. R. Molini<br>Pfc. C. W. Nabholz<br>Pvt. K. S. Norman<br>Pvt. J. D. Panwas<br>Pvt. Z. E. Pasley<br>Pvt. C. L. Price<br>Pvt. C. M. Price<br>Pvt. K. P. Price | Pvt. J. B. Prusheik<br>Pvt. C. H. Ramierz-Vizcarra<br>Pfc. E. Rangel-Llinares<br>*Pfc. S. W. Rath<br>Pfc. E. L. Readle<br>Pvt. N. I. Reese<br>Pvt. R. I. Resendez<br>Pvt. E. J. Reyes<br>Pfc. S. A. Roehl<br>Pvt. A. J. Rose<br>*Pfc. I. B. Ruiz<br>Pfc. J. R. Rutherford<br>Pvt. L. F. Salinas<br>Pfc. D. R. Sanchez<br>Pfc. B. G. Scullane<br>Pfc. W. W. Sewell<br>Pfc. C. J. Sherron<br>Pfc. S. T. Shivnen<br>Pfc. R. C. Simpson<br>Pvt. J. T. Smith<br>Pvt. W. A. Sommerville<br>Pvt. K. N. Terry<br>Pvt. J. P. Thom<br>*Pfc. P. G. Thompson<br>Pvt. S. P. Tobin<br>Pvt. M. A. Trujillo<br>Pvt. T. R. Turner<br>Pvt. J. B. Valdez<br>Pvt. B. J. Vargas<br>Pvt. I. H. Vasquez<br>Pvt. B. P. Vasquez<br>Pfc. J. M. Vela<br>Pfc. R. W. Webster<br>Pfc. B. Wong<br><br><b>PLATOON 1047</b><br>*Pfc. Z. S. Hays<br>Pvt. S. T. Blaser<br>Pvt. H. E. Johns JR<br>Pvt. P. D. Keith<br>Pfc. K. G. Kinman<br>Pvt. J. S. Klug<br>Pfc. C. G. Korean<br>Pvt. M. T. Lankford<br>Pfc. M. J. Leber | Pfc. Y. Lee<br>Pvt. C. M. Londo<br>Pvt. E. W. Long<br>Pvt. L. A. Lutz<br>Pvt. P. Magadia<br>Pvt. A. A. Maljian<br>Pvt. K. A. Memales<br>Pvt. M. A. Mancilla Jr.<br>Pvt. J. T. Marshall<br>Pvt. C. T. Mason<br>Pvt. D. R. Matthews<br>Pvt. S. M. Maurer<br>Pvt. A. W. May<br>Pvt. B. M. McCormick<br>Pvt. D. R. McKnight Jr.<br>Pvt. J. P. Mendez<br>Pvt. C. M. Miller<br>Pvt. M. J. Millward<br>*Pfc. W. T. Mitchell<br>Pvt. J. D. Miramontes<br>Pvt. D. R. Mock<br>Pvt. J. A. Mohr-Puente<br>Pvt. A. M. Moncrief<br>*Pfc. E. D. Monroe<br>Pfc. J. N. Montoya<br>*Pfc. D. C. Mosqueda II<br>Pvt. E. W. Nelson III<br>Pfc. K. F. Newman<br>Pvt. A. D. Nguyen<br>Pfc. J. C. Nichols<br>Pfc. J. Ott<br>Pvt. R. A. Pavlisich<br>Pvt. D. C. Phillips<br>Pfc. J. E. Tapia<br>Pvt. A. A. Voytko<br>Pfc. S. A. Percheze |
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## Co. I builds marksmanship foundation during Grass Week

BY LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN E. WOODLE  
*Chevron staff*

The Marine Corps has a great history of battles fought. Marksmanship training contributed to the ability for Marines to be extremely effective against the enemy, which helped with accomplishing these great feats.

During recruit training, recruits undergo numerous classes and practice sessions before they start applying these techniques on the shooting range.

Recruits of Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, learned the proper shooting techniques and positions during Grass Week at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. June 25.

The purpose of Grass Week is to teach recruits the basics of firing their M16-A4 service rifle to successfully

qualify on the shooting range. It's a requirement recruits must complete and show proficiency in to graduate recruit training.

"We have the recruits go through this training to build a basic shooting position foundation and muscle memory because if they don't learn the basics they won't have a stable position to shoot," said Staff Sgt. Jason L. Fair, senior drill instructor, Platoon 3213. "For some of the recruits this is the first time they have ever handled a weapon so we want to ensure they are comfortable and confident when they have to do it on their own next week."

Recruits learn during the week that firing from a proper shooting position is not as easy or comfortable as it may seem. This is why a full week is dedicated to training the recruits to ensure the proper techniques are instilled in

them.

"I have seen and heard recruits talk about the difficulty getting their bodies adjusted and comfortable in the different positions," said Recruit Mitchell D. Krasnican, Plt. 3213. "We've been taught to hold our bodies and hands a certain way but some try and do it their own way, which the primary marksmanship instructors keep correcting them on."

Primary marksmanship instructors and drill instructors stress the importance of practicing and executing the proper techniques recruits are taught during the week. Becoming an expert shooter will not only help them in combat but also in the Fleet Marine Force.

"In the Fleet Marine Force, having a better rifle range score will help their overall composite score, which helps

with their promotions," said Fair, a six years straight high expert shooter. "In combat it will help them be effective in their unit and be able to not only defend themselves but the Marines to their left and right."

Each phase of training recruits are taught a core element of the Marine Corps. Recruits started out learning discipline through drill and physical training. During grass week, recruits are challenged with becoming the best shooter that they can.

Throughout history, the Corps has upheld the traditions of marksmanship at its highest level. The reason behind it is simple.

"Every Marine is a rifleman, it's the backbone of the Marine Corps," said Krasnican. "Everyone needs to be comfortable with a weapon whether you're a cook or an infantryman."



*Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle*

Recruit Eric C. Muntzing, Platoon 3213, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, aims at the practice target during Grass Week at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif. June 25. Practicing the shooting positions while aiming at an actual target gives recruits the best opportunity to excel in their marksmanship training.



*Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle*

Cpl. Justin L. Newman, Primary Marksmanship Instructor, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, shows recruits how to get in a proper sitting shooting position during Grass Week June 25.