



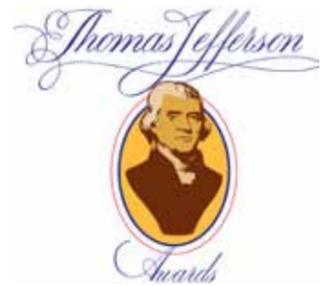
**Co. I recruits demonstrate combat fitness with CFT**

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MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

# CHEVRON

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION



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“WHERE MARINES ARE MADE”

FRIDAY, AUGUST 9, 2013

## Co. E receives IED training during Crucible

Story and photos by Lance Cpl. Pedro Cardenas Chevron staff

MARINE CORPS BASE CAMP PENDLETON, CALIF. -- During the recent war in Afghanistan, American troops suffered losses from Improvised Explosive Devices. IED awareness training has become an essential tool in every Marine's repertoire.

Recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, patrolled through IED Lane during the Crucible at Edson Range July 30.

The purpose of this exercise is to teach recruits ways to spot IEDs. Every skill is polished upon a foundation and recruit training is where it all begins, explained Staff Sgt. Michael H. Wampler, senior drill instructor, Platoon 2111.

“The most important lesson is to always be alert and aware of your surroundings. IEDs are the biggest killer of Marines in the combat zone,” said Wampler.

Recruits begin IED lane by patrolling on a dirt road. As they move through the road, recruits must be aware of their surroundings and attempt to spot possible signs of devices in the area.

“It was a big eye opener and a sobering moment knowing that if we are not aware people can get hurt,” said Recruit David R. Capron.

Part of the course is to test and see how recruits react to an IED explosion. Instructors detonate a



see IED ▶ 2

Recruits of Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, lay down as simulated casualties during the Improvised Explosive Device Lane at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., July 30. The simulated casualties need to be evacuated and given first aid by other members of the squad.

## Chokes and counters give recruits weapons for combat

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

Chokes, counter strikes and knife techniques were all taught to recruits of Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, during a Marine Corps Martial Arts Program class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 22.

During an approximately two-hour class, recruits watched drill instructors demonstrate how to execute the figure four choke and

rear choke before practicing the techniques on fellow recruits.

The two chokes are both applied from behind the opponent. While both chokes use the fore arm and bicep to squeeze the neck, the difference is the rear choke uses a two handed grasp while figure four choke secures the choke with two hands around the neck.

These techniques are taught to give recruits the tools necessary to defend themselves and attack an enemy in close quarter combat.

“I feel confident I could use it in combat and it would be one of the first moves used,” said Recruit Jakob L. Castaneda, Platoon, 1009. “You can do the figure-four choke quickly, it's simple and easy.”

Sgt. Tim S. Bazua, drill instructor, said he believes it is an easy move to do and is an important one for recruits to learn.

“Learning a move like this gives them confidence and they need it should it come down to

see CHOKES ▶ 2



Recruits from Company A, 1st Recruit Training Battalion, are shown how to perform the figure four choke during a Marine Corps Martial Arts class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 22. Recruits also learned the figure four choke and combat knife techniques.



(left to right) Jim Guerin, board president, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum Historical Society, Staff Sgt. Manuel A. Latino, Sgt. Talon M. Moss, Cpl. Harry Fairman, Headquarters and Service Battalion, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego and Col. Michael J. Lee, chief of staff, MCRD San Diego and Western Recruiting Region stand together after the Col. Nate Smith Memorial Scholarship Award was awarded to Latino, Moss and Fairman aboard MCRD San Diego July 23.

## Annual Scholarships awarded

STORY & PHOTO BY CPL. WALTER D. MARINO II Chevron staff

The Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum Historical Society presented three Marines with the Col. Nate Smith Memorial Scholarship Award during a quarterly breakfast, aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego July 23.

This year's recipients were Staff Sgt. Manuel A. Latino, Sgt. Talon M. Moss, and Cpl. Harry Fairman, Headquarters and Service Battalion, MCRD San Diego.

Active duty Marines, Sailors and their dependents cur-

rently assigned to MCRD San Diego or the Western Recruit Region are eligible for the scholarship.

The scholarship is named after Col. Nate Smith, a World War II veteran, Bronze Star recipient and former Historical Society Member. Smith promoted education as a means to improve oneself as a Marine and a citizen.

There were many applicants for the \$1,000 scholarship. Lynn A. Stuart, executive director, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Museum Historical Society, explained that they are all thoroughly screen

see SCHOLAR ▶ 2



**Recruits assess the situation after a simulated Improvised Explosive Device pops white smoke to signal its explosion during a patrol on IED Lane during the Crucible at Edson Range aboard Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., July 30. The training is designed to give recruits a combat-like scenario involving an IED attack from the enemy.**

#### IED ◀ 1

simulated roadside bomb once recruits are near the device.

When the IED is activated, recruits are sprayed with a white powder used to imitate a detonation blast. Recruits covered in the powder are considered casualties and ordered to stay down. The rest of the team then must evacuate the injured and provide security. Once evacuated, victims are provided first aid.

Instructors gather recruits in a school circle to discuss the squad's performance. They are also given the opportunity to ask instructors questions. They both analyze what was done correctly and the areas in need of improvement.

"More exposure and knowledge in the subject is needed but this basic training is a good foundation for future learning experiences," said Capron.

At the end of the patrol, recruits are

shown characteristics of commonly used IEDs including initiator, charge types, detonators and battery sources.

"We are fighting an unconventional enemy and more Marines are killed by IEDs than enemy fire," said Capron.

IED awareness and training helps to better prepare troops. For recruits of Co. E, this learning experience will be the foundation for follow on training as they continue their journey as Marines.



**Recruits practice execution of the rear choke during a Marine Corps Martial Arts class aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 22. Recruits were not allowed to conduct the choke longer than five seconds as a safety precaution.**

#### CHOKES ◀ 1

them not having their weapon," said Bazua.

As the class continued, recruits were also taught knife slashes such as the vertical slash and vertical thrust. Recruits picked up their rubber knives and repeatedly executed techniques with a proper combat stance and knife carry.

"This is very important training in the Marine Corps," said Recruit Marquis D.

Best. "They make me feel safe and comfortable because I know what I'm capable of doing."

By the end of the class, recruits had learned an arsenal of weapons that ranged from chokes to knife techniques. The underlying theme however, was that in close quarters combat anything from a knife to an elbow can be a weapon.

"Our motto is, 'One mind any weapon,'" said Bazua, referring to the MCMAP motto.

Bazua explained it means that anything can be a weapon and a Marine should be able to use any part of their body as a weapon.

The knowledge learned during the MCMAP class increased the recruits' confidence to such an extent, some recruits couldn't imagine entering a combat zone without it.

"I wouldn't feel comfortable or ready going into combat with only my prior knowledge to help me," said Castaneda.

#### SCHOLAR ◀ 1

screened to find the most in need and best qualified.

The scholarships are awarded based on academic performance and extracurricular activities and future potential, explained Stuart and the scholarship fund is supported by donations and contributions to the society as well as contributions from the Smith family.

"I'm really grateful of Col. Nate Smith's family for continuing to take care of Marines," said Moss. "This will help me in the sense I can take another class and won't have to fully rely on tuition assistance. It's really nice to have something like this.

You can use your G.I Bill, but who wants to use it when you're a careerist and you can pass it on to your kids."

Moss has a 3.67 grade point average, over 60 credits and his goal is to earn a Bachelor's Degree in Logistics.

The scholarship, which is formed in Smith's honor is open to both Marines and those who wish to move on to other careers.

"He very much encouraged education for Marines whether they stayed in or not," said Stuart.

Fairman, who is a first-term Marine, explained he wishes to attend the University of Houston after his enlistment in the Marine Corps.

"My tuition assistance is close to running out and the scholarship is going to help me afford another class and help with books," said Fairman.

Fairman said he is four classes away from earning his associate's degree and his ultimate goal is to earn master's degree in biology to become a physician assistant.

Whether working towards a full 20-years of military service or choosing to work one enlistment and move on to other goals, the annual Col. Nate Smith Memorial Scholarship is an aid to Marines, sailors and family members aboard MCRD San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region.

#### BRIEFS

##### Beach BBQ and Bonfire

The depot's Single Marine Program is hosting a Barbecue and Bonfire Sunday from noon until 9 p.m., on Breakers Beach, NAS North Island, Coronado.

The event is open to single Marines, sailors, and geographic bachelors.

For more information call Josh Davis (619) 524-8240 or e-mail at [davisjp@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:davisjp@usmc-mccs.org).

##### Manic Monday Workout

Grab everyone in your shop for this functional fitness workout.

This is a Semper Fit 101 Days of Summer event, so you'll earn points for your command for participating.

The workout will be held Monday 11:30 a.m., until 12:30 p.m., on the depot's Fieldhouse Lawn.

For more information contact the Fitness Center at (619) 524-4427.

##### Brown Bag Lunch Seminar

The depot hosts the next Brown Bag Lunch Seminar in the Personal & Professional Development Classroom, Building 14, from 11:30 a.m., until 1 p.m., Wednesday.

The title of the event is "Becoming a Successful Investor - Strategies & Techniques."

Light snacks and drinks will be provided.

Register at (619) 524-5728.

##### Feed the Homeless

The depot's Single Marine Program will help feed the homeless at Father Joe's Village, August 12 from 3:30 until 7 p.m.

This is the monthly Single Marine Program trip to FJV to support San Diego homeless community.

For information or to register, contact Josh Davis at (619) 524-8240 or via e-mail at [davisjp@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:davisjp@usmc-mccs.org).

##### CG Cup Basketball League

MCRD active duty and depot DoD/NAFI Employees get ready to hoop it up starting August 20.

Get your Section registered for the 2013 Commanding General's Cup Basketball League. The league will consist of a six week season and playoffs. Earn CG Cup points for participating and extra points for female participation.

For information or to register your team, contact Rachel Dickinson at [dickinsonr@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:dickinsonr@usmc-mccs.org), or call her at (619) 524-0548.

##### Barracks Bash

The Single Marine Program sponsors a Barracks Bash August 23, from 4 until 7 p.m., in the Duncan Hall Common Area. Single service members and geographic bachelors are welcome.

For information, check out the event on Facebook: <http://on.fb.me/185yNiM>.

##### MCRD Bowling League

It's back by popular demand. The MCRD Bowling League kicks off Wednesday, Sept. 18 from 4:30 to 7:30 at the Recreation Center.

Get your team registered today for this 12 week league.

For information, or to register, contact Brent Poser at Semper Fit ([poserb@usmc-mccs.org](mailto:poserb@usmc-mccs.org) or by calling (619) 524-8237.

##### Send briefs to:

[rdsd\\_pao@usmc.mil](mailto:rdsd_pao@usmc.mil). The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.

## Around the depot

This week the Chevron asks: "What are your Superbowl predictions?"



"It'll be the 49ers over the Patriots. The teams are basically the same. The chemistry of the 49ers is good. It will make for a good game." Lance Cpl. Vito V. Williams, Trumpet (band), Service Company, H & S Battalion



"I'll call the 49ers over the Broncos. The 49ers are as good as they were last year. The Broncos have been adding the missing pieces to be a successful team." Sgt. Ernesto Perez-Fondeur, NCOIC of the travel section, Service Company, H & S Battalion



"Cowboys over Washington. They're big rivals. Both have good coaches and every time they play it's a good game." Master Gunnery Sgt. Miguel T. Bridges, operations chief, Service Company, H & S Battalion

# Ragtop Show-off



Lance Cpl. Benjamin E. Woodle

Judy K. Spate poses next to her 1931 Ford Phaeton during the depot's annual Car and Motorcycle Show July 27. The depot hosts the auto show to promote camaraderie among car show enthusiasts and foster positive community relations.

## Running in San Diego



Pfc. Jericho Crutcher

Recruits with Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, run sprints aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 29. The recruits follow up their half-mile sprints with pull-ups and crunches.



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A recruit runs with ammunition cans during the Combat Fitness Test. The purpose of the ammunition can run is to simulate an ammunition resupply in a combat environment.



A recruit performs three pushups after throwing a dummy grenade during the Combat Fitness Test. The Maneuver Under Fire course consists of a sprint, low crawl, high crawl, buddy drag, fireman carry, ammunition can run, dummy grenade throw and push-ups.



A recruit fireman carries his partner during the Maneuver Under Fire portion of the Combat Fitness Test aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 25. Recruits must partner up with other recruits of similar weight to ensure every recruit is being tested evenly.



Recruits of Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, run an 800-meter sprint called the Movement to Contact during the Combat Fitness Test aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 25. Recruits who are 26 years old and below must complete the run in two-minutes and forty-five seconds for a perfect score. Recruits older than 26 must complete the run in two-minutes and fifty-one seconds to receive a perfect score.



Recruits perform ammunition can lifts during the Combat Fitness Test. Recruits who are 26 years old and below must complete 91 ammunition can lifts to receive a perfect score. Recruits older than 26 must complete 97 ammunition can lifts to receive a perfect score.



A recruit throws a dummy grenade during the Combat Fitness Test. The dummy grenade must land inside a square target 20-yards away to subtract five-seconds from their overall time of the Maneuver Under Fire portion of the CFT.

## Co. I recruits test endurance during final CFT

STORY AND PHOTOS BY  
LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN E.  
WOODLE  
Chevron staff

Recruits of Company I, 3rd Recruit Training Battalion, ran through the Combat Fitness Test aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 25.

The purpose of the CFT is to test Marines physical fitness and ensure they're ready for the arduous demands of combat operations.

Because of the immense physical toll taken during combat, it is critical to improve recruits' bodies. Training events during recruit training will prepare them for the physical demands, combat maneuvers and obstacles they may encounter. The CFT is one of the few events that can accomplish all at once.

"The CFT is a continuous strain on recruits that is physically demanding and also helps with conditioning," said Recruit

Clinton D. Turman, Platoon 3214. "It simulates combat environments and situations with the types of obstacles we must complete. Drill instructors add to it as well by staying on us, yelling and stressing us out to create that chaos situation."

The challenges that the recruits are confronted with during training will set them up for success in the future. Showing the recruits that they can push through the hardships of a training environment builds their confidence and will help recruits get through real combat situations.

"One of the challenges is when you hit complete physical exhaustion but have to have the mental strength to push your body, even when it's telling you to stop," said Turman, a Tyler, Texas native. "For me and the others, the eight-hundred meter sprint drains us the most, but then we have to go straight to the other events and give it our all

there as well."

Co. I recruits have practiced the CFT in segments but have not executed it all together for score. Throughout recruit training, drill instructors have slowly introduced the events to recruits so that they will be able to successfully navigate it during the final test.

"We started preparing recruits by having drill instructors go through the course in the first phase of recruit training to show them what we expect and then have them execute a sample of the course," said Staff Sgt. Andrew G. Rihn, drill instructor, Plt. 3214. "We practice a lot more when we move up north to Camp Pendleton during second phase and then when third phase hits we give the final test."

The CFT is now a part of a Marine's composite score, a score which determines if they will be promoted or not, which means Marines must complete the course for score every year.

Doing well on the CFT now adds both a combat and Marine Corps Fleet Marine Force benefit.

"It helps familiarize recruits with the standards of the Marine Corps," said Rihn, a Louisville, Ky. native. "Being physically fit will help recruits in their daily physical training and with promotions as well through the composite score."

Marines are known for their readiness and ability to quickly deploy to a combat situation anywhere in the world. This capability starts in recruit training and continues into the Fleet Marine Force. Whatever the call may be for, either combat or humanitarian effort, the Corps will be ready for it.

"Recruit training is about simulating and preparing us for a combat environment," said Turman. "The CFT is a great way for us to not only be prepared for that environment but also be physically ready to rapidly deploy to a real-life combat situation."



A recruit executes a low crawl during the Combat Fitness Test. The Maneuver Under Fire portion of the CFT requires recruits to complete various maneuvers throughout the course for a scored time.

# Marine finds new home in Corps

STORY & PHOTO BY  
LANCE CPL. BENJAMIN E. WOOL-  
DLE  
*Chevron staff*

Sleeping under the stars, eating one meal a day, constant yelling and screaming and continuous training. All of these are experiences one would consider to be just a part of Marine Corps recruit training. However, one new Marine endured these challenges prior to enlisting in the Corps.

Pvt. Sean D. Potgieter, Platoon 2113, Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, overcame many hardships while growing up with his family in St. Maarten, Grenada.

Potgieter was born as a twin in Gretna, Neb. At the early age of three, Potgieter and his twin brother took a trip to Grenada to visit his dad who owned a sports store there. It wasn't long after arriving that they would receive news that their mother had passed away. Because of this, Potgieter and his brother would end up staying in Grenada with their father.

Growing up in Grenada was not easy for Potgieter. When he had first arrived, his father did not own a house. After three years of living on the boat, his father purchased a house on the mainland of Grenada.

Potgieter struggled socially in high school with the other students. It was a cliché scene of most high school movies these days, he explained.

"High school was a challenge because all of the people there had their own types of cliques and only hung out with people in those groups so I was by myself a lot," said the 22-year-old. "I got picked on a lot when I got there. I would eat a lot of fruit and the kids thought I was weird because of it."

Potgieter continued to keep to himself and decided to focus on activities that interested him such as sports, sailing, and diving.

In 2004, Potgieter was vacationing in Vancouver, British Columbia when a hurricane hit and devastated Grenada. His family ended up staying in Vancouver for a year, and he enrolled in the local school. He thought he would get a fresh start but was mistaken.

"School there was also tough because they didn't like the fact that we were from Grenada," said Potgieter. "I guess we just had cultural differences that didn't

mesh well. I didn't find things funny that they did as well as the fact that I already had grown accustomed to keeping to myself."

After finishing the school year, Potgieter and his family returned to Grenada where he finished out the remaining years of high school.

During high school, Potgieter was working part-time at a sailing company as a tour guide. He enjoyed being out on the water and continued the job after school.

"After graduating high school I got my first full-time job sailing," said Potgieter. "I did about two years of that, just sailing tourists around the island and taking them to the underwater national park."

Though things were starting to look up, Potgieter's future would not be as smooth sailing. Gang violence was a major issue where he grew up. Due to this, many of his friends would unfortunately get caught in the violence and lose their life.

"It was a really difficult time for me in my life," said Potgieter. "These were good people who weren't affiliated with gangs at all."

Having to push forward, Potgieter wanted to occupy his mind more by trying out a different water career option by becoming a dive master. His brother, however, would take a different route to get away.

"During that time at my diving job, my brother left to visit my aunt in San Diego," said Potgieter. "He ended up staying and joined the Marine Corps. He graduated recruit training March 2010."

Being a twin brother, Potgieter had a special connection with his brother. They had endured many challenges together, but now his brother left to take on a different challenge of his own. Potgieter would unknowingly be drawn back to his brother in the future. But until then, Potgieter was left with only his dad and his new stepmom. Home life would become a rough adjustment.

With no one to turn to, Potgieter continued to keep himself busy and out of trouble by hunting, diving, sailing, or training on the national cycling team.

"There were good days and bad days, but more bad days," said Potgieter. "We didn't talk in that house much because everything ended up becoming an argument. I started to really withdraw from everything



**Pvt. Sean D. Potgieter, Platoon 2113, Company E, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, overcame many hardships while growing up with his family in Grenada. To keep himself out of trouble, Potgieter sailed, became a dive master, hunted and trained on the Grenada national cycling team.**

around me. I could feel when something bad was about to happen so I would just disappear."

Not having a place to go, Potgieter slept on his work boat and showered in the morning at his shop. His dad would eventually call and ask him to return home. When he arrived, he and his dad talked about what happened. He had always enjoyed talking to his dad.

After his father passed away, Potgieter needed to get away. He took a trip to visit his aunt and uncle on his mom's side of the family in Nebraska. When he returned, he had found that all of his belonging were moved into the basement cellar and was locked out of the main house, not allowing him access to the kitchen or showers.

"I lived on Ramen Noodles soaked in cold water," said Potgieter. "One meal a day, two if I was lucky I'd get one from work.

Sometimes I didn't even get food. Through all of this I was still doing my cycling training."

Potgieter had had enough and decided to go back to Nebraska to live with family there. He had four days to pack and leave.

"That wasn't enough time to organize my stuff," said Potgieter. "Still to this day I have my items and my fishing boat over there that I'm trying to sell or get back."

Back in Nebraska with his aunt and uncle, Potgieter had only one thought on his mind, joining the Marine Corps.

"My twin brother is in the Marine Corps, and we're very competitive," said Potgieter. "If he can do it why can't I?"

Within a week of being back in America, Potgieter received a call from a recruiter stating they had gotten his request for information and wanted to talk to him. It took a couple months because of a hold up with his

medical files, but Potgieter was going to Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego for training.

Gunnery Sgt. Guido F. Guerrero, senior drill instructor, said that because of his hardships, Potgieter is more prepared than others to endure the challenges of recruit training.

"It makes sense the way he carries himself," said Guerrero. "Nothing here is fazing him. He has a bed to sleep on, getting fed three meals a day and showers every night."

Potgieter looks forward to his career in the Corps and is already making plans to try out for some of the hardest amphibious jobs the Marine Corps has to offer.

"I think he's going to be a really good Marine," said Guerrero. "His maturity is going to serve him well against his peers, especially due to how he is able to keep an even keel given his experiences."

## Retired 1st Sgt. Joe Earl Jackson

### Parade Reviewing Officer

Retired 1st Sgt. Joe Earl Jackson was born August 8, 1927 in Birmingham Ala. He entered the Marine Corps on February 12, 1943, and underwent basic training at the newly formed segregated Marine Corps training facility near Marine Corps Base Camp Lejeune, called Camp Montford Point at Jacksonville, N.C.

After completing basic training Jackson was assigned to the Infantry Training Regiment at Camp Geiger (also near Camp Lejeune) for his follow-on training. While there Jackson earned the 1141, Electronics, military occupational specialty.

After completion of his follow-on school, Jackson was assigned to the 52nd Defense

Battalion from 1944 to 1947. While serving with this unit he saw service as a radio repairman and radio operator on Saipan, Guam, Saipan again and Iwo Jima, as both squad leader and platoon leader.

When he returned from Iwo Jima, Jackson was assigned to the Third Marine Aircraft Wing at Marine Corps Air Station El Toro, Calif., and then to Headquarters Battalion at Camp Lejeune where he continued to serve as a platoon leader.

After his tour of duty in North Carolina, Jackson attended the Radio Repair School in Great Lakes, Ill., where he obtained the title of Communications Chief. Jackson returned to Headquarters Battalion as a gunnery sergeant. While there, he attended Crypto Repair School in Norfolk, Va.

Jackson returned to Third Marine Aircraft Wing as a first sergeant. While in this billet Jackson served in Okinawa, Japan; Korea and Vietnam.

Jackson returned to El Toro as the communication chief.

Jackson's final assignments were at Marine Corps Logistics Base Barstow, Calif., and then at Twenty-Nine Palms, Calif., where he retired on May 29, 1969 after 25 years of honorable and faithful service.

Following his retirement, Jackson was hired at General Dynamics as a data graphics manager. He worked there from 1969 to 1989.

1st Sgt. Jackson is currently unmarried. He has two sons and several grandchildren. He currently lives in San Diego, and is an active life member of the Montford Point Marine Association, Inc., San Diego, Chapter #12. He is also a member of the Veterans of Foreign Wars, the American Legion, the Elk's Lodge and the Masons, where he is a Past Master.

In June 2012, Jackson was awarded the Congressional Gold Medal.





<b>Platoon 2130</b> COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. C. S. Borak Ocean City, N.J. Recruited by Sgt. P. M. Peterson	<b>Platoon 2133</b> SERIES HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. G. Montes Houston Recruited by Sgt. J. E. Gambino	<b>Platoon 2129</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. Hernandez Cicero, Ill. Recruited by Sgt. J. Valdez	<b>Platoon 2131</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. C. A. Ramirez Taylorsville, Utah Recruited by Sgt. J. D. Cass	<b>Platoon 2134</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. Schultz Kenney, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. J. M. Gonzalez	<b>Platoon 2135</b> PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. A. A. Johnson Ft. Worth, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. B. Reynolds	<b>Platoon 2135</b> HIGH SHOOTER (334) Pfc. K. A. Altman Indianapolis Marksmanship Instructor Cpl. J. L. Newman	<b>Platoon 2135</b> HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. B. L. Greenia Houston Recruited by Staff Sgt. C. B. Wyatt
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HONOR  
PLATOON

# 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. B. D. Luna

<b>COMPANY F</b> Commanding Officer Capt. A. J. Rosenblatt Company First Sergeant 1st Sgt. T. L. Hamilton	<b>SERIES 2129</b> Series Commander Capt. R. A. Hollenbeck Chief Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. A. C. Pittman	<b>PLATOON 2129</b> Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. J. C. Geidel Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. C. A. Fuentes Staff Sgt. P. B. Jackson Sgt. G. E. Allen Jr.	<b>PLATOON 2130</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. J. Y. Chambers Drill Instructors Sgt. K. A. Ford Sgt. A. S. Gomez Sgt. A. May Jr. Sgt. S. A. Pottinger	<b>PLATOON 2131</b> Senior Drill Instructor Gunnery Sgt. A. N. Cardenas Sr. Drill Instructors Gunnery Sgt. B. E. Campbell Gunnery Sgt. J. Garcia Staff Sgt. T. W. Lunsford Staff Sgt. J. A. Pendley Sgt. T. P. Talley
	<b>SERIES 2133</b> Series Commander Capt. J. R. Sherwood Chief Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. C. G. Blas	<b>PLATOON 2133</b> Senior Drill Instructor Staff Sgt. A. R. Schannette Drill Instructors Staff Sgt. G. B. Belton Staff Sgt. B. M. Nascimento Staff Sgt. J. K. Spangler Sgt. S. C. Crabtree	<b>PLATOON 2134</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. B. W. Havenar Drill Instructors Sgt. A. B. Childree Sgt. J. A. Goralczyk Sgt. B. A. Shangraw	<b>PLATOON 2135</b> Senior Drill Instructor Sgt. D. C. Wald Drill Instructors Sgt. R. G. Clark Sgt. K. A. Earls Sgt. B. W. Hayes Sgt. A. J. Juedes

\* Indicates Meritorious Promotion

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| <b>PLATOON 2129</b><br>*Pfc. A. J. Alfaro<br>Pfc. F. J. Anselmo<br>Pvt. E. M. Ayala<br>Pfc. J. A. Balderrama<br>Pvt. T. D. Bishop<br>Pfc. S. M. Bresette<br>Pfc. A. F. Carmichael<br>Pvt. B. A. Carriere<br>Pfc. A. J. Carter<br>Pvt. S. J. Chester<br>*Pfc. J. R. Clanton<br>Pvt. D. J. Craft<br>Pvt. C. R. Dalrymple<br>Pfc. M. J. Drone<br>Pfc. D. R. Edgar<br>Pvt. L. A. Eufrazio-Dolores<br>Pvt. M. R. Fassel<br>Pvt. M. W. Fautt-Aragon<br>Pvt. N. E. Fliszar<br>Pvt. R. Gonzalez<br>Pfc. N. T. Hare<br>Pvt. P. A. Hasick<br>Pfc. A. S. Hernandez<br>Pfc. Z. A. Hinds<br>Pvt. M. N. Holland<br>*Pfc. B. A. Lee<br>Pfc. P. E. Martin Jr.<br>Pvt. D. E. McDowell<br>Pfc. P. J. Mengarelli<br>Pvt. A. C. Miller<br>Pfc. F. T. Partida<br>Pvt. J. M. Pettijohn<br>Pfc. V. Pino Jr.<br>Pvt. N. W. Rash<br>Pvt. R. Robertson<br>Pvt. J. C. Robinson<br>Pvt. J. P. Rodriguez<br>Pvt. M. T. Rogan<br>Pvt. D. A. Sanchez-Garcia<br>Pfc. C. E. Stengel<br>Pvt. D. A. Taylor<br>Pvt. A. M. Ulloa<br>Pvt. C. Vang<br>Pvt. M. J. Waters Jr.<br>Pvt. C. J. Williams<br>Pvt. G. T. Witt | Pvt. K. A. Wolfe<br>Pvt. M. G. Wollenberg<br>Pvt. M. R. Wollert<br>*Pfc. A. J. Yach<br>Pfc. G. S. Zaro<br>Pvt. C. J. Zeleny<br><br><b>PLATOON 2130</b><br>*Pfc. A. M. Andrzejek<br>*Pfc. J. M. Andrzejek<br>Pvt. A. R. Austin<br>Pvt. R. O. Baldwin<br>Pfc. D. R. Bates<br>*Lance Cpl. C. S. Borak<br>Pfc. J. A. Brown<br>Pvt. S. I. Byro<br>Pfc. J. A. Cardoza<br>Pvt. D. C. Cheatham<br>Pvt. Z. W. Chism<br>*Pfc. R. J. Cundiff<br>Pfc. B. D. Dievendorff<br>Pvt. J. M. Driver<br>Pvt. A. R. Elzinga<br>Pfc. E. C. Esch<br>Pvt. C. M. Fleming<br>*Pfc. E. Galdamez Jr.<br>Pvt. B. A. Gindling<br>Pvt. B. J. Harding<br>Pvt. D. L. Hartman<br>Pvt. J. L. Haskin<br>Pfc. J. D. Helling<br>Pvt. S. W. Johnson<br>Pvt. J. R. King<br>Pfc. M. A. King<br>Pfc. A. Le<br>Pfc. K. S. Lee<br>Pfc. B. T. Lefever<br>Pvt. C. M. Leonard<br>Pvt. M. Marquez<br>Pvt. S. Marquez-Mendoza Jr.<br>Pfc. J. A. Mee<br>Pvt. K. R. Moran<br>Pfc. B. C. Morgan<br>Pvt. J. C. Morgan<br>Pvt. J. P. Murphy<br>Pvt. J. W. Nickle<br>Pvt. D. R. Nordhues<br>Pvt. S. D. Ohanlon | Pvt. P. C. Ohara<br>Pfc. C. V. Olivieri<br>Pvt. A. C. Olsen<br>Pvt. J. W. Olson<br>Pvt. D. J. Osborne<br>Pvt. M. A. Palomares<br>Pvt. G. T. Pentecost<br>Pfc. J. M. Perez<br>Pvt. M. B. Petty<br>Pvt. J. M. Potter<br>Pvt. J. V. Puno<br>Pvt. C. A. Quaresma<br><br><b>PLATOON 2131</b><br>*Pfc. G. H. Adams<br>Pvt. J. M. Alexis<br>Pfc. R. A. Allan<br>Pfc. A. Almanza<br>Pfc. J. H. Baek<br>Pfc. F. O. Balogun<br>Pvt. J. S. Banks<br>Pvt. M. A. Barajas Jr.<br>Pvt. B. J. Barrera<br>Pvt. M. K. Barton Jr.<br>Pvt. J. W. Beach<br>Pfc. P. A. Bell<br>Pvt. C. L. Bennett<br>Pvt. R. J. Blackler<br>Pfc. S. A. Brock<br>Pvt. B. S. Brown<br>*Pfc. J. E. Brown<br>Pvt. L. C. Brown<br>Pvt. D. Cabrera<br>Pvt. W. A. Carlile<br>Pvt. C. N. Carlson<br>Pfc. D. C. Carson<br>Pvt. N. R. Chamoun<br>Pfc. F. R. Chavez<br>Pfc. M. D. Chittwood<br>Pfc. S. R. Clark<br>Pfc. M. A. Cline<br>Pfc. R. C. Coleman<br>Pvt. P. R. Collier<br>Pvt. T. B. Connor<br>Pfc. G. E. Cwiklinski<br>Pfc. C. R. Davis<br>Pvt. S. A. Dean<br>Pvt. T. D. Delaney<br>Pvt. M. A. De La Torre | Pvt. E. Z. Erwin<br>Pvt. D. A. Escobedo<br>Pvt. J. E. Farley<br>*Pfc. A. J. Femmer<br>Pfc. T. M. Fiesler<br>Pvt. D. A. Flinton<br>Pfc. A. Flores<br>Pfc. E. A. Forero-Hernandez<br>Pvt. T. J. Fountain<br>Pvt. T. A. Franklin<br>Pvt. D. A. Frede<br>Pvt. A. P. Gaerlan<br>Pvt. T. J. Gibney<br>Pvt. K. R. Gibson<br>Pfc. G. B. Goldman II<br>Pvt. R. Gonzalez<br>Pfc. C. A. Ramirez<br><br><b>PLATOON 2133</b><br>Pvt. J. L. Addington<br>Pvt. D. Amaro<br>*Pfc. E. P. Bautista Jr.<br>Pvt. C. B. Bradshaw<br>Pfc. D. Brush<br>Pvt. A. E. Carey<br>Pvt. K. C. Case<br>Pvt. A. G. Chagaris<br>Pvt. D. D. Crackenberger<br>Pfc. J. M. Cruz<br>Pvt. D. J. Gentle<br>Pvt. R. Gonzales Jr.<br>Pvt. D. J. Graves<br>Pfc. G. V. Gutierrez<br>Pvt. L. J. Guzman-Rodriguez<br>Pfc. A. J. Hepworth<br>Pfc. W. B. Joel<br>Pvt. P. E. Kaehn<br>Pvt. K. B. Lee<br>Pvt. D. R. Luevano<br>Pvt. D. Martinez<br>Pvt. D. K. Mikami<br>Pvt. J. G. Miramontes<br>Pvt. J. A. Monaghan<br>Pvt. I. S. Mongare<br>*Lance Cpl. G. Montes<br>Pvt. B. E. Mulholland | Pfc. J. F. Newman<br>Pvt. R. Parraguirre<br>Pvt. T. J. Purves<br>Pvt. J. N. Reyes<br>Pvt. C. A. Rivadeneyra<br>Pvt. J. F. Rivera<br>Pvt. A. E. Sanchez<br>Pvt. P. D. Shipley<br>Pvt. R. E. Skalla<br>Pvt. P. S. Smith<br>Pvt. J. K. Stephenson<br>*Pfc. T. J. Sutton<br>Pvt. A. Teyuca<br>Pvt. E. R. Tilton<br>Pvt. A. E. Turner Jr.<br>Pfc. J. K. Tyler<br>Pvt. R. Vidal III<br>*Pfc. A. J. Vierstra<br>Pvt. W. C. Waller<br>*Pfc. B. M. Wheeler<br>Pvt. N. M. Wicks<br>Pvt. B. E. Winfrey<br>Pvt. F. J. Yahuaca<br>Pvt. D. J. Zimmer | Pvt. Z. E. Schnulle<br>Pfc. M. M. Schofield<br>Pvt. C. T. Schonfeld<br>Pfc. J. W. Schulz<br>*Pfc. T. A. Schutzenhofer<br>Pvt. Z. B. Shelton<br>Pfc. D. M. Shelton Jr.<br>Pfc. T. D. Sidebottom<br>Pvt. L. Sierra-Tamayo<br>Pfc. W. J. Simmons<br>*Pfc. J. Singh<br>Pvt. E. A. Skisak<br>Pfc. A. J. Smith<br>Pfc. S. J. Smith<br>Pfc. T. G. Smitherman<br>Pfc. R. L. Solidum<br>Pvt. C. A. Stewart<br>Pvt. B. C. Tuxbury<br>Pvt. E. D. VanFossen<br>PFC E. A. Vasquez<br>Pvt. C. I. Vazquez<br>Pfc. S. J. Vergano<br>Pvt. C. R. Vlastic<br>Pvt. M. A. Vodraska<br>Pvt. T. A. Waldrum<br>Pvt. J. D. Ward<br>Pvt. W. W. Wilcox<br>Pvt. R. R. Wilson<br>Pvt. J. E. Woods<br>Pvt. S. Young<br>Pvt. R. A. Zak | Pvt. M. L. Ho<br>Pvt. M. L. Hosea<br>Pvt. A. Ibarra<br>Pfc. M. J. Ingle<br>Pvt. J. A. James<br>*Pfc. A. A. Johnson<br>Pvt. M. W. Johnson<br>Pvt. I. A. Johnson-Smith<br>Pvt. O. J. Kappus<br>Pvt. R. J. Kemp<br>Pvt. D. L. Kennison<br>Pvt. R. M. King<br>Pfc. S. V. Kurth<br>Pvt. G. D. Langford<br>Pfc. K. D. Lassetter<br>Pfc. R. T. Liberty<br>Pfc. C. A. Loden<br>Pvt. S. A. Lowrie<br>Pvt. J. E. Luevano<br>Pvt. B. C. Lukehart<br>Pvt. S. J. Lunburg<br>Pvt. J. F. Mairena<br>Pvt. T. S. Mansfield<br>Pvt. G. E. Marte<br>Pvt. J. A. Mason<br>Pvt. J. J. Mastrovito<br>Pvt. M. A. McGregor<br>Pvt. F. Mora III<br>Pfc. J. R. Muradanes<br>Pvt. J. S. Peres<br>Pvt. M. T. Post<br>Pvt. L. T. Ramirez<br>Pfc. J. C. Rangel<br>Pvt. S. P. Riley<br>Pvt. C. G. Shoffstall<br>Pvt. K. R. Sylliaasen<br>Pfc. D. R. Tapece<br>Pvt. D. A. Whitedold |
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# Co. G tramples Obstacle Course

STORY & PHOTOS BY  
LANCE CPL. PEDRO CARDENAS  
*Chevron staff*

Recruits of Company G, 2nd Recruit Training Battalion, prevailed during the Obstacle Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 26.

They face the challenge of the Obstacle Course on training day nine. Its purpose is to build recruits' confidence, endurance and self accomplishment, according to Staff Sgt. Ricky L. Broadway, senior drill instructor, Platoon 2150.

"When you look at the course it looks scary, but once you get through it you think to yourself 'I can do it again.'"

This course is a series of obstacles that recruits begin by pulling their body weight over a bar. Then they have to balance across wood beams, hurdle over walls and climb approximately 20 feet to the top a rope.

Once the recruits complete the course, they must go back to the beginning and go through it one more time.

"If you have the confidence to do it once then you can do it again. That is why we have them go through it a second time," said Broadway.

Confidence is gained, but exhaustion begins to set in.

"It is physically exhausting but we have to find a way to push through it," said Recruit Ryan L. Goodly. "Even though we are tired after the first time

through, we have to have the physical endurance to do it again."

The Obstacle Course has some of the toughest events recruits will face during training. It shows recruits they can conquer obstacles they never thought they could, explained Goodly.

"The hardest part for me is the rope because I have a fear of heights. My fear of heights still persists but I know I can overcome it now like any other obstacle," said Goodly.

Climbing the rope is not only hard because of the height, it also requires strength and proficiency in the climbing technique to reach the top.

"The rope climb is hard because it requires technique and a lot of upper and lower body strength. You have to figure out how to wrap the rope around your leg but once you know how to do it, it becomes easy," said Broadway.

Once they are at the top of the rope, recruits have to yell their name, platoon number and the name of their senior drill instructor-- signaling the completion of the course.

After the course is over, recruits have one more physical push to make. They have to buddy drag or fireman's carry a recruit, of similar size, approximately 40-yards.

Recruits of Co. G will face the Obstacle Course again on training day 47 and during the Crucible. They have a long road ahead but their confidence and physical fitness will help recruits push ahead to earning their eagle, globe and anchor—the emblem of a Marine.



Recruits of Co. G climb a rope during the Obstacle Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 26. Recruits must yell their name, platoon number and the name of their senior drill instructor to signal they have completed the course.



Recruits must jump over several logs during the Obstacle Course aboard Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, July 26. The course is designed to improve endurance and confidence in recruits.



Recruits balance themselves over one of many exercises included in the Obstacle Course aboard MCRD San Diego July 26.



Recruits pull themselves over logs of various heights while running the Obstacle Course aboard MCRD San Diego, July 26. Drill instructors encourage recruits to finish the course as quickly as possible.