Today’s graduation ceremony recognizes the successful transition from civilian to basic Marine and consists of a traditional military parade followed by special recognition for those who have excelled while in Recruit Training and final dismissal.

After the graduation ceremony, we encourage you to visit the Command Museum across the parade deck. For your dining convenience, we offer the bowling alley, snack bar, and the individual food vendors at the Marine Corps Exchange.

Due to security concerns, our guests are not allowed into the recruit training areas to include the recruit barracks and physical training areas.

The mission of the Recruit Depot and the Western Recruiting Region is to exercise operational control of enlisted recruiting operations in the 8th, 9th, and 12th Marine Corps Districts; to provide reception, processing, and recruit training for male enlisted personnel following initial entry into the United States Marine Corps; and to produce a basically trained United States Marine embodied with the fighting spirit, core values and esprit de corps which have ensured our Corps’ success for over 240 years.

The unique relationship between the Marine Corps Recruit Depot and San Diego is the result of almost 150 years of mutual support, assistance and growth. This relationship is reflected in the history of the Marine Corps in San Diego, the Depot as a post of the Corps, and the heritage of San Diego itself.

Above all else, We Make Marines.

**WELCOME**

**SEQUENCE OF EVENTS**

**BAND SERENADE**

**CHAPLAIN’S PRAYER** *

“ATTENTION”, “ADJUTANT’S CALL” AND MARCH-ON

**THE NATIONAL ANTHEM** *

**SOUND OFF**

**PRESENTATION OF THE COMMAND TO THE COMMANDER OF TROOPS**

**REPORT**

**PUBLICATION OF THE ORDER AND OFFICERS CENTER**

**BATTALION COMMANDER’S REMARKS**

**PRESENTATION OF THE COMMAND TO THE REVIEWING OFFICER**

**PASS IN REVIEW (PLEASE RISE WHEN THE AMERICAN FLAG PASSES)**

**ANCHORS AWEIGH/THE MARINES’ HYMN** *

**GRADUATES RETURN FRONT AND CENTER**

**RECOGNITION OF THE COMPANY STAFF**

**RETIREMENT OF THE PLATOON GUIDONS AND RECOGNITION OF HONOR GRADUATES**

**FINAL DISMISSAL**

*PLEASE RISE*
On behalf of Brigadier General Ryan F. Heritage, Commanding General, Marine Corps Recruit Depot San Diego, the subject of this speech is called the ‘Bluejacket’ and the San Diego Base. The drive behind the lecture was the unsatisfactory conditions and the less-than-conveniences in the barracks and other facilities. The subject of this speech is called the ‘Bluejacket’ and the San Diego Base. The drive behind the lecture was the unsatisfactory conditions and the less-than-conveniences in the barracks and other facilities.

The Marine Corps Recruit Depot is the only place in the world where you can see the process of training a recruit from three to eight battalions to handle the troop requirements for the Korean War. More than 700 Marine Officers and Enlisted men, all of whom have volunteered to serve their country, were trained at the Depot.

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The immediate vicinity will guide your actions. The United States Marine Corps has long established a tradition of rendering proper honors and courtesies to the American Flag with ceremony and decorum. If this is your first visit to a military installation, we would like to acquaint you with the "Flag Etiquette" and welcome you to join us in showing courtesy to our Flag as defined by U.S. Code Title 4 and 36, and as observed aboard San Diego Marine Corps Recruit Depot, San Diego.

The Commander of Recruit Training Regiment

The Community of Recruit Training Regiment

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In observance of U.S. Code Title 4 and 36, individuals in uniform, members of the armed forces not in uniform, and military veterans may render the flag salute. However, it is not intended for civilians and to respect human dignity. It is the quality of maturity, dedication, trust and dependability that compels Marines to act responsibly; to hold themselves and others accountable for their actions; and to fulfill their obligations.

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Colonel Donald R. Wright united States marine Corps

Colonel Wright was born in Ft. Sam Houston, Texas. He was commissioned on 10 December, 1994 through the Officer Candidates Class program. Upon completion of The Basic School and the Infantry Officer Course he was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marines where he served as a Platoon Commander, Company Executive Officer and Company Commander. In July of 1997 he reported to Marine Corps Security Force Battalion where he served as the Platoon Commander of 1st Platoon, 1st Amphibious Assault Motorcycle Team Company. During this tour he deployed to the Pacific in support of United States 5th Fleet operations and was promoted to Captain. In 1999 he attended the Amphibious Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia. In 2000 Captain Wright reported to the 15th Marine Expeditionary Unit for duty as the Executive Officer of Recruit Training Battalion recognizing his superior performance during recruit training. In 2001 he reported to Regimental Combat Team-1 as the Executive Officer of the Battalion Command Group. In 2002 he was assigned to 1st Battalion, 1st Marines in Camp Pendleton, California for duty as the Commanding Officer of Charlie Company. During his tour he was promoted to Major. In 2004 he reported to the Amphibious Assault Ship USS WASP as the Executive Officer and reported to Camp Dwyer, Afghanistan where he participated in Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.

In 2005 Major Wright reported to the Expeditionary Warfare School in Quantico, Virginia. In 2006 he was assigned to 1st Battalion, 7th Marines where he served as the Commanding Officer of the Security Force Battalion where he served as the Platoon Commander of 1st Platoon, 1st Amphibious Assault Motorcycle Team Company. During this time he conducted multiple deployments, including the Fall 2006 deployment to Iraq. In 2007 he was promoted to Lieutenant Colonel and assumed duties as the Director of Operations for Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory. In 2008 he was assigned as Chief of Staff for Marine Corps Base Quantico. Colonel Wright is a former Norma Hernandez of Mexico City, Mexico. They have two children, a daughter, Tamara, and a son, Greg, who is graduating today from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. In 2009 he reported to the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory where he was assigned to the Field Testing Branch as the Branch Officer in Charge. In 2010 he was assigned to Regimental Combat Team-1 as the Commanding Officer.

In 2011 Colonel Wright was assigned as the Commanding Officer in Charge of the Wounded Warrior Detachment, Twenty Nine Palms, California. In 2012 he assumed duties as the Commanding Officer, Inspector-Inspector Staff, 1st Battalion, 25th Marines. In 2015 Lieutenant Colonel Wright reported to Quantico, Virginia for duty as the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory, serving as a Joint Concepts writer and as the Field Testing Branch Officer in Charge. During this tour, Lieutenant Colonel Wright completed the U.S. Army War College where he earned a Master’s of Strategic Studies and was designated a distinguished graduate.

In 2017 he was promoted to Colonel and assumed duties as the Director of Operations for the Marine Corps Warfighting Laboratory. In 2018 he was assigned as Chief of Staff for Marine Corps Base Quantico. Colonel Wright is a former Norma Hernandez of Mexico City, Mexico. They have two children, a daughter, Tamara, and a son, Greg, who is graduating today from the Marine Corps Recruit Depot in San Diego. In 2019 he reported to the U.S. Army War College where he earned a Master’s of Strategic Studies and was designated a distinguished graduate.

In 2020 he was assigned as the Commanding Officer, 1st Marine Expeditionary Unit in support of Operation ENDURING FREEDOM.
**Phase II - Recruit Training**

We have enhanced recruit training by amplifying Core Values instruction and introducing The Crucible. A key element to the recent changes is that recruit training is more time for the drill instructors to focus on character development with an emphasis on selflessness and teamwork.

There are 28 hours of programmed instruction on Core values; however, the most powerful values exchange may very well come from an intimate, one-on-one conversation with the drill instructors who teach and demonstrate values such as selflessness, determination, loyalty and integrity.

The Crucible, in part, is the manifestation of the intangible values training that has taken place earlier in recruit training. It permeates the entire evolution, forging a renewed emphasis on warfighting, combat leadership, and the concepts of responsibility and accountability.

**Phase III & IV**

**Phase III - MOs Schools**

After graduating from boot camp, recruits attend a well deserved ten days of leave, the new Marines report into the School of Infantry (SoI) and then follow on schools (SoI) for their Military Occupational Specialties (MOS) and the Fleet Marine Force (FMF).

**Phase IV - Sustaining the Transformation**

All muscle atrophy without exercise; no loss with character. Once started on a path of character development, there is no stopping. We are always developing our character until the day we die. The sustainment process continues Core Values training within units and is incorporated in all that we do as Marines, complementing a renewed emphasis on warfighting, combat leadership, and the concepts of responsibility and accountability.

**The Transformed American**

The Corps has a long established pattern of Marines who have left the active duty ranks to become strong leaders and for the Nation and we will continue to send men and women of strong character and values back to society. These Marines will carry the legacy of high character like those Marines who are presently doing great things for our nation. We have received countless letters from influential public leaders who are former active duty Marines. They give testimony to the direct connection between the character traits they forged in the Corps and their success and fulfillment in life. End result: We will continue to provide society with people of great character, whether they do four or forty years in the Marine Corps.

**Senior Drill Instructor**

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT E. R. EVANS (393)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. R. L. CROSBY

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT R. A. YOUNG JR. (287)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. J. R. BOYER

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT E. E. SEGURAIBARRA (247)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. L. GARCIA JR. (287)

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT B. M. POLASKY (287)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. E. E. SEGURAIBARRA

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT C. A. RUIZ JR. (287)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. B. B. GIFFORD

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT B. M. POLASKY (287)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. B. G. REW

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT A. N. POTTER (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. P. D. JOHNSON

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT E. M. MORAIDO (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. D. D. JACOMEAVILA

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT R. W . MOORE (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. I. L. MONTES

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT I. L. MONTES (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. D. D. JACOMEAVILA

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT M. O. RODRIGUEZ (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. E. M. MORAIDO

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT F . X. RODRIGUEZ (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. R. W . MOORE

PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT F . A. RODRIGUEZ JR. (337)

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PHYSICAL FITNESS TEST

PVT E. M. MORAIDO (337)

INSTRUCTOR: SGT. D. D. JACOMEAVILA
**Why The Transformation?**

The most important things the Marine Corps does for our nation are to make Marines and win battles. The Corps is a versatile, force-in-readiness prepared to handle a variety of missions. We continue to be a force rich in history and traditions, ingrained with the highest values of honor, courage and commitment.

At the very time when a host of factors is tending to undermine individual character development in society, Marines are facing an operational environment which requires stronger character and moral virtue. We live and operate in a world that is proving to be increasingly complex and interconnected. As a result, the Corps is in the midst of an evolution of the uses of force that are not quite war, not quite peace, not quite conventional peace, not quite conventional military operations, and not quite operations, and not quite civil police duties.

The Nation is committing Marines to a wide range of scenarios, from peacekeeping operations in Somalia to non-combatant evacuation operations in Liberia, to more conventional conflicts like Operation Enduring Freedom in Afghanistan and Operation Iraqi Freedom in Iraq. Operations such as these involve independent units confronted by situations that have operational and strategic implications. The battlefield is becoming so technologically advanced that weapon systems will be able to kill by smell, sight or sound. In order to ensure success in these situations, we have looked to the Marines of the past to see what made them successful in battles like Belleau Wood, Iwo Jima and the Chosin Reservoir.

The answer was strong character and a fighting spirit that overcame all obstacles. This is what will allow us to dominate the high tech and diverse battlefields of the future. This will allow us to win America’s military battles and to send transformed Americans home to strengthen the very fabric of our society.

Quite simply, we are continuing to focus on and to enhance the root source of a Marine’s indomitable fighting spirit: his determination to overcome any obstacle that stands in his way, fueled by unshakeable honor, courage, and commitment.

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**Phase I**

**How We Are Doing It**

We believe that new Marines need to be forged in a furnace of shared hardship, mutual commitment, and teamwork. This common, intense experience creates bonds of comradeship and cohesion so strong that Marines will refuse to let each other down. This forging of character, discipline, and fitness will continue to be the basis upon which we make Marines. Holding onto the high character of the Marines of the past, we look for ways to inculcate the strong values that have become synonymous with the Marine Corps. We are attacking the character development challenge in four phases: Recruiting, Recruit Training, MOS Schools, and Sustainment.

**Phase I - Recruiting**

Inculcating these character traits starts in the recruiting process. Recruiting duty is a vital assignment in the Marine Corps. Marine Recruiters take it seriously and feel a great responsibility to fulfill the job to the best of their ability. Many Marines say that recruiting duty is among the most rewarding assignments they have had as a Marine, because they are helping to ensure the high standards and future of our Corps.

Most Marine Recruiters have earned the rank of Sergeant or above, which means they have had four or more years of experience in the Marine Corps serving in one of several hundred Military Occupational Specialties (MOS). They know what it means to serve as a Marine. Meeting a Marine Recruiter gives you personal access to someone who has lived and served in the Marine Corps. No matter where you are in the decision-making process, talking to a recruiter can give you more information. You are under no obligation when speaking to a Marine Corps Recruiter, as he or she knows the importance of the decision, and will help determine if you are right for the Marine Corps—and if the Marine Corps is right for you.

First, we recruit young men and women who have demonstrated potential and commitment. Then we prepare them through physical fitness and ready them for the intense forging they will experience in recruit training. Most enlistees spend up to 12 months in the Delayed Entry Program preparing to undergo recruit training and become Marines.

Their preparation includes physical conditioning, study guides, introduction to Marine Corps history and tradition and, most importantly, introduction to Core Values. The bottom line is we are paying more attention to a prospective Marine’s character and fitness during screening.