

Co. I recruits have their MCMAP skills evaluated

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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



Co. D recruits meet the depot's obstacle course

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“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

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Co. F conquers depot's rappel tower

STORY & PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. JERICHO W.
CRUTCHER
Chevron staff

Recruits must overcome every obstacle, including their fear of heights, during recruit training to earn the right to claim the title Marine.

Marines of Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, conquered the Rappel Tower with confidence on training day 58 aboard the depot, Jan. 17.

The purpose of the Rappel Tower was for Marines to build trust and confidence in one another.

“The biggest challenge the Marines go through other than the height of the tower is being able to trust others while rappelling down the tower,” said Sgt. Anthony J. Juedes, drill instructor, Platoon 2133, an Oshkosh, Wis., native. “Once Marines build the confidence to rappel down, they’re a lot more comfortable with being able to trust those around them, which is a part of the Marine Corps brotherhood.”



A Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion Marine descends the depot's tower by leaning back and walking straight down during Rappel Tower exercises, Jan. 9. Marines stood on yellow foot prints that were painted on the ground as the ITC instructor set them up for the descent.

Before Marines rappelled, Instructional Training Company instructors taught a class on how to properly set up their harness and the rappelling techniques used.

One of the techniques learned was for Marines to use their “brake hand” to adjust the speed while descending the tower. Marines were given gloves, as a safety precaution

to prevent rope burn and have an extra grip on the rope, along with a helmet and safety harness.

The Rappel Tower event consisted of two individual events; fast

roping and rappelling. Before rappelling from the top of the tower, Marines slid down using a fast-

see RAPPEL ▶ 2



Lance Cpl. Cristian J. Brown-Otter, company honorman, Platoon 1042, Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, is meritoriously promoted by Staff Sgt. Scott P. Henryson, senior drill instructor, during a promotion ceremony aboard the depot, Jan. 22. During recruit training, the company honorman is usually meritoriously promoted to the next higher rank.

Marines rewarded for hard work

STORY & PHOTOS BY
CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS
Chevron staff

Most people have heard the saying, in one form or another, “hard work and dedication, in the long run, pay off.” During recruit training, hard work and dedication to become a Marine are rewarded to those who excel and demonstrate leadership traits throughout training.

Marines of Company C, 1st Recruit Training

Battalion, were meritoriously promoted aboard the depot, Jan. 22.

The purpose of a meritorious promotion is to reward a Marine for performing above and beyond their normal duties.

“The Marines that progress the fastest and effortlessly, use teamwork and show good leadership skills get rewarded,” said Sgt. Bred M. Rosati, drill instructor, Platoon 1041.

see REWARDS ▶ 2

Depot hosts history with Montford Point Marines

STORY & PHOTO BY
LANCE CPL TYLER VIGLIONE
Chevron staff

Sitting in front of a display that recapped their past in the depot's Command Museum, two gentlemen of history told their story.

Montford Point Marines, Joe Jackson and J. T. Inge, discussed their Marine Corps careers aboard the depot, Jan. 24.

In 1941 President Franklin D. Roosevelt issued Executive Order 8802, banning racial discrimination in the country's armed forces.

Between the years of 1942 to 1949, African Americans were sent to Camp Montford Point, Jacksonville, N.C., to go through segregated Marine Corps recruit training.

About 20,000 African American Marines graduated from Montford Point from 1941 until 1948 when President Harry S. Truman signed Executive Order 9981. This order would later decommission Montford Point Camp in 1949 and send all African American recruits to train with all the recruits in Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island, S.C., and San Diego, Calif., eliminating all segregation in the

Marine Corps.

Joe Jackson grew up in Birmingham, Ala., and decided to enlist in the Marine Corps in 1943.

“I was a volunteer in one sense but a draftee in another,” said Jackson. “There was a sign with Mr. USA on it that said, ‘I want you.’”

Jackson went to Fort Benning, Ga., in pursuit of joining the Army. He was told about the other services and decided he wanted to enlist in the Marine Corps. He completed all of the necessary requirements and left for recruit training at Montford Point. “We got off of the truck at the gate,” said Jackson. “It was the first time I ever got kicked in the butt because I had on a three-piece suit, Stacey Adams shoes and a black Stetson hat.”

According to Jackson, he was an athlete in high school so he was in shape, but the training was tougher than he had expected.

“From the time we woke up the only place we would walk was from one end of that shack to the other,” said Jackson. “Then, once out the door, we would run everywhere.”

Jackson described life during

see HISTORY ▶ 2

RAPPEL ◀ 1

rope. Fast roping is used to quickly get troops from a hovering aircraft to the ground.

After fast-roping, Marines walked up to the top of the tower to rappel the 60-foot rope.

"I felt comfortable with the height of the tower, although I was nervous climbing from the bottom to the top," said Pvt. Angello A. Nlundacawolff, a Lancaster, Calif., native. "I have trust in the instructors that helped guide me down, but it's hard to overcome and give that trust knowing if I mess up or my gear fails I have to rely on them to guide me to the ground."

Co. K Marines left the Rappel Tower not only with a higher level of confidence, knowing they descended a 60-foot tower using a rope, but also with the ability to trust the Marine to their left and right, which is a principle the Marine Corps brotherhood is built around.

"The only thing going through my mind is becoming a Marine, and I use that to motivate myself to get through the many challenges of recruit training," said Nlundacawolff. "Overcoming the height of the tower, being able to trust the Marines to guide me down and taking the role of a leader to get down the rope are all a part of the journey to become a Marine."



Marines of Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, make their way up the Rappel Tower to descend the 60-foot height via rope. There are two ways to rappel from the tower; the center "hell hole" or on the side of the tower.



Pfc. Jeremiah C. Sergent, Platoon 1042, Company C, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, shakes hands after being meritoriously promoted by his senior drill instructor, Staff Sgt. Scott P. Henryson, during a promotion ceremony aboard the depot, Jan. 22. Sergent served as a squad leader during recruit training.

REWARDS ◀ 1

A Marine must perform his or her duties and demonstrate, compared with all other Marines of the same grade and without regard of their occupational field, a superior degree of performance to his peers in order to be meritoriously promoted regardless of time in grade or time in service.

"It shows the Marines that hard work pays off but it also shows the other Marines, who didn't get promoted, that there are possibilities to advance and get promoted faster," said Rosati, a Pittsburgh native. "All they have to do is put in the effort of a meritorious promotion caliber Marine."

The guides, leader of each platoon, are tasked to lead men of roughly the same age, which requires them to dig deep and work harder than the rest.

"I came here wanting to try hard and do the best I could do, but I had to find mental toughness and courage to better lead my fellow Marines," said Lance Cpl. Cristian J. Brown-otter, company honorman, Plt. 1042.

During recruit training, each company holds their own board in order to decide which platoon guide will be selected as the graduating company's honorman. During the board, a panel

consisting of senior Marines in the company reviews each Marine and asks them knowledge questions regarding Marine Corps history, regulations, current events and the Marine's opinions on certain topics.

Marines are expected to answer correctly and, most importantly, confidently.

"I had to work on my confidence and in every area I felt like I was weak; I studied a lot and focused on my weaknesses," said Brown-otter, a native of Bismarck, N.D. "The most important aspect is that with every rank comes a certain degree of responsibility. For me, I needed to set the example for my fellow Marines to follow."

Senior drill instructors are also given authority to choose some Marines within their platoon and award them a meritorious promotion. Usually these awards go to Marines that excelled in different categories: the high Physical Fitness Test scorer, high shooter, squad leaders and guide.

For Marines not selected for promotion improvement and hard work are key. Meritorious promotions are awarded on a quarterly basis. Thus, Marines still have the opportunity to be meritoriously promoted once they reach the Fleet Marine Force.

HISTORY ◀ 1

recruit training as tiring and hard, more physical than anything else.

Inge joined the Marine Corps in 1946 and attended Montford Point as well.

At the age of 16 Inge was told by his cousin, who was a Marine during World War II, how tough the Marine Corps was. The challenge motivated Inge to enlist in the Corps. Though Inge had tried to enlist at 16, he was not successful until he was 17.

Inge recalled his recruit training experience as tough.

According to Inge, recruits had limited resources at Montford Point. There wasn't any indoor plumbing, or a place for the recruits to store their belongings except for one footlocker in front of each of their beds.

"I actually enjoyed the training," said Inge. "I was used to physical things so when the training was mostly physical, I enjoyed it."

During recruit training, Inge was determined to get through even if drill instructors were hard on him.

"The camaraderie between the platoons was strong," said Inge. "We had the determination to get each other through the training."

After recruit training, Inge was sent to the South Pacific to places such as Saipan



Montford Point Marines (left to right) Joe Jackson and J. T. Inge tell their story to a KBPS reporter in the depot's Command Museum Jan. 24. Jackson and Inge, who both currently reside in San Diego, attended the original segregated recruit training depot, Camp Montford Point, Jacksonville, N.C., in 1943 and 1946.

and Guam. Inge was a member of the Marine Corps' boxing team and became a drill instructor. He retired as a gunnery sergeant in 1969.

These Montford Point Marines were not forgotten. They received the Congressional

Gold Medal on June 28, 2012, for their achievements.

"It was a proud moment," said Inge. "No matter how I tell people about what it was like in Montford Point, they will never know how tough it actually was."

BRIEFS**Upcoming election dates**

The following states have scheduled primary elections:

- Texas - Mar. 4
- Illinois - Mar. 18
- District of Columbia - Apr. 1

Help with registering to vote is available the unit Voting Assistance Officers. Voters may also register and request absentee ballots 24-hours a day, online at www.FVAP.gov.

VITA Tax Center opening

Free tax preparation and e-filings for all active duty military members, dependents, and retirees will be offered at the MCRD San Diego Volunteer Income Tax Assistance Center has begun and will continue through April 15.

The Tax Center will be located at 3700 Chosin Avenue, Bldg. 12. Hours of operation are:

- Monday through Friday
8 a.m. until 4:30 p.m.

For information or to make an appointment call Staff Sgt. Williams at (619) 524-8713.

Bring the items below if applicable:

- Military Identification Card(s)
- Social Security Card(s) for yourself and anyone you intend to claim on your taxes
- Power of Attorney (e.g., Married Filing Joint, Spouse Deployed)
- Last Year's Federal and State Tax Returns
- Economic Stimulus Payment IRS Notice CP 1378 (to obtain required information visit IRS.GOV to obtain a printout of what you received it can be used in lieu of CP 1378)
- Wage statements - Form W-2
- Pension or Retirement Income - Form 1099R
- Record of Purchase or Sale of Residence
- Alimony Paid or Received (Payer's/Payee's Name and Social Security Number)
- IRA Contributions
- Student Loan Interest - Form 1098-E
- Rental Income and expenses
- Interest and Dividend Income - Form 1099-INT/ Form-1099-DIV

For a list of other items to bring, call Staff Sgt. Williams at the number listed above.

Semper Fit Super Bowl Party

A Super Bowl party will be held Feb. 2 at the Recreation Center starting at 10 a.m.

There will be a Free Nacho bar and free T-shirts to the first 100 active duty. Win prizes.

For more information go to http://www.mccsmcrd.com/Downloads/CURRENT_EVENTS/14_TroopAppreciation_Football_WebFlyer.pdf

Career and Education Fair

A Personal & Professional Development Career and Education Fair will be held Feb. 12 from 10 a.m. to 1 p.m., at the depot's Semper Fit Fieldhouse, Building. 650.

The event is free and open to active military members, reservists, family members, military retirees, DoD civilians, and any other authorized patrons.

For more information contact Mina Threat at (619) 524-1283 or via e-mail at mina.threat@usmc.mil; or contact James Brooks at (619) 524-8158/1275 or via e-mail at james.brooks@usmc.mil.

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.

31st MEU's artillery battery trains in non-lethal techniques

BY SGT. PAUL ROBBINS
31st Marine Expeditionary Unit

OKINAWA, Japan - They traded their cannons for shields, artillery shells for pepper spray, and rifles for Tasers. The Marines went non-lethal.

More than one hundred Marines and sailors of Battery G, Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, completed the culminating event of their public disorder and non-lethal weapons employment training here, Jan. 24.

The battery's main mission is the employment of M777 155mm Howitzers in support of combat operations. But their secondary mission calls for them to use an entirely different skill set.

"Our primary mission is shooting Howitzers, but as part of the 31st MEU, our secondary mission includes providing a non-lethal weapon contingency force," said 1st Lt. Ulysses O. Sosa, a platoon commander for Battery G, BLT 2/5, 31st MEU.

In order to meet the requirements of a non-lethal weapon contingency force, the Marines and Sailors trained riot control techniques, employment of oleoresin capsicum (a more potent form of pepper spray), and employment of the X26 Taser.

The riot control techniques were tested by a scenario that involved approximately 20 Marine role players attempting to gain access to a notional embassy. Using riot shields, batons and inert OC spray, the Battery G Marines attempted to quell or capture the crowd. The challenge was a first for many, but the Marines adapted well.

"It is a difficult transition, but within an hour of the training the Marines were gung-ho about non-lethal," said Sosa, a native of San Diego. "If you give Marines a mission and show them how to complete it, they will do everything in their power to be successful."

When the scenario was complete Battery G put away the armor and met with non-lethal weapons instructors of 3rd Law Enforcement Battalion. After hours of classroom of instruction throughout the week, ranging from the chemical make-up of OC spray to the effective range of the Taser, the Marines were ready to experience the weapons.

In order to obtain a true understanding of the weapons' effects on a person and to ensure their judicious use, every Marine and sailor felt all 50,000 volts of the X26 Taser and experienced the burning sensation of OC spray on the eyes.

"It definitely provided me with a new perspective on using the non-lethal weaponry," said Lance Cpl. Erwin Moore Jr., a motor transport operator for Battery G, BLT 2/5, 31st MEU, and a native of East St. Louis, Illinois. "I know the effects now, and with the



Sgt. Paul Robbins

Lance Cpl. Nathan P. Bradley, a radio operator with Battery G, Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, and a native of Jacksonville, Fla., gets a jolt from an X26 Taser during the culminating event of the unit's public disorder and non-lethal weapons employment training on Okinawa Jan. 24. Marines experience the Taser in order to understand the effects of the weapon and ensure it is only used when necessary. One of the secondary missions of Battery G is to serve as a non-lethal contingency force for the 31st MEU, useful in embassy security reinforcement, humanitarian operations and many other contingencies. The 31st MEU is the Marine Corps' force in readiness for the Asia-Pacific region and the only continuously forward-deployed MEU.



Gunnery Sgt. Ismael Pena

A non-lethal weapons instructor sprays oleoresin capsicum (a more potent form of pepper spray) over the eyes of a Marine with Battery G, Battalion Landing Team 2nd Battalion, 5th Marines, 31st Marine Expeditionary Unit, during the culminating event of the unit's public disorder and non-lethal weapons employment training. Experiencing OC spray ensures Marines understand the effects and, if cross-contaminated during use, they are able to fight through the pain and perform their job.

OC, I know I can work through them."

With the training and recovery complete, Battery G is ready to be employed for the various contingencies it may face as a non-lethal

force for the 31st MEU. The Marines' new skills are valuable for embassy security reinforcement, humanitarian operations and other non-kinetic operations.

"This capability gives the 31st

MEU Commander the ability to handle situations with the least amount of force necessary," said Gunnery Sgt. Mark Massalski, a non-lethal weapons instructor for 3rd LE Bn., and a native of

Townsend, Mass.

The 31st MEU is the Marine Corps' force in readiness for the Asia-Pacific region and the only continuously forward-deployed MEU.

CHEVRON

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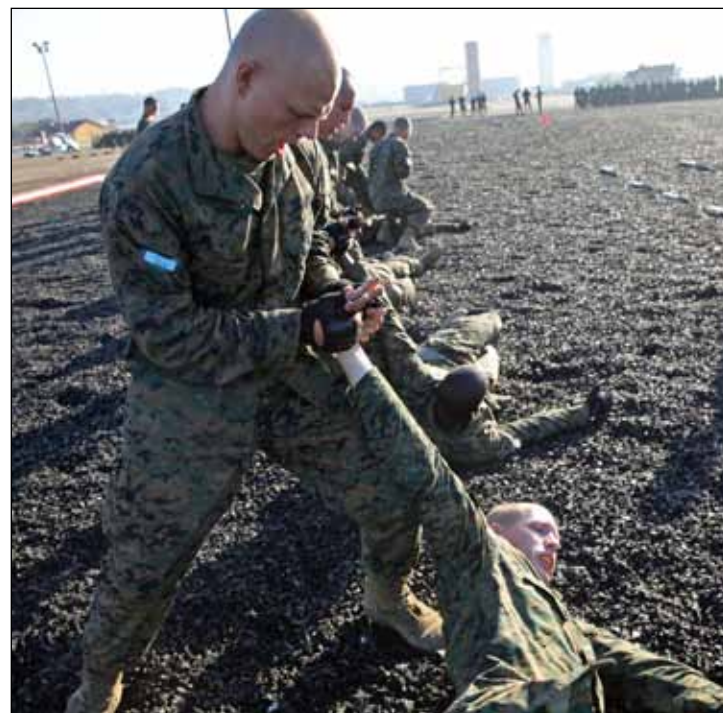
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Company L Recruit Michael A. Peterson, Platoon 3255, assumes the basic warrior stance during a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program test. Recruits were taught to assume the basic warrior stance after each MCMAP technique was completed.



Company L Recruit Dillon E. Nab, Platoon 3255, performs a wrist lock take down during a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program test. Nab, who is also a squad leader, said he helped his fellow recruits remediate MCMAP techniques before the test.



Recruits are evaluated on various choke techniques. The techniques used are just a small portion of moves encompassed in the Marine Corps Martial Arts Program tan belt.



Company L recruits practice knife slashes with dummy rubber knives. Drill instructors marked all instances when recruits could not recall the correct way to execute a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program technique.

Drill instructors teach basics of hand-to-hand combat skills

STORY & PHOTOS BY
SGT. WALTER D. MARINO
II
Chevron staff

Recruits of Company L, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, were evaluated on 48 Marine Corps Martial Arts Program techniques aboard the depot, Jan. 22.

After approximately 50 hours of practice and review, recruit's skills were evaluated in a performance evaluation. In order to pass and receive a

MCMAP tan belt, recruits in the program had to prove they could correctly perform each move. During the test, recruits were able to make up to 14 mistakes before failing.

Prior to the recruits testing, drill instructors spent many hours reviewing the material with their recruits to ensure they could execute every move.

"Over the last two days I've gone over the entire syllabus with them, from the first to the last

move," said Sgt. Joseph A. Kimmel, drill instructor, Platoon 3250. "The biggest thing in getting them ready is breaking it down step by step and constantly remediating."

Some of the techniques learned in the tan belt syllabus included the basic wrist lock take down, counter to the rear hand punch, vertical knee strikes and eye gouge.

Whether recruits came into training with no martial arts knowledge or

a large amount of experience, the program began with basic moves to build a foundation.

Recruit Dillon E. Nab, Plt. 3255, explained he had experienced similar training in the Army, but the Marine Corps had certain moves he had not learned before.

"I like that they integrate the rifles and bayonets into MCMAP," said Nab, a Forrest Lake, Minn. native. "I didn't see that in the Army."

After the test, many recruits appeared happy to have gotten a step closer to their ultimate goal of becoming a Marine and having the opportunity to enhance their MCMAP training.

"It would have been embarrassing not to pass (the test) because of the pride and image we carry ourselves with," said Recruit Michael A. Peterson, Plt. 3255. "I'm interested in learning how MCMAP progresses."

MCMAP is a five belt program, with tan being the lowest of the five—tan, gray, green, brown, black.

Sgt. Todd P. Talley, black belt instructor, Instructional Training Company, Support Battalion, explained he loves teaching recruits the tan belt syllabus because it gives them the basic fundamentals of how to defend themselves should they get into harm's way.

"The moves learned (in recruit training) are

just the basics but they are necessary in order to learn more advanced moves," said Talley, who has a black belt in Jiu Jitsu, Muay Thai and Taekwondo. "I think MCMAP is also more than just martial arts, it's about leadership, making recruits more mature and tying in Marine Corps history."



New Marine immigrates to America from Iraq

STORY & PHOTO BY
CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS
Chevron staff

For most people, immigrating to the United States is a matter of choice. However, Pvt. Ali J. Mohammed and his family were forced to leave their home country and take refuge in another where he found a lifestyle worth fighting for.

Mohammed, a recruit in Platoon 2134, Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, escaped Iraq under threat to make the United States his home.

Mohammed grew up in Baghdad during the initial surge of Operation Iraqi Freedom. His sister found work as an interpreter for the U.S. military, the Marines in particular. She then moved to the U.S. in 2006 to teach Arabic. Mohammed and the rest of his family, however, remained in Baghdad until 2010. In 2010, Mohammed's family received a threat letter, with two bullets inside of it, giving the family a 24-hour notice to move away from the city.

"We were being threatened because they knew my sister worked with Marines," said 20-year-old Mohammed.

They were forced to move away from the city and ultimately, Iraq. As a result of the threat, the family contacted Mohammed's sister in the U.S. where she applied for a refugee visa for the family to come to the U.S. The 5-month process was approved.

The family arrived in Monterey, Calif., September 2010 and began to adjust to an American lifestyle.

Mohammed struggled while attending school in the U.S. due to the lack of a quality education system in Iraq. According to Mohammed, education in Iraq is very dysfunctional. Teachers don't show up most of the time and don't take time to help out students in need. In addition, he had to quit school in Iraq because of the constant danger in the streets of Baghdad.

"It was hard because I didn't know English or anything in high school," said Mohammed. "But I got through high school with the help of my teachers."

Toward the end of his senior year in high school, Mohammed began to speak to a Marine recruiter. He started working a job as a security guard while he waited to ship to recruit training. He enlisted and shipped Nov. 4, 2013.

"I like what the Marine Corps did in Iraq. My uncle and cousin were killed by terrorists," said Mohammed. "The Marine Corps did the right thing because Iraq wasn't safe."

While living in Iraq, Mohammed had his own close encounter with danger. According to Mohammed, one day he was walking home with his friend after school and had walked past several cars. A few minutes later they heard an explosion. There was a bomb in one of the cars.

"If you went out for any reason you didn't know if you

were going to come back," said Mohammed. "You were in constant danger."

According to Mohammed, life in Iraq is oppressed and without freedom because of the constant sectarian fighting. For Mohammed, the most important aspects of his American life are his freedom and safety.

"I live a good safe life in America. If you don't have a safe life you can't do anything," said Mohammed. "It's important to me to serve because I want to become an American citizen."

When they arrived in the U.S., Mohammed's family was provided asylum, shelter and food. For Mohammed that is why it is important to serve in the Corps; to maintain his new way of life.

"He said all the interactions he had with Marines were positive and he admired them," said Staff Sgt. Christian A. Fuentes, senior drill instructor. "He is resilient."

What he saw as a kid gave him a stronger will to complete training and become a Marine," said 33-year-old Fuentes, a native of Tucson, Ariz. "It shows he has a strong character to want to better himself and his family."

In the next phase of his training, Mohammed will attend the Marine Combat Training located at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., to learn the skills of a rifleman and, afterward, his military occupational specialty school to become a warehouse clerk.



Pvt. Ali J. Mohammed, Platoon 2134, Company F, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, jumps over a set of logs during the Obstacle Course during the Crucible at Edson Range, Jan. 21. Mohammed enlisted in the Marine Corps to help and protect the freedoms he enjoys in the U.S.

Jim Tuohy

Parade Reviewing Officer

Jim Tuohy is the national commandant of the Marine Corps League. He enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1965 and served until 1968. During his enlistment he was wounded in Vietnam in 1966.

He has been a member of the Marine Corps League since 1970, when he joined the Yankee Detachment, Bronx, N.Y.

Tuohy remained a member with the Bronx unit until 1977 when he transferred to New Jersey as a result of his employment with General Motors Corporation. In New Jersey he joined the newly formed Gooney Bird Detachment in New Milford. He remained a member there until 1980 when he was once again transferred, this time to Flint, Mich. There he transferred to

Flint Detachment #155, where he has been for the past 31 years.

Tuohy rose through the ranks of both the detachment and the Department of Michigan.

On the detachment level Tuohy served as chaplain, junior vice commandant, senior vice commandant and he served two terms as detachment commandant. He also served as chairman of the By-Laws Committee for both the detachment and the department. He served as the department junior vice commandant and senior vice commandant, and was elected department commandant from 1988 to 1990.

In 1992 Tuohy was named Department Marine of the Year.

Tuohy served on the fund raising committee for the Department of Michigan for 22 years. He has been the editor for the department newsletter, Michigan Marine News for the

past 20-years.

Tuohy is a member of the Military Order of Devil Dogs. He served as a member of Pound #6 for many years and was elected pack leader for the period of 1999 to 2001.

In 2005, Tuohy and other members of his local Flint Detachment started Pound #288 where he has held several elected positions. Tuohy was chosen Pack Dog of the Year in 2001 and was the recipient of the Chief's Award in 2005. He was named Pound Dog of the Year for Pound #288 for 2006 to 2007.

Tuohy was chosen by the Department of Michigan to serve as a trustee on the Great Lakes National Cemetery Advisory Council in 2004. He served as chairman for the Avenue of Flags Project which raised \$168,000 in seven months for the 100 flagpoles now lining the entrance to the cemetery. He also served as

chairman for the first Memorial Day services held at the cemetery in May 2006. Tuohy continues today to serve on the cemetery council.

In 2001, Tuohy was elected to the position of assistant division vice commandant for the Central Division. He was elected as division vice commandant in 2002 and, in 2004, he was elected for a second term of office.

Tuohy has since served two terms as national judge advocate, national junior vice commandant and national senior vice commandant, before being elected commandant of the Marine Corps League in August 2012.

Tuohy retired from General Motors, Electronic Data Systems and served as the state director for the Marine Corps League Veterans Services at the Veterans Affairs Regional Office in Detroit, until his retirement in

July 2010.

Tuohy is married to the former Geraldine Schad. Gerri currently serves as the national president for the Marine Corps League Auxiliary.





Platoon 2133 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. A. A. Mundaca-Wolff Landcaster, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sgt. T. M. Simpson
Platoon 2130 SERIES HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. J. K. Miller Phoenix Recruited by Sgt. C. J. Rhinehart
Platoon 2129 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. L. Brickley Eastport Plaza, Ore. Recruited by Sgt. L. T. Jared
Platoon 2131 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. G. Losoya Austin, Texas Recruited by Sgt. C. L. Powell
Platoon 2134 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. T. R. Statz St. Louis Recruited by Staff Sgt. R. Trantham
Platoon 2135 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. G. W. Soto-Hernandez Mountain View, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. D. Martinez
Platoon 2133 HIGH SHOOTER (342) Pfc. G. K. Baker Colorado Springs, Colo. Marksman Instructor Sgt. N. Silva
Platoon 2131 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. K. M. Hillman Rockford, Ill. Recruited by Sgt. A. M. Dawson

FOX COMPANY

2nd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION



Commanding Officer
Sergeant Major
Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. D. J. Erickson
Sgt. Maj. T. C. Whitcomb
Staff Sgt. S. R. Blue



COMPANY F Commanding Officer Capt T. C. Quinn Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. T. L. Hamilton	SERIES 2129 Series Commander Capt. J. D. McLean Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. P. Leblanc	PLATOON 2129 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. M. Hubbard Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. G. E. Allen Jr. Staff Sgt. K. C. Huang Sgt. J. Soto	PLATOON 2130 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. K. Spangler Drill instructors Sgt. T. W. Lunsford Sgt. S. A. Pottinger Sgt. K. A. Earls	PLATOON 2131 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. K. A. Ford Drill instructors Sgt. A. B. Childree Sgt. D. D. Poldoski
	SERIES 2133 Series Commander Capt. D. L. Shivers Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. M. J. Serritos	PLATOON 2133 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. C. Geidel Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. M. Brown Sgt. A. J. Juedes	PLATOON 2134 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. A. Fuentes Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. P. B. Jackson Staff Sgt. D. A. Matthews Sgt. S. C. Crabtree	PLATOON 2135 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. B. A. Shangraw Drill Instructors Sgt. B. Gooden Sgt. A. S. Gomez Sgt. A. W. May Jr.

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 2129 Pvt. L. A. Acosta Pfc. M. W. Adams Pfc. L. M. Alward Pfc. J. G. Anaya Pvt. J. M. Andrews Jr. Pvt. E. J. Bacerra Pvt. B. Berumen Pvt. B. L. Bevins Pvt. B. L. Bjerke Pvt. S. M. Bradshaw Pvt. J. G. Brainard *Pfc. T. L. Brickley Pvt. C. A. Cano Pfc. J. A. Carlson Pvt. J. A. Chavez Pfc. I. L. Covar-Rubias Pfc. Z. D. Cox Pvt. C. C. Curl Pvt. M. Dabra-Volskis Pvt. D. E. Davis Pvt. Z. R. Davis Pvt. G. Detrinidad Pvt. D. A. Dominguez Pvt. J. A. Dragovan Pfc. K. E. Durussel *Pfc. D. D. Ehrhorn Pvt. B. D. Evans Pvt. A. M. Ferguson Pfc. F. Figueroa-Cabrera Pfc. B. A. Gerrits Pvt. N. Gomez *Pfc. A. P. Gonzales Pvt. J. I. Gonzales Pvt. I. J. Gonzalez-Galvan Pvt. J. J. Gunderson Pvt. Z. W. Gunselman Pvt. T. A. Hanson Pvt. P. B. Hermann Pvt. D. M. Hernandez Pvt. J. E. Hernandez III Pvt. J. J. Hertsch III Pvt. M. J. Holcombe Pvt. P. B. Hurley Pfc. M. S. Kim Pfc. Z. A. Knetzer Pvt. T. R. Larsen Pvt. J. H. Lawrence Pfc. D. N. Li Pvt. J. R. Littlebear	Pfc. M. A. Lopez-Rodriguez *Pfc. M. L. Luce Pvt. M. A. Palacio Pfc. A. R. Raines Pvt. J. Santana Pvt. E. T. St. Denis PLATOON 2130 Pvt. E. K. Chang *Pfc. J. J. Dorsey Pfc. J. Duque Jr. Pvt. J. E. Espinoza Pvt. K. A. Foster Jr. Pvt. D. W. Funderburg Pvt. M. S. Gale Pvt. J. I. Gamboa *Pfc. W. L. Gifford Pvt. T. J. Giles Pfc. N. A. Gonzalez Pvt. P. J. Gormley Pvt. T. S. Hampton Pvt. J. J. Hannon-Brooks Pfc. Q. J. Harris Pvt. Z. S. Holman Pvt. J. M. Horn Pvt. W. D. Howell-Bey Pvt. D. M. James Pfc. K. N. Jenkins Pvt. S. A. Jenson Pvt. F. R. Jimenez Pvt. S. S. Kim *Pfc. C. L. Kozak Pvt. S. L. Lipsmeyer Pvt. E. Loarca Pvt. D. B. Lockhart Pvt. A. J. Martinez Pvt. R. C. Medrano Pfc. C. Mendoza Pvt. E. Mentado Pvt. A. N. Mercer *Lance Cpl. J. K. Miller Pfc. N. A. Monteggia Pfc. D. A. Noland Pvt. W. A. Nuche Pvt. W. J. Ochletree Pvt. A. Padilla Pvt. D. Padron Pvt. B. K. Palomarez Pvt. J. Perez Pvt. M. R. Pino	Pfc. J. S. Portwood Pvt. V. M. Puente Pfc. L. A. Richey Pvt. S. F. Roberson Pvt. D. A. Robledo Jr. Pvt. C. Rodriguez Pvt. B. J. Ruiz Pvt. J. Salas *Pfc. I. Salcedo Pfc. M. B. Salinas Pvt. M. A. Salinas-Trejo Pvt. D. J. Sherschligt Pvt. C. M. Segura PLATOON 2131 Pvt. E. E. Abundis Pvt. R. W. Alexander Pfc. J. A. Avalos Jr. Pfc. H. A. Balderas *Pfc. J. A. Ballenger-Moreno Pvt. S. P. Bieler Pvt. B. A. Borunda Pfc. T. A. Bradford Pvt. C. S. Bray Pfc. R. Briones Pfc. L. L. Buckner Pfc. C. K. Campbell Pvt. M. H. Castaneda Pvt. R. Castaneda Pvt. B. J. Christman Pvt. A. A. Clark Pfc. D. R. Disney Pvt. J. D. Doan Pvt. J. C. Durham Pvt. R. Fernandez Pfc. J. M. Fielder Pfc. A. B. Fowler Pvt. L. R. Goetsell Pvt. D. Gomez Jr. Pvt. K. Gonzalez-Serrano Pvt. A. T. Hernandez Pvt. P. R. Hillebrand *Pfc. K. M. Hillman Pfc. M. J. Howard II Pvt. M. A. Hurst Pfc. A. Jeong Pfc. K. W. Johnson Pfc. J. A. Kling	Pfc. K. J. Kooi Pvt. H. F. Kuzdas Pvt. M. W. Landes Pfc. D. Lee Pfc. J. G. Losoya Pfc. S. D. Meadows Pvt. D. L. Murch Pvt. C. J. Navarro Pfc. S. D. Nelson Pvt. M. Ochoa-Ramirez Pvt. I. Olivias Pvt. M. J. Oliver Pvt. M. J. Panzica-Bosh Pvt. V. G. Pulido *Pfc. J. M. Rodriguez Pfc. J. S. Royse Pvt. R. S. Saavedra Pvt. N. L. Santiago *Pfc. D. I. Segall Pvt. S. O. Shay Pvt. M. A. Smith Pvt. N. W. Steele PLATOON 2133 Pvt. K. G. Allred III Pfc. C. Arce Jr. Pvt. E. I. Arellano Pvt. J. R. Arroyo Pvt. F. A. Avila Pvt. C. Ayon-Aguirre Pvt. C. R. Baggus Pfc. G. K. Baker Pvt. M. R. Barba Jr. Pvt. J. J. Barnat Pfc. E. A. Batres Pvt. J. T. Bell Pvt. E. Z. Bernal *Pfc. J. A. Berrios Pvt. D. J. Bosscher Pvt. S. M. Buckwald Pfc. J. D. Bushek Pvt. J. C. Camargo-Ruiz Pvt. J. D. Carter Pvt. M. A. Cevallos Pvt. T. A. Chapman Pfc. J. A. Citro Pfc. K. P. Clark Jr. Pvt. J. A. Contreras Pvt. C. D. Corona	Pvt. S. D. Cowan Pvt. T. A. Cox Pvt. D. N. Dalley *Pfc. M. L. Davis Pfc. D. A. Daylong Pfc. D. M. De Mariano Pvt. J. C. Diaz Pvt. B. M. Eschbach Pvt. J. E. Flores Pvt. S. J. Galan Pvt. S. J. Galeas-Gomez *Pfc. A. L. Gallegos Pfc. F. D. Gorocica Pvt. E. F. Hernandez-Ramirez Pvt. T. J. Jones Pvt. R. A. Kemp Pvt. R. J. King Pvt. J. R. Langley Pvt. J. E. Leavell Pvt. P. P. Limprasert-wong Pvt. A. S. Llamas Pvt. E. Lopez *Lance Cpl. A. A. Mundaca-Wolff Pfc. J. Orozco Pfc. Z. C. Perez Pfc. J. D. Pulido Pvt. Q. W. Roberts *Pfc. A. J. Taoy Pvt. J. A. Timmons Pvt. L. M. Vincent Pvt. J. T. Wilson-Hamilton PLATOON 2134 Pvt. C. A. Gant Pvt. D. B. Lumley Pvt. D. A. Madrigal Pvt. A. R. Maldonado Pfc. C. R. Martinez Pfc. A. J. Marum Pvt. W. C. McCandless Pvt. S. J. McCauley Pvt. A. R. McCrossen *Pfc. F. R. Meza Pvt. J. R. Micklis Pvt. A. K. Miller Pfc. A. J. Mohammed Pvt. J. J. Mudge	Pfc. J. Nguyen Pvt. Z. D. Oertel Pvt. M. J. Ong Pfc. A. U. Padilla Pvt. J. T. Patnaude Pvt. E. A. Perez Pvt. T. A. Perkins Pfc. D. M. Pine Pvt. E. Pineda-Lozano Pvt. B. A. Popoca Pvt. M. P. Ramirez *Pfc. A. H. Reed Pfc. J. L. Riffle-Yokoi Pfc. J. E. Ryan Pvt. I. Salas-Vallejo Pvt. R. B. Salinas Jr. Pvt. J. Santos Pvt. D. L. Schlenz Pvt. B. C. Schuman Pfc. N. S. Serrato Pfc. R. Singh Pvt. L. J. Smithson Pvt. N. I. Soliz Pfc. T. R. Statz Pvt. C. R. Sudekum Jr. Pfc. R. P. Sweeney Pvt. C. E. Talley Pvt. A. N. Taylor Pvt. J. A. Thompson Pvt. M. R. Timm Pvt. S. A. Torres *Pfc. S. L. Uviedo Pfc. D. Valencia-Lopez Pvt. M. J. Vautrin Pvt. S. J. Velasquez Pvt. A. A. Villagomez-Garcia Pvt. J. L. Ward Pfc. B. M. Windhorst Pfc. A. L. Wise *Pfc. K. D. Wright Pvt. N. A. Young PLATOON 2135 Pvt. B. L. Anthony Pvt. B. P. Camarena Pfc. J. M. Davis Pfc. J. L. Gonzalez Pfc. M. F. Gorgees Pfc. B. M. Hall Pfc. J. J. Harter Pvt. C. J. Jimenez	Pvt. A. T. Keal Pfc. I. L. Macareno Pfc. E. Marquez Pvt. A. J. Matthew Pfc. B. C. Matthew Pvt. S. L. McCallister Pfc. T. A. McDowell Pfc. C. Medina III Pvt. I. E. Moir *Pfc. S. Rios Jr. Pvt. M. A. Santiago Pvt. P. A. Saunders Pvt. D. M. Shelley Pvt. R. W. Shirey *Pfc. C. L. Sisler Pvt. J. A. Smith Jr. Pfc. K. S. Smith Pfc. G. W. Soto-Hernandez Pvt. C. T. Spradling Pfc. D. C. Staal Pfc. C. J. Steele Pvt. E. T. Steinke Pfc. D. N. Stone Pvt. J. G. Streicher Pvt. C. V. Sutamavong Pfc. J. G. Szeszol Pvt. T. R. Tanner Pvt. A. D. Thomas Pfc. T. D. Tiemersma Pvt. T. T. Tolliver Pfc. J. L. Torres-Guardia Pvt. N. A. Townsend Pvt. R. V. Trujillo Pvt. J. Valenzuela Pvt. J. P. Van Hoose Pvt. T. L. Vaupel Pvt. S. Vilar-Ruiz Pfc. L. D. Vito Pvt. T. A. Walker Pvt. E. P. Walrath Pfc. M. D. Webb *Pfc. R. G. Westbrook Pvt. K. C. Wetzel *Pfc. C. H. Wheeler Pvt. K. C. Williams Pfc. L. R. Zunker Pvt. C. A. Zuroske
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Co. D hurdles over obstacle course

STORY & PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE
Chevron staff

Many times throughout recruit training, recruits are put through events that require them to push themselves past the point of exhaustion to complete them.

Recruits of Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, were introduced to the obstacle course, or "O-Course," during training day nine aboard the depot, Jan. 17.

During recruit training, each recruit must complete the O-Course, which was a series of obstacles including hurdling over logs, climbing over bars and walls, and using the last bit of energy they had to climb a 20-foot rope at the end.

The O-Course was designed to mentally and physically challenge recruits, explained Sgt. Michael Pelaez, drill instructor, Platoon 1074.

"It looks a lot easier than it is," said Pelaez, a native of New York. "The point of this course is for them to be tired and to build confidence in knowing that they can push through the pain and complete the course."

Before recruits ran through the course, they were given a demonstration by their drill instructors on the certain techniques they should use while conquering each obstacle. The drill instructors explained to the recruits that these were some of the obstacles a Marine might face in a

combat situation.

After the drill instructors finished the course, they moved on to perform a fireman carry and buddy drag demonstration, which simulated evacuating a casualty from a danger area.

When the event began, those who waited in line for their turn to go ran in place, yelled cadence and clapped their hands to keep themselves warmed up for the course.

"One of the hardest parts of the course for me was the rope

climb at the end," said Recruit Minki Lee, Plt. 1069. "I was so tired and couldn't feel my arms so I had to push myself and push aside the pain to get up the rope."

Because this was the first time recruits executed the course, they were only expected to climb half way up the rope but then had to immediately sprint to perform the fireman carries and buddy drags.

"By far the hardest thing to do was the fire-

man carries and buddy drags

at the end,"

said Lee,

a native

of Los

Angeles.

"I was so

burned

out after

the

course that it seemed almost impossible to carry another recruit."

At the end of the course, recruits had fatigued themselves and, at the same time, learned to push pass their limits.

"Recruits learn where they're at when it comes to their physical abilities during this course," said 33-year-old Pelaez. "They realize what they need to work on to be able to execute this course more efficiently."

This will not be the last time recruits must endure the O-Course. They will execute the course two more times during the training cycle and one more time during the Crucible where they will have extra gear and rifles on while conquering each obstacle.

"We learn that you never know what you are going to expect in a combat situation," said 20-year-old Lee. "Courses like this prepare us for almost anything."



Recruit Minki Lee, Platoon 1069, works to pull himself over another of the logs making up one of the obstacles he and the other Company D recruits must conquer during their first encounter with the depot's obstacle course Jan. 17. They will run the course three more times during their three month training cycle.



Recruit Minki Lee, Platoon 1069, Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, buddy drags a fellow recruit after the obstacle course aboard the depot, Jan. 17. Each time the recruits run through the course, they wear extra gear to simulate a combat situation.



Recruits from Platoon 1069, Company D, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, climb the last obstacle of the depot's obstacle course Jan. 17. Recruits were only expected to climb half the rope because this was the first time they executed the course.