

Private First Class Julian Lara of Kilo Company is this week's Honor Graduate Pg 2

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO



AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

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TOP STORY FUNDAMENTALS OF MARKSMANSHIP

Echo Co puts their sights on rifle qualification

STORY & PHOTO BY
LANCE CPL. ANGELICA ANNASTAS
Chevron staff

‘Every Marine a rifleman,’ is a quote that becomes something recruits live by while attending recruit training, and by the time they graduate, they understand the meaning of that philosophy. Regardless of military occupational specialty, every Marine must be competent with the weapon.

The importance of the weapon is stressed from Training Day 1, and the recruits of Echo Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, spent the week learning the fundamentals of Marine Corps marksmanship during Grass Week at Edson Range, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 9.



The preparation and work during grass week ensures recruits are set to successfully apply all the fundamentals they learn the following week when they conduct the live-fire qualification.

“It’s more of an introduction to using their rifles,” said Sgt. Joseph O. Sanchez, drill instructor, Echo Company. “They learn more about safety handling for the weapon system as well, which is what they’ve been learning since

Phase 1.” Primary marksmanship instructors, Marines with specialized training in weapons instruction, are there to teach the recruits about the different fundamentals required to qualify with the rifle. Topics taught include breathing control, trigger control and proper grips, to name a few. Before conducting the live fire with their rifles for the first time, recruits must first learn the different firing positions used at each stage of fire.

It is during these classes when recruits learned how to properly use the standing, kneeling, sitting and prone firing positions. Rifle qualification is not something that ends at recruit training, but instead is part of the Marines’ annual training, so it is important the foundation is built correctly now.

Grass week is the time for recruits to develop muscle memory in the various firing positions. Many times, the positions can feel uncomfortable or unnatural to shooters, so the more time they spend in the positions, the more successful they are while firing.

see RIFLE ▶ 2

Recruit Elvis P. Nguyen, Echo Company, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, practices the kneeling position during Grass Week at Edson Range, Weapons and Field Training Battalion, Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 9. The recruits spent one week learning about the different fundamentals of firing.



BRIEFS

Gate 4 closure

Gate 4 is closed to all vehicular and pedestrian traffic until construction is completed in December.

During Gate 4 renovation, operating hours of Gates 2 and 5 will be as follows:

Gate 2:

Open 5 a.m. to 10 p.m. seven days a week

Gate 5:

Open 24 hours

New Marine Family Meet & Greet

The depot hosts a New Marine Family Meet and Greet each Wednesday prior to graduation from 5 to 8 p.m., at the Bay View Restaurant.

This is a chance for families to meet other new Marine families and depot drill instructors. The event price of \$21.95 per person entitles the purchaser to a steak or chicken dinner. Dinner service starts at 6 p.m.

For information and reservations go to www.mcrdmeetandgreet.eventbrite.com or call (619) 725-6388.

CG’s Welcome Aboard

The CG will host his quarterly Welcome Aboard brief Tuesday, Sept. 22, from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m. in Bldg. 14. The brief is required for all new active duty personnel and open to spouses and other family members. For more information or to register, contact Perlita Rodriguez at (619) 524-5732.

EFMP and 504 Clinic

The EFMP will host an IEP and 504 clinic on Wednesday, Sept. 23, from 8 a.m. to 3 p.m. in Bldg. 7. This clinic is for families that are already enrolled, or who are in the enrollment process, that need specific information regarding their children’s IEP or

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.

504 or that would like to speak with an EFMP attorney. Registration is required and can be submitted by calling (619) 718-3764.

Education Brief

There will be a FAFSA training on Wednesday, Sept. 23 from 9 to 10:30 a.m. at the depot’s Education Center. Topics covered will be financial aid, grants and qualifications. To register for the training, call (619) 524-1275.

Brown Bag Lunch Seminar

There will be a financial seminar Friday, Sept. 25 from 11:30 a.m. to 1 p.m. at Bldg. 14. The seminar will teach how to become a successful investor. Light refreshments will be provided and registration can be submitted by calling Mike McIsaac at (619) 524-5728.

Boot Camp Challenge

The depot’s annual 3-mile obstacle run, the Boot Camp Challenge, pits Marines and civilians against an obstacle course featuring obstacles faced by recruits during training.

The event is scheduled for Sept. 26. at 9 a.m. Runners will be encouraged by depot drill instructors along the way.

Cost to register and participate in the event is:

- \$39 for individual runners
- \$117 for a 3-person team
- \$195 for a 5-person team
- \$45 per person at the gate on Boot Camp Challenge day.

For registration and information go to www.BootCampChallenge.com.

Octoberfest at the Cellar

The Cellar will be hosting an Octoberfest dinner and beer sampling on Friday, Sept. 25, from 5 to 8 p.m. Tickets are \$5 for advance and \$7 at the door and can be purchased at the Cellar.

PRIVATE FIRST CLASS LARA HEARD THE CALLING LONG BEFORE HE ANSWERED....

STORY & PHOTO BY
CPL. TYLER VIGLIONE
Chevron staff

In today's society where money rules and patriotism often fades in and out, many people choose the call that leads to a pot of gold instead of service to their country. However, one Marine decided to leave his career behind to answer a call that he first heard many years ago.

Private First Class Julian J. Lara, Kilo Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, worked as a pharmacist for several years, but made the decision to pursue his dream of being a Marine.

Lara grew up in Chicago and attended Morton West High School where he competed in football and wrestling while maintaining a place on the honor roll.

"When high school was coming to an end, I really was interested in the military," said Lara. "My situation made it tough for me to be able to pursue the military because my family wasn't exactly financially stable."

Through the assistance of grants and other loans that helped to pay for tuition at University of Illinois

at Chicago he was able to begin his path of achieving a degree as a biological scientist and in chemistry.

"I chose the biological science major because at the time, the health care market was booming," said Lara. "There were so many opportunities that paid well after I graduated."

As Lara progressed through school, he described it as difficult and very busy.

"I remember all of the late nights I spent studying and not getting any sleep," said Lara. "I knew it would be worth it when it was all over."

He worked as a technician at Bienestar Pharmacy to earn extra income while he attended classes. There he assisted the pharmacist with filling prescriptions and completing any required tasks.

In 2013, Lara graduated from the university and received his degree. He continued with his career after he graduated, but never felt like it was what he was really passionate about or that it wasn't what he really wanted to do for a living.

"I made a good income where I worked," said Lara. "I saved up a lot of money and supported my brother while he was going through school."

His displeasure with his career began when he realized the health care field wasn't exactly what he expected.

"It felt like people were in it for just the money," said Lara. "I chose it because I want to help people. I realized a lot of people didn't really care about the patients or the customers but just really cared about their pay check."

Eventually, Lara resigned from his job at the pharmacy and worked for a cable company before making the decision to change his life.

"I felt like it was a good point in my life to do something different," said Lara. "My brother was able to support himself as well as my family, and I needed a break from the healthcare market."

Lara thought back to when he was in high school and remembered what he really wanted to do and that was to become a Marine.

"The Marines have always been something I



Private First Class Julian J. Lara, Kilo Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, decides how he will slide a casualty onto a stretcher during the Crucible at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 9. Each challenge in the course requires recruits to plan and execute actions themselves with no guidance from the drill instructors and enables them to put leadership at the small-unit level in action.



Recruit Julian J. Lara, Kilo Company, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, maneuvers through a tunnel during the Leadership Reaction Course at Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., Sept. 9. Following graduation, Lara will attend the School of Infantry for Marine Combat Training in Camp Pendleton, Calif., and then begin his training in aviation electronics.

RIFLE ◀ 1

If the recruits needed any assistance settling into stable firing positions, the PMIs are there to help them become more comfortable and confident in themselves and their weapons while firing.

For many of the recruits, firing the weapon is new and snapping in is the first time they are able to apply the fundamentals of marksmanship. During snapping in, the recruits sight in on a barrel with painted targets. The painted targets simulate what the recruits saw from the 200, 300 and 500-yard line. Snapping in is a good drill for the recruits to begin their training, especially for the ones who had no idea how to handle their weapon or use it properly.

"Grass week is an imperative part of training for the recruits because it gives them a foundation to build on," said Sanchez, a native of Hollister, Calif. "The instructors want the recruits to be as successful as

they can be while firing. They are all striving to reach expert, which is the highest award to reach."

Whether it be helping each other during breaks between classes or when they get back to the squad bay, the recruits learned to work together to try and master the firing positions.

"Everything is so new to me, but that's what makes it my favorite part of Grass Week," said Recruit Benjamin A. Flores, Echo Company. "I like learning the different positions that we're going to be firing in next week."

Without Grass Week, recruits wouldn't have the proper preparation to be successful during firing week.

"I think the best part is finally being able to shoot next week," said Recruit Reuben T. Ofoia, Echo Company. "It'll be the first time shooting for me, too."

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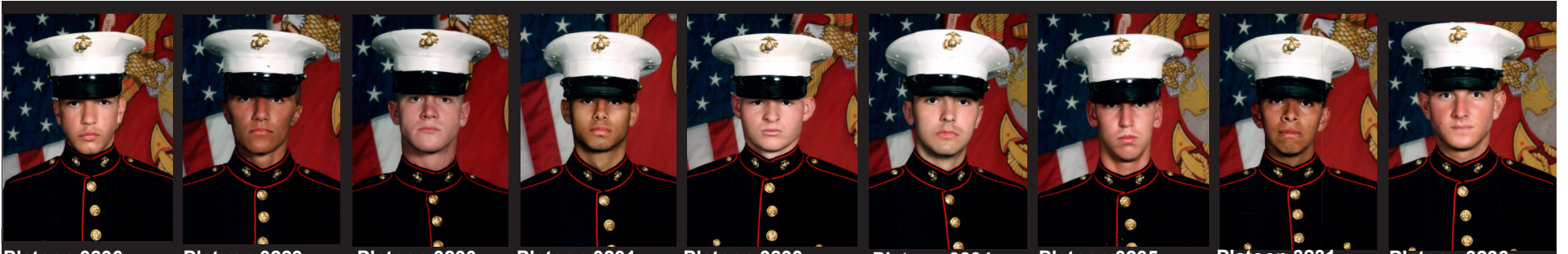
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EDITOR
GUNNERY SGT. JENNIFER M. ANTOINE

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

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Battalion Drill Master

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* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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Pfc. N. V. Moultrie	Pvt. M. P. Terry	Pvt. D. E. Erofeef	Pvt. J. C. Schouten	Pfc. D. M. English	Pfc. J. T. Norsworthy
Pvt. J. R. Murphy	Pvt. J. D. Thomas	Pfc. K. A. Gamueda	Pfc. D. D. Sharma	Pfc.* D. D. Flores Jr.	Pvt. R. J. Rhone
Pfc. A. D. Olivarrimartinez	Pvt. E. A. Torres	Pfc. A. Garcia	Pfc. C. J. Slayden	Pfc. D. Flores	Pfc. H. Rios
Pfc. I. J. Olivias	Pfc. D. B. Tumaquip	Pfc. R. Garcia Jr	Pfc. F. R. Smith	Pvt. V. R. Garcia	Pvt. T. D. Roy
Pvt. G. Onofre	Pvt. M. A. Valenzuela	Pfc. E. A. Goldsberry	Pfc. A. E. Snarr	Lance Cpl.* T. J. Garska	Pfc. D. P. Russell
Pvt. X. A. Ornelas	Pfc. P. Vasquez Iii	Pfc. K. D. Gray	Pfc.* T. N. Stabb	Pfc. A. J. Garza	Pfc. A. J. Salazar
Pfc. D. J. Oroasco	Pvt. L. R. Walker	Pfc. H. B. Griffith	Pfc. T. A. Stewart	Pvt. K. E. Gawf	Pfc. A. M. Salinas
Pvt. M. J. Orozco	Pfc.* M. D. Wheeler	Pfc. J. A. Guzmanulloa	Pfc. A. J. Stone	Pvt. R. F. Gilliam	Pfc. C. R. Sanders
Pvt. D. C. Palacios	Pvt. C. H. Williams	Pfc. B. F. Hatch	Pfc.* S. M. Sumner	Pfc. F. Govea	Pfc. G. M. Santistevan
Pfc. T. D. Parker	Pvt. M. A. Zambranomontoya	Pvt. K. J. Hayward	Pfc. J. N. Taylor	Pvt. E. P. Grado	Pvt. H. H. Schmaltz
Pvt. G. R. Parra Jr.	Pvt. B. A. Zavala	Pfc.* N. R. Howe	Pvt. L. A. Tinocotoreewcillas	Pvt. D. D. Guidry	Pfc.* T. L. Scott
Pfc. J. D. Paul		Pfc. J. W. Hughes	Pvt. T. C. Trudeau	Pvt. K. L. Hammack	Pfc. N. T. Stewart
Pvt. D. M. Pedraza	Platoon 3235	Pfc. J. E. Irizarry	Pfc. E. R. Tulp	Pfc.* K. M. Harlow	Pfc. M. E. Tabaha
Pvt. D. K. Peralta	Pfc.* N. R. Adams	Pvt. C. R. Johnson	Pfc. P. J. Villapando	Pvt. K. E. Hartz	Pfc. I. R. Tatum
Pvt. S. J. Peregoy	Pvt. A. C. Almonte	Pvt. T. M. Killborn	Pvt. A. B. Walker	Pfc. J. Y. Herman	Pvt. Z. J. Teter
Pfc. D. L. Peters	Pfc.* C. R. Anderson	Pfc. P. J. Kimball	Pfc. B. L. Weeks	Pvt. D. Hernandez	Pvt. B. K. Thompson
Pfc.* P. E. Peterson	Pvt. M. L. Anderson	Pvt. S. D. Lapore	Pfc. M. H. Welch	Pvt. S. T. Higby	Pfc. D. T. Tinney
Pvt. S. Phuyal	Pfc. W.I. Anderson	Pvt. S. C. Leclair		Pfc. C. M. Hilt	Pfc.* J. L. Torrance
Pvt. A. E. Pineda	Pvt. M. T. Andreasen	Pfc. C. A. Mario		Pvt. K. M. Hinson	Pvt. C. T. Trahan
Pfc. P. M. Rainey	Pvt. B. L. Anger	Pvt. J. Marroquin		Pvt. T. E. Holt	Pvt. E. T. Utley
Pvt. B. C. Raminpierce	Pvt. T. M. Atkinson	Pfc. I. A. May		Pvt. I. T. Holt	Pvt. R. Vasquezsaucedo
Pvt. O. B. Ray	Pvt. J. R. Baals	Pvt. B. R. Mayer		Pvt. T. M. Jelks	Pfc. A. J. Viator
Pvt. D. A. Rea	Pvt. T. M. Besic	Pvt. N. L. McMahon		Pvt. C. J. Large	Pfc. E. R. Wald
Pvt. M.a. Reid	Pfc. P. W. Bidding	Pvt. R. A. Nagai		Pvt. T. Lee	Pvt. C. R. Watson
Pvt. O. Reyesramirez	Pfc. D. J. Boyce	Pvt. D. T. New		Pfc. B. W. Lemke	Pfc. X. M. Welker
Pvt. M. J. Reid	Pfc. J. F. Brillhart	Pfc. V. B. Nguyen		Pfc. S. R. Maddoxwilhelm	Pvt. B. D. Wentworth Jr.
Pvt. E. J. Rios				Pfc. C. Marentez	Pvt. S. P. Young

September = National Preparedness Month!!

Earthquakes can bring mild to violent shaking and can occur anytime, anywhere. This guide can help you protect yourself, your family, and your property before, during, and after an earthquake.

The first phase is preparing for the emergency.

- Secure items that might fall and cause injuries (e.g., bookshelves, mirrors, light fixtures).
- Practice how to drop, cover and hold on by participating in a shake out earthquake drill (www.ShakeOut.org).
- Store critical supplies and documents.
- Plan how you will communicate with family members.

The next phase is actions taken during an earthquake. As soon as the shaking begins, you should:

- DROP down onto your hands and knees so the earthquake doesn't knock you down.
- COVER your head and neck with your arms to protect yourself from falling debris. If you are in danger from falling objects, and you can move

safely, crawl to a safer place or seek cover (e.g., under a desk or table).

- HOLD ON to any sturdy covering so you can move with it until the shaking stops.

The last phase is the recovery after the shaking stops. Remember, before you move, look around for things that might fall or for dangerous debris on the ground.

- If you are in a damaged building and there is a safe way out through the debris, leave and go to an open space outside, away from damaged areas.
- If you are trapped, do not move about or kick up dust.
- If you have a cell phone with you, use it to call or text for help.
- Tap on a pipe or wall or use a whistle, if you have one, so that rescuers can locate you.
- Once safe, monitor local news reports (e.g., radio, TV, social media, and cell phone text alerts), for emergency information and instructions.

For more information visit America's Prepare-A-thon www.ready.gov/prepare or Ready Campaign, www.ready.gov/earthquake

Silent overwatch: JGSDF, Marine snipers fire during Forest Light 16-1

STORY & PHOTO BY
CPL. DEVON TINDLE
III MEF Staff

CAMP IMAZU, TAKASHIMA, Japan -- Japan Ground Self-Defense Force members and U.S. Marines fired sniper rifles and practiced stalking techniques during Forest Light 16-1 at Camp Imazu, Takashima, Japan, Sept. 9-11, 2015.

Forest Light is a semiannual, bilateral exercise consisting of a command post exercise and multiple field-training events, conducted by elements of III Marine

Expeditionary Force and the JGSDF.

During the training, the JGSDF learned from the Marines about concealment and stalking, according to JGSDF Sgt. Akito Yagi, a sniper with 50th Infantry Regiment, 14th Brigade.

"We learned a lot from the USMC, and we are grateful for the generosity they show towards us," said Yagi. "They came here and showed us more in depth about how to conceal ourselves, how to get closer to the enemy by stalking a target, and breath control for long distance shots on the range."



Lance Cpl. Kyle Frey fires his M40 Sniper Rifle at the 800-meter firing line during Forest Light 16-1 at Camp Imazu, Takashima, Japan, Sept. 11, 2015. The Marines fired at the 400, 600 and 800-meter firing line. Forest Light is a semiannual, bilateral exercise consisting of a command post exercise and multiple field training events, conducted by elements of III Marine Expeditionary Force and the JGSDF. Frey from Elverson, Pennsylvania, is a sniper with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.



Navy Petty Officer 3rd Class Deven Lewis runs across a clearing while participating in stalking drills during Forest Light 16-1 at Camp Imazu, Takashima, Japan, Sept. 10, 2015. The Marines sat up on a high embankment, trying to catch Lewis stalking the target with binoculars. Forest Light is a semiannual, bilateral exercise consisting of a command post exercise and multiple field training events, conducted by elements of III Marine Expeditionary Force and the JGSDF. Lewis from Idaho Falls, Idaho, is a hospital corpsman with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

Coming to other countries helps the sniper unit become familiar with how other countries perform sniper techniques, according to Lance Cpl. Kyle Frey, a sniper with 1st Battalion, 2nd Marine Regiment, currently assigned to 4th Marine Regiment, 3rd Marine Division, III Marine Expeditionary Force.

"There is always room to advance, so learning from other people and how they conduct training is a huge benefit to us

and our training," said Frey.

Friendships have been made between the snipers of both countries, according to Frey.

"Coming out to the range is always fun, the JGSDF are very proficient at how they shoot, and we got to shoot beside them and have a little bit of a friendly competition," said Frey. "It's been really fun, and I hope I get to come back and train with such great people again."