



Co. M recruits overcome Confidence Course

Pg 4

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



Co. H recruits learn fundamentals of marksmanship

Pg 8

Vol. 74 – Issue 8

“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, MARCH 14, 2014

Marines learn to use field protective mask

STORY & PHOTOS BY
LANCE CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE
Chevron staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif. – Marines of Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, were exposed to gas for the first time during the Crucible Week at Edson Range, March 3.

The purpose of the event was for the Marines to learn the basics of the M-50 Joint Service General Purpose Mask before going into the Confidence Chamber. Once they were in the chamber, they had to gain the confidence to operate their masks correctly and effectively.

“We teach Marines the assembly of the M-50 JSGPM, have them check the serviceability of the masks, immediate action drills and the effects of the CS gas,” said Sgt. Travis B Armstrong, chemical biological radiological and nuclear defense specialist, Weapons and Field Training Battalion. “Our number one goal is getting them confident with the equipment and making sure they know what to



Marines of Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, feel the effects of chlorobenzylidene malonitrile, or CS gas, for the first time during the Confidence Chamber at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, March 3. The gas is a non-lethal tear gas and also a riot control agent.

do when under pressure.”

To ensure the Marines applied the fundamentals they had learned, the chamber was filled

with chlorobenzylidene malonitrile, or CS gas, a non-lethal tear gas and also a riot control agent.

“Before I went in I didn’t really

know what to expect,” said Pfc. Andrew W. Wundsam, Platoon 3209. “I think that’s what made me the most nervous.”

After the classes the Marines were split up in groups of 58 to go

see GAS ▶ 2



Marines and civilians participate in the Semper Durus Exercise to test emergency response capability aboard the depot, Feb. 25 to 26. The exercise was specifically designed to enhance communication between depot staff sections during an emergency.

Marines react to Semper Durus

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

Personnel aboard the depot tested their ability to respond to emergencies with a Semper Durus Exercise from Feb. 25 to 26.

The purpose of Semper Durus was to exercise emergency response plans, policies and procedures in response to an all-hazards incident. The exercise was specifically designed as active shooter or terrorist scenarios.

The Semper Durus Exercise is a Marine Corps Installations West sponsored Command Post Exercise and Field Train-

ing Exercise. The exercise was implemented by all MCI-West installations. Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton also took part in the exercise.

“This regional security oriented command exercise is to assure that Marine installations are prepared to respond to any situation,” said Col. Christopher B. Nash, assistant chief of staff, operations. “The exercise has been very successful. It forces our staff to problem solve so we don’t fail in a real-life event.”

Units and staff sections aboard the depot worked together to enforce protection measures, emergency response plans, policies, procedures, and command and control capa-

bilities. There were three phases aboard the depot that took place during the exercise.

Phase one was focused on preparing. It began with the MCI-West communicating reports of threat to all participating installations. Marines assessed the information, determined the risks to the mission, and advised the commanding general.

Once the exercise moved into phase two, which was focused on the response, a Crisis Action Team was assembled to determine courses of action to lessen risks and respond to emergency events.

The depot was placed in Force

see TEST ▶ 2

Commandant returns Corps to rolled sleeves tradition

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

Commandant of the Marine Corps Gen. James F. Amos, prepared the Marine Corps to bring back sleeves up, which started March 9.

The Marine Corps leaders circuted around the Corps asking non-commissioned officers their opinions and made their decision to bring “rolled sleeves” back.

“Sgt. Maj. Barrett and I have now spoken to the majority of you about our efforts to reawaken the ‘Soul of our Corps,’” said Amos in a letter released March 5. “Because of the persistence of you, my sergeants and corporals, this evening I am publishing a MARADMIN that will

return us to sleeves up status when wearing our Desert utilities in non-combat areas.”

Amos released a letter March 5 stating once the Marine Corps changed to the summer uniforms, rolled sleeves would be worn on combat utilities. That change took place March 9, in conjunction with the adjustment of daylight savings time.

Marines are not be the only ones with sleeves up aboard the depot. Recruits also wear their sleeves up during recruit training during the summer seasons.

“I’m excited to learn how to roll sleeves,” said Recruit Eric N. Lopez, Platoon 1014, Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion. “Our uniforms are

see SLEEVES ▶ 2



Recruits of Platoon 3214, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, march with their sleeves rolled up. Rolled sleeves bring back some of the old traditions of the Marine Corps.



Co. I Marines perform jumping jacks to increase their heart rate and simulate a combat scenario in the Confidence Chamber at Edson Range. Marines in the chamber were not allowed to put their masks back on until each had his all the way off.

GAS ◀ 1

into the chamber. Once the door opened, Marines were rushed inside by their drill instructors. As soon as the door had closed, they began the drill.

"We make it chaotic to freak the Marines out," said Sgt. Misael Morales Jr., drill instructor, Plt. 3211. "They don't know what to expect and fear of the unknown is already making it nerve racking for them."

Marines began by performing three exercises; shaking their heads, jumping jacks, and breaking the seal of their mask.

"They were forced to do exercises to get their blood flowing and get them sweating," said Morales, a Miami native. "This simulates combat stress and allowed them to feel the full effects of the gas."

After each Marine had their mask completely off of their faces, sounds of coughs and gags echoed in the chamber.

"When the mask first came off my face, I didn't want to breathe," said Pfc. Corey A. Shed, Plt. 3209. "My throat felt like it was closing up and the worst part was just not being able to breathe."

Once the Marines were given the go-ahead by the field instructor, they put back on their masks and cleared out all of the gas.

Just when the Marines thought they had succeeded through the Confidence Chamber, they were told to take the mask off once again.

"The second time was a lot easier," said Shed, a native of Arlington, Texas. "I knew what it felt like and I just took a couple deep breaths to keep my composure and

before I knew it, we were putting our gas masks back on."

When the Marines put their masks back on, they were asked by the field instructor if they felt more confident in their abilities to use the M-50 JSGPM and were released from the chamber to decontaminate their masks.

Although Co. I Marines had passed the Confidence Chamber, in less than 24 hours they would endure the Crucible, which is a 54-hour test of endurance where recruits must conquer more than 30 obstacles while they experience food and sleep deprivation. This was the last test the Marines faced.

"I wish we had more training like this," said Wundsaw, a Chicago native. "Just in case anything was to ever happen, we need to be prepared."

SLEEVES ◀ 1

one of the bigger things that stand out from the other branches."

Drill instructors will teach the recruits how to properly roll their sleeves by paying attention to the small details.

"This is a good tradition to bring back to the Marine Corps: it gives a sense of pride," said Sgt. Timothy S. Bazua, drill instructor. "It's going to require small unit leadership throughout the platoon to help recruits learn how to roll proper sleeves."

"The Commandant has been leaning into it for a while now, as he has taken to heart the many conversations he's had with thousands of his (noncommissioned officers) in recent months," said Lt. Col. David Nevers in a Feb. 27, 2014

e-mail. "After speaking to a theater full of corporals and sergeants yesterday at Quantico, he decided it was time to announce the change."

The Marine Corps Uniform Board changed the utility uniform policy from sleeves rolled up to sleeves rolled down on Oct. 24, 2011.

The boards reasoning was to promote uniformity and help Marines to "train as we fight." While in combat, Marines wear their sleeves down in combat zones for more protection to the arms against different terrains and climates.

Rolled sleeves bring back some of the old traditions the Marine Corps takes pride in and can be used as another way to bring back "The soul of our Corps."

Discipline; adherence to standards; engaged and concerned leadership

24-hours-a-day, seven-days-a-week; and faithful obedience to orders are the four enduring principle of the Marine Corps new focus.

"Those four principles define what we have called 'The soul of the Corps,'" said Amos. "They have been with us for over 238 years. It's always been that way."

"As we have traveled throughout our Corps, many of you have let us know how important your identity as a Marine is to you and the Marines you lead. I can't tell you how many times we have been asked the persistent question 'Commandant, are we ever going to return to SLEEVES UP?'" Amos wrote in his announcement. "I've thought a lot about this over the past 2.5 years; I realize that it's important to you. Sleeves up clearly and visually sets us apart."

TEST ◀ 1

Protection Condition Delta on the morning of Feb. 26, which altered the traffic patterns at the entry gates. Identity verification and vehicle searches included some of the changes as well as a shelter-in-place drill, which was exercised for thirty minutes, Feb. 25.

For the purpose of the exercise, a release of simulated casualties was required. It was ensured that all reports began with the header "EXERCISE.EXERCISE.EXERCISE."

"The emergency operation has improved and was a lot more

successful than past operations," said Maj. Paul M. Ghiozzi, operations officer, Operations. "(It was discussed) how all the agencies were a success."

Phase three was used to recover; it included a brief to discuss the lessons learned from the events of the exercise. Afterward, the depot was cleaned up and returned to normal operations.

"I'm pleased with the work and elements the depot subordinate commands have put towards emergency response," said 47-year-old Nash, a Hillsboro, Ore., native. "We'll review the after action criteria and look into the areas we can improve and become more efficient."

BRIEFS

St. Patrick's Day 5K Fun Run

The depot's St. Patrick's Day 5K Fun Run will be held today at 1 p.m., starting at the west end of the Recreation Center.

The event is free for MCRD San Diego Authorized Patrons, and \$10 for the guests of authorized patrons.

Free lunch will be available, along with post-race beverages, special event t-shirt, a raffle, music and entertainment.

Awards will be presented to the top three overall male and female finishers.

For information or registration go to <http://www.eventbrite.com/e/2014-mcrd-san-diego-st-patricks-day-run-tickets-10704335957>.

Battle Color Detachment

The Marine Corps Battle Color Detachment performs on the depot's Shepherd Memorial Drill Field tomorrow at 2:30 p.m. The event is free and open to the public.

The Detachment is a ceremonial unit from Marine Barracks Washington, featuring "The Commandant's Own," the United States Marine Drum & Bugle Corps; the United States Marine Corps Silent Drill Platoon; and the Official Color Guard of the Marine Corps. This highly skilled unit travels worldwide to demonstrate the discipline, professionalism, and "Esprit de Corps" of the United States Marines, appearing in hundreds of ceremonies annually.

Guests attending the performance must enter the depot through Gate 5 at the Washington Street entrance. No alcohol or pets are allowed except for service animals.

For more information on the Battle Color Detachment, please visit www.facebook.com/usmcdrumcorps, www.facebook.com/marinebarracks, www.twitter.com/usmcdrumcorps, or www.drumcorps.marines.mil.

Brown bag lunch seminar

Personal Financial Management is sponsoring a brown bag lunch seminar on "Building a Successful Savings Program," Wednesday from 11:30 a.m., until 1 p.m., at the Personal and Professional Development office, Building 14.

For information or to registration call (619) 524-5728/1204.

Kindergarten readiness

The depot sponsors a parent workshop on Kindergarten Readiness Mar. 24 from 6 to 8 p.m., in Building 6E.

Learn the tools to help your child succeed! Topics include: kindergarten readiness requirements, common core learning expectations, social-emotional development and learning styles, enrollment/registration information, the effectiveness of parental involvement and school choice options.

- For information call (619) 524-8032/8104, or register at <https://kindergartenreadinessws4.eventbrite.com>

Transition readiness seminar

The depot sponsors a transition readiness seminar Mar. 24 to 28, in the Personal and Professional Development Office, Building 14.

The seminar provides resources, assistance and practical applications for career, education, and other benefits.

For information or to register call (619) 524-1283/0035.

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.



Marines with Company G, 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division are pulled on skis by a Bandvagn 206 during a pre-environmental training field exercise to prepare them for exercise Cold Response 2014. Marines and Norwegian soldiers spent three days learning to work together and how to operate in the Norwegian winter environment to prepare the Marines and soldiers for Exercise Cold Response, which is a multinational and multilateral training exercise. The exercise will feature various types of military training including maritime, land and air operations. The location, above the Arctic Circle in northern Norway, provides a unique cold-weather environment for all forces involved to learn and develop procedures from one another.

Warlords, Norwegians prepare for Cold Response

STORY & PHOTOS BY
STAFF SGT. STEVE CUSHMAN
Marine Forces Europe and Africa

GISKAAS, Norway – The Warlords of 2nd Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, 2nd Marine Division began the annual multinational and multilateral training exercise, Cold Response 2014 this week.

The exercise will feature various types of military training including maritime, land and air operations. The location, above the Arctic Circle in northern Norway, provides a unique cold-weather environment for all forces involved to learn and develop procedures from one another.

To prepare for the exercise the Warlords spent three days in the field learning to work with the Norwegian Army's Host Nation Support Battalion, who they will work with during CDR14.

The Marines and Norwegian soldiers learned to work together and use the Bandvagn 206, a tracked

vehicle used to move troops and equipment over the snow. The Marines also conducted live-fire ranges and a few learned how to drive snow-mobles for reconnaissance.

"The Norwegians explained how the BVs worked and how we will be able to utilize them," said Cpl. Jeffrey Dittmar, a Pottsville, Penn., native and a platoon sergeant with Golf Company. "They showed us how to recover them in case of a rollover, we learned a lot about the BVs."

The Host Nation Support Battalion's BV Company will support Golf Company during Cold Response providing transportation to different objectives.

"We got enough familiarization in the field to know how to work with the Norwegians during the exercise," Dittmar said. "The exercise is going to be a good experience working with other countries, something that many of the Marines have never done before."



Marines set up security around a Bandvagn 206 during a pre-environmental training field exercise to prepare them for exercise Cold Response 2014.

1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment conducts live-fire training exercise

A five-man team of infantry Marines with Company C, 1st Battalion, 9th Marine Regiment, takes aim at a simulated enemy position during a live-fire training exercise aboard Camp Leatherneck, Afghanistan, March 6, 2014. The exercise, which simulated an enemy insurgent attack, increased confidence in locating and suppressing enemy positions.



Sgt. Frances Johnson



ESTABLISHED 1942

COMMANDING GENERAL
BRIG. GEN. JAMES W. BIERMAN

SERGEANT MAJOR
SGT. MAJ. JAMES K. PORTERFIELD

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DIRECTOR
MAJ. NEIL A. RUGGIERO

PUBLIC AFFAIRS DEPUTY
JANICE M. HAGAR

PUBLIC AFFAIRS CHIEF
MASTER SGT. ARSENIO R. CORTEZ JR.

PRESS CHIEF
CPL. BENJAMIN E. WOODLE

PRESS NCOIC
CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS

COMBAT CORRESPONDENTS
LANCE CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE
LANCE CPL. JERICO CRUTCHER

EDITOR
ROGER EDWARDS

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

WWW.MCRDSD.MARINES.MIL

The Chevron is published on the internet at the above address 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 now way should be considered directive in nature. All photos are official USMC property unless otherwise indicated.

Co. M overcomes fear of Confidence Course

STORY & PHOTOS BY
CPL. BENJAMIN E. WOODLE
Chevron staff

Storming into a building with armed suspects, traversing across a high mountain pass and driving into known enemy territory riddled with Improvised Explosive Devices all have one item in common, it requires confidence and courage to accomplish.

Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, overcame their fears and conquered the Confidence Course aboard the depot, Feb. 25.

The purpose of the Confidence Course was to challenge a recruit's mental and physical courage.

"The Confidence Course is used to build and develop confidence in recruits to overcome their fears while also building strength and endurance," said Staff Sgt. Gregory A. Ferry, drill instructor, Platoon 3269. "They need to be able to close together into the unknown without question."

Some of the obstacles included in the Confidence Course were the Stairway to Heaven, Tough One, Slide for Life, Weaver and Cargo Net Climb.

Recruits began, as with most of their other events, by performing dynamic warm-ups. After recruits finished warming up, drill instructors took them to each high obstacle to demonstrate the proper techniques to utilize while on them. Afterward, recruits were broken into groups with one drill instructor per group. Drill instructors took their squad to their starting obstacle, each at a different one so that no one group was waiting behind another.

One obstacle that caused trouble for recruits was the Stairway to Heaven, a ladder-like structure 30-feet high with logs/steps that start out close together but start to spread out the further a recruit got to the top. After a recruit reached the top, he had to climb over the top log and descend on the other side. At the top, recruits learned if they had a fear of heights.

"I saw some recruits get to the top, look down and just freeze up; their fear of heights kicked in and started messing with them," said Recruit Jacob A. Guffie. "Thankfully I didn't have that issue. I made it into a competition and didn't want the guy next to me to beat me through it."

Letting their fear overcome them was not an excuse on the Confidence Course. Recruits were required to complete every obstacle and would not advance until completed.

"Not doing the obstacles wasn't an option," said Guffie, a Sutherlin, Ore., native. "Getting through our fears now will help us achieve mission accomplishment in the future."

Other obstacles in the course required recruits to utilize basic skills while going through them, which for some turned out to be harder than they thought.

"Recruits struggled with climbing the rope to get up the A-Frame obstacle as well as using their coordination to work themselves through the Weaver," said Ferry, a Granite City, Ill., native.

The last obstacle recruits had to conquer was the Slide for Life, which required recruits to climb a 25-foot tower and then climb across a descending 90-foot cable above a pool of water. Halfway through the climb, recruits were instructed to change positions while hanging

above the pool. Those recruits who were able to complete the obstacle looked back at their accomplishment, those who fell into the pool had to walk back to their squad bay in their soaked camouflage utility uniforms.

Co. M recruits are now closer to achieving their goal to become a United States Marine. Throughout their recruit training they will be placed in great hardship with the goal to build and strengthen the best Marine possible. Only the best will succeed to become part of the few and the proud.

"It's all about building confidence, taking charge of a fellow recruit (or Marine), esprit de corps, teambuilding and leadership," said Ferry. "These are the tools we try to instill in them through events like this. It sets them up to carry out a successful career in the Corps."



Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, traverse across the Arm Stretches obstacle during the Confidence Course. This obstacle required great physical endurance for recruits to keep their grip on the bars and make it through without falling.



Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, practice their Marine Corps Martial Arts Program techniques while waiting to move on to the next obstacle during the Confidence Course aboard the depot, Feb. 25. Every minute during the event was utilized for training. When recruits weren't on an obstacle, they were practicing MCMAP, or combat first aid as they waited for others in their group to finish the obstacle before moving on to the next event.



Recruit Silas A. Donohoe, Platoon 3269, Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, climbs up the Cargo Net Climb obstacle during the Confidence Course aboard the depot, Feb. 25. Recruits had to face their fear of heights as they looked over the top when crossing sides to climb down.



Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, hang on as they attempt to switch grips during the Slide for Life obstacle during the Confidence Course aboard the depot, Feb. 25. The Slide for Life was one of the most physically demanding obstacles in the course where recruits were tested on their physical endurance and mental strength.



Recruits of Company M, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, attack the Weaver obstacle during the Confidence Course aboard the depot, Feb. 25. The Weaver tested recruits' coordination skills by having them go over one log and then work their way under the next without touching the ground.

Navy Cross recipient passes legacy to new Marines

By Cpl. Pedro Cardenas
Chevron staff

A drill instructor here knows very well how important his job is in training and preparing recruits for the rigors and hardships of combat.

Staff Sgt. Aubrey L. McDade, Navy Cross recipient and drill instructor, Platoon 3214, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, uses his experiences from combat to passionately train recruits.

According to McDade, he feels that recruit training is a great opportunity to impact the Marine Corps' future. He wants to mold the best possible Marines.

"I feel like the recruit training process is probably the most important part of the Marine Corps. We have a unique opportunity to impact the Corps for the next 4-to-40 years," said McDade. "I feel like this is the most significant piece of the Marine Corps."

McDade is focused in teaching recruits unwavering discipline, courage and commitment, brotherhood and a sense of pride. The Marine Corps has given him the opportunity to meet life-long friends, a band of brothers. That is why he takes every opportunity he gets to give back to it, explained McDade.

"His work ethic is unmatched," said Staff Sgt. Ryan A. Fromherz, senior drill instructor. "He trains recruits to the Marine Corps standards and to produce the best Marines."

According to Fromherz, McDade is unselfish because he risked his life to save others and expected nothing in return. To Fromherz, an Aunsville, Ore., native, McDade's humbleness is a sign of his character.

For McDade, the Marines around him are more important than any award he could ever receive.

"I like to talk about the Marines who lost their lives because they are the reason why I don't forget where I came from," said McDade. "I feel good (about the Navy Cross), but if I could give it back, though, I would for the Marines' lives to come back."

McDade's first tour during the Iraq War was from March 2003 to October 2003. He returned to Iraq for a second deployment from June 2004 through February 2005.

During his second deployment on Nov. 11, 2004, in the second Battle of Fallujah, McDade was a machinegun squad leader with 1st Battalion, 8th Marines, 1st Marine Division, when his squad

was attacked and pinned down by small arms and machinegun fire in an alley.

When two U.S. Marines were injured, McDade, without hesitation, rushed to the front of his squad and directed machinegun fire at his attackers. As a result of his actions, McDade rescued two wounded Marines. Unfortunately, a third Marine was killed in the attack, but his body was recovered. The two Marines McDade rescued received medical care and survived.

"I asked my unit respectfully not to submit anything for me," said McDade, a Houston native. "We are a band of brothers and it's not something I take lightly. I would do the same for my kids."

According to McDade, he was originally awarded the Silver Star for his actions, but the award was then upgraded to the Navy Cross upon recommendation from White House staff.

On Jan. 19, 2007, McDade was presented with the Navy Cross during a recruit graduation ceremony at Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island where he served as a drill instructor for 1st Recruit Training Battalion, Company C.

"I didn't need to be recognized

for doing what I am supposed to do," said 32-year-old McDade. "However, there are a lot of fallen Marines who did not get recognized for their actions and for me getting the award; I feel like I speak for everybody. I accepted my award for them."

McDade was honored for his heroism on Jan. 23, 2007 as the honor guest of former First Lady Laura Bush at the State of the Union Address. He may have been honored at a national stage, but his pride of being a Marine is what keeps him humble.



Courtesy Photo

Staff Sgt. Aubrey L. McDade receives the Navy Cross Jan. 19, 2007 during his drill instructor tour at MCRD Parris Island.



Official Marine Corps Photo

Staff Sgt. Aubrey L. McDade, drill instructor, Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, was awarded the Navy Cross, the second highest award in the Department of the Navy, for rescuing two Marines. McDade received his award Jan. 19, 2007 during his first drill instructor tour at MCRD Parris Island.



Staff Sgt. Jonathan C. Knauth

U.S. Marines prepare to step off on a patrol through the city of Fallujah, Iraq, to clear the city of insurgent activity and weapons caches as part of Operation al Fajr (New Dawn) on Nov. 26, 2004. The Marines are (from left to right) Platoon Sergeant Staff Sgt. Eric Brown, Machine Gun Section Leader Sgt. Aubrey McDade, Radio Operator Cpl. Steven Archibald, and Combat Engineer Lance Cpl. Robert Coburn. All were assigned to 1st Battalion, 8th Marine Regiment, 1st Marine Division conducting security and stabilization operations in the Al Anbar Province of Iraq.

Retired Col. Larry K. Brown

Parade Reviewing Officer

Retired Col. Larry K. Brown grew up rich in Marine Corps tradition. His father and grandfather, both Marine officers, served a combined fifty-seven years in the Corps. He grew up around the Corps, graduated from the University of Virginia in 1976, and was commissioned through the Naval Reserve Officer Training Corps program.

Upon completion of The Basic School and Artillery School, Brown reported to Battery C, 1st Battalion, 11th Marines at Camp Pendleton, where he served in a variety of billets.

During this period he attended Aerial Observer School where he was the honor graduate. From there, he transferred to Okinawa, where he served in 3rd Bn, 12th Marines.

In 1980, Brown reported to the U.S. Army Field Artillery School, Ft. Sill, Okla., for duty as chief instructor in the Firing Battery Branch, Weapons Department. In 1983, Brown attended Amphibious Warfare School at Quantico, Va. In 1984, he again reported for duty with the 11th Marines, and served in 2nd Bn and as the commanding officer, Battery E, before serving as the fire direction officer for 11th Marines.

From June 1987 to June 1988, Brown served as the ground requirements officer in Plans, Policies & Operations,

Headquarters Marine Corps. Brown then served at Marine Corps Combat Development Command, Quantico until 1991 as the artillery requirements officer and Fleet Marine Force structure officer at the Marine Air Ground Task Force Warfighting Center.

In 1991, Brown attended the College of Naval Command and Staff, Newport, R.I., where he was a distinguished graduate. From there he transferred to Supreme Headquarters, Allied Powers Europe, in Belgium in 1992 where he helped to establish the first NATO Crisis Response Center, conducted planning for military operations in the former Yugoslavia, and deployed to Zagreb, Croatia.

Brown then returned to

Camp Pendleton to serve as the force fires coordinator for I Marine Expeditionary Force from 1995 to 1998. From 1998 to 2000, Brown served as the director of doctrine, responsible for the development and publication of all Marine Corps service doctrine.

In July 2000, he returned to I MEF where he was assigned as the future operations officer. He assumed duty as the MEF operations officer in May 2001. He was the MEF operations officer during 9/11, the initial invasion of Afghanistan by Task Force 58, and for Operation Iraqi Freedom I and II. As the operations officer he directed and coordinated all training, planning, deployment, and combat operations for over 56,000 Marines and British

soldiers for the invasion of Iraq. He deployed a second time to Iraq focused on nation-building and counter-insurgency in Al Anbar Province. He retired in February 2005 after 29 years of service.

Brown's personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal; two Legions of Merit Medals; Bronze Star Metal, Joint Meritorious Service Medal; two Meritorious Service Medals; a Joint Service Commendation Medal and two Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medals.

Brown currently works for G2 Software Systems as a risk manager and program analyst for an Army acquisition program that will field a new high capacity networking radio in 2017.



Platoon 3210 COMPANY HONOR MAN Pfc. L. R. Agosta Parker, Colo. Recruited by Sgt. C. Waters
Platoon 3214 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. C. E. Garcia Johnsbury, Vt. Recruited by Sgt. R. Talamante
Platoon 3209 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. D. J. Wonsey Ventura, Calif. Recruited by Staff Sgt. A. Vega
Platoon 3211 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. S. Soule Elizabeth, Colo. Recruited by Sgt. J. Balder-Rama
Platoon 3213 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. D. Respicio Waipahu, Hawaii Recruited by Staff Sgt. L. Madsen
Platoon 3215 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. B. Rogers Elk Grove, Calif. Recruited by Sgt. C. DeShano
Platoon 3211 HIGH SHOOTER (340) Pfc. D. G. Oxborrow Summer, Wash. Marksman Instructor Sgt. R. Silva
Platoon 3210 HIGH PFT (300) Pvt. A. Fierro Laguna Vista, Texas Recruited by Sgt. M. Sifuentes-Garcia



INDIA COMPANY

3rd RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION

Commanding Officer
 Sergeant Major
 Battalion Drill Master

Lt. Col. T. Carlos
 Sgt. Maj. J. D. Ferriss
 Gunnery Sgt. R. Rangel



COMPANY I Commanding Officer Capt. N. J. Morrissey Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. J. Branch	SERIES 3209 Series Commander Capt. K. M. Gallagher Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. M. Hutson	PLATOON 3209 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. A. G. Rihn Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. A. P. Carnett Staff Sgt. A. D. Henry Staff Sgt. K. G. West Sgt. M. A. Mueller	PLATOON 3210 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. B. T. Cox Drill instructors Sgt. D. Hernandez Sgt. C. Osoria Sgt. M. Reconsal	PLATOON 3211 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. E. Uribe Drill instructors Sgt. E. G. Covington Sgt. C. A. Lopez Sgt. M. Morales Sgt. J. M. Schrab
	SERIES 3213 Series Commander Capt. T. S. Berger Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. H. Jimenez	PLATOON 3213 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. A. C. Curtis Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. A. M. Plambeck Sgt. T. T. Huber Sgt. F. X. Marnell Sgt. J. G. Nickell	PLATOON 3214 Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. R. A. Fromherz Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. P. E. Gibson Staff Sgt. A. R. Hopkins Staff Sgt. A. L. McDade Sgt. C. A. Gomez	PLATOON 3215 Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. B. Castillo Drill Instructors Sgt. K. R. Caito Sgt. W. L. Taylor Sgt. F. E. Macias

* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

PLATOON 3209
 Pfc. V. R. Avila
 Pvt. T. I. Barton
 Pvt. M. J. Estrada
 Pvt. E. R. Garcia Jr.
 Pfc. K. R. Leal
 Pvt. A. L. Lopez
 Pfc. J. P. Mallory
 Pvt. H. R. Marquez Jr.
 *Pfc. T. A. McCain II
 *Pfc. J. D. Montgomery
 Pfc. J. R. Murphy
 Pvt. J. Ruiz-Ramirez
 Pvt. K. A. Sacre
 Pfc. J. G. Salas-Avendano
 Pvt. M. A. Salcido-Hall
 Pvt. N. P. Sandersen
 Pvt. J. J. Schierenbeck
 Pvt. P. D. Sexton
 Pvt. K. L. Shearer
 *Pfc. C. A. Shed
 Pvt. D. J. Sheridan
 Pfc. C. A. Simon
 Pfc. E. J. Slongwhite
 Pvt. Q. G. Stage
 Pfc. M. S. Stahl
 Pvt. M. L. Struzyk
 Pvt. J. R. Terhaar
 Pvt. P. N. Thompson
 Pvt. A. D. Trigo-Becerra
 Pvt. I. A. Tsygankov
 Pfc. J. Villarreal
 Pvt. J. A. Villa-Vazquez
 Pvt. K. D. Voll
 Pfc. K. Wachira
 Pvt. C. J. Walker
 Pvt. A. F. Ward
 Pvt. A. L. Watchous
 Pvt. B. S. Watson
 Pvt. A. M. Wert
 Pfc. T. H. Wiegman Jr.
 Pvt. L. A. Williams
 Pvt. J. C. Williamson
 Pvt. N. J. Wills
 Pvt. M. R. Winfrey
 Pvt. S. M. Wiseman
 Pfc. D. J. Wonsey
 Pfc. A. W. Wundsam
 Pfc. J. Zafra

Pfc. D. M. Carvalho
 Pfc. N. K. Cochran
 Pvt. N. A. Colley
 Pfc. J. B. Concepcion
 Pvt. J. R. Copeland
 Pvt. J. B. Cox
 Pvt. J. L. Craver
 *Pfc. C. G. Duckens
 Pvt. F. J. Durant
 Pvt. J. J. Evangelista
 Pvt. C. Felipe
 Pfc. A. Fernandez
 Pvt. C. J. Fettig
 Pvt. A. Fierro
 Pvt. B. L. Fisher
 Pfc. K. N. Frueh
 Pfc. L. T. Garrett
 Pvt. J. L. Garza
 Pvt. J. R. Garza
 Pvt. G. L. Gomez
 Pvt. D. A. Goss
 Pvt. F. R. Guerra III
 Pvt. R. Guerrero
 Pvt. J. A. Henderson
 Pvt. R. M. Herrera
 Pvt. M. R. Holguin
 Pfc. N. E. Houser
 Pfc. D. L. Hubbard
 Pvt. J. O. James
 Pvt. T. Jeter
 Pvt. Z. A. Johns
 *Pfc. T. P. Joy
 Pvt. J. Juarez
 Pvt. W. E. Langen-Heder
 Pvt. F. Lazaro
 Pfc. D. L. Marquez-Lino
 Pfc. R. A. McRae

PLATOON 3211
 Pvt. A. M. Montoya
 Pvt. C. M. Mortell
 *Pfc. N. H. Muck
 Pvt. O. M. Munoz-Salinas
 Pfc. C. J. Myers II
 Pvt. B. G. Nunez
 Pfc. T. E. Olinger
 Pvt. R. X. Ortega
 Pfc. D. G. Oxborrow
 Pvt. P. P. Panzica
 Pvt. A. T. Parkinson
 Pfc. T. C. Partanen
 Pvt. J. D. Patzer
 Pvt. A. S. Pena
 Pfc. M. A. Perez
 Pvt. H. T. Perrigue
 Pfc. J. D. Perrin
 Pvt. M. E. Phipps
 Pvt. J. M. Quintana
 Pvt. E. Quiroz
 Pvt. C. A. Reyes

Pvt. M. D. Roberts II
 Pvt. J. M. Robertson
 Pvt. F. Rocha Jr.
 Pvt. A. Rosario
 Pvt. R. M. Russell Jr.
 Pvt. G. J. Salazar III
 Pfc. A. A. Salazar
 Pfc. T. J. Shriver
 Pfc. E. Solis
 *Pfc. J. S. Soule
 Pvt. S. D. Stark
 Pfc. W. M. Stephan
 Pvt. D. W. Strawn
 *Pfc. M. D. Thorman
 Pvt. J. L. Trinidad
 Pvt. P. Vang
 Pfc. G. G. Vasser
 Pvt. D. A. Vega
 Pvt. C. W. Watson
 Pvt. K. S. Weiman
 Pvt. T. D. Wilcox
 Pvt. J. N. Williams
 Pvt. P. B. Wilson
 Pvt. E. X. Xia
 Pvt. R. A. Yanez
 Pfc. R. L. Young
 Pfc. J. Yun
 Pvt. B. J. Zeeh

PLATOON 3213
 *Pfc. B. C. Anderson
 *Pfc. D. T. Appodaca
 Pvt. A. Z. Berreto
 Pvt. N. P. Blanker
 Pvt. A. P. Bonilla
 Pvt. A. T. Carbajal
 Pfc. N. L. Carrion
 Pfc. A. D. Daley
 Pvt. D. F. Garcia
 Pvt. M. F. Gertler
 Pfc. M. H. Goff
 Pfc. E. Gonzalez
 Pvt. J. R. Green
 Pvt. A. Guillen
 Pvt. N. K. Hallak
 Pvt. A. K. Hanson
 Pvt. J. D. Haro
 Pvt. W. S. Hawkins IV
 Pvt. A. D. Holman
 Pvt. J. M. Jerome
 Pfc. T. S. Johnson
 Pvt. A. J. Lee
 Pvt. C. Lee
 Pvt. J. Leyvajunior
 Pvt. B. H. Li
 Pvt. J. L. Maclin
 Pvt. T. D. Marley
 Pvt. A. Marquez
 Pvt. O. Marquez
 Pvt. R. Martin

Pfc. T. Martin
 Pvt. M. Martinez II
 *Pfc. J. R. McCarthy
 Pvt. L. W. Medford
 Pvt. J. R. Miller
 Pfc. D. Min
 Pvt. D. S. Nunez
 Pvt. E. P. Pierson
 Pfc. J. D. Respicio
 Pvt. I. Rodriguez
 Pvt. R. Saldana
 Pvt. J. Sanchez
 Pvt. V. Sanchez
 Pfc. J. A. Saoit
 Pfc. D. A. Sawyer
 Pvt. D. J. Soto
 Pvt. J. M. Spishak
 Pvt. M. A. Surgeson

PLATOON 3214
 Pvt. L. T. Adcock
 Pvt. C. Aguilar
 Pvt. M. A. Ahumada
 *Pfc. R. P. Aranda
 Pvt. D. B. Archuleta
 Pvt. I. F. Arias
 Pvt. B. A. Barron
 Pfc. J. C. Best
 Pfc. D. L. Bickel
 Pvt. E. G. Bulfer III
 Pvt. E. J. Burgos
 Pfc. E. I. Calderon
 *Pfc. B. S. Chelf
 Pfc. M. O. Clark
 Pvt. A. D. Cook
 Pvt. M. T. Cook
 Pfc. C. J. Court
 Pvt. J. T. Dailey Jr.
 Pfc. S. D. Dalgardno
 Pvt. R. Davila Jr.
 Pvt. R. R. Duran
 Pvt. C. M. Fagan
 Pvt. J. R. Falcon
 Pfc. C. A. Fish
 Pfc. G. S. Fly
 Pvt. S. P. Freeman
 Pfc. E. M. French
 Pvt. B. J. Gaddis
 Pfc. C. E. Garcia
 Pvt. R. R. Garcia
 Pvt. I. Garcia-Jimenez
 Pvt. D. M. Garnica-Casino
 Pvt. C. M. Gillispie
 Pvt. S. A. Glasco
 Pvt. R. Gonzalez
 Pvt. I. Gorodisteanu
 Pfc. J. Guerrero Jr.
 Pfc. T. R. Haueter
 Pvt. A. W. Hawkins
 *Pfc. C. J. Hawkins

Pvt. E. Hernandez
 Pvt. E. L. Hernandez III
 Pvt. V. M. Herrera Jr.
 Pfc. S. M. Hilton
 *Pfc. J. K. Hopkins
 Pvt. A. D. Horton
 Pvt. K. A. Houser
 Pvt. B. H. Janisch
 Pfc. B. Jarquin

PLATOON 3215
 Pfc. D. D. Austell
 Pvt. W. T. Bagwell
 Pvt. J. K. Barnes
 Pvt. W. K. Cook
 Pvt. C. J. Coppola
 Pvt. C. E. Dirks
 Pfc. C. J. Gunther
 Pfc. M. M. Laffin
 Pfc. C. A. Lewonowski
 Pvt. C. C. Madden
 Pvt. K. D. Maliszewski
 Pvt. G. A. Mancinas
 Pfc. A. A. Martinez Jr.
 Pvt. G. Martinez
 Pvt. A. M. Matney
 Pvt. A. L. McCarver
 Pvt. J. K. McDaniel
 Pfc. J. K. McGrath
 Pvt. A. B. McMullen
 Pvt. A. D. Medina
 *Pfc. H. A. Mendoza
 *Pfc. D. I. Moore
 Pvt. J. Moreno-Ramos
 Pfc. S. E. Morris
 Pvt. J. T. Mueller
 Pvt. A. R. Mungia
 Pvt. R. P. Noreen
 Pvt. J. W. Orth
 Pvt. D. L. Peterson
 Pfc. J. R. Quiles
 Pvt. J. C. Ramirez
 Pvt. J. G. Ramirez
 Pfc. J. L. Ramirez
 Pvt. S. J. Ramos
 Pfc. R. M. Riehl
 Pfc. J. C. Rios
 Pvt. D. L. Ritter
 Pvt. R. A. Roark
 Pvt. J. C. Rodriguez Jr.
 *Pfc. J. B. Rogers
 Pvt. M. T. Rugo
 Pvt. J. M. Ruiz
 Pfc. C. W. Vo
 Pfc. J. L. Zaruba



Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, practice the kneeling position during Grass Week at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Feb. 19.

Recruits learn fundamentals of marksmanship

STORY & PHOTOS BY
CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS
Chevron staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, Calif.

—“Our Corps, our culture has as its very basis, marksmanship skills—the ability to perform with a rifle. If you can’t shoot, you are not going to become a Marine,” said Gen. James T. Conway, 34th Commandant of the Marine Corps.

Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion,

were taught the fundamentals of marksmanship at Edson Range, Feb. 19.

Marksmanship fundamentals are taught during the second phase of recruit training. Second phase is where Marines learn their primary tradecraft—being a rifleman.

“Marksmanship is the backbone of the Marine Corps,” said Sgt. Natividad Silva, primary marksmanship instructor, Weapons and Field Training Battalion. “The way we focus and train the recruits, it’s not

just a job. For us it’s more than that, it’s about ensuring the individual learns and understands the fundamentals of marksmanship.”

While in second phase, Marines learn to shoot in different positions; sitting, kneeling, standing and prone. Marines also learn to shoot at distances of 200, 300 and 500 yards. Marines spend a week learning the fundamentals while the second week is spent shooting live fire practice. The last days are used as qualification days.

Edson Range has some celebrity notoriety. The range is where former Marines have earned their rifle qualifications including Drew Carey.

After recruit training and depending on their Military Occupational Specialty, Marines can attend more advanced marksmanship courses including designated marksman course and scout sniper course.

To attend these courses, Marines must be expert shooters and selected by their units.

“‘One shot, one kill’ most resonates with me,” said Silva. “If you don’t hit the enemy with the first shot, you have given away your position.”

Marine Corps marksmanship schools have become highly regarded because of the high attrition rates and the level of skill developed by graduates. Many allied countries send their best service members to cross train and earn the designation of scout sniper from the Marine Corps school. Graduates of the school are synonymous with long range accuracy including hitting targets at distances of more than 1,000 yards.

“That is what we are known for, our marksmanship; it is our tradition,” said Sgt. Johnny R. Moore, drill instructor, Platoon 2175. “We have to be accurate

with our ability to shoot from distances of 500 yards or more.”

One legendary sniper in particular was Gunnery Sgt. Carlos Hathcock. Hathcock was said to have shot an enemy sniper through the enemy’s own rifle scope. During his time in the Vietnam War, Hathcock had 93 confirmed kills, which stands as the most by a scout sniper in Marine Corps history; he was also a major developer of the scout sniper program.

For recruits, qualification is a graduation requirement. Recruits who fail to qualify must remediate or risk being dropped to the next graduating company.

Recruits of Co. H have learned the fundamentals of marksmanship and following graduation, they will attend either Marine Combat Training or Infantry Training Battalion at Camp Pendleton where they will learn to further improve their marksmanship skills.



Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, apply what they have learned from their marksmanship class during Grass Week at Edson Range, Feb. 19.



Recruits of Company H, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, practice the standing position during Grass Week at Edson Range, Feb. 19. Recruits aim and dry fire at the barrels with targets painted on it to simulate marksmanship qualification.